

CLAY TODAY SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS

— PAGES 24-25

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Dani-Lynn visits friends



Nothing makes Dani-Lynn and her mother, Amelia Early, happier than when they get to stop at the police department.

Special girl gets tour of Green Cove Springs Police Department

By Kylie Crodell
For Clay Today

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The police department was pleasantly surprised when communications Officer Brandi Acres mentioned seven-year-old Dani-Lynn was going to visit her friends at the station.

The department welcomed Dani-Lynn

SEE DANI-LYNN, 12



Judge Tori Granese and Keystone Heights Elementary student Carter Andrews discuss his Science Fair project Tuesday. See list of winners pages 24-25.

Judges impressed at Clay Rotary Science and Engineering Fair

County's top 109 students bring ingenious projects to fairgrounds

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – When Aaliyah (Devin) Callahan enrolled at Clay High after being home-schooled for three years, she was terrified by what she saw. The restrooms were filled with vape smoke and there were several mentions of drug use.

"It hit me like a truck," she said. "I was surprised seeing it in high school."

That gave Callahan an idea for this year's Clay Rotary Science and Engineering Fair. She posted a question-

naire on social media and placed QR codes on the walls at the school to solicit information about the connection between anxiety and drug use.

The message was: "Are you diagnosed with anxiety? Do you partake in drug use? (EX. weed, nicotine, alcohol, methamphetamines, ect.?)"

"The school let me put up the QR codes and everything was anonymous," Callahan said. "I also put a Google Form on social media and kept it up for two

SEE SCIENCE, 25

Fleming Island's Jordan wins Patti Grace Smith Fellowship grant

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

Janae Jordan's career path has been like a ride on a spaceship – meteoric with a seemingly-scripted course.

As a child, she loved building Ikea furniture and playing with LEGOs, which led her to take engineering classes at Lakeside Junior High. That led to studying robotics and a seventh-grade trip to the Duke Talent Identification Program. The only courses available at Duke were aerospace engineering, so her future continued to be narrowly refined.

Now a freshman at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach,

SEE JORDAN, 6



Janae Jordan

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STAFF PHOTOS BY DON COBLE

Construction has become part of the everyday routine for residents in the Lake Asbury area. According to Board of County Commissioners Chairwoman Betsy Condon, more than 10,000 building permits are planned for the area, creating overwhelming demands for infrastructure improvements, as well as the need for additional police, fire, rescue services and schools.

Is bigger better?

Residents, county wrestle to get ahead of growth in Lake Asbury

By Lee Wardlaw
lee@claytodayonline.com

LAKE ASBURY – With multiple construction developments seeking to move forward with blueprint plans, what used to be a quiet area could soon become a primary example of what overdevelopment looks like in the county.

U.S. Census data indicates a 21.2% rise in the community’s population from 2010 to 2020, a figure that rose from 8,700 to 11,036 residents, which could become even larger soon.

County Commission Chairwoman Besty Condon said during the State of the County luncheon last month that more than 10,000 home permits were already planned for the area.

That same rural sentiment still has some familiarity in the Lake Asbury community, but that’s something that could possibly fade away with time.

Priscilla Welch, who has been a resident of Lake Asbury for 28 years, said she used to be able to ride her horse on the street. Welch, a server at Dalton’s Sports Grill on Henley Road, has owned two acres in Lake Asbury since 1995.

Her trails are now filled with heavy traffic and heavy construction equipment.

Another resident of 40 years isn’t happy with the rapid growth.

“It sounded like shooting over there on Sunday. I don’t want to talk about it. Don’t get me started,” an anonymous local grumbled.

A number like 11,000 residents may not seem like too many. Still, even a population that grows by a little bit could create additional stress in a community that possesses infrastructure that has its limits.

Asbury Lake is defined by two-lane roads, with County Road 220 running northeast to northwest, County Road 218 stretching south, and Russell Road and Sandridge Road. Henley Road interconnects the area.

“The concern of everyone here is the infrastructure. The Board of County Commissioners approved so much development to occur,” said Kay Manly, a Lake Asbury resident who’s opposed to overdevelopment in the community.

But that’s not all.

The second phase of construction for the 46-mile First Coast Expressway running through Clay, Duval and St John’s counties has been ongoing since March 2019.

The expressway is planned to pass through State Road 16 to Blanding Boulevard – a 10.5-mile stretch that will carve through the middle of the Lake Asbury area.

The potential effects are unknown, but placing a large highway in the middle of Lake Asbury could spell trouble for an area already seeing some struggles due to infrastructure.

With only so many schools, police stations, and fire stations in Lake Asbury to go around, Manly is concerned that these services, which serve as the lifeblood of any



community, might not be able to keep pace with the growth that is taking place.

“Without the appropriate fees, we don’t have the roads, schools, and fire and police stations to keep up with all of this new growth,” Manly said.

The county commission voted to impose \$121 million in impact fees to be collected during the next 22 years to help pay for the growth. That equates to as much as \$7,034 for each new home, but the county won’t start collecting those fees until June.

The two closest high schools to Lake Asbury are Middleburg High (7.7 miles away) and Clay High (12.5 miles).

Doctors Inlet, RideOut, Coppergate, Lake Asbury and Shadowlawn are within a seven-mile circle for elementary school parents. Still, with only one junior school – Lake Asbury – and no high schools in the immediate area, options for some students could be limited until a new high school is built.

One new development is Hyland Trail

on Henley Road. The property will soon become a master-planned community that will offer approximately 1,500 residential homesites, according to the website of the developer, Green Pointe Holdings.

Plans for the Community Development District call for amenities like multi-purpose trails connecting neighborhood pocket parks, a resort-style pool and a dog park.

For now, Hyland Trail resembles a baron pit of sand and mud. A stormwater retention pond sits at the front of the unfinished development with runoff and tire tracks making their mark on an area with plenty of unfinished construction still left to be completed.

Behind the pond, many large pipes and construction materials for soon-to-be underground infrastructure for sewage and drainage lay down, ready to be placed into action.

A sign at the front of the property

SEE GROWTH, 6

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HCA Florida Middleburg Emergency is partnering with **Shred for Good** in Green Cove Springs for a document shredding event. Bring a non-perishable food item and drop off your documents for shredding at no cost. The event is drive-thru style — no need to get out of your car.

Why moving public notices to government websites is a bad idea

By **Jim Folger**
President and CEO of
Florida Press Association

Last year, the Legislature passed a public notice bill that went into effect Jan. 1. The new law gives counties the option to place public notices solely on their own government website and dispense with any such notice in the traditional format – newspapers and newspaper websites.

The reasons given for county websites vary – saving the government money, newspapers are dying, it's a newspaper subsidy, no one reads public notices, etc. But a closer look reveals another side to the story, one that casts doubt and reveals the downsides of such a plan.

In fact, government website-only notice will push government actions further into the shadows and make them less transparent. And it will make it harder for Floridians to monitor their local government and hold their leaders accountable.

Public notices cover a host of government activities, ranging from local millage rates and zoning changes to delinquent taxes and school board decisions. They can herald an important hearing by elected officials on matters crucial to everyday lives. The notices are, in fact, a form of basic constitutional due process protecting the rights of citizens and their property in a functioning democracy.

Under the traditional process, the notices are not just placed in the printed newspaper. They are also required by law to be posted visibly on the newspaper's website. In addition, the notices are required to be uploaded to a searchable FPA website that aggregates all Florida government notices at floridapublicnotices.com.

If a citizen wants follow-up notices to those posted to the site (or the newspaper's site), he or she can request email alerts of the new notices. These services -- required by law -- are free to the public; there is no paywall. What's more, the aggregated site continues to be

modernized and upgraded to serve Florida's state government, as well as its towns, municipalities, businesses and taxpayers.

If this traditional process is discarded and notices moved to the county website, they will no longer be posted in newspapers or on the statewide website. The re-



Jim Folger

SEE NOTICES, 5

OPINIONS



Trump's newest low blow calls Ron DeSantis a 'groomer'

By **A.G. Gancarski**
For *FloridaPolitics.com*

Ron DeSantis continues to be attacked by former President Donald Trump as indications increase the two are on a collision course next year.

Trump took to his personal social media platform, Truth Social, to sling fresh mud at the Florida Governor, including accusations DeSantis was engaging in "grooming" behavior.

Trump began the barrage by "re-truthing" a post incorporating a tweet from 2018 urging the election to be "called" in favor of DeSantis and Rick Scott, each of whom was in close elections that November. In another re-truth, the former President answered a rhetorical question about the then-Congressman voting against the "border wall" in 2018.

"Wow, if I knew that, I wouldn't have Endorsed him (and he would have had to quit the race, down 35 points!)," Trump contended, alluding to stories told frequently about how DeSantis begged him for his endorsement, apparently with "tears coming down from his eyes," and said that he would have quit the race for Governor without it.

That material is well-rehearsed, as followers of this one-sided flame war know. But last Tuesday, the former President opened up a new and sordid line of attack, focusing on a photograph dating back to the Governor's short-lived career as a teacher at a college preparatory academy, where he reportedly fraternized with students.

The former President re-truthed a poster commenting on a picture of De-

DeSantis had not offered similarly pitched attacks, attempting to remain above the fray when compelled to respond to Trump's goading, such as during a recent press conference in Southwest Florida when the Governor avoided attacking Trump by name. "What I would just say is this: I roll out of bed, I have people attacking me from all angles. It's been happening for many, many years," DeSantis said.

Santis and former students.

"Ron DeSantis was having a 'drink' party with his students when he was a high school teacher. Having drinks with underage girls and cuddling with them certainly look pretty gross and ephebo-philiaesque," went the description.

Trump responded, "No way?"

Then, a second re-truth on a post with text on the image stating, "Here is Ron DeSanctimonious grooming high school girls with alcohol as a teacher."

"That's not Ron, is it? He would never do such a thing!" Trump responded sarcastically.

The timing seems more than coincidental, amid news that allies of DeSantis are forming a super PAC ahead of an expected run for the White House beginning later this year.

SEE TRUMP, 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.

Mumpsimus: (MUMP-si-mus) a noun that means a traditional custom that has been proven to be unreasonable.

"Instead of staying hydrating and resting, my father believed drinking whiskey with honey was the best way to beat a cold."

This Week in History

Five years ago, 2018

- The Green Cove Springs City Council agrees to conduct a feasibility study to determine whether an airport should be allowed at Reynolds Industrial Park.
- The Clay County School Board decides to withdraw from a multi-school district lawsuit against the state's decision to share property taxes between public and charter schools.
- Thirty-three members of the Boy Scouts achieved the rank of Eagle during a special ceremony in Orange Park.

10 years ago, 2013

- Florida Sen. Rob Bradley said he would review reports from the Department of Corrections and Department of Juvenile Justice budgets to ensure money is being spent effectively.
- Community volunteers helped the Career and Technical Education program of the Clay County District Schools to distribute 2,400 cabbage plants to elementary students.
- Lincoln Memorial and Wingate universities co-hosted the Spring Intercollegiate Golf Tournament at The Golf Club of Fleming Island.

20 years ago, 2003

- Wilkinson Junior High teacher Annie Montgomery, known for serenading her students, is selected as the Clay County Teacher of the Year.
- Gov. Jeb Bush selected Timothy R. Collins to the Clay County Court's Fourth Judicial Circuit.
- Clay County starts the state's only family law court night.

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.

Trump

from page 4

Trump had taken nearly a week off from attacks on DeSantis, with the last barrage being at the beginning of February, when he took to his Truth Social account to whack DeSantis as a “globalist” and a “RINO” (Republican in name only).

“Thank you. The real Ron is a RINO GLOBALIST who closed quickly down Florida and even its beaches. Loved the Vaccines and wasted big money on ‘Testing.’ How quickly people forget!”

Trump also “re-truthed,” similar to re-tweeting on Twitter, various supportive messages, such as “President Trump will destroy DeSantis in the primary,” “people need to do there (sic) research, DeSantis is fake and a globalist,” and reminders that the then-Congressman voted for resolutions that would raise the retirement age to 70.

“You need to go back and look at his



history. You will change your mind. He is a RINO. Paid opposition to keep Trump from saving America. A vote for DeSantis is a vote for the establishment,” read a message from one Trump supporter that the former President boasted.

Trump also offered a retort to DeSantis’ assertions the voters of Florida had offered a “verdict” by re-electing him in 2022 by

massive margins.

“Remember, I was 233-20 in the Mid-terms and got 1.2 Million Votes MORE than Ron DeSanctimonious in the Great State of Florida. Also, 12 Million MORE Votes in 2020 than in 2016, and Won!”

Prior to that, Trump posted a video of then-Congressman DeSantis citing former House Speaker Paul Ryan as a model, continuing a stream of abuse on the so-called “globalist” Governor.

DeSantis had not offered similarly

pitched attacks, attempting to remain above the fray when compelled to respond to Trump’s goading, such as during a recent press conference in Southwest Florida when the Governor avoided attacking Trump by name.

“What I would just say is this: I roll out of bed, I have people attacking me from all angles. It’s been happening for many, many years,” DeSantis said.

“If you take a crisis situation like COVID, the good thing is that if you’re an elected executive, you have to make all kinds of decisions. You’ve got to steer that ship. And the good thing is, the people are able to render a judgment on that, whether they re-elect you or not.”

That’s about as heated as DeSantis’ references have gotten. The Governor seemed to curry Trump’s favor at a roundtable about “defamation” earlier Tuesday, in which he offered yet another condemnation of the “Russia collusion hoax” Trump was accused of. DeSantis had spent his last two years in Congress defending Trump against those allegations, which the former President said helped guide him to endorsing DeSantis against Adam Putnam.

Notices

from page 4

sult will be a county-by-county patchwork of notices around the states — making public notices less visible and accessible to the public.

What about the claim that newspapers are dying? While print circulation in daily papers has declined, weekly newspapers are growing, and our dailies are seeing increases in digital subscriptions and page views. In some cases, newspapers are experiencing double-digit online growth.

Newspapers in Florida reach 5.6 million readers in any given week, and our newspaper websites typically reach more audiences than most city or county websites and draw a minimum of 53 million unique online users in any given month. The claim of newspaper irrelevancy is simply not true. They are more relevant than ever.

So, what about the cost savings the government websites will produce? In the counties considering this change, no specific savings have been outlined. If county websites replace newspapers, the local governments will be required to recreate the same infrastructure newspaper already have — increasing the cost of government.

In addition, without investment in mar-

keting to direct citizens to hundreds of government websites, the public will not know where to find public notices. Also, on the expense front, county government public notice websites will also be required to provide citizens, if requested, a copy of notices via email or first-class mail — another new cost.

As for the charge that the notices are a newspaper subsidy, it’s true newspapers derive some revenue from them, but calling it a subsidy ignores the fact that newspapers perform a service just as other county vendors do.

This issue is not only about money. It’s about an independent publisher helping to ensure government transparency and honesty.

Public notices belong in a public forum -- newspapers -- where citizens are most likely to see them. Public notices should remain in newspapers, not placed on hundreds of different government websites, with the hope that people will find them.

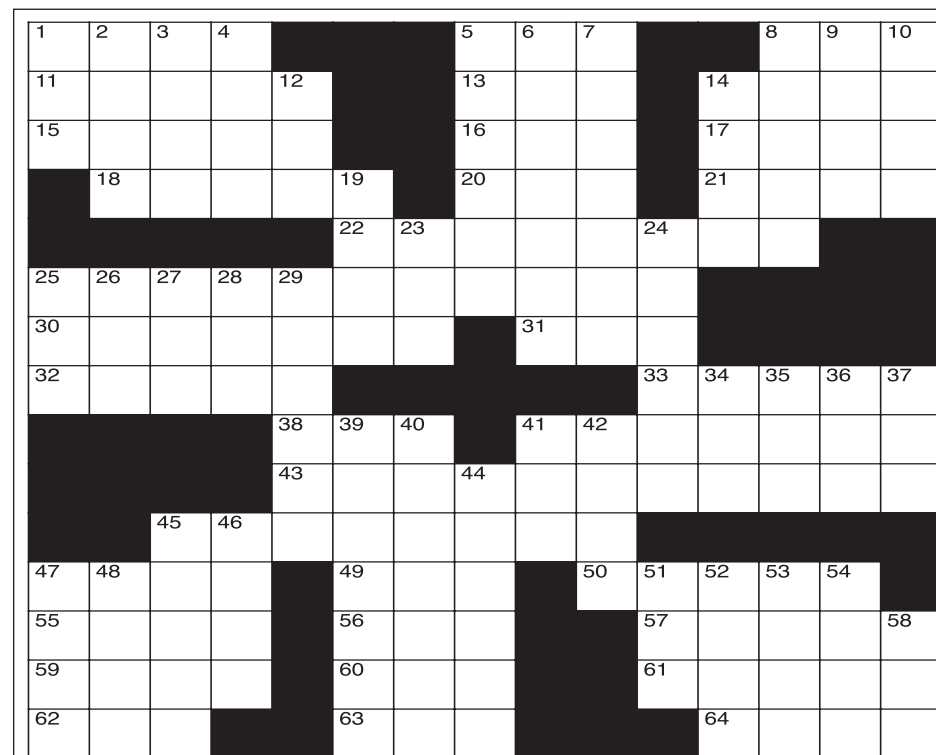
Call your county and city officials to share your views. Tell them the other side of the story--and directly from citizens who care.

Jim Folger is the President and CEO Florida Press Association representing the daily and weekly newspapers of Florida. 336 E. College Ave. Suite 304, Tallahassee. He can be reached at jfogler@flpress.com

\$10,000 for a soccer complex and park in Keystone Heights.

40 years ago, 1983

- A judge orders the county to spend \$65,000 to comply with Department of Environmental regulations.
- The Fleming Island Neighborhood Plan gets pushback for not providing land-owners sufficient time ahead of a meeting.
- The Middleburg Civic Association decides to raise its rent from \$15 to \$20 for using its office.



