

CLAY TODAY

Happy New Year
2023

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2022

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YEAR IN REVIEW TOP STORIES OF 2022

There were plenty of choices for the top three stories of 2022, including major drug raids, murders and high school championships. Three stories, however, quickly emerged as the most-significant. Also, inside this week's Clay Today will present the top three stories from each month, starting on Page 6. Some, we're sure, will stir memories – some good; some bad.

Top Story of the Year

Work on the Black Creek Water Resource Development Project finally begins

Plan to restore lake levels in Keystone Heights pushes forward after 40-year battle.



KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – Lake Geneva served as a backdrop to the formal announcement the Black Creek Water Resource Development Project was a reality. Once filled nearly to a small seawall, water from the lake had receded nearly 70 yards to remind residents and dignitaries why they were there.

In about two years, water levels are expected to be returned at Geneva and nearby Lake Brooklyn to the levels that made the tiny city a paradise.

"What a journey," said former Florida Sen. and Chairman of the St. Johns River Water Management District Rob Bradley said.

Indeed. After decades of irresponsible use, state, county and local officials finally forged a plan to siphon unneeded water from Black Creek and send it to the lakes in Keystone Heights. As the population grew in the Lake Region, so did the demand for water. After decades of taking, resi-

SEE 2022, 2



Fleming Island High band marches toward London parade

FLEMING ISLAND – Band members, volunteers and parents spent the week before Christmas packing boxes and instruments for its 4,275-mile trip across the pond to perform in the New Year's Day Parade in London. The band left the Orlando International Airport on Wednesday, Dec. 28, according to band director Maya Rose. The band raised \$90,000 in 11 months to pay for the trip. Visit claytodayonline.com to get frequent updates on the trip, along with postcards from the band.



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2022

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dents, particularly the Save Our Lakes Organization, created a mission to put a plug in draining the lakes while demanding water levels be replenished.

"This has been four decades or more journey," said SOLO President Vivian Katz-James. "It's a big day for a lot of people, not just me, but a lot of people."

Essentially, the Black Creek project, which was created in 2017, will divert as much as 10 million gallons of water from the South Fork of the Black Creek between Seamark Ranch and the Clay County Animal Control Services on State Road 16, move it through a 17-mile pipeline and filtering system, and dump the water into Alligator Creek, which flows into Lake Brooklyn.

Three days after the formal announcement, workers already were breaking ground and starting work on the pump station about 100 yards west of the South Fork.

The Keystone Heights lakes recharge the Upper Floridian aquifer and Lower Sante Fe basin through the lake bottom, so the benefits will be felt in surrounding counties as the aquifer improves.

The project, however, took years of debate, negotiating and planning. State and Keystone Height officials, along with the Clay County Board of Commissioners, St. Johns River Water Management District, SOLO and four local utility companies — Clay County Utility Authority, Gainesville Regional Utilities, St. Johns Utilities and JEA — all had to find common ground. The completed project is expected to cost \$100 million, and Bradley, Florida Reps. Bobby Payne (Palatka) and Travis Cummings (Fleming Island) helped appropriate more than \$48 from the state. The utility companies agreed to pay a total \$19.2 million.

Construction of the pump station started on Monday, Oct. 24, just a few yards from Black Creek.

"There were people who really didn't want this to happen," Bradley said. "But we brought everybody together. It didn't matter if you were a Republican, Democrat or Independent. We didn't care. We just wanted to save the lakes, right?"

SOLO members started attending SJRWMD meetings nearly 30 years ago. They all wore red shirts and sat in the front row, and each time, they had the same message — save the lakes. They were persistent and unapologetic, but their passion finally made a difference.

Former SJRWMD Chairman Douglas Burnett was an early advocate to save the lakes. He faced difficult challenges of getting the money and unified support to make the project a reality.

"This is a way, not the commotion you see on TV every day in Washington, of elected leaders working for their people and their local groups like Save Our Lakes, working for the good of the community," Burnett said.

Baptist Medical Center Clay accepts patients minutes after opening its doors

FLEMING ISLAND — Darin Roark's dream of building an intricate, yet contemporary, medical facility was, at long last, at the finish line two weeks before Christmas. Except for buffing out a few scuff marks, laying sod and fluffing pillows, the work is done.

His mind had been filled with ideas, plans and challenges since hospital and county officials broke ground nearly two years ago on the \$235 million project that also included transforming the old VyStar building west of the hospital into a health center.

"I usually get about two hours of sleep," Roark



Gil Aguayo was taken to Baptist Medical Center Clay on Dec. 20 after his glucose numbers "crashed." In doing so, he became the hospital's first patient.

said while walking through the hospital two days before the ribbon cutting. "I get up and go running for about an hour and then I'm here. I've been running on adrenaline. This project is personal."

Roark is the hospital president. He's walked through the site since the first scoop of dirt was moved and the first nail was driven. He's been down every hallway and checked behind every door since construction workers started framing the 102 patient rooms. The plans are committed to memory so all work stayed on target.

Portions of the Baptist Clay were operational before the official opening. The laboratory has been open for more than a week. The pharmacy is ready to go. Nurses and technicians spent weeks in training, often sharing the same hallways with men in yellow vests and hard hats who were making sure every wall was straight and sound.

A couple of hours before the official opening on Dec. 19, Fleming Island's Gil Aguayo was rushed to the hospital after his glucose level "crashed." As officials got ready to open the doors, Aguayo already had been admitted as the first patient.

It didn't take Baptist Clay long to welcome its first birth. Baby Waylon was born on Dec. 20, and he and his mother, Savannah, were both in good spirits following the delivery.

"We want the bonding to take part from the minute that baby comes out of the womb," maternity nurse Sarah Surrency said. "We are going to have skin-to-skin care bonding. The entire stay, there is no moving and shuffling of departments when that baby's delivered. Mama and baby stay together and they stay in the same room."

If there are complications, NCIU is next door. "We're just so blessed with this technology," supervisor Letitia Croce. "This is brand new. To me, and I've been in NICU for almost 15 years, this is the best of the best. We have so much of the newest that I'm a little speechless. I'm super excited to be a part of it."

The health place next door also has several available services. Just last week, the Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine Center where healing is possible for even the most complex wounds.

The Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine Center at Baptist Clay provide comprehensive care to patients with chronic or acute wounds, foot ulcers, venous insufficiency, diabetic ulcers, wounds caused by radiation, trauma and more.

Eventually, health place will be home to Baptist doctors, as well as meeting rooms for classes, healthy living programs and other medical services.

The new hospital cost \$175 million, Roark said, and with the conversion of health place, "We're all in at \$235 million."

There currently are 585 employees and Roark said that soon will grow to 600. And with it comes a shift in challenges from building a hospital to running one.

Former Sheriff Daniels acquitted of lying to investigators, tampering with evidence

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Saying he was grateful a Clay County jury found him not guilty on all seven charges stemming from a six-year extramarital affair, Former Clay County Sheriff Darryl Daniels compared his three-year ordeal to the persecution of former president Donald Trump and called out the abuse of power by government entities.

The state tried to convince jurors he lied to investigators about the affair and that he wanted his former mistress arrested for stalking. Prosecutors also said he attempted to destroy and tamper with evidence.

Daniels' defense team said he was trying to hide information about the affair from his wife to save his marriage.

The jury needed less than three hours on Thursday, Sept. 15, to agree with Daniels. While he admitted his personal life and reputation were tarnished by the affair, he felt vindicated of breaking any laws.

Known for his bravado, Daniels said, in part, after the verdict:

"I would like to thank the jury for their service and thank all of the people of Florida for their support during this challenging time for me and for my family. The abuse and overreach that I have had to endure over the past three years is an example of what happens when sectors of our government go unchecked. If this abuse of power by government



Former Sheriff Darryl Daniels reacts after a jury of six found him not guilty of all charges related to an extramarital affair.

entities can happen to a duly elected sheriff, then it can happen to anyone. I pledge to all Floridians and people from across the country who offered their support during these trying times, that I will continue to fight for them to ensure that we all receive equal justice under the law. This abuse cost me my job that I loved and it cost Clay County their sheriff." His mistress, Cierra Smith, and Clay County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Christopher Ruby testified Daniels ordered Smith to be arrested for stalking him. She was stopped on May 6, 2019, in an Oakleaf Village Parkway parking lot and taken to the Clay County Jail. Smith said Daniels asked to meet her to get a copy of a CD of an internal investigation at the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office where it was likely he would be identified as having an affair when both Smith and Daniels worked for JSO.

Smith wasn't charged or booked after other agency officials said there wasn't any probable cause. CCSO then drove Smith home.

Within days, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement launched an investigation. They obtained a warrant for seven charges, and the sheriff was arrested on Aug. 13, 2020 — just five days before the 2020 primary. He wound up losing to Michelle Cook by 3,121 votes.

The state found more than 2,000 texts and voice messages between the couple.

Prosecutors said Daniels lied to Ruby at the scene, telling him he attempted to get a restraining order against Smith earlier in the day. However, the Clay County Clerk's Office said there were no records of any requests.

Assistant State Attorney Toby Hunt told the jury Daniels took action to alter evidence, including asking a CCSO tech to wipe out records on his agency-issued phone.

Defense attorney Matthew Kachergus said anything erased or hidden by Daniels was to keep his wife from learning the sorted details of their relationship.

After the verdict, Daniels hugged his defense team.

"I feel good. I promise a press conference at a later time," Daniels said.

CLAY TODAY

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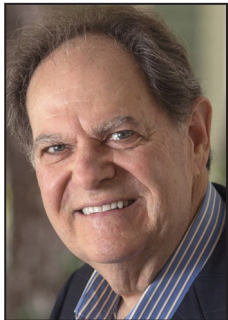
Top resolutions to appreciate friends, family and right the wrongs

By Jack Levine
4Generations Institute

Traditionally, New Year Resolutions are about making a commitment to do something different in our lives, perhaps going in a new direction from that of the past. I'm sharing my resolutions... you're welcome to adopt a few as your own.

In 2023 I resolve to

- To appreciate my family, friends, and colleagues for who they are, and what they mean to me and others, and to gracefully overlook some things they do (or don't do!). None of us is perfect and accepting that reality helps relationships flourish.



Jack Levine

- To act upon wrongs that need righting, to reject hateful offenses and crass statements that demand direct responses. We set a positive example to our children and loved ones by not accepting negativity in others.

- To reject the politics of division and derision and support leaders who honor their oaths of office by practicing principles of inclusive community, unification and justice.

- To be a valuable teammate and to trust others to do their best. Each of us should know what position we play, and regularly practice our skills to be our personal best.

- To create opportunities to actively listen to the voices of children and elders. Accepting the multi-generational wisdom of innocence and experience is both free and priceless.

- To accept that I will never know everything. By collaborating with others who know much more, together we can create great brain trust and blend expertise to make progress together.

- To pleasantly surprise someone every day with a genuine smile and unexpected kindness in word and deed. Life's subtle gifts of compassion and concern are cherished and create valuable feelings of appreciation.

- To respect and celebrate the diversity of faiths and ethnic heritage. Differences are natural and honoring each others' perspectives creates mutual admiration.

- To exercise artistic expression for its intrinsic value. The vitality of the musical,

SEE RESOLUTIONS, 5

OPINIONS



No more excuses or resolutions: I want to be better, healthier person

By Don Coble
Managing Editor

It's that time of year when we all make resolutions to improve our lives. We make self-promises to lose weight, exercise and read more books.

We resolve to serve more hours as volunteers, attend church more frequently and be a little nicer.

I've made resolutions every year. I start with good intentions. But I still haven't lost any weight. I still don't exercise regularly. I don't have time to read books. I'm not proud of my lack of progress, but I have lots of excuses – some of them good – for why they didn't work out for me. I guess we all have our reasons.

This year, I'm not going to make another blueprint to be healthier and happier, because I may fall back into my old routine. Instead, I vow to understand why things happen around me. Unnecessary thoughts lead to distractions.

From this point forward, I want to understand ...

- Since I came down with COVID three days before Christmas, I can't stop wondering why you can't smell or taste anything when you're sick except cold medicine. When I was sick, I couldn't taste food for a week. I made prime rib for Christmas dinner, and I was told it was the best-tasting meal I couldn't



Don Coble

taste. I have to take everyone else's word for it.

I refuse to eat beef liver, sushi and okra, but my senses are so challenged right now, it's possible to sneak them past me if I keep my eyes closed.

But put a blindfold on me, I can identify every brand of daytime/nighttime cold medicine.

- Why does anyone waste time trying to figure out cryptocurrency? Nobody has been able to tell me exactly what cryptocurrency is, and with the creator of FTX, Sam Bankman-Fried, about to join the prison league pickleball team of disgraced investor Bernie Madoff, WorldCom's Bernie Ebbers, Enron's Kenneth Lay and Adelphia's John Rigas, I don't want to know. Besides, at my age, I'm going to stay away from anything with the word "crypt" in it.

- I can't figure out why very few drivers will stop to let you pull out of a parking space. It's hard enough when you're trying to leave the grocery and you've got a testosterone-dripping pickup truck on one side and an SUV on the other. It's like trying to pull out of a canyon with a blindfold. As a favor, don't weave around me when I'm halfway out of my space. Please.

- Why I'm so afraid of my SmartWatch. Maybe it's because minutes after I bought it, it sent me an alert I was 22 minutes away from my favorite sports bar. How did my watch know I was going there? I just put it on. I never mentioned the place. Was it following me before I bought it? What scared me the most is that's exactly where I was going. Talk

SEE EXCUSES, 5

Word OF THE WEEK

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

Aswarm: (uh-SWARM) an adjective that means crowded or full of moving objects.

"The hive nest was aswarm with hornets."

This Week in History

Five years ago, 2017

- Waste Not Want Not celebrates a milestone after it surpasses the five million pounds of rescued food.

- Students paint rocks at the Green Cove Springs Library to be placed at county parks and public areas as part of the Kindness Rocks program

- The 4-by-50 boys relay team of Jacob Thompson, Jack Neeley, Andrew Heintson and Nick Hackett combined to win the Class 4A state swimming championship for the third consecutive year to be selected as the county's sports story of the year.

10 years ago, 2012

- Clay County Commissioner Doug Conkey is hired as the new president of the Clay County Chamber of Commerce.

- Green Cove Springs Mayor Pam Lewis asks U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson's office to designate the St. Johns River a marine highway to bolster tourism.

- A financial literacy program offered by Junior Achievement will be expanded into Clay County schools.

20 years ago, 2002

- The Clay County Sheriff's Office was looking for a suspect after Keith K. Lavinnder is found shot to death in Clay Hill.

- One of the galleries at the Thrasher-Horne Center is named the "Jack Mitchell Gallery" to honor the longtime photographer.

- Eve Szymanski is selected as the new tourism director by the Clay County Chamber of Commerce.

30 years ago, 1992

- Two men are charged with attempted murder on Christmas Day in two unrelated incidents.

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.



FOR TODAY TODAY

Clay County's Blank Check Society escorts wreaths to cemetery

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The Clay County Chapter of the Blank Check Society provided an escort for four tractor-trailers filled with wreaths for fallen veterans at Jacksonville National Cemetery during the Wreaths Across America promotion. With about 145 motorcycles, the group started its voyage from Hilliard to the veteran's cemetery in Jacksonville. The Blank Check Society of America is a non-profit organization, that oversees and assists in honoring our fallen veterans. For more information about the organization and upcoming events, the website is blankchecksociety.org, where links to all BCS Local Chapters can be found.

Resolutions

from page 4

literary, dance, visual and vocal arts fuels the soul and expands the mind to new possibilities.

- To invest a thoughtful minute before I speak or act. Regret is often preventable. Reversing harm is one of life's most vexing challenges.

- To honor those who courageously defend us at home and abroad, care for our health, and educate and protect us so that our quality of life is improved.

- To follow the counsel of public health leaders to protect me from exposure to the COVID virus, the flu, and other communicable diseases. Prevention is indeed the best medicine.

- To share even if I think I don't have enough. Setting an example by giving to others in need is one of the best lessons for children to observe.

- To protect, defend and advocate for people who rely on me. Let's give special attention to the needs of oth-

ers at every stage of life who may not know how to find their own voice.

- To preserve natural environments for their beauty and bounty. Natural settings are home to plant life and species which are too often victims of our wants, not our needs.

- To never give up on a person or a cause, despite the challenges we face. Perseverance is an attitude that exemplifies leadership, attracts allies, and creates meaningful change.

- To speak truth to power, but to be both polite and persistent. There's a fine line between persistence and pestilence. Resist aggressiveness, but advocate with assertion, confidence and commitment to the cause. Advocating for prevention policies and programs that keep bad things from happening is the most important of all investments.

Jack Levine, founder of the 4Generations Institute, is a family policy advocate, based in Tallahassee. He may be reached at jack@4gen.org.

Excuses

from page 4

about artificial intelligence.

- Why anybody cares about Prince Harry and Megan Markle or their documentary on Netflix. If the subscription on-demand service is serious about stopping viewers from sharing login information, it should offer the series for free. Suddenly, network programming won't seem so bad.

- Cellphone conversations in public. It used to be easy to see who had mental

challenges in public. They were the people walking around talking to themselves. Now it's hard to separate them from people with their earbuds. While we're at it, don't talk on speakerphone when you're in a public place. I don't care what time Regina's "old man" came home last night.

In reality, there aren't a lot of pressing issues keeping me from making goals – and achieving them. Cellphone calls and a snotty nose won't keep me from trying to be a better person.

Wish me luck.

History

from page 4

- The Crescent reporter Elaine Williamson is selected Citizen of the Year by the Green Cove Springs Elk's Club.

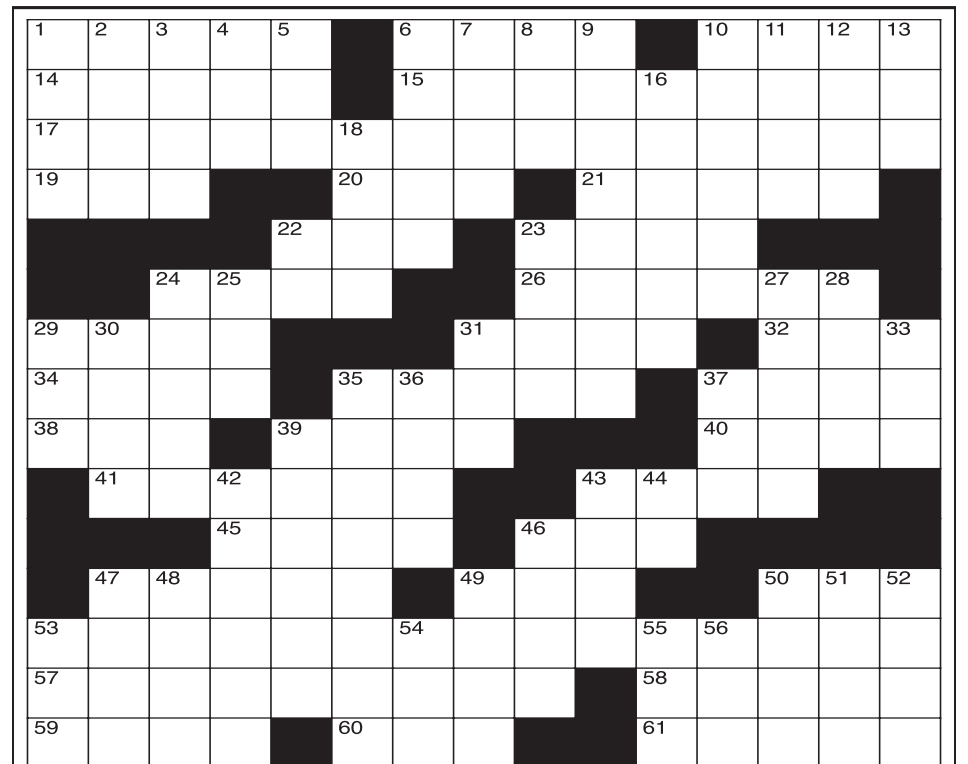
- Sheriff-elect Scott Lancaster announces he will reduce is top management staff to just four.

40 years ago, 1982

- County workers complete an \$11,000 job to add a new bridge and culvert on limited-access Bayard Road near County Road 209.

- Pranksters put up clerk of court campaign signs for Talmadge Bennett although he doesn't plan on running for job.

- Tom and Pat Welch win the Yard of the Month award by the Heritage Hills Community Association.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Not invited
- 6. Whale ship captain
- 10. One point south of southwest
- 14. Small cavity in a rock
- 15. Recidivists
- 17. City of Angels hoopster
- 19. A way to mark with one's signature
- 20. OJ trial judge
- 21. Rice cooked in broth
- 22. One point east of due south
- 23. One point east of southeast
- 24. Complements an entree
- 26. Grouped by twos
- 29. Disfigure
- 31. Woods
- 32. Political action committee
- 34. Longer of 2 bones in the forearm
- 35. Kin groups
- 37. Philippine Island
- 38. Contrary to
- 39. Bluish-gray fur
- 40. Comprehend the written word
- 41. Natural depressions
- 43. Felines
- 45. Breathe noisily
- 46. Taxi
- 47. Pancake made from buckwheat

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Green and yellow citrus fruit
- 2. A bright color
- 3. Thicket
- 4. Journalist Tarbell
- 5. A place to work or relax
- 6. Sharp mountain ridge
- 7. Helicopter
- 8. Mimic
- 9. Suggests
- 10. More musty
- 11. Large, flightless rail
- 12. Make beer
- 13. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 16. People who can account for you
- 18. Taunt
- 22. South Dakota
- 23. Cover the entirety of

- 24. Kids' favorite visitor
- 25. A way to save for retirement
- 27. Fencing swords
- 28. C. China mountain range
- 29. Type of sandwich
- 30. Team
- 31. Paddle
- 33. Partly digested food
- 35. Most cagey
- 36. Shoppers make one
- 37. Cathode-ray tube
- 39. Food supplies
- 42. Backbones
- 43. Concern
- 44. Blood group
- 46. Broadway songwriter Sammy
- 47. Dutch colonist
- 48. Full-grown pike fish
- 49. Deity of a monotheistic cult
- 50. Type of bread
- 51. S. Nigerian people
- 52. Scottish tax
- 53. Young women's association
- 54. Brazilian city
- 55. Hide of a young animal
- 56. Midway between north and northeast

YEAR IN REVIEW

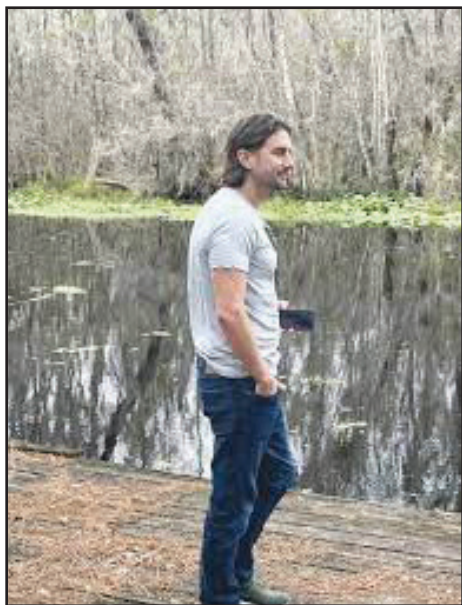
MEMORABLE STORIES

As we head into 2023, it's important to take a moment to look back at the important and memorable stories of 2022. We enjoyed championships and returned to normal activities – often in record numbers. We continued to search for solutions to helping those who are fighting methamphetamine and fentanyl addictions, helping the families affected by drug abuse and putting the people who peddle the poison in jail.

We survived another election cycle, the threat of two tropical cyclones and another year of never-ending construction on Blanding Boulevard in Middleburg.

But most of all, we learned to adapt to an ever-changing world. Here are a few of the stories that got our attention in 2022:

JANUARY



Comedian Adam Hartle owns the lot where Hell House once stood. He plans to leave it alone and treat it as an historical site.

Man buys Hell House land to preserve Lynyrd Skynyrd's legacy

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Adam Hartle remembered riding his jet ski along Peter's Creek not long ago and making an impromptu stop at a vacant lot with a rickety dock.

He strolled among the moss-draped oaks and tried to imagine what it must have been like to be there more than 40 years ago when the thundering sounds of Lynyrd Skynyrd used to echo from what was known as the Mudcrutch Farm through the swampy wilderness.

When he returned months later, he saw tractor-trailer loads of lumber stacked on newly-paved streets and the basic outline of new homes being created by cinder blocks.

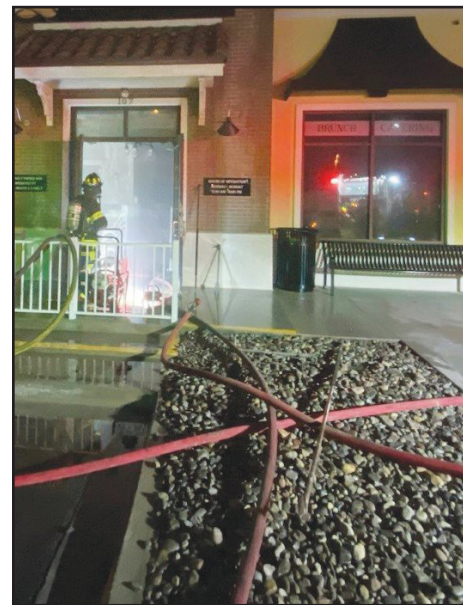
The more the land was being transformed into the Edgewater Landing subdivision, the more determined he became to keep the lot where Hell House served as a crude rehearsal studio like it was back in the early 1970s – raw and unforgiving.

"It's nature, and it's history," Hartle said. "The

band did so many good things here, I don't think Jacksonville gives Skynyrd enough credit. I didn't want to see some house go up here, become some lady's back yard and see them tear up the dock. I didn't want to see the history get torn up."

So he bought it.

His plans for the .6-acre lot are simple: he's going to leave it alone.



A first that started in the wall near the dishwasher destroyed Grumpy's in Middleburg. The eatery will reopen Jan. 2.

Grumpy's vows to rebuild and reopen following devastating fire

MIDDLEBURG — Portions of the drop ceiling, mixed with water from a Clay County Fire Rescue hose, laid clumped on the floor like a child's paper mache project 12 hours after a fire raged through Grumpy's in Middleburg on Jan. 19.

Light fixtures dangled from the walls and ceiling. Except for some blue plastic trays that melted on a shelf and hung like stalactites, the rest of Grumpy's was cloaked in complete blackness. And uncertainty.

Since the restaurant closed nearly six hours earlier, nobody was injured. It also meant the fire was able to ravage the building before an employee at a neighboring store smelled smoke.

Hoard said the fire will strengthen his resolve to re-

open – and to reconnect with a loyal and friendly group of customers.

"We will open back up. Some places can't make this," Hoard said. "We are going to survive. We are going to make it back up. And I know the community will be behind us. I don't know how long this process is going to take us right now, but we'll be back."

