

CLAY TODAY



THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2022

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STAFF PHOTOS BY DON COBLE

After months of work, a new and improved Keystone Beach is ready for re-opening.

New and improved Keystone Beach

Lake Region community celebrates grand re-opening

By Faith Buckley
For Clay Today

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – Five days a week between ages 5 and 12, Valerie Alvers took a trip to Keystone Beach. The summer sun, complemented by the glistening water, greeted her as she set up for another swimming lesson.

Now, at age 57, she takes in the fresh air along the beach's shoreline as time

SEE KEYSTONE, 17



Park of the overhaul included reworking the playground area.

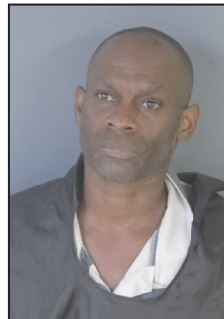
HOUSE OF HORRORS:

Bones found near home where couple were bound for days

Sheriff's office sorting through the claims made by Aubrey Lumpkin

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – From the start, Aubrey Lamar Lumpkin has provided the Clay County Sheriff's Office with an assortment of confessions, confusion and possible contradictions.



Now it's up to Aubrey Lumpkin

the agency to slowly put the pieces together to solve one of the most bizarre crimes in county history.

Lumpkin, 46, was taken to the Clay County Jail on April 12 after he called 911 to first tell dispatchers "I'm a piece of S***" and that he'd done some "horrible things." He then said he needed medical assistance for an elderly couple.

He repeatedly told the dispatcher he wanted to turn himself in and he didn't want to be harmed, but he didn't tell the

SEE LUMPKIN, 23

Hyder selected as IAFE Ambassador

For Clay Today

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Clay County Agricultural Fair Executive Director has been recognized for molding the annual event into one of the top-five fairs in Florida. Her work has been so creative and impressive, the International



Tasha Hyder

Association of Fairs and Expositions installed her as one of its ambassadors. Hyder's creativity includes speed dating on the Ferris Wheel, Goat Yoga, Redneck Romper Fashion Show and the expansion exhibits for livestock and agriculture. IAFE, which represents and facilitates the interests of its members for agricultural fairs, exhibitions and show associations, also asked Emily Zajac of the Lane County Fair in Oregon to be an ambassador. In all, the board of ambassadors now has five members.



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Green Cove Springs considers land swap to divide proposed park, subdivision

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The city council started the process Tuesday night to swap 21 acres of land south of the city with a developer who wants to build a 2,100-home subdivision.

If approved after a second reading, the deal would allow developers for The Rookery (formerly planned as Ayrshire) to build an entrance and road at U.S. Highway 17 without dividing an undeveloped Ed Gustafson Regional Park that originally was supposed to be completed. The council voted 5-0 to change the zoning of 21.3 acres of city-owned land from recreational to neighborhood and 21.89 acres owned by The Rookery from neighborhood to recreational. Tuesday's vote was the first step in the process. The proposed change in zoning still must face scrutiny from the public and a second vote by the council before being approved.

The state may have a say in the matter since portions of the park acreage include wetlands.

"Now what the application provided here is facilities to provide for regional park overlay because obviously much of this property is probably very wet," said city zoning director Mike Daniels. "So, we want to make sure while we want to cre-



ate recreational facility at the same time, we want to ensure that we're very cognizant of uses the environment and we're not impacted negatively. Now as part of the approval of this project, we said the area to the south, which is the first level, to be added to construct 10 sports facilities as well as bathroom facilities as part of that first phase."

Officials representing The Rookery also said they were willing to increase a regional park fee of \$400 for each house to \$800 – with \$400 going to Gustafson Park and \$400 is earmarked for Spring Park and Francis Vera Park.

The land for The Rookery is owned by Gustafson's Cattle Inc. to be developed by DR Horton. Future Land Use and Zoning for The Rookery was approved in August and, if the land swap is approved, it would direct traffic from the subdivision to U.S. 17 near the future exit for the First Coast Expressway. The Rookery will be built between U.S. 17 and County Road 15A south of State Road 16.

The city obtained a large swath of land from the state in 2011 for a regional park, and despite being years past the original completion date, the project hasn't moved any further than the preliminary planning

stage. The park eventually will have football, soccer, softball and baseball fields, as well as picnic areas, wildlife trails and tennis courts. Councilman Van Royal appeared to be frustrated by the delays and the lack of a long-range plan to pay for and maintain the park.

"We agreed to our half (of the park) to be completed by 2020," Royal said. "We didn't do that. So they're very anxious to see us push forward. You know I think the way we always looked at this development back, you have the additional types of desperate buying the ability to provide work in that area. But at the same time, like you said, we are very cognizant of the fact that we do want to make sure that we're able to maintain that part not just to be able to come up with capital costs. Are we going to be able to maintain it, and that's why we've been pushing that timeline back."

The new timeline for the park is still two years away. Nonetheless, the change in zoning for both land tracts was quickly approved. In other business, the council recognized city employees ahead of Public Service Recognition Week and the police department recognized its communication staff for National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

The next city council meeting is scheduled for May 3 at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

Town addresses policies for purchasing, making virtual public comments

By Nick Blank
nick@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK – The Town of Orange Park completed numerous housekeeping items on Tuesday night including sprucing up town policies and discussing commenting virtually.

Town Manager Sarah Campbell said the town's purchasing policy was amended with language changes, rules about invitations-to-bid, and extended advertisement periods from 14 to 30 days.

Council Member Susana Thompson asked if the town could explore other advertising avenues and Campbell said the town can advertise wherever it felt it could reach. Council Member Alan Watt wanted cost estimates for projects on some town documents to assist vendors.

"We should be providing that number after all the bids and proposals are reviewed," Watt said.

The changes were approved unanimously.

In other business, the town addressed



taking public comments from people who can't attend meetings, which will be the subject of a future vote.

Town Attorney Sam Garrison said the council should be consistent and have a policy they follow. He said a policy like

this needs fairness and equality, but also to specify why someone could or couldn't comment.

"Whatever you do, I'd recommend having a policy where ultimately the council has control over proceedings just like you

do today," Garrison said.

Garrison said this is a developing area of law. Mayor Randy Anderson said he wanted leeway where the town can roll in new technology. Voice-Mayor Eddie Henley said a technology-based policy can open doors. A sample ordinance presented by town staff said comments must be sent to the town clerk the day prior to the meeting.

Resident Sherri Snow questioned how the council would disseminate information to the public. Thompson asked if the town can put new communication policies on a water and sewer bill and Watt wanted to add the information to future agendas.

"There are people that aren't online and we need to make sure they know," Watt said.

In the portion of the meeting designated for comments, Thompson thanked voters and community members for securing a three-year term following Super Tuesday last week.

"I want you to know, I want you to be assured, I will be here for you. I will work hard for you no matter what," she said.

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Legislature submit bills to remove Disney's government exemptions

By Scott Powers
For FloridaPolitics.com

Senate and House bills aimed at putting an end to Walt Disney World's special government have been submitted for the Legislature's Special Session this week — sending notice that Gov. Ron DeSantis is serious in his ire toward the company's political disloyalty.

With DeSantis announcing the issue would be offered for the Special Session, Republican Sen. Jennifer Bradley and Republican Rep. Randy Fine have introduced bills that would sunset authorizing statutes for the Reedy Creek Improvement District by the summer of 2023.

By Florida statute, that district provides utilities and other services to the more than 25,000 acres of southwestern Orange County that make up the Walt Disney World resort property.

Reedy Creek also provides many municipal services, including fire and rescue and various municipal functions. But many of those services are provided via contracts with two cities that compose most of Walt Disney World: Lake Buena Vista and Bay Lake.

Bradley's SB 4-C and Fine's HB 3C do not pose any immediate threat to the status of those two cities.

As introduced Tuesday, the legislation refers to "any independent special district established by a special act prior to the date of ratification of the Florida Constitution on Nov. 5, 1968."

"It does not affect the two municipalities," Fine said in a text to Florida Politics.

Reedy Creek, Lake Buena Vista and Bay Lake all were founded on May 12, 1967, when Gov. Claude Kirk signed the authorizing legislation, a precursor to the development of Walt Disney World, which opened Oct 1, 1971.

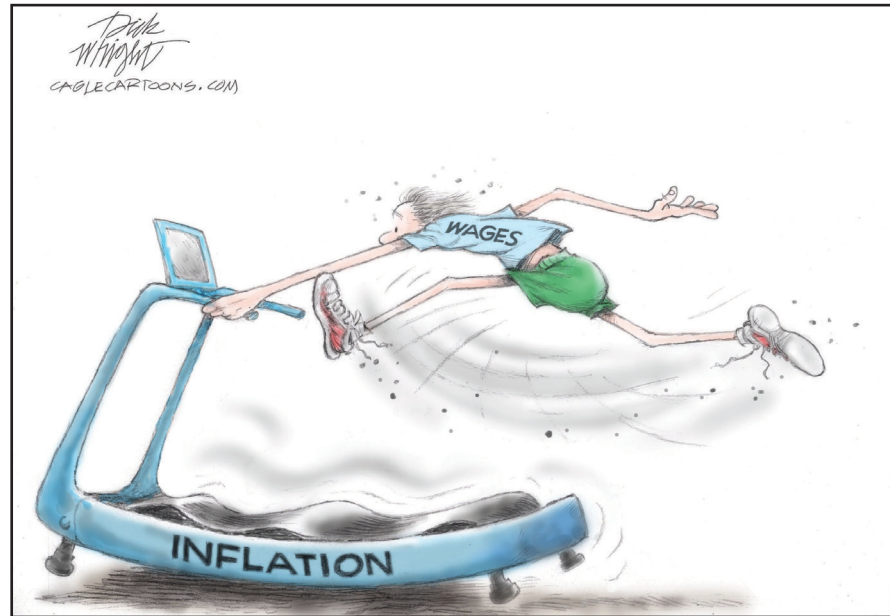
"The real powers were given to Bay Lake and Lake Buena Vista," said Florida historian and political scientist Rick Foglesong, author of a seminal book on Disney and Florida politics, "Married to the Mouse: Walt Disney World and Orlando."

Foglesong wondered if the Legislature might amend the bills to address Bay Lake and Lake Buena Vista's ultimate authority over land use, planning and inspections.

If they don't contract with Reedy Creek to provide services, those two cities would have to contract with someone else, presumably Orange County (and Osceola County for a small portion of the property), he said. That would still leave Disney in charge of much of its own destiny.

SEE DISNEY, 5

OPINIONS



Editorials are written to provoke thought, conversation on sensitive issues

By Don Coble
Managing Editor

We received a call this week from an unhappy reader who said he wouldn't renew his subscription which was scheduled to run out in a couple of weeks. I'm troubled by him leaving — not because it's one less reader, but because it amplifies what's becoming the downfall of our civility.



Don Coble

We can't have discussions anymore. "I'm right and you're a complete idiot" has become an all-too-familiar mantra for both sides of every political and social disagreement. We aren't allowed to express a view without being labeled a racist, homophobe, or communist.

But here's a fact most of us know: at least 70% of this country, if not more, are in the middle. And we're tired of the fringe elements on both sides making all the noise. We're tired of everyone yelling over each other instead of talking to each other.

And most of all, we're tired that nobody is willing to share ideas to find a common result.

I certainly have my views. They've been molded by living on military bases at a young age, going to school in the 1960s in the shadows of the smokestacks of manufacturing in the North, as well as the classrooms of the Deep South

where whites and blacks sat on separate sides of the room. I was scolded by an adult at a high school football game for sitting with a boy from my sixth-grade class. A black boy. In the black section of the bleachers. The truth is, I didn't even notice.

I was in middle and high school during the Vietnam War. I remember going through nuclear bomb drills in schools where students got under their desks and covered their heads with their hands. I had just started driving in 1973 when the first gas shortage led to long lines and a unique distribution plan. If your license tag ended with an odd number, you could only buy gas on odd-numbered days.

I was shaving in 10th grade, so I was popular with some of my classmates because I could buy beer without showing an ID. That made me happy. Now I don't have to show one to get the senior citizen discount and that makes me sad.

I also used to have long hair. Really. The point is, we all come from different backgrounds. We've all been influenced by life in different ways. And we all should be allowed to embrace our ideals and values without condemnation.

There are beliefs I won't change. I never will think it's all right for a man to play women's sports. I was a sportswriter for more than 45 years and there is a difference. I wrote about this last year and a reporter who we wanted to hire refused the job because she didn't agree. Her four-year college degree eventually landed her a job as a tour guide. But if she's happy, then I applaud her dedication.

I also don't want children in

SEE OPINION, 13

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.

Twee: (twee) an adjective that means excessively or affectedly pretty or sentimental.

"The porcelain tea set was a twee addition to her kitchenware."

This Week in History

Five years ago, 2017

- Orange Park Mayor Eugene Nix alleges voters who didn't live within the town limits may have voted in the Super Municipal Tuesday election.
- Green Cove Spring City Council tells contractor Core Construction it will fine it \$500 a day for delays to the restoration of Spring Park.
- Keystone Heights' Echo Saunders wins a contest for WJCT's 45th anniversary with her artwork promoting public broadcasting.

10 years ago, 2012

- Orange Park Medical Center celebrates the completion of a \$19 million 13,000-square-foot Emergency Department.
- An investigation reveals \$213,000 was stolen from the Town of Penney Farms' bank accounts in an internet-based scheme originating in China and Australia. The money was recovered and no town officials were involved.
- The Orange Park Town Council discusses ways to create better access to Doctors Lake from Dogwood Lane.

20 years ago, 2002

- The City of Green Cove Springs denies an application to move Ham Jam to Reynolds Industrial Park.
- Families of Missing Loved Ones remains determined to find Green Cove Springs resident Yvonne Belcher, who disappeared two years earlier following a domestic disturbance at her home, by posting her picture on billboards around Jacksonville.
- Clay Today "Homespun News" column

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@claytodayonline.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.

Disney

from page 4

charge of much of its own destiny.

Such a new arrangement would require Orange County in particular to expand its operations in order to provide direct services to Disney. The Orange County Sheriff's Office already provides law enforcement. Orange County also provides county services to SeaWorld, though on a much smaller scale.

There was no immediate response Thursday from Disney or Reedy Creek about the proposed legislation.

There also is significant potential impact on Reedy Creek's bonding.

Michael Rinaldi, head of U.S. local government ratings for Fitch Ratings, raised that concern in a statement Tuesday.

"It is difficult to estimate what a dissolution of the RCID would cost Disney over time. RCID's general fund and utility budgets are approximately \$120 million and \$125 million, respectively. The bulk of the district's operating budget is driven by services provided to the various Disney-owned properties. Outstanding governmental debt totals approximately \$719 million and utility debt stands at roughly \$200 million," Rinaldi said in the statement.

"At this juncture, it is not clear how the debt would be treated if RCID is dissolved (would the debt be assumed by another governmental or private entities). Dissolution of the district would eliminate access to tax-exempt issuance via RCID, potentially costing Disney and other landowners within the district more to finance various projects."

In a statement released Tuesday afternoon, Orange county Mayor Jerry Demings said, "Orange County Government is monitoring the Special Session in Tallahassee, particularly when it comes to unfunded cost shifts to local governments. We will await any final legislative actions before offering further comments."

While the bills do call for sunseting Reedy Creek's authority, they hold off until an effective date of June 1, 2023. That means there is a full 2023 Legislative Session ahead first, presumably a chance to

sort out disputes. There also is a General Election in November that includes the Governor.

Disney, Reedy Creek, the two Disney cities, Orange County and the state of Florida have mostly coexisted in harmony for 65 years, until the California-based Walt Disney Company crossed DeSantis this spring when leaders criticized Florida's parental rights bill. Disney denounced the bill and called for its veto.

The Governor expressed his ire early and often about Disney's position and threatened to revisit its special status in Florida's laws. On Tuesday he carried through, expanding the call for the Legislature's Special Session starting Tuesday at noon.

"I am announcing today that we are expanding the call of what they are going to be considering this week. And so yes, they will be considering the congressional map, but they also will be considering termination of all special districts that were enacted in Florida prior to 1968," DeSantis said in a news conference in the Villages Tuesday.

"And that includes the Reedy Creek Improvement District," DeSantis added, thanking Senate President Wilton Simpson and House Speaker Chris Sprowls for "stepping up and making sure we make the sunset or the termination of these special districts happen."

Democratic Sen. Linda Stewart of Orlando called the legislation "strictly political" and said that Disney officials have told her they do not think it is possible to dissolve Reedy Creek Improvement District.

"They don't think that the Reedy Creek can be dissolved. Okay, so ... they're gonna have to go to court," Stewart said. "I did say that I'm glad that you're not giving contributions to anyone, because you're going to need it for your own lawyers."

"Gov. DeSantis is very angry and he works to approve ways in which he can influence his desire to have them walk the line," Stewart added.

The cities of Bay Lake and Lake Buena Vista encompass nearly all of the 38-square-mile Walt Disney World within their municipal boundaries. Both cities have very small communities of residents

the county into four districts in the Florida House of Representatives.

40 years ago, 1982

- Dick Beseler easily wins a seat on the Green Cove Springs City Council after running on a platform to tear down the "old guard political power structure" of the council.

- Florida Sen. Joe Carlucci of Duval County promises Clay County residents they will have a voice in the upcoming reapportionment plan to place the county in his district.

- A 7E-Corsair jet loses power and crashes into the Foxmeadow subdivision; however, the pilot, crew of three and residents in the subdivision we're injured.

— 20 to 40 people each, who mostly are Walt Disney World employees and their families — living in two small residential neighborhoods within Disney World. Among themselves, those residents elect Mayors and Commissioners, who run the cities.

They contract virtually all services to Reedy Creek, which provides all utilities, fire and rescue emergency services, as well as street maintenance, planning, zoning, building inspections and other municipal operations.

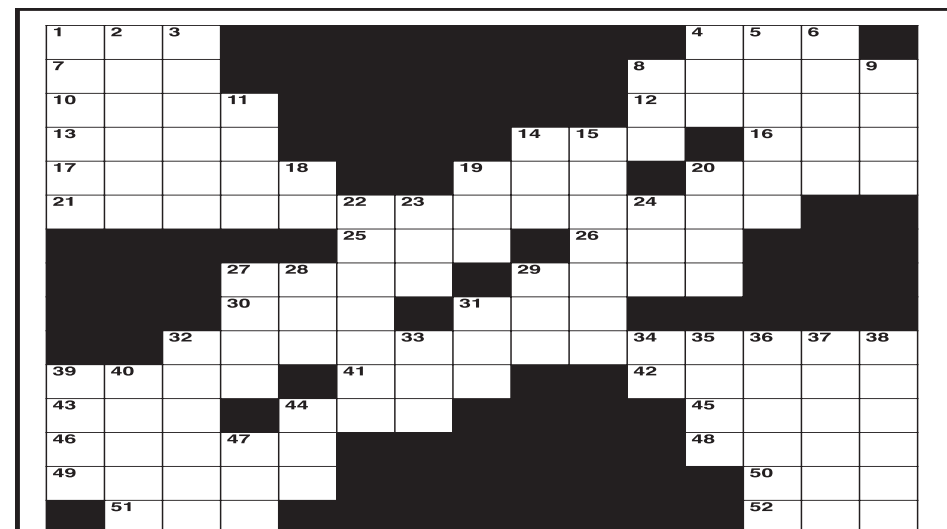
The Reedy Creek Board of Supervisors eligibility is based on ownership of land within the district. Disney owns most of the land. A sparse few acres have been deeded over to others, loyal to Disney, who then are able to serve on the Reedy Creek Board.

Former Orange County Mayor Linda Chapin said there have been tussles between Disney and Reedy Creek and Orange County government many times, notably a

battle over Reedy Creek's use of municipal bonds while she was Mayor in the 1990s.

But, she added, "In the long run, it has worked out pretty well."