CLUES ACROSS

- Functions
- Records electric currents associated with contractions of the heart
- Trigonometric function (abbr.)
- Secret political clique
- Type of gibbon
- Nocturnal S. American rodent
- Famed American playwright
- Mesopotamian goddess
- Abba ____, Israeli politician
- Long ridge of gravel and sediment
- A place to stay
- Actor Idris
- One who behaves in a rebellious way
- A way to measure movement
- Distinguish oneself
- Type of drug (abbr.)
- Basketball great Baylor
- Masses of salivary matter
- Calls balls and strikes
- Plant that grows along the ground
- A recreational activity in the air
- Consumes too much

CLUES DOWN

- Fiddler crabs
- Discount
- Partner to ‘flows’
- Ethnic group of Laos
- Beloved ‘Seinfeld’ character
- Book of tickets
- The last name of ‘Hermione’
- Type of TV package
- Helps to heal a cut
- Town in Galilee
- Actor Horsley
- ‘Hocus Pocus 2’ actor Ed

- Bird-loving group (abbr.)
- They respond when someone is sick
- Emerged
- Midway between south and southeast
- Monetary unit of Afghanistan
- Unit of work or energy
- Indicates near
- Famed river
- For each
- News organization
- CNN’s founder
- They ____
- Areas off to the side
- Satisfies
- A spare bed
- Legendary singer Diana
- Frothy mass of bubbles
- A kind of sorcery
- River in South Africa
- Philippine Island
- Country in China
- S. American plant
- Beverage containers
- Edge
- Protein-rich liquids
- Moved quickly on foot

History

from page 4

30 years ago, 1993

- County officials learn the state won’t be able to fund a proposed expressway between Clay and Duval counties because of the poor economy.
- The State of Florida Auditor General gave the Clay County District Schools an A-plus for the way it handles its finances.
- Florida Rock Industries donates

Orange Park still working on plans to phase out septic tanks

By Lee Wardlaw
lee@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK – The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Septic To Sewer project highlighted Tuesday night's Town Council meeting because it affects several residents and impacts the future of the infrastructure.

The council said it was concerned that 50 properties in Orange Park are not connected to the town's sewer services.

According to town manager Sarah Campbell, the project will be completed in

two phases. Work is currently underway in the right-of-ways owned by the town to extend the sewer mains to those homes. Water mains will also be added if needed.

The second part of that process would be going onto private properties to connect those pieces of land.

The reason behind this is to improve water quality and stormwater runoff concerns for lakes and streams.

However, the measure was not put to a vote, as mayor Randy Anderson determined it would be best to have an educa-



tion workshop within the next few weeks to receive feedback from residents. Then, the item would move to Orange Park's agenda for next month's meeting.

Three potential options would be available for residents. If their home required a grinder pump, a town electrical bill rebate

could be offered for an extended period, allowing residents to cover the cost at a low rate.

Campbell suggested a cost of \$36 annually for 10 years, which would be part of

SEE SEPTIC, 30

Jordan

from page 1

Jordan was one of a handful of students in the country to earn the Patti Grace Smith Fellowship.

The honor comes with paid internships at industry-leading firms, professional mentoring and grants of as much as \$2,000. For the third consecutive year, Embry-Riddle had the most students selected for this award of any university in the country.

"When I was at Duke TIP, I took the (aerospace engineering) class and it was fun," the Fleming Island High graduate said. "It wasn't as hard as I thought it would be. That's when I thought maybe this is what I want to do with my career. That's how it all happened."

The fellowship is offered to Black students as a "commitment to help African-Americans around the world to get their foot in the door," Jordan said. It recognizes students based on excellence in academics, creativity, ingenuity and serving others to help promote diversity in the aerospace sector, including in engineering, science, policy and more.

"We are delighted to continue to find excited, driven and talented students that want to bring Black excellence into aerospace," said Tiffany Russell Lockett, cofounder of the Patti Grace Smith Fellowship. "Our goal is always to bring the best students forward for our host companies to consider, and this is the most

competitive class to date. With the highest number of applicants ever, we are excited to see where this class goes and how we will continue to make an impact in the future."

The annual fellowship is given to 31 students a year.

For Jordan, it was another step in a complicated life. Her mother died of a brain tumor when she was 11. Her academic records were lost when her school closed, which forced her to retake all of her placement exams. Suddenly she was a year behind her classmates.

"However, this gave me the motivation to catch up in any way possible," she said.

To catch up, Jordan took dual classes that got her back on track with the rest of her class and helped her earn college credits. Her success in those courses led to scholarships and, eventually, to acceptance into Embry-Riddle.

After graduation, Jordan hopes to work in the design and manufacturing of rockets or planes.

Now majoring in Aerospace Engineering, Jordan will do her internship at BryceTech in Alexandria, Virginia.

"We couldn't be prouder of our students chosen for this prestigious award," said Russell Griffin, Embry-Riddle's chief diversity and inclusion officer. "These Patti Grace Smith Fellowship winners exemplify how Embry-Riddle's deep focus on readiness for aerospace engagement extends to all our students, making them standouts to and for the industry."

Growth

from page 2

reads: "Coming Soon: New Homes From the \$300s (\$300,000s)."

Another potential issue that Manly is also worried about is another phenomenon caused by the growth is less affordable housing available to the public.

"School teachers and firefighters can't afford a \$300,000-plus home. Affordable housing is going away out here," she said.

However, not all are opposed to development in the community.

"I think that the growth is good for (local businesses). This business is wonderful. I'm worried about traffic, but I'm OK with the growth and bringing some business out here," Welch said.

Safeguards have been set in place by the county to prevent the problem further. This includes the Lake Asbury and Branan Field Master Plans, which are the county's fastest-growing areas, primarily due to the construction of the First Coast Expressway, according to Annaleesa Winter, County Commission Public Information Officer. The plans have specific guidelines that control the types and quality of development in these two areas.

Those plans can be found at www.clay-countygov.com/government/planning-and-zoning/master-plans.

The BCC approved a 12-month moratorium on any proposed land use amendment that increases allowable residential densities in the Lake Asbury Master Plan Area on Nov. 9, 2021, and was renewed a year later. Commissioners also held a pub-

lic hearing on an ordinance to address the matter further.

Another environmental issue could be if Lake LARC Development pushes forward with its \$7 million Capital Improvement Plan. However, there are no known plans are currently in place for development on the land.

The development could prove to be harmful to a parcel that has several complexities in a Fall 1982 report from the University of Florida, which among other things, found new homes aren't suitable for septic tanks.

One major side effect that could potentially damage both the natural environment and quality of life for residents is runoff from stormwater containing the nutrients from landscaping and septic tanks.

Lake LARC flows directly into Lake Asbury, which then flows into Black Creek.

Lake Asbury experienced a large algal bloom in 2021, and it's possible that future development at Lake LARC would further trigger the foul, green mess issue, especially for a lake that is already being treated as a retention pond for a growing Henley Road area that already has several new homes across the street.

The potential of construction vehicles moving in and out of home sites for several years could overstress Lake Asbury and other dams. The Florida Department of Transportation posted a weight limit sign at a barrier that had already been slapped with a label by the National Inventory of Dams with an Unsatisfactory Construction Rating.



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Obituaries

Ruby L. Gilstrap

Ruby Livingston Gilstrap at the age of 92 departed peacefully and joyfully from this life and went home to be with her Savior on Jan 22, 2023.

She is survived by one brother, Leonard Livingston of Sarasota and her three boys, Harold, Vance and Alan along with their wives, 10 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, and their families.

Ruby was a proud 4th generation Floridian, born outside of Ocala in Reddick, Florida as the oldest girl of eight children. After moving to Jacksonville, she worked for Gulf Life Insurance and later for Dr. William H. Houston. Ruby was a long time member of First Baptist Church of Jacksonville where she sang in the choir, taught training union and met her husband R.F. Gilstrap. They were married by Dr. Homer G. Lindsay Sr., for 60 years until her husband's passing in 2011. She was a devoted Christian, wife, and mother throughout her life. She would say to her boys, "Love God and trust in Him. No one owes you anything, so work hard and don't quit. Follow your dreams, and remember that nothing worthwhile is easy."

Her family and friends were always in her daily thoughts and prayers. Known as a hard worker, kind, gentle, and a friend, Ruby was loved by everyone who knew her. A celebration of life and a family reunion will be held at Silver Springs State Park, where she was baptized as a 12 year old girl, on Saturday, May 13, 2023.



Ruby L. Gilstrap

Eric Anthony Johnson

Born September 8, 1965 in Dallas, Texas, Passed away February 1, 2023 in Green Cove Springs, Florida.

Eric is survived by his parents, Emily and Bill Carter of Middleburg, his two daughters, Erin Carter of Middleburg and Bethany Ward of Middleburg, his son Christopher Ansley of Texas, and his brother Keith Johnson of Euless, Texas and his son Daxxon. He has three grandchildren, Sierra, Chloe, and Harley.

Eric was a truck driver by trade. He was the former President of the Men's Auxiliary of Middleburg VFW Post 8255.

The funeral will be held at the Middleburg United Methodist Church at 3925 Main Street on Saturday February 18, at 11a.m.



Eric ANthony Johnson

Deanna Wooley Griffis

Deanna Wooley Griffis, age 84, of Orange Park, Florida passed away on Thursday, February 2, 2023. Deanna was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia to the late Irene Lillian and Robie Evans Welsman.

She is survived by twin daughters: Irene W. (Ronnie A.) Beddard and Darlene W. (Larry R.) Dobbs. Brother, Robie N. Welsman. Sister, L. Janie Green. Three grandchildren, Mindy, Melanie and Ryan. Four Great-Grandchildren: Delaney, Annalise, Kingston and Portland.

A visitation for Deanna was held Tuesday, February 7, 2023 from 5p.m. to 7 p.m. at Hardage - Giddens Holly Hill Funeral Home, 3601 Old Jennings Road, Middleburg, FL 32068.

A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, February 8 at 1 p.m. at Hardage - Giddens Holly Hill Funeral Home burial will follow in Holly Hill Memorial Park.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.hollyhillfunerals.com for the Griffis family.

Dorothy "Dot" K. Wolgemut

Dorothy "Dot" K. Wolgemuth, 93, of Green Cove Springs, FL, passed away February 1, 2023. 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



Orange Park Mall welcomes six new stores

For Clay Today

ORANGE PARK – The Orange Park Mall will welcome six new stores in the coming weeks, bringing the 950,000-square-foot shopping center to nearly 100% occupied.

"We are thrilled to be adding these exciting new retailers to our center this year," said Randy Bowman, mall General Manager.

FXA is currently operating more than 70 locations in Colombia and Latin America, is new to the United States and will carry an exclusive collection of bags and accessories for women and girls. They plan to open this spring and their 1,400-square-foot store is near Dillard's.

Sunelli will be located near JCPenney in a 3,000-square-foot space and features women's clothing and accessories at a single price or less concept.

A Jacksonville favorite since 2017, 21 Queen Street Coffee is a fully independent and woman-owned coffee roasting company. The new coffee bar in Center Court will feature light refreshments in addition to all



things coffee.

Zenmein will be located near Belk and features 4,000 square feet of natural, organic, eco-friendly, and healthy products, including candles, diffusers and full aroma systems for home and business.

Elegant Jewelers will occupy 1,700 square feet with a variety of fine jewelry near the Food Court.

Timeless Vintage, a sister store to Timeless Sneaker Boutique, will feature vintage and collectible apparel from clas-

sic and retro brands. Their new store is near Books-A-Million.

Orange Park Mall's newest retailers will enhance the center's variety of retail stores to continue to provide guests a dynamic shopping experience and is one example of the mall's ongoing commitment to creating a vibrant shopping center where community members can safely shop, dine and connect.

For additional information, visit OrangeParkMall.com.

Ardith Terry Bailey

Ardith Terry Bailey, 92, of Orange Park, FL, passed away Feb. 1, 2023

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.



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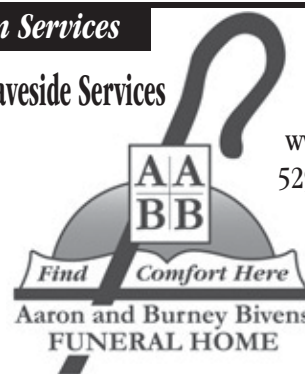


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Chris Wood installed as new NE Florida Builders Association president

For Clay Today

JACKSONVILLE – The Northeast Florida Builders Association recently installed its Executive Officers and Board Members, including Chris Wood of Riverside Homes, who will serve as the 79th president.

Wood was presented with the gavel, representing NEFBA's highest office of leadership, by his father and longtime NEFBA member, Rick Wood.

"The legacy of NEFBA is built on 79 years of industry leadership. This association has provided support and a collective voice for the home building industry in Northeast Florida," Wood said. "I am humbly honored to serve as President for the coming year and look forward to work-



Chris Wood

ing with our Board and members to extend NEFBA's contribution to the community."

Officers and boards of directors were

sworn in for the Remodelers Council, Professional Women in Building, Sales and Marketing Council and Young Professional Group. NEFBA's regional builders councils from Clay, Nassau and St. Johns counties held separate installations during the holiday season. Todd Knowles of Premier Specialty Service, was selected to serve as Clay County's Chairman.

"Every president must devote a tremendous amount of time and energy to the duties of the position, and it seems that with every passing year these responsibilities grow," said NEFBA Executive Officer Jessie Spradley. "Our outgoing president Josh Garrison had an amazing year, growing our association's membership to 6th in the Nation. I am confident that Chris will

continue forward with great leadership, and I am excited to work together to ensure the housing needs of Northeast Florida are met."

The following members were honored with awards during the evening: Builder of the Year Award, Keith Ward, Thomas May Construction; Fred King Associate Member of the Year Award, Sherry Davidson, Davidson Realty; Leadership Award, Seth Kelley, MasterCraft Builder Group; Arnold Tritt Achievement Award, Larry Wittmer, Woodsman Kitchens & Floors; Bill Soforenko Affordable Housing Award, Bob Porter, D.R. Horton; Ken Keuster and Bill Wilson Foundation Award, Bill Cellar, Providence Homes; and the Good Government Award, Nate Day, H. Smith, Inc.



The Loop's Wells Road location to close after 33 years on Feb. 15

ORANGE PARK – Jacksonville-based restaurant The Loop plans to open a new Northeast Florida location in the World Golf Village. The Loop is also interested in additional Florida locations in Sawgrass, Oakleaf and the North Jacksonville area, as well as additional locations in North Carolina.

To allow the company to focus on developing these locations, The Loop chose not to renew its Wells Road location lease. The location will close on Feb. 15 after 33 years of operation.

"We've served our Orange Park neighbors since 1990, and we look forward to serving you soon at one of our 10 Northeast Florida locations," said Marla Quat-

trone, The Loop's chief marketing officer.

According to Quattrone, the company plans to relocate Wells Road employees to existing locations and welcome customers at its three nearby locations.

To encourage customer loyalty, The Loop will offer 10% off coupons to Wells Road customers that are valid at its Fleming Island restaurant.

While Quattrone said it's still too early to disclose the new locations' details, she said Jacksonville-based franchise owner Maurilio Gonzalez signed a lease at the World Golf Village location, which will open in 2023. His current locations include Fleming Island, Nocatee, Julington Creek and Amelia Island.

Doug Benefield announces his candidacy to keep OP Council seat

For Clay Today

ORANGE PARK – Municipal Super Tuesday on April 11 will offer voters in four Clay County townships important choices. One of those choices will be Doug Benefield, who wants to keep Seat 1 on the council.

He was appointed last August following the resignation of Councilman Eddie Henley.

Benefield, an Orange Park CPA, has a long history in the town. Before being appointed to the council, the CPA answered the call to volunteer on the Town of Orange Park's Budget and Finance Committee and the Police Pension Board. "Orange Park has always been a real gem in the State of Florida and this is a critical time in our town's history," said Benefield.

"We need to join together as a town to keep our taxes from rising so that our residents, especially our elderly, will not be priced out of the homes they have lived in throughout their lives. We need to keep our roads, streets, parks and river safe for families of all incomes to enjoy. We can

do all this, and more, while we keep that hometown feel if we guard against unrestrained spending."

Benefield said if elected, he also wants to continue the plans he set in motion during his brief time on the council. One of those plans include neighborhood "budget friendly control devices" on various cut-throughs such as Plainfield, River Road, Holly Point, Bellair and Debarry. He believes the devices will encourage non-resident motorists to slow down on these streets and could encourage non-residential traffic to avoid the various streets altogether when passing through the town.

"Areas where kids play, neighbors walk and squirrels dash for acorns are not intended as a high-speed transportation corridor," Benefield said.

Benefield's experience as a professional CPA, combined with his passion for the community, has inspired his future goals for Orange Park.

"Growing up in our beautiful little town instilled in me a sense of family, of unity with friends and neighbors, pride in a job well done, and a desire to give back to our community," he said. "If you vote for me, I will work daily to ensure that every child and adult in our town has the same opportunities that I did while growing up in Orange Park."



Doug Benefield

Tickets on sale for NE Florida Scottish Games at fairgrounds

CLAY COUNTY – Six outlets have advanced tickets for sale for the Northeast Florida Scottish Games and Festival on Feb. 25 at the Clay County Fairgrounds.

Advanced sale tickets are \$15 a person, while tickets at the door will cost \$20.

Tickets can be bought online at neflgames.com and at Clay County Chamber of Commerce in Orange Park, AA Propane Gas Company in Green Cove Springs, Mag-

nia Hair and Nails in Green Cove Springs, Penney Farm Town Hall, Petsense in Middleburg and Spring Park Coffee in Green Cove Springs.

The festival runs from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and it includes whiskey tasting, Scottish music, dance, animals and athletics like caber tossing, sheaf throw, hammer throw, weight over bar and for distance.

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Navy SEAL Virtual Reality Experience makes stop at Oakleaf High School

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

OAKLEAF – Alliyah Turner leaned as if she was riding in a boat, speeding along a waterway and carving a path through a series of turns. She turned the steering wheel and maneuvered the throttle to avoid running ashore in a simulated U.S. Navy SEAL virtual experience presentation.

The Oakleaf High junior was invited to the Virtual Reality Experience in the school's parking lot last Tuesday. She was one of nearly 600 students who talked to recruiters, virtually piloted a high-speed boat and watched displays for STEM-related careers.