The owner said he expects as many as 80% of his former employees to be back, too. Many were transferred to other Grumpy's locations, while Hoard worked to help the rest find new jobs.

Hoard said the grand re-opening will be on Jan. 2.

FEBRUARY



Marisol Buitrago of Green Cove Springs was selected as Early Learning Coalition's Teacher of the Year.

Green Cove preschool teacher earns regional honor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Not only is Marisol Buitrago a teacher at Green Cove Springs Head Start Center, but when education recently became a challenge by COVID-19, she reverted to also teaching at the Early Learning Coalition of North Florida's Preschool.

Now her work was recognized when she was selected as the Teacher of the Year.

Buitrago has been teaching preschool for 25 years. Since the beginning of the year, she has worked as the lead teacher in the classroom due to the center being short-staffed. Buitrago takes pride in students' growth, she said.

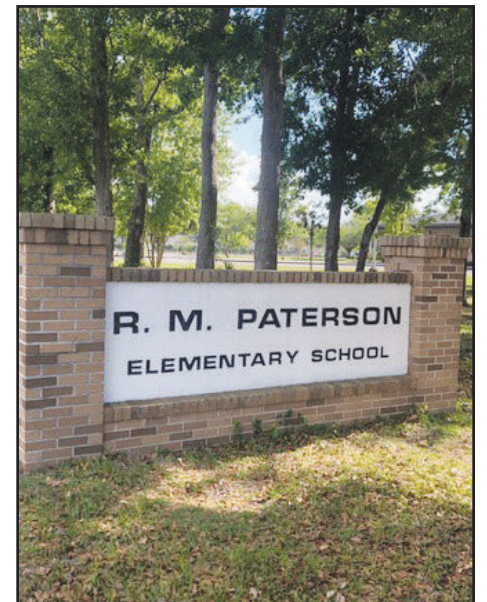
Buitrago said her duties are about 90% in the classroom. After teaching in the morning and afternoon, she handles administrative tasks later in the day.

"I work a bit more, but I'm not worried about it," she added. "I have a passion for these kids. I love them and I want to see them do well in school and make sure they have the tools they need."

The center has 45 children. Buitrago called the award a surprise and she credited the center's staff.

Joan Whitson, the coalition's Outreach Manager, said Buitrago's actions inspired her students to dream and do more.

"These two teachers are clearly leaders and are so deserving of this award and recognition," Whitson said of Buitrago and the coalition's Infant/Toddler Teacher of the Year, Amy Finkley.



School officials said they will fight a lawsuit after a girl's parents filed a lawsuit after an attempted suicide at R.M. Paterson.

School District vows to defend itself after elementary student attempts suicide

FLEMING ISLAND — The Clay County School District disputed allegations made against its staff in a recent lawsuit filed in the U.S. Federal Court for the Middle District of Florida that a sixth-grade student attempted suicide in the girls' bathroom at Paterson Elementary.

The 54-page document was delivered to the District on Feb. 4. It alleged a guidance counselor and other school officials were to blame after the girl attempted suicide at the school on Jan. 5.

Lawyers representing the girl's parents said their rights were violated because the school didn't alert them of their daughter's apparent mental issues. According to the suit, the girl said she went to the counselor because she felt she was being bullied.

The suit also contended the school told the parents the reason the girl tried to hang herself was "because of her gender identity issue" and she believed her parents would be angry because of their Catholic beliefs. The parents said the school failed to tell them of their daughter's issues, and they said the school counselor may have contributed to the confusion by calling her boy names.

Without offering details, the District denied the allegations and said it would present its facts in the courtroom.

"Clay County District Schools has performed a thorough and complete investigation into this matter as it was presented to us and has determined that the allegations made by this out-of-state organization are completely false, fabricated, and appear to be intended solely for the purpose of inciting the public," the District told Clay Today.

Keystone Heights' Rena Reddish wins Clay County Spelling Bee

LAKE ASBURY — A Keystone Heights Junior-Senior High seventh grader correctly spelled "dicey" and "trivia" after 13 rounds to become Clay County's 2022 spelling champion.

At the Lake Asbury Junior High's auditorium, 33 students from 33 middle and elementary schools took center stage for the Clay County Spelling Bee. Successfully maneuvering words like "kaddish" and "vambrace," Rena Reddish was the last student left standing.



From left, Fleming Island Elementary's Brighton Cisneros (third place), Clay County Spelling Bee winner Rena Reddish of Keystone Heights Junior High and Lake Asbury Junior High's Riya Patel are joined by Superintendent David Broskie.

The first round shed 11 contestants on words like "herbalist," "embroidery" and "faltered." Round two was more dangerous, eliminating 12 students on tough words such as "quatrains," "kimchi" and "Jains." Five of the remaining 10 exited round four due to the following words: "Arapahoe," "Quasimoto," "ziggurat," "Yom Kippur" and "Allee."

Lake Asbury Junior's Riya Patel finished second, while Fleming Island Elementary's Brighton Cisneros was third.

Recognition ceremony for 40 years. Then, one by one, Scouts were called to the stage where the prestigious white neckerchief was placed around their necks. After that, each Scout was given a handmade woggle, letters of certificates from a host of dignitaries.

MARCH

St. Johns Country Day School wins 11th girls' state soccer title in a row

DELAND — Despite suffering three regular-season losses, the St. Johns Country Day School girls' soccer team came back to beat Shorecrest Prep, 2-0, to win its 11th consecutive Class 2A state championship.

In the scoreless first half, St. Johns had numerous shots on goal including a missile from Kamryn Towers and a crossbar deflection from Lauren Mateo, but Shorecrest goalie Sonoma Kasica, just a sophomore, kept the Spartans off the scoreboard with astounding deflections and saves in front of her net.

After eight shots on goal in the first half, Kasica blanked the Spartans in the opening stanza before Pickett found her vulnerability.

Both of the Spartans' goals came in the second half.

County inmates earn confidence, certifications by learning to cook

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — John got out of the Clay County Jail on March 15. After spending months incarcerated, he was eager to get to the Polk County correctional facility to take an important step in his life.

This time, however, John would be entering — and leaving — on the free side of the bars. No more striped jumpsuits. No more lockdowns. No more open showers. Freedom.

John is one of three at the jail who just completed a program called IN2WORK, which teaches inmates the necessary skills to gain meaningful employment in the food industry. The program is designed to provide inmates a bridge between a responsible future and away from the vicious cycle that usually ends up with another lengthy sentence



Girls from the St. Johns Country Day School soccer team celebrate their 11th consecutive state championship with a 2-0 win against Shorecrest in DeLand.



Troops from Clay, Putnam and Bradford counties created the new Black Creek Troop, which promoted 35 to the rank of Eagle Scout.

Newly-created Bartram Trail Troop promotes 35 to rank of Eagle Scout

FLEMING ISLAND — Twenty-six boys and seven girls earned their Eagle Scout badges during a ceremony at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church from the newly-created Bartram Trail Troop.

Troops from Clay, Putnam and Bradford counties were combined to create the new Bartram Trail District. The annual recognition ceremony was a chance for every Eagle Scout to be individually honored.

The 35 new Eagles combined to provide more than 4,102 service hours to their community, and they collected \$39,720.86 in materials.

The program started when Rick Kiefer was given the Coup Feather for being part of the Eagle



Three Clay County Jail inmates had kitchen jobs waiting for them on the outside after they completed training in the N2WORK program. They were joined by Aramark's Maryanna McCray, Sheriff Michelle Cook, Chief of Detention Chris Suefloh and Patty Atkinson.

as a repeat offender.

John set up a job interview while he was an inmate. He hopes to take the skills — and confidence — he learned in the program to help run the commissary at the Polk County Jail.

Another graduate, JuanDavid, has been offered a job in Miami to work in Aramark's warehouse.

Justin, who wasn't released until June, was eager to face a promising future.

The rigorous eight-week IN2WORK program is offered by Aramark, the company which has the food preparation contract at the jail. Aramark's Maryanna McCray and Patty Atkinson, the Program Unit Supervisor at the jail, realized offering inmates a path to success would decrease their chances of getting in trouble again.

Clay County Agriculture Fair starts a thrill-packed 11-day run

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — The signs were up; the cleaning crews had washed food vendor trailers; and, workers in hard hats put the finishing touches on the 42 rides sprawled across the midway.

The work, however, didn't stop until the doors closed on the final day of the Clay County Agricultural Fair.

"We have planned. We have prepared. We are ready," said the fair's executive director Tasha Hyder. "We are ready to open the gates."

That officially happened at 2 p.m. on March 31. Later that night, rapper Nelly kicked off seven days of concerts inside the Cattleman's Arena. Other headlining acts booked for this year include Sublime with Rome, Quiet Riot, Warrant, Lorrie Morgan, Rodney Atkins, Tracy Byrd, Walker Montgomery and Shenandoah.

Fairgoers focused more on the variety, and often curious, selections of carnival fare, rides that seem to get faster and taller every year and several exhibits that put the county's rich agriculture and livestock past — and future — on display.

What many didn't understand is the coordinated effort by several organizations to make it all work.

"We have an incident management team — fire rescue, fair association, sheriff's office and emergency management — that is managing this event as we go to make sure it's safe for our folks," said county emergency manager John Ward.

A new protocol involved dividing the fairgrounds into 10 zones. Posts designating a zone area made it easier to identify the location of a problem, it served as a place for misplaced family members to reunite.

Obituaries

Catherine Marie Alford

Catherine Marie Alford passed away peacefully on December 20, 2022, just days before her 78th birthday. She was born on December 23, 1944, in Grand Rapids, Michigan to the late Jesse and Marilyn Vandermeer.

Cathy grew up in Michigan and graduated from Grand Valley State University in 1967, which was the University's first commencement ceremony. She moved to Florida in the late 1960s. As a lifelong scholar, she continued classes in law school, real estate, mental health counseling and later achieved a Master of Science in Psychology from Nova University.



Catherine Marie Alford

Preceded in death by just over three and a half months, Grant, affectionately named "Julio" by Cathy, was the true love of her life and best friend. We knew they wouldn't be separated for long. They enjoyed a life together of time with family and friends, years of sailing adventures on the "Wanderer", and many of their retirement years in the mountains of Gatlinburg, TN.

Cathy was an avid reader and she enjoyed gardening. She also enjoyed spirited, intellectual conversations, and she gave incredible advice and guidance. Cathy always had a dog by her side during her lifetime. Though she was characterized with a bit of sass and a fair amount of fierceness, she was an incredibly sensitive and compassionate person.

Cathy's professional life included property management, Director of Social Services at Clay Memorial Hospital, mental health counseling, and the Board of Catholic Charities. She helped people through some of the most difficult life situations even buying burial plots for indigent families.

Cathy is survived by her daughter, Anne-Marie (husband Danny; children Jason and Brian) her stepsons: Matt Alford (wife Ana; children Thais and Rodrigo), Kelly Alford, Ian Alford (wife Grace; children Lilly and Isabella), her brothers,

Alan Vandermeer (wife Susan) and Bob Vandermeer (wife Lorene). We must not forget their beloved fur child, Spirit, who brought much happiness to them in their later years.

May she now Rest in Peace and be with God.

There will be a double interment for Grant and Cathy at Jacksonville National Cemetery in early February. More details are forthcoming. Family and friends are encouraged to share memories of Cathy on the Tribute Wall, in the meantime. Donations to Community Hospice or the Humane Society are requested in lieu of flowers.

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



June M. Casteen

June M. Casteen, 83, of Orange Park Florida passed away peacefully at home on Friday December 2, 2022, with family by her side. She was born on January 8th, 1939, in Summerset, Bermuda.

She was preceded in death by her father and mother, Sidney and Albena Simmons; sister, Elizabeth Decosta; and brother-in-law's, George Decosta and Denis Dunne.

She is survived by her husband, John Casteen Jr.; sister, Pearl Dunne; children, John (Rheba) Casteen III and Sydney (Adam) Desguin; and grandchildren Ally, JD, Will, and Miley.

June finished top of class at age 13 when she went to work at the electric light company and later the local bank in the loan department. While working in the bank she met her soulmate and soon to be



June M. Casteen

husband John D. Casteen, Jr. She moved from Bermuda to the United States in January of 1965. She was a devoted wife and mother that followed her husband all over the world during his Navy career.

June enjoyed knitting, bowling, reading, and time with her ROWC (Retired Officer Wives Club). She earned her US Citizenship in San Diego, CA in 1990. She had previously lived in several locations which include Maine, Maryland, California (2), Azores, and Florida (2). While enjoying her membership with the ROWC, she served as their secretary for many years. She was a devoted daughter, sister, wife, mother, and grandmother. She spoiled everyone she came in contact with as her heart was bigger than life itself. She will be missed dearly.

A memorial service will be held at 3 pm on Saturday, January 14, 2023, in the Broadus-Raines Chapel with Dr. Tim McDaniel officiating.

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



Evelyn 'Darlene' Turner

Evelyn "Darlene" Turner, age 66, of Middleburg, Florida passed away on December 23, 2022, at HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital. She was born in Jacksonville, Florida on March 25, 1956, to the late Walter Daniel Quiett and Evelyn Addison Quiett. Darlene was raised in Starke and Jacksonville. She met her lifetime love, Vernon Turner, in the early 1970's and they were happily married on August

3, 1973. Darlene was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother who loved her family dearly. She enjoyed her career as a Claims Examiner at Blue Cross Blue Shield where she proudly served for over 20 years. Darlene also enjoyed volleyball, was an avid Gator fan, and loved Christmas time and Christmas ornaments, but more than anything, she loved her family and spending time with them. She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Daniel Quiett; and her son, Michael Jason Turner.

Darlene is survived by her loving husband of 49, Vernon Turner of Middleburg, FL; children, Mitchel (Sarah) Turner and Amanda Michelle Turner both of Middleburg, FL; daughter-in-law, Karen (Jarrod) Sherman; brothers, Darrell (Linda) Quiett and Phillip (Yvonne) Quiett both of Middleburg, FL and Tommy (Ann) Quiett of Maxville, FL; grandchildren, Matthew Sherman, Kayla Marie Jolley, Kenzie Jolley, Jacob Turner, and Callen Turner; and her great grandchildren, Lillie and Nolan Turner and Kimberly Jolley.

A Celebration of Darlene's Life will be held on Monday, January 2, 2023, at 11:00 am at Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel with Pastor Delton Kilpatrick officiating. Interment will follow at Dyal Cemetery.

The family will receive friends on Monday an hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services and Archie Tanner Memorial Chapel, Starke, FL. 904-964-5757. Visit www.ferreirafuneralservices.com to sign the family's guest book.



Evelyn Darlene Turner



Obituary submissions:
obits@claytodayonline.com

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YEAR IN REVIEW MEMORABLE STORIES

APRIL



Investigators converged on a property on Heath Road where they eventually found the remains of a missing woman.

House of horrors: Bones found near home where couple were bound for days

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — From the start, Aubrey Lamar Lumpkin provided the Clay County Sheriff's Office with an assortment of confessions, confusion and possible contradictions. He admitted to tying up a couple in their 70s for more than two days on Heath Road and he told detectives he killed someone and buried them nearby.

Both confessions proved true when the couple was rescued and investigators unearthed the bones of a woman three days later.

It started 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.



Reinhold Foundation Trustee George M. Egan, left, congratulates James Boys Ministry volunteer coordinator Gray Chandler.

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."

"We began a search of the property. (Friday) we have uncovered what we believe may potentially be human remains," Sheriff Michelle Cook said. "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."

Lumpkin has been in the Clay County Jail since with a \$400,009 bond. His next court appearance is scheduled for Jan. 9.

Reinhold Foundation honors James Boys Ministry with its top award

ORANGE PARK — Just a few seconds into Sandra Staudt-Killea's description of (of the 2022) winner of the Paul E. Reinhold Community Service Award, Gray Chandler's eyes widened as he turned toward another volunteer with the James Boys Ministry with a surprised look.

"When they started talking about the bikes, we're the only ones with the bike ministry in the whole county," Chandler said. "When they started talking about the ramps and helping people's homes, that's when I really said, 'Really? Really? Really?'"

Really?' It was an incredible feeling."

And one that earned the nonprofit the top award of \$15,000.

For the 28th consecutive year, the Paul and Klare Reinhold Foundation honored many of Clay County's leading nonprofit groups by doling out a total of \$100,000 to 47 organizations Tuesday at the Thrasher-Horne Center.

The group of 48 retirees from Orange Park United Methodist Church spends the year refurbishing bicycles for the J.P. Hall Christmas Children's Charity, as well as making wheelchair ramps and home repairs and working with Clay County Habitat for Humanity. Seeing a child ride away on a bicycle or an elderly person being able to move freely into and around their home was the only payoff the group wanted.

Keystone Heights boys' weightlifting team wins Class 1A state championship

PORT ST JOE — For the second year in a row, the Keystone Heights boys' weightlifting team returned to the Lake Region with the Class 1A state championship trophy,

"If we all hit our lifts as planned, we should win," said Lowery, the Florida weightlift coach of the year last year and now a three-time state champion coach (2015, 2021, 2022). "What we did was not expected. I thought we would do well, thought we would win, but what we did was unexpected."

Prophetic as he is, Lowery got three individual state champions; Ulysses Freed, Logan Williams and Mason Dicks on top of the team title; a resounding 55-17 win over West Nassau with Port St. Joe third at 16 points.

YEAR CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

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MONDAY CLASSES Jan 9 - Mar 13 (no class 1/6 & 2/20)

Acrylics*	Current Events	Movement and Exercise
Adventures Around the World	Elder Law	Pennies From Heaven
Art Appreciation	Flower Arranging*	Rock n Roll
Bingo	Improv Comedy*	Successful Aging in Place
Bird Houses	iPhone/iPad	Walking to the River
Book Club	Jewelry Making*	Watercolors*
Chair Yoga	Line Dancing	
	Mah Jong	

TUESDAYS Jan 10 - Mar 14 - Bridge Playing 1:30-3:30
Orange Park Presbyterian Church, 1905 Park Ave, Orange Park, Reservations Required

THURSDAY CLASSES Jan 12 - Mar 2

Android Phone	Improv Comedy*	The Week that Was the Week (Current Events)
Artful History	Movement and Exercise	Writing
Beginning Chess*	Pennies From Heaven	Yoga
Beginning Tai Chi	Watercolors*	
Family History/Genealogy		



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One time new member fee \$25
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Shepherd's Center of Orange Park, 2105 Park Avenue, Suite 30, Orange Park, FL 32073



Members of the Keystone Heights High boys' weightlifting team flex their muscles after winning the Class 1A state championship for the second consecutive year.

Year

from page 9

"To tell me we were going to do that, with that score, no way," said Lowery. "The morning that we left here to head to Port St. Joe, the kids from the git-go were on, they had the right mentality to compete. When I went down the hall at the hotel 4:30 in the morning and they were all waiting on me, I knew they were ready to go."

In the Olympic Snatch competition, Keystone Heights won again decisively, 44-20, against South Sumter.

Freed and Bryar Schenck were individual champions in the Olympic Snatch competition; with the Indians adding points with key top five finishers; Wyatt VanZant, fourth at 129; Ben Ulsch and Nate Tisdale at 169, fourth and fifth; Tyler Jenkins at 183, second to Schenck; Jayden Goodman, third at 199; Trey Jeffries, second at 219; Caleb Moncrief, third at 238 with Jackson Herman sixth, and, finally, Mason Dicks and Luke Snider, fourth and ninth at Unlimited. Reid Bogue was eighth at 129 with Sam Ulsch seventh at 154.

Lowery's trio of champions in the Traditional competition included Freed, who returned to the team after two years of a COVID year and a torn labrum to get his gold; Williams, a senior who missed his state run last year with a rodeo injury and hit personal bests in all his lifts, and Dicks, who was sixth last year at 670 and jumped to 730 to win by 45 pounds.

MAY



A cellphone video from an Orange Park man became an important piece of evidence after CCSO fatally shot an armed man after a chase.

Three able to provide information on deadly officer-involved shooting

ORANGE PARK — After each job was completed for their moving company, Adam German, Zachary Kellar and a co-worker had a ritual to stop at the Wawa on Blanding Boulevard to get a soft drink and a sandwich.

That routine provided them with a clear view of

the deadly officer-involved shooting on April 27.

"It was really bizarre," German said. "I was standing close enough I could hear the bullets whizzing and cracking."

The man was shot to death after the Orange Park Police Department answered a call for possible domestic violence. A man left in a PT Cruiser and led police on a car chase. Clay County Sheriff's Office deputies eventually became involved in the chase as he sped toward Middleburg on Blanding Boulevard.

The man turned right on Filmore Street onto a road behind the gas station, which allowed a deputy to perform a PIT maneuver. Seconds later, more than 20 rounds were fired.

The man was pronounced dead at the scene. His identity hasn't been released by the sheriff's office or the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, which assumed the lead role of the investigation immediately after the shooting.

German and Kellar not only saw the incident, they heard it. They also got one of the clearest views of the PIT maneuver, shooting and aftermath — and they were able to record it on a cellphone.

Clay Today obtained a copy of the recording. In it, deputies clearly yelled commands to the man to not move and show them his hands. Clay Today then forwarded the recording and audio of an interview with German and Kellar to the FDLE the day after the shooting.

The agency then interviewed both men, German said.

"The lead cop car was able to get up close to him and actually picked it up and spun him out," German said. "The lead car cop got out the police officers behind and then got out and proceeded

to pull their firearms saying, you know, yell, 'Put up your hands! Let me see your hands! I heard that. I heard them yell at him.

"And then they started opening fire."

"We witnessed this," Kellar said. "I heard him (CCSO deputy) say, 'Put your hands up. Don't move.'"

"I don't know what the police knew if he had a firearm or not," German said. "I don't know anything like that."




Seniors on the Clay High girls' softball team got their diplomas in a second ceremony after most opted to play in the regionals.

Clay girls' softball team balance graduation, state championship game

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Clay High celebrated two graduation ceremonies — one for the entire senior class; another for the five seniors on the girls' softball team.

Four of five seniors opted to play in the Class


YEAR CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



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4A region softball tournament against West Florida instead of attending their graduation on the same night.

Gabrielle Wiseman, Abigail Rutledge, Emalee Martin and Sydney Davis, plus senior teammate Kierstyn Mann, then took the stage at the Clay High football field to the end zone to toss their caps on Sunday two days after the Class of 2022 celebrated their diplomas.

Although the Blue Devils were eliminated, 4-0, by Deltona, five senior players still walked across the stage in the graduation gowns two days later to receive their degrees.



Fleming Island's Josh Skipper holds the World Championship trophy as a member of the Blues Hog team that won Memphis in May.

World Champion pitmaster lives high on the hog

FLEMING ISLAND — All Josh Skipper needed was a match, a bag of charcoal, a chunk of wood and a hunk of meat to create a mouth-watering masterpiece.

Skipper played a major role in Blues Hog's Grand Champion victory at the renowned Memphis in May competition, a cookoff that's considered the world championship of barbecue.

Hours of preparation and a 550-gallon drum cooker smoked the competition — literally — and

earned the team a total of \$36,000 in prize money.

Just don't expect Skipper to taste his success. "I really don't eat barbecue," he said. "I'll taste it, but I don't eat it."

Skipper learned to cook from "a bunch of old-school guys," but every pitmaster takes a unique path to smokey success.

Blues Hog uses its proprietary spice blends, injections and lump charcoal. But more than anything else, the team use a giant barrel cooker that accelerated the low-and-slow process. While others spent nearly a day cooking a hog, Blues Hog only needed 9½ hours.

The team cooked three hogs belly-side down. The result was crispy, mahogany skin and succulent meat that dripped with flavor. Since the shoulders and hams take longer to cook, Blues Hog placed bags of ice or beef briskets on the middle of the back to keep the loin from overcooking and drying out.

"It's a crazy amount of moisture you get out of it," Skipper said.

Bill Arnold created Blues Hog but the team was sold to Scheer in 2015. Scheer owns Marble Ridge Farms in New Haven, Missouri where he raises wagu cattle and Mangalitsa-Berkshire-Duroc pigs. Many of them wind up on the grill.

Skipper said he's probably cooked 30 whole hogs. He's also done half steers, ribs, chicken and Boston butts. In fact, he has a 1,000-gallon grill that he's used to cooking a steer and whole hog at the same time.

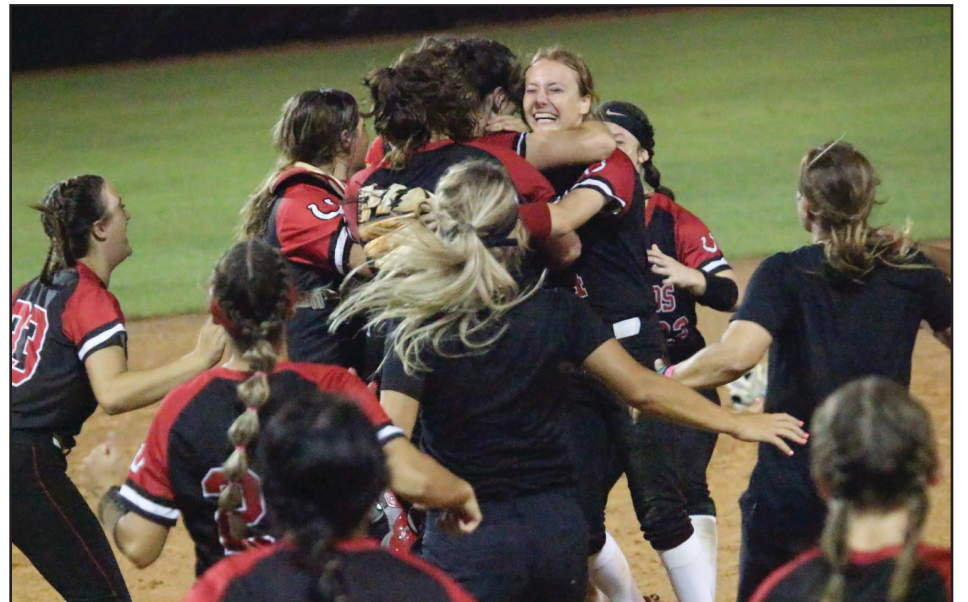
The team's victory at Memphis in May was featured in season one, episode six of Michael Symon's "BBQ USA" on the Food Network.

JUNE

Middleburg girls' softball team rallies from .500 start to state crown

MIDDLEBURG — After Middleburg girls' softball team started the season with an 11-11 record, the team rallied to win the school's first state championship.

"We're just so humbled and grateful to everyone who has supported this team," said Houston, in just her fourth year at Middleburg. "At the beginning of this season, we talked about taking just one game at a time, everything one step at a time and never looking too far ahead. I can honestly say that no matter what our record was, no matter how



The Middleburg girls' softball team won back-to-back 1-0 games to win the Class 5A state championship - the first for the Clay County school.

poorly we played, they always kept fighting. They stayed in the fight all year."