■
Scott Powers is an Orlando-based political journalist with 30+ years' experience, mostly at newspapers such as the Orlando Sentinel and the Columbus Dispatch. He covers local, state and federal politics and space news across much of Central Florida. His career earned numerous journalism awards for stories ranging from the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster to presidential elections to misplaced nuclear waste. He and his wife Connie have three grown children. Besides them, he's into mystery and suspense books and movies, rock, blues, basketball, baseball, writing unpublished novels, and being amused. Email him at scott@floridapolitics.com.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Runs PCs
4. An entertaining, eccentric person
7. Small, faint constellation
8. Indigo bush
10. Not excessive
12. African antelope
13. A way to fly a glider
14. Tough softly
16. In the course of
17. Early Mesoamerican people
19. A way to drop down
20. Mistake!
21. Housing developments
25. Baseball stat
26. No (Scottish)
27. Type of cuisine
29. British Army infantrymen (abbr.)
30. Marry
31. Buffer solution
32. Legendary rock band
39. Recording industry show
41. A way to consume
42. Lake in Botswana
43. Political action committee
44. Field force unit (abbr.)
45. Very eager
46. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
48. Nocturnal insect
49. Challenged to perform
50. Thus far
51. Famed NYC arena
52. Commercials

CLUES DOWN

1. Small, purple-black fruit
2. Baltimore ballplayer
3. Highly seasoned sausage
4. Split pulses
5. Northwestern Mexico town
6. Edible fruit
8. Upper-class southern young woman
9. Sums up
11. The most worthless part
14. Dash
15. Sufferings
18. Clearinghouse (abbr.)
19. Indian title of respect
20. Poems meant to be sung
22. Actor Cooper
23. Luke's mentor ___-Wan
24. Clumsy person
27. Figures
28. Polish Baltic coast peninsula
29. Old cloth
31. Explosive
32. Automobiles
33. 007's creator
34. The Volunteer State
35. Old Irish alphabet
36. Japanese city
37. Portrayed emotion
38. Observers
39. Mimicked
40. Polite reference to a woman
44. Male parent
47. Peter Griffin's daughter

History

from page 4

nist Carolyn "Candy" Jackson passes away following a long illness.

30 years ago, 1992

- Services are held in Green Cove Springs for former judge and U.S. Representative Thomas J. Rivers, 87, after he died following a brief illness.

- The Clay County Commission will seek funds from the Department of Defense's "Defense Access Road" program for several proposed projects.

- Clay County joins the NAACP and Common Cause to oppose a plan to divide

Relay for Life finally returns to Orange Park Mall

Worldwide event was canceled past two years due to pandemic

By Nick Blank
nick@claytodayonline.com

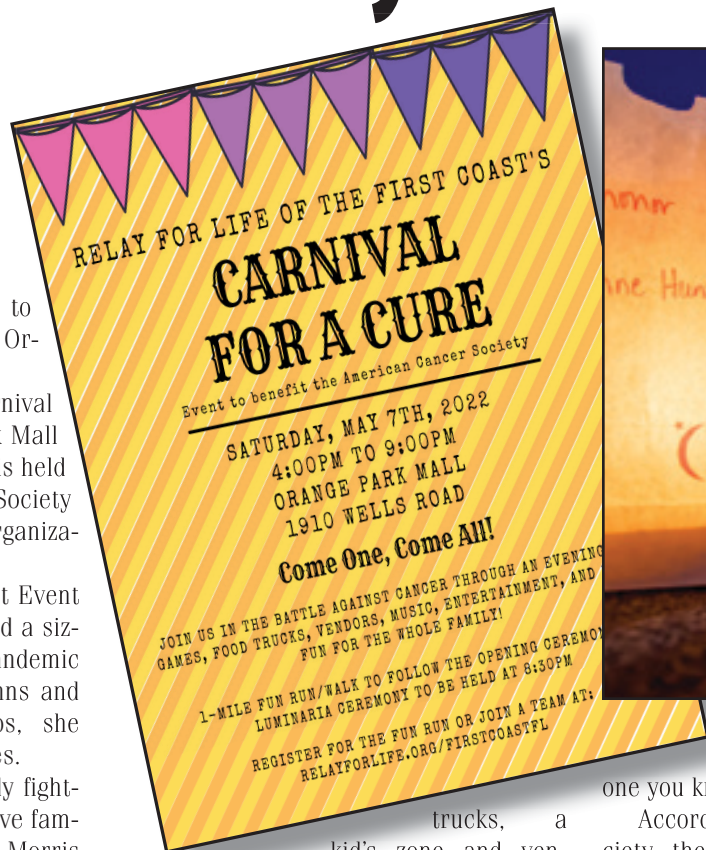
ORANGE PARK – An event trying to fight cancer will make its return to Orange Park after a two-year wait.

Relay for Life, also called “Carnival for a Cure,” heads to Orange Park Mall on May 7, from 4-9 p.m., where it is held to benefit the American Cancer Society and the local efforts toward the organization’s research and facilities.

Relay for Life of the First Coast Event Lead Erin Morris said she expected a sizable attendance. The COVID-19 pandemic led to the merger of Clay, St. Johns and Duval counties’ volunteer groups, she said, and combining some resources.

“We’re representing that nobody fighting cancer is fighting alone, you have family and friends and a community,” Morris said. “A difficult task is not as difficult, not as impossible.”

There will be a one-mile fun run to follow the opening ceremony. While teams can raise money on a track for charity, the event also has a carnival theme for food



trucks, a kid’s zone and vendors. A goal of this year’s event is multiple options and opening it up to the community, Morris said.

“Cancer has impacted everybody if you think about it, your friends, your family and your coworkers,” Morris said. “Every-

one you know.”

According to the American Cancer Society, the Relay for the First Coast has raised more than \$40,000 of its \$60,000 goal so far. There were 35 teams, with some having as many as nine members, for the five-hour relay signed up as of Monday.

At about 8:30 p.m., attendees will carry glow sticks, honoring those who fought

or survived cancer, during a luminaria.

“It’s gorgeous, it’s a really nice sight,” Morris said of the luminaria. “It’s for those we lost, who survived and to encourage those fighting to continue.”

To register for the fun run or to join a team, visit Relayforlife.Org/Firstcoastfl or download the American Cancer Society’s mobile fundraising app.

RIVER CITY PLAYERS PRESENTS

Francine's Will

By Mary Dattilo

A Murderous Comedy

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A Murderous Comedy To Enjoy!

Francine Faraday dies and leaves her entire estate to her longtime companion H.P. Manly. While the loyal members of Francine’s staff are delighted, her money-hungry relatives are furious. Though the will is ironclad, the relatives find that they can inherit Francine’s fortune if H.P. dies of ‘natural’ causes. As the family plots H.P.’s demise, the staff schemes to save him, resulting in counter-plots and mixed-up romances aplenty.

Show Times

Evening Performances (Doors open at 5:30 pm and curtain up at 7 pm)

Wednesday 4th

(Our sponsored opening night with a free glass of champagne for everyone attending the play)

Thursday 5th

Friday 6th

Saturday 7th

Thursday 12th

Friday 13th

Saturday 14th

Matinees (Doors open at 12:30 pm and curtain up at 2 pm)

Sunday 8th

Sunday 15th

Final performance where (if there is any champagne left from opening night), mimosas will be available at the donations bar.



NE Florida HCA Florida Healthcare Hospitals raise \$50,000 in clay shoot

Money benefits variety of healthcare, natural disaster emergencies

For Clay Today

ORANGE PARK – HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital and its sister hospital in Jacksonville, in partnership with Commercial Construction Services’ Targeting Hope event, raised nearly \$50,000 for the HCA Healthcare Hope Fund. The fund is a 501(c)3 that supports HCA Healthcare colleagues during an emergency or a significant hardship due to illness, injury, natural disaster or other difficult situations.

The clay shooting fundraiser event was

held at Bradford Sportsmen Farm in Graham for the fourth year, with more than 100 participants.

The public charity HCA Healthcare Hope Fund is an employee-run and employee-supported non-profit that began in 2006. The charity has given \$80 million to more than 45,000 HCA Healthcare colleagues nationwide and their families. Local employees on the First Coast experienced this support first-hand when needing assistance to get back on their feet following Hurricanes Irma and Matthew. Other First Coast employees received assistance following situations such as house fires, flooding, or life events that impacted themselves or a loved one when experiencing a long-term hospi-

talization.

“Being in healthcare, it’s natural for our people to rally together when devastation strikes,” said Bryan Davis, HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital’s Director of Facilities Management and one of Targeting Hope’s organizers. “Not only does our staff step up during disasters and pandemics for our community, they also step up for each other, whether it’s a small personal donation from their paycheck or participating in fundraisers like this.”

In partnership with the three founding organizations, the event is supported by numerous local businesses including, but not limited, to Miller Electric Company, W.W. Gay, CPPI, Brown Enterprises, TMPartners

and many more.

“I’ve personally known a colleague with a family who endured a lot of medical strife and extreme hardship that the HOPE Fund helped. It was beyond touching to see how HOPE worked firsthand,” said Grady Padgett, HCA Florida Memorial Hospital’s Director of Facilities Management and one of Targeting Hope’s organizers. “To see so many of our colleagues and community partners coming together truly showcases how we are a community healthcare family. Plus, it’s my favorite event of the year!”

The HCA Healthcare Hope Fund is funded by both employee and public contributions nationwide through similar events like this one in Northeast Florida.

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Obituaries

John W. Saunders

John W. Saunders, 88, of Orange Park, FL passed away April 16, 2022.

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



June E. Rees

June E. Rees, of Middleburg, Florida passed away on April 13, 2022. June was born to Emery and Florence Texter on December 21, 1932 in Hackensack, New Jersey. She lived in Kearny, New Jersey until graduation from Kearny High School in 1950. June was married to George W. Rees for 35 years. He passed away in 1992.

Prior to moving to Florida, June and her family lived in Jackson, New Jersey for over 30 years. She was a Document Control Supervisor for the Margaretten Mortgage Company where she worked for over 20 years. While in Jackson, June was an avid bowler and even bowled a 300 game.

June moved to Middleburg, Florida in 1993. She worked for the Clay County Library System for many years and was a volunteer at the Orange Park Medical Center for twenty years. June was a member of the Middleburg Presbyterian Church. She was a voracious reader and member of the Friends of the Middleburg Library. She had a green thumb and her plants and flowers were beautiful. She had been a member of the Middleburg Garden Club.

June loved to travel. Her favorite trip was to Egypt but she also visited countries in Europe, South America, Central America and Africa. These trips included a trip by river across Europe, a photo safari in Africa, a river cruise down the Amazon River and to many Pacific islands



June E. Rees

She is survived by her daughter Lynn Peaslee, her son Kurt Rees both of Middleburg, Florida and her son Scott Rees of St Petersburg, Florida. Also surviving her are her grandchildren Michael Henderson and Caitlyn Brooke, and her great grandchildren Derrick and Anastasia Henderson.

Please sign the family's online guestbook at www.broadusraines.com

Arrangements are under the care of Broadus-Raines Funeral Home, 501 Spring St., Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. (904) 284-4000



Raymond Lewis Murray Jr.

Raymond Lewis Murray Jr., 69, of Middleburg FL, passed away on April 13, 2022. Lewis was born to Raymond Lewis Murray Sr. and Hazel Godwin on January 5, 1953. Mr. Murray owned a timber company most of his life before opening a tire business in Lake City, FL in 2008.

His family will remember him as a hard working, self made man. He was known and liked by many. He could make conversation with anyone, engaging them with his southern charm. Mr. Murray gained much respect for his perseverance and unbeatable work ethic. To his children he was generous and loving. He passed on to them his common sense approach and sense of humor.

Mr. Murray is survived by his daughter Ericka Trowbridge, his son Raymond Lewis Murray and four grandchildren.

Please join us celebrating his life Friday morning April 22, 2022 between 11-1pm at Black Pond Baptist Church 3644 Old Jennings rd. Middleburg, FL. 32068



Raymond Lewis Murray Jr.

CCSO: Deputy tearfully admits to prolonged abuse of pre-teen girl

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Sheriff Michelle Cook's voice shook on April 14 when she talked about the bravery of a 12-year-old girl who came forward to talk about ongoing sexual abuse from a Clay County Sheriff's Office deputy.

"I mean for a young person a young woman to a young lady to come forward at 12 years of age to disclose such a difficult thing, she's a very, very brave young girl," Cook said.

Then the sheriff's jaw clenched and her words became more pointed.

"These cases can be difficult to investigate but there is no higher calling than ensuring the safety of the children of this community," she said. "It is always disappointing when a deputy tarnishes the badge, but we have so many more who remain committed to honoring their oath to protect and serve our community by holding criminals accountable. Even if that criminal wears a badge."

According to Cook and the arrest report, a girl was crying hysterically when she told her mother on April 12 about an incident that happened earlier in the day. She said Paul Sergio Ferreira Mauricio, 49, had been sexually abusing her since she was 11. She told her mother she was "tired of it" and wanted the abuse to stop, according to CCSO.

She said the abuse happened several times. The First Coast Child's Protection Team at UF Health in Jacksonville interviewed and examined the girl and found her claims of inappropriate sexual conduct to be credible.

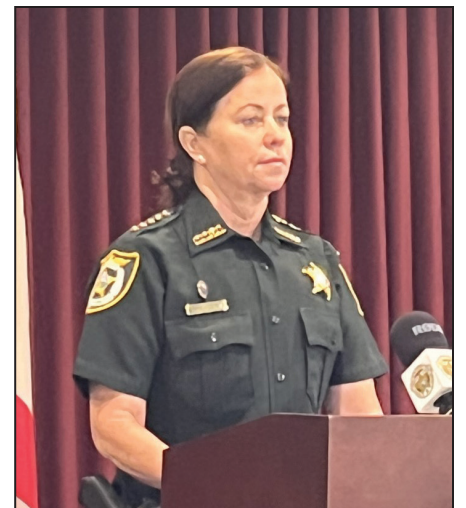
A day later on April 13, Mauricio was questioned by CCSO detectives and he originally "adamantly" denied the allegations, but he also said he'd made a "big mistake" and didn't know how to fix it. Mauricio then started crying, according to the arrest report, and admitted he had sexually assaulted the pre-teen.

He believed the abuse started in February of 2021 and it ended a day before his arrest. He estimated he had more than 50 encounters with the girl during that span. Mauricio had been a patrol deputy with the agency for eight years, Cook said. She said his suspension was upgraded to termination once he was arrested.

The former deputy from Lakeside is



Former deputy Paul Sergio Ferreira Mauricio



Sheriff Michelle Cook

being charged with capital sexual battery of a child 11 or younger and custodial sexual battery of a child at least 12. He is being held at the Clay County Jail without bond. His next court appearance is scheduled for May 10.

While investigators and prosecutors work to prepare their case against Mauricio, Cook said the agency also will be working with partners to provide support for the girl and her family.

"We are in the process of working with a family and our victim's advocates to offer them any and all available services to support them," she said. "The victim was known to Mauricio but their specific relationship will not be disclosed as we will not be giving any information that can identify the victim in the case."

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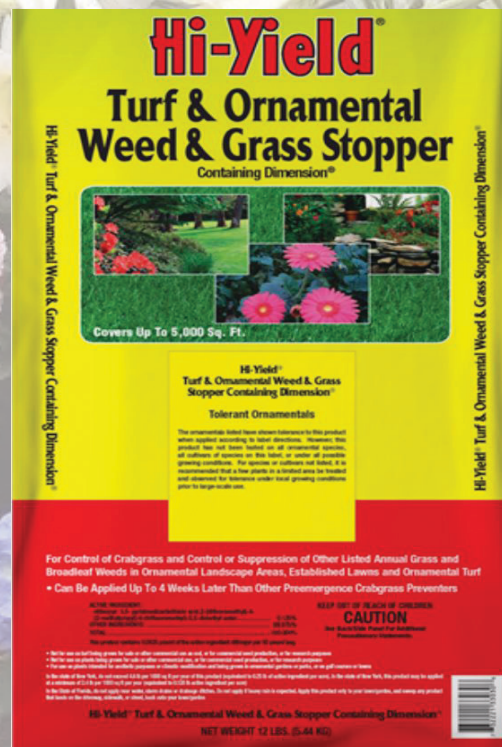


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Courthouse, local homes evacuated during bomb scare

Abandoned bookbag belonged to man who was at courthouse on business

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – A man innocently hid his bookbag outside the Clay County Courthouse on Tuesday to attend a court hearing, and that prompted local agencies to order an immediate evacuation of the area.

The man said he had a prohibited item inside the bag, so he placed it behind a newspaper box to avoid problems at secu-

rity. Little did he know it would set off a chain of events that sent county workers scrambling and backed up traffic on Orange Avenue.

“We evacuated the courthouse and abundance of caution,” said Clay County Sheriff’s Office Lt. Dan Mahla. “We call the multiple resources from sheriff’s office, patrol from the Green Cove Springs Police Department, the Clay County Fire Rescue and the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office’s Bomb Squad.

“The Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office Bomb Squad was able to retrieve the backpack and verify the contents and that everything was safe.”



On Tuesday, the Clay County Sheriff’s Office evacuated the courthouse and abundance of caution,” said Clay County Sheriff’s Office Lt. Dan Mahla.



Mahla said several homes behind the courthouse also were evacuated. Traffic on Orange Avenue was re-routed in both directions at Walburg Street from the south and Cypress Avenue from the south.

“Normally in a protocol anywhere between 300 to 1,200 meters is a blast zone that we tried to go.”

Officials – and the man with the bookbag – were relieved with the outcome.

“No injuries and there’s no charges whatsoever,” Mahla said. “He probably made a bad choice on his part to put it in the location that he put it in. “We prefer these types of results.”



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Roark trades hard hat for dancing shoes to help Jacksonville Children's Chorus

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

FLEMING ISLAND – Darin Roark usually is found wearing a hard hat while work continues at the new hospital at the Baptist Clay Medical Campus. But on April 30, he will trade his construction garb dancing shoes for a spicy rumba outfit.

The president of Baptist Clay is one of eight celebrities who will compete in Dancing with the Stars competition to benefit the Jacksonville Children's Chorus.



Amber Miller

The team that gets the highest scores from three judges and the most money earned by the audience will be awarded a mirror ball trophy.

"Each of us is competing by raising money and then also dancing live. And we're each paired with a professional dancer. And I'm paired with Amber Miller Hartley from Avondale Dance Studio, and she and I have been practicing since the latter part of January, early February on a dance routine," Roark said. "I am very, very, very much amateur, I would say a beginner in terms of professional dance and she's very skilled and she has been teach-



President of Baptist Clay, Darin Roark usually is found wearing a hard hat while work continues at Baptist Clay Medical Campus. On April 30, Roark and dancing partner Amber Miller will compete in Dancing with Stars to raise money for the Jacksonville Children's Chorus.

ing me and we've worked on a routine and we will perform it live. I hope to win that mirror ball trophy."

Roark has been responsible for keeping the construction of the new 100-bed hospital on track. It's scheduled to open in the fall, but Roark took time away from the hammering to help raise money.

Dancers will hit the floor at Lazzara Performance Hall on the University of North Florida campus at 6:30 p.m.

After practicing in a studio for nearly

three months, he and Hartley recently took their Cha Cha/Rumba routine to the auditorium in front of a handful of other contestants and onlookers. He said the difference was frightening. "I'm very nervous. Yes. I've never danced in front of a live audience before," he said. "I was shocked that dancing in the studio versus a practice session and when eyes are on you how much your adrenaline kicks in and you really have to pay attention to what you're doing.

"You know, different routines by differ-

" ... I've learned some new dances that I didn't know which is amazing. It's really fun and definitely a lot of work but can't wait to raise the money for the charity and, and get to compete."

– Darin Roark

ent dancers. So, ours is very synchronized. So there are a lot of movements that we have to have down in a lot of counting. I've learned some new dances that I didn't know which is amazing. It's really fun and definitely a lot of work but can't wait to raise the money for the charity and, and get to compete."

For Roark, dancing is a big step out of his comfort zone. He finds some solace in knowing it's more about the children's chorus, not him.

"You know, I've never seen myself as a good dancer at all. I'm just the kind of guy that gets out there at a wedding or Chamber event and hears the music and just allows your body to move to the rhythm. I've definitely learned the intricacies of professional dance and it's a lot more complicated than I thought. My hats go off to those that dance professionally. It is clearly a lot of work. You've got to be in good shape, and I've learned a lot."