"Mainly, it's JROTC and Aerospace students, but students from Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes were invited," said Aerospace Team instructor Ellis Bowler.

The Navy Outreach and Diverstiy program makes selected stops at high schools. The team at Oakleaf was at Palm Coast High last week, and their stop was Phoenix this week.

According to the Navy, the program

identifies high-ability students who excel in high-demand Navy STEM fields, such as nuclear engineering, cryptology, IT and health care. The Navy also shared information about its \$180,000 ROTC Scholarship Program, which pays full college tuition for students with exceptional academic and



Nearly 600 students, most from Oakleaf High's Aerospace and JROTC programs, were treated to a day of virtual and physical challenges during a Virtual Reality Experience program and recruitment.



STAFF PHOTOS BY DON COBLE

Aaliyah Turner, a junior, virtually operated the controls of a boat as part of a program that will offer a \$180,000 Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarship for students seeking a STEM career.

leadership credentials.

The main attraction will be the Nimitz,

a mobile, state-of-the-art virtual reality experience that simulates an actual high-speed Navy SEAL mission.

"We (were) extremely excited to spend time at Oakleaf High School, meeting with the exceptional students and faculty, and discussing the great opportunities available in today's Navy," says LCDR Claudia Alday, with Navy Diversity and Outreach. "It is important for today's high school students to understand that a Navy STEM career offers an exceptional future."

Participants go through a video briefing before strapping on an Oculus Rift headset and a piece of wearable technology called a SubPac (traditionally used by Club DJs) that percusses in real time to the sounds of the mission. Students then navigate the mission using a cutting-edge steering wheel and throttle system replicating the actual sensation of piloting a high-speed SWCC boat. Once finished, participants move to the debriefing station, where they receive feedback and a performance grade.



Oakleaf High freshman Aiden Panthieux studied some of the career opportunities offered by the U.S. Navy when the SEAL Virtual Reality Experience made its only appearance in Clay County.



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Badcock Furniture is back ... bigger and better than ever

By Martha Mayes

martha@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – After being gone for 10 years, Badcock Home Furniture & More is back at The Cove Plaza.

The large and beautiful new store is filled with gorgeous furniture of every description – beds, loveseats, sofas, dining tables, coffee tables, end tables, and on and on. This newest collection features soft, neutral colors and clean lines.

Not only did Badcock Furniture just re-open in December 2021, but the store also had the honor of being ranked 17th out of 380 stores nationwide.

This is quite an accomplishment for such a new store, and its managers were all pleased. The stores are ranked according to how well they meet their goals each month, how many sales are made, and other factors such as how many people come in and out of the store to look and buy.

Store manager Emily Espinoza was new to sales, and she wasn't sure she would like it. But she showed apparent talent and did a great job. The store does not



have a large staff – they just know how to do more with what they have.

The store's best-selling furniture brand is called Stanhope Collection. It is a Badcock brand that is a moderately priced collection optimized for being long-lasting yet

staying beautiful throughout the years. The use of solid wood is exclusively featured throughout this collection, as well as, of course, upholstery. All types of furniture are included.

Clearance furniture is always brand-

new furniture. It may have gotten a small flaw during shipping or handling, but it is always new. There is a clearance room in the back of the store for pieces at reduced prices.

Badcock also sells "appliances, electronics and more." Here is what some of the "more" stands for: TVs from 32 inches to 86 inches and surround sound systems. There are Xbox consoles and games, PlayStation 5 gaming consoles, game systems and speakers, as well as laptops and tablets.

There are air conditioners, grills, lawn and garden equipment and generators. Outdoor furniture can be direct-shipped to the customer.

In addition, mattresses, box springs and adjustable bases are available, along with Stanhope sheets and mattress protectors. Plus, there are living room sets with lumbar support, sleeper sofas, daybeds and bunk beds.

For appliances, customers can select microwaves, ranges with air fryers on them, refrigerators, washers and dryers. The store is located at 1435 S. Orange Ave.

Dani-Lynn

from page 1

with a new stuffed animal and lots of hugs.

"She just brings joy to the officers. It's a hometown feeling and they love the whole family," Acres said.

Dani-Lynn and her two older sisters are no strangers to the GCSPD.

"I've seen Dani-Lynn on and off from (her mother) Amelia bringing the kids with her," Acres said.

"They are always visiting us during the Holidays, during Trunk or Treat. They recently brought us pizza for National Thank a Police Officer Day in January. They are very involved in the community."

The family has donated to the Green Cove Springs Food Pantry for the past seven years. They also take toiletries and other supplies to the Ronald McDonald House in Gainesville and donate toys to the local heart clinic.

Sporting bedazzled Crocs and a broad smile, you wouldn't know that Dani-Lynn was born with three congenital heart defects; HLHS, VSD, and a PAPVR repair, or that she has undergone two major heart surgeries and many hospitalizations.

"She has half of a heart, a hole in her heart, and poor left lung function," said her mother, Amelia Early.



However, her condition didn't stop Dani-Lynn from taking a personal tour of the GCSPD and sharing a plate of cheesy nachos with her favorite communications officer at a local diner.

"She always has a smile on her face. She's never met a stranger and loves life," Early said. Dani-Lynn loves her sisters, misses her teachers and friends, and has a big heart for helping others. She dreams of being a heart doctor when she grows up.

Currently, there is no cure for her heart disease. A day after she visited the GCSPD, Dani-Lynn was admitted to Shands Children's Hospital in Gainesville. "Amelia got the call to go to the hospital to admit her to the Cardiac unit," Brandi said. Dani-Lynn was having chest pains. Her stomach was swollen. "They said she was going into

heart failure."

Dani-Lynn has no discharge date. Due to her high antibody count, she does not qualify for a heart transplant. Doctors say she would reject it immediately.

"She has a 90% chance of rejecting a new heart," Early noted.

Dani-Lynn's family is doing their best to let her live the best life she can for what little time they have left with her. However, they hold tight to their faith and pray for a miracle for Dani-Lynn.

"There are a few other experimental drugs. There's a chemo-like drug therapy called IVIG transfusion. It's a long and slow process. The IVIG drug therapy, per infusion, costs thousands of dollars," Early said, adding that the drug could possibly make Dani-Lynn's condition worse.

If the IVIG drug therapy shows little to no results, they could attempt a plasma replacement treatment, but it's a very aggressive treatment and would require Dani-Lynn to live at the hospital.

"And these treatments are all to lower her antibody levels/rejection rate so she can qualify for a heart transplant," Early said. There are more than 2,000 children currently waiting for a heart. Unfortunately,

ly, there are fewer donor organs available than there are people waiting. Waitlist times for transplantation vary depending on a patient's weight, blood type, and waiting status.

"As it stands right now, Dani-Lynn has a very likely chance of dying while waiting on a treatment that may or may not work," her mother said.

Despite the odds being stacked against her, the medical team is doing its best to give Dani-Lynn the best quality of life before she is gone. It has been an emotional journey for the whole family.

"My girls understand that sometimes they don't get to go to sleepovers or birthday parties because their baby sister is sick," Early said.

Dani-Lynn's mother currently drives three hours to the hospital every day after work. She drives to Gainesville to spend as much time with her daughter, and then she drives back with barely enough time to make the route back to work. On top of caring for Dani-Lynn, she is also trying to get through college and purchase a home for her three daughters.

She wants to get her medical management degree to help families like hers.

If you want to support Dani Lynn and her family, you can donate to their GoFundMe, "Support for Dani-Lynn's Family." No donation is too small.

You can also find a wishlist on Amazon called "Wishlist for Dani-Lynn and her sisters." If you cannot donate, the family asks that you keep them in your prayers.

To learn more about pediatric organ donation, visit "Children's Health: Organ Donation Facts" online.

"Please pray for a miracle, so we don't have to say goodbye to our Dani-Lynn," Early said.

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Hampshire's desire for better life helped transform Green Cove Springs

By Lee Wardlaw
lee@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Felecia Hampshire was the first Black woman to become mayor of Green Cove Springs, something she never expected in her long and twisted life.

“It wasn’t like being on the city council or becoming the mayor was even on my radar screen. I grew up in this community and always wanted to give back in some capacity, but never in my life did I think



Former Green Cove Springs Mayor Felecia Hampshire has always been a driving force for equality, and she organized changing Middleburg Avenue to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

that I would become a (publicly-elected) official.

Hampshire served her community as mayor twice – in 2009 and 2014.

She lists Joe Love, the first Black mayor in city history whose campaign she worked for in the 1970s, and Matthew Tinney, who served as mayor in 2011, as pioneers that provided her with the inspiration needed to pursue a career in the field of public service.

“I was inspired by those two men,” she said.

Simple issues such as roads and quality of life were what originally drove her to attend and speak at the city council and other local government meetings in the first place before being elected to office.

“What drove me to more city council meetings was that it was a little rough around here in the 1980s. We have five kids, and we wanted them and other children to have the best quality of life possible in their hometown,” Hampshire said.

But the quality of life wasn’t the only issue.

“People want equality, and one of the reasons I wanted to be on (the) council was

SEE TRANSFORM, 14

Remembering Dunbar High, Black American anchors

By Clay Today staff

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Clay County was a different place when Dunbar High opened its doors in 1942. Jim Crow laws and segregation served as the law of the land, thus prohibiting black students from receiving an education at the public schools they attend today.

The school was the county’s only “Black” high school, educating students from seventh to 12th grades.

Friends and former students will remember the former high school during a program called Remembering Dunbar High and Black American Anchor on Saturday, Feb. 11, at 4 p.m. at the Green Cove Springs Junior High.

The event coincides with Black History Month celebrations. But in Clay County, it’s

where the Civil Rights movement took root.

The school colors were purple and white, but their band uniforms were orange and gray because somebody donated them.

Although students often used hand-me-down books and school supplies, many of the graduates have fond memories – and they gather every two years to celebrate their time at the school.

Dunbar was built on land donated by artist Augusta Savage and operated until 1967.

Since then, the Augusta Savage Museum and Mentoring Center have been erected on the same grounds. The City of Green Cove Springs is completing a significant overhaul of the center, which still serves as the hub of the Black community.

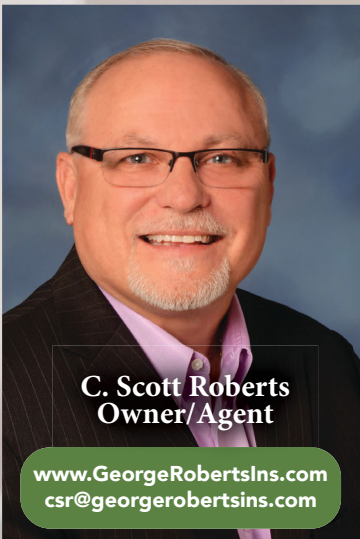


Former students of Dunbar High were ambitious and dedicated to education. Their history continues to resinate in the county and it will be celebrated Saturday at 4 p.m.

Green Cove Springs Junior High is located at 1220 Bonaventure Ave., off State Road 16.

For more information, visit friends@fasacc.org or call (904) 657-6223.





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Calendar

TED VIGIL: will play a tribute to John Denver on Feb. 10 at the Thrasher-Horne Center, 283 College Dr. in Orange Park. For tickets, which start at \$39, visit

REMEMBERING DUNBAR HIGH AND BLACK AMERICAN ANCHORS: will be on Feb. 11 at 4 p.m. at Green Cove Springs Junior High, 1220 Bonaventure Ave. For more information, visit friends@fasacc.org or call (904) 657-6223.

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: will meet on Feb. 14 at 4 p.m. in the Administration Building, fourth floor, 477 Houston St. in Green Cove Springs.

FLEMING ISLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE: will meet on Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. at the Eagle Harbor Swim Park meeting room, 1880 Eagle Harbor Pkwy.

LET'S GO SCIENCE SHOW: will be on Feb. 16 at 10:30 a.m. at the Thrasher-Horne Center, 283 College Dr. in Orange Park. Program features Professor Smart and Ms. Knowitall, who teach physics concepts and theatrically-based experiments and demonstrations. Group tickets of 12 or more are \$10. General admission is \$19 and available at thcenter.org.

MARKET IN THE PARK: will be on Feb. 18 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Green Cove Springs City Hall, 321 Walnut St.

FLORIDA PEACEMAKERS' COWBOY MOUNTED SHOOTING ASSOCIATION: will return to the Clay County Fairgrounds on Feb. 18-19 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is free.

ORANGE PARK FARMER'S MARKET: will be on Feb. 19 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Town Hall, 2042 Park Ave.

SOUL II SOUL TOUR: with Kem and Ledisi and featuring Musiq Soulchild will be on Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. at the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena, 300 A. Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville.

FLORIDA REP. BOBBY PAYNE: will conduct office hours on Feb. 21 at 9 a.m. at Keystone Heights City Hall, 555 S. Lawrence Blvd. in Keystone Heights. For more information, call Tammy Sill at (904) 966-6215.

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS HERITAGE COMMISSION: will meet on Feb. 21 at 10 a.m. at City Hall, 555 S. Lawrence Blvd. in Keystone Heights.

GREEN COVE SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL: will meet on Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 321 Walnut St.

JEFF DUNHAM: STILL NOT CANCELED: tour will be on Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. at the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena, 300 A. Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville. Tickets are available at ticketmaster.com.

CLAY COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOLS SPELLING BEE: will be on Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. at Lake Asbury Junior High, 2851 Sandridge Road.

ARMY FIELD BAND: will perform for free on Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. at the Thrasher-Horne Center, 283 College Dr. in Orange Park. The group consists of a 60-person concert band and a 29-person chorus. For tickets, visit thcenter.org.

CIRQUE ITALIA WATER CIRCUS: will be on Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Orange Park Mall, 1910 Wells Road. Tickets are \$10-\$50 and available at www.cirqueitalia.com.

COLLEGE DRIVE FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY: will return on Feb. 24 to St. Johns River State College at 283 College Dr. in Orange Park.

CIRQUE ITALIA WATER CIRCUS: will be on Feb. 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Orange Park Mall, 1910 Wells Road. Tickets are \$10-\$50 and available at www.cirqueitalia.com.

NORTHEAST FLORIDA SCOTTISH GAMES AND FESTIVAL: will be on Feb. 25, starting at 9 a.m. at the Clay County Fairgrounds, 2497 State Road 16 West in Green Cove Springs.

AUGUSTA SAVAGE ARTS FESTIVAL: will be on Feb. 25 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Spring Park, 106 St. Johns Ave. in Green Cove Springs. For more information, visit friends@fasacc.org or call (904) 657-6223.

CIRQUE ITALIA WATER CIRCUS: will be on Feb. 25 at 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Orange Park Mall, 1910 Wells Road. Tickets are \$10-\$50 and available at www.cirqueitalia.com.

CLAY BRIDAL SPECTACULAR EXPO: will be on Feb. 26 from 1-4 p.m. at the Thrasher-Horne Center, 283 College Dr., Orange Park. Advance tickets are \$5 and \$10 at the door. Advance tickets are available at thcenter.org or call (904) 276-6815.

Local participating businesses include Thrasher-Horne Center, Jewelry by Mr. G, The Buzz Mobile Bartending, Holiday Inn and Suites Fleming Island, Hampton Inn and Suites in Middleburg. Karen's Catering LLC, Florida Wedding Supplies, Kingsley Chiropractic, Esther Atkins - Mary Kay Complete Weddings and Events, Music by Vince, SouthState Bank, Towers Family Farms LLC, Professional Concessions, Inc., BC Entertainment, Orange Park Woman's Club and more.

CIRQUE ITALIA WATER CIRCUS: will be on Feb. 26 at 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

at the Orange Park Mall, 1910 Wells Road. Tickets are \$10-\$50 and available at www.cirqueitalia.com.

JOURNEY: FREEDOM TOUR 2023: will be on Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m. at the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena, 300 A. Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville. Tickets are available at ticketmaster.com.

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: will be on Feb. 28 at 4 p.m. in the Administration Building, fourth floor, 477 Houston St. in Green Cove Springs.

CLAY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: will meet on March 2 at 6 p.m. in the Teacher Training Center at Fleming Island High, 2233 Village Square Pkwy.

BLAKE SHELTON: BACK TO THE HONKY TONK TOUR: with special guests Carly Pearce and Jackson Dean will on March 2 at 7 p.m. at the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena, 300 A. Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville. Tickets are available at ticketmaster.com.

SEVENTH ANNUAL CLAY COUNTY STRAWBERRY FEST: will be on March 4-5 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Clay County Fairgrounds, 2497 State Road 16 West in Green Cove Springs. Admission is \$6, while children 2 and younger are free. Save \$1 by purchasing tickets online in advance at ClayCountyFest.com or by calling (386) 860-0092.

ORANGE PARK FARMER'S MARKET: will be on March 5 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Town Hall, 2042 Park Ave.

GREAT VAN FLEET: DREAMS IN GOLD: will be on March 6 at 7 p.m. at the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena, 300 A. Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville. Tickets are available at ticketmaster.com.

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL: will meet on March 6 at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 555 S. Lawrence Blvd.

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

TIP-A-COP: to benefit Clay County's Special Olympic team will be March 7-9 at Texas Roadhouse, 550 Blanding Blvd., Orange Park.

REBA MCENTIRE: will perform on March 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena, 300 A. Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville. Tickets are available at ticketmaster.com.

CLIFFHANGERS GUN SHOW: will be on March 11 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Clay County Fairgrounds, 2497 State Road 16 West in Green Cove Springs.

CLIFFHANGERS GUN SHOW: will be on March 12 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Clay County Fairgrounds, 2497 State Road 16 West in Green Cove Springs.

FLORIDA REP. BOBBY PAYNE: will conduct office hours on March 16 at 9 a.m. at Keystone Heights City Hall, 555 S. Lawrence Blvd. in Keystone Heights. Call Tammy Sill at (904) 966-6215.

CLAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WORKSHOP: to discuss Capital Improvement Projects will be on March 14 from 10 a.m.-noon at County Administration Building, fourth floor, 477 Houston St. in Green Cove Springs.

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: will meet on March 14 at 4 p.m. in the Administration Building, fourth floor, 477 Houston St. in Green Cove Springs.