Houston coined the simple phrase: "Finish the Assignment" for the team that held through the final month's championship run.

"No matter how cheesy it sounds, it worked," said Houston. "Our kids bought into it because we finished the assignment."

The Lady Broncos beat South Lake High, 1-0, on Belle Mincey's fourth-inning solo home run.

"Check, check, we finished the assignment with a 100% (grade)," said Mincey.

Senior pitcher Mallory Forrester's final four games included 19, 19, 10 and 10 strikeouts.

"We knew that no matter we played, we had the support of our fans," said Forrester. "That gave us the determination to finish."

Clothes Closet and Food Pantry of Orange Park wins \$25,000 grant

ORANGE PARK — Volunteers huddled one morning morning to talk about their assignments moments before the doors opened at the Clothes Closet and Food Pantry of Orange Park.

Volunteer Anita Aultman was paying more attention to her cellphone, constantly refreshing a page to see the results of the State Farm Neighborhood Assist program.

Just as the group was about to go to work, Aultman looked up from her phone and smiled. The all-volunteer organization that provides food,



Volunteers filled sacks with food for needy families shortly after learning their group won a \$25,000 grant from State Farm.

clothing and household items to residents in need in Clay County suddenly realized they were among 100 national winners that received a \$25,000 grant.

"This is one of the largest grants we've received so far and it will do a great deal for our community," Aultman said. "We have between 60 and 70 families a week coming in for food, and it means that the children won't go hungry."

"Due to a significant and sudden increase in clientele, funding has been inadequate to meet the demand for assistance. The grant from State Farm will help meet these needs."

State Farm opened the program for the first 4,000 applicants. All of the spots were gone within

YEAR CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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Year

from page 11

an hour, Aultman said.

The insurance company then pared the list to the top 200 vote-getters and the Clothes Closet and Food Pantry made the cut. From there, the top 100 organizations would share a total of \$2.5 million.

The State Farm Review Committee selected the top 200 finalists, and public voting determined the top 100. In the eleven years of the program, nearly 500 organizations have received a total of \$12.5 million to enact change in their communities.

More than two million ballots were cast nationally during the promotion, State Farm said.

Four honored at Shepherd's Center of Orange Park Golden Years Gala

FLEMING ISLAND – The 15th Annual Golden Years Gala honored older adults at Sullivan Hall at Sacred Heart Catholic Church who volunteer in Clay County.

Shepherd's Center of Orange Park presented awards to four volunteers in the following categories: Shepherd's Center of Orange Park Outstanding Volunteer, Ernie Cohen Lifetime Achievement Award, Woman of the Year and Man of the Year.

The Ernie Cohen Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Pat Fernandez by JoAnne Cohen, Ernie's wife. 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



The Shepherd's Center Golden Years Gala identified four outstanding seniors from Clay County during its annual dinner.

and has steadfastly served when needed. She is professional and works proactively to take care of the patients and facility.

The Shepherd's Center of Orange Park Outstanding Volunteer Award was given to Chris Bass. Chris has been a member of the Shepherd's Center since 2016. She is a great ambassador for the Shepherd Center 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.

Kathy Wray accepted the Woman of the Year award. Kathy 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.

The Man of the Year Award was given to Robert Simpson. Robert 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.

Those honored are nominated by people in the community. Nominators write a letter about the person and what they have done to serve the community. The nominees are judged by local leaders who select winners in each category.



Clay County students are part of a school district that earned an 'A' rating from state.

rankings since 2010. The A grade from 2021-2022 school year maintains the A grades from the school years beginning in 2019 and 2018.

Grades, their reporting and their release have been marred by the COVID-19 pandemic, said Superintendent David Broskie.

"We are so excited about our A ranking," Broskie said. "That shows the strength and resiliency of Clay County District Schools."

The state doesn't have overall rankings of districts listed on its website or from various spreadsheets documenting scores. However, numerous reputable academic websites list Clay among the Top-10 districts in the state.

The county is one of 14 districts to achieve the A ranking last school year. The district also did not have D or F schools. The district had 11 schools drop a grade level from their 2019 scores, most from A to B.

Two schools, Plantation Oaks Elementary and Lake Asbury Elementary increased from a B to an A, with Montclair Elementary jumping from a C to a B. After consecutive D grades in 2018 and in 2019, Charles E. Bennett Elementary achieved a C grade for the second year in a row.

Overall, the district posted 18 A grades, 17 B grades and six Cs.

"The district's grade is calculated as if the district's students are enrolled in one large combination school," according to the state Department of Education. "All students who are full-year enrolled in the district will be included in the district's grade."

YEAR CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

JULY

Clay County schools earn an 'A' from state

CLAY COUNTY – The School District notched an A grade, with about 85% of schools hitting A or B grades for the 2021-2022 school year, with some subject test scores being ranked in the Top-5 in the state.

Excluding 2021, where reporting was optional and was declined by 56 of the state's 67 districts, Clay County has had seven A rankings and four B





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Lakeside math teacher Melissa Matz accepts a check from Gov. Ron DeSantis after she was picked as the states Teacher of the Year.

Lakeside's Melissa Matz selected Florida Teacher of the Year

CLAY COUNTY – Five teachers held hands on stage at the Gaylord Palms Resort for the state Teacher of the Year awards as they waited to hear who would be selected the top instructor in Florida.

When state Education Commissioner Manny Diaz Jr. called the winner and the balloons cascaded down, Melissa Matz put her hands to her face. Matz, a Lakeside Junior High seventh-grade math teacher, was selected as the state's 2021-22 Teacher of the Year. There are 185,000 teachers in the state.

Matz was joined by finalists teachers from Gilchrist, Manatee, Sarasota and Broward counties. The five teachers spent several days together and remained in contact before the ceremony.

"It built this amazing bond a month before the

announcement. We all wanted each other to win," Matz said. "That was the best part, we all had faith in each other. On the stage, we said we'd be happy no matter what."

Now, Matz has to fulfill the functions of a Teacher of the Year. She will take a sabbatical for the upcoming school year to serve as the state's Christa McAuliffe Ambassador of Education. The role varies from visiting classrooms to being a keynote speaker. From speaking to other teachers, Matz said they face the same challenges and there is so much to learn.

"The year is going to look very different for me, but to be able to connect and unite and listen to success stories from teachers and students throughout the state, that is what I'm most excited about," Matz said.

Each finalist was provided a \$15,000 bonus by Gov. Ron DeSantis, who said the state's teachers go above and beyond. On Twitter, he thanked Matz for her commitment to quality education and her work as a role model.

"It was great to join some amazing teachers today and to show our appreciation for their hard work and sacrifice," DeSantis said in a press release. "We will continue to invest in our schools and educators while putting policies in place that improve outcomes for students."

Clay Chamber selects Clay Today Publisher Jon Cantrell as its president

CLAY COUNTY – The Board of Directors of the Clay County Chamber of Commerce selected Jon Cantrell as their new president. In this position, Cantrell will focus on helping businesses in Clay

County and surrounding areas by meeting their needs and helping them answer questions and solve small and large issues that may arise.

Cantrell comes to the Chamber with many years of business experience in Clay County and with longstanding relationships, including serving as the Publisher for Clay Today for the past 25 years. Cantrell's addition to the Chamber team will help Clay County businesses thrive and grow and his experience will bring new opportunities to Chamber members.



Jon Cantrell

"Cantrell is a welcomed addition to the Chamber team. He has been a member of the Chamber for many years, has served on the Chamber board, and has volunteered countless hours to the community. We believe Cantrell will pave the way for new and exciting opportunities at the Chamber" said Chairman Randy Bowman.

The Chamber is a non-profit organization that supports and advocates for local businesses.

From educational programs for business owners and managers to networking opportunities like lunches, after-hours and events, the Clay Chamber is designed to help local businesses prosper and thrive.

"As thousands of families choose Clay to live, work and play now is the time to build upon our assets and quality of life in Clay County," Cantrell said.

Cantrell was the chairman of the Florida Press Association, a board member of the YMCA and Salvation Army, and was the past President of the Orange Park Rotary Club.

AUGUST

Schools join law enforcement to establish unified plan to protect students

CLAY COUNTY – School officials and law enforcement laid out plans to keep Clay County schools safer from active shooters.

In July and August, every public school, as well as the larger private and charter schools, was fortified with fencing, single-access points and security cameras to minimize the risk of a school tragedy that has become all too common in the country.

The school district, school police department, members of the Clay County Sheriff's, Fire Rescue and Emergency Management and the Green Cove Springs and Orange Park police departments met with the administrations to create an emergency response plan specific to the needs of each school.

"You know Clay County is a great place to live," said Superintendent David Broskie. "It's a great place to work, and it's a great place for kids to go to school. There's little doubt there's no doubt about that. You know, one of our most sacred challenges is ensuring that all students are safe."

After reviewing mass casualty attacks at schools like Marjory Stoneman Douglas High in 2018 and at Robb Elementary in Uvalde, Texas, Clay County officials said they worked to identify the strengths and weaknesses of each school.

"We started meeting about a month ago to discuss school safety and the importance of school safety, and what are our plans moving forward? To the parents that are out there? Let me just say this, I promise you we're going to keep your kids safe – law enforcement, fire rescue emergency management and school administration," Sheriff Michelle Cook said. "We have all been working together and will continue to work together to keep our kids safe."

YEAR CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

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Volunteers, teachers and administrators were eager to learn Wilkinson earned the unique classification as a UCF Partnership School.



Supporters of Michele Hanson, second from right, celebrate after she won the primary for a seat on the Clay County School Board.

Year from page 13

Wilkinson becomes a UCF-Certified Community Partnership School

MIDDLEBURG — There were times when it was difficult for Shawn C. Smith to keep her composure when describing Wilkinson Junior High's two-year mission to become one of the few UCF-Certified Community Partnership Schools.

Her voice cracked at times, but her smile was infectious. This was a big deal, and she knew it.

"Previously, schools were just the source of education," she said during a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Aug. 5. "Now community partnerships, can be a source of change."

Big change.

According to Central Florida, The UCF Center for Community Schools promotes community partnerships that include at least four core partners — a school district, a university or college, a community-based nonprofit and a healthcare provider.

For Wilkinson, it means students will have more tools to help break the cycle of poverty, hunger and a lack of opportunities.

Wilkinson's partners included the Clay County District Schools, St. Johns River State College, Baptist Health, Wolfson Children's Hospital and Children Home Society of Florida. Together, they intend to lift one of the poorest areas in Northeast Florida.

Skipper, Hanson unseat school board incumbents in Primary

CLAY COUNTY — The 2022 primary election saw two Clay County School District board members dethroned and two Republican primaries for county commissioner races were decided.

Of a possible 161,385 voters, approximately 40,835 ballots were counted, meaning the turnout was 25.3%. As for voting patterns, 17,837 ballots were cast on Election Day, 12,989 mail-in ballots were cast and 10,001 ballots were cast during early voting.

Incumbents Janice Kerekes and Tina Bullock were defeated by Erin Skipper and Michele Hanson, respectively. To win District 1's seat, Skipper captured 54.6% of the vote to Kerekes' 33.19%, with Charles Kirk securing 12.2% of more than 39,000 votes cast.

Skipper, who was endorsed by Gov. Ron DeSantis, said she wasn't expecting the win. Describing the feeling as overwhelming, Skipper estimated she knocked on at least 1,000 doors.

In District 4, Hanson's 54.93% bested Bullock's 45.07%. Bullock, a long-time district administrator who has served on the school board before, was seeking a second term against Hanson, a former teacher.

Hanson said she wanted to give people a voice and she felt a change was going to happen based on the people she talked with.

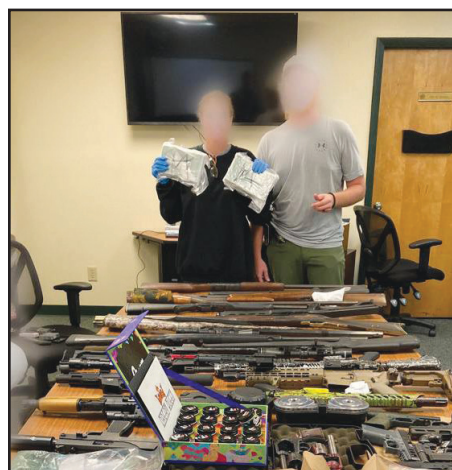
In the county's District 4, Commissioner Betsy

Condon secured a second four-year term with 64.62% of the vote, as she defeated Dale Carter, 35.38%, in a Republican primary. A Democrat candidate has not filed for the district.

Condon said she worked during the election but now has a chance to focus all her effort and attention on the work.

Alexandra Compere won the Republican primary in Oakleaf's District 2, where incumbent Wayne Bolla is termed out. She earned 70.39% of the vote to candidate Rodney Herring's 29.61%. She was to face Leroy Edwards in the General Election, but he withdrew.

SEPTEMBER



Investigators put some of the materials confiscated during two "Lucky 777's" raids in Clay County.

CCSO, Post Office break up 'Lucky 777's' drug trafficking ring

ORANGE PARK — The Clay County Sheriff's Office and U.S. Postal Service worked together to put two men behind bars and uncover a massive drug trafficking ring.

Jason Terril Setzer, 46, of Jacksonville, was charged with conspiracy to traffic more than 2,000 grams of fentanyl. Trafficking fentanyl, possession

of marijuana and a firearm by a convicted felon and trafficking methamphetamine and fentanyl, and Alvin J.J. Mercado, 37, of Fleming Island, was charged with conspiracy to traffic fentanyl and trafficking fentanyl on Sept. 11 after investigators got a tip the two received large quantities of drugs through the mail. The arrests came after the CCSO SWAT and Narcotics Unit raided two homes on Sept. 10 and seized 30 firearms, as well as a large cache of drugs.

"We've been working on it since late June, early July," Clay County Sheriff Michelle Cook said. "We could have continued this investigation, but these guys were distributing so much. We had to pull them off the street because just in a couple of months they brought in enough fentanyl to kill four million people. And so we had to remove them as quickly as possible because they truly are a danger to society with that level of distribution."

The arrests were part of a multi-agency, including federal, state and county agencies, investigation that started in June, Cook said. The case started with a traffic stop by the Florida Highway Patrol in Jacksonville and quickly grew in scope. The arrests were in conjunction with large seizures of cocaine, fentanyl and methamphetamine in both Jacksonville and Nassau County. Less than a week before Setzer and Mercado were taken into custody, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office confiscated more than three kilos of fentanyl, more than one kilo of cocaine and 6,000 pills containing fentanyl.

According to two lengthy arrest reports, Setzer and Mercado received fentanyl, methamphetamine and cocaine from an address in California. Packages were sent to Setzer on William Paca Street in Orange Park and to Mercado at houses on Eagle Cove Drive and River Breeze Drive on Fleming Island.

According to the arrest report, bricks of the drugs were "broken down and then distributed."

The drugs were sent to various locations in Northeast Florida and cash was mailed back to the same address in California, Cook said.

Both men are expected in court on Jan. 9.

Clay County Fair recognized for its picnic table, Sunflower Hours projects

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Tasha Hyder found a unique way to turn soon-to-be garbage into a community fundraiser when she invited local artists to put their artistic touches on old picnic tables at the Clay County Fairgrounds.

Not only were the tables spared from being crushed into sawdust, but their transformations also helped raise money to help 44 state charities.

That wasn't lost on officials at the Florida Festivals and Events Association annual convention. The organization honored both the Clay County Agricultural Fair and the South Florida Fair in West Palm Beach with its Community Impact Award.

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Instead of throwing old picnic tables away, artists created masterpieces from them that were sold at the fair to benefit local charities.

Both fairs turned old picnic tables into money-generating pieces of art that raised a total of \$200,000.

Clay also finished second in the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for its Sunflower Hours Project where music and loud noises were muted to allow people with visible disabilities to participate in a morning of fun.

Artists were extremely creative with their designs. Sixteen tables were turned from splintered eyesores into art that was sold at auction during the 11-day fair. All the money was dispersed to area charities. Hyder said one table fetched \$500.

The picnic table and Sunflower Hours will return next year, Hyder said.

"We have about 30-to-40 tables here, so we're going to do it again," she said. "And we're going to expand our Sunflower Hours. We're going to do it until we run out of tables."

Ian's unexpected turn takes Clay County out of its wrath

CLAY COUNTY — Residents brought in plants and outdoor furniture and trimmed trees. They fortified their homes with sandbags and stocked up on bottled water, diapers, gasoline and bread.

Shelters were opened and evacuations were ordered.

And just as Clay County dug in on Sept. 29 for what was supposed to be significant damage from Hurricane Ian, the massive storm made an immediate — and unexpected — hard turn to the left and passed to the south.

Ian didn't follow any of the projected paths from the experts, proving again Mother Nature doesn't pay attention to forecasts or expectations.

Clay County Director of Emergency Management John Ward was relieved the area was spared the brunt of a storm that rolled over and through Fort Myers as a Category 4 storm on Sept. 28.

Then came the challenge the reassure residents not to be dismissive of the next storm.

"Obviously, we had to change and pivot," Ward said. "We have to be Super Gumby and always flexible. Last week was a perfect example. We ordered evacuations and opened shelters. I always tried to wait till I'm sure on that. Like I've said before, I've got about 23 hours that I've got to do it to execute to be effective. I was actually well inside that. I should have done it earlier but there was so much changing information that I was unsure."

There were a few downed trees reported in the county and minor flooding near Doctors Inlet and Black Creek.

Keystone Heights prepared for the worse and prayed for the best. The rural area was a primary concern since many of the homes there are older and some of the infrastructures are lacking.

"It's a weeklong preparation for the potential of a really bad storm and we are very grateful that it wasn't a really bad storm, but we were ready if it would have been," City Manager Lynn Rutkowski said.

The Clay County Schools District said all 52 schools were inspected and reopened for classes on Oct. 3.



The Division of Emergency Management was prepared for the worst from Hurricane Ian, but the storm veered south of Clay County.

OCTOBER



Residents throughout North Florida brought essentials to the fairgrounds to help victims from Hurricane Ian in Southwest Florida.

Fair, CCSO organize massive relief effort for Hurricane Ian victims

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Residents of Southwest Florida were in desperate need of essential items following Hurricane Ian. So Clay County Fair Executive Director Tasha Hyder and Sheriff Michelle Cook organized Supply Drive Southwest Florida relief effort to collect essentials for designated areas that were in the storm's path.

So much is needed, Hyder said, but she's determined to send at least two tractor-trailer loads — with a sheriff's office escort. By the time they finished the project, eight trucks were filled with supplies.

The collection drive started at the fairgrounds and continued as people want to give. At first, that meant days, but that quickly grew to a few weeks. Goods were being stored in a small warehouse

behind the fair association's main office.

"I'm so happy with the outcome," Hyder said. "We've collected \$2,000 and lots of supplies (in the first two days). It made me happy to see the turnout. It was a very emotional day."

Hyder was part of a group of fair operators formed during the COVID-19 pandemic. The group is called FairStrong and it is committed to helping neighbors.

"We're bringing it out with the hurricane because we are very strong," Hyder said. "To our friends in Southwest Florida, the fair in Collier County, our event friends in Fort Myers community project, we're all coming together. They're telling us



Stephanie Connelly-Eiswerth of Fleming Island clinched USA's championship at the Women's PGA Cup with a par on the last hole.

what they need and we're making it happen."

Connelly-Eiswerth leads TEAM USA to Women's PGA Cup victory

SANTA ANA PUEBLO, N.M. — Stephanie Connelly-Eiswerth was disappointed following her

YEAR CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Year

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opening round score of 7-over par 80 at the 2022 Women's PGA Cup at Twin Warriors Golf Club.

Connelly-Eiswerth, a Teaching Professional from Fleming Island and a North Florida PGA Section Member, responded in a big way for the United States on both Friday and Saturday, as she was the team's top performer during the second and third rounds.

She carded her second consecutive 3-under par 70 to help the United States (1-under par, 656) win the second Women's PGA Cup by two strokes over Canada (1-over par, 658).

Great Britain/Ireland (662) finished in third place, followed by Australia (686) in fourth, Sweden (698) in fifth and South Africa (753) – playing in the PGA Cup for the first time – in sixth.

The Americans rallied after being down by five strokes to the Great Britain/Ireland team after the turn on the final day.

The U.S. has captured both Women's PGA Cups after also winning the inaugural event in 2019 at Barton Creek Resort in Austin, Texas.

The United States Team began the third and final round with a one-shot lead against first-round leader Team Canada.

"Nobody panicked," said PGA President and U.S. Captain Jim Richerson.

Connelly-Eiswerth's par on the par-4, 395-yard 18th hole clinched the title. She was immediately mobbed by teammates as the celebration began.

"It's everything and more," said Connelly-Eiswerth. "I really wanted to qualify for this. To qualify and also to win it, it's not just being here and being part of the team. You want to win with the team. It's truly incredible."

County embarks on program to treat CORE issues of opioid abuse

MIDDLEBURG – After a successful two-year test run in Palm Beach County, Florida's Coordinated Opioid Recovery program (CORE) will soon expand to seven other counties, including Clay County.

State and local officials in the fight against opioid addiction, including Florida Surgeon General Dr. Joseph Ladapo, Assistant Secretary for Substance Abuse and Mental Health for the Florida Department of Children and Families Erica Floyd Thomas, program architect and Deputy Secretary for Health Dr. Kenneth A. Schepke joined officials with the Clay County Health Department, Fire Rescue and



Florida Deputy Secretary of Health Dr. Kenneth A. Schepke helped create the CORE program that expanded to Clay County.

Clay Behavior Tuesday to announce the revolutionary program that's designed to offer resources to break the vicious cycle of addiction.

CORE is a comprehensive approach that expands overdose responses and treats the primary and secondary impacts of substance abuse disorder. Floridians battling with addiction can utilize CORE to receive medically assisted treatment that is specialized to sustain a clean pathway to success. CORE will be expanded in two phases. Phase one counties include Clay, Brevard, Duval, Escambia, Gulf, Manatee, Marion, Pasco, and Volusia counties.

Typically, when somebody overdoses, they're taken to the nearest hospital and released once they are out of danger. Once CORE is operational, an overdose patient will be treated by EMTs and emergency response technicians who have training in substance abuse. They then will be transported to a medical facility that's also equipped to deal with addictions, similar to someone who is taken to a trauma center.

Treatment will include a sustainable clinical pathway to sobriety, including a transfer to a multi-specialty medical group to start medication-assisted treatment.

NOVEMBER

Making splash at state swim meet: Two from Fleming Island win gold medals

STUART – Fleming Island High won two gold medals at the FHSAA state swimming and diving

Class 3A championship with junior freestyler Maryn McDade successfully defending her 50 free state title and sophomore diver Ava Brinkman overcoming a horrific diving accident to earn a gold medal.

Brinkman, who as a freshman registered one of the top scores statewide in her district championships last year, had a diving accident in the week prior to regions that ended her spectacular climb as one of the top upcoming divers in Florida.



Avan Brinkman won the Class 3A diving state championship for Fleming Island.



Fleming Island's Maryn McCade gave the Golden Eagles another gold medal in the 50 freestyle.

"It was definitely a surreal experience, especially with everything that I went through with the accident," Brinkman said.

McCade earned Fleming Island a second state championship by winning the girl's 50-yard freestyle. Overall, the Golden Eagles girls swimming team finished 13th overall.

County tourism hooks national kayak fishing series, tournaments

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Since there are no major amusement parks in Clay County, tourism officials decided to put the spotlight on one of its greatest assets to attract visitors – its expansive waterways.

The county entered an agreement with Kayak Bass Fishing and Airstream Ventures to create a year-long fishing tournament.

"We're not trying to do this as a flash in the pan," said Kayak Bass Fishing founder Chad Hoover. "What we're trying to accomplish is a



Kayak Bass Fishing founder Chad Hoover said Clay County will be home to a year-long fishing tournament.

year-long promotion in Clay County for a virtual tournament that culminates with a championship at the end of the year.

"In January, we're going to start a virtual series where we pay out growing prizes based on participation, cash payouts, plus prizes from all of our amazing partners and sponsors. And we're going use that to continuously evolve how we promote Clay County, to put it on the map. This is not a one-day or one-week or one-month type thing. This is a long-term partnership where we can show people that when you're coming down the interstate headed to some of the more well-known southern destinations in Florida, you're passing some a gem. You should stop on your way down or your way back up. Or you should just make this your way."

Fishermen will be required to fish in a kayak, and unlike other bass organizations, fishermen are required to take a photo of the fish, measure the length and return the fish into the river, creek, lake or pond.

Other organizations rank catches by weight. KBF will use the combined lengths of the monthly catches to determine winners.

Hoover said each photo of a fish has to be sent to the website, and it will be issued a virtual identifier to make sure every fish was caught in any public waterway in Clay County. The fisherman's hand is to be included in the photo to capture a type of fingerprint to keep fishermen from sharing the same fish before it is returned to the water.



Ridgeview High Becky Murphy selected as District's top principal by Superintendent David Broskie.

Ridgeview High's Becky Murphy selected Principal of the Year

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selected Ridgeview High's Becky Murphy as the 2022- 2023 Principal of the Year. Murphy was nominated by other administrators in Clay County and Superintendent David Broskie presented the honor by surprising Murphy.

Murphy has worked in public education for 23 years and has been an administrator for the past eight years. She has led both Ridgeview High and Lake Asbury Junior High as a principal and is known by her colleagues and staff as a passionate and driven leader that cares for all students.

"My favorite part about being a principal is seeing our students grow into amazing young men and women with bright futures ahead. Our most significant role as educators is to help our students reach their full potential socially, emotionally, and academically while supporting their endeavors," Murphy said.

Also, Middleburg Elementary's Amanda Strickland was selected as the county's assistant principal of the year.

"Principal Murphy is a wonderful representation of Principal of the Year for Clay County District Schools. Ms. Murphy truly cares for all students and staff and has spent the last four years at Ridgeview High focused on building a great culture where students are not only involved in their school community on campus but involved with their surrounding community outside of schools," Broskie said.

As the award recipient, Murphy will represent Clay County District Schools in the state competition. In November, Murphy will be formally recognized at the monthly school board meeting.

DECEMBER

RideOut's Rosie steals the spotlight on The Kelly Clarkson Show

MIDDLEBURG – RideOut Elementary's Rosie's gregarious attitude and infectious smile made the first-grader one of the most popular guests on "The Kelly Clarkson Show" when she appeared with Dolly Parton to highlight the success of the singer's Imagination Library Program.

The show unexpectedly reached out to Rosie's family and asked to do a video interview. After the show recognized her expressive outlook, they invited her and her mother, Liz Williams, to Universal Studio, California to share their story about receiving Braille books from Parton's program. Parton's initiative to provide books has been so widespread, one in 10 children now receives a book from her. Rosie, who suffered from septo-optic dysplasia that left her blind shortly after birth, is one of the children.