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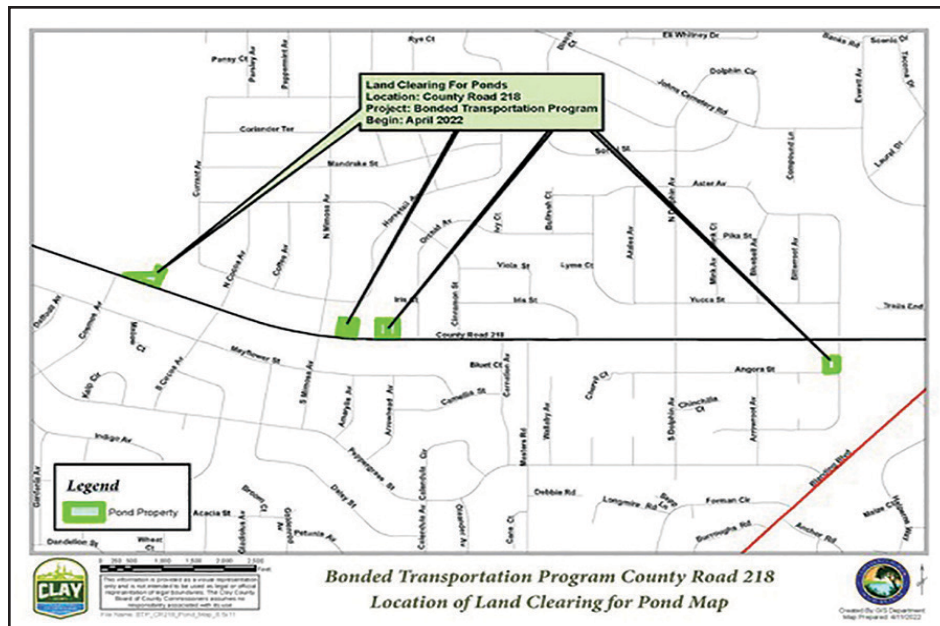
C.R. 218 Bonded Transportation Program Project underway

For Clay Today

MIDDLEBURG – Clay County’s Bonded Transportation Program Project No. 1, which is the widening of a 2.7-mile stretch of County Road 218 from Pine Tree Lane to Cosmos Avenue, will officially break ground the week of April 25, with land clearing operations for four stormwater ponds.

Clearing and grubbing operations will run on weekdays from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. Work is expected to take approximately four weeks to complete, weather and field conditions permitting. The land clearing debris will be disposed of onsite through permitted daytime burning operations.

The four ponds are about two acres in size each and will be approximately 14 feet deep. Stormwater ponds are critical components of any road project because they collect stormwater runoff from impermeable surfaces and hold it temporarily as sediment and other pollutants are



degraded by natural environmental processes. This allows for cleaner water to be absorbed into the soil and taken up by

trees or plants, or flow naturally into rivers, streams, or wetlands.

This section of CR Road 218 will be

widened from two lanes to four and include medians, turn lanes, curbs, gutters, sidewalks and bike lanes. Road construction on this \$21.12 million project is scheduled to begin this fall with estimated completion in fall 2024. Anderson Columbia was awarded the contract for the project.

“Clay County’s Bonded Transportation Program was initiated in response to the County’s current and projected growth rates, and to address roadways identified by the Transportation Planning Organization as being critical and deficient, based on current and future capacity,” Clay County Commission Chairman Wayne Bolla said. “Commissioners are glad to see these needed road improvements underway, which will alleviate much of the congestion on our local roadways.”

For more information on Clay County’s Bonded Transportation Program visit <https://www.claycountygov.com/government/bonded-transportation-program>.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CCSO

Deputies Murray, Tollick honored with outstanding law enforcement awards

CLAY COUNTY – From left, Clay County Sheriff’s Office Undersheriff Ron Lendvay joined Deputy Jason Murray, State Attorney Melissa Nelson, Deputy Kenneth Tollick and Sheriff Michelle Cook after Murray and Tollick were recognized last week with a Lifesaving Award during the 2021 Daniel E. Watts Memorial Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer Awards. Murray and Tollick responded to a call about a possible cardiac arrest in Middleburg on Sept. 17, 2021, and when they arrived, they found a woman who was unresponsive in her recliner. Murray started CPR on her and Tollick retrieved his agency-assigned automated external defibrillator. They shocked the woman’s heart to revive her.

Entertainment Briefs

Aaron Lewis brings acoustic tour to Thrasher-Horne

ORANGE PARK – Aaron Lewis grew up in Springfield, Vermont, listening to his grandparents’ country eight-track-tapes. Those roots inspired the multi-platinum Staind founder to return to his origins for the No. 1 *Billboard* Country Album debut *Town Line* and *Sinner*, as well as *Billboard*’s No. 1 Hot Country Song debut “Am I The Only One,” only the ninth time since 1958.

Lewis will bring his tour to the Thrasher-Horne Center on April 27 at 7 p.m.

Having recorded with George Jones, Willie Nelson, Charlie Daniels, Alison Krauss and Vince Gill, Lewis has put a traditionalist brand on his outlier country. *Frayed At Both Ends*, due out Jan. 28th, offers the hard-touring, 15-million selling workingman’s country star at his most personal and unplugged – making for an intimate record that reflects his

“Frayed At Both Ends, The Acoustic Tour” show. Tickets are available at thcenter.org.

Thrasher-Horne to welcome Oak Ridge Boys

ORANGE PARK – Theirs is one of the most distinctive and recognizable sounds in the music industry. The four-part harmonies and upbeat songs of The Oak Ridge Boys have spawned dozens of Country hits and a Number One Pop smash, earned them Grammy, Dove, CMA, and ACM awards and garnered a host of other industry and fan accolades.

The legendary band will be at the Thrasher-Horne Center on May 12 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are now available at thcenter.org.

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CalaVida Arts Festival returns

For Clay Today

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The CalaVida Arts Festival offers something for everyone – a myriad of entertainment, Reggae, Blues, Jazz, Country Bluegrass, a one woman performance and more.

Fine arts being displayed by Visual Artists throughout Spring Park in beautiful Green Cove Springs is a highlight of the Festival. Painters, sculptors and other artisans will have their work on display. Some of the artists will even be working while at the festival. Each year, authors join CalaVida to discuss their works and sign and sell books at the Pool Pavilion.

The CalaVida Arts Festival would not be a festival without vendors and food trucks to provide the patrons with a variety of foods and drinks. Bring your blankets and chairs, grab something to eat and drink

and find a comfortable spot to enjoy the festivities.

This year's schedule include April 27 – Empty Bowl Event at The Art Room, 6-9 p.m.; April 28 – Tea with Mrs. Flagler and Dianne Jacoby and music by John Cardascia at the Village Improvement Association, 3 p.m.; 80s Mixed Tape Rewind Edition featuring Str8Up at Spring Park, 6-8:30 p.m.; April 30 – Antiques Stroll in downtown Green Cove Springs, noon-5 p.m.; Meet the Authors at Spring Park, noon-3 p.m.; Artists in the Park, at Spring Park, noon-5 p.m.; live music at Spring Park by Trinity River Band at noon, Jimmy Beats Band at 1:30 p.m., Mandalla at 3 p.m., Trinity River Band at 4:30 p.m., Souls of Joy at 6 p.m. and Mana Blue at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, contact calavidafestival@gmail.com.

Calendar

LAKE REGION KIWANIS: will meet on April 21 at 6 p.m. at Clyde's Cozy Corner Café, 195 S. Lawrence Blvd., Keystone Heights.

FREE MATTER OF BALANCE: will be taught virtually on April 22 from 10 a.m.-noon. To register, call North Florida AHEC at (904) 482-0189 or (877) 784-8486.

ELTON JOHN: will perform on April 23 at 8 p.m. at the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena, 300 A. Phillip Randolph Blvd., in Jacksonville. For tickets, visit vystarveteransarena.com or ticketmaster.com.

FRIENDS OF FLEMING ISLAND LIBRARY: will host a book sale at the library from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 23. Gently-used books, CDs and DVDs can be dropped off at the library, located at 1895 Town Center Blvd., during regular hours.

KIDS FEST: will be celebrated on April

23-24 at the Orange Park Town Hall Park, 2042 Park Ave. from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Games, activities, displays, interactive shows, live music, food and shopping will be featured. For more information, visit www.OPKidsFest.com.

THE WHO: will play at the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena, 300 A. Phillip Randolph Blvd., in Jacksonville, on April 24 at 7:30 p.m. For tickets, visit vystarveteransarena.com or ticketmaster.com.

CLAY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: will conduct a workshop on April 26 at 10 a.m. at the Fleming Island High Teacher Training Center, 2233 Village Square Pkwy.

FREE CHRONIC PAIN SELF-MANAGEMENT: will be taught virtually on April 26 from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. To register, call North Florida AHEC at (904) 482-0189 or (877) 784-8486.

Opinion

from page 4

kindergarten and first, second and third grades to be exposed to any discussion of gender. That's too young. When I hear the audio of a White House spokeswoman openly crying about "cruelty" to 6-year-olds because they can't learn about LG-BTQ issues, I can only think back to Sgt. Hulka's famous line in the movie Stripes, "Lighten up Francis."

What's cruel is how adults are using

– and possibly hurting – children to make themselves feel better.

What's also lost in this great divide is the fact these stories that push the boundaries are on our editorial page. According to Oxford, the definition of an editorial is "a newspaper article written by or on behalf of an editor that gives an opinion on a topical issue."

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Senate bill threatens soil and water conservation districts

By Nick Blank
nick@claytodayonline.com

CLAY COUNTY – A bill altering Soil and Water Conservation Districts’ election rules, requirements to serve and other conditions could impact Clay County’s local soil and water district.

Senate Bill 1078 has passed a few hurdles, including getting support from District 5’s Sen. Jennifer Bradley, and there is a chance it could make Gov. Ron DeSantis’ list of 2022 bill actions, which frequently sees new additions.

The bill would require the board members of each soil and water conservation district to be elected from newly-created district subdivisions, add qualification requirements for board members to serve on the district and provide for the automatic dissolution of soil and water conservation districts if they don’t meet at least once a year with a full quorum.

Clay Soil and Water Conservation District Board Chair Ted Clark disputed the bill, calling it ridiculous. He said the state Department of Agriculture is not designed to draw election maps.

“It really limits who else can run for such office,” Clark said. “Instead of any citizen being able to run for any of the five seats regardless of where they live, now they’re able to run for one seat.”

Clark’s main contention with the qualification restriction is that it ruled out people who aren’t in the agriculture industry.

“It’s ridiculous that the restrictions are compared to other offices when you don’t have to be a police officer to be sheriff or be a teacher to be a (school district) board member or superintendent,” he said.

Wes Taylor, a board member since 2010, said he didn’t think the bill is legal. Taylor and Clark are quick to add the Clay Soil and Water Conservation District is a



non-taxing, education-based board where members are elected.

“We do it strictly as volunteers, we do not get paid and are not a taxing authority of any type,” Taylor said.

Clark, a board member since 2018, said the district has a small budget and they

seek to enhance conservation projects. Opposed to the bill’s contents, Clark said the people with diverse backgrounds should be deciding what happens to soil and water conservation districts across the state.

“Our bosses are the voters, the people in our conservation districts,” Clark said.

City, Town officials mull census impacts to their futures

By Nick Blank
nick@claytodayonline.com

CLAY COUNTY – The U.S. Census was delayed to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and results recently released showed the impacts on municipalities.

Clay County has four municipalities: Green Cove Springs and Keystone Heights, which are cities, as well as the towns of Orange Park and Penney Farms.

Green Cove Springs saw a 30% population boom from 6,908 people counted in 2010 to 9,786 people in the 2020 count. Orange Park increased from 8,412 people in 2010 to 9,089 in 2020. The two smaller municipalities, Penney Farms and Keystone Heights, also witnessed increases from 749 to 821 people and 1,350 to 1,446 people, respectively.

Green Cove Springs City Manager Steve Kennedy said the city fared well from the census and it matched the city’s expectation for growth that occurred and the growth on the way. The city is already

looking at outcomes for the 2030 census, he said.

“With pending annexations and development in the works, we will see significant growth in the next 10 years, which will be reflected in the next census,” he said.

The census was conducted amid a pandemic, but Kennedy felt the city wasn’t undercounted.

“Many residents that normally may have been at work and not at home were likely working from home due to the pandemic,” Kennedy said. “This could have been a benefit to the city.”

Orange Park Town Manager Sarah Campbell told council members earlier this month the census figures had mixed results. While the town grew by 8%, it is no longer the largest municipality in the county. That meant the town’s seat on a county-wide board changed and it impacted funding, she said.

The Tourist Development Council seat, held by town Mayor Randy Anderson for



another two years, will be ceded to Green Cove Springs. Orange Park will share one TDC seat with Penney Farms and Keystone Heights in a four-year rotation.

“You won’t get a seat on the TDC for another 10 years,” Campbell said.

The share of sales tax for the town will also decrease. The town of Orange Park’s allocation is based on a percentage of population compared to the county’s entire population.

“Because our percentage of the whole

has gone down, your sales tax is going to go down,” Campbell said. “Finance (staff) and I will account for that in the capital improvement budget later this spring.”

Campbell said the town has 2,300 people per square mile, which is roughly twice Jacksonville’s density and more tightly packed than other local municipalities’ densities.

“We’re a lot different than some of these places we’re comparing ourselves to,” Campbell said.

PET ADOPTIONS



♥ STAFF PICK OF THE WEEK ♥

This week we asked kennel tech, Carli, who her favorite resident here at the shelter is. She chose Dunn!

“My absolute favorite here at the shelter is my big baby Dunn! Dunn might scare some people when they’re walking through the shelter because of his kennel presence so no one asks to meet him. But little does everyone know he’s the biggest baby we know! His personality is the best and I love when he does his little howls when he gets excited. Dunn will need to get comfortable with potential adopters as he can be a little weary of strangers but once he knows you, he loves you! He loves his stuffies, he loves walks, and he loves his people. I’ve brought him on breakouts out of the shelter to various parks and he does fantastic on the leash as well as loving car rides! I would love to see this boy get adopted although I would sure miss him.”



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It was close, but we didn’t win. A great big thank you to all of you that supported us and encouraged us in any way. We love Green Cove just as much as ever and are so grateful for this community.

Food Truck night to enhance College Drive Initiative

For Clay Today

ORANGE PARK – In an effort to continue bring synergy, support and awareness to the revitalization of the Orange Drive area, local leaders will host a Food Truck night at Thrasher-Horne Center on Saturday from 6-8:30 p.m.

The College Drive Initiative involves many non-profits beginning to anchor in this area and the ongoing need to enjoy a full evening around the ever-popular Thrasher-Horne Center. It was believed there was a unique opportunity to be proactive by gathering the thoughts of the College Drive community and begin initiating something that benefits its local citizens and Clay County at large.

More than 150 Clay County citizens, nonprofit organizations, Clay County staff, St. John's River State College, Thrasher-Horne Cultural Arts Center and local business owners worked together to envision the future of College Drive. Monthly steering group meetings, a segment of the Clay County Safety Net Alliance monthly meeting, and seven deliberative forums in August and October resulted in several emerging outcomes:

Destination

College Drive has the potential to become a destination not only for higher education and providing for peoples' critical needs, but a place where residents and visitors come to socialize with family and



friends and enjoy entertainment and eating establishments. More than a thoroughfare, people envision College Drive as a nucleus of community life in north-central Clay County.

Public Education

Educating residents and county citizens about the wealth of human services and educational resources on College Drive is an important first step for community leaders and stakeholders to create a brand identity for College Drive.

Safety and Aesthetics

Deliberators strongly believe the road requires intersection improvements, low-maintenance landscaping, and safe pedestrian and bike lanes. Many felt a master plan, overlay district, or design plan of some kind would help guide future College Drive improvements.

Community Events

Gathering community on a regular ba-



sis to enjoy Food Truck events and other festivities.

The Clay County Board of County Commissioners fully embraced the College Drive Initiative and the deliberative process has now moved into the implementation phase. It is an exciting time to be a

part of something that will benefit so many citizens and we invite you to join us on this journey.

Please write us if you are interested in joining our team at collegedriveinitiative@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook for all the upcoming great events you can attend.

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City moves closer to creating food truck laws

By Nick Blank
nick@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK – Food trucks have been a discussion point at multiple town meetings and now Orange Park town officials are nearing new regulations on mobile vendors.

At Tuesday night's meeting, town staff outlined an ordinance to regulate food trucks in the town. Council members will vote on an ordinance at a future meeting.

It said food trucks can be present in residential districts twice in a calendar year and not require a special events permit.

From 8 a.m.-10 p.m., no more than one food truck could be in the same lot at the same time and the operator had to be always present.

Most of the discussion focused on addressing cul-de-sacs, alcohol use and parking.

Council Member Susana Thompson asked about tracking if an applicant completes their two instances and Town Manager Sarah Campbell violators would be involved with code enforcement. Later in the meeting, Council Member Alan Watt said some of the discussion points were already in city ordinances.

Town Attorney Sam Garrison said the ordinance's regulations were to eliminate ambiguity and people could take advantage of anything if they tried. Requiring a permit and a certain amount of food trucks in an area were issues the council had to tackle, Garrison said, in addition to if neighbors objected.

"There's nothing that would stop there



being one on every driveway up and down Jones Avenue in a way that's not what we're visualizing when we say we want to see people do this and have special events," he said. "That's the balance you have to look at."

Council Member John Hauber and Mayor Randy Anderson presented a few options to clarify some of the loopholes. Vice-Mayor Eddie Henley said the discussion was building a carrier when a canoe or a kayak would work. He asked what were the goals.

"I guess if we took time out, we could make a rule for every possible situation. It's just not possible," Henley said. "I don't

think it's reasonable to even think along those lines, but I think it's reasonable if we want food trucks in our town, give the food truck vendors an opportunity to come so we don't have to get in our cars and spend our money elsewhere."

Toward the end of the discussion, Campbell called the discussion a chance to find a compromise with a complex topic. Due to potentially large amounts of permits, she said staff could allow for some to be held without a permit.

"I think this was the council's attempt to appease the community and allow some opportunities for that," she said.

Entertainment

from page 12

charted singles, and 50 years of tradition, to a stage show widely acknowledged as among the most exciting anywhere. And each remains as enthusiastic about the process as they have ever been.

"When I go on stage, I get the same feeling I had the first time I sang with The Oak Ridge Boys," said lead singer Duane Allen. "This is the only job I've ever wanted to have."

"Like everyone else in the group," said bass singer extraordinaire, Richard Sterban, "I was a fan of the Oaks before I became a member. I'm still a fan of the group today. Being in The Oak Ridge Boys is the fulfillment of a lifelong dream."

The two, along with tenor Joe Bonsall and baritone William Lee Golden, comprise one of Country's truly legendary acts. Their string of hits includes the Country-Pop chart-topper "Elvira," as well as "Bobbie Sue," "Dream On," "Thank God For Kids," "American Made," "I Guess It Never Hurts To Hurt Sometimes," "Fancy Free," "Gonna Take A Lot Of River" and many others.

Rimes' The Story ... So Far Tour coming to Thrasher-Horne

ORANGE PARK – GRAMMY Award-winning singer, songwriter, actress and author LeAnn Rimes announced her upcoming tour, the story...so far, in support of her 25th music anniversary and forthcoming album, God's Work.

She will bring her show to the Thrasher-Horne Center on June 23 at 7:30 p.m.

Nitty Gritty Dirt Band headed to Thrasher-Horne Center

ORANGE PARK – With a refreshed lineup and newfound energy, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band remains one of the most accomplished bands in American roots music.

The band will bring its legendary setlist to the Thrasher-Horne Center on Sept. 2 at 8 p.m. Tickets, which start at \$39, are now on sale.

Following an extended 50th anniversary tour, the ensemble grew to a six-piece in 2018 for the first time since their early jug band days. The group now includes Jeff Hanna, Jimmie Fadden, Bob Carpenter, Jim Photoglo, Ross Holmes and Jaime Hanna. All six members also sing, and when their voices merge, the harmonies add a powerful new component for the legendary band. And with the father-son pairing of Jeff and Jaime Hanna, the band carries on a country music tradition of blood harmony.

The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band played their first gig in 1966 in Southern California as a jug band and by 1969 had become a cornerstone of the burgeoning country-rock community.

Their career breakthrough came in 1970 with the release of the record Uncle Charlie & His Dog Teddy and the single "Mr. Bojangles," a folksy Top 10 pop hit that remains a staple of their live show.

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Keystone

from page 1

seems to slow down just in time for Easter.

The Keystone Heights community welcomed the “soft” reopening of the popular Keystone Beach Friday in celebration of Easter last Sunday. The town hosts an annual Easter sunrise on it in cooperation with local churches. The beach has been closed for about two months due to renovations, said City Manager Lynn Rutkowski.

“We were in desperate need of an upgrade,” Rutkowski said.

It will feature a recently built music stage, a new pavilion, Wi-Fi and outdoor plug-in outlets.