MARKET IN THE PARK: will be on March 18 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Green Cove Springs City Hall, 321 Walnut St.

ORANGE PARK FARMER'S MARKET: will be on March 19 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Town Hall, 2042 Park Ave.

GREEN COVE SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL: will meet on March 21 at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 321 Walnut St.

BRASS TRANSIT: will play on March 23, 2023, at the Thrasher-Horne Center, 283 College Dr., Orange Park. For tickets, which start at \$29, visit thcenter.org or call (904) 276-6815.

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Family still recounts memories of Oakleaf war hero Walter Stevenson

By Lee Wardlaw
lee@claytodayonline.com

OAKLEAF – War hero, school bus driver, and radiologist.

Walter Stevenson, a longtime resident, passed away last month. But his life would never have been fully complete without the love of his life, Martha Alford Stevenson, by his side.

Martha and Walter's love story is a nostalgic American tale that brings back memories of a simpler time.

Walter enlisted in the U.S. Navy as a 17-year-old in 1945, serving on the home front as a member of the reserves during World War II. He also fought in wars in Korea and Vietnam.

When Stevenson was out on temporary leave from the military in 1950, he returned to his new home in Palatka to work as a farm hand. The property was being rented by his uncle Clyde.

That farm neighbored the property of Martha's father and mother.

However, the details of the marriage didn't come without trial for the lucky man to finally wrap a ring around the finger of his lovely woman. That's because Martha's mother disapproved of her relationship with Walter – or any other man.

Walter was greeted at the door with a revolver on more than one occasion when heading next door to meet her. To get married, the couple went to a church in Folkston, Georgia. Stevenson borrowed his uncle's pickup truck to make the trip.

"(Her mother) had the police there to prevent (Martha) from running off with him, but they outsmarted her," said Carol Trudel, daughter of Walter and Martha Stevenson. Martha worked at a department store when their relationship came about. She and her soon-to-be husband took off for the races during her lunch break.

The couple married in 1951, one year after the then-named Martha Alford earned her high school diploma.

One of Walter's several stories was about a long and twisted road.

Stevenson served a colorful 24-year career in the Navy aboard aircraft carriers Valley Forge, Forrestal, Saratoga and Roosevelt. Stevenson served in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Walter's military career would allow him to travel to the farthest corners of Earth. Stevenson sailed worldwide and crossed well below the equator when navi-



STAFF PHOTO BY LEE WARDLAW

From left to right: daughter, Carol Trudel, wife, Martha Stevenson, and granddaughter, Amy Wells, pose with the photograph on the late, Walter Stevenson. The U.S. Navy Veteran fought in three wars and lived to see the age of 94.

gating the southern tip of Africa. He visited the Philippines, the Mediterranean Sea and several other nations and destinations across the globe.

His main duty at sea as a Navy service member was a simple yet critical task: to load up and drop off weapons.

Walter was stationed in Norfolk, Virginia, from 1953 to 1963 before the couple finally relocated to Jacksonville in December, 1963. After that, he and Martha finally settled down.

The couple resided at the same house for 59 years until health and age became too much of a concern. The Stevensons finally relocated to the Benton House at Oakleaf in March 2022.

Walter made plenty of memories during his time in Northeast Florida.

With Navy service behind him, Walter decided to go to school to climb the next step of the corporate ladder. Stevenson enrolled at the St. Vincent's School of Radiology and he graduated in 1972.

Walter spent the same time in the medical field as he did in the military: 24 years.

Stevenson performed as an X-ray technician at the Northeast Florida State Hospital, the Union Correctional Facility, the Florida State Prison and Dunsford Clinic/Lakeshore Medical.

Walter knew to expect the unexpected during his time in the field. Still, even he

was surprised after he was tasked with performing an X-ray and withdrawing blood from infamous American serial killer Ted Bundy, who confessed to murdering 30 women in seven states.

If that wasn't enough, Walter worked as a school bus attendant and driver following his second retirement.

Stevenson wasn't done just yet, as he wanted to see another slice of the world with his beloved wife. The two traveled to all 48 contiguous states and seven Canadian provinces, camping out of an Airstream van.

"He did a lot of traveling for a poor farm boy born in North Carolina," Trudel said.

Much of Walter's free time was spent in his small-yet-sturdy Jon Boat with his wife and family. Here, he fished the beautiful, pristine waters of the St. Johns River.

Some of his other favorite pursuits in-



CONTRIBUTED, CAROL TRUDEL

A vintage photograph of the beautiful couple during the early years of their marriage.

cluded camping, square dancing, gardening and a busy social life with friends.

He was survived by two daughters, one son, four granddaughters, and six great-grandchildren.

Two of his granddaughters – Amy Wells and Lee Ann Sessions – still live in the county.

Wells described him as a knowledgeable man who believed in education's importance, lived frugally, and possessed a fantastic memory in fields like history, geography, and horticulture.

"He stayed pretty sharp until the day that he passed," Wells said.

Stevenson's love was simple and affectionate, his granddaughter described.

"I did a book report on Montana as a child, so he decided to take me there to see everything that was there," she said.

During his final day, Martha grabbed his hand and pulled him closer.

"Let's go back to Georgia," she said.

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Oakleaf graduate completes U.S. Navy Ceremonial Guard training

By Rick Burke

Navy Office of Community Outreach

MILLINGTON, Tenn. Seaman Damarious Flowers recently completed an intensive 10-week training program to become a member of the elite U.S. Navy Ceremonial Guard.

The Oakleaf High and Liberty University graduate joined the Navy six months ago. Today, Flowers serves as a U.S. Navy Ceremonial Guardsman.

"I joined the Navy to follow in my father's footsteps and to build a better future for me and my family," said Flowers.

Established in 1931, the Ceremonial Guard is the official honor guard of the U.S. Navy and is based at Naval District Washington Anacostia Annex in Washington, D.C. According to Navy officials, the U.S. Navy



Seaman Damarious Flowers

Ceremonial Guard's primary mission is to represent the service in the Presidential, Joint Armed Forces, Navy, and public cer-

emonies in and around the nation's capital. Members of the Navy Ceremonial Guard participate in some of our nation's most prestigious ceremonies, including Presidential inaugurations and arrival ceremonies for foreign officials.

"The biggest thing I've learned since being at the guard is how important attention to detail is for a military man," said Flowers. Sailors of the Ceremonial Guard are hand selected while attending boot camp at Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Illinois. Strict military order and discipline, combined with teamwork, allow the Ceremonial Guard to fulfill their responsibilities with pride and determination. They are experts in close-order drill, coordination and timing.

The Ceremonial Guard is comprised of the drill team, color guard, casket bearers

and firing party.

"I enjoy the comradery between the platoons, as everyone holds each other to higher standards," said Flowers. "I also like the opportunity we have to honor our fallen shipmates."

"Making it out of training is the biggest thing I felt that I've accomplished since making it out of boot camp," he said.

As a member of the U.S. Navy, Flowers, as well as other sailors, know they are part of a service tradition providing unforgettable experiences through leadership development, world affairs and humanitarian assistance. "I believe serving in the Navy means to continue my family's military legacy, by following in my father's footsteps and giving back to my country," added Flowers. "I'm also picking up where my fallen shipmates left off."

'Celebrations,' featuring the Orange Park Art Guild, opens at Thrasher-Horne

By Kylie Cordell

For Clay Today

ORANGE PARK – For nearly five decades, the Art Guild of Orange Park has enjoyed sharing its talent with the public, exhibiting their work in various galleries in the Northeast Florida Area, including Club Continental, the Clay County Town Hall, Mossman Hall and the Clay County Airport in the coming year. Their newest exhibition, "Celebrations," will be displayed at Clay County's most elegant venue.

"The galleries of the Thrasher-Horne display our art beautifully, and we always look forward to exhibiting there," said Art Guild Exhibitions Chair Kathy Plante. "This year is quite

special for the Art Guild of Orange Park. It's our 50th anniversary, so the theme 'Celebrations!' is quite appropriate."

"Walking around the exhibit, it's really interesting looking at the different interpretations of celebration," Art Guild President Phyllis Renninger said. Celebration can be an obvious social event, such as a birthday, a religious observation or an anniversary. "Or it could be celebrating colors or family," she said.

"Celebrations" will run through June 29 at the Thrasher-Horne Center for the Arts. The galleries are free to the public and open Monday-through-Friday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Please contact Thrasher-Horne to schedule a group gallery tour.

All exhibited art is for sale. If you are interested in purchasing artwork, please contact the ticket office at (904) 276-6815 for payment and curbside pickup.

The Opening Reception of "Celebrations!" is Thursday, Feb. 9, from 6-8 p.m. All are welcome to attend and meet the artists. A Cash Bar will be available. The award ceremony will be held at 6:30 pm with prizes and cash awards.

"We will have Best in Show, as well as

first, second and third, and two honorable mentions. Those will be the six out of 58 pieces," Plante said. "Pat Mahoney, an artist and art

restorer/conservator residing in Orange Park, will be judging the exhibition."

Not only does the exhibition give artists the opportunity to submit their work for validation and recognition by well-known artists and jurors; it also provides an opportunity for

artists of all levels of experience to present their work to be viewed by the community.

"I don't think people realize how much talent there is right here in Clay County," Renninger said. "We have 117 members right now. We have a 14-year-old who is phenomenal. We have seniors who just wanted to take up painting. We have everything from professional artists who commission thousands for their work to artists who just come to learn, as well as art lovers."

Besides the opportunity to exhibit work in the community, the Art Guild of Orange Park presents several one-day workshops taught by well-known local artists.

"Every first Tuesday of the month, we bring in a featured artist to facilitate a demo and workshop at our meetings," Renninger said. "We have everything from photography, 3D, oil, watercolors, pastels, pen and ink."

The variety of mediums taught allows participants to choose a program that best interests them. Workshops are also open to members as well as the public. Classes are \$95 for members and \$130 for non-members. You can register for classes on the Art Guild's website.

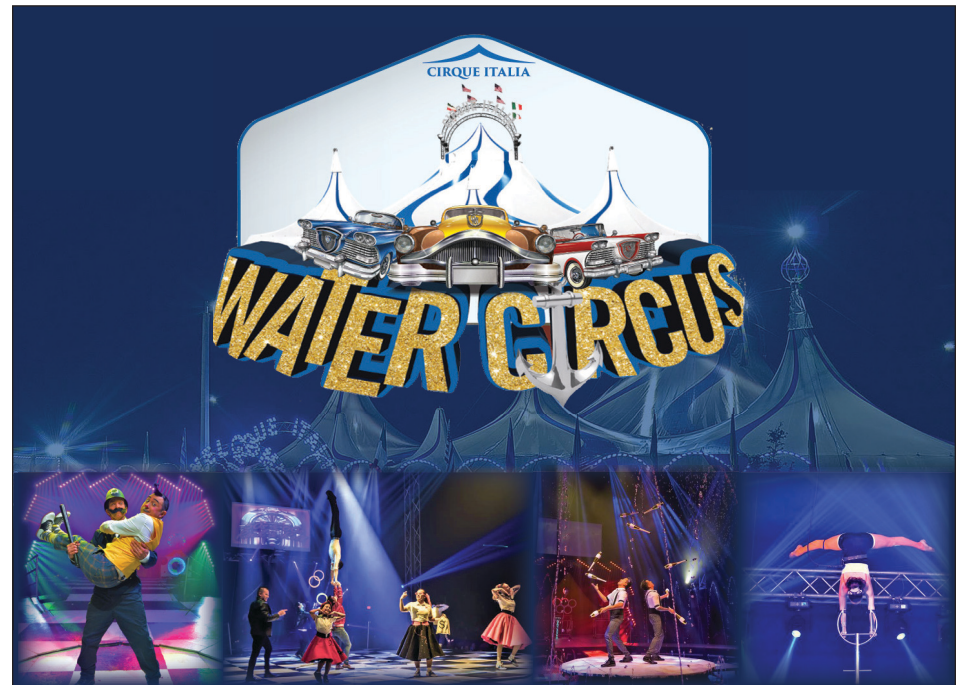
The guild also provides arts education and support to all member artists, including supporting emerging artists through mentorship and their scholarship program. The scholarship

is awarded to a Clay County senior planning to pursue a career in visual arts or arts education. The deadline to apply is April 1.

"We've found that the Art Guild is a very supportive group. It's nice for us to have a group that actually meets where you can

belong and receive support. It's just a wonderful organization," Renninger said.

To learn more about the activities, events, and art programs or to become a member of The Art Guild of Orange Park, email info@artguildoforange.org or call Phyllis Renninger at (904) 264-5121.



Event Information

Cirque Italia brings a performance of European style. It is described as a "vivid, dramatic, and moving experience."

Event Location

Orange Park Mall • 1910 Wells Rd • Orange Park, FL

Dates/Times

Thursday, Feb 23: 7:30pm

Friday, Feb 24: 7:30pm

Saturday, Feb 25: 1:30pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm

Sunday, Feb 26: 1:30pm, 4:30pm

Purchase tickets at www.eventticketscenter.com

Vivid dreams come to life at Cirque Italia at Orange Park Mall

For Clay Today

ORANGE PARK – Cirque Italia has pulled out all the stops this year to take you on a magical dream adventure for four days, starting Feb. 23, at the Orange Park Mall.

Have you ever wished you could turn back time? To go back to a simpler, happy time filled with sock hops, drive-in theaters, muscle cars, and thick sideburns? Well get out your poodle skirts and leather jackets!

Cirque Italia's Gold Unit performers can't wait to take you back to a time when Hula Hoops and soda fountains were abundant, Elvis Presley dominated the airwaves, greased hair was all the rage and street racing was a parent's greatest concern.

Come along for the ride when a 1950s-

obsessed adolescent falls asleep and dreams of living in this revolutionary era. This high-octane show is guaranteed to captivate and engage every kiddo and Daddy-O in the audience.

Cirque Italia believes multi-culturalism is one of our strongest assets. Our show features performers from Argentina, Brazil, Romania, and many other countries. Of course, these incredible artists are preparing to wow you with their astounding acts. Master jugglers, low wire fanatics, dazzling contortion, wild trampoline antics, and even a wheel of death.

Shows are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb 23, Feb. 24 and Feb. 25. Early 1:30 p.m. shows will go on stage on Feb. 25 and Feb. 26, while the annual stop is scheduled to end with a 4 p.m. show on Feb. 26.



For more information, visit www.cirqueitalia.com and make sure to check all our social media accounts. Tickets can be purchased now starting between \$10-\$50, depending on availability. Cirque Italia offers one free child admission with every full priced paying adult ticket in Levels 2 or 3. This offer cannot be combined with any other offers, discounts, or deals. Call

(941) 704-8572 to get the promo code for your location.

Box office hours will start on Tuesday, Feb. 21. On non-show days, the hours will be from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and on show days from 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

You may also purchase tickets through our website (cirqueitalia.com/tickets) or by calling or texting (941) 704-8572.

Coming to Thrasher Horne

Champions of Music at Thrasher-Horne on May 1

ORANGE PARK – Break away from the screen and experience live entertainment like never before with Champions Of Magic – an evening of impossible illusions and spectacular special effects. Described as “The avengers of magic,” catch the only team of magicians in the world as they present their original, phenomenal ensemble illusions.

They've sold out shows across the globe, been featured on network television and racked up more than 50 million views online ... but you haven't seen magic until you've seen it live.

That opportunity will come on May 1, when the ensemble performs at the Thrasher Horne Center. The show will start at 7:30 p.m.

The Champions Of Magic cast presents incredible interactive magic, a daring escape from Houdini's water torture cell, a mind-blowing prediction that is hard to believe, levitation high above the stage and a finale beyond explanation. The show happens all around the theatre and features spectacular illusions that is exclusive.



Don't miss this unbelievable show to entertain the entire family and see why fans return to see one of the world's biggest touring illusion shows time and time again. Tickets for Champions Of Magic are on sale now and can be purchased at www.ChampionsOfMagic.co.uk and a thcenter.org.

Tickets start at \$22 and an additional \$50 VIP package is available.

Army Field Band offering free concert at Thrasher-Horne

ORANGE PARK – The Concert Band and Soldiers' Chorus are the oldest and largest of The U.S. Army Field Band's performing components. Founded in 1946 and 1957, respectively, these two ensembles combine

to present joint concerts on their national tours. They have performed in all 50 states and 30 foreign countries for audiences totaling hundreds of millions.

The band and chorus will play a free show on Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. at the Thrasher-Horne Center, 283 College Dr.

The 60-member Concert Band and 29-member Soldiers' Chorus regularly perform in some of the most famous concert halls in the world and just as often in the humblest auditoriums in the smallest of communities. The joining of these two ensembles allows them to offer unparalleled versatility of programming, ranging from orchestral masterworks and operatic arias to Sousa marches, jazz classics and Broadway musicals. In addition to their national tours, formal concerts, chamber recitals, and educational outreach, members of the Concert Band & Soldiers' Chorus frequently represent the Army at formal and ceremonial functions, including the Presidential Inaugural Parade, presidential funerals, the Army All-American Bowl and diplomatic efforts overseas.

For tickets, visit thcenter.org or stop by the box office.

Ted Vigil brings his tribute to John Denver to Thrasher-Horne

ORANGE PARK – Ted Vigil is a singer, songwriter and tribute artist. He was born in Seattle and raised in the Olympia area. He has been performing from the age of 10 throughout the school in concert, symphonic and jazz bands developing his talents as a drummer and singer.

Vigil will perform his tribute to the legendary John Denver on Feb. 10, at the Thrasher-Horne Center. The show will

start at 7:30 p.m. and tickets are available at thcenter.org.

In 2006 Ted Vigil went on to Laughlin, Nevada, to win the Talent Quest 2006 involving 28 states, New Zealand, Australia and Canada. He then went on to win KOMO TV 4's NW Afternoon Celebrity Look Alike contest in Seattle. Ted now performs nationwide for all kinds of venues and events. He has wowed the crowd by selling out theatres in Pennsylvania and Kansas and has played twice now for John Denver's own “Windstar Foundation” in Aspen, Colorado.