Since 1995, more than 200 million free books have been delivered to children every month.



Liz and Rosie appeared with Dolly Parton on "The Kelly Clarkson Show" to highlight the success of Parton's Imagination Library Program. Rosie, who goes to school at RideOut Elementary, has been getting books in Braille since she was 6.

"We began receiving Braille books from the Imagination Library. So our daughter was exposed to pre-Braille and Braille and that is so important," said Rosie's mother, Liz. "I don't know if you're aware of it, but only about 10% of blind children have the opportunity to be Braille literate. She's in the first grade at RideOut Elementary School in Clay County, Florida. She was reading braille and writing Braille before most children are reading or writing in print." Then Clarkson surprised Parton when Rosie walked onto the stage. From there, she stole the show. Rosie got hugs from Clarkson and Parton and she quickly asked them to "sing me a song." They picked "Amazing Grace."

While they sang, Rose clutched Parton's thumb. She responded by pulling Rosie's hand to her cheek.

"I liked singing the most," Rosie said. "I liked it. It felt good to sing."

Then Rosie asked if she could sing a song, and she picked "The Lion Sleeps Tonight."

Rosie got a book a month from the program. Her favorite is "Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come."

Golden Eagles marching band to appear in London at New Year's parade

FLEMING ISLAND – The invitation to participate in the New Year's Day parade in London came a year ago, which only gave the Fleming Island High band about 11 months to raise \$90,000 to pay for it.

The band currently sold wreaths all the way up to their departure on Dec. 28 – all while they're working on their show that honors Queen Elizabeth. It is their final push to make sure their airline, hotel and meals are funded.

In the past year, however, the band has sold sports cups, socks and desserts. They also benefited from sponsorship and donations and completed surveys on websites for companies. But



Members of the Fleming Island High band take a break from rehearsals ahead of appearing in London at the New Year's Day parade.

nothing filled the coffers more than popcorn.

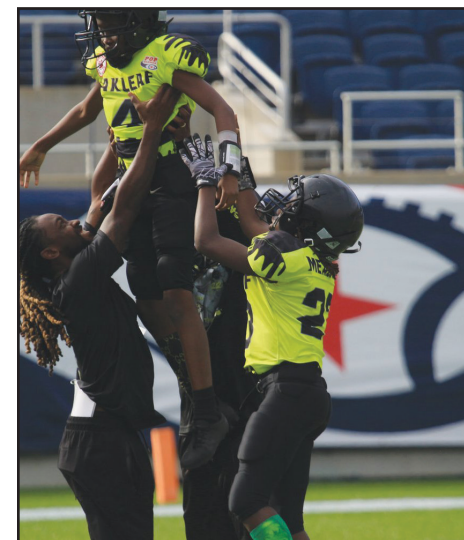
"We made \$16,000 on popcorn," said band director Mara Rose. "That's a lot of popcorn."

The band will return on Jan. 4. It will be the second time in seven years the Golden Eagles have made the trip across the pond to perform in front of 100,000 people and on national television.

"The show is definitely a lot of fun," said senior Andrew Mechling, who plays the tuba. "The music we're getting is a lot of fun. We're putting a lot of work into the show. I've never done anything like this." To earn an invitation, Rose had to give parade officials with testimonial letters, photos and a video of their performances. The Golden Eagles now are a legacy band, which means invitations essentially now are a matter of formality.

The show is called "Lilibet," which was Queen

Elizabeth's nickname. The original plan was to highlight her 70th jubilee, but they had to make adjustments after she died on Sept. 8.



Members of the Oakleaf Renegades enjoy the moment after winning the Pop Warner Super Bowl.

Oakleaf Renegades runs out to big lead to win Pop Warner Super Bowl

ORLANDO - Following an epic 17 weeks of dominating football, the Oakleaf Renegades 10-Under Pop Warner team, led by prolific tailback Calvin Ferguson's three scores, held off a second half surge by the Addison Cowboys of Illinois to win a 34-19 national championship title in just their third year of existence.

"This is the first time in about 25 years that a team from the First Coast Conference in the northeast Jacksonville area, has been to the championship game," said FCC President Dean Prince. "The last team that got close was a team from Ponte Vedra that lost a thriller in the national semifinal game."

For Carlos Lowe, in his third year at the helm of the Renegades who only started playing in the newly-constructed Oakleaf Youth Sports, the Renegades have blistered their way through a season that started August 1.

With the game seemingly in hand behind Ferguson's three 50-plus yard scoring runs and a dash from Keonte Ayers, the Renegades bolted to a 27-0 lead on the Addison team to go into the half with the same point total as their two previous wins; 27-0 in both the quarterfinals and in Tuesday's semifinal win over Lower Perks of Pennsylvania.

"Addison started to come back on the Oakleaf team, but a strip tackle and a fumble recovery by the Renegades on a Cowboy breakaway seemed to turn the game around," said Prince.

"That Addison team was starting to make their move."

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Don't throw your money out of the window

Local leaders: Please give – but only to reputable organizations

By **Kylie Cordell**
For *Clay Today*

CLAY COUNTY – You may have noticed the large blinking sign at County Road 220 in front of Walmart that warns motorists to “Give Wisely.” It’s pretty hard to miss. Normally for real-time traffic safety and guidance information about planned and unplanned events, the sign stands as a reminder that the Holiday season is upon us. Although we might be feeling charitable this season, local leaders remind everyone they should give wisely.

“You work hard for your money, and you have a big heart for others who may be struggling – especially during this holiday season. However, you would not drive down the highway throwing your hard-earned money out of the window,” said Sheriff Michelle Cook.

County officials, including the sheriff’s office, county commission, county manager, Green Cove Springs and Orange Park police departments, want to remind residents to use the same vigilance when making a charitable donation.

“Giving wisely to reputable charities in Clay County can impact more than just one person,” Cook said.

Here is a list of many of the county’s top charitable organizations:

www.claytodayonline.com/stories/contact-information-for-clay-county-non-profit-organizations,16910. You also can find this list on claytodayonline.com.

A recent interpretation of existing law has resulted in widespread panhandling in major intersections. While some of these groups may use the money as you intended, it is nearly impossible to verify an organization while waiting for a red light to change to green, CCSO wrote on its social media pages. The agency said to watch out for charities with names that sound similar to well-known, reputable organizations. Sometimes these sound-alike names are simply intended to confuse donors.

Panhandlers like to work busy intersections or in parking lots of big stores. They generally have predictable stories: disabled veteran, homeless or a sick child or spouse. Some will play instruments (music actually is coming from a CD player) to



Law enforcement agencies, including Clay County Sheriff Michelle Cook, reminded residents that giving money is a critical part of a community’s health, but everyone should be weary of those who try to manipulate your generosity. This panhandler wasn’t detoured, despite working 50 yards from a roadway traffic sign warning not to throw money out the window.



solicit sympathy – and your dollars. Other groups walk between lanes of traffic with buckets asking for donations without a clear explanation of their missions.

Cook warns that desperate pleas don’t always happen in your car. They can come in the form of cellphone calls or emails.

Therefore, she said to avoid clicking on links to charities on unfamiliar websites or in texts or emails. Don’t give them personal financial information or click on something from an unknown source, as it might download harmful malware onto your computer.

There is no need to give on the spot. If you are solicited for a donation at your home, workplace, by phone, or while in your car, CCSO asks you to give wisely. If you are solicited or if you feel pressured or uncomfortable, just say, “no, thank you” or you can point individuals to resources in the community that can properly help

them.

Do not pay in cash. If you want to help, you can give care packages with much-needed items such as socks – this is the No. 1 most asked-for item – gloves, water bottles, bandages, wet wipes, toothbrush, toothpaste, sunscreen and nonperishable food. You can also include gift cards to local grocery stores.

“We know that our residents care about our community and want to help out their neighbors in need when they can,” said County Commissioner Chairwoman Betsy Condon. “Your compassion and generosity are just one of the many reasons why Clay County is such a wonderful place to live. There are a number of organizations in Clay County that work hard to help as many people as possible, and our staff can help point you in the right direction.”

To find a list of all nonprofits in the area, visit “Contact information for Clay County non-profit organizations” on the Clay Today website. If you are looking to donate to a homeless shelter in Clay County, you can do so by visiting the Vineyard Transitional Center’s website or contacting Father John Sanders at (904) 305-4641 or emailing him at thevineyard@claycountyhomelessshelter.com. The Vineyard serves as a haven for individuals who seek to rebuild their lives through the provision of essential programs which foster self-sufficiency.

Mercy Support Services, Quigley House, The Way Medical Clinic, J.P. Hall Children’s Charities, American Red Cross, Salvation Army of Clay County, food pantries in Green Cove Springs, Keystone Heights, Orange Park and Middleburg, BASCA, AMIkids Clay County, Special Olympics, Concert on the Green, Glamour Theatre Company, Clay Behavioral Health Center, Clay County 4-H, Habitat for Humanity, Pace Center for Girls, Mission of the Dirt Road, Lake Area Ministries, Waste Not Want Not and Kids First Florida are just a few outstanding organizations that will turn your dollars into results.

Officials said, by all means, please continue to give to meaningful charities that are doing great work in the community and throughout the world. But don’t throw your money out the window. There are more meaningful ways to donate.

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PHOTOS BY BAPTIST CLAY FOR CLAY TODAY



Baby Waylon first to be born at Baptist Medical Center Clay

FLEMING ISLAND – Baptist Medical Center Clay passed another significant landmark on Dec. 20 when Waylon became the first child delivered in the maternity ward. Waylon weighed 7 pounds, 9.7 ounces, and both he and his mother, Savannah, were doing fine. Savannah, a first-time mother, read the Bible verse James 1:17 – “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change” —following his birth.

Community Briefs

Soil and Water Conservation to swear in new board of supervisors on Jan. 13

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The Clay County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors will swear in new members on Friday, Jan. 13 and 10 a.m. The ceremony will take place at the UF/IFAS Clay Extension Center at 2463 State Road 16 West. The meeting will be at the Godbold Annex to the west of the Extension Center. It will start with the swearing-in ceremony and reception, followed by organizational and regular meetings.

County's Management team to speak at Chamber's Lunch and Learn

ORANGE PARK – Residents and Clay Chamber members are urged to meet the Clay County Assistant County Management Team on Jan. 19 at 11:30 a.m. at Haven-Custead Hospice Care Center at 745 Blanding Blvd. The event is sponsored by SouthState Bank.

Selected by County Manager Howard Wannamaker, ACM team members include Assistant County Manager Chereese Stewart, Deputy Director of Emergency Management Troy Nagle, Assistant County Manager Charlie Latham and Acting Fire Chief David Motes. They work daily with the county manager to implement and execute the policies, ordinances, and budgets adopted by the Board of County Commissioners and oversee the management and operations of Clay County. During the panel discussion, they will share vital information on their jobs, the development of their new ACM roles, and their duties and responsibilities. Made up of 644 square miles, Clay County is home to more than 219,000 residents and 1,400 people are employed by the county. To register for the event, visit claycountychamberofcommerce.growthzoneapp.com.

Fleming Island Garden Club offers Environmental Studies Scholarship

FLEMING ISLAND – The Garden Club of Fleming Island wishes to assist a gradu-

ating student of Fleming Island High who plans on pursuing a career in environmental studies, forestry, horticulture, agriculture, marine sciences or a related field a \$500 scholarship.

The graduating student must have at least a 3.0 GPA and have chosen a college to attend. Interested students should contact their guidance counselor for the application form. The deadline is April 15.

Shred For Good: Challenge Enterprises offers shredding drop-off

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Shred for Good hosts Residential Shred Drop-Off events for the benefit of individuals that don't have an ongoing need for regular shredding service. During the drop-off events every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon, participants may deposit their sensitive documents in secure and locked bins at 3530 Enterprise Way in Green Cove Springs. The bins are then securely transported to the Shred for Good facility, where it is destroyed.

After a six-month shutdown for the pandemic, Shred for Good rolled out a rebooted Residential Shred Drop Off Program in October 2020. On the first day, 92 households were able to destroy 5,116 pounds of sensitive materials in just two hours. Each one of these events is focused on convenience for the consumer and streamlined processes for the staff.

Residential consumers now follow the signs to the drop zone, complete a short form, donate and drive away without ever having to leave their vehicle. To save even more time, both the form and donation have been made available in advance online.

The average household drops off about 55 pounds and donates \$14 a visit. Considering that most drop-off shred sites charge more than \$.50 a pound; the Shred for Good's Residential Shred Drop-Off Program at \$.26/pound is a cost-effective alternative for the community it serves.

Business and Commercial Customers please call (904) 252-9786 to schedule a pickup using one of our secure bins.

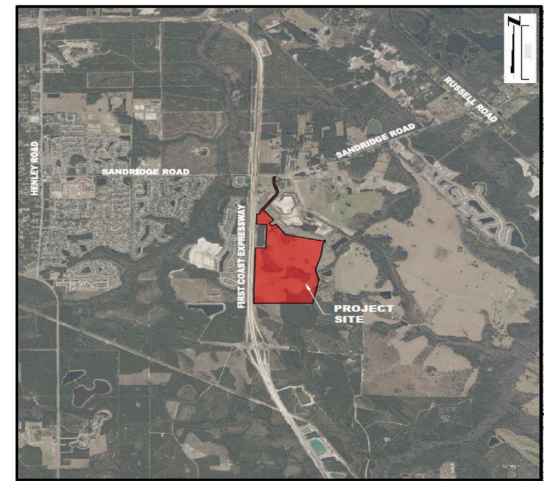
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Clay County Board of County Commissioners To Consider a Petition to Establish Lakes at Bella Lago Community Development District

DATE: January 24, 2023

TIME: 5:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard

LOCATION: Clay County Administration Building
BCC Meeting Room, Fourth Floor
477 Houston Street
Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043

In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 190, Florida Statutes, a public hearing will be held by the Clay County Board of County Commissioners on the 24th day of January, 2023, at 5:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard at the BCC Meeting Room, Fourth Floor, Clay County Administration Building, 477 Houston Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043, to consider a petition to establish the Lakes at Bella Lago Community Development District. The proposed Lakes at Bella Lago Community Development District is comprised of 254.16 acres, generally located south of Sandridge Road, east of First Coast Expressway and west of Feed Mill Road in Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043. The petitioner has proposed to establish the Lakes at Bella Lago Community Development District to plan, finance, acquire, construct, operate and maintain infrastructure and community facilities which may be authorized by such district under Florida law, including but not limited to: stormwater management system, roadway improvements, water and sewer systems, landscaping and signage, amenities and other infrastructure.



A copy of the petition is open to public inspection at the Clay County Attorney's Office, 2nd Floor, Clay County Administration Building, 477 Houston Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043, (904) 269-6377.

All interested persons and affected units of general-purpose government shall be given an opportunity to appear at the hearing and present oral or written comments on the petition. Any persons or affected unit of general-purpose local government, who wish to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at this public hearing will need a record of the proceedings. For that purpose, the person or unit of general-purpose local government may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made that includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

NOTICE TO PERSONS NEEDING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS AND TO ALL HEARING-IMPAIRED PERSONS: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing special accommodations or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the County's ADA Coordinator by mail at Post Office Box 1366, Green Cove Springs, Florida, 32043 or by telephone at (904) 278-4719 no later than three (3) days prior to the hearing or proceeding for which this notice has been given. Hearing impaired persons, please call the Florida Relay Service (1 800 955 8770), no later than five (5) days prior to the meeting.

Family relinquishes Emmitt's Auto Repair, but wheels will keep turning at shop

By Lee Wardlaw
lee@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The sign outside of Emmitt's Auto Repair on U.S. Highway 17 tells motorists the shop is on vacation. The iconic automobile repair shop specializing in brakes, steering and suspension set to reopen on Jan. 3.

But for the first time in 50 years – 22 of them north of city limits, it will be in the hands of a new owner.

During a more than half-century run in Duval and Clay counties, Emmitt's saw a blessed time of business and family-friendly service to customers at the shop, with the Rigsby's establishing a business model like no other during their time in North Florida.

With Teresa Rigsby heading into retirement, she decided to turn the business over to somebody else. Leaving a legacy that took generations to build, however, won't be easy.

Following the passing of her husband, Teresa not only had to run the store's finances but she was thrust into a general manager's role, as well.

She now will wade through a day-by-day

healing process while continuing to spend valuable time with her grandchildren.

"One day at a time, and my grandkids," she said.

It will be up to the new owner to maintain a standard that took decades to build.

The reputation that founder Emmitt Rigsby, who then passed the torch to his son, Matthew, established was that of hard work, toughness and a belief in getting the job done at all costs.

When mechanic Matthew Rigsby died on Aug. 3, 2020, the county not only lost a great mechanic but a larger-than-life figure in the community whose memory will forever be remembered.

He served as the lifeblood of the auto repair shop; his personality shone through at all moments. He was good at fixing a vehicle, and regardless of the circumstances, he always was honest about the status of their ride – all while finding a way to allow his plain-cut, and brutally honest, personality to shine through.

"It was his way, or no way," Teresa Rigsby, his late wife, said laughingly.

Hundreds of residents have walked inside the doors of the auto shop. One of



The sign outside of Emmitt's Auto Repair at 3150 U.S. Highway 17 in Green Cove Springs reads on "vacation," and set to reopen on Jan. 3. What it doesn't say is after 50 years of being run by the Rigsby family – 22 of them in Clay County, the iconic business will be in the hands of a new owner.



Longtime mechanic John Holmes (left) is joined by former owner Teresa Rigsby and mechanic Rick Santillo on the final day before Rigsby would turn the business over to a new owner. Holmes and Santillo have combined to offer service for more than 37 years.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TERESA RIGSBY

The large memoir of the late Matthew Rigsby formerly hung within the walls of Emmitt's Auto Repair following his death in 2020, but has now moved to the beautiful home of Teresa and Matthew in Green Cove Springs. The collection is a real-life representation of the impact that the mechanic provided on his community.

the longtime customers has been the Clay County Sheriff's Office, which gets all of its regularly-scheduled alignments completed there.

Customers came from all over Florida and out of state, Teresa said. Emmitt drew such a cult following that one resident who moved to Louisiana would make the trip back to have his car serviced at Emmitt's.

"Matt was very knowledgeable. He knew everything going on in that shop. He touched every vehicle and made sure it was right when it went out of the driveway," she said. "(The community) believed in him."

Residents have trusted in Rigsby's auto advice, but it was a phenomenon that went much deeper than having a clean set of wheels on the road.

"My husband was tough, and he ran a tight ship. But everyone came to him for advice, and everything that he said was like liquid gold. Customers would just come and pour out their hearts to him, and he would take the time to talk to them. They would come to him for everything, even family issues.

They appreciated his boldness. They

knew where he stood, and they liked it," Rigsby said.

New ownership will have the benefit of keeping two of Emmitt's top mechanics. Lead technician Rick Santillo and mechanic John Holmes will be retained as the company moves into a new era of providing fast, friendly and loyal customer service. Between the two, they have worked for more than 37 years at Emmitt's.

Teresa said one of the conditions of the sale was each of her full-time employees would be retained.

"I made sure that my guys were guaranteed jobs. And I guarantee you the (new owner) wanted them," Teresa said. "I want all of my people to know that Rick and John will still be there. They have that level of trust in those guys."

Teresa had a final message for her family's loyal customers, saying:

"I just want to thank you on behalf of my father-in-law, husband and the whole family. I want to thank you for all of these years of coming to us. I just want to reach out and touch them, and ease their mind. Give the other company a chance since my guys are staying there."

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Farah & Farah Offers Free Uber, Cab Rides on New Year's Eve

Offer includes Southern Social Whiskey Bar & Lounge in Middleburg

For Clay Today

MIDDLEBURG – Farah & Farah, a leading personal injury law firm in Jacksonville and Orange Park, is doing their part to make sure you get home safely after raising a glass of bubbly to celebrate the new year.

The law firm announced its return of Safe Ride Home Program by offering thousands of free Uber and taxi rides for the eighth annual New Year's Eve Safe Rides from selected clubs, including Southern Social Whiskey Bar & Lounge in Middleburg.

Holiday partygoers in the Middleburg and Fleming Island area can count on Farah & Farah for a free ride to and from their celebrations via a \$50 Uber credit or a cab ride up to 30 miles from the rider's pick-up location with participating taxi services, zTrip and Clean Taxi.

Last year, the firm gave away \$50,000 in free rides, ensuring nearly 7,000 safe drivers behind the wheel.

"Throughout our time practicing per-

sonal injury law, we have seen countless accidents on the roadways," said Chuck Farah, senior partner at Farah & Farah. "This is why we worked to create an initiative to ensure people get home safely after celebrating the New Year."

Data from the National Safety Council shows that the national average of crashes on New Year's Day is 11.6% higher than in other holiday periods.

Southern Social is located at 2223 County Road 220 in the Silos Shoppes complex.

Safe Rides credit will be available starting at 8 p.m. on New Year's Eve until 4 a.m. on Sunday.

Residents are encouraged to claim their free ride and to share this opportunity to get home safe and sound with their local friends and family.

Other bars in the program include Perfect Rack Billiards, Birdies Bar, Hoptinger 5 Points and The Walrus, all in Jacksonville.

For more information about Farah & Farah's NYE Safe Rides and access to a detailed map of the area in which the promotion is valid, please visit FarahandFarah.com/NYE.

GCSPD to rename police headquarters to honor Derek Asdot

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The public is invited to the unveiling of the city's police department building to honor former Chief Derek Asdot on Jan. 5 at 10 a.m.

The police department building will be renamed in Asdot's name.

Former and current members of the city council, as well as mem-

bers of the Green Cove Springs Police Department, will participate to honor their chief who died of COVID-19 in 2021.

Asdot was a U.S. Army veteran who joined GCSPD in 2002. Asdot ascended through the ranks and became Chief of Police in 2017. The Chief was a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the Southern Police Institute. He is the only city police officer to die in the line of duty.

For any questions please contact City of Green Cove Springs Public Information Officer Tiffanie Kelly at (904) 295-9471 or at tkelly@greenovesprings.com.



Derek Asdot



Faith Walk

by Christina Register
True Life Church
Clay County

New Year's Resolutions

Christmas is over. Whew! If you're a mom like me, it is sometimes overwhelming. Now with Christmas behind us and with the New Year 2023 fast approaching, many of us take aim at our New Year's Resolutions. Yes, most of us do

it! That saying that goes along with every bite of holiday goodness, "After the holidays I will do better." In addition to self-improvement goals, there are all the things we want to do.

For some it is organizing our environments. For others it's learning a new language. For many it's spending more time with family and less time on devices. If you think about your resolutions over the years, I think you will find that many of us have broken these promises.

There is some encouraging news here, even though we have trouble being faithful with our "New Year's Resolutions", there is a God who is ALWAYS faithful to the commitments he makes.

God made a promise to Abraham, and his sons Isaac and Jacob that their descendants would multiply. Genesis 15:5 says, "Look up at the sky and count the stars - So shall your offspring be." The fulfillment of that promise had begun as we see in Genesis 46:27 where it says, "the members of Jacob's family, which went to Egypt, were seventy in all."

God is not surprised when we don't keep our promises because he knows we are human. That is why he sent his Son Jesus to earth. He knew we would never be perfect enough, so he sent One who was.

I love looking at the promises of God. Deuteronomy 31:8 says, "Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord will person-

ally go ahead of you. He will be with you; he will neither fail you nor abandon you." Then in 2 Corinthians 12:9 it says, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." It is amazing to think that God will never leave us and be strong for us when we aren't.

As 2023 approaches and you think of everything on your list that you would like to do, don't forget the One who is faithful to keep all His promises not only in this new year, but every year thereafter. Have a healthy, blessed, and prosperous 2023!

You can write Christina at info@find-truelife.com.

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Players elevate their skills at Hard Core Academy

Investments often rewarded with scholarships, better opportunities

By Lee Wardlaw
lee@claytodayonline.com

CLAY HILL – The pop of the mitt. The ping of the bat. Whether it's youth league, middle school, or high school in Clay County, hot dogs on the grill, United States-themed pennants ordained on the outfield wall, and parents, family and friends in the stands are bound to be on display.

But whether a prospect is looking to earn a collegiate scholarship or further develop their skills, personally attending to a student-athlete can oftentimes be challenging for coaches, who are tasked with managing 14-player rosters in a short practice session.

Those who truly desire to take their game to the next level must commit extra time, money and resources to reach their desired destination.

That's why Steve Holstine, a current Clay Hill and former Fleming Island resident, founded Hard Core Baseball and Softball Training Academy in 2017, two years after his relocation from Danville, Indiana in 2015.

"God bless the coaches, but you know, when you have 12 to 14 kids and an hour out there and 1 hour, 30 minutes of practice, you do the math. There's not much time to work with each kid to coach and improve them," he said.

"No kid likes to go out and fail, and the parent wants them to go and succeed, too, and sometimes, they don't necessarily know how to go help them. They can get frustrated, and sometimes, it can even create friction in the relationship between the parent and the child. So, having said all of that, I've seen a need to provide a service

that would give them an affordable opportunity to get their kids the training that they need," Holstine said.

Steve, a former high school baseball star in the Midwest, found a burning passion for the game when he was young. Since then, it's a spirit that has latched on inside of him – a spirit that he likely will never let go.

Holstine has now been coaching for more than 20 years.

The loving father and man of faith always wanted to continue coaching, but he didn't realize the true possibility that he could kickstart his very own fully operational baseball (and softball) skills training academy until he moved to sunny Florida.

"Growing up in the north, it's a totally different culture. In Florida, it's year-round

SEE ACADEMY, 25



Rockin' the Crocs: a softball player participates in an ever-dedicated hitting session while rocking a comfortable look. Who says one can't be fun and serious at the same time?