“It’s (Keystone Beach) just definitely a landmark that our town is blessed to have,” Alvers said. “(It’s) something that has united and brought many people together through the years.”

Alvers has been a Keystone lifelong resident and is the fourth generation in her family living in the town. She’s been visiting the beach since she was a child. “It has stood the test of time for many generations,” she said.

Taking swimming lessons wasn’t all she did. She danced around the pavilion and relaxed on the sand as she fished.

The beach brings the community together, Alvers said. “It would be a real loss for us not to have it.”

Though some renovation projects have been in the making for months, ongoing vandalism around the beach has pushed for an immediate restoration.

Alvers has seen the vandalism directly impacting the establishment; It takes place every one-to-two months, she said.

“I’m not quite sure why we haven’t been able to put a halt to that,” Alvers said. “It is an issue for sure that’s creating havoc for everybody.”

People have removed sinks from walls, clogged drains and stolen toilet paper from the stalls. A lot of those who vandalized were teenagers from other towns just passing through, Rutkowski said.

The restrooms will be vandalism-resistant, mirroring the quality of prison bathrooms in using materials such as stainless steel, Rutkowski said. Better security cameras have been put in place, too.

Rutkowski is proud of the renovations and anticipates community activity with



The Keystone Heights community welcomed the “soft” reopening of the popular Keystone Beach Friday in celebration of Easter last Sunday. The town hosts an annual Easter sunrise on it in cooperation with local churches. The beach has been closed for about two months due to renovations.

the reopening.

“It warms my heart when I go past and people are using it on the weekends and they’re enjoying the swimming area,” Rutkowski said.

The City of Keystone Heights Public Works team is responsible for the upkeep of the beach and the surrounding park, and they do a fantastic job, Rutkowski said. They stop by once a day to clean the area.

The project was pricey for Keystone Heights, however. With an annual operating fund of about \$800,000, Keystone Heights’ local government spent about \$1 million on the project, Rutkowski said. They received the funding for the project from multiple sources, such as the Capital Improvement Projects and the town’s local dollars.

“This is truly a gift,” she said.

The town wants to make the beach’s pavilion a community center for Keystone Heights residents and pull in tourists from Jacksonville and Orange Park. It plans on renovating the kayak launch area.

The local government opened the beach on Good Friday and Easter for services.

Keystone Beach closed during the initial outbreak of COVID-19 but thrived soon after as a result of ecotourism. The town became popular during the pandemic for its trails, parks and outdoor facilities.

“The beach has always been really the cornerstone of the lake region,” Rutkowski said.

The beach will again close temporarily for an international motorized surfboard



racing event hosted by Jetsurf USA Friday-through-Sunday on Lake Geneva, although fans are encouraged to watch from the shoreline while staying out of the water. Still, the area will be under 24-hour surveillance as the city braces for as many as 5,000 MotoSurf and MotoSkate fans descending to the area.

The beach then officially will open on Tuesday.

“We’re very much looking forward to bringing people in from all over the world to come and enjoy our beach,” Rutkowski said.

Councilman Tony Brown is thrilled by the reopening of the beach and the new renovations.

“I mean, I’m tickled for all the changes we’ve done and the way that beach and the pavilion looks,” Brown said.

He takes pride in the renovations. “People gonna be real excited about what we’ve done,” Brown said.

Jade Wolfe, 24, helped renovate the beach three years ago to make it more eye appealing.

Wolfe, along with other volunteers, painted some of the beach’s picnic tables in June 2019 to spruce up the area. Bright blue, green and pink paint lit up the tables surrounding the beach.

“It felt like legal vandalism but in a very good way,” Wolfe said.

Though the tables have been painted back to their original colors, she’s excited about what the new renovations have to offer.

“I’ve peaked a little bit and some of it is definitely foreign for me, but I’m looking forward to a reopening and to see what’s happened,” Wolfe said.

Wolfe is a lifelong Keystone Heights resident who doesn’t recall any beach closure up until about the last four years. She’s also noticed vandalism on the rise in the area.

“A good part of it has to do with kids thinking that they don’t have anything better to do in this town,” Wolfe said.

She doesn’t excuse their behavior, however.

“It’s such a small community. It’s not something that should be done here.”

Wolfe did not mind if the renovations were not done by Easter. She prefers a good-looking beach over a rushed one.

“I’m letting them take their time,” she said. “I want it to be nice. I’m not trying to rush them.”

Wolfe’s parents, Amy and Steve Wolfe, have frequented Keystone Beach since middle school and have hosted family birthday parties in the area.

“It (Keystone Beach) definitely carries a heavy dose of nostalgia with it,” Wolfe said. “I think that it has since its emergence. It’s definitely a social point.” Wolfe said.

The reopening brings back core memories at the beach.

“It has created so many people’s childhoods,” she said. “I don’t know what our childhoods would have been like it didn’t exist.”

Please email Sheri:

Sheri@claytodayonline.com


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Clay students garner \$15,000 at State Science Fair

CLAY COUNTY – Students from across Clay County District Schools participated in the State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida, and combined, they were awarded more than \$15,000 in scholarships and cash awards. They also received multiple other recognitions.

In Plant Science Mary Reed, Ridgeview High placed third for her project: How does Nitrate Absorption Differ Between the Rhizophora mangle, Laguncularia racemosa and Avicennia germinians over a 48 hour period? Reed received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Chuck Skoch Florida Sea Grant.

Ridgeview senior Serenity Derosie was awarded a \$25 cash prize from Capital Regional Science and Engineering and a nomination for the UCF Pegasus Gold Scholarship- \$14,000 over 8 semesters. Phoenix Ricketts was awarded a \$25 cash

prize from Tomoka Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Benjamin Lohse, Alexander Gordon, and Nathan Bartholomew were awarded a \$50 cash prize from West Panhandle Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Avery Crawford was recognized in the senior division of Environmental Engineering for her project: A Study into the Absorbency of Fruit Peel Pods.

At Green Cove Junior High, Nadir Kaser was recognized for his project: Rechargeable vs. Non-rechargeable and received a \$50 cash award from the Palm Beach Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Sarah Fordham was award Honorable Mention for her project: Beating the Florida heat.

At Orange Park Jr., Madison Chandler was awarded fourth place in Physics and Astronomy for her project: Touch the Sky.

At Keystone Elementary, Iolanthe Cushman was recognized in Plant Science for Biodome Basil project.

Lucas Knutsen at Clay High placed third in the senior division of Plant Sciences for his project: Lending a Hand.

Business Briefs

Castelvecchi appointed president of Florida Detention Systems

MELROSE – Florida Detention Systems, a leader in providing exceptional products and service to the detention industry for the past 49 years, has officially appointed Joseph Castelvecchi as the company’s president.

Castelvecchi has played a pivotal role in managing and growing the Florida detention company for over a decade under its founder, George Stewart. Castelvecchi has become widely known in the corrections industry, closely overseeing hundreds of successful contracts throughout all regions of the United States while working hand in hand with many facility owners and contractors.



Joseph Castelvecchi

FDS specializes in integrated, high-security fencing, gates, detention grade doors, locks and other miscellaneous facility needs. In his new role as acting president, Castelvecchi plans to continue growing the company. FDS will immediately hire industry leaders in the Electronics division of their Florida-based office; and will also add additional installation crews throughout different regions of the United States. The company has broken ground on a new office building/manufacturing shop located at its headquarters in Melrose. The new facility will enable the company to continue to meet the demand for quality products under their contracted scope.

Florida Detention Systems is fully committed to serving its customers and continuing to excel in the detention industry. Please find us on the web at www.

FloridaDetention.com. Potential job candidates should submit their resumes and a cover letter to info@floridadetention.com.

Elections Office Joins #TrustedInfo2022 Voter Education effort

CLAY COUNTY– Chris H. Chambless, Clay County Supervisor of Elections, joins the Florida Supervisors of Elections, and Florida Secretary of State Laurel M. Lee, along with the National Association of Secretaries of State in the #TrustedInfo2022 voter education effort. The campaign promotes state and local election officials as the trusted sources of election information.

“The biggest threat to our democracy is election misinformation, disinformation, and mal-information that undermines voter confidence in the integrity of our elections,” states Wesley Wilcox, Marion County Supervisor of Elections and Florida Supervisors of Elections President. “Florida voters can be confident that our elections are accurate and conducted with the highest levels of integrity and transparency in our nation. We are committed to ensuring voters have access to accurate election information during the 2022 election cycle and beyond.”

“The spread of misinformation and disinformation to influence voters and interfere with elections is a key concern,” said Secretary of State Laurel M. Lee. “We are grateful to be partnering with NASS and the Florida Supervisors of Elections for the #TrustedInfo2022 campaign to ensure that voters in Florida know that we are THE trusted sources for elections information.”

The goal is to ensure the integrity of Florida’s elections and to support fair, honest, and accurate elections in the State of Florida. As elections professionals, we’re committed to being the official trusted sources of election-related information in Florida. While there is a lot of information about voting and elections on the internet and social media, not all of it is credible. The Florida Department of State and Clay County Supervisor of Elections Office is your source for verified election information.

For more information call at (904) 269-6350 or visit ClayElections.gov.

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Outstanding volunteer service awards

The 15th annual Golden Years Gala will be celebrated on Wednesday, May 25, 2022. The Gala recognizes senior adults for outstanding volunteer service in Clay County. This is a wonderful way to say, "Thank You!" by celebrating someone you know for their extraordinary efforts. The categories are as follows: Ernie Cohen Lifetime Achievement Award, Volunteer Man of the Year and Volunteer Woman of the Year. In addition to recognizing the nominees, we will be awarding the Shepherd's Center Outstanding Service Award. Senior Adults are important to the community. They are a generation of high values, strong work ethic, commitment, integrity, generosity, and loyalty. Seniors are a wonderful example to all, showing that true fulfillment is to share their time and talents through service.

The Gala will be held at Sullivan Hall, 7190 U.S. Highway 17 S, Fleming Island, Wednesday, May 25. Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. There will be a live and silent auction and awards program. Tickets are \$50; please call (904) 269-5315 to order yours today. The event benefits Shepherd's Center of Orange Park, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit which provides education for senior adults to improve their quality of life. The award-winning educational program focuses on health, wellness, art, information technology, and history.

A listing of the nominees and the Shepherd's Center's Outstanding Service Award winner with a summary of their activities follows.

Ernie Cohen Lifetime Achievement Award

Pat Fernandez

Pat Fernandez currently volunteers for The Way Free Medical Clinic and St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Green Cove Springs. She has volunteered at The Way Clinic since its inception in 2006 and has steadfastly served when needed. She is professional and works proactively to take care of the patients and facility.



Pat Fernandez

She is a Spanish translator, working with doctors, nurses, and patients to facilitate medical treatment; she manages supplies and the recycling program at the clinic. Pat inspires others with her work ethic, her faith, and her intelligence. She has a relentless passion for helping others and throws herself into anything that must be done, no matter how big or small. She previously volunteered for the Green Cove Springs Food Pantry and Challenge Enterprises. Pat retired as a teacher in 2007 and has kept up a phenomenal pace of volunteerism ever since, logging an estimated 25,000 of service hours in Clay County over 50 years.

John Gilman

John has volunteered for the American Red Cross for the past 20 years, where he holds the position of Kitchen Site Manager. He also serves as Shelter Worker, Emergency Response Vehicle (EVH) Driver, and Mass Feeding Manager. In addition, he serves in any position needed during disaster. John's management skills go beyond just aiding the people he serves. He has a keen ability in finding ways to care for individuals that no one else thought was possible. If he needs to use boats or even a helicopter to serve food, John will make it happen. John is a person with strong faith, great character, a teacher, a manager, and someone who will always extend himself to help someone in need and yes, he is a "Superhero."



John Gilman

Jay Heather

Jay Heather volunteers and is a leader in the following organizations here in Clay County: St. Catherine's Catholic Church since 1984, United Methodist Church James Boys Ramp Ministry since 2018, and Waste Not Want Not



Jay Heather

since 2018. At St. Catherine's he has served in many positions, including grounds maintenance, urban plunge, St. Catherine's Fall Bazaar, and the Knights of Columbus. With the James Boys he has built 57 ramps from 6' to 40' in all parts of the county, and he is a part of their leadership team. At Waste Not he unloads food trucks every Thursday and serves as a maintenance/handy man completing numerous improvements to the buildings and grounds. Jay believes that he has been called to a life of service, which started with his twenty years of service in the United States Marine Corps. He has answered the call to help both friends, family, and strangers in their time of need

Evelyn "Dolly" Hillman

Dolly Hillman currently volunteers as a child advocate for the Guardian ad Litem program, serves on Penny Retirement Center Board of Directors, teaches English as a second language, educates fellow residents about the history of slavery, and provides career counseling to young people through her college sorority. For more than a decade, Dolly has been a voice representing the disadvantaged children in the Clay County court system through Guardian ad Litem. Dolly is serving her third three-year term on Penny Farm Retirement Center's Board of Directors and works on their Nominating Committee and chairs the Marketing Committee. In retirement Dolly is educating others; once a year she offers fellow residents a six-week course about the history of slavery, and she teaches English as a second language to area residents through Bright Star Church. Prior to retiring and moving to Penny Farms, Dolly was a former teacher, guidance counselor and school administrator who spent 15 years abroad as a missionary. Despite battling leukemia, Dolly says that it is not in her nature to slow down, especially since so many people need a helping hand. "I've never been one to sit back and do nothing, and if I agree to do something, I'm going to do it the very best I can, even if circumstances are difficult."



Evelyn "Dolly" Hillman

ber of the Board of Directors, serves on the Golden Years Gala Committee, serves food when needed, helps with registration, works the outreach table at the Orange Park Farmers' Market, and teaches Chair Yoga. She ushers, takes tickets, and helps in the lobby at the Thrasher-Horne. She is the Second Vice President of the Women's Club and is a member of the Health Committee. At the Orange Park United Methodist Church, Connie is Co-Chair of Rock of Ages, helps with the Angel Tree, communion server, Co-Chair of the Debra Circle, and assists with the Youth Program.

Connie Eden is one of those rare people who enthusiastically lends a hand wherever there is a need. She does not discriminate among her many organizations, but she is leaving a legacy of being the glue that holds groups together. She touches many people, and through her inspiration and leadership makes Clay County a better place.

Dolores Felkey Dolores Felkey is affiliated with the Green Cove Springs Elks Lodge, but her charitable efforts are directed toward the needy of

Clay County. She is a volunteer and active fundraiser for many different individuals and organizations. As a fund raiser, she is like the Energizer bunny. In the past year she has raised the money and donated 50 Thanksgiving pumpkin pies to the Senior Center, raised the money for the Green Cove Springs Police Department to donate 31 turkeys, decorated 170 Christmas trees in Spring Park, raised money for books, computers, and sweatshirts for the Charles E. Bennett Elementary School, supported Hayley Moore's softball playing efforts, raised money for the Clay High School and Fleming Island High School Scholarship Fund. She has also raised money for Flags Across America and Wreaths Across America. Dolores does not ask what to do. She sees a need and throws her enthusiasm and energy into fulfilling those needs. She is persuasive and persistent in her fundraising efforts, but she leaves her donors with a good feeling for having helped.



Connie Eden

Selena Hayle

Selena Hayle is founder and director of the annual Feast of Plenty at First Baptist Church of Orange Park. She has served in this capacity for 18 years. At the Feast of Plenty over 1,000 dinners were served on Thanksgiving Day. She organizes five churches (Advent Lutheran, Celebration Church, Christ's Church, First Baptist Church of Orange Park, and St. James AME Church) to volunteer with cooking,

Woman of the Year

Connie Eden

Connie Eden volunteers for Good Samaritan Ministry, Soup Kitchen, Shepherd's Center of Orange Park, Thrasher-Horne Center, Orange Park Women's Club, Orange Park United Methodist Church, and Emmaus. At the Shepherd's Center of Orange Park (SCOOP), she is a mem-

Gala

from page 19

...serving, getting food donations, and delivering meals to people at home. Selena even worked through Covid to make sure families in Clay County still had Thanksgiving dinner. Selena is



Selena Hayle

also involved in other organizations in the area: served for five years on the Board of Directors for the Northeast Florida Community Action Agency, volunteers for Mercy Support Services and was a founding member of The Mercy Network, is a Consultant to Citygate Network, and is an advisor for CHESUD.

Marilyn Hollowood

Marilyn Hollowood served with the National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE), Chapter 1414, Clay County. She served as president of the 200-mem-

ber chapter during the period of COVID. She had served previously as President about four years earlier. Marilyn was recognized for her volunteer efforts from the NARFE last December by the Second Vice President of the FL Federation District. She is also a participant in other activities: a member and former officer in Jacksonville Garden Club, member of Ladies Fleet Reserve Association, choir member at St. Catherine's Catholic Church, and participant in Homeless Ministry at St. Catherine's Catholic Church.



Marilyn Hollowood

val, and is Director of the Food Bridge and Breadbasket programs. Millie has touched hundreds of lives in Clay County with her positive attitude for life and her ability to serve others.

Kathy Wray

Kathy Wray volunteers for The Clothes Closet and Food Pantry which has a volunteer base of 110 volunteers and serves approximately 5,000 Clay County Residents. She is Secretary of the Board of Directors, Team Leader in charge of opening and running the Clothes Closet and Food Pantry on Mondays and Second Saturdays. She is also an Executive Board Member. In 2021, Kathy took on several monumental tasks at the pantry. First, she drove a total renovation of the Food Pantry while organizing several areas



Kathy Wray

in the 9,000 square foot building for better accessibility, to maximize the space. Second, Kathy reached out to the food pantry volunteers to seek their advice and suggestions for the renovation. Kathy toured other food pantries in the area to observe best practices, glean any helpful advice, and identify particularly useful systems. Kathy acted as the Project Manager for a total upgrade of the food preparation area. Kathy spent over seven hundred volunteer hours overseeing the food pantry renovation and reorganization. She attends executive committee, team leader, and board meetings. Kathy has truly made the organization a better, safer place to volunteer, and a more effective provider of services to those in need in Clay County.

Dorothy Robinson

Dorothy volunteers for the Clay County Centers of Aging True. She is always prompt, pleasant and helpful. Dorothy serves meals to senior clients and assists in cleaning up after lunch, leads games for clients, serves as a member on the Advisory Committee, assists others with general needs, and serves as a great source of camaraderie. For over five years, Dorothy has spent her weekdays at the Green Cove Springs Senior Center with little or no absences. As a self-starter, she never complains but always dives right in, going above and beyond anything management asks of her. She is punctual and reliable as well as friendly and compassionate. She has given dedicated service during 2021 and beyond.



Dorothy Robinson

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ANNEXATION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The City of Green Cove Springs proposes to adopt the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. O-11-2022

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, ANNEXING APPROXIMATELY 13.92 ACRES OF REAL PROPERTY INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY; SAID PROPERTY BEING GENERALLY LOCATED EAST OF US 17 AND CR 209; DESCRIBING SAID PROPERTY BY METES AND BOUNDS IN EXHIBIT "A"; FINDING THAT ALL THE OWNERS OF SAID PROPERTY HAVE PETITIONED THE CITY PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 171.044, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO VOLUNTARILY ANNEX SAME; FINDING THAT THE PROPERTY IS CONTIGUOUS TO THE EXISTING CITY LIMITS AND REASONABLY COMPACT; PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The following public hearings have been scheduled and will be held in the City Council Chambers, 321 Walnut Street Green Cove Springs, Florida, to hear comments, if any, regarding said Ordinance:

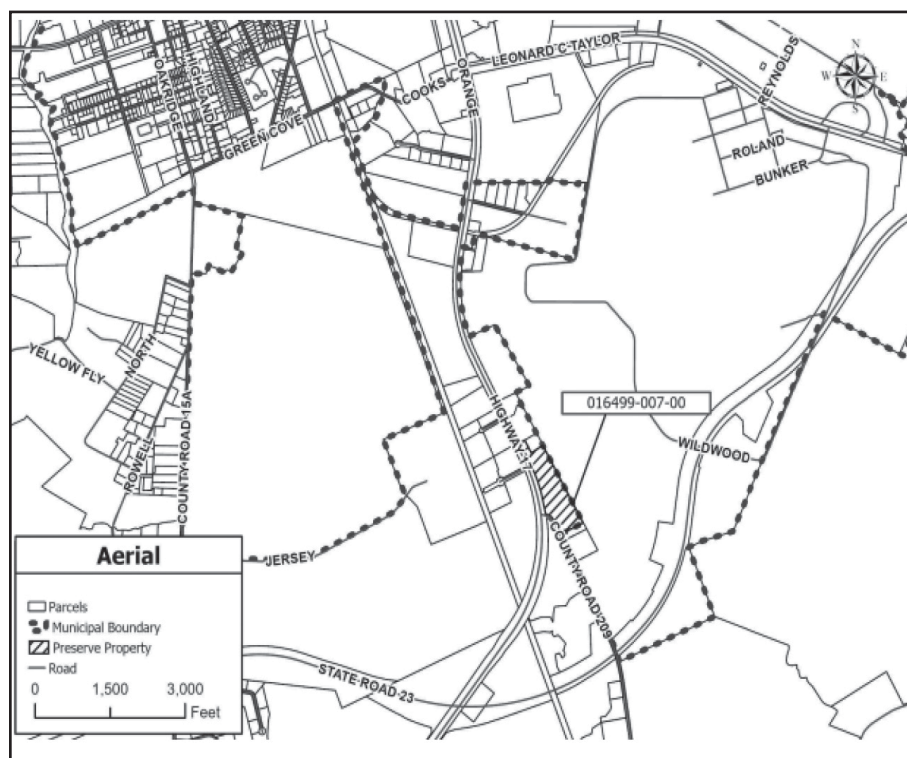
Planning and Zoning Commission: Tuesday, April 26, 2022, 5:00 pm
 City Council: Tuesday, May 17, 2022, 7:00 pm
 City Council: Tuesday, June 7, 2022, 7:00 pm*

*Tentative

Please be advised that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Council with respect to any matter considered at these scheduled public hearings, they will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in this matter should contact City Hall at (904) 297-7500 at least three (3) days prior to the meeting. Hearing impaired persons may access through Florida Relay – Dial 7-1-1.