Clay Bridal Spectacular Expo at Thrasher-Horne on Feb. 26

ORANGE PARK – Brides-to-be can get answers to most of their questions ahead of a wedding at the Clay Bridal Spectacular Expo at the Thrasher-Horne Center on Feb. 26.

The annual event not only attracts hundreds of guests, but it features a large selection of local wedding professionals who specialize in areas like dresses, music, food, photography and décor.

The expo runs from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets, which are available at thcenter.org are \$5 in advance or \$10 at the door.

Local businesses include Thrasher-Horne Center, Jewelry by Mr. G, The Buzz Mobile Bartending, Holiday Inn and Suites Fleming Island, Hampton Inn and Suites Middleburg, Karen's Catering LLC, Florida Wedding Supplies, Kingsley Chiropractic, Esther Atkins - Mary Kay

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Keystone's Mission of the Dirt opens Tool Lending Library

By Natalie Gilstrap
For Clay Today

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – Mission of the Dirt Road recently opened a Tool Lending Library, thanks to the Volunteer Fire Department Grant and the Community Foundation Grant.

The idea came to Carey Morford, founder of Mission of the Dirt Road, when she noticed that there was a need for tools after helping individuals with home repairs.

"We're doing home repairs and one of the things we noticed is that there are some people who would have done some home repairs or maybe done more yard maintenance if they had access to the tools," she said. "It wasn't that they didn't have the skill. It was just they couldn't access the tools."

The library will be opened every Saturday from 9a.m. to noon and has more than 300 tools that were donated from the community. Through a computer system, individuals can return and check out tools

such as plumbing tools, automotive tools and hammers for a week.

"Right now there's only hand tools. We don't have any power tools, but we are planning to add power tools starting in March," she said.

In addition, the library consists of a small membership fee in order to help with maintenance. However, they are offering a special where the first 23 to sign up will receive a free membership for the year.

Though Mission of the Dirt Road recently opened their Tool Lending Library, they are looking forward to expanding it. In addition, they have received positive responses from the community.

"We already have had a couple of people ask if we have particular tools that we don't have, but we are keeping track of that," Morford said. "We're keeping a list of what it is that people are looking for so that when we're ready to add that next phase of tools, we'll have some idea of what we need to include."



The Tool Lending Library now has basic tools for home repair, but it hopes to expand its selection to help residents from the Lake Region.



The Wright family said there was a need in Keystone Heights for a business that offered shipping, copying, fXING and a Notary Public, so they opened Copy Cabana.

Copy Cabana prints map to success by serving shipping needs of Lake Region

By Natalie Gilstrap
For Clay Today

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – Krissy Wright and her husband opened Copy Cabana to continue providing the community with services such as shipping, faxing, copying, scanning and notary public.

"The previous owners posted that they were no longer going to offer the services and we used those services ourselves. When the previous owner posted that he was not going to do it anymore, we decided to take the plunge and ask if he was willing to sell as we knew how important it was for the community to have access to the services that we offer," Wright said.

The shop offers UPS shipping and drop-off, faxing, notary, scanning and copying. In addition, they have two self-service computers and printers. They also sell office and art supplies. Also, local businesses can have business cards made.

Since opening in July, the store has received positive support from the local community.

"Every day gets busier and busier," she said.

At the moment, Wright is thinking of ways to further help the community through her services.

"Every day I'm listening to our community. Finding out what they need, what they want, and if there's anything we can offer on top of what we already do," she said.

Wright looks forward to serving the community with the services she has to offer.

"I love it. I have a window now, I'm not cooped up in an office," Wright said. "The community has been super great to me. So much positive feedback from us being

opened like everyone who comes in is very grateful and appreciative, and nice."

Previously to opening Copy Cabana, she had worked in the automotive business for 25 years. In addition, she and her family have been longtime residents of Keystone Heights. She has lived in the area for 12 years while her husband, a retired military veteran, was born and reared in Keystone Heights.

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GIRL & A GUN

Women's group takes aim at gun safety, protection, knowledge

By Lee Wardlaw
lee@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK – Eliza Parington got her first firearm 10 years ago when she moved to Northeast Florida. She had never fired a gun before, but she decided to give it a try.

Now she shoots.

And shoots.

And shoots.

"I was like, 'How can I do this?' I want to learn more," she said.

Parington discovered Girl & A Gun Women's Shooting League, a women's only shooting league that introduces women and girls to pistol, rifle and shotguns. The firearms program is designed to help women feel more comfortable when talking with instructors and handling guns.

Parington has been involved with the club ever since then.

"I started shooting with Girl & A Gun in Tallahassee and quickly made shooting a regular part of my life," Parington said.

Now she's a member of the Jacksonville chapter, although many of their members are from Clay County.

The club regularly meets in Clay for practice at Basics Shooting Range on College Drive in Orange Park.

Basics is where Parington and her group meet once a month on Saturday mornings at Breakfast and Bullets. Before the chapter heads to the range, Parington serves freshly cooked bacon, eggs, pancakes and other favorites at her house before heading to the range.



Parington stops after a busy morning of shooting at Basics Shooting Range, which is located 197 College Dr, Suite 5, in Orange Park.

"We get together and hang out, and then, we all go shoot something fun together," Parington said.

The group has eight members and is looking to grow.

Parington's No. 1 pitch to women interested in joining the club? Feeling further safe and protected.

"Every woman has a story behind why she wants to shoot, and I get to hear a lot of those as an instructor and chapter leader. Some people have a history of domestic violence, and others just want to go run-



Eliza Parington instructs Kellyn Whiston, who is a member of A Girl & A Gun

ning alone and feel comfortable and confident. The reasons that they want to shoot are as diverse as the members of the chapter themselves. The sense of safety and security that a woman, or anyone, can have when they're skilled with a firearm cannot be understated," she said.

Other notches on Parington's belt include earning her status as a U.S. Concealed Carry Association certified instructor and becoming the founder of First Line Female, LLC, a business that instructs students on firearms safety and shooting for the bullseye.

Eliza harbors an especially strong connection to the many transplants from areas like New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts, where tougher gun law restrictions and a different social outlook on gun rights are prominent.

Parington finds the most satisfaction when teaching skills to chapter members and students coming from the Northeast and other areas of the country outside of

Florida and the Southeast.

"Many people are a little bit apprehensive at first when they've never fired a gun before. The most rewarding thing for me is just that. Then, when they walk out, they feel safe, confident, and excited at the end of a lesson. They've hit the bullseye. It's amazing to see that growth in a person," Parington said.

She boiled down the chapter's goal into three simple categories. "It's truly about sisterhood, proving your competitive shooting and being safe with your guns at all times," she said.

As part of her involvement in the club, Parington has had the opportunity to attend national conferences with over 600 other women that together represent the best women instructors in the United States and even shoot at a target with an AR-15 while inside a moving helicopter in Colorado.

If you would like to join the club, call or text her at (904) 606-5565.



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<p>GREEN COVE SERVICE SPECIAL FULL SYNTHETIC OIL CHANGE</p> <p>Includes tire rotation, video inspection and up to 5 QTS. Oil.</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; color: green;">\$89⁹⁵</p> <p><small>Restrictions apply. See Green Cove for complete offer details. Offer expires 02/28/23</small></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: blue;">WE STOCK TIRES!</p> <p>We Price Match Any Competitor! All Competitor Coupons Accepted.</p> 

Community Briefs

Clay County to launch safety initiative Signal 35 Fund

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Clay County residents can call public safety organizations during times of emergencies, but who can they call when they're in trouble?

The Clay County Signal 35 Fund is a new privately-funded, named after the county's radio call code for "officer needs assistance."

The goal of the initiative is to reduce the red tape faced by the county's public servants so their problems can be quickly addressed. The nonprofit seeks to fill the gap when losses and unique emergency needs hit them, but their expenses aren't covered swiftly enough by benefits.

County officials urge residents to join the Signal 35 Fund. The program was un-

veiled at the Historic Triangle, 21 Gratio Place, in Green Cove Springs.

'Little Women' musical set for 11 performances in Orange Park

ORANGE PARK – The Orange Park Community Theatre will present 11 performances of Jay Richards' musical "Little Women" at the theatre located at 2900 Moody Ave.

Byron Sparks will direct the play based on Louisa May Alcott's book.

Performances are set for 8 p.m. on Feb. 17, 18, 24, 25, March 3 and 4; matinee shows are scheduled for 2 p.m. at Feb. 19, 25, 26, March 4 and 5.

Homemade Hounds helps rescues transition to home life

'Train hard, love harder'

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

MIDDLEBURG – Tasley Wheeler started cleaning kennels at a guide dog facility in New York when she was 14. She worked with service dogs for the visually impaired, got her training certificate in New York and has worked with different species in training facilities.

"That's when I decided to open Homemade Hounds in 2012," she said.

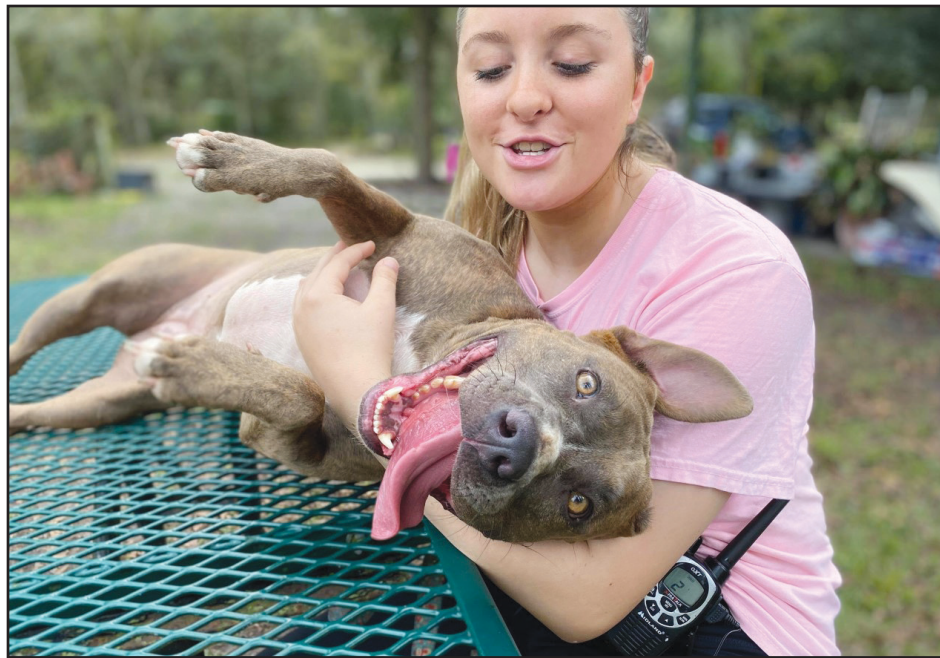
Homemade Hounds is a boarding and training facility focused on low-cost training options, behavior modification, and socialization courses for families and animal rescue organizations.

"We really work with kids and families, women specifically. Women have different physical needs than men because we are built a little differently," Wheeler said. "When you have a 120-pound dog pulling you across the street, that keeps you limited in your own brain as to what you can accomplish, so we would like to remove those obstacles."

"We focus more on women's physicality and thought processes to give us good insight to really help women the edge up on these types of training."

Wheeler and her staff work with dog owners of all ages to help build better relationships with their canines. It's not about trying to overpower or control the dog, she said, but working with them to build their trust.

"We teach children how not to get bit, how to touch the dog the right way, how to read their body language. We are trying to



Tasley Wheeler works with dogs to help them adjust to home life after being spared from an animal shelter. Her Homemade Hounds will team with Twisted Oaks Rescue for a pet adoption event on April 1 at the Clay County Agriculture Fair.

keep everyone safe and happy and dogs in homes," she said.

Homemade Hounds also works with local shelters, teaching obedience, socialization and a few fun tricks. The program not only helps the dog but improves the shelter environment.

"We have a very good relationship with Clay County Animal Services. We have a number of different rescue partners that we deal with who bring us the problem dogs or the dogs that need evaluation," Wheeler said.

"You'd be surprised how easily my staff can build a good connection with the dog and find out what the problem actually is so we can recommend further on what kind

of home they should go into."

Homemade Hounds offers private lessons as well as group classes. They will also partner with other rescue organizations like Twisted Oaks Rescue to educate the public about dog handling and training at the Clay County Agriculture Fair during Pet Adoption Day on Sunday, April 1, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Cattlemen's Arena

at the fairgrounds.

"We're specifically looking to bring out Clay County Animal Services, Twisted Oaks Rescue Services and quite a few other animal-related places like Pet Supply Plus," Wheeler said.

The Clay County Animal Services will also assist fair guests with dogs that need fur-ever homes and provide them information about medical care, such as low-cost spay and neuter, and all their other medical needs.

"It's a wonderful time in rescue – I've been doing these 20-something years -- and it's a really cool thing to see everyone come together to be a beacon of light for these animals," Wheeler said.

Besides dogs, there will be a meet and greet and a trainer table where people can ask questions about the adoption process. Homemade Hounds will also be hosting a trick show for young owners and their loyal canines. The dog show will be held on Sunday, April 9, at noon.

"The whole point of the kid's trick dog show is to give them the opportunity to show off their dogs and get them involved in dog training at a young age. That makes a huge difference later on," she said.

To learn more about Homemade Hounds, call (904) 203-7314 or email them at www.homemadehounds.com.

Briefs

from page 20

The show is presented by the Florida Division of Arts Culture and the Tom Nehl Fund of the Community Foundation.

Visit optc.info for ticket information.

Clay Town Center to open soon in Middleburg's Brannan Field

MIDDLEBURG – With an easily accessible location, the Clay Town Center will provide convenience for your patients and customers with proximity to a new medical complex, dining, storage and long-term stay options.

As rapid growth has already started with the expansion of the new expressway, establishing a business in this growing community, at a centralized location will provide all the resources a business needs to successfully serve the Clay County region.

That along with the unique heritage of the nearby historical World War II, Brannan Air Field, Clay Town Center is an ideal location to establish a business in an up-

and-coming area.

Clay Town Center is expected to open in the next few months.

'Cruisin for Boozer' cancer run to benefit bike shop owner's family

ORANGE PARK – Friends of Robert Boozer will meet at Locals Pub on Feb. 19 and make three stops as part of "Cruisin For Boozer."

The popular motorcycle shop operator recently closed on Wells Road after he was diagnosed with terminal cancer. The four-saloon poker run will start at 10:30 a.m. and make stops at Saloon 17 in Green Cove Springs, Renegades Bar and Grill in Crescent City and wind up at Boogerville Hideout in Green Cove Springs.

Cost is \$20 a rider and \$10 a passenger. The event will include live music, raffles, auction and a 50/50 raffle. Breakfast will be served by Locals Pub.

Money raised will help Boozer's family with transportation and care costs.

To donate or for more information, call (904) 994-4956.

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MM1481



Faith Walk

by Pastor Billy Register
True Life Church
Clay County

Who is the Greatest Champion?

This weekend is Super Bowl Sunday. A day where people gather with family and friends to celebrate champions. It's exciting to cheer for our favorite players and teams as they strive for excellence in the most-watched game of the year. Many people who aren't even football fans watch the Super Bowl because it is an event where legendary champions shine brightest. Champions inspire us because they remind us that we can achieve great things.

Patrick Mahones, the MVP QB of the Kansas City Chiefs, said this: "Before every game, I walk the field, and I say a prayer at the goalpost. I just thank God for those opportunities, and I thank God for letting me be on a stage where I can glorify him."

It's wonderful when the athletes we look up to are also people of faith who can motivate us spiritually. In the Bible, there are many great champions that we can look towards for inspiration: David, Joshua, Samson, and Paul, just to name a few. These are people who lived out their faith to the very end, setting an example for us all.

Our most powerful example, and greatest champion, is Jesus. The scripture says, "We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith." Hebrews 12:2 (NLT)

He conquered it all! He conquered sin, death, hell, and the grave. Great champions sacrifice and Jesus sacrificed so that we would have salvation. His life of obedience to God the Father and service to others needs to be our most influential motivation. Let your celebration of the champions of this Super Bowl be another thing that points you to Jesus. Recommit to allowing Jesus into your heart and making Him the champion of your life. He can do things in your life beyond your wildest expectations. Ephesians 3:20 says, "Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think."

Be determined to be a champion for Him, living every day focused on sharing His love with others.

You can write the Pastor at pastorbilly@findtruelife.com.

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GCS veteran continues to salute the sacrifices made by fallen family members

By Lee Wardlaw
lee@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Visitors will know when they have arrived at the Vietnam War veteran C.J. Gauthier's house because there are several landmarks proudly positioned at the entrance.

First, you'll see a classic, three-wheel trike motorcycle with seven flags positioned at the rear. This includes the stars and stripes, along with six other banners that go on to salute the country's servicemen, including Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Navy and MIA/POW.

Standing to the left of a life-sized G.I. Joe, affectionately named Frank, after Gauthier's father. Just like his dad, a World War II veteran, the mannequin is dressed in full U.S. Navy garb.

While Gauthier proudly served from 1971-75, he'd rather not talk about that. The former serviceman said he didn't acknowledge the fact of that to friends and family until 2005, a whopping 30 years following the conclusion of the conflict in Southeast Asia.

Instead, Gauthier would prefer to discuss the extremely proud and strong legacy left by his late uncle and great-uncle. The tales of the heroes' lives and deaths still have an everlasting impact on America that can be felt to this very day.

Step inside C.J.'s military-themed home, and you will see plenty of framed photographs, magazines and memorabilia – many of which are dedicated to two of his fallen family members who have been at the forefront of his mind for much of his existence.

Portions of the room are dedicated as a shining tribute to his uncle, Electrician's First Mate Second Class Richard William Jones, who died in 1963, and his great-uncle, Capt. Joseph McConnell Jr., who died in 1954.

Both played a large part of a family with a long and distinguished line of military history.

While C.J. never had the opportunity to meet his uncle, his father, Frank, described the captain as a hellion who loved to chase women.

But the captain, indeed, was much more than that.

A native of Dover, New Hampshire, McConnell originally didn't have the skills or training needed to become a pilot during World War II. However, when the Korean War started rolled around in 1950, McDonnell joined the Air Force to fight for the United States.