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, Dec. 27

Michael T. Kauffmann, 41, Middleburg, DWLSR

Wayne H. Gray, 32, Middleburg, trespassing

Steven J. Dick, 53, Middleburg, DUI

Christopher E. Shiver, 32, Fleming Island, battery

Michael V. Moreland, 21, Keystone Heights, leaving scene of accident with property damage

Cyrstal L. Fields, 26, Orange Park, possession-drug paraphernalia

Aaron L. Carter, 28, Orange Park, possession-drug paraphernalia

Timothy Mohamed, 42, Green Cove Springs, violation of injunction for protection against domestic violence

Brandie M. Peek, 41, Orange Park., VOP-possession-fentanyl, three counts VOP-grand theft

Richard L. Brenner, 38, Orange Park, vandalism

Monday, Dec. 26

Robert A. Talmo, 40, Middleburg, two counts domestic battery

Anthony M. Juliana, 42, Orange Park, DUI

Sunday, Dec. 25

Kenneth P. Blair, 78, VOP-community control

Deborah S. Wills, 54, Orange Park, domestic battery

Hakan Akbulat, 41, Middleburg, battery on law enforcement/firefighter/EMT

Gerald A. Barnes, 54, Orange Park, FTA

Saturday, Dec. 24

Amanda L. Long, 34, Orange Park, battery on law enforcement/firefighter/EMT, battery

Jacqueline D. Askew, Oakleaf, 37, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement, attempting to flee/elude law enforcement at high speed, DWLSR

Donald R. Westberry, 42, Middleburg, domestic battery

Nathan A. Bevan, 36, Keystone Heights, DWLSR

Kevin S. Weyland, 51, Middleburg, domestic battery

Rodney J. Puckett, 37, Middleburg, FTA

Morgan J. Kelly, 31, Green Cove Springs, domestic battery

David R. Starvaggi, 22, Green Cove Springs, aggravated assault with deadly weapon, possession-ammo/firearm by convicted felon

Friday, Dec. 23

Kadeem L. Shazel-Moten, 32, Oakleaf, possession-marijuana

Gary C. Chapman, 44, Fleming Island, shoplifting

Osorio V.J. Esneider, 36, Orange Park, trespassing

Frank J.D. Williams, 32, Fleming Island, petit theft

Kenneth P. Johnson, 53, Green Cove Springs, battery

Thursday, Dec. 22

Deborah D. Hatcher, 51, Middleburg, possession-controlled substance, DWLSR

Grady T. Murray, 44, Orange Park, shoplifting, possession-drug paraphernalia, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement, resisting arrest during commission of recovery of property

Ronald G. Thacker, 39, Green Cove Springs, domestic battery

Clayton D. Gill, 21, Green Cove Springs, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement, DWLSR, giving false name/ID

Devon C. Justice, 29, Middleburg, possession-methamphetamine, trafficking-fentanyl, possession-marijuana, possession-hydromorphone, possession-clonazepam, possession-alprazolam, trafficking-cocaine, trafficking-morphine, trafficking-fentanyl, two counts trafficking-methamphetamine

Kimberly S. Quinn, 24, Middleburg, contempt of court

Jennifer L. Gsell-Daniels, 39, Green Cove Springs, FTA

Brandon D. Justice, 28, Middleburg, possession-methamphetamine

Nicholas S. Barnhardt, 54, Starke, video voyeurism

John D. Powell, 56, Orange Park, burglary

Juan J.C. Rivera, 22, Oakleaf, driving without valid license

Ashley R. German, 30, Orange Park, possession-cocaine, possession-drug paraphernalia

Sonya J. Giles, 51, Middleburg, possession-methamphetamine, possession-drug paraphernalia

Dessa M. Stockman, 31, Middleburg, FTA-DWLSR

Dwayne D. Padgett, 38, Green Cove Springs, violation of pretrial release conditions against domestic violence

Wednesday, Dec. 21

Timothy R. Griffin, 43, Orange Park, tampering with electronic device, violation of pretrial release conditions for domestic violence

David D. Mack, 56, Middleburg, four counts show/sell/rent/loan/give away/distribute, three counts selling/giving/serving minor alcohol, use of two-way communication device to facilitate a felony

Anthony Godsey, 65, Fleming Island, shoplifting

Brooke N. Pawloski, 27, Orange Par. VOP-trespassing

Patricia G. Yarbrough, 64, Middleburg, shoplifting

Horace L. James, 52, Orange Park, trafficking-fentanyl within 1,000 feet of school in session, sale/delivery-methamphetamine within 1,000 feet of school, selling-crack cocaine within 1,000 feet of school

Kristen M. Merchant, 31, Green Cove Springs, trafficking/delivering-opium

Scott G. Ballou, 34, Keystone Heights, trespassing

India M. Johns, 24, Keystone Heights, possession-marijuana, possession-drug paraphernalia

Robert A. Talmo, 40, Orange Park, leaving scene of accident with property damage, DWLSR

Stop for outstanding drug warrant leads to additional trafficking charges

ORANGE PARK – The Clay County Sheriff's Office stopped a man in the Pine Tree Plaza parking lot on Blanding Boulevard for an outstanding drug warrant, and in the process, they uncovered an additional 4.56 grams of fentanyl and 1.91 grams of cocaine.

Horace Lee James, 52, of Jacksonville, now faces charges of trafficking fentanyl, and possession of cocaine with intent to sell, as well as the outstanding charges for trafficking opium and selling methamphetamine and cocaine.

According to the arrest report, when deputies removed James from his car on Dec. 22, they saw a "rock like substance" which later tested for being cocaine in a plastic bag in the driver's side door handle. Inside the bag, they also found fentanyl.

James' next court appearance is scheduled for Jan. 24. Until then, he will remain in the Clay County Jail with a \$325,006 bond.

Cowboy Mounted Shooting Championship Takes Aim at fairgrounds



More than 200 cowboys will be at the Clay County Fairgrounds for the annual Cowboy Shooting Championship. Riders are judged by their skills with a horse and firearm.

By **Kylie Cordell**
For *Clay Today*

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Nearly 200 riders in old-style western regalia and a pair of six-shooter holsters competing for the title of Cowboy Mounted Shooting State Champion in the Cattleman's Arena on Friday, Dec. 30, starting at 8 a.m.

The competition will proceed with the 4th Annual Warmer Winter Pastures, New Year's Double Shoot-out, starting on Saturday, Dec. 31. The competition will end on New Year's Day.

Mounted contestants compete in this fast-action timed event using two .45 caliber single-action revolvers, each loaded with five rounds of specially prepared blank ammunition.

"Live rounds are strictly prohibited at competitions," said Florida Peacemakers CMS Club President Nelson Riollano.

"The guns have been remodeled and modernized for safety reasons. The bullet, I will call it a bullet, is really just a shell casing stuffed with black powder. The blast of black powder extends about 15-18 feet,"

he said.

The closest target to the perimeter of the fence cannot be closer than 21 feet, so spectators don't have to worry about flying bullets.

"It's based on historical reenactments at Wild West shows in the late 19th Century," Riollano said. Although firearms have been modified for safety reasons, the models used must be before 1888.

Contestants must complete a course marked by orange traffic cones. On top of each cone is a balloon. The objective is to shoot ten balloon targets while riding through various challenging courses. It's a timed sport. The competitor who rides the fastest with the least amount of missed targets wins.

"There are about 80 patterns; some take longer to maneuver, so even the fastest competitors are running it any 18 or 20 seconds," said Riollano.

Unlike most equestrian sports, Cowboy Mounted Shooting combines both horsemanship and marksmanship.

"You have to be able to stay on the

horse. That is a sport in itself. Then you add the marksmanship," Riollano said. "You can have a really fast horse, but if you can't keep up with the shots, it doesn't do you any good."

If a contestant misses a balloon, five seconds are added to the total time.

"When you're talking about the upper levels, one-half a stride, one-quarter of a stride between you and your competitor means the difference between a win. You have people that are within three-tenths of a second of one another. That's how close it can be," Riollano said. "Fast and clean gets you to the top of the leaderboard. That's the best you can do."

The championship will be divided into three events throughout the weekend. "Friday is the Florida State Championship. We will run a calvary event, a shotgun event, a rifle event, and the main match where everyone shoots pistols across all levels – men's, women's, even the wranglers (for ages 11 and younger)," Riollano said. "Saturday is an all-day competition. It

SEE COWBOY, 26

Academy

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play whenever the weather permits it. There's an on-season and an off-season," Holstine said.

Warm, sunny weather in Clay certainly wasn't the only reason that he performed the undertaking upon arriving on Fleming Island from his old home that was more than 900 miles away.

But when Holstine first set foot in the state, he quickly realized the sizable, and advantageous, set of differences that the beautiful year-round weather in the county could provide in his climb to conquer his personal coaching mountain, a mission mainly focused around the kids whom he seeks to make a positive and lasting impact upon.

"I'm just a man of faith, and I don't push my views onto people, but it's just part of who I am, and my values reflect that. I just try to inspire them with that and impact them with that," he said.

Steve said that he was also a former youth pastor at a large church in Illinois, working diligently to aid in character and leadership development.

Fast forward one-half decade later after Hard Core Academy opened, and he's already trained more than 1,500 players, many of which would leave the county to reach greater heights by becoming part of the select 7.5% of high school student-athletes who go on to the next level to play at Division 1, 2, or 3 schools.

However, the dedicated coach and family man isn't one for the limelight, as Holstine admittedly doesn't keep official tabs on who went where.

It might be hard to remember, anyway.

Holstine has mentored many elementary, middle school and high school student-athletes from kindergarten through 12th grade from Clay. Steve estimates that 70% come from within county lines, the other 30% that he said hail from other areas of the Sunshine State and outside of the Florida border, some being as far away as Georgia, South Florida and beyond.

Many of those players stumble across Hard Core Academy while on vacation or when simply passing through the area.

Hard Core Academy formerly operated on County Road 220 in Fleming Island, but after moving to the Middleburg-Clay Hill area in 2021, the coach opened a new facility in his backyard. The set-up is complete with a large barn for catching, pitching and hitting practice. It also has a large, field-like backyard.

The facility serves as a sort of a safe haven for amateur players of all ages, who can compete and shoot for the stars while having fun while participating in the game that they love.

A myriad of services is offered at the academy, most of which can be scheduled for 50-minute sessions. Several options are available, including hitting, fielding, throwing, catching, or the combination of two skills, such as hitting and throwing, hitting and fielding, fielding and throwing, or catching and throwing.

Hard Core Academy is especially known for catcher clinics, with large sessions that draw as many as 40 players. It's something that Steve especially likes to focus on.

"They actually see the field from a totally different perspective, and a lot of these kids are not taught how to properly play the position," he said.

Holstine's son, Joseph, is also making a



PHOTOS COURTESY OF STEVE HOLSTINE

Steve Holstine and his son, Joseph Holstine, who was responsible for running the organization for over one year, while making a name for himself in the ever-competitive coaching industry.

name for himself as a baseball coach. He ran the operation for more than a year during a time when Steve was extremely busy with his 9-5 job.

To access a full list of rates or schedule an appointment, please visit Hard Core Academy's website at <https://Hard>

[Coreacademy.schedulista.com/](https://www.facebook.com/HardCoreCatching), Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/HardCoreCatching>, give Holstine a call at (904) 602-8777, or send him an email at steveholstine@cbvfl.com. The academy's address is 5622 Canvasback Road in Clay Hill.

At long last ...

Grumpy's set to reopen on Monday morning at 5:30

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

MIDDLEBURG – Dell Hoard Jr. has been hurrying up and waiting for nearly a year. Months of frustration, anticipation and hard work will finally come to an end on Monday morning when Grumpy's Restaurant will reopen near Branan Field.

Instead of dealing with delays caused by the pandemic, labor shortages, supply chain slowdowns and red tape, Hoard now has to deal with more familiar issues like making sure there are enough sugar packets on the table, dishes on the line and coffee to keep their customers happy.

"It's starting to look like the old Grumpy's again," Hoard said.

Fire ripped through the popular eatery on Jan. 19. The cause was determined to be an electrical issue in a wall near the dishwashing station. The restaurant closes after lunch, so nobody was inside when Fire Rescue was called shortly after 8 p.m.

From the start, Hoard, along with his

parents and wife, Courtney, started facing roadblocks. Plans to reopen in spring-time were pushed back to early fall. Then Thanksgiving. Then Christmas.

"We will be open on Monday (Jan. 2)," Hoard Jr. said. "We definitely planned on opening a couple of months ago. It's really difficult when things are out of your control. "We were naïve at the beginning. We were thinking (of reopening in) May, June, July – at the latest. We didn't understand the significance, the fact it was going to be a total loss."

The Hoards resisted the temptation to make changes to their 1805 Blanding Boulevard. Not only did they not expand, they replicated the décor to make sure diners won't notice a difference.

"The store is going to be the store. We love the location," he said. "This is the space that we have. We're going to keep on doing what we did prior, make sure we stay on our game."

Most important, he said, is there were



Dell Hoard Jr. was excited when Grumpy's Restaurant originally opened in 2020. After a fire closed the store for rebuilding, he's just as excited for a grand reopening on Jan. 2

no changes made to the menu or service.

Of the 43 original employees, Hoard said 29 decided to return.

"It's tough when you're waiting around

a full year," he said. "A few had to move on."

The restaurant will open at 5:30 a.m.



STAFF PHOTO BY RANDY LEFKO

Cowboys will be rootin' and shootin' at the Clay County Fairgrounds this weekend for the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Championship.

MARK J. BLIGE: will play a pre-New Year's Eve Celebration concert on Dec. 29 at the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena. For tickets, which start at 69.50, visit ticketmaster.com.

CHALLENGE ENTERPRISES: will host its Food for Clay Free Distribution on Dec. 30 at Challenge Enterprise, 3530 Enterprise Way in Green Cove Springs. Food is available for all Clay County residents from 10-11 a.m. for more information, call (904) 284-9859 or visit facebook.com/forclaycounty.

CHALLENGE ENTERPRISES: will host its Shred for Good Residential Drop-off event on Jan. 3 from 10 a.m.-noon at Chal-

lenge Enterprises warehouse, 3530 Enterprise Way in Green Cove Springs. Donations are accepted. For more information, visit www.challengeenterprises.or/shred-for-good-residential-shred-drop-off-reboot, or call (904) 284-9859.

ORANGE PARK ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: will meet on Jan. 5 at Orange Park Town Hall, 2042 Park Ave.

CLAY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE: will meet on Jan. 5 at 10 a.m. in the Zoning Department Conference Room, third floor of the Administration Building, 477 Houston St. in Green

Cowboy

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goes from 8:30 a.m., and we try to wrap up around 8 p.m. Sunday begins at 9 a.m."

Competitors are broken up into six skill levels. Competitors advance by winning a specific number of competitions at each level, beginners being level one and the most experienced being level six. "We have Women's 1-6 and Men's 1-6, but anyone over 50 can qualify for seniors 1-6," said Riollano.

"Every level just gets a little bit faster and faster, so it really is thrilling to watch the progression. It builds up the excitement."

There will be a winner in each of those categories. Champions then advance to the main event for cash prizes.

"There will be food trucks, vendors and a gunsmith on the property, as well," Riollano said. You don't need to be a horse

enthusiast to get caught up in the lure and attraction of the sport of Cowboy Mounted Shooting.

The Florida Peacemakers encourage guests and spectators to attend. "The announcers are really good about explaining the event, so if you know nothing about the sport, they usually try to do some coaching between the runs."

Parking and admission at the Clay County Fairgrounds are free for this family-friendly old-west exhibition. The fairground is located at 2497 State Road 16.

"It's open to the public. Parking is right in front of the main arena. People are super welcoming, so if you have any questions, just ask. People are happy to tell you what's going on," Riollano said.

For more information about Florida Peacemaker's Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association, visit www.flpeacemakers.com.

Cove Springs.

ELVIS IN CONCERT: THE STORY OF THE KING: will be on Jan. 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the Thrasher-Horne Center, 283 College Dr. in Orange Park. For tickets, visit thcenter.org.

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: will conduct a public workshop on Jan. 6 from 1-3 p.m. in the BCC Meeting Room at the Administration Building, fourth floor, 477 Houston St. in Green Cove Springs. Residents are encouraged to provide suggestions for legislative priorities.

CHALLENGE ENTERPRISES: will host

its Food for Clay Free Distribution on Jan. 6 at Challenge Enterprise, 3530 Enterprise Way in Green Cove Springs. Food is available for all Clay County residents from 10-11 a.m. for more information, call (904) 284-9859 or visit facebook.com/forclaycounty.

ORANGE PARK FARMERS AND ARTS MARKET: will be on Jan. 8 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Orange Park Town Hall, 2042 Park Ave.

ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE: musical will be on Jan. 8, 2023, at 6 p.m. at the Thrasher-Horne Center, 283 College Dr., Orange Park. For tickets, which start at \$29, visit thcenter.org or call (904) 276-6815.

TODAY'S Sports

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STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Oakleaf High School baseball player Evan Walker takes a swing at incoming baseball pitch as part of Home Run Derby sponsored by St. Johns Country Day School as part of a fundraiser for Oakleaf High baseball player Isaiah Carrasco, who is recovering from a horrific car accident in June. Carrasco, 18, is currently in New Orleans getting medical therapy to speed his recovery.

Friends go 'Yard' for Isaiah

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

ORANGE PARK - In a small gesture of friendship that became an event of celebration for an area baseball athlete, the St. Johns Country Day School athletic community staged a Home Run Derby on Sat., Dec. 17 as a fundraiser for an Oakleaf area baseball player, Isaiah Carrasco.

According to St. Johns Country Day School senior soccer player Lauren Mateo, a childhood friend for most of her life and a neighbor, the tragedy of Carrasco's plight from the car wreck inspired her to do something for her friend in response to his condition.

"This past year or two, I have not been as close to him as I think I've should," said Mateo, whose mother Rachel organized the Home Run Derby at St. Johns. "He played baseball at Oakleaf; just a great kid."

On June 12, 2022, Carrasco, 17, an

Oakleaf High School senior baseball player, was involved in a car accident that has left Carrasco in critical condition, surviving coma relapses, but, according to family and friends, not diluting his will to return to baseball.

"I don't know much about the accident, but I do know that it was really really bad," said Mateo. "I was at a soccer camp when my mom called me to tell me."

Carrasco, also a player for the Storm Baseball of Florida, was in New Orleans undertaking some testing and therapy attempts to reconnect his ability to speak and communicate via electronic devices.

Holly Breen, also a baseball mom with her son, Charles, a teammate of Isaiah's through years of Little League and age group baseball.

"Charles and Isaiah have been together

SEE HOME RUN, 31

University of Virginia womens soccer

Godfrey piles up on post season awards

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor w excerpts from ncaa.com and virginiasports

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA - University of Virginia junior midfielder Lia Godfrey has been named one of 15 semifinalists for the MAC Hermann Trophy honoring the national Player of the Year it was announced by the United Soccer Coaches and the Missouri Athletic Club on Wednesday (Nov. 30).

Godfrey is a graduate of Fleming Island High School in Orange Park, FL.

On December 10, The three women's finalists were named; Notre Dame sophomore midfielder Korbin Albert (Gray-slake, Ill.), Duke sophomore forward Michelle Cooper (Clarkston, Mich.), and Florida State senior midfielder Jenna Nighswonger (Huntington Beach, Calif.).

The MAC Hermann Trophy is the most coveted individual honor in NCAA

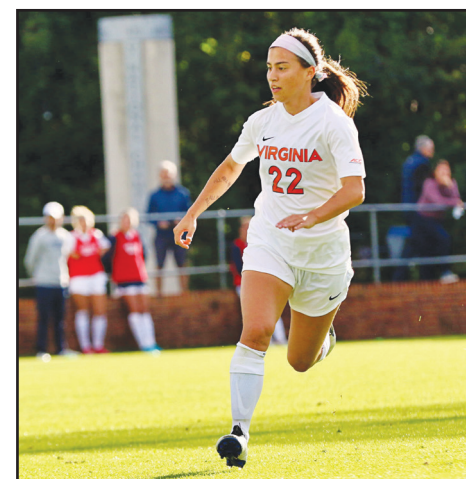


PHOTO BY KRIS WRIGHT/THE SABRE

Fleming Island High graduate Lia Godfrey has been collecting a bucketload of post season honors after a superb soccer season for the University of Virginia. Godfrey led Virginia to an Elite Eight finish with an 2-1 overtime loss to eventual champion UCLA ended the Cavaliers season at 16-3-3. Godfrey had an assist on the Virginia goal.

Division I soccer and has been awarded annually since 1967. The 2022 MAC Hermann Trophy banquet will be held at the

SEE SOCCER, 29



College updates inside

Former Oakleaf High offensive tackle Je'Vionte Nash, who just finished his senior season with the Wake Forest Demon Deacons football team, highlights a jam-packed collection of area athletes in college and heading to college, see inside.

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Abram Wright

FIHS LB Wright heads to Rutgers

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

FLEMING ISLAND - Fleming Island High linebacker Abram Wright became the first Florida football athlete to sign a scholarship to play at Rutgers University in New Jersey as area athletes joined the ranks of early signees in anticipation of the traditional February 5 National Signing Day.

Wright follows another Fleming Island graduate in running back Trey Sneed who is now a top running back at Fordham University after two years as a Scarlet Knight.

Wright, a 6'-2" linebacker under coach Damenyum Springs reportedly had 17 offers to play in college and chose Rutgers as a three-star prospect.

As a recruit, Wright garnered comments from 247 Sports Recruiting Analyst, a nationwide football website dedicated to football recruiting who said "He (Abrams) was 6-foot-2 and some change and 225 pounds back in March. And he ran 4.6 laser [40-yard dash] at a camp, which is super impressive. There are not a lot of guys that size that fast entering their senior year of high school. We list him as a linebacker, but I think he is more of an edge player.'

Bobby Deren, a Scarlet National Senior Writer, a publication dedicated to Rutgers sports, said about Wright "This is a Greg Schiano type linebacker. Wright is hard-hitting, tough and also has good speed. The linebacker position will be a little more crowded than it was last season with Moses Walker and Mohamed Toure returning from injury."

Note: Greg Schiano is Rutgers head football coach.

Deren also noted that "A player of his caliber still has a chance to crack the two-deep, especially with early enrollment. Schiano likes to use linebackers on special teams and that could mean a college debut in the first game of the season for Wright."

On NJ.com, in a story by Todderick Hunt, Wright was listed with a 13 other Rutgers early signees as one of two high-prospect linebackers signed by Rutgers including Washington, PA linebacker Davoun Fuse, a 6'-4", 200 pounder who also played

quarterback and safety.

Wright was noted as a "prototypical linebacker. He's six-two-and-a-half, a sure tackler, he's physical, has speed, can get from sideline-to-sideline and he's a really smart football player. Both should help immediately on special teams and supplant the walk-ons Rutgers rolled out in 2022."



Trey Sneed

Fordham's Sneed rumbles for 139 Yards

Courtesy Fordhamsports.com

DURHAM, NC - Former Fleming Island High running back Trey Sneed, now a graduate student running back at Fordham University, rushed for 139 yards, but the Rams lost their 2022 NCAA FCS championship round one playoff game 52-42 to the University of New Hampshire on November 26.

Fordham finished their season at 9-3.

Sneed, a workhorse ball carrier as he was for Fleming Island, had his second straight 100-plus yard game in the playoff loss and his fifth 100 yard game for the season.

For the season, Fordham scored a school record 594 points to eclipse a 2014 record of 569 points.

Sneed finished with 1192 yards in 12 games with a 5.8 yards per carry average plus five scores. Sneed averaged just over 95 yards per game.

Sneed's best game was a 230 yards effort against Colgate with one touchdown rushing and one via pass. Sneed also had games of 110, 120, 104 and the 139 yard effort in the playoff game.

Armstrong becomes Demon Deacon; follows Nash

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

OAKLEAF - Oakleaf High mammoth offensive tackle Kyland Armstrong will be following the very large footsteps of another Oakleaf High football great as he recently signed his National Letter of Intent to play football for Wake Forest University in North Carolina.

Armstrong, who joins three other offensive line incoming recruits, will join an Demon Deacon offense that has one of the



Fleming Island High senior running back Sam Singleton signed his national letter of intent to join the Florida State University Seminoles football team next fall.



Kyland Armstrong

best offensive schemes utilizing numerous weapons across the board very similar to his Oakleaf High team of 2022 that featured great athletes at quarterback, running back and wide receivers making the offensive line have to be very flexible and fluid as the game progressed to best get the ball downfield.

In his redshirt senior season is Wake Forest tackler Je'Vionte Nash, who played in 51 games in his career; with season games of 8, 12, 9, 9 and 13 in 2022, with nine starts in his junior season before an injury put him on redshirt status.

Nash was staple of strong Demon Deacon offense that finished 8-5 with a recent 27-17 win over Missouri in the Union Home Mortgage Gasparilla Bowl in Tampa.

Wake Forest coach Dave Clawson, on the Demon Deacons senior game in November, noted that Nash "is the only player in the nation that will be going to a seventh bowl game this season. He has played a crucial role in helping build the program to where it is today as a mainstay on the offensive line."

On the GoDeacs.com website, the official website of Wake Forest football, Armstrong was noted as "Anchored an offensive line that helped Oakleaf rush for 1,842 yards (7.1 per carry) and 20 rushing touchdowns over the course of the season



Je'Vionte Nash

... Helped Oakleaf throw for 1,742 yards (174.2 yards per game) ... Team averaged 27.1 points per game during senior season."

From Wake Forest head coach Dave Clawson, Armstrong was noted as "an athletic interior offensive lineman who has elite movement skills for an inside player."

Another offensive lineman signed by Wake Forest was Devin McRae, a 6'-4", 265 athlete from Telfair County HS in McRae, GA.; an All state and 4A All-region player, twice an all stater.

The third offensive lineman signed by Wake Forest is George Steih, a 6'-5", 270 pound monster from Grace Christian Academy in Franklin, TN. Steih was a three year letterman who also played defensive line.

Steih, an All Region selection his junior and senior seasons, anchored Grace Christian Academy's offensive line as they totaled 1,505 passing yards and 824 rushing yards during his senior season ... Tallied a total of 142 tackles, 24 tackles-for-loss, 11.5 sacks, two forced fumbles, one fumble recovery and one blocked field goal on defense over the course of his career.

SJCDS Loustau gets Academic honor

Courtesy of GoPrincetontigers.com

PRINCETON, NJ - Six members of the Princeton University women's soccer team were announced Tuesday as having earned



Kamryn Loustau

Academic All-District recognition from College Sports Communicators, formerly the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Senior Kamryn Loustau, a St. Johns Country Day School graduate and four-time state champion player plus a Gatorade Florida Soccer player of the year in 2019, was one of the six players chosen.

Loustau, a senior defensive player, was a defender and one of the four team captains this season. Loustau was also the lone Tiger on the team to start all 17 games, helping Princeton hold opponents to a 1.35 goals-against average. Loustau is a religion major.

Also chosen for the Academic honor were teammates Grace Sherman and Morgan Wiese, juniors Jen Estes and Aria Nagai, and sophomore Tyler McCamey were Princeton's honorees. Each school was limited to six honorees, with those chosen needing to appear in at least half of the team's games, meet a GPA standard, and be either sophomores, juniors or seniors.

Princeton finished at 9-7-1 to earn their 10th straight winning season to tie the school's record dating back to 1997 to 2006.