A Map clearly showing the area proposed to be annexed is provided below. The complete legal description by metes and bounds and the ordinance can be obtained at the office of the City Clerk at City Hall for review during the hours of 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Thursday. All interested individuals are invited to attend this public hearing.



City of Green Cove Springs
 Heather Glisson, Planning Technician City Hall, 321 Walnut Street
 Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043

Leag1 34418 published April 14 and 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

Millie Wilkes

Millie has volunteered in many capacities in Clay County for over 20 years. She served on the Clay County Agricultural Fair Board of Directors, continues to volunteer as an honorary Board member, serving on several of the fair's committees including the Audit, Scholarship, Budget, and Nominating and was the first Superintendent of the Office Ticket Presale Booth. She has also served for years as Superintendent of the Exhibit Buildings. She not only works each day of the eleven-day fair until closing, but she also helps with set-up before opening day and tear-down day after the close of the fair. She turned 84 years during the 2022 Fair and shows no sign of slowing down, even after completing treatment of Stage 4 cancer. Millie has volunteered countless hours for many years since 2002 with the Middleburg Methodist Church as Finance Chairperson, coordinates the Pumpkin Patch and the Black Creek Winter Festi-



Millie Wilkes

Man of the Year

Gray Chandler

Gray Chandler volunteers for Clay County Habitat for Humanity, "James Boys" Handicap Ramps in Clay County, and the Orange Park United Methodist Church. At Habitat for Humanity, he helps construct homes with a mission of eliminating substandard housing in Clay. With "James Boys" Ramp Ministry he helps construct ramps in Clay County for those who cannot afford to pay for one. At Orange Park United Methodist Church Gray helps with the Pumpkin Patch, helps the United Methodist Men at Christmas and Easter, helps his Sunday School class serve and clean up for Wednesday dinners, serves on the trustees Board, Co-Chair for UMM's BBQ fundraiser, and sings in the choir. Gray Chandler reflects how each person can make a difference in the world. He performs acts of kindness, social responsibility, and generosity with enthusiasm, energy, and humility. A great deal of his time is spent behind the scenes in the "not glamorous" but necessary chores that keep the mechanics in

Police Briefs

Man already out on bond busted with cache of drugs, loaded guns

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – A man already out of jail awaiting trial for delivering and selling drugs was arrested three weeks later for an assortment of drug and weapons charges.

Johnathan Joseph Brooker, 31, of Keystone Heights, now faces additional charges of trafficking methamphetamine, two counts of possessing a firearm by a convicted felon, removing the serial number from a firearm, possession of cocaine, Codeine and Buprenorphine and drug paraphernalia after the Clay County Sheriff's Office found him sleeping in a shed on Auburn Avenue on April 15.

Deputies saw a handgun and a glass pipe on the table when he opened the door, and a subsequent search uncovered another handgun and a large box containing the pills, 66.6 grams of methamphetamine and .3 grams of cocaine. Both guns were loaded.

Brooker now is at the Clay County Jail, and his bond new was set at \$376,523.

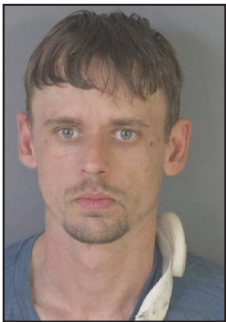
Man accused of pointing gun after being asked to turn down music

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – A 33-year-old man was arrested after he admitted sticking a rifle out of the passenger-side window after another man asked the people inside a pickup truck to turn down their music.

Jesse Levi Dixon, of Green Cove Springs, was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and the improper display of a firearm on April 2 after the Clay County Sheriff's Office said a man called 911 after somebody pointed what appeared to be an AR-15 rifle at him after he asked the people inside the truck to turn down the bass and turn off a generator.

The victim was able to provide video surveillance captured by a home security device that apparently showed the passenger with a rifle.

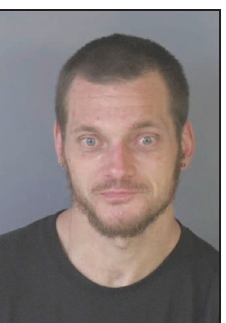
Dixon said he had a pellet gun inside the truck and simply was moving it from the front seat to the back as he passed the victim on Red Bug Road. He also denied pointing the gun at anyone. CCSO took the pellet gun and allowed Dixon to leave.



Johnathan Brooker



Dylan Jarvis



Jesse Dixon

The truck was pulled over again on April 7 because the license tag was unreadable, according to CCSO. The deputy saw an AR-15 shotgun behind the front seat. Deputies followed up on their discovery on April 16 and arrested Dixon.

Court records show Dixon was convicted of two counts of armed home invasion, burglary and introduction of contraband into the jail.

Dixon's bond was set at \$150,008.

Man indicted for firing sawed-off shotgun at Orange Park motel

JACKSONVILLE – An Orange Park man was indicted by the U.S. Justice's Middle District Court for the unlawful possession of an unregistered firearm made from a shotgun, U.S. Attorney Roger B. Handberg said.

Dylan Milton Jarvis, 30, of Orange Park, was charged on April 18 with violating the National Firearms Act firearm. If convicted, Jarvis faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison. He was arrested on April 14, 2022. The indictment also notifies Jarvis the United States intends to forfeit the weapon made from a shotgun.

According to the facts presented in court and the indictment, at approximately 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 11, the Clay County Sheriff's Office responded to calls of shots fired near InTown Suites on Blanding Boulevard. Upon making contact with Jarvis in a parking lot, the CCSO determined that Jarvis had fired three to four rounds into the ground from a 12-gauge shotgun and then discarded the firearm in the bushes at Phoenix Salon, according to the arrest report. When they approached Jarvis, deputies said he appeared intoxicated. They said Jarvis admitted shooting the gun into the ground, but not at anyone. CCSO located the shotgun, along with multiple spent shotgun shells. Further investigation by the CCSO and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives determined Jarvis previously sawed off the barrel and the stock of the 12-gauge shotgun. A record check confirmed that this weapon made from a shotgun was not registered to Jarvis in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record, as required under federal law.

The shotgun barrel was measured at 15 inches, CCSO said.

Jarvis also was charged with disorderly intoxication and consumption of alcohol within 300 feet of a package store, according to CCSO.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed one or more violations of federal criminal law,

and every defendant is presumed innocent unless, and until, proven guilty.

The case was investigated by CCSO and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' Jacksonville Office. It will be prosecuted by Asst. U.S. Attorney Kevin C. Frein.

This case was prosecuted as part of the joint federal, state and local Project Safe Neighborhoods Program, the centerpiece of the Department of Justice's violent crime reduction efforts. PSN is an evidence-based program proven to be effective at reducing violent crime. Through PSN, a broad spectrum of stakeholders works together to identify the most pressing violent crime problems in the community and develop comprehensive solutions to address them. As part of this strategy, PSN focuses enforcement efforts on the most violent offenders and partners with locally-based prevention and reentry programs for lasting reductions in crime.

Middleburg nurse pleads guilty to taking fentanyl from care unit

JACKSONVILLE – A Middleburg woman pled guilty to tampering with a consumer product, specifically injectable fentanyl while she worked as a nurse at the neutral intensive care unit, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Monique Elizabeth Carter, 35, now faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison. A sentencing date has not yet been set.

According to the plea agreement, Carter, a registered nurse who previously was employed by a hospital in Jacksonville that provided intensive and specialized care to critically ill patients with life-threatening neurological problems. Certain ICU patients were prescribed intravenous doses of fentanyl, which is a synthetic opioid used as a pain medication and as anesthesia.

After Carter's shift on Sept. 28, 2021, a hospital pharmacist examined the ICU wing's inventory of fentanyl and found a fentanyl syringe missing a tamper-proof cap, but with some form of foreign adhe-

sive remaining at the tip. A second fentanyl syringe had a cap that appeared to have been glued back onto the syringe. After reviewing hospital records, a pharmacist supervisor noted a pattern of Carter checking out doses of fentanyl for patients, but then canceling the transactions and checking syringes back into the hospital's inventory. Records showed that Carter did so 24 times between Aug. 29 and Sept. 28, 2021. Carter was the only nurse on her ICU wing who persistently engaged in such conduct.

The next day, when Carter arrived for work, hospital representatives interviewed her. Confronted with the pharmacists' findings, Carter eventually admitted that – to obtain drugs for personal use at home – she had been removing injectable fentanyl from syringes, replacing the drug with saline, and then gluing the plastic tampering caps back onto the syringes with an adhesive that she obtained from the hospital. Carter admitted that she had been tampering with fentanyl syringes since the summer of 2021. Carter denied injecting fentanyl while on duty at the hospital, however, law enforcement later located needles, saline syringes and adhesive in her bag.

Carter, as a trained healthcare professional, knew that her activities likely resulted in critically ill patients receiving diluted fentanyl that was not safe and effective. Having been deprived of sterile, medically necessary medication, such patients were exposed to possible infection and endured unnecessary pain and suffering.

In addition, Carter knew that the failure to anesthetize or control pain in ICU patients can result in increased risks of illness or death, stemming from, among other things, respiratory, cardiovascular and musculoskeletal complications.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Office of Criminal Investigations and the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office's Pharmaceutical Diversion and Designer Drug Unit attached to the North Florida High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area. It is being prosecuted by Asst. U.S. Attorney Michael J. Coolican.

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, April 19

Lori L. Roche, 51, Orange Park, shoplifting
Andrew L. Archibald, 38, Middleburg, DWLSR

Tiffany L. Moore, 32, Orange Park, grand theft, petit theft

Connor G. Malinis, 21, Orange Park, armed home invasion, three counts of false imprison-

ment

Reginald R. Harris, 30, Orange Park, simple battery, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement

James C. Moore, 49, Green Cove Springs, FTA-DWLSR

Jon-Codi A. Westervelt, 28, Keystone Heights, armed burglary

Jeffrey A. Lascano, 20, Middleburg, felony domestic battery by strangulation

Quamaine A. Hills, 34, Fleming Island, giving false name/ID, DWLSR

Cierstin J. Ellison, 21, Fleming Island, DUI
Joshua A. Owen, 30, Fleming Island,

Arrests

from page 22

possession-marijuana

John D. Cooper, 44, Green Cove Springs, possession-firearm/ammo by convicted felon

Monday, April 18

John D. Cooper, 44, Green Cove Springs, simple battery, petit theft

John W. Cothran, 49, Middleburg, DWLSLR, failure to register

Micah J. Lewis, 44, Orange Park, DWLSLR
Jacob J. Sistrunk, 28, Middleburg, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement, giving false name/ID

George A. Shaw, 47, Middleburg, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement

Gloria C. Shaw, 71, Middleburg, battery on law enforcement/firefighter/EMT, resisting officer with violence

Brandon M. Walter, 38, Green Cove Springs, FTA-DWLSLR

Montize L. Burks, 18, Orange Park, four counts burglary

Cameron E. Hungerford, 25, Green Cove Springs, VOP-larceny

James E. Strong, 46, Jacksonville, VOP-possession-controlled substance

Brandon S. Baylor, 23, Green Cove Springs, FTA-DWLSLR, FTA-attached license tag not assigned to car

Ollis D. McLeondon, 25, Middleburg, child abuse

Nathan D. Perkins, 18, Orange Park, four counts burglary

Holly N. Hamilton, 46, Green Cove Springs, VOP-possession-methamphetamine

Thomas A. Brown, 41, Middleburg, VOP-community control

Marion J. Jammes, 50, Orange Park, uttering

forged instrument

Sunday, April 17

Lisa N. Rodriguez, 45, Fleming Island, DUI with BAL of .15 or higher

Amanda K. Stanford, 30, Middleburg, forgery, knowingly providing false information to law enforcement involving alleged crime

Gaylene Y. Baldwin, 60, Fleming Island, trespassing

Jennifer L. Lafontaine, 38, Orange Park, simple battery

Adam D. Simpson, 31, Middleburg, simple battery

Joshua J. Hunt, 25, Fleming Island, DUI with BAL of .15 or higher

Melina S. Hodges, 48, Green Cove Springs, DWLSLR

Joanne Cherubin, 42, Orange Park, simple domestic battery

Saturday, April 16

Savannah E. Powell, 30, Middleburg, two counts domestic battery

Tammy J. Gual, 62, Middleburg, shoplifting

Jesse L. Dixon, 33, Middleburg, aggravated assault with deadly weapon, possession-firearm/ammo by convicted felon, improper exhibition of firearm/deadly weapon

Douglas S. Tibbs, 56, Fleming Island, simple domestic battery

David A. Stacy, 60, Green Cove Springs, FTA

Colvin L. Cox, 38, Orange Park, petit theft, possession-drug paraphernalia, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement, alter/destroy/conceal/remove physical evidence

Jon-Codi A. Westervelt, 28, Keystone Heights, burglary

Nathan G. Daly, 42, Fleming Island, DUI

Friday, April 15

Doris A. Bonaccorso, 53, Orange Park, shoplifting

Eric L. Ford, 36, Orange Park, trespassing

Pedro J. Torres, 39, FTA-DWLSLR

Daniel G. Gessell, 30, Middleburg, grand theft auto

Nicole J. Mizell, 43, Middleburg, simple domestic battery

Ramon A.U. Castillo, 39, Orange Park, felony battery by strangulation

Linda D. Smith, 55, Orange Park, DUI

Thursday, April 14

Tina L. Prevatt, 39, Green Cove Springs, VOP-community control

Millard H.K. Norris, 29, Orange Park, burglary

John L.N. Huston, 34, Keystone Heights, VOP-community control

Semenia S. Scott, 33, Orange Park, child abuse

Dafrica C. Kesley, 46, Fleming Island, shoplifting

Benjamin S. Hodgins, 31, Jacksonville, VOP-possession-controlled substance

Christopher J. Page, 27, Middleburg, fraudulent use of credit card

Muhammad A. Benbenu, 23, Green Cove Springs, VOP-attempted armed robbery, VOP-possession-firearm/ammo by juvenile delinquent

Kayla I. Marchalleck, 30, Green Cove Springs, FTA-petit larceny

Michael J. Acevedo, 39, Green Cove Springs, FTA-DWLSLR

Johnathan J. Brooker, 31, Keystone Heights, trafficking-methamphetamine while armed, possession-cocaine, possession-controlled substance, two counts possession-firearm/ammo by convicted felon, altering ID/removing serial number on firearm

Christopher T. Woods, 28, Green Cove Springs, burglary

Dwayne A. Chenault, 65, Fleming Island, aggravated battery on pregnant woman

Leo C. Svitek, 50, Keystone Heights, violation of conditions for release

Danny A. Duren, 41, Green Cove Springs, VOP-possession-methamphetamine with intent to sell/manufacture/deliver, VOP-use of two-way communication device to facilitate felony

Nelson V. Hernandez, 36, Orange Park, driving without valid license

Amanda L. Lasichak, 36, Middleburg, simple domestic battery

Mary A. Rogers, 24, Fleming Island, DUI

Dwone M. Solomon, 45, Orange Park, possession-marijuana, violation of condition for release

Wednesday, April 13

Dean A.K. Rockwood, 29, Orange Park, burglary

James E. Britts, 21, Fleming Island, DUI

Zachary P. Hulse, 23, Middleburg, simple domestic battery

Telisha M.N. Farrell, 44, Orange Park, trespassing

Leoir E. Bueno, 59, Middleburg, felony domestic battery by strangulation

Constance J. Zittin, 73, Fleming Island, violation of injunction for stalking

Abygail E. Thornton, 26, Orange Park, simple battery

Stephanie Y. Casado, 37, Fleming Island, simple domestic battery

Calogero A. Mazzarella, 26, Green Cove Springs, battery

Christopher J. Gilbert, 41, Middleburg, leaving scene of accident with property damage

Paul S. Mauricio, 49, Green Cove Springs, capital sexual battery, custodial sexual abuse

Lumpkin

from page 1

dispatcher the nature of the true emergency.

What deputies and fire rescue found was troubling.

They found a couple in their 70s with their feet, hands and mouths bound by duct tape. According to the arrest report, the couple was suffering from being "extremely dehydrated, covered in feces, malnourished and suffering from infections and lesions from being bound for more than 48 hours."

While he was being handcuffed, Lumpkin told deputies, "he had murdered someone," CCSO said.

Three days later, investigators found what they believed to be human remains behind the home, Sheriff Michelle Cook said.

"During while the subject was detained, he made several statements about potentially burning somebody in a property located next to the house, knowing that he had had access to that property for at least the time while he was there," Cook said. "We began a search of the property. (Friday) we have uncovered what we believe



may potentially be human remains. I cannot tell you how long those remains have been there. Been there for a while. We do not know who the person is at this time. So, the investigation for us is really now beginning as we attempt to identify the remains and follow this investigation to a logical conclusion. In the wooded area behind the house was behind the house."

Clay County Sheriff's Office, Fire Rescue and Emergency Management joined the Florida Department of Law Enforce-

ment, human cadaver K-9s from the Pasco County Sheriff's Office and anthropology students from the University of Florida in a search of the house and adjoining properties.

Among other things, Lumpkin said he had an accomplice.

Now it's up to detectives to sort through the claims.

Investigators weren't sure if Lumpkin's early confessions were true, so they treated the area as an active crime scene and

a rare opportunity to get real-life training.

"What I will tell you is that we have just about all of our detectives working on this case," Cook said. "Mr. Lumpkin made a lot of statements that night and so we're taking every statement that he made and running it down. So, we know yet if there was anybody else involved in this. We don't know what Mr. Lumpkin's involvement was in this other than he said there. There was a body buried back there. But we're going to continue to investigate this."

Equipment was removed from the scene by Sunday, April 17.

Cook asked the public for help finding answers to solving some of Lumpkin's comments.

"What I would say is that if anybody has any information on the whereabouts of any family members, we would like for them to come forward and talk to us, or if anybody has any information or was with Mr. Lumpkin in the last few weeks, or if he's ever made any statements to anybody about anything he's been involved in, that can potentially be related," she said. "We really need those people to come forward so that we can piece the story together."

Lumpkin is being held in the Clay County Jail without bond. His next court appearance is May 16.

Gala

from page 20

motion. He truly makes a difference while doing God's work.

Jim Corbin

Jim Corbin volunteers for the Clay County Agricultural Fair as the Grounds Manager. He spends more than 500 hours per year volunteering his time at the Clay County Fair. He has been involved with the fair for more than ten years and served on the board of Directors for six and as chair of the board for two of those years.

Corbin and his small crew are responsible for getting the fairgrounds ready for the annual fair. Throughout the event, from a month before the fair to a month after the fair, he works tirelessly to make a significant difference and is always thinking of ways to better the fair processes. Each year, Jim organizes, gets volunteers and injects enthusiasm to the fair.

Jim easily works eight to ten hours per day getting ready for the fair and cleaning up after everyone else has left.