McConnell served in the war from 1952-1953, with the captain shooting down 16 and damaging five enemy aircraft in five months between January and May in 1953.

After that, the enshrined airman forever cemented his status as the first triple jet ace in U.S. history.

McConnell did so while flying at least three F-86 Sabres, all of which were named



STAFF PHOTOS BY LEE WARDLAW
C.J. Gauthier is a Clay County resident who proudly served the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War from 1971-75, but he'd rather discuss his uncle, First Mate Second Class Richard William Jones, and great-uncle, Capt. Joseph McConnell Jr., who were American military heroes.

Beauteous Butch after his wife, Pearl "Butch" Brown, the hero even shooting down a MiG-15 piloted by Soviet Union ace Semyon Fedorets during the process.

The captain's plane was badly damaged and he was forced to eject into the Yellow Sea, but he was quickly rescued by a U.S. helicopter within minutes. McConnell returned to battle the very next day, where he would shoot down another MiG.

Following the conclusion of the war and his safe return home, McConnell became the focus of the national limelight. He had the opportunity to meet President Dwight Eisenhower and embark on a nationwide tour that included guest appearances on radio and television programs and meet-and-greets with famous Hollywood celebrities.

However, he was tragically killed while conducting a test flight in 1954. He had been temporarily assigned to the service

testing program of the new F-86 planes and his plane suffered a control malfunction.

It wasn't long after his death that the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star and Air Medal recipient was recognized. In 1955, Warner Bros. Studios released the McConnell Story, a 107-minute film dramatizing the life of the heroic veteran.

A copy of the film still sits on top of Gauthier's desk.

Gauthier's uncle, Richard, was a happy boy that enjoyed a colorful childhood. He was active in the Boy Scouts of America and a member of both the cross country and track teams.

After high school graduation, he enlisted in the Navy in 1959.

Jones attended Submarine School before volunteering for submarine duty, graduating in 1960. He was then assigned to the U.S.S. Diablo, becoming a fully-certified Submariner in 1961. In 1963, Richard was re-assigned to the submarine U.S.S. Thresher.

Following an overhaul, the U.S.S. Thresher began deep-diving tests along the U.S.S. Skylark approximately 220 miles east of Cape Cod, Massachusetts. However, something appeared to be inherently wrong after communications from Thresher to Skylark became muddled, which then completely stopped.

Jones was one of 128 other officers, crewmen and civilian technicians who were lost on board, with the shattered remains being found 8,400 feet below the surface in five major sections in 1964.

Jones' nephew remembers the moment like yesterday.

"My mother came out yelling and screaming and fell to her knees, and my father came out running behind her, trying to catch her," he said.

C.J. was 7. He couldn't understand what was happening at the time, but would soon learn of his uncle's tragic fate.

Nevertheless, both served as monumental heroes and role models to Gauthier and he will forever salute their memories.





Bison, bounce house and bream ... oh my!

Children amazed at Diamond D's Family Farm Fun Day

MAXVILLE – No Wienermobile, no problem. A family emergency for the driver of the iconic mobile hot dog kept it from making an appearance at Family Farm Fun Day at the Diamond D Ranch, but it didn't disappoint the children who were marveled by the chance to get snout-to-nose with farm animals like goats, Bison, donkeys, ponies, sheep and cows during the annual event. Children also got to play in a bounce house, take a wagon ride tour with stops to feed animals and try to catch fish. The event also included a chance for families to take a nature walk to explore Florida plants and wildlife.



STAFF PHOTOS BY DON COBLE

2023 CLAY ROTARY SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR WINNERS

Combined Animal Sciences

1st Place: NataLee LuPau
2nd Place: Tyler Brock

Combined Behavioral, Social, Biomedical & Health Sciences

1st Place: Merrick Rapoza
2nd Place: Aaliyah (Devin) Callahan
3rd Place: Layla Glover

Combined Cellular/ Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, & Microbiology

1st: Phoenix Ricketts
2nd: Ameerah Mata

Junior Chemistry A

1st: Emily Stoehr
2nd: Hartley Georges

Junior Chemistry B

1st: Gracie Foster
2nd: Caitlyn Garrett

Senior Chemistry

1st: Emma Duong
2nd: Dylan Barclay
3rd: Haron Brown, Justice Deazle, Niuurka Ortiz Burgos

Junior Earth & Environmental Sciences A

1st: Lyla Goddard
2nd: Cadence Bandor

Junior Earth & Environmental Sciences B

1st: Chandani Armogan
2nd: Garrett McClain

Senior Earth & Environmental Sciences A

1st: Sophia Versage
2nd: Kayleigh Fonseca

Senior Earth & Environmental Sciences B

1st: Prisha Dabhi, Autumn Dib, Ylliria Hernandez
2nd: Shayla Brown, Wain Sulph, Brenda Torres

Junior Engineering

1st: Brody Toves
2nd: Sebastian Jennings
3rd: Aurora Norman, Aubrey Schultz

Senior Engineering

1st: Ethan Robinson

Combined Environmental Engineering

1st: William Davis

Combined Mathematics, Robotics, Intelligent Machines, & Systems Software

1st: Alexander Gordon

Junior Physics & Astronomy

1st: William Rogers
2nd: Joshua Mason
3rd: William McGready

Senior Physics & Astronomy

1st: Aliyah Davis
2nd: Austin Hallett

Junior Plant Sciences A

1st: Dylan Baker
2nd: Avah Strickland



Aaliyah (Devin) Callahan and Judge Ginger Lee talk about her project that found a connection between anxiety and drug use among teens.



Ridgeview's Sanaa Lee and Judge Richard Segall talk about her project "Water Filtration Utilizing Nitrate-Selective Resin and Passive Currents Generated by Hurricane Forces."

Junior Plant Sciences B

1st: Logan Hauselman, Nathan McDuffie
2nd: Ravin Bastin

Senior Plant Sciences

1st: Taylor Dean
2nd: Danielle Fleurant, Valerie Santini-Ayala, Angel Zheng

SPECIAL AWARDS

American Psychological Association:
 Laura Herndon

Association for Women Geoscientists:
 Kayleigh Fonseca

Lemelson Early Inventor Prize:
 Joshua Chun, Antonio Estrada

NASA Earth System Science Award:
 Haley Sutherland

National Geographic Award:
 Maeve Byrnes, Saumara Robinson

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: Sanaa Lee

Naval Science Awards:

Junior Level - William Rogers, Lyla Goddard;
Senior Level - Haley Sutherland, Dylan Barclay

Office of Naval Research - U.S. Navy/ U.S. Marine Corps:

Regeneron Biomedical Science Award:
 Danielle Fleurant, Valerie Santini-Ayala, Angel Zheng
Ricoh USA, Inc.: Sanaa Lee

Sherman O'Brien Excellence in Physics Award: Junior Level - Brody Toves; Senior Level - Ethan Robinson

Society for In Vitro Biology: Phoenix Ricketts

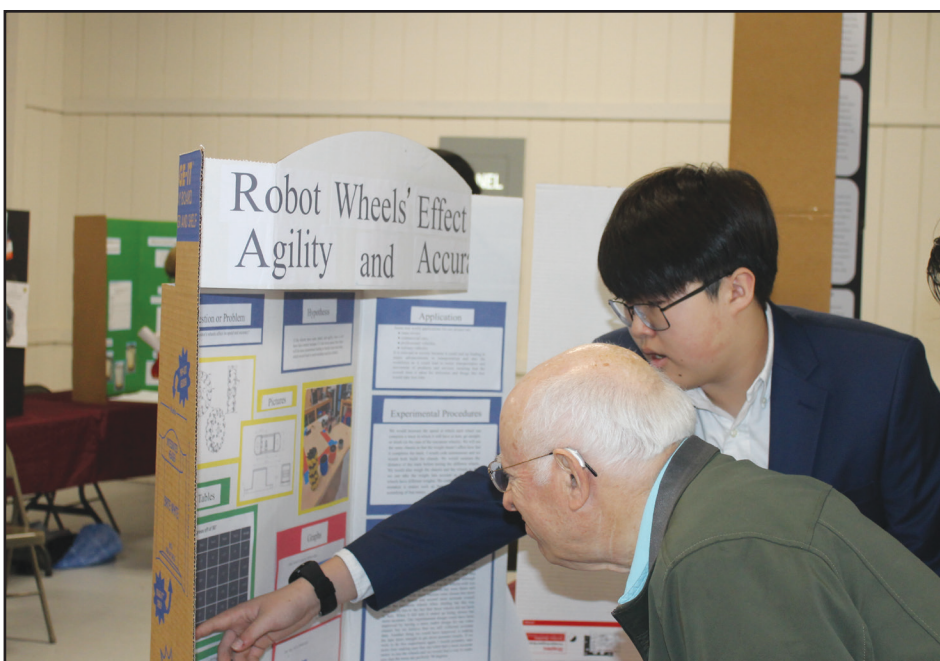
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID): Aliyah Davis

U.S. Metric Association: Aliyah Davis

U.S. Stockholm Junior Water Prize: Aliyah Davis, Ravien Johnson, and Isabella Amador & Riley Chapman

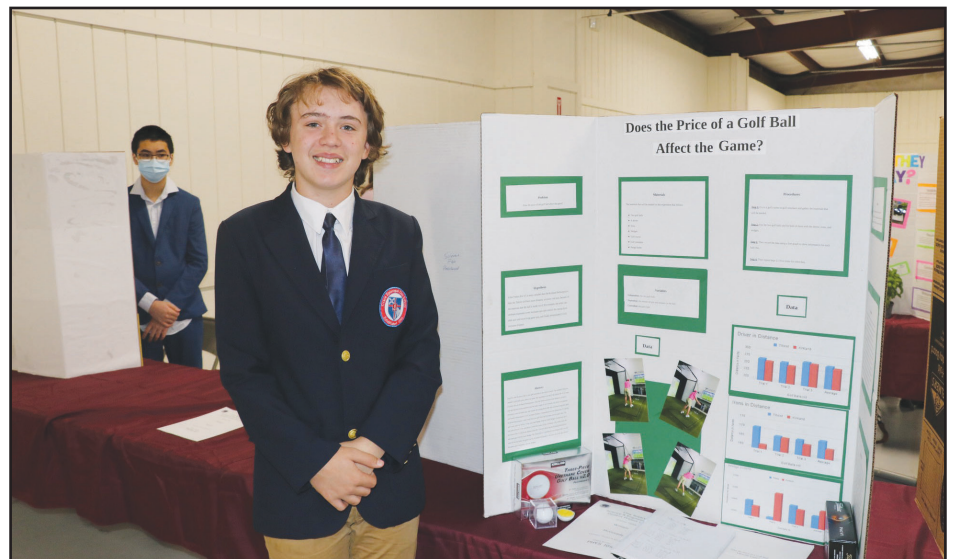
United States Air Force

Yale Science and Engineering Association:
 Haley Sutherland



STAFF PHOTO BY DON COBLE

Science Fair judge Richard Segall listens to Orange Park Junior High's Joshua Chun as he explains how the wheels effect the agility and accuracy of a robotic machine.



THERMO FISHER JUNIOR INNOVATORS CHALLENGE

Chandani Armogan
 Dylan Baker
 Gracie Foster
 Lyla Goddard
 William Rogers
 Emily Stoehr

STATE FAIR NOMINEES

Joshua Antonio
 Dylan Barclay
 Joshua Chun & Antonio Estrada
 Aliyah Davis
 Angelo De La Rosa
 Emma Duong
 Michael Gilkey
 Alexander Gordon
 Austin Hallett
 Merrick Rapoza
 Phoenix Ricketts

INTERNATIONAL FAIR NOMINEES

Emma Duong
 Alexander Gordon

Science
 from page 1

weeks and four days. I cut it off at 150 people.”

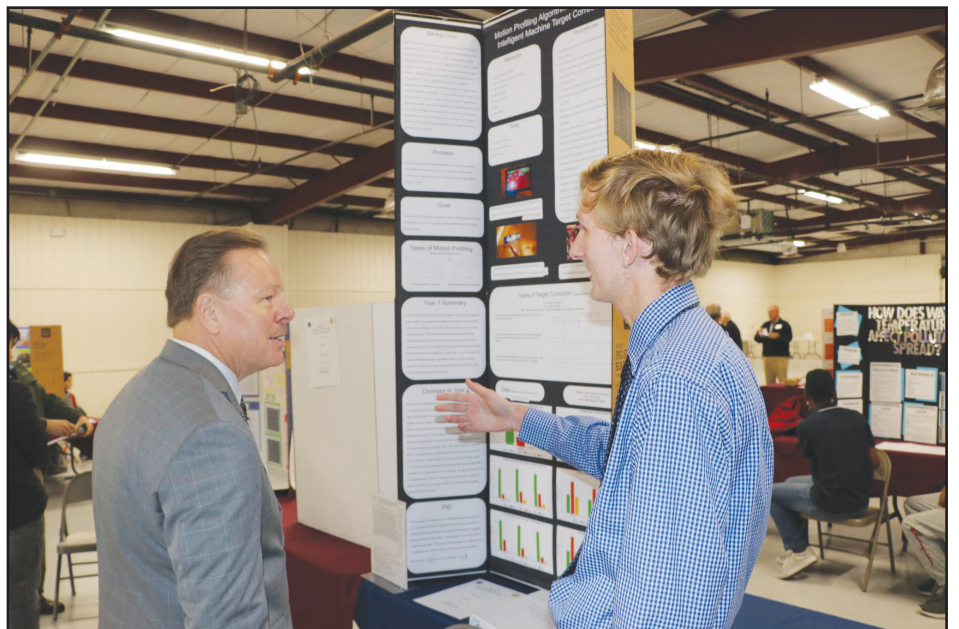
Callahan broke down her results to include boys, girls and others. Her results were telling: Anxiety does increase the chance of drug use.

Judges liked her method, experiment, hypothesis and conclusion enough to give

her the second-place award Tuesday in the Combined Behavioral, Social, Biomedical and Health Science category.

This year’s science fair attracted 109 entries at the Clay County Fairgrounds. Winners were announced Wednesday night at Orange Park High.

“These projects are so impressive,” said Superintendent David Broskie. “It’s amazing how they come up with these ideas. We certainly have a lot of talented students in this county.”



Celebrate Clay History

As we celebrate Black History Month, Clay Today and the Clerk of Court and Comptroller's office have created a three-part series on Civil Rights Icon Maude Burroughs Jackson.

Maude Burroughs Jackson: In her own words

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

MIDDLEBURG – From May 1963 until July 1964, protesters in St. Augustine endured physical beatings and verbal assaults. They did not fight back, however, based on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s explicit non-violence instructions at the time.

By suffering through the violence and hate-filled rhetoric that embodied our nation's Civil Rights Era, the protesters' ability to literally turn the other cheek garnered national sympathy. This was a major factor in the passing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

A young woman from Clay County bravely marched in St. Augustine with those protestors, met Dr. King, and went on to inspire generations.

Maude Burroughs Jackson was interviewed by Clay Today's Mary Jo McTammany during January and February of 2007. This is her story in her own words:

"I was with Dr. King in '63 and '64 when he came down to St. Augustine on occasion. I started working with The Movement in St. Augustine sometime in 1962. I was in college in St. Augustine at Florida Memorial.



not too clear on exact dates, but I was deeply involved in all the sit-ins and demonstrations during '62, '63, '64. The only exceptions were when I was at home in Middleburg during the summers."

"We would go and sit at the lunch counter at Woolworth's, and the waitresses would just keep walking past us. Every now and then, a waitress would say, 'We don't serve (racial slur) here.' I know what that word means, and maybe, coming through the Movement, it doesn't hurt me as much these days as it did then. So if I use the word, don't feel hurt about me using it. It doesn't really bother me if I use it because I'm using it in the context of how it was used back in the day. It did hurt during that time. In those days, ladies of quality – black or white – dressed nicely to go to town. The demonstrations and sit-ins were no different. I would have worn a nice skirt and blouse or a nice dress with hose and heels, with my nails done and my hair would have been combed. I probably looked much nicer than I would dress to go to town today. Times have changed. Also, being from 19 to 21 years old, I was very concerned about the way I was dressed. We were raised to be that way."

"At the sit-ins, we always sat down in an orderly way because that was part of the instruction when you wanted to be a part of Dr. King's Movement. There were very precise and detailed instructions on how to go out and how to conduct yourself while you were out, and no matter what people said to you, you were not to respond in any ugly way."

"There was a group that was in charge of the Movement in St. Augustine, and I got involved by just going and sitting at the office, typing letters, sending out information about the Movement, and talking to people who didn't want to go out on the marches."

memorial. I started there in 1960 and graduated in 1964. When I started, three of us were in school there at the same time – my sister Ann, my brother Eddie and I. We all commuted to class. I never lived in the dormitories at Florida Memorial. I met a family in St. Augustine, and it so happened that their pastor knew my family. The pastor taught one of my brothers back in the '30s, and he knew the name Burroughs, and he had talked about us to people in St. Augustine. When I met this family, she recognized our name and made me welcome to be a part of her family and stay during

the school term in her home."
"About 1962, I learned about the local Movement. I participated in all the sit-ins and marches. I went to headquarters a lot. Our headquarters was at Dr. Robert Hayling's office. He has since moved from St. Augustine. There is a great story about him being in St. Augustine. He was in business there – a dentist. He had some terrible experiences trying to integrate St. Augustine. Some things I don't think he even wants to talk about. I guess that's why not too much has been written about St. Augustine and the Movement there. I met him by going to the mass meetings and by going to the sit-ins at Woolworths. I'm



Maude Burroughs Jackson vividly remembers President Lyndon B. Johnson shaking hands with Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. moments after he signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

SEE CELEBRATE, 28

REMEMBERING DUNBAR HIGH AND BLACK AMERICAN ANCHORS: will be on Feb. 11 at 4 p.m. at Green Cove Springs Junior High, 1220 Bonaventure Ave. For more information, visit friends@fasacc.org or call (904) 657-6223.