Wake Forest's Smenda finishes with 355 tackles

Courtesy of GoDeacs.com

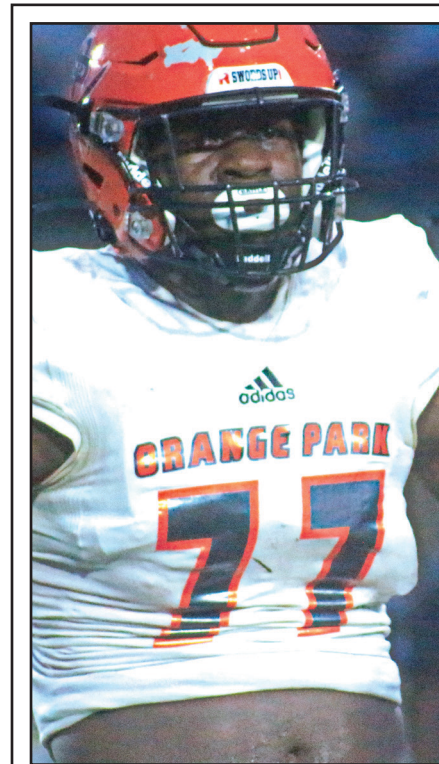
TAMPA – Behind a three-touchdown performance from quarterback Sam Hartman

as he earned MVP honors on Friday night, Wake Forest University defeated South-eastern Conference representative Missouri 27-17 to win the Union Home Mortgage Gasparilla Bowl at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Fla. The win marked Wake Forest's fifth in the last seven years since the Deacs began the Atlantic Coast Conference's second-longest bowl streak back in 2016.

The Demon Deacons defense, led by senior captain linebacker Ryan Smenda, Jr., a Fleming Island High School graduate (Orange Park, FL) forced one Missouri turnover and wreaked havoc in the Tigers backfield with 10 tackles-for-loss as a team. Individually, Smenda, Jr. led Wake Forest with a game-high 11 tackles, his seventh double-digit tackle performance of the season, as he moved into eighth all-time in program history with 355 career tackles.

Wake Forest Head coach Dave Clawson's five bowl victories, which is the most in school history, now ranks tied for fifth in ACC history for postseason wins. Clawson ranks behind Bobby Bowden (Florida State, 11), Dabor Swinney (Clemson, 11), Frank Beamer (Virginia Tech, 6) and Danny Ford (Clemson, 6). Meanwhile, he is now tied with Jimbo Fisher (Florida State, 5) and Ralph Friedgen (Maryland, 5).

The 2022 Wake Forest football team (8-5, 3-5 ACC) is just the 10th in program history to win eight games in a season in the 115-year history of the program. Four of the 10 eight-win seasons have come in the Dave Clawson era (40 percent).



Kearney goes to G-ville

Orange Park senior tackle Roderick Kearney signed his national letter of intent to next play at the University of Florida. Kearney also recently earned an Under Armour All American jersey and invite to play in prestigious Under Armour All American Bowl in Texas.



Sanchez to Mercer

Oakleaf High senior infielder Mariyah Sanchez put her fiery shortstop play to pen with a signature to play at Mercer University in Georgia. Sanchez will join Clay High pitcher Gabrielle Ellis who signed her letter of intent to Mercer earlier. Other Florida signees to Mercer included infielder Megan Loughren of Gaither High in Tampa, utility player Daniella Monaco of Titusville High and catcher Taylor Rogers of Lake Mary.



Soccer

from page 27

historic Missouri Athletic Club in St. Louis on Jan. 6, 2023 to formally announce this year's winners.

Godfrey was selected a semifinalist for the first time and it is the second straight season for the Cavaliers to have a semifinalist for the award as Diana Ordoñez was a semifinalist for the award a year ago. Godfrey is the most recent Virginia player to be a semifinalist for the award, joining program alums Ordoñez (2021) and Alexis Shaffer (2016) as semifinalists. Virginia has also had a finalist for the award in six other seasons, including two-time MAC Hermann Trophy winner Morgan Brian (2013, 2014).

Godfrey earned All-Region first team honors from the United Soccer Coaches for the third consecutive year with her selection this season.

She was a first team All-ACC selection to earn her third straight All-ACC honor this season as she tallied eight goals and five assists on the year. She tied for second on the team in goals with Spaanstra and second in assists with Spaanstra and Hopkins. Godfrey hit three game-winning goals on the year with the winning strikes coming at No. 2 North Carolina, No. 4 Duke and against Xavier in the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

She is a two-time All-America selection and ranks among the top-20 active NCAA Division I players in career assists as a junior and is 12th among all active DI players in assists per game (0.39) for her

career. She helped Virginia advance to the quarterfinal round of the NCAA Tournament for the ninth time as the Cavaliers made a 29th consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance and 35th total appearance as a program this season.

Godfrey became a three-time All-American on Friday (Dec. 2) when she was named a first team All-America selection by the United Soccer Coaches with the release of their annual All-America team.

Godfrey is the only three-time All-America selection in the list of 46 players to receive first, second or third team honors this season.

Virginia posted a 16-4-3 record this season on the way to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Tournament. The Cavaliers advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the 29th consecutive season and 35th time overall. The 29 consecutive appearances is the second-longest active streak and the 35 overall appearances is the second most by any NCAA Division I program.

Godfrey was also named a first team Scholar All-America honoree to lead a pair of Virginia women's soccer players honored for academic and athletic achievement by the United Soccer Coaches. Graduate forward Haley Hopkins was named a third team All-Region honoree.

To be eligible for selection, candidates must be at least a junior in academic standing and have a cumulative GPA of 3.40 for their career. Players must also have played in at least 75 percent of the season's games, contributed significantly to the team's success and be an elite player as evidenced by athletic accolades for the season.

OHS 'The Hammer' Wrestling Invite



Former Clay High wrestling teammates Mark DeToro and P.J. Cobbert are now wrestling adversaries with DeToro recently taking over as head coach at Oakleaf High School. Cobbert has been at Fleming Island High for nearly a decade.

Cobbert, DeToro on mat together after 21 years

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

OAKLEAF - Fleming Island High wrestling coach P.J. Cobbert strode smoothly around the Oakleaf High gym during the semifinal rounds of Oakleaf's "Hammer" Wrestling Invitational held Thursday.

"Here is where the points are made," said Cobbert. "Wear and tear, ground and pound. We get a lot of guys in the semis, push more into the finals, then take care of business. Numbers count."

Cobbert's premonition stood firm as the Golden Eagles, by the numbers, filled the brackets with prototype Cobbert-style wrestlers who executed the game plan with lightning fury and won convincingly with a 313.0 point total that far surpassed runnerup Harmony's 192.5 and third place Merrit Island's 162. Harmony was fifth in Class 3A last year as the class of the challenge to Fleming Island.

In a glimpse of the Cobbert influence of sorts, Oakleaf High, under the direction of first year coach Mark DeToro, finished fourth at 141 ahead of Bishop Kenny and Fletcher. Cobbert and DeToro were teammates at Clay High as seniors in 2001 with Cobbert getting his fourth state title, at 152, while DeToro finished as runnerup, two matches later, at 171.

"Little steps along the way, toughen up the room and get the techniques down," said DeToro, who was a frequent contributor to Cobbert's North Florida Wrestling Academy room over the past few years before signing in with Oakleaf. "We are hoping to sneak up on P.J. one day."

DeToro's coy optimism is somewhat justified with his recent 38-30 win over Clay in a dual match that was a first-time win for the Knights' program over the perennial powerhouse program at Clay; first in 1A, now clumped in with Fleming Island in 2A.

Fleming Island put up the numbers

District Duals Schedule and Venues

District Duals championship matches return to area wrestlers after the holiday break with Middleburg hosting the district 3-2A duals on Wed., Jan. 4 starting at 3 p.m.

District 3-2A: Middleburg, Oakleaf, Orange Park, Ridgeview, Ed White, Englewood, Ponte Vedra, Riverside, Terry Parker, Westside

District 4-2A at New Smyrna Beach, Wed., Jan. 4 at 5 p.m.: Clay, Fleming Island, New Smyrna Beach, Seabreeze, St. Augustine

District 4-1A at Union County, Tues., Jan. 3 at 4 p.m.: Keystone Heights

Fleming Island will host their Keystone Memorial tournament on Fri.-Sat., Jan. 6-7 with girls wrestling on Saturday.

significantly with 19 wrestlers from both schools making the semifinals; 13 for Fleming Island, six for Oakleaf with two head to head matchups in the semifinals and two final matchups between the two.

Fleming Island did have one point-breaking weight division at 106 with junior Matthew Newman beating teammate Jordan Mukaddam in the final 2-1.

"They scrap all day in practice and today was no different," said Cobbert. "That's why our room is rough. You can't have a bad day because the other guy will take your spot at any time."

In one of the Fleming Island vs. Oakleaf finals matchups, Fleming Island's Jayce Paridon, a Class 2A runnerup last year, dispatched of Oakleaf's newest face on the mat, freshman Sebastian Bonachea with a

pin, but DeToro was very impressed with his mentee.

"He is fast, strong and smart," said DeToro. "We will see more of him as the season goes. He's a great freshman guy in our room that will only get better."

In the second Knights vs. Eagles showdown, Oakleaf strongman Isaiah Shevchook took on Fleming Island's highly volatile Walter Poe, one of the more explosive wrestlers on the squad, to win by pin in a classic muscle man slugfest.

"He's an emotional guy," said Cobbert, of Poe who won a third period pin match in his semifinal in dramatic fashion with a backside reversal to pin. "Sometimes that works, other times you have to keep calm and just wrestle."

In two hard-fought matches that went the other way, 285's Ethan Hoffstetter (seventh in 2A last year) faced off against a much-bigger Toby Matson of Fletcher (13-2, third in 2A last year) in the semifinals and lost a 4-2 match despite a super close final takedown at the final whistle and, at 160, Fleming Island junior Chris Chop (fifth in 2A 152 last year) went toe-to-toe with Fletcher's Josh Daltro (12-2) and also missed a last second takedown attempt at the buzzer to lose 3-1. Matson and Daltro both finished as weight division runnerups.

"I like that despite the adversity on the mat, they kept coming and kept wrestling," said Cobbert. "We go to the whistle and we'll get those calls at another time."

Chop eventually lost by pin to Harmony state qualifier Anthony Falitico for fourth



Fleming Island High's Joshua Sandoval holds tight to Harmony High opponent in semifinal en route to winning championship medal at Oakleaf's "Hammer" Invitational.

place. Hoffstetter took third by pin. Daltro was denied a state ticket last year with a loss to Fleming Island's Ronan Bozeman in the region championship with Bozeman winning in the consolation semifinals.

Fleming Island's final lineup included championship wins from Newman, Shane and Laird Duhaylungsod, Paridon, Kaden Schaefer, Ronan Bozeman and Joshua Sandoval. In team scores, Orange Park was 12th; Elijah Grant at 113 top finisher with fifth, and Keystone Heights was 15th; top finisher Joshua Dowling, an eighth grader, in sixth at 285, in the 17 team field.



Middleburg High 190 wrestling Cheyenne Cruce has wrestled splendidly since her All-American finish in Fargo, ND, over the summer.

Cruce gets gold at Knockout

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

KISSIMMEE - Middleburg High 190 wrestler Cheyenne Cruce maintained her unbeaten status on Saturday at the prestigious Knockout Classic at wrestling-strong Osceola High with a five-pin title in her weight class.

"Cheyenne raised her level of wrestling and training up after a strong summer and going to nationals at Fargo (ND)," said Middleburg coach Coll Robertson, who returned from a trip to Fort Walton Beach where his Broncos' boys teams placed

third to Huntsville, AL, and Suwannee High at the Beast of the Beach Invite on Saturday. "Both our boys and girls teams have improved and raised their game this year."

With all of her pins in less than 90 seconds, Cruce dominated from start to finish before executing Brianice Silguero of Immokalee in the championship match in 1:24.

Cruce's fastest flat was a 52 second mat slap in the first match against Osceola's Eric Deroche.



Isaiah Carrasco, top right, with friends and Oakleaf High teammates Charles Breen, left, and Nick Mauloni.



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

A large contingency of St. Johns Country Day School and Oakleaf High school baseball and athletics raised nearly \$2500 in Home Run Derby fundraiser staged at St. Johns Country Day School.

Home Run

from page 27

since four years old with both moving from Argyle to Oakleaf at 10 years old,” said Breen. “They both played for the Oakleaf junior varsity under coach Jason Mauloni.”

Breen noted that Lauren Mateo was the driving force for the Home Run Derby as a tribute to Isaiah’s baseball.

“She did all the legwork to make it happen,” said Breen. “Her and her mom, Rachel, got the ball moving.”

The fundraiser was to add to a GoFundMe made for Carrasco to help cover medical expenses with Carrasco attempting to recover.”

Breen spoke of therapy involving a Hyperbaric chamber in New Orleans that tries to reconnect patients suffering from TBI, Traumatic Brain Injury, from high impact trauma to the skull. The TBI is a frequent occurrence in car crashes where the brain strikes the hard bone of the skull and damages brain structures and soft tissue.

“He does a certain amount of dives like a scuba diver would who had the BENDS, or ascend too fast to the surface,” said Breen. “It’s quite fascinating, but the family is living in the Ronald McDonald House as he goes to the hospital.”

Breen noted that the therapy is having some success with Carrasco able to communicate with familiar faces with eye movements.

“Right now, he has a special wheelchair and he does extensive physical therapy,” said Breen. “They have noticed the Hyperbaric chamber is helping, but it’s expensive.”

Breen said when the accident occurred in June and Carrasco wound up in a long surgery bout, the Oakleaf baseball community was in full force in the hospital until near 1 a.m.

“That night that it happened, about 10 minutes after it was all figured out, we



First homer of many in the Home Run Derby for Isaiah Carrasco came from Oakleaf batter Seth Alford, here blasting away. Right: Home Run Derby organizers Lauren Mateo, left, a senior soccer athlete at St. Johns Country Day School, and Holly Breen, a Carrasco family friend and neighbor, address upcoming batters in Home Run Derby fundraiser. Below; batters Shawn Andrade, Micah Wynn and Nick Mauloni tee off.



were at Orange Park Medical Center and he went in at about 10 a.m.,” said Breen. “His baseball friends stayed all night.”

Rose and Eddie Carrasco, Isaiah’s parents, sent a message to the gathering; read by Breen, from a New Orleans hospital where Isaiah was getting therapy and

a new treatment to restore his body and mind.

“Thank you to the St. Johns Country Day School community and the gathering is a prime example of Mother Teresa’s message - ‘I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to cre-

ate many ripples.’”

The Isaiah Carrasco GoFundMe link is: <https://gofund.me/548aa7b3>.

According to Rachel Mateo, the Home Run Derby raised \$2500 to add to the Isaiah Carrasco GoFundMe account is now at near \$18,000 toward a goal of \$75,000..

Christmas tournaments highlight basketball paths

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

ORANGE PARK - After one of the more exciting Battle on the Island holiday basketball tournaments, area teams head out of town for the next week to compete in Christmas tournaments statewide.

Fleming Island and Orange Park both battled to top three finishes in Fleming Island's Battle on the Island with Orlando Christian Prep taking top team honors.

Fleming Island won their opener with the comeback thrilling 58-57 win over Class 6A fifth ranked Lake Minneola then fell to Columbia (58-44) and Martin County (66-48).

Top scorers for the Golden Eagles were inside power players Ethan Williams and Joey Chenette with 18 and 13, plus George Hamm's 12 against Lake Minneola.

Against Columbia, top scorers were Darion Domenick, 13, and Axel Holmquist, 10, against fast, athletic Tigers team.

Against Martin County, Ethan Williams was only player in double figures with 15 points.

Fleming Island heads to the Jarvis Williams Christmas Classic hosted by Palatka High with an opener against Eustis High on Wed., Dec. 28 with Thursday against Naples and Friday against Lake Howell.

Orange Park, behind a fast backfield of Tom Faucette and Brian Falcone, opened with a strong 53-14 blowout of Baker County in the Green Division of the Battle on the Island before taking out Wolfson 69-42 before taking a tough 43-41 loss in the bracket championship to Ribault.

Against Baker County, Deandre Dickerson, Faucette And Capo Triggs all with 11 points to pace the Raiders.

Against Wolfson, Falcon had 15 with Faucett and Dickerson both adding 12.



Left: Oakleaf High girls basketball coach Fred Cole has his Lady Knights running on high octane with an 8-1 record looking to return to Final Four status while, right, Orange Park boys show off runnerup trophy in Battle on the Island tournament at Fleming Island High School.



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Orange Park heads to the Milton Johnson Invitational in Marianna with an opener on Tues., Dec. 27 against Munroe.

Oakleaf, 8-1, travels to Deland on Wed., Dec. 28 for an opener against McKee Academy at 430 p.m. in the Gus Gibbs Deland Holiday Tournament.

Also in Deland will be Leesburg, University Orlando, University High, American Senior and Deland.

Ridgeview, 3-7, heads to the Baker County Christmas Showcase with a Wed., Dec. 28 opener against Sandalwood. Also in Baker County is Baldwin.

Ridgeview entered the holiday with a win over Keystone Heights, 62-58, with two close losses to Creekside, 66-53, and West Nassau, 80-77.

In girls basketball, Ridgeview is headed to Destin, FL, for the 28th annual Hilton Sandestin Beach Blowout Girls Invitational

SEE BASKETBALL, 33



Fleming Island guard George Hamm squeezes between two Columbia High defenders in Battle on the Island semifinal.



Fleming Island center Ethan Williams was power post player for Golden Eagles in Battle on the Island tournament. Oakleaf High guard Aaron Rivers takes stolen dribble to layup in recent action. Knights travel to Deland for Christmas tournament action.



Oakleaf High forward Fantasia James rises to swat shot attempt by Orange Park's Jaida Griner in Lady Knights win.



Left: Ridgeview sophomore guard Emma Rayes has grown to strong backcourt presence for Lady Panthers.

Right: Orange Park's Autumn Nesmith has transitioned to point guard with injury to Raiders lead scorer Eris Lester.



Basketball

from page 32

with an opener on Wed., Dec. 28. Teams included are Freeport, South Walton, Hewitt-Trussville (AL), White County (TN) and Enterprise (AL).

St. Johns Country Day School girls basketball, 4-4, heads to Bradenton, FL, for the Chick-Fil-A Holiday Tournament with a Wed., Dec. 28 opener at 3 p.m. against 7A-George Jenkins High (8-3).

St. Johns Country Day School's boys team traveled to Orlando for the 2022 KSA Events Classic at the Gaylord Palms Resort (Dec. 19-23) and came away with a 64-42 loss to Salem HS (MA) in the single elimination format.

St. Johns lost 51-28 against Central of

Tuscaloosa, AL, in bracket play, then won 47-31 against Sunbright High (TN) in the consolation bracket.

St. Johns bracket included teams from Massachusetts, Alabama, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Tennessee and Rhode Island.

Orange Park High's girls basketball (5-6) will travel to Orlando's Bishop Moore for the Jim Clark Holiday Classic with an opener on Tues., Dec. 27 against St. Cloud High School (11-1) at 1:30 p.m. Also on the team roster are Ponte Vedra, Bishop Moore, Lake Howell, Eustis, Windermere and Lake Mary.

The Lady Raiders will have to rebound from two losses prior to the tournament; an 81-42 bruising at Oakleaf and a 65-27 loss to Andrew Jackson; both without top scorer Eris Lester.

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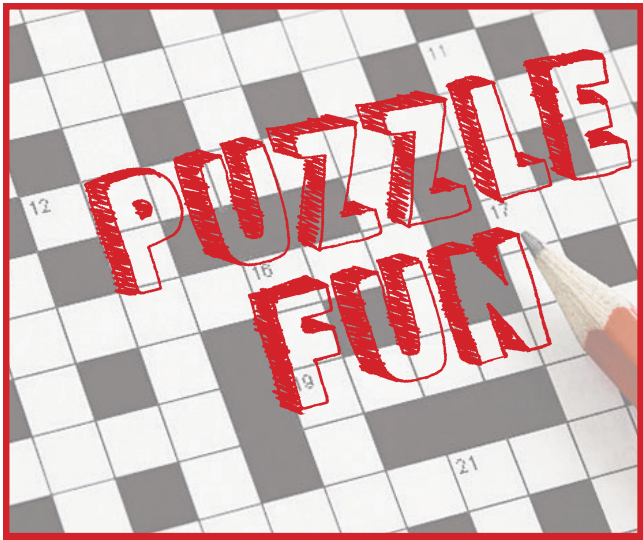
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Level: Intermediate



Middleburg High's Sarah Walsh could be a contender for state title as well as a handful of Lady Broncos wrestlers doing well this season.

Cruce

from page 30

Cruce is now 46-12 in her career with 43 wins by pin.

At 135, Clay High's Aubrianna Apple lost in her final to Gabriella Perez of Fort Pierce Central via pin.

For Middleburg, Toni Silcox lost in consolations at 100 with teammate Skyla Fisher, also at 100, getting to the consolation semifinals before losing.

At 120, Sara Walsh lost in her quarter-finals, then lost in the consolation semifinals.

In Fort Walton Beach, Robertson got seven wins in dual match action with the Broncos' only loss to tournament champion Huntsville High out of Alabama, the Alabama 7A fourth place finisher last year.

Robertson got an undefeated weekend from Grady Woodard with pins and a 4-2 win against Huntsville. Huntsville beat Middleburg 45-18 with Woodard, Wyatt Leduc, Dylan Johns and Porter Loveland winning individual matches.

Middleburg beat Smiths Station, AL, 37-33 for their third place medal.

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to Christmas.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 17 = A)

A. 26 13 18 5 1 17 23

Clue: Special day

B. 19 17 22 25 17

Clue: Bearded gift-giver

C. 15 8 18 8 3 7 17 25 8

Clue: Engage in fanfare

D. 21 13 18 18 23

Clue: Happy and cheerful

Answers: A. holiday B. Santa C. celebrate D. jolly

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to Christmas.

LHLYO

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Answer: Holly

Guess Who?

I am an actor born in New York on December 27, 1995. I made my childhood acting debut in a short film. I was nominated for an Academy Award in 2017 for my first leading role.

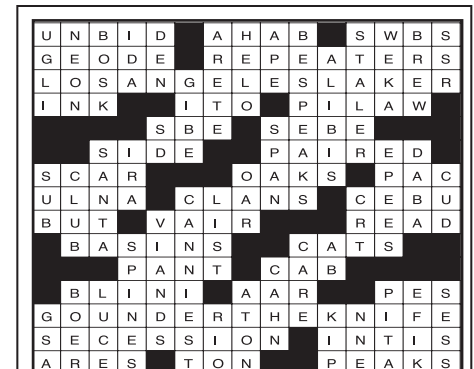
Answer: Timothee Chalamet

CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

W R O L J O Y A D I L O H N E L T J S S
 E R K R G D T K S M S T O M R Y K V L Y
 S R B H V S W A N H J I N E S V H O E T
 A V D A A C M J O M T G I E E L R I C G
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 W M R B S D P U C E D C O C C A L R A N
 P N H I H I J A K E E H J Y N E N W J D
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 C S E R O T S T I I U S A R E R K M O J
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 H L O C D E C E M B E R A S I A O K C L
 H I C I J C C A U S O H W T D P R R U K
 I Y E R U N F V D N P R E S E N T S F R

WORDS

- CAROLS
- CELEBRATION
- CHRISTIAN
- CHRISTMAS
- COOKIES
- DECEMBER
- EVE
- EVERGREEN
- FAMILY
- GATHERING
- HOLIDAY
- JESUS
- LIST
- MIDNIGHT
- ORNAMENT
- PRESENTS
- REINDEER
- ROAST
- SHOPPING
- STORES
- TINSEL
- VACATION
- WREATH
- YULETIDE



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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

INVITATION TO BID

Individual sealed bids for the **Gladiolus Ave. and St. Frances Dr. Utility and Roadway Improvements** in Orange Park, Florida will be received by the **Town Clerk, the Town of Orange Park, 2042 Park Avenue, Orange Park, Florida** until **10:00 a.m., local time, Monday, February 6, 2023.** Envelopes must be clearly marked with the project title, time, and date of bid opening. If mailed, bids must be addressed to the Town Clerk at the above address. Bids must be submitted in the format as outlined in the specifications. **Gladiolus Ave and St. Frances Dr. Utility & Roadway Improvements** The Project is located on Gladiolus Ave and St. Frances Dr. The Project consists of approximately 1300 L.F. of Roadway, Curbing, Utility, and concrete work. The Project limits are on St. Frances Dr. from the intersection with Dolphin St to the intersection with Bellair Blvd and Gladiolus Ave from the intersection with Dolphin St to the intersection with St. Frances Dr. The major work elements include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Base Bid:**
- a. Replace existing 4 & 6-inch (4" & 6") water main with new PVC water main.
- b. Replace existing water services and meters with new water services and meters.
- c. Replace existing fire hydrants with new fire hydrants.
- d. Abandoned in place existing 4 & 6-inch (4" & 6") water main by grout filling.
- e. Pavement removal and reconstruction.
- f. Remove existing and construct new curb and gutter.
- g. Remove and replace residential concrete driveway aprons in ROW and designated sidewalks.
- h. Install new 6-inch (6") PVC underdrain at back of curb.
- i. Adjust four existing manhole rings and covers to grade elevations.

Bid documents will be made available by **11:00 a.m., Thursday, January 5, 2023,** at Crawford, Murphy, and Tilly, Inc., 7400 Baymeadows Way, Suite 220, Jacksonville, Florida 32256, (904) 448-5300. The cost of the plans and specifications from CMT is **\$150.00** (non-refundable) and will be provided electronically in PDF format. Arrangements for payment and delivery of files should be directed to Eric Sanders at esanders@cmtengr.com. The project will also be available directly from the Town of Orange Park on their Demand Star site for digital download. Bidders must submit with the Bid, documentation that they have constructed similar type work completed during the past five years with references. Each bidder must include resume and qualifications for their proposed on-site supervision superintendent. Said Superintendent shall have maintained continuous employment with bidder for a minimum of three years. The bidders will be required to submit a Bid Bond equal to 5% of the bid with their Proposal. The successful bidder will be required, upon award, to furnish a 100% Performance and Payment Bond, with a Surety acceptable to Owner. Each bid proposal shall remain binding for at least 90 days after the scheduled bid date. The Owner shall reserve the right to accept or reject any or all bids/proposals, waive minor formalities, and any that are in any way incomplete or irregular. The Owner further reserves the right to reject all bids/proposals and re-advertise, or to reject all bids/proposals without further action and award the bid/proposal that serves the Owner's best interest. Any questions regarding the bid documents shall be in writing and directed to the Engineer of Record, Paul Ina, at email pina@cmtengr.com.