He is a true volunteer in every sense of the word. His example of strength, dedication to volunteering and horrible humor has served an excellent example to all who have had the privilege to know and volunteer along with him.



Jim Corbin

Robert Simpson

Robert Simpson volunteers for the Young Life Florida Region, Young Life Clay County, and Grace Anglican Church and Preschool.

He started volunteering with Young Life in 1985 as a part of the Hiring Committee when the dream of Young Life Clay County began. Currently Bob is the Treasurer of the Young Life Area Board, a guest host at Young Life Summer Camp, and is the DJ at weekly youth events, annual fundraisers, and camp



Robert Simpson

events. Bob serves as a volunteer Facilities Maintenance Coordinator at Grace Anglican Church and Grace Anglican Preschool. Bob is known for being someone that is always willing to help. He goes above and beyond expectations and always rises to a challenge.

Bob is also very caring and has a passion for the adolescents in Clay County to know Jesus Christ. Bob embodies belonging and helps newcomers feel seen and valued. Bob is an irreplaceable thread in the tapestry of the lives of those who know and love him.

Shepherd Center Outstanding Service Award

Chris Bass

Chris Bass has been a member of the Shepherd's Center since 2016. She is a great ambassador for the Shepherd Center (SCOOP) and the Adventures in Learning Program.

At SCOOP she serves on the Board of Directors as Secretary, teaches two classes in Tangling, assists with registration, mans the outreach booth at the Orange Park Farmer's Market, does data entry, has designed a marketing piece, and redesigned the newsletter. Chris is a member that never says "No" when asked to help with a project and is dedicated to SCOOP. In Chris's words, "I want to make sure this wonderful program keeps going. The only way I can do this is by pitching in and donating my time and talents. I started by volunteering to help the Shepherd Center, but I found by volunteering, I get so much more. I look forward to all my volunteer jobs."

Chris has five children, four boys and a girl, and two stepsons, fifteen grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Chris worked at the Clay County Public Library for eleven years in the reference department where she taught computer classes and ran the Genealogy and Local History Department. It is at the library where she first learned of SCOOP through our newsletter.



Chris Bass

Community Briefs

JC Penney Scenic Highway hosts annual 5K run on Saturday

PENNEY FARMS – The JC Penney Scenic Highway will hold its seventh annual 5K run now that COVID-19 has essentially subsided.

The run will begin at 8:30 a.m. at Kohler Park on Clark Avenue. The Park is just down the avenue from Town Hall, 4100 Clark Avenue.

Pre-registration is being handled by 1st Place Sports. It can be reached at <http://www.1stplacesports.com/run> or by calling (904) 731-1900.

Day of Run registration will be at 4100 Clark Avenue. The Town of Penney Farms Historical Museum and the Model Railroad at Wilbanks Avenue and Caroline Boulevard will be open after the run for visitors.



Daylily Society hosts plant sale and show in Orange Park

ORANGE PARK – The North Florida Daylily Society will host a plant sale and show on May 14 at the Courtyard Marriott at 610 Wells Road. The event will run from 1-4 p.m.

More than 100 varieties of daylilies all from local growers. Residents are encouraged to chat with the growers. The public will have the opportunity to view these beautiful flowers then go into the next room and select plants to purchase. Prices range from \$10-\$20.

For more information, visit nfdaylily.com.

Carnival for autism coming to Orange Park Mall on April 24

ORANGE PARK – Northeast Florida's first carnival designed for Autism is coming to Clay County. The FREE event will be at the Orange Park Mall on April 24 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Activities at the carnival include

a bounce house, corn hole, pie-throwing, face painting, horse and donkey rides, dunk tank, basketball arcade and more. Game tickets will be on sale throughout the event and there will be plenty of carnival food and food trucks to taste.

Half of all proceeds raised during the carnival will go to Autism awareness research.

For more information or to become a sponsor, call (901) 503-6675 or email backstage_ent06@yahoo.com.

Elementary Art show on display at Orange Park Mall on April 29

ORANGE PARK -- Next week a trip to the Orange Park Mall will look a little different. Artwork from elementary students will be on display for the annual Clay County District Schools Elementary Art Show.

The artwork will be on display in front of the JCPenney store from April 29 through May 1.

This year, 20 elementary schools will showcase a compilation of both 3D and 2D pieces ranging in a variety of subjects and techniques. The elementary art teachers will also be doing some community engagement activities during the art show.

New show coming to Art in the Courthouse

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – As part of a new community outreach effort, Art in the Courthouse, the Clay County Clerk and Comptroller's Office proudly announce Show 2, "Brush Strokes of Light," brought to the community by members of First Coast Plein Air Painters, is on display on the sixth floor of the Clay County Courthouse starting April 18.

This is a juried and judged show. The juror/judge for this show, Charles Dickinson, will award first-, second- and third-place awards, as well as three honor mentions. Following the reception, artwork is viewable during normal courthouse business hours, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-through-Friday.

Thousands conduct business inside the Clay County Courthouse each year and, regardless of the reason for their visit, the clerk's office wants the building to be a peaceful venue where citizens and employees feel at ease when conducting business. This new program is a partnership involving the Clerk of Court and Comptroller's Office, Clay County Judiciary, local art groups' amazing artists, Clay County government, civic organizations, the school system and more. New displays rotate into the gallery every three-to-four months.

The Clerk of Court's public website (clayclerk.com) provides information about each art show and links to each organization. Other shows include the Clay County Women's Clubs from July 18 to Nov. 3 and Holiday Season Children's Art from Nov. 18 to Jan. 31.

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Clay County Super 6 Girls & Boys Hoops

Girls Player of Year

Eris Lester, Guard, Orange Park (24-6), Sophomore

One of the toughest competitors on the hardwood when "stuff" needs to happen. Lester put the Lady Raiders resurgent program (24-6, region final finish) on her shoulders and played point man on a team that did not back down from hard competition. The schedule made Lester the great leader; 6A-Nease (25-5, Final Four, lost to St. Thomas Aquinas 6A champion), 6A-Ponte Vedra (19-8, lost to Nease region quarters), 4A-Andrew Jackson (16-11, region semis), 2A-University Christian (18-12, Final Four), 5A-Rickards (14-6, lost in region semis to Orange Park), 2A-Florida A&M (15-4, region finals), 3A-Elizabeth-town (TN) (23-7, lost in state quarters to eventual state champion), 1A-Trenton (17-10, region playoffs, 2021 Final Four), 4A-Cocoa (17-9, lost region semis to state champ Lake Highland Prep) and Oakleaf (Final Four 8A 2021) all major programs. Lester did her thing in region loss to Pine Forest with 15 points. Lester had numbers like 20 points per game, eight rebounds per game; as a guard?, three steals, two assists.

Taliah Scott, Guard, St. Johns Country Day School, Junior

Taliah Scott, the Dairy Farmer Class 2A player of the year was a scoring machine for the Lady Spartans (near 32 points per game) on a team that turned from good 2A program to dangerous program that could put up 80 points between Scott's prowess and a team concept under coach Yolando Bronston that had solid overall play that centered around Scott getting open. High games included 56, 50 and 43 points.

In the Dairy Farmer ranks, more impressively, Scott was the lone player in all classes player of year scores that was not a championship game player.

Fantasia James, Guard, Oakleaf, Junior

Fantasia James was the "driving" force behind the Lady Knights attempt to repeat as a Final Four finisher, but a rugged season of illness that shutdown the Knights program for two critical weeks slowed the roll of the high-flying Oakleaf attack with a final stop in the region semifinals. James put the burden of points on her shoulder with a finishing week of 20, 30, 20, 25, 22

SEE GIRLS, 30



CORRESPONDENT PHOTOS BY RAY DIMONDA

Orange Park sophomore Eris Lester and Fleming Island's Ahman Greenidge were critical playmakers for deep playoff runs for their teams in 2022.

Boys Player of Year

Ahman Greenidge, Center, Fleming Island, Senior

To say the game is not over when 20 points down, then to deliver the winning surge is what Ahman Greenidge will be revered for. Greenidge's uncanny big play aura kept a shell-shocked Golden Eagle team that was torn by a player investiga-

tion near midseason on point to surge on despite a nearly revamped game plan because of the elimination of a key player. Greenidge will be hailed as the player that would not let the team fall on the sword and use the obstacle as a crutch for sub-par play. On the court, Greenidge led with fervor for his 12 points; top nights of 22 (in 83-60 blowout win over 19-9 Seminole

SEE BOYS, 31



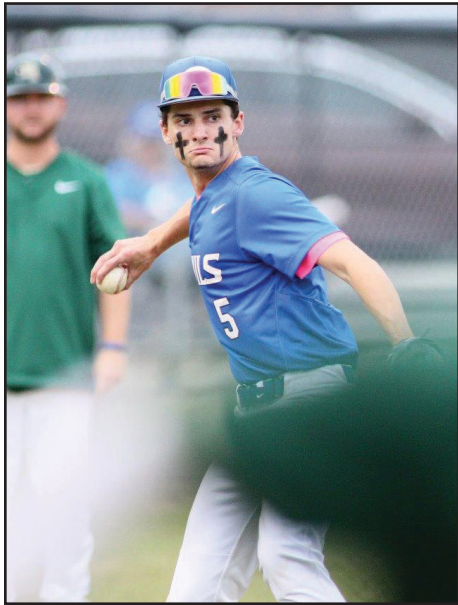
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Clay third baseman Jayden Long looks to sling for out in front of Fleming Island coach Grant Bigilin.

County Roundup

Clay (11-8): March 25 lost to Bartram Trail 3-2, March 28 lost to University Christian 8-3, RAIN out vs. SJCDs, April 1 beat Ridgeview 15-0
Wed., April 6 vs. Creekside Lost 6-5
Tues., April 12 vs. Santa Fe Lost 2-1 (9)
Thurs., April 14 vs. Fleming Island Won 6-2
Fri., April 15 at Trinity Christian Lost 6-0
Tues., April 19 vs. Toco Creek
Thurs., April 21 at Ponte Vedra

Fleming Island (6-11): March 22 beat Bradford 13-0, Lost to Chiles 12-1, April 1 Lost to Nease 6-5, April 4 lost to Oakleaf 10-0
Thurs., April 7 at Middleburg Lost 2-1
Fri., April 8 at Toco Creek Lost 8-5
Tues., April 12 vs. Ponte Vedra Won 9-5
Thurs., April 14 at Clay Lost 6-2
Sat., April 16 at Leon Lost 2-1
Mon., April 18 at University Christian
Fri., April 22 at Stanton
Tues., April 26 vs. Columbia
Thurs., April 28 at Episcopal

Middleburg (8-7): March 25 beat Ridgeview 10-4, March 28 lost to Baldwin 8-3, March 29 lost to Oakleaf 5-2
Mon., April 4 vs. Parker Won 12-3
Tues., April 5 at Palatka Won 9-4
Thurs., April 7 vs. Fleming Island Won 2-1
Mon., April 11 vs. University Christian Lost 4-1
Thurs., April 14 at Columbia Lost 6-5
Mon., April 18 at Yulee
Wed., April 20 vs. Gainesville
Thurs., April 32 at Gainesville
Mon., April 25 at Keystone Heights
Tues. April 26 vs. Orange Park
Thurs., April 28 vs. West Nassau

Oakleaf (13-6): March 29 beat Middleburg 5-2, March 30 beat Union County 9-5, April 1 beat Bishop Snyder 4-0, April 4 beat Fleming Island 10-0
Thurs., April 7 vs. University Christian
Fri., April 8 at Sandalwood Lost 5-0
Mon., April 11 vs. Stanton Lost 4-3
Wed., April 13 vs. Menendez Won 6-3
Thurs., April 14 at Mandarin Lost 2-1
Mon., April 18 at Keystone Heights
Wed., April 20 vs. Nease
Thurs., April 21 at Episcopal
Mon., April 25 at Ridgeview
Tues., April 26 vs. Riverside
Thurs., April 28 vs. Buchholz

Ridgeview (4-12): March 25 lost to Middleburg 10-4, March 29 lost to Fernandina Beach 11-5, April 1 lost to Clay 15-0, April 2 lost to Toco Creek 6-5
Wed., April 6 at Baker County Lost 7-6
Fri., April 8 at Columbia Lost 6-4
Tues., April 12 at Fletcher Lost 9-2
Sat., April 16 at Carrollwood Day (Tampa) Lost 5-4
Tues., April 19 at SJCDs
Wed., April 20 vs. Baldwin
Sat., April 23 at Gainesville Noon
Mon., April 25 vs. Oakleaf
Tues., April 26 vs. Christs Church
Wed., April 27 at Westside

SEE ROUNDUP, 34

Playoffs looming; Devils go yard on Eagles

By Ray DiMonda
Correspondent

GREEN COVE SPRINGS - As the legend continues with cross-town rivals, the Fleming Island Golden Eagles looked poised to make it a run to the wire as they had their rivalry game with Clay High tied at 2-2 at the top of the fifth inning. That was until the host Blue Devil's bats sprang to life with a Jayden Long RBI deep center out of the park rocket ship home run, pushing Logan Wilson around to go ahead 4-2.

"This is one of the biggest teams I ever had," said Clay High Head Coach Josh Persinger. "Since this group's freshman year, it is a priority year-round, they are hitting the weights. I really think that has the most to do with this."

In the next inning, not wanting Wilson to be all alone in the spotlight, Tyler Mills went yard into right field to bring Brady Greene home for a back-to-back pair of RBI homers for the Blue Devils, sending Fleming Island home 6-2.



Fleming Island third baseman Cayden Robinson gets handle on ball with Clay baserunner sliding in.

"What's crazy is since I took this team over, the most home runs we had on a season is six or seven," said Persinger. "The 2014 team that went to state, almost half went on to play division one ball and some on to pros, they hit 10. Tonight that was 15 and 16. I've never been part of a part of a high school program that did that."

The Golden Eagles, last year's Class 6A runnerup and somewhat erratic on the basepaths to home plate, just couldn't get any mojo at all going in the first several innings.

For the Blue Devils, who were ousted in shocking fashion by Baker County in



CORRESPONDENT PHOTOS BY RAY DIMONDA

Clay catcher Dylan Greene is "the wall" as Fleming Island's Gavin Billingsley attempts to get to home plate in Blue Devils' win.

their district semifinal last year, it was building a wall one brick at a time with a single run in the bottom of the first inning as Conner Chapman courtesy ran for Dylan Greene, who walked and starting things off for Clay. After one out, Chapman took advantage of an Isaac Williams passed ball to make it to second.

On a 3-1 count, Chapman stole 3rd base. Wilson grounded to the shortstop, who threw home. With the ball at the plate, Wilson took off for second base. With a Golden Eagle error at second, Chapman bolted for home to put Clay ahead early 1-0. After the excitement of the first inning, in the next inning, both teams did no better than a single runner on base before being retired.

Back at bat in the bottom of the third, Clay's Dylan Greene's club stayed hot as he nailed a line drive to center for a double, getting Clay a runner in scoring position with only one out. Again, enter Chapman to run for Greene. Max Williams walked in four pitches putting runners at first and second base. On a wild pitch, Chapman moved to third, setting the stage for another score. Logan Wilson obliged with a grounder to left field to cross Chapman over home, 2-0 Blue Devils.

The rivals continued to joust for two innings to the top of the fifth. The first Golden Eagle batter, Caleb Simmons got things rolling for Fleming Island with a left field line drive. With one out, Justin Corfield hit a grounder, looking like an easy out, but made it onboard with a Clay error which also allowed Simmons to make his way to third base.

"We are both struggling," said Golden Eagle Head Coach Grant Bigilin. "They seem to not be struggling as bad as we are but having their issues; a county rivalry to finish up where we are at in the season; and this is a tough place to play. If you don't bring it for seven innings, you're

not going to come out of here with a win."

An untimely walk loaded the based as Gavin Billingsley only needed four pitches, still with only one out. On a 3-2 count, Abram Summers grounds into what should have been an easy fielder's choice. Simmons took off for home and crossed the plate, 2-1. During the play, Clay made an untimely error at second base, allowing Corfield to sneak in the back door, 2-2 tied game.

Asked about getting passed the mid-game error and stay focused on the win, Persinger said "We're going to get punched. We know it, so you get punched and you just get back up. It's going to happen. You say- okay that didn't work, so let's try this again. We just keep getting back up. That's the mentality. You'd like to not get punched, but this is high school sports, so that's the reality. You have to be mentally tough." The Blue Devils stopped the bleeding with runners still on, but the damage was done with the game now tied, 2-2.

With Clay back in the batter's box, two quick outs made it look like the inning would pass by with no action. Logan Wilson said not so fast as he walked to bring up Jayden Long who went out of the park, 4-2.

Back on the field, it was all Clay defense as three Fleming Island batters would all go back to the dugout empty handed. Back to work in the business office, and almost like a rewind of the fifth inning, Brady Greene walked, and lefty Tyler Mills launched a scud over the right field fence, 6-2.

The Blue Devil's defensive focus stayed razor sharp as once again, they saw three batters come up, and get retired without a hit to close out the last time the seniors would battle each other on the diamond with the Blue Devils taking home the 2022 bragging rights for the rivalry, 6-2.

Indians looking for repeat in 1A

Freed, Williams, Dicks top hopes in state lift chase

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS - After a year of remembering that he was not in the rotation of the Keystone Heights High Class 1A state title run last year, Keystone Heights High's Logan Williams not only has some return to give his teammates, but also to fuel his ambition of that state title.

"Mission one, bring the state team title back," said Williams, currently top-ranked in Class 1A at 169 pounds after his region title last week put him at a tough 600 pounds, just 20 points up on the runnerup; oh, yeah, Indian teammate Nate Tisdale, ironically. "I want to prove that I would have been on the podium last year."

Williams, who missed last year due to a rodeo-induced injury to his leg, has been locked into his top-lift battle with a guy in his own weight room and that has fueled a good training partnership.

"Pretty nice to have the guy you are going to compete with at state for the title in the same room," said Lantz Lowery, coach of the Indians boys, who was Boys Weightlifting coach of the year last year for Class 1A after storming the state with their championship effort with a surprise



Wyatt VanZant, at 129 this year, is sure shot for weightlift medal with his runnerup at 119 finish last year.

Class 1A state qualifiers

- 119: Declan Shine KHHS
- 129: Wyatt VanZant KHHS, Reid Begue KHHS
- 154: Ulysses Freed KHHS, Landon Hosevepian KHHS
- 169: Logan Williams KHHS, Nate Tisdale KHHS
- 183: Tyler Jenkins KHHS, Clayton Kicklighter KHHS
- 199: Bryson Wester KHHS
- 219: Trey Jeffries KHHS, Tyler Rozier KHHS
- 238: Caleb Moncrief KHHS
- UNL: Mason Dick KHHS, Luke Snider KHHS

upset of Mount Dora off a final lift from Kaleb Vojnoski over Mount Dora's Eddie Romero giving the Indians the team points to secure a 37-30 win over Mount Dora. "We have a few weight classes where the



Two of the Indians big three of upper weights; Mason Dicks, left, and Luke Snider patrol the Unlimited weight class for Keystone Heights coach Lantz Lowery with Dicks a region champion and Snider a top 10 finisher.

top five region guys and ranked guys are from here, but, like I have said before, anything can happen on that state day. Kaleb stepped up for us last year."

Lowery though coyley optimistic of his troops knows the feeling of sending the top threats and returning home empty-handed.

"A few years back, all the top guys missed their opening lifts and it cost us dearly," said Lowery. "We had a more formidable team back then, but it is a big, wide open arena in front of a lot of people and these are teenage boys remember."

Lowery not only has the Williams/Tis-

dale combination as solid big-point duo, but in multiple weight classes are the Indians bringing more than one athlete.

At 129, Wyatt VanZant, the runnerup by 10 pounds at 119 last year, returns with teammate Reid Begue as top six ranks; third and fifth to challenge, with the top six guys all between 400 and 450 pound totals. Top ranked Chase Zilcosky of South Sumter, with a 450 total, improved from last year's state total of 395 for sixth to win his region title in 2022.

SEE INDIANS, 32

OPHS Griffieth/CHS Meszaros on for the chase in 2A lifts

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS - Orange Park and Clay high have held formidable positions in weightlifting over the years with the Raiders having a slew of past state champions and the Blue Devils girls teams taking cue from the Clay High Iron Room to win their first-ever title after a dominating year from Clay state champion Isaiah Jones at 129.