BLACK HISTORY FESTIVAL/MEN OF LOYALTY YOUTH BOXING: will be on Feb. 11 at 9 a.m. at Pier Station Road West in Green Cove Springs. Men of Loyalty is a program that teaches children boxing techniques, offering discussion groups, snacks and building teamwork in a positive family environment. The festival

also includes family fun, performers, arts and crafts. For more information, visit menofloyalty.org.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH PARADE AND MELANIN MARKET: will be on Feb. 18 from noon-5 p.m. along A. Philip Randolph Boulevard in Jacksonville.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA MARKET DAY BLACK HISTORY MONTH COLLABORATION: will be on Feb. 22 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at 1 UNF Dr. in Jacksonville. The event is free.

AUGUSTA SAVAGE ARTS FESTIVAL: will be on Feb. 25 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Spring Park, 106 St. Johns Ave. in Green Cove Springs. For more information, visit friends@fasacc.org or call (904) 657-6223.

Submit events to don@claytodayonline.com





Once a Scout, always a Scout

Bartram Trail District inducts 39 to rank of Eagle Scout



By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

FLEMING ISLAND – Michael Garrick reached into a bag and pulled out items from his days as a Scout, including his Eagle Scout coffee mug and sash with 21 badges.

Once a Scout, always a Scout.

The retired U.S. Navy captain entered Scouting's highest rank in 1989, and he wanted this year's group of scouts to know they never will lose that distinction.

"This is permanent," he said.

Five months after getting his Eagle neckerchief, Garrick embarked on a 33-year career in the military. He returned to be the Bartram Trail District induction at Sacred Heart Catholic Church last Saturday to deliver the keynote address.

Garrick said as a teen, he quickly realized the oaths for the Navy and Scouts mirrored each other, and he said the values and principles learned through Scouting prepared him for success in the Navy.

"You've demonstrated character; you've learned competencies and oaths, and those are going to set you apart as leaders in the society," Garrick said. "You're a testimony to your families. And I think that everybody here would agree that earning Eagle Scout means a great number of things."

For Fleming Island's Karl Bolt, it meant embracing the challenge of hiking and camping at the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. For Orange Park's Lance Ambrosio, it meant creating friendships with fellow Scouts.

And for Madelyn and Francesca Considine, it meant continuing a proud family tradition.

"What I like most is meeting new people," Ambrosio said.

He created a butterfly garden at the Ortega Methodist Church in Jacksonville for his Eagle Scout project. Ambrosio now a freshman studying biology and environmental studies at Rollins College in Winter Park.

Bolt built two book share boxes and placed one at the entrance to the Eagle Harbor pool and the other at the back pool.

"My project was suggested to me," he said. "We got the materials and design, and there was some trial and error. It was challenging."

The Considine sisters became the third in their Keystone Heights family to become an Eagle. Their father, Frank, achieved the rank nearly 30 years ago.

Their mother, Jacqueline and sisters Evelyn and Penelope, are all involved in Scouting.

To earn the rank of Eagle, scouts had to earn a minimum of 21 merit badges, including badges in first aid, citizenship in the community, nation and world, communication, cooking, personal fitness and



Keynote speaker retired U.S. Navy Capt. Michael Garrick said being an Eagle Scout always fulfilling the oaths they took.



From left, Evelyn, Francesca, Penelope, Madelyn, Frank and Jacqueline Considine have made Scouting a family affair, while Fleming Island's Karl Bolt, below and Orange Park's Lance Ambrosio accepted certificates from former BCC Chairman Wayne Bolla and Councilman Jim Renninger. All Eagles were greeted by a host of officials.



emergency preparation or lifesaving. They also were required to serve in a leadership role, complete a board of review and enlist help and finances for a project to benefit the community.

Bartram Trail's 39 inductees combined to donate 7,436 hours and raise \$31,118.80.

This year's Eagles received light blue neckerchiefs created for the newly-formed Bartram Trail District. The district was reshaped a year ago to include scouts from Clay, Putnam and Baker counties. Eagles from the former Black Creek District received white neckerchiefs.

Each new Eagle received an array of citations from the sheriff's office from all three counties, the Clay County School Board, County Commission, Rotary Club of Orange Park, U.S. Rep. Aaron Bean, Florida Sen. Jennifer Bradley, Florida Reps. Sam Garrison and Bobby Payne and Sons of the American Revolution.

Garrick closed by telling the younger Scouts what he believes is the most important aspect of being an Eagle.

"Earning this goal is not the end of this journey," he said. "It's the beginning. I am humbled to be able to call myself to be in your ranks."



Celebrate

from page 26

would be left there to handle the office many times during those early marches. At that time, there might have been 15-20 people who would be there to organize things before the marches. They always reminded people to be on their best behavior, and that (they) might encounter people who would make remarks that would upset (them). They might throw things at you. They might hit you. They might spit on you.

They might do anything to you, and you must not respond. Anybody who could not accept this – could not participate. So you already knew what to expect. You knew to expect doors closed in your face, skipping you in line; anything of that nature might happen to you.”

“Then, Dr. King started coming down (St. Augustine). The first time that I saw Dr. King, he came in for a mass meeting, and I stayed there at the office to take care of answering the phone or to take care of anything else that came up. He was getting

in so late, and after the meeting, it was going to be so late that you wouldn't dare try to go to a restaurant or anything. So, I was asked to prepare dinner for him that night at the office using a small toaster oven. I made a steak for him and toast and a little salad. And I got a chance to just sit and be in the inner circle of the leaders of the Movement. He was such a compassionate, such a common person – you just felt good being around him. A man of this importance, but every one of us was treated like we were the special one. And he showed so much respect for all of the participants – for everybody. It wasn't like you were just a little person here in St. Augustine. He didn't treat you that way.

“After that, when he began coming to St. Augustine on a regular basis – I spent a lot of time with Dr. King. Sometimes he would fly in and have to fly right back out. All of us spent time with him just working around the office and organizing the meetings. Some of us even went out to the high school with him and recruited children

to participate. Dr. King didn't necessarily come to all the mass meetings, but he did the marches. At night, we did the marches while the picketing and sit-ins were done during the day.

“After a mass meeting where Dr. King gave a fiery sermon – we sang “God Will Take Care of You” and just felt all fired up and ready to save the world. Sometimes, Abernathy or sometimes Andrew Young might be the speaker. All of them came to St. Augustine – C.T. Vivian, Y.T. Walker, Josea Williams, John Lewis. I got the opportunity to be around all these people. All of them didn't come at the same time; they kind of cycled in and out. It was very well planned. One would leave, and another would come in to help with the Movement. (The) presence of the national leaders really was intended to generate national media interest. Local people could not get that kind of attention.”

Next week: The price of freedom.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Clay County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, February 23, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.**, in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, 4th Floor, Clay County Administration Building, 477 Houston Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida, for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to issuing a Variance to the Clay County Land Development Code, Article VI, Section 6-5(5)(b), to increase the limit of unbroken row of parking above the maximum allowed of 100 linear feet.

Location Address for BOA-22-25

1515 Wells Road

Tax Parcel Identification Number 33-03-26-018442-040-01

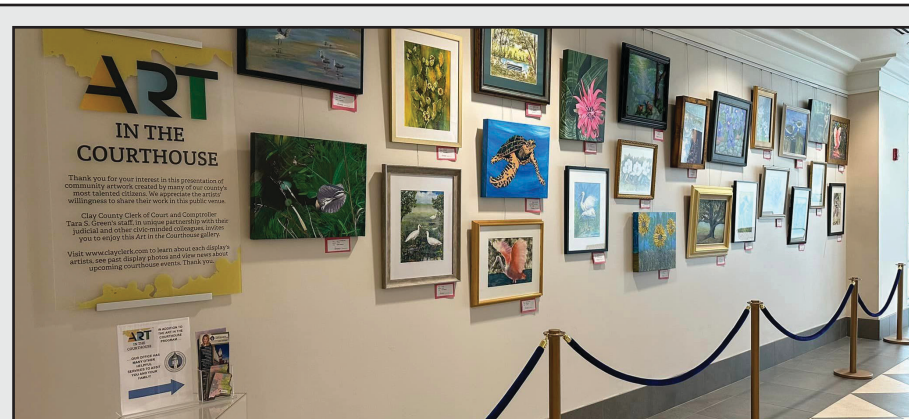
Interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed Variance. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board or Commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, such person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, such person 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. A copy of the Variance Application is available for inspection by the public at the County Economic Development Services Department, Planning and Zoning Division, Third Floor of the Administration Building, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding 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 P.O. Box 1366, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043, or by telephone at number (904) 284-6347 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 the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (Voice), or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

BOA-22-25 published February 9, 2023 in Clay Today.

Clay County Board of Adjustment
Keith Hadden
Chairman

Legal 55236 published February 9, 2023 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper.



Art Guild of Orange Park's Flora, Fauna exhibit on display at Clay County Courthouse

For Clay Today

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Thousands of people conduct business inside the Clay County Courthouse annually, so the goal of this program is for this large public building to be an inviting venue, as much as possible. The Art in the Courthouse program began 13 months ago and has been very well received and enjoyed.

The Art Guild of Orange Park helped launch this effort as the debut exhibit last year, and now they're back with another amazing exhibit to share with our community through April.

For their latest summer project, the Art Guild of Orange Park challenged their members to create artwork depicting the flora and fauna of Florida. The result is an awe-inspiring, colorful gallery filled with a wide variety of scenes of local plants and animals – beautiful.

The program is a partnership involving the Clerk/Comptroller Tara Green's office, Clay County judiciary, local art groups, Clay County government, civic organizations, the school district and more.

While done at other courthouses around the state and country, this gal-



lery remains a first for the courthouse. It is a permanent space for the continuous display of community art. Displays rotate through the gallery every one-to-three months and space expansion is being considered.

Artists from the following groups are featured here in 2023: First Coast Quilters Guild, Art Guild of Orange Park, Clay County Fair Art Contest, First Coast Plein Air Painters, Jacksonville Art Guild and Youth Art and Photography from the Augusta Savage Center.

“The response from courthouse staff and the community at large has been outstanding, so we are excited and proud to have these groups taking part in our program,” Green said.

The Art in the Courthouse Gallery is accessible any time the Clay County Courthouse is open to the public, typically Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Police Briefs

GCSPD track down man after convenience store stabbing

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Deputies and detectives with the Green Cove Springs Police Department poured through evidence and conducted countless interviews that led to the arrest of a man who was accused of stabbing a convenience store clerk during a robbery on Saturday, Feb. 11.

Stacey Devon Burney, 49, of Green Cove Springs, was arrested Monday and charged with armed robbery, aggravated battery with bodily harm and grand larceny after a clerk was stabbed in the hand while trying to prevent the unprovoked attack at the Green Cove Food Store at 201 North Orange Ave.

The robbery and attack were recorded by video surveillance, but it took a lot of legwork to track down Burney, who was out on bond following his arrest of posses-



Stacey Burney

sion of crack cocaine last year.

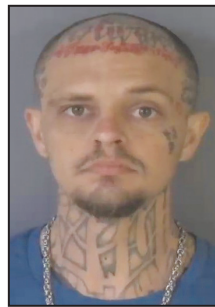
His bond was revoked for the drug charge, and his bond for the attack was set at \$225,009. Burney's next court appearance is set for March 6.

Woman killed while helping break up domestic dispute

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – A couple were brutally stabbed on Feb. 2 when they tried to protect a woman who was being attacked by her boyfriend.

The woman was stabbed multiple times and died, while the man was stabbed in the back and the girlfriend was assaulted, according to the Clay County Sheriff's Office.

William Frederick Burroughs, 32, of Keystone Heights, was charged with murder, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and battery



William Burroughs

following the attack on Auburn Avenue on Thursday night.

The sheriff's office was called because the girlfriend said Burroughs was punching her in the face. When deputies arrived, they found three victims, including Jessica Horn, who died at HCS North Florida Starke. A man was treated and released for a superficial stab wound to his back.

Burroughs will remain in the Clay County Jail without bond until his next hearing on March 13.

The Clay County Sheriff's Office reminds if you are a victim of domestic violence or know someone who is experiencing domestic violence, please contact the sheriff's office at (904) 264-6512, or the National Domestic Violence Hotline at (800) 799-7233 or the Quigley House 24-Hour Crisis Helpline at (904) 284-0061.

Traffic stop leads to trafficking arrest for cocaine, fentanyl, methamphetamine

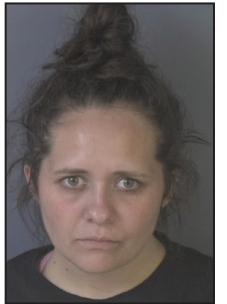
GREEN COVE SPRINGS – A Clay County Sheriff's Office deputy recognized a woman

with a suspended license driving a car from a parking lot off Henley Road, and during the process of the traffic stop he uncovered cocaine, methamphetamine, fentanyl and marijuana.

Alyssa Brooke Avery, 31, of Green Cove Springs, was charged on Jan. 30 with trafficking methamphetamine, cocaine, crack cocaine and fentanyl, possession of marijuana, Lortab, Alprazolam and drug paraphernalia, as well as driving with a suspended license after K-9 Dante alerted deputies of the likely presence of illegal drugs during the stop.

The drugs were found in a metal box wedged between the driver's seat and center console.

According to the arrest report, the deputy saw Avery get out of her car and enter a business at the corner of Henley



Alyssa Avery

SEE POLICE, 30

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.

Wednesday, Feb. 7

Chad E. Knox, 42, Orange Park, DWLSR
Kevin D. Dwyer, 45, Middleburg, domestic battery
Maria A. Zaricor, 46, Green Cove Springs, FTA
Devon C.D. Frison, 30, Orange Park, two counts selling-methamphetamine
Terrence C. Allen, 26, Orange Park, Orange Park, shoplifting, battery
Matthew F. DeSantis, 52, Orange Park, domestic battery on person 65 or older, prevent/interfere with 911 call
Kenneth L. Craun, 62, Green Cove Springs, VOP-DUI
Shatamra L. Gillyard, 25, Melrose, VOP-trespassing
Deannia L.K. Albritton, 27, Green Cove Springs, FTA-criminal mischief
Mason E. Cornish, 44, Green Cove Springs, FTA-resisting law enforcement
Chainy B. Mullins, 41, Green Cove Springs, VOP-possession-methamphetamine
Levi H. Tomlinson, 28, Green Cove Springs, FTA-domestic battery
Talayzia M. Whitley, 18, Green Cove Springs, battery
Justin M. Walker, 31, Orange Park, two counts kidnapping/terrorizing victim, armed robbery, two counts aggravated battery with intent to commit felony, felony battery by strangulation

Priscilla L. Manning, 55, Keystone Heights, battery

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Stacey D. Burney, 49, Green Cove Springs, armed robbery, aggravated battery, grand theft
Isaiah I. Golson, 24, Oakleaf, carjacking, burglary
Jefferson Ramirez, 29, Green Cove Springs, VOP-lewd/lascivious battery on child
Calvin A. Forney, 37, Orange Par, delivering/selling-Adderall, trafficking-amphetamine/methamphetamine, selling-fentanyl, selling-cocaine
Elijah C. Zawacky, 22, Green Cove Springs, aggravated assault with deadly weapon
Kenneth D. Clifton, 60, Green Cove Springs, burglary, grand theft
Devon C. Justice, 29, Middleburg, selling-fentanyl, use of two-way communication device to facilitate felony
Joeseoph N. Hudson, 25, Green Cove Springs, violation of pretrial release conditions against domestic violence
Hampton M. Baker, 31, Green Cove Springs, FTA-DWLSR

Monday, Feb. 5

Shaleena A. Marks, 22, Green Cove Springs, VOP-domestic battery
Enrico J. Costigioloa, 34, Oakleaf, two counts domestic battery
Chad A. Haddock, 38, Middleburg, shoplifting
Brittany N. Jones, 43, Lake Asbury, trespassing
Matthew W. Kasza, 44, Green Cove Springs, non-support
Kari C. Fogle, 34, Middleburg, VOP-

community control
Eric S. Moore, 42, Middleburg, DUI
Clifford D. Smith, 39, Middleburg, DUI, driving without valid license

Saturday, Feb. 4

Shenerita M. Rolle, 32, Green Cove Springs, aggravated assault with deadly weapon
Crystal L. Fields, 26, Middleburg, FTA-DWLSR, FTA-possession-drug paraphernalia
Brian G. Smith, 38, Middleburg, FTA-DWLSR
Matthew W. Kasza, 44, Middleburg, domestic battery
Gregory T. Mangham, 45, Middleburg, domestic battery, grand theft auto, disorderly intoxication

Friday, Feb. 3

Matthew W. Kasza, 44, Middleburg, domestic battery
Gregory T. Mangham, 45, Middleburg, domestic battery, grand theft, disorderly intoxication

Thursday, Feb. 2

William F. Burroughs, Keystone Heights, murder, aggravated battery with deadly weapon, battery
Kevin R. Davis, 56, Green Cove Springs, domestic battery
Kenyan D.M. Butler, 26, Middleburg, two counts FTA
Charles A. Dukes, 60, Orange Park, possession-cocaine with intent to sell/paraphernalia/deliver, possession-drug paraphernalia
Arla J. Lawson, 50, Orange Park, shoplifting

Brian N. Blanton, 41, Middleburg, disorderly conduct, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement
Vanessa B. Martinez, 37, Fleming Island, petit theft
Miguel I. Martinez, 40, Fleming Island, shoplifting
Mason E. Cornish, 44, Orange Park, FTA-possession-methamphetamine, FTA-possession-oxycodone, FTA-possession-marijuana
Joseph Littles, 53, Middleburg, aggravated assault with deadly weapon
George W. Pyatt, 55, Green Cove Springs, discharge firearm within 1,000 feet of a person
Audrey N. Hughes, 43, Green Cove Springs, FTA-battery
Eric S. Baylock, 49, Green Cove Springs, writ of attachment
Tamara M. Hancock, 34, Middleburg, domestic battery, violation of pretrial release conditions against domestic violence

Wednesday, Feb. 1

Mark A. Rabeth, 35, Keystone Heights, two counts aggravated assault on law enforcement/firefighter/EMT
Milton L. Wesley, 51, Middleburg, fugitive from justice
Marcus J. Waters, 46, Green Cove Springs, violation of pretrial release condition against domestic violence
Richard D. Keene, 62, Middleburg, VOP-possession-methamphetamine
Christopher S. Fitch, 39, Orange Park, VOP-community control, shoplifting
William L. Kuhn, 60, Green Cove Springs, failure to report change of residency

GCS continues exploration to pay for electricity upgrades with impact fees

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Still in the exploratory phase, the City Council continued to push for defining details of a likely impact fee to prepare for the demands on the electrical grid and other projects.