By: Sarah Campbell
Town Manager

Legal 48444 Published 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

INVITATION TO BID

Individual sealed bids for the **Kingsley Ave Water Main Improvement** in Orange Park, Florida will be received by the **Town Clerk, the Town of Orange Park, 2042 Park Avenue, Orange Park, Florida** until **10:00 a.m., local time, Monday, February 6, 2023.** All bids received will be opened publicly at 10:00 a.m. Envelopes must be clearly marked with the project title, time, and date of bid opening. If mailed, bids must be addressed to the Town Clerk at the above address. Bids must be submitted in the format as outlined in the specifications and include all required forms located in Part 1, Bidding Requirements section. **Kingsley Ave Water Main Improvement** The Project site is located within existing street right of ways for both City and

FDOT roads. The project limits run from Holly Leaf Lane to Kingsley Avenue on Doctors Lake Drive and in Kingsley Avenue from Doctors Lake Drive to Plainfield Avenue. The Project limits are within the Town of Orange Park. The major work elements include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Bid:**
- a. Removal of existing asphalt and concrete as needed to install new water main
- b. Connect to existing 6" water main at Holly Leaf Lane.
- c. Connect to existing 12" water main at Doctors Lake Drive at Kingsley Avenue.
- d. Connect to existing 12" water main in 2 locations at Kingsley Avenue at Plainfield Avenue
- e. Install new 6" PVC (DR-18) water main pipeline
- f. Install new 8" PVC (DR-18) water main pipeline
- g. Install new 12" PVC (DR-18) water main pipeline
- h. Bacteriological clearance and pressure test new water mains
- i. Reconnect existing customers to new water main
- j. Replace asphalt and concrete removed during construction
- k. Re-sod all disturbed areas with like grassing

Bid documents will be made available by 12:00 p.m., **Thursday, January 5, 2023,** at CMT, Inc., 7400 Baymeadows Way, Suite 220, Jacksonville, Florida 32256, (904) 680-0546. The cost of the plans and specifications from CMT is **\$150.00** (non-refundable) and will be provided electronically in PDF format. Arrangements for payment and delivery of files should be directed to Eric Sanders at esanders@cmtengr.com. The project will also be available directly from the Town of Orange Park on their Demand Star site for digital download as well. Bidders must submit with the Bid, documentation that they have constructed similar type work completed during the past five years with references. Each bidder must include resume and qualifications for their proposed on-site supervision superintendent. Said Superintendent shall have maintained continuous employment with bidder for a minimum of three years. The bidders will be required to submit a Bid Bond equal to 5% of the bid with their Proposal. The successful bidder will be required, upon award, to furnish a 100% Performance and Payment Bond, with a Surety acceptable to Owner. Each bid proposal shall remain binding for at least 90 days after the scheduled bid date. The Owner shall reserve the right to accept or reject any or all bids/proposals, waive minor formalities, and any that are in any way incomplete or irregular. The Owner further reserves the right to reject all bids/proposals and re-advertise, or to reject all bids/proposals without further action and award the bid/proposal that serves the Owner's best interest. Any questions regarding the bid documents shall be in writing and directed to the Engineer of Record, Paul Ina, at email pina@cmtengr.com.

By: Sarah Campbell
Town Manager

Legal 48443 Published 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of County Commissioners of Clay County, Florida, will hold a public hearing Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard, in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room on the Fourth Floor of the Clay County Administration Building, 477 Houston Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida, to consider the adoption of an ordinance bearing the following title:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING, UPDATING AND RESTATING IN ITS ENTIRETY CLAY COUNTY ORDINANCE 89-54, AS AMENDED, WHICH IS CODIFIED IN ARTICLE III OF CHAPTER 12 OF THE CLAY COUNTY CODE ENTITLED SOLICITATION ON PUBLIC ROAD RIGHTS OF WAY IN ORDER TO PROHIBIT CERTAIN ACTIVITIES UPON THE PUBLIC ROAD RIGHTS OF WAY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

All interested persons are invited to attend the public hearing and be heard by the Board on matters pertaining to the ordinance. Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, a person deciding to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting or at any subsequent meeting to which the Board has continued its

deliberations is advised that such person will need a record of all proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of all proceedings is made, which must include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. A copy of the proposed ordinance may be inspected by members of the public at the County Attorney Offices, Second Floor of the Clay County Administration Building, 477 Houston Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, with the exception of legal holidays. In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in this matter should contact the Clay County ADA Coordinator by mail at Post Office Box 1366, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043, or by telephone at number (904) 269-6347, no later than three (3) days prior to the hearing or proceeding for which this notice has been given. Hearing impaired persons can access the foregoing telephone number by contacting the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (Voice), or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD). Board of County Commissioners Clay County, Florida

Legal 48304 Published 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of County Commissioners of Clay County, Florida, will hold a public hearing Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard, in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room on the Fourth Floor of the Clay County Administration Building, 477 Houston Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida, to consider the adoption of an ordinance bearing the following title:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING CLAY COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 2018-23, AS AMENDED, WHICH IS CODIFIED AS CHAPTER 7.3 OF THE CLAY COUNTY CODE, ENTITLED "EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES", BY AMENDING THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF THE CODE: SECTION 7.3-2., DEFINITIONS; SUBSECTION (16) OF SECTION 7.3-5., APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE; SUBSECTIONS (b), (d), (f), AND (g) OF SECTION 7.3-6., APPLICATION REVIEW; SECTION 7.3-7., ISSUANCE OR DENIAL; SUBSECTION (b) OF SECTION 7.3-9., CERTIFICATE RENEWAL; AND SUBSECTIONS (a) (7), (e), (f), (g), AND (h) OF SECTION 7.3-10., CERTIFICATE REVOCATION, MODIFICATION AND SUSPENSION/PROCEEDINGS TO REFLECT THE DELETION OF THE NEED FOR A STANDING COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER CERTIFICATES (COPCNS) ISSUED BY THE BOARD; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

All interested persons are invited to attend the public hearing and be heard by the Board on matters pertaining to the ordinance. Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, a person deciding to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting or at any subsequent meeting to which the Board has continued its deliberations is advised that such person will need a record of all proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of all proceedings is made, which must include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. A copy of the proposed ordinance may be inspected by members of the public at the County Attorney Offices, Second Floor of the Clay County Administration Building, 477 Houston Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, with the exception of legal holidays. In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in this matter should contact the Clay County ADA Coordinator by mail at Post Office Box 1366, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043, or by telephone at number (904) 269-6347, no later than three (3) days prior to the hearing or proceeding for which this notice has been given. Hearing impaired persons can access the foregoing telephone number by contacting the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (Voice), or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD). Board of County Commissioners Clay County, Florida

Legal 48303 Published 12/29/2022 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 JUNNES JANITORIAL SERVICES located at 4292 Hanging Moss Dr. in the County of Clay, in the City of Orange Park, Florida 32073-7638 intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Date at Orange Park, Florida, this 22nd day of December 2022. BOBIAS ASTERIO JR PASTORES

Legal 48297 Published 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

LEGAL NOTICE / AVISO LEGAL

(Florida Statute 98.075 / Estatuto de Florida 98.075) Notice is hereby given to the following person(s) with the last known address of:

Por la presente se notifica a las siguientes personas con la última dirección conocida de:

ASBELL, SHANNON K
1208 NORTH ST
GREEN COVE SPRINGS,32043

BURNEY, ANTONIOUS L
1199 CALLA GLEN LN
GREEN COVE SPRINGS,32043

CLARK, SHAWN W
2514 SNAPDRAGON AVE
MIDDLEBURG,32068-5928

JOHNSON, QUINTIN D
622 FILMORE ST APT 101A
ORANGE PARK,32065

LONGLEY, JUSTIN D
306 PEARL ST
GREEN COVE SPRINGS,32043-3716

PICARD, JASON M
2825 S PERIWINKLE AVE
MIDDLEBURG,32068

RATTO, JOHN T
3914 RON RD
GREEN COVE SPRINGS,32043

RUSSELL JR, JOSHUA
1365 S LAWRENCE BLVD
KEYSTONE HEIGHTS,32656

STOREY III, WILLIAM C
275 SESAME ST
MIDDLEBURG,32068

TANNER, WILLIAM O
7223 PLEASANT POINT RD
KEYSTONE HEIGHTS,32656

THRASHER, TONY O
366 SONORA DR
ORANGE PARK,32073

VOJIK, ROBIN L
370 N MIMOSA AVE
MIDDLEBURG,32068-4634

WICKES, DEBORAH M
1616 HEATHER FIELDS CT
FLEMING ISLAND,32003

You are hereby notified that you are potentially ineligible to be registered to vote. Failure to respond to this notice within 30 days may result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor of Elections and removal of your name from the statewide voter registration system. You may contact the Supervisor of Elections office to receive information regarding the basis for the potential ineligibility and the procedure to resolve the matter. If further assistance is needed, contact the Clay County Supervisor of Elections office.

Por la presente se le notifica que no es elegible para registrarse para votar. Si no responde a este aviso dentro de los 30 días, el Supervisor de Elecciones puede determinar que no es elegible y eliminar su nombre del sistema estatal de registro de votantes. Puede comunicarse con la oficina del Supervisor de Elecciones para recibir información sobre la base de la posible inelegibilidad y el procedimiento para resolver el asunto. Si necesita más ayuda, comuníquese con la oficina del Supervisor de Elecciones del Condado de Clay.

Chris H. Chambless
Supervisor of Elections
Supervisor de Elecciones

Legal 48296 Published 12/29/2022 in

Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Clay County School District of Clay County, Florida, acting by and through its Governing Board, hereinafter referred to as "DISTRICT," has determined a bidding opportunity exists for contract services for site work throughout the District. Any and all bidders for Underground Utility/Excavation Services must be prequalified in accordance with District Policy 6.01(c) prior to submitting bids. Sealed bids shall be received by the School Board of Clay County until February 8, 2023 at 2:00 P.M. at the Office of the Purchasing Department, 800 Center Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida, 32043, at which time and place all bids received shall be publicly opened. "CONTRACT SERVICES FOR SITE WORK – COUNTY WIDE BID # 23-F-242". All work shall be done according to the bid package. Bid may be downloaded from School Board's website: <https://ba.myoneclay.net/purchasing>. Only Contractors having been Pre-Qualified by the School Board of Clay County are eligible to submit bids. Pre-Qualification instructions available on School Board's website: <https://op.myoneclay.net/facility-planning-and-construction> or contact Kelly Moran at (904) 336-0675. Last Board Meeting before Bid opening to get Pre-Qualified will be February 2, 2022. David S. Broskie, Superintendent School Board of Clay County

Legal 48295 Published 12/29/2022 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 CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.: 2022-CA-001163-XXXX U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE, FOR THE HOLDERS OF THE CIM TRUST 2021-RI, MORTGAGE-BACKED NOTES, SERIES 2021-RI, Plaintiff, vs. DANIEL-THIBEAULT, et al., Defendants. TO: TAMMY THIBEAULT Last Known Address: 6022 WESTWOOD RD S, BALDWIN, FL 32234 Current Residence Unknown YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property: LOT 31 WESTWOOD ROAD SOUTH A PART OF SECTION 34, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 23 EAST, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE FOR A POINT OF REFERENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 34; THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEG. 15 MIN. 00 SEC. EAST ALONG THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAJD SECTION 34, A DISTANCE OF 1000 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEG. 36 MIN. 00 SEC. EAST, A DISTANCE OF 1090.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING CONTINUE NORTH 89 DEG. 36 MIN. 00 SEC. EAST A DISTANCE OF 160 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEG. 15 MIN. 00 SEC. WEST TO THE CENTERLINE OF THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT DESCRIBED IN INSTRUMENT RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 532, PAGE 499 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE RUN NORTHWESTERLY ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF SAID EASEMENT TO A POINT LYING SOUTH 00 DEG. 15 MIN. 00 SEC. WEST OF THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEG. 15 MIN. 00 SEC. EAST TO SAID POINT OF BEGINNING.

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 on or before a date at least thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the (Please publish in CLAY TODAY) and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's 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 crintrap@coj.net or (904) 255-1695 at least 7 days before

your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 21st day of December, 2022. TARA S. GREEN As Clerk of the Court By Gracie Moore As Deputy Clerk

Legal 48293 Published 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF ACTION IN EMINENT DOMAIN AND NOTICE OF HEARING OF CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE OF PROCESS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA Case No. 2022-CA-1221 Parcel 121 STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, Petitioner, vs. WIGGINS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY OF NORTH FLORIDA, INC., a Florida corporation; OCEAN PALM, LLC; and DIANE HUTCHINGS, Clay County Tax Collector, Defendants. STATE OF FLORIDA TO:

To the above named Defendants and all said Defendants who are living, and if any or all Defendants are deceased, the unknown spouse, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, lienors, or other parties claiming by, through, under or against any such deceased Defendant or Defendants, if alive, and, if dead, their unknown spouse, heirs, devisees, legatees, grantees, creditors, lienors, or other parties claiming by, through, under, or against any such deceased Defendant or Defendants, and all other parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in and to the property described in the Petition, to-wit: Item # 4307192 Parcel 121 CR 220 – Clay County Section No. 71580 County Road No. 220 Clay County F.P. No. 4307192 Parcel No. 121 Fee Simple A Part Of Section 33, Township 4 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida, Being More Particularly Described As Follows: Commence At The South 1/4 Corner Of Section 33, Township 4 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida; Thence North 00°15'24" West, Along The West Line Of The Southeast 1/4 Of Said Section 33, A Distance Of 617.42 Feet To The Baseline Of Survey Of County Road No. 220 (As Per Florida Department Of Transportation Right Of Way Map Section 71580, F.P. No. 4307192, Having A Variable Width Right Of Way); Thence North 34°46'39" East, Along Said Baseline Of Survey Of County Road No. 220, A Distance Of 333.78 Feet; Thence South 55°13'21" East, A Distance Of 50.00 Feet To The Southeasterly Existing Right Of Way Line Of Said County Road No. 220, And To The Point Of Beginning; Thence North 34°46'39" East, Along Said Southeasterly Existing Right Of Way Line Of County Road No. 220, A Distance Of 140.39 Feet; Thence South 60°30'24" East, A Distance Of 521.67 Feet; Thence North 33°18'21" East, A Distance Of 156.20 Feet; Thence North 89°49'31" East, A Distance Of 323.60 Feet; Thence North 83°07'13" East, A Distance Of 148.60 Feet To The East Line of the Southwest 1/4 Of The Southeast 1/4 Said Section 33, Township 4 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida; Thence South 00°19'11" East, Along Said East Line, A Distance Of 752.37 Feet; Thence North 55°47'33" West, A Distance Of 1,324.35 Feet To The Point Of Beginning. Containing: 9.062 Acres, More Or Less. Being Tax Parcel No. 33-04-25-008139-000-00 A petition in eminent domain has been filed to acquire certain property interests in Clay County, Florida. Each Defendant is required to serve written defenses to the petition on Petitioner's attorney, whose name and address are shown below, on or before **March 20, 2023** and to file the original of the defenses with the clerk of this court either before service on Petitioner's attorney or immediately thereafter, showing what right, title, interest or lien Defendant has in or to the property described in the petition and

STARTING A NEW Business

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

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CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

to show cause why that property should not be taken for the uses and purposes set forth in the petition. If any Defendant fails to do so, a default will be entered against that Defendant for the relief demanded in the petition.
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a declaration of taking has been filed in this cause and that Petitioner will apply for an Order of Taking and any other order the court deems proper before the **Honorable Don Lester**, one of the Judges of this Court, on **Monday, April 17, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.**, (one hour is reserved) in **Hearing Room 4-077 at the Clay County Courthouse, 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida**. All Defendants to this suit may request a hearing at the time and place designated and be heard at the time and place designated and be heard. Any Defendant failing to file a request for hearing shall waive any right to object to the Order of Taking.
WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL of this Court on the 21st day of December, 2022.
TARA S. GREEN
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
By Rebecca Crews
Deputy Clerk

Legal 48201 Published 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

CLAY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC NOTICE

The Clay County School Board will hold its Regular monthly meeting on Thursday, **January 5, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Teacher Inservice Center located at Fleming Island High School, 2233 Village Square Parkway, Fleming Island, Florida 32003. The meeting is open to the public and all interested persons are invited to attend. Any person requiring special accommodations to attend or participate in public meetings should advise the School District at least 48 hours before the meeting by contacting the Superintendent's Office at (904) 336-6508. If you are hearing or speech impaired, you may contact the District by email addressed to bonnie.onora@myoneclay.net or by calling (904) 336-6584 (TDD). Copies of the proposed agenda will be available online at www.oneclay.net or by contacting the Superintendent's Office, 900 Walnut Street, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Legal 48200 Published 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2022-CP-0652
IN RE: ESTATE OF MADELEINE MURIEL KORT, Deceased.
The administration of the estate of MADELEINE MURIEL KORT, deceased, whose date of death was March 19, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 825 N Orange Ave# 308, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043.
The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE

TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is December 29th, 2022.
PIETER JEREMIAH KORT
18 Carlow Court K8N 5R2, Belleville, Ontario, Canada.
DAVID W. VELIZ, ESQUIRE
Florida Bar No: 846368
630 North Wymore Road Suite 330
Maitland, Florida, 32751
Telephone: (407) 849-7072
Fax: (407) 849-7075
E-Mail: VelizKatz@VelizKatzLaw.com
Secondary E-Mail: PDiaz@VelizKatzLaw.com
Attorney for Personal Representative

Legal 48199 Published 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2022-CP-0653
IN RE: ESTATE OF JONI ADELE KORT, Deceased.
The administration of the estate of JONI ADELE KORT, deceased, whose date of death was March 19, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 825 N Orange Ave# 308, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is December 29th, 2022.
PIETER JEREMIAH KORT
18 Carlow Court K8N 5R2, Belleville, Ontario, Canada.
DAVID W. VELIZ, ESQUIRE
Florida Bar No: 846368
630 North Wymore Road Suite 330
Maitland, Florida, 32751
Telephone: (407) 849-7072
Fax: (407) 849-7075
E-Mail: VelizKatz@VelizKatzLaw.com
Secondary E-Mail: PDiaz@VelizKatzLaw.com
Attorney for Personal Representative

Legal 48198 Published 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 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 Walker Footings located at P.O. Box 10072, in the County of Clay, in the City of Fleming Island, Florida 32006 has registered the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.
Date at St. Augustine, Florida, this 20th day of December 2022.
SBH CONSTRUCTION, LLC

Legal 48197 Published 12/29/2022 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 Jewel Time located at 1910 Wells Rd, Suite F07, in the County of Clay, in the City of Orange Park, Florida 32073 intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.
Date at Orange Park, Florida, this 6th day of December 2022.
Javions, LLC

Legal 48043 Published 12/29/2022 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 Elegant Jewelers located at 1910 Wells Rd, Suite F07, in the County of Clay, in the City of Orange Park, Florida 32073 intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.
Date at Orange Park, Florida, this 6th day of December 2022.
Javions, LLC

Legal 48042 Published 12/29/2022 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 The Generator Guys located at 1633-501 Farm Way, in the County of Clay, in the City of Middleburg, Florida 32068 intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.
Date at Middleburg, Florida, this 20th day of December 2022.
NATIONWIDE ELECTRIC, INC.

Legal 48040 Published 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2022-CC-00852
CHARM-B INC. PLAINTIFF, VS.
HOA PROBLEM SOLUTIONS 5 INC., DEFENDANT(S)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated **July 28, 2022**, and entered in 2022-CC-0852 of the County Court of the FOURTH Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein Charm-B, Inc. is the Plaintiff and HOA Problem Solutions 5 Inc. is the Defendant. Tara S. Green as the Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.clay.realforeclose.com, at 10:00AM, on **January 25, 2023**, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
Lot 341, Silver Creek, according to the map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 44, Page 52 through 57, Public Records of Clay County, Florida.
More commonly known as: 2348 Creekfront Dr., Green Cove Springs, FL, 32043
("Property").
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 in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 45.031.
Dated this 20th day of December, 2022.
Tara S. Green
CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT
Robbin Tefft
Deputy Clerk
IMPORTANT AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT: If you are a person with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to access court facilities or participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. To request such an accommodation, please contact the Administrative Office of the Court as far in advance as possible, but pre-

erably at least (7) days before your scheduled court appearance or other court activity of the date the service is needed: Complete the Request for Accommodations Form and submit to 800 E. Twiggs Street, Room 604, Tampa, FL, 33602. Please review FAQ's for answers to many questions. You may contact the Administrative Office of the Courts ADA Coordination by letter, telephone or e-mail: Administrative Office of the Courts, Attention: ADA Coordination, 800 E. Twiggs Street, Tampa, FL 33602, Phone: 813- 272-7040, Hearing Impaired: 1-800-955-8771, Voice Impaired: 1-800-955-8770, e-mail: ADA@fjud13.org.

Legal 48036 Published 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF GREENBRIER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA
Civil Action No. 22-A-25
IN RE THE ADOPTION OF: H.B.W.
Minor under the age of 18 years.
By STEPHANIE SUZANNE MORGAN Petitioners.

Notice of Adoption Proceedings to: CHADWICK MUCK
You are hereby notified that your parental rights to H.B.W., whose date of birth is August 10, 2015, may be terminated in this adoption proceeding, unless you appear and defend any such rights within 30 days of first publication of the Notice, by filing a Response with the Circuit Clerk of Greenbrier County, West Virginia and by serving said Response upon counsel for Petitioner, Emily S. Isaacs, Legal Aid of West Virginia, 125 Green Lane, Lewisburg, WV 24901.
You are further notified that a final hearing will be held on February 13, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as this matter may be heard, by the Honorable Robert E. Richardson, Circuit Court Judge of Greenbrier County, at the Greenbrier County Courthouse, 912 Court Street North, Lewisburg, WV 24901.
Failure to respond or appear may result in termination of any parental rights you may have.
Entered by the Clerk of said Court on this 19th day of December 2022.
Louvanne Arbuclck
Clerk of the Circuit Court

Legal 48031 Published 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on dates below these vehicles will be sold at public sale for monies owed on vehicle repair and storage cost. 02/06/23 at 10:00 am REYNOLDS PARK YACHT CENTER 1063 BULKHEAD RD GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FL 32043 FG1978 PEA PEA59020M78FP CWOS CORP.

Legal 48024 Published 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA,
IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY
FILE NO.: 10-2022-CP-000684-CPAXXX
IN RE ESTATE OF: THOMAS W. BLUMBERG, Deceased.

The administration of the estate of THOMAS W. BLUMBERG, deceased, whose date of death was August 26, 2022; is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 825 N. Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their

claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is: December 29, 2022.
Erin K. Blumberg
Personal Representative
13759 Juniper Blossom Drive Apt. # 202
Tampa, FL 33618
KATHLEEN A. KADYSZEWSKI, ESQ
Attorney for Personal Representative
Florida Bar No. 682322
Murphy Reid, LLP
11300 U.S. Highway One, Suite 401
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33408
Telephone: 561-355-8800
kak@murphyreid.com
eservice@murphyreid.com

Legal 48019 Published 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 10-2020-DP-00095
DIVISION: JV-F
IN THE INTEREST OF: J.T. DOB: 08/27/2008
A MINOR CHILD
THE STATE OF FLORIDA TO:
Jesse Edwards, FATHER- Address Unknown
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the above-styled Court by the FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES for termination of parental rights and permanent commitment for subsequent adoption of the above-named child, J. T. born August 27, 2008. You are hereby commanded to appear before **Honorable Angela M. Cox**, at the Clay County Courthouse, Juvenile Dependency Courtroom, 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida at the hour of **2:00 p.m.** o'clock on **January 24, 2023, A.D.** You must appear at the hearing on the date and time specified.
FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT TIDS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO TIDS CIDLD. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION.
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 Court ADA Coordinator at (904) 255-1695 or crlntrp@coj.net at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled court appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
WITNESS my hand as clerk of said Court and the Seal thereof, this 15 day of December 2022.
Tara S. Green
Clerk of Said Court
By Tammy Rosenbaum

Legal 47916 Published 12/22/2022, 12/29/2022, 1/5/2023, and 1/12/2023

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING FOR MAGNOLIA WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors ("Board") of the Magnolia West Community Development District ("District") will hold a meeting on **January 17, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.** at the Magnolia West Amenity Center located at 3490 Canyon Falls Drive Green Cove Springs, FL 32043.
A copy of the agenda may be obtained

by contacting the District Manager, c/o Rizzetta & Company, Inc. 3434 Colwell Avenue, Suite 200, Tampa, FL 33614 ("District Manager's Office") on the District's website www.magnoliawestcdd.org or by emailing the District Manager at lgallagher@rizzetta.com and/or by telephoning 904-436-6270 during normal business hours. The meetings are open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law for community development districts. The meetings may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record at such meeting.

There may be occasions when one or more Supervisors or staff will participate by telephone. Pursuant to provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations at this meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Office at (904) 436-6270 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1 or 1-800-955-8771 (TTY) / 1-800-955-8770 (Voice), for aid in contacting the District Office.

A person who decides to appeal any decision made at the meeting with respect to any matter considered at the meeting is advised that person will need a record of the proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.
Lesley Gallagher
District Manager

Legal 47773 Published 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

PUBLIC AUCTION

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated: 1939 East West Parkway, Fleming Island, FL 32003
January 10, 2023 at 10:00 am
Ron Sutton-Household Goods
Page Ritchie- Household Goods
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage-treasures.com Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.
Legal 47761 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 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
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
CASE NO. 10-2018-CA-001325
NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A MR. COOPER, Plaintiff, vs. KATHERINE A. CASTELLINI, et al. Defendant(s).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated July 17, 2019, and entered in 10-2018-CA-001325 of the Circuit Court of the FOURTH Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A MR. COOPER is the Plaintiff and KATHERINE A. CASTELLINI; FLEMING ISLAND PLANTATION OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. are the Defendant(s). Tara S. Green as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.clay.realforeclose.com, at 10:00 AM, on January 13, 2023, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
LOT 172, CYPRESS GLEN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 46, PAGES 43 THROUGH 53, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.
Property Address: 1571 MAJESTIC VIEW LANE, ORANGE PARK, FL 32003
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 in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 45.031.
Dated this 15th day of December, 2022.
Tara S. Green
As Clerk of the Court
By: Gracie Moore
As Deputy Clerk
IMPORTANT AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability

Zero to Sold...in no time flat!
CLAY TODAY
Nothing moves faster than a Clay Today classified.
Get your merchandise moving today!
Place a classified by calling
904-579-2154

CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

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 crtntrp@coj.net or (904) 255-1695 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

Legal 47758 RAS 18-234096 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 4TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA. CASE NO.: 2016-CA-000046 WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Plaintiff,

v. JACKIE COOPER.; et. al, Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to an Amended Final Judgment in Foreclosure entered on December 1, 2022 and entered in Case No. 2016-CA-000046 in the Circuit Court of the 4th Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein JACKIE COOPER; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JACKIE COOPER NIK/ A PETER COOPER; WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA MORTGAGE, F.S.B.,

F/K/A WORLD SAVINGS BANK, FSB., are the Defendants. The Clerk of the Court, Tara S. Green will sell to the highest bidder for cash at https://www.clay.realforeclose.com on **January 25, 2023 at 10:00 AM**, following described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: **LOT 2, FOXMEADOW UNIT 1-A, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 13, PAGES 73 AND 74, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

and commonly known as **1304 FOXMEADOW TRAIL, MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068**

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 CLAW WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE. WITNESS my hand and the seal of the court on December 15, 2022.