Orange Park football monster Roderick Kearney puts Raiders in hunt for weightlift title at Unlimited in Class 2A.

total just 15 pounds from a grouping of four lifters locked at 465 with the top total at 515.

Meszaros' 550 total is 50 away from two lifters at 600 at the top.

For Griffieth, the gap is his 425 versus the top lifter at 455 with three locked at 430.

Middleburg High has Gabe Harp at 169 at ninth ranked after a region title in the Olympic Snatch with his clean and jerk in the top five of the field being a possible difference maker in the end.

Class 2A state qualifiers

- 129: Cam Griffieth OPHS, Andrew Rexach RHS
- 139: Chris Baptiste RHS
- 169: Gabe Harp MHS
- 183: Logan Meszaros CHS
- 238: Khoda Moses MHS
- UNL: Roderick Kearney OPHS

In 2022, two lifters; Raider Cam Griffieth and Clay's Logan Meszaros, emerged from the fray of regions to be in positions for a possible medals chase at the Class 2A championship meet this week.

Also in the mix, Ridgeview's Chris Baptiste, fifth last year by just 50 pounds in a flurry behind Clay's Jones at 129, is a whisker away from a medal in a very tight 139 class with just 60 pounds separating top-rank and 10th ranked: Baptiste at 450



Oakleaf High's Gabriel Oliveria is newcomer to big arena competition, but has showed up with big numbers at districts and regions and is strong candidate for state title in Class 3A.

Oliveria enters the big show

FIHS Nolley inching to podium

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

OAKLEAF - Most every lifting champion from past Clay County chases has had some follow through story of just-misses, injuries or vast improvements, but Oakleaf High's Gabe Oliveria is just one of those guys that can take the world by surprise right out of his home gym.

Oliveria, who has very little if any formal competition as a weightlifter except maybe him and his dad pounding for kitchen table gold in their gym, has be-

come the talk of the town (of Port St. Joe maybe) as he enters the arena of a big arena and pressure situations pertaining to big lifts.

With just five pounds separating him on paper from a gold medal in his first shot at a state weightlift title, Oliveria is that untapped potential guy who has purported to wanted the 415 bench press state record on his resume.

"He has said he wants to put it out of reach (the record)," said Oakleaf coach Jake Scott, after a remarkable 375 lift that looked effortless at his district meet

SEE OLIVERIA, 32

Dreadnaughts, Raiders power up for Final Four football runs

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

ORANGE PARK - In what could have been one of the more exciting Saturday afternoons in youth football in Clay County, the Fleming Island Dreadnaughts and the Orange Park AA Raiders organization stood tall with thrilling wins at the Youth Spring Football League playoff conference championships as teams battled for a ticket to the Orlando Final Four championship weekend on the May 1 weekend.

Teams will be playing at the Austin Tindall Sports Complex in Orlando with ages



Fleming Island Dreadnaught lineman Easton Isbell is all smiles after catching deciding PAT pass in 12-Under region championship win on Saturday.

ranging from 6-Unders to 15-Unders.

Youth Spring Football is an 8-man youth tackle football league that operates in the Spring from late February to early May. In 2008, the league started with only 12 teams in Florida and now has over 200 teams in Florida along with hosting the tournament in four other states. YSF provides a Division 1 (competitive) and Division 2 (developmental) tournament program that includes both a regular season

Area Spring Football

MON., APRIL 25: First Spring Practice (non-contact)
Sat, April 30: First Spring Practice (contact)

Spring Games

FRIDAY, MAY 13

Jacksonville Sandalwood at Jacksonville First Coast, 6
Lake Butler Union County at The Villages, 7

SATURDAY, MAY 14

Jacksonville Eagle's View at Jacksonville Wolfson, 6:30

TUESDAY, MAY 17

St. Johns Creekside vs. Glen St. Mary Baker County at Memorial Stadium, 6:30

THURSDAY, MAY 19

Fleming Island at Jacksonville Mandarin, 6:30
Jacksonville North Florida Educational at Jacksonville Providence, 7
St. Augustine at Jacksonville Bishop Kenny, 7
Jacksonville Trinity Christian at Neptune Beach Fletcher, 6
Jacksonville Westside at St. Augustine Menendez, 7

JAMBOREES

Lake Minneola, Orange Park at Ocoee, 6

FRIDAY, MAY 20

Jacksonville Atlantic Coast at Jacksonville Andrew Jackson, 6:30
St. Johns Bartram Trail at Lake City Columbia, 7
Bellevue vs. Gainesville Eastside, 7
Jacksonville Ed White at Ponte Vedra Nease, 7
Jacksonville Englewood at Baldwin, 6
Jacksonville Paxon at Callahan West Nassau, 7

JAMBOREES

Tallahassee Chiles, Tallahassee Leon, Tallahassee Lincoln, Tallahassee Rickards, Crawfordville Wakulla vs. Tallahassee Godby at Gene Cox Stadium, 6

MONDAY, MAY 23

Middleburg at Keystone Heights, 7
Orange Park Ridgeview at Fort White, 6:30

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

St. Augustine St. Joseph at Jacksonville Episcopal, 7

THURSDAY, MAY 26

Ponte Vedra at Green Cove Springs Clay, 6:30

FRIDAY, MAY 27

Yulee at St. Augustine Toco Creek, 7

schedule and a playoff cycle through to a State Championship game, that delivers a "Professional like" experience to all youth football players.

In Saturday's action, Fleming Island's

SEE FOOTBALL, 29



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Left: 10-Under Fleming Island Dreadnaught wide receiver Austin Moss got a late score while big boy John Blankenship goes collision with ball in "Fridge" style offensive play for 20 yards.



Fleming Island Dreadnaughts 12-Under team is all about their win over a solid MOT team out of Jacksonville as the team that belonged to Connor #ConnorStrong McKay keeps rolling into the playoffs. McKay was former Dreadnaught who recently passed to a brain tumor.



In a tough, hard-hitting 14-Under playoff game between the Orange Park Raiders and the Oakleaf Renegades, Steven Woods sealed the Raider win with this late fourth quarter interception.



Left: Fleming Island Dreadnaughts 12-Under coach Mike Kenny, center, sneaks a smile after decisive score for Dreadnaughts win. Above: 14-Under Oakleaf Renegade ball carrier Solomon Pinkney carries a few Raider tacklers for extra yards. Raiders won.





14-Under running back Jordan Williams of Oakleaf Renegades tries to outspurt Orange Park defender Jaiden Samuels for gain in Raiders win. Raiders advance to state Final Four in Orlando.



In one of the more dramatic plays of the day, Orange Park 14-Under running back Jabin Buckman exploded through the tough Oakleaf line for a 45 yard touchdown run.



14-Under Oakleaf Renegade running back Taylor Cook breaks for big gain with Orange Park Raider defense in pursuit. Orange Park won conference title to advance to state Final Four.

Football

from page 28

Dreadnaughts (12-Under, Div 2) rode the wave of emotion from the recent loss of teammate Connor McKay to cancer to push through a tough game against the MOT team out of Jacksonville for a comeback 20-12 region championship win in the 12-Under Division 2 bracket. McKay succumbed to a brain cancer recently after being a defensive end stalwart for the 10-Under Dreadnaughts that made the Orlando trip last year.

Fleming Island will play the SE region champion Down South Ballers out of the Royal Palm Beach area who won a 25-7 region title over the South Florida Bengals.

Fleming Island had wins of 22-0 over the Clay Chargers and 28-14 over the Volusia Tigers to advance to the conference final.

The Down South Ballers had shutouts of 28-0 and 18-0 to advance.

The other two teams in the Final Four are the Sarasota Devils; winners of 30-0 and 35-0 to advance and the Inbound Warriors, winners at 15-0 and 21-19 to advance.

In the 14-Under Div.2 championship game, Orange Park won a 14-6 grudge match against the Oakleaf Renegades to advance with the Renegades winning at 12-6 match over the Volusia Tigers to advance while Orange Park beat Skill University 19-0 to advance.

Orange Park (4-2) will play the Boynton

Beach Bulldogs (4-0-2), who won games of 20-15, 25-0 and 20-0 to advance, in their Final Four opener.

The other two teams in that Final Four are the W. Orange Wildcats out of Orlando and the Elite NE team out of Tampa.

In the 14-Under Division 1 championship game, the Dreadnaughts won a 6-0 game over the Melbourne Ducks to advance to play the Volusia Raiders A, a 13-12 winner in their region final over the

Palm Beach Gardens Gators.

In the NE 6-Unders Div. 3 Bowl game, the Clay Chargers lost a 19-12 match to the St. Johns Crusaders.

In the 10-Unders, Fleming Island's Dreadnaughts lost a 22-8 match to the St. Johns County Crusaders.

In 12-Unders, Orange Park beat the New Smyrna Beach Cudas 20-0 while the Orange Park Raiders D2 team beat the Clay Chargers 29-0 to advance to that final.



In 12-Under action, left, Orange Park defensive end Braylen Walker heads to Clay Charger quarterback Elijah Peterkins after fumbled snap. Right: Orange Park 12-Under back Kam Singleton is all alone for 20 yard score.

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St. Johns Country Day School guard Taliah Scott was top point-getter in state and was awarded the Class 2A player of year.



Oakleaf High's high-flying Fantasia James, here after big three-pointer in front of coach Fred Cole, was emotional adrenaline for Lady Knights who came close to Final Four repeat.

Girls

from page 25

as she and teammate Kaylah Turner were heroic in their chase of a second Final Four spot. James, with seven rebounds per game and two steals also snagged five games of double digit rebounds.



Oakleaf defensive stalwart Kaylah Turner showed her offensive prowess for Lady Knights in new role for 2022.

Kaylah Turner, Guard, Oakleaf, Junior

In her sophomore season, Turner was the noted defensive specialist of the Lady Knights attack, but 2022 put the ball in Turner's hands and the fast-thinking and fast-moving technician raised her scoring game to 14.2 per game with spurts of 27, 24 and 23 with double digits throughout the Knights' playoff run. With 121 steals on the season; best of 14, 9 and 8 in several games, Turner maintained her defensive prowess with nearly all turning to layups; 71 buckets off 121 steals. Turner had a way of lulling dribbling point guards to a sense of security before striking like a viper just inside the halfcourt line; a tactic exciting to watch.



Keystone Heights scrapper Kiley Channell was tough, reckless abandoned player not afraid to tango in paint with bigger players.

Kiley Channell, Guard, Keystone Heights (19-6), Junior

Need a scrappy, chair-clearing diving player that doesn't shy from a shoulder smash in the paint? Keystone Heights guard Kiley Channell is the daredevil on the floor that put the Lady Indians back in coach Jessica Sykes' wheelhouse; Sykes a Keystone Heights state champion guard that knows top drawer play.

Channell led the Lady Indians in points; 12.2 ppg (top games 24, 21 17), second in rebounds, 7.3 steals (Top nights 12, 11, 9); and assists 4.3pg (Top nights 10, 7, 6). FYI, Channell also dives with fervor as short-stop on Keystone Heights softball team.

Nia Blocton, Center, Ridgeview (16-11), Sophomore

A second great sophomore player that will emerge as a major force in next two years. Blocton became that "player off the bus" that made opposing coaches cringe. A bruising rebounder, with downcourt break



athleticism and a team-first player that pushed her game to big numbers when needed. Blocton's leadership will bode well for coach Gussie Solomon who loses just one senior to next year. That's a scary thought with the way the Lady Panthers bumped up against area talent. Blocton had a 15.6 scoring average (all but three games in double figures; top nights of 26, 23 and 22), two assists, an astounding 12 rebounds (top nights of 21, 17 (v. OPHS), 16 grabs), two steals and a block per game. That's a pretty versatile stat package.

Ridgeview's Nia Blocton had another slew of triple double stat packages in games as she was one of Panthers leaders in points, rebounds and assists.



FIHS Signing

Fleming Island High soccer had a banner season with boys and girls teams both having deep region playoff runs and also getting a handful of players set to play at the college level. Signing scholarships to continue playing soccer in college are left to right, Logan Dailey (Grove City College), Noah Eaton (Eckerd College), Lilly Graham (I of Maryland), Madi Male (Florida Southern) and Libby Pittman (Berry College).

Boys

from page 25

team that finished as a 7A Final Four), 20 in comeback mode vs. Buchholz (71-68 district semifinal win with early gap of 20 points), nine rebounds (Top nights of 13 twice and an astounding 10 grabs in 10 games), three assists and two steals per game.



Oakleaf High's leader was point guard David Compere who was fearless into the paint and dead-on three point shooter for Knights.

David Compere, Guard, Oakleaf, Senior

David Compere was the ultimate guy to keep an eye on because of his catlike speed across the floor. Compere, while being a wicked corner three point shooter and thus someone to not let alone on defense, was also the Knights' playmaker away from the ball with slashes into the paint and dishes to teammates for layups. At 19 points per



Josiah Sabino led a hard-charging group of Raiders for long unbeaten streak and playoff run.

game, Compere hit for a third of his three pointers; 59 total, with 2-3 steals, assists and rebounds per game.

Josiah Sabino, Guard, Orange Park, Senior

Josiah Sabino had the ability to single-handedly take a game away from the Raiders opponents in a flash of a three minute span of a game with his lightning drives and power under the basket. The Raiders acceleration was directly connected to Sabino's shooting wrist and, as he went, so did the Raiders. Sabino had a 21 points per game average; just one single digit game (first game) with top nights of 34, 31, and 29 twice; 6-7 rebounds; top nights of 14 and 13 twice; 2-3 assists; two nights of five dishes; 27 threes and a couple of steals per game; whatever was needed.



Fleming Island High guard Colton Zapp transitioned from stellar outside shooter to outstanding point guard and passer.

Colton Zapp, Guard, Fleming Island, Senior

Colton Zapp spent untold hours shooting baskets in his driveway before school (I was his next door neighbor) and the dividend was his pinpoint accuracy with arms hanging on him as he too had to answer the shift of attack from the Golden Eagles midseason fiasco off the court. Zapp was a shadow player in the early part of the season with the Golden Eagles attack focused off the exploits of exited guard Bennie McDuffie who pushed the Golden Eagles to a 9-0 spot before his release from the team. From there, Zapp took command and orchestrated the Golden Eagles attack with a little bit of backcourt savvy rather than full head-on take the wind out mode. The result was a region final finish and a near takedown of the eventual state champion Ponte Vedra Sharks. Zapp's court creativity scored 13 points per game; top nights of 21, 19 twice and 18 three times, 69 three pointers (45% shooting/5 vs. Miami Norland and Riverside, four four times); 6-7 rebounds, 3-4 assists; top night of eight



Ridgeview High's Eddie Whipple was the athlete on the floor capable of feats that defied gravity.

dishes vs. Tampa Durant, five vs. New Hampstead (GA), and 2-3 steals per game.

Eddie Whipple, Forward, Ridgeview, Senior

Eddie Whipple and Ridgeview coach Jerome Clyburn, a standout Orange Park High and collegiate basketball player, had similar looks on the court with the top drawer football athlete able to convert to top drawer hardwood athlete with the same instinct for ball attack, steals to layups and forceful defense. Whipple molded his game to give his best performances at the end of the season with a final game of 28 points against a solid Clay team coming after a string of double digit finishes that included a 27 point effort in a string of 10 games of 11 with the double digit finish. Clyburn slowly unleashed Whipple to show out his stuff at the end of the season as his Ridgeview team became very dangerous despite the season record. Was ironic that Whipple had his best games when matched with our number six guy, Clay's Brandon Peavy. Whipple finished at 13.5 points per

game; 8-9 rebounds per game (top nights of 14 twice and 12 twice with two 11s), 75 assists (top nights of seven twice, 6 twice and five twice) and 47 steals (top nights of four four times) plus 68 blocked shots (top nights of seven and six four times).

Keyshaun Riley, Junior, Oakleaf, Center

I'm known for my liking of lunchpail guys in sports and Keyshaun Riley is that guy. He showed up and played with reckless, spirited abandon and let his team know that he would carry them if needed. Not flashy, not a precision shooter, but a guy who knew how to get the ball to the rim in tough battles in the paint.

His 9-10 rebounds per game were often times pivotal to swing games with his 5-6 points per game the same critical when needed. Clutch maybe, but more just a blue collar guy. If he works his offensive game over the summer, could be force to reckon with next season.



Oakleaf High's KeyShaun Riley was "blue-collar" power player for Knights with timely big rebounds against bigger players.



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Keystone Heights High weightlifting coach Lantz Lowery, left, watches as one of his lead lifters; Tyler Jenkins, clears weight in recent competition. Jenkins is just pounds away from possible Class 1A title as Indians look the look to repeat as team champions.

Indians

from page 27

At 154, Ulysses Freed and Landon Hovesepian are region champion and region runnerup for Lowery; 535-525 totals, with the duo five pounds up on third-ranked Seth Moore of Hilliard.

Missing in the equation are state champions Zach Glover at 139 who missed his lifts at regions, and Kade Sanders, at 169, who has been injured.

"We just keep lifting," said Lowery. "They know they have to step up at some point. Ulysses and Landon are new faces in the lineup to state."

In the meat of Lowery's lineup are the 154 and up dudes led by Williams and senior Tyler Jenkins on one end; second ranked at 183 but 90 pounds away from top ranked Quinn Raulerson of Union County, the defending 183 champion, and, anchored at the top end by Lowery's big three; Caleb Moncrief (fourth at 219 last year), Mason Dicks (third last year at Unlimited/top two tied at 730, Dicks at 670) and Luke Snider (Top 10 at 580).

Moncrief, region champ at 238 and sec-

ond ranked by 20 pounds to The Villages' Ellis Poplaski, upped his total of 600 from last year to 640 at regions. Poplaski and Moncrief battled to a fourth and fifth last year at 219 with Moncrief up by 10 pounds; 600-590, so that battle will continue.

Next up is 219 where Trey Jeffries and Tyler Rozier have been stuck at the hip all season with Jeffries second and Rozier third with a 20 pound gap on fourth place state ranks and just 10 pounds off the top for Jeffries. Wyatt Butler of West Nassau, the defending 238 champion, is top ranked at 660 with Jeffries at 650. Jeffries is the more formidable clean and jerk technician with a 20 pound advantage while Butler is up in bench by about 40 pounds.

In the big boy class, Dicks, the region champion, and Bolles' Brendan Black will be the show to end the show with both tied at 700 at regions, but Dicks weighing in lighter; 284.2-308.3, than Black. The same fate happened in last year's state Unlimited class with 730 hoists by the top two lifters, but champion Colby Smith weighing in at just 268.20 while runnerup Markever Hunter of Marianna weighing in at 460.70. Dicks weighed just 271 last year with his 670 total.

Oliveria

from page 27

two weeks ago. "He is just raw power, but his approach is totally focused. He has a plan."

Moore benched 300 at state last year with a miss at 305.

Where Oliveria is needing a bit of luck is in his clean and jerk where Niceville's top ranked Addie Moore, the 169 runnerup last year by just five pounds, is nearly 60-70 pounds ahead of Oliveria.

On the bench press, Oliveria has about 50 pounds of leeway to concede on clean and jerk and the final lift result could be contingent on whether Oliveria's constant improvement of technique from raw gym power to improved technical weightlifter comes at the right time.

"There is not much that I do then to just



Fleming Island's Gage Isbell is one of a few Eagles from 3A champion team that returns to Port St. Joe.

push him and encourage him," said Scott. "He has been a sponge in the room learning as much as he can to improve."

Oakleaf also has Prince Savea at 238 just 40 or so pounds away from a medal

Class 3A state qualifiers

119: Jalen Jones OHS, Ernest Kreschtmass OHS
129: Austin Allred FIHS
139: Justin Nolley FIHS
154: Zach Davis FIHS
183: Gabriel Oliveria OHS
199: Jared Rhodes FIHS
219: Gage Isbell FIHS
238: Prince Savea OHS
Unlimited: Wyatt Nordean OHS

finish with his fourth ranked finish after regions leaving him in position to pounce. Pace top ranked Ty Wise sits at 695 with Savea and four others between 660 and 670 in a clump that is 25 pounds ahead of the field.

"I kind of knew Prince could have a strong finish," said Scott. "If he hits his weights and maybe pushes just a bit, he's a medal winner."

At 139, Fleming Island's lone chaser is

Justin Nolley, who looks to grab a top three medal after a just-miss last year in the Golden Eagles' historic Class 3A title run. Nolley was fourth at 129 last year by just five pounds with a 425 total behind Trajan White of Spruce Creek. State runnerup Dom Bennett of Flagler Palm Coast (470 total) is again in the running as the number two seed in 2022.

Two surprising misses are Fleming Island's Rickey Joseph, the state runnerup last year at Unlimited and Mustafa Marshall, the fourth place finisher at 169. Fleming Island graduated a tough class from their state title team with champion Will Stephens at 154 and runnerup Alex Maier, now at football at Furman, at 238.

"We will be back formidable next year," said Fleming Island coach Dame-nyum Springs, the 3A coach of the year. "These guys are all very young but they will be right back here next year."

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Oakleaf High junior tennis player A.J. Tabora was stealth commander of the her backline with a tiebreaker thriller win in the district singles championship match.

Tabora steals tennis title in OT

SJCDs tennis gets team title

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

OAKLEAF - Oakleaf High tennis ace A.J. Tabora had to battle heat, humidity and an unrelenting attack on her backhand to come back and win an tiebreaker district tennis title for the Oakleaf High girls tennis team.

In 1A, St. Johns Country Day School got a district team title while the boys finished as runnerups. Both advanced to the region playoffs starting Tues., April 19 against P.K. Yonge. Stella Hyatt was girls individual champion for St. Johns.

"I just kept telling myself to keep moving and be consistent," said Tabora, a junior with a 9-0 regular season record, who won her preliminary matches decisively to

match up with Kylie Kochis of Nease High, just a freshman who sported a 6-2 season record. "She beat me earlier in the year and we both kind of knew what we were both going to do."

Tabora's win came with a 3-6 loss in game one, then a regroup to a 6-4 win and finally the 10-4 win in the tiebreaker set.

"We were both waiting for a mistake on the other side I think," said Tabora. "That's just tennis at the championship level. Stay within your strengths."

For Oakleaf coach David Martin, Tabora becomes the second Oakleaf High schooler to state.

"Being just a junior, she should come back stronger next year," said Tabora. "I play tennis through the summer and keep my game sharp."

Tabora wanted her team to join her and the double squad did earn a team point.



Left: District champion Sarah Jentsent won for Fleming Island girls while St. Johns Country Day School got individual title from Stella Hyatt won for Lady Spartans.

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CLAY LEGALS

NOTICE OF MEETING

Ridgewood Trails Community Development District

The meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Ridgewood Trails Community Development District will be held on Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Azalea Ridge Amenity Center, 1667 Azalea Ridge Boulevard, Middleburg, Florida 32068.

District Manager

Legal 34491 Published April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

NOTICE OF MEETING

South Village Community Development District

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the South Village Community Development District will be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Eagle Landing Residents Club, 3975 Eagle Landing Parkway, Orange Park, Florida 32065.

District Manager

Legal 34490 Published April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

FICTITIOUS NAME

Notice Under Fictitious Name Law Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of: KABOOMBOXSTORE.COM

Located at 2326 Casablanca CT, in the County of CLAY, in the City of Middleburg, Florida 32068

Dated at Middleburg, Florida this 12th day of April, 2022.

Owner's name/corporation: Karen Hoffman

Legal 34489 published April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Board of Supervisors of the Clay County Utility Authority will meet in Regular Session at 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, in the Board Room at the Clay County Utility Authority, 3176 Old Jennings Road, Middleburg, Florida.

Legal 34476 Published April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

NOTICE OF ACTION-CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

vs. DEON DIAZ SCREEN AND LAMESIA J. SNEAD SCREEN, et al.

TO: LAMESIA J. SNEAD SCREEN, whose residence is unknown and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the mortgage being foreclosed herein.

TO: DEON DIAZ SCREEN, Whose Residence Is: 3513 BUTTERNUT WAY ORANGE PARK, FL 32065

and who is evading service of process and all parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the Defendant(s), who are not known to be dead or alive, and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the mortgage being foreclosed herein.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property:

LOT 21, VILLAGE CENTER AT OAKLEAF PLANTATION UNIT ONE, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 56, PAGE(S) 59 THROUGH 63, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on counsel for Plaintiff, whose address is 6409 Congress Avenue, Suite 100, Boca Raton, Florida 33487

TARA S. GREEN CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT BY: KAYLA R. BEARD DEPUTY CLERK

Legal 34475 Published April 21 and April 28, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper 21-106536

NOTICE OF ACTION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 4TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.: 2022-CA-000159-CAAX COMMUNITY LOAN SERVICING, LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Plaintiff,

vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEE AND ALL OTHERS WHO CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF KEVIN A. KNIGHT, et al., Defendants.

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEE AND ALL OTHERS WHO CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF KEVIN A. KNIGHT

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:

LOT 4, BLOCK 5, GREENWOOD ESTATES, UNIT ONE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 12, PAGES 18 'AND 19, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM ALL OIL, GAS, MINERAL, AND OTHER HYDROCARBON SUBSTANCES BELOW A

DEPTH OF 500 FEET, WITHOUT RIGHTS OF SURFACE ENTRY, AS RESERVED IN INSTRUMENTS OF RECORD.

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. 34-04-25-008153-129-00

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on De Cubas & Lewis, P.A., Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is P.O. BOX 771270, CORAL SPRINGS, FL 33077

Legal 34439 published April 21 and April 28, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

ing or voice impaired, call 711. WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 8 day of April, 2022. TARA S. GREEN As Clerk of the Court Jaimie Pippin As Deputy Clerk

Legal 34471 Published April 21 and April 28, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

FICTITIOUS NAME

Notice is hereby given that SEA HUNTER TACKLE INC., OWNER, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of

FISH FINDER TACKLE

located at 1356 River Road West, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 intends to register the said name in CLAY county with the Division of Corporations, Florida Department of State, pursuant to section 865.09 of the Florida Statutes.

Legal 34469 published April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

FICTITIOUS NAME

Notice is hereby given that SEA HUNTER TACKLE INC., OWNER, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of

JOE SHUTE LURES

located at 1356 River Road West, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 intends to register the said name in CLAY county with the Division of Corporations, Florida Department of State, pursuant to section 865.09 of the Florida Statutes.

Legal 34467 published April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR AMERIQUEST MORTGAGES SECURITIES INC., ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-R6,

Plaintiff, vs. DONNA CLARK A/K/A DONNA C. CLARK; GEORGE CLARK A/K/A GEORGE S. CLARK, ET AL. Defendants

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 3, 2018, and entered in Case No. 2015-CA-000416, of the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit in and for CLAY County, Florida.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance.

Legal 34420 Published April 14 and April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

PUBLIC SALE

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:

May 6, 2022 at 10:00am Jesse Johns- Household goods Jonathan Swiber- Household goods

Legal 34436 Published April 14 and April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

MAURICE DUANE HOLDERFIELD, JR., et al., Defendants.

NOTICE is hereby given that Tara S. Green, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Clay County, Florida, will on May 11, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. ET, via the online auction at www.clay.realforeclose.com

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.

Legal 34392 Published April 14 and April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper 21-114428

NOTICE OF ACTION-CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

vs. JONATHAN CLARK, et al. Defendant(s).

TO: JONATHAN CLARK, whose residence is unknown and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the mortgage being foreclosed herein.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court at County, Florida, this 7th day of APRIL, 2022.

TARA S. GREEN CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT BY: JAIMIE PIPPIN DEPUTY CLERK

Legal 34392 Published April 14 and April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper 21-114428

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF EARL D. STAN-CIL, DECEASED.

The formal administration of the estate of EARL D. STANCIL, who died on May 16, 2020, is pending in the Circuit Court of Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is the Clerk of the Circuit Court, 825 N. Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the DECEDENT'S estate must file their claims with this COURT WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

Legal 34420 Published April 14 and April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: MONROE CREEK 46 SERVICING LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

Parcel ID No.: 290526-014444-000-00

Opening Bid Amount: \$5,635.70

Physical Address: 1541 RUSSELL RD, GREEN COVE SPRINGS

Classification: VACANT W/SFYI

Name in which assessed: BARRY J DE-MAY

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 22nd day of June, 2022 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.

TARA S. GREEN

Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Cynthia Horan Deputy Clerk

Legal 34406 published April 14, April 21, April 28, and May 5, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF DAVID L. CARLSON, deceased. The administration of the estate of DAVID L. CARLSON, deceased, whose date of death was March 15, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida.

All other 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.

The date of the first publication of this Notice is April 14, 2022. Attorney for Personal Representative: MARY C. COBB, Esquire The Cobb Law Firm, P.A. 431 Stovene Avenue Orange Park, FL 32073 (904) 269-5800 Florida Bar No.: 23972 Email: maryc.cobb@gmail.com

Legal 34375 Published April 14 and April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

LEGAL 34375 PUBLISHED APRIL 14 AND APRIL 21, 2022 IN CLAY COUNTY'S CLAY TODAY NEWSPAPER

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:

LOT 19, BLOCK 5, WATERVIEW RIDGE UNIT 2, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 22, PAGE 36 THROUGH 39, INCLUSIVE, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION,

Plaintiff, vs. GREGG STEVEN VARKOLY, et al, Defendants.

Legal 34374 Published April 14 and April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

NOTICE OF ACTION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY

TO: THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S): ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE ESTATE OF EVERETT A. SNOW, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEE, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:

LOT 19, BLOCK 5, WATERVIEW RIDGE UNIT 2, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 22, PAGE 36 THROUGH 39, INCLUSIVE, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Legal 34377 published April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

CLAY LEGALS

Deputy Clerk
 Legal 34347 published April 14 and April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF ACTION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 4TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 CASE NO. 2021CA000822
 NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A CHAMPION MORTGAGE COMPANY, Plaintiff
 vs.
 WHITE, PATRICIA, et al., Defendants

TO:
 UNKNOWN SPOUSE, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA A. WHITE AKA PATRICIA ANN WHITE, DECEASED
 587 PINE FOREST DRIVE N ORANGE PARK, FL 32003
 YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following described property located in Clay County, Florida:
THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY TO WIT:
A PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN GOVERNMENT LOT 3, SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 26 EAST, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
COMMENCE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 3, RUN THENCE ON THE WESTERLY LINE THEREOF SOUTH 05 DEGREES 30' WEST, 366.37 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 19' EAST, 164.55 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 41' EAST, 30.0 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 19' EAST, 300.00 FEET FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING; CONTINUE NORTH 89 DEGREES 19' EAST, 150.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 41' WEST, 332.07 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 32' WEST, ALONG THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF THOSE LANDS AS DESCRIBED AND RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOR 233, PAGE 467 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF SAID COUNTY, 150.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 41' EAST, 332.63 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.
TOGETHER WITH AN EASEMENT FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
COMMENCE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 3; THENCE ON THE WESTERLY LINE THEREOF RUN SOUTH 5 DEGREES 30' WEST, 788.25 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 32' WEST, 504.30 FEET TO AN INTERSECTION WITH THE EASTERLY LINE OF STATE ROAD NO. 15; THENCE ON LAST SAID LINE NORTH 02 DEGREES 55' EAST, 60.10 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 32' EAST, 290.56 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, THE AFORESAID EASEMENT BEING NON-EXCLUSIVE.
 has been filed against you, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to this action, on Greenspoon Marder, LLP, Default Department, Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is Trade Centre South, Suite 700, 100 West Cypress Creek Road, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309, and file the original with the Clerk within 30 days after the first publication of this notice in CLAY TODAY, on or before, 2022; otherwise a default and a judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.
WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT on this 24 day of March, 2022.
TARA S. GREEN
 As Clerk of said Court
 By: Taylor Tison
 As Deputy Clerk

ES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS Defendant(s)
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sale will be made pursuant to an Order Resetting Sale entered on March 23, 2022 in Civil Case No. 2021 CA 000177, of the Circuit Court of the FOURTH Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein, BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT SERIES I TRUST is the Plaintiff, and DIXIE A. ZELLNER; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF DIXIE A. ZELLNER; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; CREEK HOLLOW CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC.; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS are Defendants.
The Clerk of the Court, Tara S. Green will sell to the highest bidder for cash at www.clay.realestate.com on May 9, 2022 at 10:00:00 AM EST the following described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
CONDOMINIUM UNIT NO. 126, OF CREEK HOLLOW, A CONDOMINIUM, ACCORDING TO THE DECLARATION THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 834, AT PAGE 219 AND OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 895, PAGE 472, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, TOGETHER WITH AN UNDIVIDED INTEREST IN COMMON ELEMENTS AS PROVIDED IN DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM TO BE AN APPURTENANCE TO THE ABOVE DESCRIBED CONDOMINIUM UNIT 4145 QUIET CREEK LOOP A/K/A 126 CREEK HOLLOW LANE
 Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.
WITNESS my hand and the seal of the court on April 01, 2022.
CLERK OF THE COURT
 Tara S. Green
 Deputy Clerk
 Rebecca Crews
ALDRIDGE PITE, LLP
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 1615 South Congress Avenue
 Suite 200
 Delray Beach, FL 33445
 Telephone: 561-392-6391
 Facsimile: 561-392-6965
 Primary E-Mail: ServiceMail@aldridge-pite.com

Legal 34341 Published April 14 and April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO. 2021 CA 000177
 BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT SERIES I TRUST, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 DIXIE A. ZELLNER; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF DIXIE A. ZELLNER; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; CREEK HOLLOW CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC.; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUS-

Legal 34284 Published April 7, April 14, April 21, and April 28, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Advertisement for bid will be made on: April 7, 14 and 21 2022
 Sealed bids will be received by the Clay County District Schools until 1:00 PM, May 12, 2022 In the Purchasing Conference Room, 800 Center Street, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
CCDS Project No. C-6-21/22
 All work shall be done according to the plans and specifications prepared by: Kasper Architects + Associates Inc. 10175 Fortune Parkway, Suite 701, Jacksonville, FL 32224
 Email all questions to Projects@kasperarch.com Include project number in subject line
 Plans are on file and open to inspection at the office of the Architect/Engineer and a CD is available for purchase for a 25\$ per copy. Please call in advance to order. Printed sets of the plans are also on file for purchase at cost in the following Plan Rooms:
 LDI Reproprinting
 Center 550 Wells Road, Suite 100 Orange Park, FL 32073
 Tel: 904/579-4027 Fax: 904/579-4154
 orangepark@ldireproprinting.com
 Prime bidders, who will be submitting a bid to the owner, are required to register with the architect their intention to bid and as a plan holder. Any addenda will be sent automatically (electronically) to the known plan holders. Other delivery methods are not advised and neither the architect nor owner will be responsible for partial information given to subcontractors by the general contractors.
 There will be Mandatory Pre-bid Meeting at the site on April 28, 2022 at 10:00 AM per Section 00100, Part 9.2. Bidders not attending the pre-bid meeting will not be permitted to submit a bid.
 Only Contractors having been pre-qualified by the School District of Clay County are eligible to submit bids for this project. **Only pre-qualified Contractors should submit bids** for this project (Florida Statutes).

Florida Statutes require that all contractual personnel who are permitted access on school grounds when students are present must meet Level 2 screening requirements as described in S1012.32, Florida Statutes.
DISCRIMINATION: An entity or affiliate who has been placed on the discriminatory vendor list may not submit a bid on a contract to provide goods or services to a public entity, may not submit a bid on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work, may not submit bids on leases of real property to public entity, may not award or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under contract with any public entity, and may not transact business with any public entity.
 The Owner reserves the right to waive any irregularities and minor technicalities or to reject any and all bids. Each bidder must deposit with his bid, a Bid Bond or Cashier's Check in the amount of five percent (5%) of the Base Bid price, payable to the Owner.
 The successful bidder will be required to provide a Performance, Labor, and Material Bond in the amount of 100% of the accepted Bid amount.
 No bidder may withdraw his bid within (60) days after the actual date of the opening thereof. Any actual or prospective bidder who disputes the reasonableness or competitiveness of the terms and conditions of the Invitation To Bid, Contract Award, or Recommendation for Contract Award, shall file a Notice of Protest with the Superintendent of Schools within 72 hours of receipt of the bid solicitation, posting of the bid tabulations, or posting of the bid award, and must file a formal written protest within ten (10) days following the filing of the Notice to Protest. Failure to observe such time-lines will constitute a waiver of proceedings and of right to protest as stipulated in Chapter 120 of the Florida Statutes. The School Board requires a protestor to post bond in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 255.0516 F.S.
Bond Requirement:
 With respect to state contracts and bids pursuant to competitive bidding, whether under chapter 1013, relating to educational facilities, or under 2019 Florida Statutes 255.0516, relating to public buildings, if a school board, a community college board of trustees, or a state university board of trustees uses procedures pursuant to chapter 120 for bid protests, the board may require the protestor to post a bond amounting to:
 Twenty-five thousand dollars or 2 percent of the lowest accepted bid, whichever is greater, for projects valued over \$500,000; and
 Five percent of the lowest accepted bid for all other projects

Legal 34339 Published April 14 and April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

PUBLIC SALE

FIRST COAST TOWING gives Notice that on 05/03/2022 at 10:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 2905 BLANDING BLVD, MIDDLETOWN, FL 32068 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78
 4T1BF1KXFU989508 2015 TOYT

Legal 34333 published APRIL 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

PUBLIC SALE

A-1 TOWING AND RECOVERY gives notice that on 05/06/2022 at 09:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 3052 JOE JOHNS RD MIDDLETOWN, FL 32068 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78.
 1B7GL23Y5RW139134 1994 DODG
 1FALP42T77SF105860 1995 FORD
 1GTCS1444W8506659 1998 GMC
 1GCEK14V12Z121467 2002 CHEV
 1FMZU73E64UC17431 2004 FORD
 JN8AT2MT9JW455749 2018 NISS
 KMHDB4LF9JU499839 2018 HYUN

Legal 34332 Published April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
 FILE NUMBER: 2021-GA-19
 DIVISION: B
 IN RE: GUARDIANSHIP OF SOPHIA ANN ZICCARDI and OLIVIA MARIE ZICCARDI,
 Wards
 Pursuant to Section 744-631(2), Florida Statutes, HEATHER MEECE, Plenary Guardian of the Person and Property of SOPHIA ANN ZICCARDI and OLIVIA MARIE ZICCARDI, gives her intention to make application with the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, on her Petition to Sell Real Property.
 A Hearing is set for Monday, May 16, 2022 at 3:15 PM regarding the Petition to Sell Real Property of real estate inherited by SOPHIA ANN ZICCARDI and OLIVIA MARIE ZICCARDI, the Wards, to wit:
 1991 Eclipse Drive
 Middleburg, Florida 32068
 GERALDINE C. HARTIN, Esquire
 HAMILTON & HARTIN, P.A.

attorney's fees from the protestor; if the protestor prevails, the protestor shall recover from the School Board all costs and attorney's fees.
 Bid Tabulations shall be posted in the Operations Reception area at 925 Center Street, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 after the intended recommendation is announced on or about four (4) days after the bid opening. The Bid Tabulation will remain posted for a minimum period of 96 hours.
 David Broskie, Superintendent
 School District of Clay County

Legal 34261 Published April 7, April 14, April 21, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper

FOUND PROPERTY

FOUND in the St. Johns River near Buckman Bridge: 17' Aluminum Canoe
 Contact Kathy Grossman @ FWC 904-513-6402 to identify the property
 You have 45 days from the first date of this publication to claim said property.

Legal 34156 Published March 31, April 7, April 14, April 21, and April 28, 2022

NOTICE OF ACTION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 4TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO. 2022CA000177
 BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT SERIES I TRUST,
 Plaintiff,
 VS.
 ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS, CREDITORS, DEVISEES, BENEFICIARIES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF SHELBY J. CRAW, DECEASED; RENEISESON; PACE ISLAND OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNKNOWN PERSON(S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY,
 Defendant(s)
 To the following Defendant(s):
 ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS, CREDITORS, DEVISEES, BENEFICIARIES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF SHELBY J. CRAW, DECEASED
 (LAST KNOWN ADDRESS) 1506 POKEBERRYWAY, FLEMING ISLAND, FL 32003
 YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:
LOT 14, PACE ISLAND UNIT FOUR REPLAT, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 23, PAGE 8, 9, 10, 11

AND 12, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.
a/k/a 1506 POKEBERRY WAY, FLEMING ISLAND, FLORIDA 32003
 has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Kahane & Associates, P.A., Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 8201 Peters Road, Suite 3000, Plantation, FLORIDA 33324 on or before, a date which is within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the CLAY TODAY and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
 If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at cirtinpr@coj.net or (904) 630-2564 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 11th day of April, 2022.
TARAS. GREEN
 As Clerk of the Court
Jaimie Pippin
 As Deputy Clerk
 Legal 34438 Published April 21 and April 28, 2022 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper.

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