TARA S. GREEN As Clerk of the Circuit Court Clay County, Florida.

Kayla Beard Deputy Clerk IMPORTANT

"IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS ANY ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT THE ADA COORDINATOR AT (904) 255-1695 OR CRTNTRP@COJ.NET AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED COURT APPEARANCE, OR IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTIFICATION IF THE TIME BEFORE THE SCHEDULED APPEARANCE IS LESS THAN 7 DAYS; IF YOU ARE HEARING OR VOICE IMPAIRED, CALL 711."

Legal 47644 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The online bidding and auction for Storage Rentals of America, 369 Blanding Blvd. will be held online at lockerfox.com through January 19, 2023, at 11:00AM. The entire contents of the following units will be sold to satisfy a lien and other charges according to FL Statutes 83.801. PERSONAL PROPERTY/HOUSEHOLD ITEMS:

- Unit # Tenant or Business Name
- C09 Raquel Manson
- C24 Anna Hunter
- C45 Gary Cruise
- D32 Thomas Cleveland, III
- D42 Taxes R Us, Inc.
- D59 Kendra Jackson
- D61 Gary Cruise
- D63 Jerry Barnes
- E03 Donald Flowers
- E36 Matthew Wheeler
- F02 Andrea Jones
- F15 Christa Babcock
- J10 Evelyn Robinson
- J29 Evelyn Robinson

Total Units: 14 Sale being held to satisfy Landlords' lien. The seller reserves the right to reject any/all bids and to withdraw any unit from sale. CASH ONLY. Contents to be removed within 72 hours.

Storage Rentals of America 369 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073 904-977-6400 Legal 47641 Published 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 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 CASE NO. 2021CA000483

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A CHAMPION MORTGAGE COMPANY, Plaintiff,

vs. THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF CORDELLA TYRE, DECEASED, et al. Defendant(s).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated August 10, 2022, and entered in 2021CA000483 of the Circuit Court of the FOURTH Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A CHAMPION MORTGAGE COMPANY is the Plaintiff and THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF CORDELLA TYRE, DECEASED; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; ANNETTE HALL; CAROLYN WEBB; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF ALICE MOORE, DECEASED; ANTHONY SZNAKOWSKI; MICHAEL SZNAKOWSKI; JAMES MOORE; BRITTANY GOODMAN; AARON MOORE; ASHLEY MOORE; ALEX MOORE; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF DEBRA JANE HOLLORAN, DECEASED; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF DWAYNE BROWN, DECEASED; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF LISA DIANA REEVES, DECEASED; CAROLYN REEVES; MELISA REEVES are the Defendant(s). Tara S. Green as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.clay.realforeclose.com, at 10:00 AM, on January 19, 2023, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: **PART OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTH-EAST 1/4 OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 23 EAST, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID NORTH 1/2; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 30 SECONDS EAST ON THE SOUTH LINE THEREOF, A DISTANCE OF 30.0 FEET TO THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF TOOKIE ROAD (A 60 FOOT RIGHT-OF-WAY AS NOW ESTABLISHED) AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 89 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 30 SECONDS EAST ON SAID SOUTH LINE A DISTANCE OF 361.50 FEET; THENCE NORTH 0 DEGREES 11 MINUTES 22 SECONDS EAST PARALLEL TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID NORTH 1/2 A DISTANCE OF 241.0 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 30 SECONDS WEST PARALLEL TO SAID SOUTH LINE A DISTANCE OF 361.50 FEET TO SAID EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 11 MINUTES 22 SECONDS WEST ON SAID EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE A DISTANCE OF 241.0 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, THE NORTH 25 FEET BEING SUBJECT TO A 50 FOOT EASEMENT FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS AS RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 957 PAGE 398, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 3180 TOWER OAKS DRIVE, ORANGE PARK, FL 32065. 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 CLAW WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE. WITNESS my hand and the seal of the court on December 15, 2022.

Tara S. Green As Clerk of the Circuit Court Clay County, Florida.

Kayla Beard Deputy Clerk IMPORTANT

"IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS ANY ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT THE ADA COORDINATOR AT (904) 255-1695 OR CRTNTRP@COJ.NET AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED COURT APPEARANCE, OR IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTIFICATION IF THE TIME BEFORE THE SCHEDULED APPEARANCE IS LESS THAN 7 DAYS; IF YOU ARE HEARING OR VOICE IMPAIRED, CALL 711."

Legal 47633 Published 12/22/2022, 12/29/2022, 1/5/2023 and 1/12/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.: 2019CA000387 BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. Plaintiff(s),

vs. LANE R. LARSON; et al., Defendant(s).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to the Order Granting Motion to Cancel and Reschedule Foreclosure Sale entered on December 9, 2022 in the above-captioned action, the Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.clay.realforeclose.com in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the **11th day of January, 2023 at 10:00 AM** on the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure or order, to wit: **LOT 217, OAKPOINT AT OAKLEAF PLANTATION, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 45, PAGES 59 THROUGH 65, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 3180 TOWER OAKS DRIVE, ORANGE PARK, FL 32065. 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.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at crtntrp@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.

Tara S. Green As Clerk of the Circuit Court Clerk of the Circuit Court BY:Rebecca Crews Deputy Clerk

Legal 47517 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 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 GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO. 10-2022-CA-000074 SELENE FINANCE LP, Plaintiff,

vs. STEVEN D. ZENTNER AND JULIA S. ZENTNER, et al. Defendant(s).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated **June 08, 2022**, and entered in 10-2022-CA-000074 of the Circuit Court of the FOURTH Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein SELENE FINANCE LP is the Plaintiff and STEVEN D. ZENTNER; JULIA S. ZENTNER; THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; CITIFINANCIAL SERVICES, INC. are the Defendant(s). Tara S. Green as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.clay.realforeclose.com, at 10:00 AM, on **February 15, 2023**, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: **LOT 12, WHISPER CREEK UNIT THREE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 40, PAGE(S) 59 THROUGH 62 INCLUSIVE, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA. Property Address: 3534 SPINDLESTONE CT, MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068**

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 IN ACCORDANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTES, SECTION 45.031. Dated this 31 day of October, 2022.

Tara S. Green As Clerk of the Court By: Leigh Lucroy As Deputy Clerk IMPORTANT

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY FLORIDA. CASE NO.: 10-2021-DP-000040 DIVISION: JV-E IN THE INTEREST OF: L.M. A CHILD

THE STATE OF FLORIDA TO: Cassandra Kuhns, Mother **YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that a Petition has been filed in the above-styled Court by the FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES for termination of parental rights and permanent commitment for subsequent adoption of the above-named child, L.M., who was born on June 4, 2019. You are hereby commanded to appear before the Honorable Angela M. Cox, at the Clay County Courthouse, Juvenile Dependency Courtroom, 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida at the hour of 2:00 p.m. o'clock on **January 24, 2023** A.D. You must appear at the hearing on the date and time specified.

FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THIS CHILD. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION ATTACHED TO THIS NOTICE. 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 (904) 255-1695 or crtntrp@coj.net at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled court appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

WITNESS my hand as clerk of said Court and the Seal thereof, this 13th day of December, 2022.

Tara S. Green As Clerk of Said Court By: Denise Haselwood As Deputy Clerk

Legal 47633 Published 12/22/2022, 12/29/2022, 1/5/2023 and 1/12/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.: 2019CA000387 BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. Plaintiff(s),

vs. LANE R. LARSON; et al., Defendant(s).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to the Order Granting Motion to Cancel and Reschedule Foreclosure Sale entered on December 9, 2022 in the above-captioned action, the Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.clay.realforeclose.com in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the **11th day of January, 2023 at 10:00 AM** on the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure or order, to wit: **LOT 217, OAKPOINT AT OAKLEAF PLANTATION, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 45, PAGES 59 THROUGH 65, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 3180 TOWER OAKS DRIVE, ORANGE PARK, FL 32065. 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.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at crtntrp@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.

Tara S. Green As Clerk of the Circuit Court Clerk of the Circuit Court BY:Rebecca Crews Deputy Clerk

Legal 47517 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 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 GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO. 10-2022-CA-000074 SELENE FINANCE LP, Plaintiff,

vs. STEVEN D. ZENTNER AND JULIA S. ZENTNER, et al. Defendant(s).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated **June 08, 2022**, and entered in 10-2022-CA-000074 of the Circuit Court of the FOURTH Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein SELENE FINANCE LP is the Plaintiff and STEVEN D. ZENTNER; JULIA S. ZENTNER; THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; CITIFINANCIAL SERVICES, INC. are the Defendant(s). Tara S. Green as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.clay.realforeclose.com, at 10:00 AM, on **February 15, 2023**, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: **LOT 12, WHISPER CREEK UNIT THREE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 40, PAGE(S) 59 THROUGH 62 INCLUSIVE, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA. Property Address: 3534 SPINDLESTONE CT, MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068**

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 IN ACCORDANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTES, SECTION 45.031. Dated this 31 day of October, 2022.

Tara S. Green As Clerk of the Court By: Leigh Lucroy As Deputy Clerk IMPORTANT

AM 2008 Ford Vin # 1ZVHT82H385106157 2007 Chevy Vin # 1GNFK13057J372788

Legal 47370 Published 12/15/2022 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: 22-DR-1642 Jessica Roszel, Petitioner And Nathan Cramer Respondent Name Change for Minor Child To: Nathan Cramer, last know address 1636 Sheridan St. Jacksonville, FL 32207.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Name Change for Minor Child has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Jessica Roszel, whose address is 2019 Creekmont Dr. Middleburg, FL 32068, on or before January 20, 2023, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 825 N. Orange Ave, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. Before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition. Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the addresses on record at the clerk's office. WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings. Dated: 12/09/2022 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT By: Gracie Moore (Deputy Clerk)

Legal 47372 Published RAS 21-127036 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

The following vehicles will be sold at public auction for towing and storage costs at Horton's Towing 3645 Hwy 17, Bldg. 2, Fleming Island, FL 32003 Horton's Towing reserves the right to accept or reject any and for all bids. Auction Date December 29, 2022, 9:00

Legal 47255 Published 12/15/2022, 12/22/2022, 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Legal 47634 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Legal 47634 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Legal 47634 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

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Legal 47634 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

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Legal 47634 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Legal 47634 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Legal 47370 Published 12/15/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Legal 47370 Published 12/15/2022 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: 22-DR-1642 Jessica Roszel, Petitioner And Nathan Cramer Respondent Name Change for Minor Child To: Nathan Cramer, last know address 1636 Sheridan St. Jacksonville, FL 32207.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Name Change for Minor Child has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Jessica Roszel, whose address is 2019 Creekmont Dr. Middleburg, FL 32068, on or before January 20, 2023, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 825 N. Orange Ave, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. Before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition. Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the addresses on record at the clerk's office. WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings. Dated: 12/09/2022 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT By: Gracie Moore (Deputy Clerk)

Legal 47372 Published RAS 21-127036 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

The following vehicles will be sold at public auction for towing and storage costs at Horton's Towing 3645 Hwy 17, Bldg. 2, Fleming Island, FL 32003 Horton's Towing reserves the right to accept or reject any and for all bids. Auction Date December 29, 2022, 9:00

Legal 47255 Published 12/15/2022, 12/22/2022, 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Legal 47634 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Legal 47634 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

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Legal 47634 Published 12/22/2022 and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

to subcontractors by the general contractors. **Electronic drawings and specifications will not be distributed. There will be Mandatory Pre-bid Meeting at the site on Thursday, 5 January 2023, at 11:00am 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 Clay County School District are eligible to submit bids for this project. **Only pre-qualified Contractors should submit bids for this project (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 payment and performance 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.

Protest Bond Requirement: Should a contractor wish to protest the bid recommendation, the protestor shall be required to post a bond as follows: I. Twenty-five thousand (\$25,000.00), or 2% of the lowest accepted bid, whichever is greater, for projects valued over \$500,000.00; and

II. Five percent (5%) of the lowest accepted bid for all projects valued less than \$500,000.00.

Conditioned upon payment of all cost and fees, which may be adjusted against the protestor, in the administrative hearing. If at the hearing, the school board prevails, it may recover all costs and attorney's fees from the protestor; if the protestor prevails, the protestor shall recover from the school board, all costs and attorney's fees.

Bid Tabulations shall be posted in the Operations Reception area at 925 Center Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida 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 Clay County District Schools

Legal 46995 Published 12/15/2022, 12/22/2022, and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids will be received by the District School Board of Clay County until **2:00pm on Wednesday, 18 January 2023,**

in the Purchasing Conference Room, 800 Center Street, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043

at which time and place all bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud for furnishing all labor and materials for the construction of:

WILKINSON ELEMENTARY KITCHEN/CAFETERIA RENOVATIONS

4965 C.R. 218, Middleburg, FL 32068

Work includes the replacement of acoustical ceiling tiles and lighting in the dining room and kitchen areas and the expansion of the existing freezer unit to the exterior with new refrigeration equipment. Complete scope is included in the Drawings and Specifications.

All work shall be done according to the plans and specifications prepared by:

BRIAN BOATRIGHT ARCHITECT, INC.

914 Plainfield Ave, Orange Park, FL 32073

email all questions to brianboatrightaia@gmail.com

include project number in subject line

Plans are on file and open to inspection at the office of the architect and are available for purchase and on file with the following plan room:

LDI Reprinting Center

550 Wells Road, Suite 8, Orange Park, FL 32073

(904) 579-4027

orangepark@ldireprinting.com

Addenda will be posted with the plan room listed above. Partial sets of drawings and/or specifications are not advised and neither the architect nor owner will be responsible for partial information given to subcontractors by the general contractors.

Electronic drawings and specifications will not be distributed.

There will be Mandatory Pre-bid Meeting at the site on Thursday, 5 January 2023, at 9:00am 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 Clay County School District are eligible to submit bids for this project. **Only pre-qualified Contractors should submit bids for this project (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 payment and performance 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.

Protest Bond Requirement: Should a contractor wish to protest the bid recommendation, the protestor shall be required to post a bond as follows: I. Twenty-five thousand (\$25,000.00), or 2% of the lowest accepted bid, whichever is greater, for projects valued over \$500,000.00; and

II. Five percent (5%) of the lowest accepted bid for all projects valued less than \$500,000.00.

Conditioned upon payment of all cost and fees, which may be adjusted against the protestor, in the administrative hearing. If at the hearing, the school board prevails, it may recover all costs and attorney's fees from the protestor; if the protestor prevails, the protestor shall recover from the school board, all costs and attorney's fees.

Bid Tabulations shall be posted in the Operations Reception area at 925 Center Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida 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 Clay County District Schools

Legal 46994 Published 12/15/2022, 12/22/2022, and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

TO: Unknown Spouse of Terri L. Cherry Last Known Address: 2943 Stonegate Lane Middleburg, FL 32068

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Clay County, Florida: **LOT 116, COPPERGATE UNIT THREE-B, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 38, PAGES 18, 19, 20, 21 AND 22, INCLUSIVE, 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 Julie York, Esquire, Brock & Scott, PLLC., the Plaintiffs attorney, whose address is 2001 NW 64th St, Suite 130, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309, within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication on or before

and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition. Dated on 12/27/2022

Tara Green As Clerk of the Court By Gracie Moore As Deputy Clerk

Legal 48855 Published 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 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

CASE NO.: 2018CA000967

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATE-HOLDERS OF CWABS INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-9

Plaintiff(s) vs. **BILLY A. WAGER; et al.,** Defendant(s).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to the Order Granting Motion to Reschedule Foreclosure Sale entered on December 14, 2022 in the above-captioned action, the Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.clay.realforeclose.com in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the 17th day of January, 2023 at 10:00 AM on the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure or order, to wit:

A parcel of land situated in the South half of the Northeast quarter of Section 12, Township 6 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida; said parcel being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at the Northeast corner of said Section 12; thence on the East line thereof, run South 00 degrees 40 minutes 48 seconds East 2,698.58 feet to the South line of the Northeast quarter; thence on last said line, South 88 degrees 51 minutes 00 seconds East 1,485.39 feet to the point of beginning; thence continue South 88 degrees 51 minutes 00 seconds West 495.15 feet to the West line of the East half, of the West half, of the Northeast quarter; thence on last said line, North 00 degrees 29 minutes 57 seconds West 583.82 feet; thence North 88 degrees 51 minutes 00 seconds East 494.23 feet; thence South 00 degrees 35 minutes 23 seconds East 583.82 feet, to the point of beginning, being 6.62 acres, more or less, in area. Together with an easement for ingress, egress and utilities covering the following described portion of Section 12; Commence at the Northeast corner of said Section 12; thence on the East line thereof, run South 00 degrees 40 minutes 48 seconds East 1,011.96 feet to the North line of the South half, of the South half, of the Northeast quarter; thence on last said line, South 88 degrees 27 minutes 48 seconds West 957.81 feet to the point of beginning; thence continue on last said line South 88 degrees 27 minutes 48 seconds West 60.0 feet; thence South 00 degrees 35 minutes 23 seconds East 1,679.77 feet to the South line of said Southeast quarter of the Northeast quarter; thence South 00 degrees 25 minutes 58 seconds East, 1974.23 feet to the North line of the Southwest quarter, of the Southeast quarter, of the Southeast quarter, of said Section 12; thence on last said line, North 88 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds East 60.0 feet; thence North 00 degrees 25 minutes 58 seconds West 1,974.12 feet to the South line of said Southeast quarter, of the Northeast quarter; thence North 00 degrees 35 minutes 23 seconds West 1,680.18 feet to the point of beginning. Also, together with an easement for ingress, egress and utilities covering the following described portion of said section 12: an easement for ingress, egress and utilities covering a portion of Section 12, Township 6 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida; said portion being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Northeast corner of said Section 12; thence on the East line thereof, run South 00 degrees 40 minutes 48 seconds East 2,698.58 feet, to the South line of the Southeast quarter, of the Northeast quarter; thence on last said line, South 88 degrees 51 minutes 00 seconds West 1,020.39 feet to the West line of a 60 foot easement for ingress, egress and utilities; thence on last said line, run the following two courses: (1) North 00 degrees 35 minutes 23 seconds West 261.91 feet to the point of beginning; (2) North 00 degrees 35 minutes 23 seconds West 60.00 feet; thence South 88 degrees 51 minutes 00 seconds West 465.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 35 minutes 23 seconds East 60.00 feet, to the point of beginning. Property address: 3838 Ron Road, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043

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.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator for the circuit court system at crtntrp@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.

Tara S. Green CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT As Clerk of the Court BY: Gracie Moore 12/16/2022 Deputy Clerk

Legal 48852 Published 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given of the Petition of Termination of Parental Rights filed by SHANNON MARIE WRIGHT, in relation to Z.M.D.W., a male child, born 09/08/2017. Notice is given to AUSTIN KYLE WRIGHT, or any persons claiming parental rights or interest in the minor child.

Please take note that a hearing has been set on this petition on the 6th day of February, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. in the Courtroom of Hon. Donald Rizzardi, Madison County Courthouse, 200 Northside Square, Huntsville, Alabama 35801. Please be advised that if you intend to contest this petition you must file a written response with the attorney for the petitioner named below and with the Juvenile Court of Madison County, 200 Northside Square, Huntsville, Alabama 35801, within thirty (30) days.

Legal 46644 Published 12/8/2022, 12/15/2022, 12/22/2022, and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

FIRST COAST TOWING gives notice that on 01/14/2023 at 10:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 2905 BLANDING BLVD. MIDDLEBURG, 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.

5NPEB4AC4CH476663 2012 HYUN KL4MMBS22LB087418 2020 BUIC KM8SR4HF7HU200095 2017 HYUN WBAAM3334XXC58553 1999 BMW

Legal 46550 Published 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION

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

CASE NO.: 10-2021-DP-000129

DIVISION: JV- E

IN THE INTEREST OF: R.S DOB: 04/02/2021

A MINOR CHILD THE STATE OF FLORIDA

TO: **Robin Lusk, MOTHER**

Address Unknown

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the above-styled Court by the FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES for termination of parental rights and permanent commitment for subsequent adoption of the above-named child, R.S. born April 2, 2021. You are hereby commanded to appear before **Honorable Angela M. Cox**, at the Clay County Courthouse, Juvenile Dependency Courtroom, 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida at the hour of **2:00 p.m. o'clock on January 3, 2023 A.D.** You must appear at the hearing on the date and time specified.

FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THIS R.S. AND YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS AS A PARENT TO THIS CHILD.

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 (904) 255-1695 or crtntrp@coj.net at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled court appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

WITNESS my hand as clerk of said Court and the Seal thereof, this 29th day of November, 2022.

Tara S. Green As Clerk of Said Court By: Denise Haselwood

Legal 46054 Published 12/8/2022, 12/15/2022, 12/22/2022, and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION

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

CASE NO.: 10-2022-DP-000084

DIVISION: JV-F

IN THE INTEREST OF: C.N. A CHILD

THE STATE OF FLORIDA

TO: **Craig Nevitt, FATHER** 2408 Grand Blvd. Lake Station, IN 46404 Last Known Address

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the above-styled Court by the FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES for termination of parental rights and permanent commitment for subsequent adoption of the above-named child, C.N., who was born on January 30, 2009. You are hereby commanded to appear before the **Honorable Angela M. Cox**, at the Clay County Courthouse, Juvenile Dependency Courtroom, 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida at the hour of **2:00 p.m. o'clock on January 6, 2023, A.D.** You must appear at the hearing on the date and time specified.

FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THIS CHILD. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION ATTACHED TO THIS NOTICE.

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 (904) 255-1695 or crtntrp@coj.net at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

FIRST COAST TOWING gives notice that on 01/14/2023 at 10:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 2905 BLANDING BLVD. MIDDLEBURG, 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.

5NPEB4AC4CH476663 2012 HYUN KL4MMBS22LB087418 2020 BUIC KM8SR4HF7HU200095 2017 HYUN WBAAM3334XXC58553 1999 BMW

Legal 45935 Published 12/8/2022, 12/15/2022, 12/22/2022, and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF SALE

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

Case No: 2019CA001396

Division: Civil

Judge Steven B. Whittington PNC Bank, National Association Plaintiff,

vs. Daniel Tanner, AKA Daniel Linn Tanner, et al.

Defendants,

Notice is hereby given that on January 25, 2023, at 10:00 AM, the below named Clerk of Court will offer by electronic sale at www.clay.realforeclose.com the following described real property:

Lot 24, Block 5, Green Cove Heights, according to plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 19, Pages 58,59 and 60 of the public records of Clay County Florida.

Commonly known as: 435 Melrose Avenue, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from this 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.

The sale is being held pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure, entered on November 22, 2022, in Civil Case No. 2019CA001396, pending in the Circuit Court in Clay County, Florida.

DATED this December 15, 2022.

TARA S. GREEN CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Kayla Beard Deputy Clerk

Legal 48856 Published 12/29/2022 and 1/5/2023 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

Case No. 2022CA000909

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION

vs. Plaintiff,

Terri L. Cherry; Coppergate Estates Owners Association, Inc.; Unknown Spouse of Terri L. Cherry

Defendants.

TO: Unknown Spouse of Terri L. Cherry Last Known Address: 2943 Stonegate Lane Middleburg, FL 32068

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Clay County, Florida: **LOT 116, COPPERGATE UNIT THREE-B, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 38, PAGES 18, 19, 20, 21 AND 22, INCLUSIVE, 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 Julie York, Esquire, Brock & Scott, PLLC., the Plaintiffs attorney, whose address is 2001 NW 64th St, Suite 130, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309, within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication on or before

and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition. Dated on 12/27/2022

Tara Green As Clerk of the Court By Gracie Moore As Deputy Clerk

Legal 46054 Published 12/8/2022, 12/15/2022, 12/22/2022, and 12/29/2022 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION

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

CASE NO.: 10-2022-DP-000084

DIVISION: JV-F

IN THE INTEREST OF: C.N. A CHILD

THE STATE OF FLORIDA

TO: **Craig Nevitt, FATHER** 2408 Grand Blvd. Lake Station, IN 46404 Last Known Address

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the above-styled Court by the FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES for termination of parental rights and permanent commitment for subsequent adoption of the above-named child, C.N., who was born on January 30, 2009. You are hereby commanded to appear before the **Honorable Angela M. Cox**, at the Clay County Courthouse, Juvenile Dependency Courtroom, 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida at the hour of **2:00 p.m. o'clock on January 6, 2023, A.D.** You must appear at the hearing on the date and time specified.

FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THIS CHILD. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION ATTACHED TO THIS NOTICE.

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 (904) 255-1695 or crtntrp@coj.net at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

FIRST COAST TOWING gives notice that on 01/14/2023 at 10:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 2905 BLANDING BLVD. MIDDLEBURG, 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.

Classifieds for Clay County

Serving Keystone Heights, Orange Park, Fleming Island, Green Cove Springs, Oakleaf, Penney Farms & Middleburg

904-579-2154
3513 U.S. Hwy 17
Fleming Island, FL 32003

MESSAGE TO ADVERTISERS

All ads are non-refundable. Please check your ad copy the first week of publication. We will only apply credit for the first run and credits are subject to approval of the publisher. If ad is canceled prior to the first insertion cancellation must be made by classified deadline of Monday by noon. Ads must comply with Federal, State a

local laws. We are not responsible for ad content. Ads are subject to approval by the publisher.

DEADLINE MONDAY NOON

LINER ADS

All line ads are 4 lines, 20-25 characters per line. Additional lines may be purchased. All rates are NET.

PRIVATE PARTY COMMERCIAL

1 week \$14.50 **1 week \$23**
2 week \$24 **2 week \$40**
3 week \$32 **3 week \$56**
4 week \$40 **4 week \$72**

EMPLOYMENT SPOTLIGHT

Ads are \$27 per column inch with a minimum of 2"

ESTATE & GARAGE SALES

\$21

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

1.5" x 2" \$80 for 4 weeks
1.5" x 3" \$160 for 4 weeks

Cost includes online at:
claytodayonline.com

Miscellaneous

DISCOUNT AIR TRAVEL. Call Flight Services for best pricing on domestic & international flights inside and from the US. Serving United, Delta, American & Southwest and many more airlines. Call for free quote now! Have travel dates ready! 866-245-7709

Miscellaneous

BUYING GOLD & SILVER

Please email description and photos to 1mhcarter@windstream.net or call 352-494-7619

DONATE YOUR VEHICLE to fund the SEARCH FOR MISSING CHILDREN. FAST FREE PICKUP. 24 hour response. Running or not. Maximum Tax Deduction and No Emission Test Required! Call 24/7: 866-471-2576

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