The council voted 5-0 for staff to determine the long-range needs and the costs during its Tuesday night special meeting.

Much of the concern is the development of 1,600 acres south of downtown. If a retail center, homes and apartments are built, as expected, it will overload the city's ability to provide electricity to all of its residents.

One study said the city would need to spend at least \$24 million in the next 10 years to meet the expected demands. The council said it wanted to determine the needs in advance – and the way to pay for it.



The council got an hour-long presentation from Tallahassee-based attorney Heather Encinosa, who specializes in city and county tax increases and impact fees. She said the best way for Green Cove

Springs to collect more money was to define the specific needs and impose impact fees.

She also said an impact fee could only be levied on the residents who will benefit from the expanded services. If the council borrows the money, it would have to prove the impact fees would be enough to pay off the note. The challenge is knowing the details of what the town will need 10 years from now.

One thing the council already knows is Green Cove Springs will need to expand and upgrade its electricity department.

"We have to get out in front of it," said Councilman Ed Gaw.

City Electric Director Andy Yeager said his department could handle the first development phase but nothing beyond that. A fourth transmission line would have to be installed to meet the demands of full development.

"If we wait, it's too late," he said. "When you get behind, it's awful hard to catch up."

The vote to proceed with the exploratory stage was a significant step, Gaw said.

Encinosa said the city faces a June deadline to be able to get all of its paperwork, loan application and long-range plans done in time for the Sept. 15 cutoff. That's the latest impact fee that can be assessed next year.

Staff also will look at other projects, like sidewalks, roads and stormwater management. Encinosa said the city is allowed to combine several projects to create a single impact fee. Those fees, however, could vary if a specific project doesn't benefit residents in another part of town.

During the regular meeting, Kennedy won approval to execute an interlocal agreement with the county on impact fees.

The city council's next meeting will be on Feb. 21.

Septic from page 6

the user's utility bill.

The second option would be for the town to cover the pump installation cost with grant monies. The pumps have a life expectancy of 10 years, and the town would foot the \$600 bill if the pipe were to fail the first time around.

The third potential option is for homes that are in clusters. A town-owned and operated small-package lift station could use

gravity from residences, which would then pump from there to the main. Final costs for this have not been determined.

In other business:

In a historic movement for the town, the council unanimously approved plans to open Rob Bradley Conservation Park at The Point, 4-0. The park would provide free waterfront access to town residents for the first time.

When the park opens, the town public works department will unlock the gates each morning, while the town police de-

partment will lock them at night. Tasks still remaining to be completed include grading ruts, cleaning up remaining concrete and metal debris and some other small projects.

With Orange Park celebrating its 146th anniversary on Sat, Feb. 18, the town will host a cleanup session for the park in honor of the monumental date to remove vegetative debris.

In her presentation, Campbell set a target for a tentative opening date of March 1. However, the entirety of the project, which would include a nature trail, kayak launch,

and canoe launch, wouldn't be completed until an estimated date of Spring or Summer 2024.

An authorization to approve an interlocal agreement with Clay County for the collection of county-wide impact fees passed unanimously, 4-0.

Finally, two golf-cart related ordinances passed unanimously, one allowing golf carts within town limits, and the next creating signage for those golf carts. A little more than 100 signs would be posted, and streets that would allow for the usage of the vehicles would be marked.

Police from page 29

and Sandridge roads. She was pulled over when she drove away from the business.

According to the National and Florida crime information center, Avery's license had been suspended 19 times 2014.

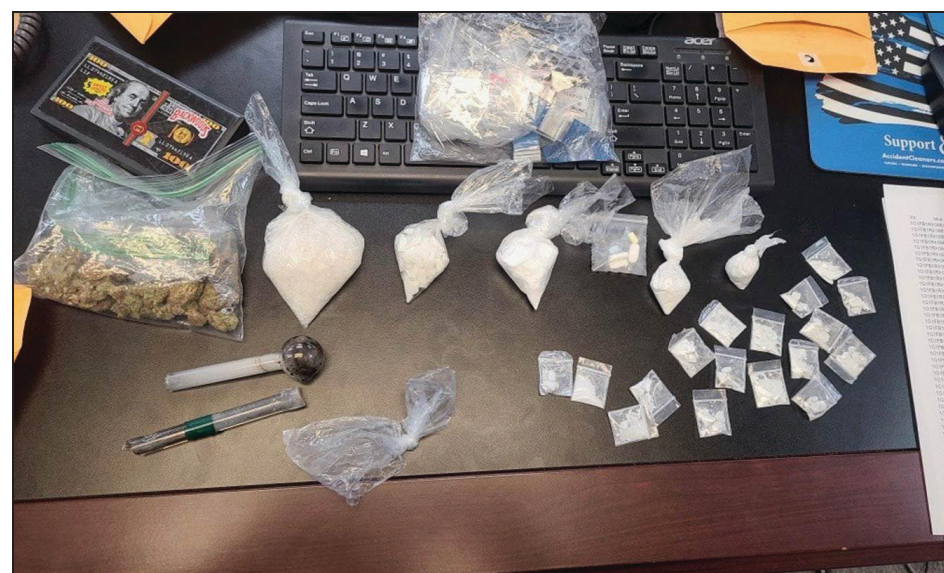
Her bond was set at \$508,018 and her next court appearance is schedule for Feb. 27.

CCSO: Man arrested for firing gun during road rage incident

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – A retired man from Fleming Island was arrested on Nov. 2 after a couple driving on County Road 315 said he threw a soda can at their car and fired four rounds in the air as he sped past them.

George William Pyatt, 55, was charged with discharging a firearm from a vehicle within 1,000 feet of people after the victims gave deputies his license tag number. Deputies said when Pyatt returned home, they were waiting on him.

According to the arrest report, Pyatt admitted to participating in a road rage incident because the couple was driving too



Alyssa Avery bust

slow. Pyatt also told deputies the boyfriend waved a handgun at him as he passed, according to the report. Pyatt later admitted the boyfriend could have been making an obscene gesture when he retaliated.

CCSO said neither of the victims owned a gun.

Pyatt's bond was set at \$75,003.

Putnam woman charged with trying to run car off road

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – A woman who a deputy with the Clay County Sheriff's Office watched chasing another driver at high speeds on U.S. Highway 17 was arrested on Feb. 4.

Shenerita Monique Rolle, 32, of Satsuma, was charged with aggravated assault

with a deadly weapon after a woman called 911 and said two cars were chasing her and trying to run her off the road.

A deputy saw the chase, including one of the chasing cars make "an abrupt swerve at the victim's vehicle" to force the victim to slam on her brakes.

Rolle was stopped and arrested. The second car made a u-turn and sped away toward Palatka.

Orange Park man jailed following Oakleaf carjacking

OAKLEAF – A man was arrested shortly after he carjacked a man who was sitting at a stop sign at Deerfield Pointe Drive and Cheswick Oak Avenue on Feb. 6.

Isaiah Immanuel Golson, 24, of Orange Park, was charged with carjacking and burglary after a driver said he was forced from his car.

Once Golson drove away, the victim flagged down an off duty Jacksonville Sheriff's Office deputy, who was able to alert law enforcement details of the car which led to Golson's capture, according to the arrest report. Golson's bond was set at \$55,006.

TODAY'S Sports

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STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Oakleaf High senior weightlifter Ivy Gunn powers up in region championships as Pace High challenger Kendall Wise, in blue right, watches. Wise and Gunn are two top contenders for state title next week in Lakeland.



Oakleaf High softball outfielder Ciara Gibson points to a Clay Today photo of her in action during National Signing Day at Oakleaf High School. Gibson signed to play at Liberty University next fall.

Gunn preps for state showdown

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

OAKLEAF - After her recent signing to weightlifting on a four year college scholarship at Mars Hill University next fall, Oakleaf High senior weightlifter Ivy Gunn showed off a bit of her competitive tenacity at the region 1-3A championships held at Oakleaf on Thurs. Feb. 2.

"She's a competitor and this is her home gym," said Oakleaf coach Ben White, after a tense session of clean and jerk for his top lifter. "She is definitely a gamer. We asked her to compete and she did."

Pace High School dominated a Florida Panhandle strong contingency of weightlifting powerhouses with overwhelming point totals; 63-38-34, to wins the Traditional over Navarre and Niceville and 54-24-17 with Niceville second and Navarre third in the Olympic lifts.



INSIDE
Gunn lands first weightlifting scholarship for Knights – 32

Oakleaf qualified Nya Russell in Olympics at 119, G'Amyia Aiken at 183, Caylin Volpe and Danielle Ibe (third in Olympics at 199), both at 199, and Christina Beasley at Unlimited with Gunn the talk of the day with her showdown lift off with Pace High's Kendall Wise at 169.

SEE SHOWDOWN, 40

Lady Broncos steal the day

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS - A final push into the finals and a pin with two seconds by still unbeaten Cheyenne Cruce got the Middleburg High girls wrestling team a coveted trophy with the Clay Rotary girls wrestling trophy heading to Middleburg High School.

"We keep a good work ethic on the girls team and it has paid off," said Cruce, a sophomore holding a 29-0 season record after pinning Key West's Shannon Briggs with just two seconds left in the final match. "The girl from Apopka (junior Jada Jones, ranked second in 190, beat Cruce for third at state last year) and the Key West girl (Briggs) both gave me my best matches this year."

Note: Apopka's Jones is 16-2 with both losses to Cruce in regular season action



Middleburg wrestling sisters Lily, left, and Gracie Bradshaw duke it out in championship match at Clay Rotary.

with a third period pin two weeks ago at the Lyman High School Girls Greyhound Open. Cruce beat Briggs last week at the

SEE BRONCOS, 34



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Oakleaf's Gunn lands first weightlifting ride for Knights

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

OAKLEAF - Oakleaf High senior weightlifter and cheerleader Ivy Gunn, amongst the plethora of top tier college athletic scholarship being awarded on National Signing Day last week in Clay County, put herself in the history books with the first weightlifting full ride scholarship for Oakleaf High School.

"I will be attending Mars Hill University on a full scholarship for weightlifting," said Gunn, who is a week away from competing at the FHSAA Class 3A championship meet as a top five contender. "Weightlifting coach Benjamin White saw me at cheerleading just last year and just asked me to come to the weightlifting room and give it a try. I loved it."

Clay High's Alexandra Hamilton, a two-time state champion for the Lady Blue Devils, was the first Clay County signee with a scholarship to compete at East Tennessee State University in 2015.

Joining Gunn on the National Signing Day were Oakleaf softball's duo of Mariyah Sanchez and Ciara Gibson with Sanchez heading to Mercer University and Gibson heading to Liberty University. Gibson has been a four year varsity outfielder with

blazing speed that has recently displayed a powerful bat for coaches Christina Thompson and Heather Han.

Sanchez is one of the best infielders in the state; mainly shortstop, with quick feet and a cannon arm to complete double play turnovers with aplomb.

From the Oakleaf football team, wide receiver Taylor Bradshaw will take his uncanny leaping and long, strong fingers to Georgia Southern University.

And, finally, the Dynamic Duo of Oakleaf girls basketball, on the verge of a repeat to the Final Four tournament after a 23-2 regular season and a recent blowout in the district championship game, guards Fantasia James and Kaylah Turner signed to continue playing at Florida International University and Alabama A & M University, respectively.

Gunn, who is following the tradition of two-time champion Tamira Briley into the Oakleaf sports history annals, recalled her decision to take on weightlifting as part of her athleticism as the base cheerleader for the competitive cheerleading team at Oakleaf.

"I decided in my senior year that I would be a weightlifter that cheers

SEE GUNN, 41



Oakleaf High weightlifter Ivy Gunn smiles with dad, Todd, after signing first weightlifting scholarship for school's program. Gunn is headed to Mars Hill University in North Carolina.

IT'S TIME TO NOMINATE



NOMINATIONS ARE

FEBRUARY 1

THRU

FEBRUARY 16

VOTING STARTS FEBRUARY 17

INFO 904.264.3200

WWW.CLAYTODAYONLINE.COM

SJCDS Frisbee, KHHS Wright take region totals to state

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

WEST NASSAU - Keystone Heights High senior weightlifter Kaylee Wright and St. Johns Country Day School's Addison Frisbee did as expected and returned home with Class 1A championship tickets Saturday at West Nassau High School.

Frisbee, the defending Olympic Snatch champion for coach Justin Frisbee, her dad, had some competition in her 129 weight class with Altha High's Braeden Smith punching up a 295 total (125 snatch, 170 clean) to edge Frisbee's Region 2-1A Olympic championship total of 270.

In 2023, FHSAA combined the Clean and Jerk total to the Olympic Snatch lifts to create the Olympic category.

For Keystone Heights' Wright, a three



Keystone Heights weightlifter Kaylee Wright, left, will be making her third trip to the class 1A state championships this year for the region title last week. Addison Frisbee, right, with Dad and Coach Justin Frisbee, will look to defend her Olympic State title in Lakeland.



time state meet performer, now at 169, a second lift at clean and jerk of 155 after a miss at 150 and a dominating 180 bench

press got her two titles; Olympic and Traditional. Wright still has work to do with the top five lifters all totaling over 320 in Tra-

Class 1A Traditional Qualifiers

129: Top total 355, Braeden Smith, Altha; Addison Frisbee SJCDS 255

169: Top total 385, Kahlan Gant, Bay; Kaylee Wright KHHS 335

Class 1A Olympic Qualifiers

129: Top total 295, Braeden Smith Altha; Addison Frisbee SJCDS 270

169: Top total 355, Kahlan Gant Bay; Kaylee Wright KHHS 270

ditional and Olympics a clump at 270-290 with leader Kahlan Gant of Bay clearly the favorite with a 355 total in Olympic.

The medal difference in Traditional is just 50 pounds where Wright had the second best bench press. Gant was third in bench and that could spell a medal for Wright.

Blue Devils rampage region field

FIHS lands five to state

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

LEESBURG - Clay High's girls weightlifting team solidified their prowess as the strongest team in the state with an overwhelming double region championship compounded with three athletes in top seed positions for the upcoming state championship meet in Lakeland on Sat., Feb. 18.

Clay dominated both disciplines with a 43-34 1-2 finish over New Smyrna Beach with Leesburg third at 32. Fleming Island was sixth with 20 just ahead of Middleburg, 10, and Ridgeview, 9.

In Traditional, Clay won with 45 points over New Smyrna Beach again, at 36, with Leesburg at 29. Middleburg was sixth at 21 with Fleming Island seventh at 18 and Ridgeview eighth with eight points.

Clay, the Olympic and Tradition defending Class 2A champions, leads a contingency of athletes; three defending state champions; two top seeds in 2023; Emma Heck, Janiyah Stevens and Kyleigh LaFary, to the Class 2A championships that includes a remarkable five athletes from Fleming Island; one a top seed, after a zero camp last year, six from Middleburg (three from state champion softball team, one a state discus thrower) and three from Ridgeview.

For Clay coach Rodney Keller, a second title run seems imminent not just because of his three defending champions returning, but for the wingmen of those three.

At Unlimited, LaFary has been the top total for the entire season with teammate Kenya Tinajero just a step behind with the duo looking to chock up a bucket load of points for the Blue Devils. LaFary and Tinajero are 1-2 in totals; 375-350 in Olympics and 425-400 in Tradition to have a possible 19 point swing for Clay.



Heck is a lock with overwhelming totals; 360 and 370 with her chasers, including Ridgeview High's Adriana Dimeo unfortunately the second best lifter at 139 from Clay County, only able to watch and battle for the silver medal. That should make that weight class a second Clay County explosion although Dimeo and Heck will battle earlier than LaFary and Tinajero blow the competition away. For Stevens at 154, the defending champion is the second seed coming in; an astounding 415 by Nicole Caamano of Springstead, with Stevens region champion at 375. Keller is a master of big meet preparation and mental toughness and this could be a mano-a-mano showdown in Lakeland.

Keller's other aces in the hole are Annalee Harbison and Ansley Lyda who both have hovered under the radar all season and could make a points impact at state.

For Fleming Island coach Sean Coultis, who took a young batch of athletes last

year that got a bit beat up in the season and turned a newcomer, top seed Autumn Leviston, into a beast on the bench press, punched up some technique improvements around his roster which includes a power lacrosse athlete; Jillian LaBelle, and now will travel with five athletes to Lakeland. Bradi Johnson is just hair off the top total at 119 in Traditional. Ridgeview state meet veteran Harper Herring is a good bet for a second state medal for coach Trentin Davis.

Middleburg softball coach Ashley Houston relied on some power hitting last year to garner the schools first team state title and her little infielder powerhouse; Kaelyn Hagan, is a lead-by-example big game player. From the track team, Madison Underwood's discus is state meet stuff and her competitiveness is unquestioned.

Big games bring big players doing big things. Clay County will represent in Class 2A.

Class 2A Olympic Qualifiers

101 Top total: 245, Kaitlynn Brady Leesburg; Hannah Piniero MHS 170, Kyla Marshall FIHS 165

110 Top total: 265, Anna Fiore Suncoast; Autumn Leviston FIHS 240

119: Top total: 275, Jennifer Morales Choctawhatchee

129: Top total 360, Emma Heck CHS; Adriana Dimeo RHS 295, Jillian Labelle FIHS 260

139: Top Total: 355, Arianna Durrum Springstead; Anna Shepard CHS 300

154: Top total: 340, Janiyah Stevens Clay; Madison Underwood MHS 275, Caylee Johnson MHS 255

169: Top total 335, Julia Knowler Fort Myers

183: Top total 405, Olivia Bond-West New Smyrna Beach; Annalee Harbison CHS 330; Harper Herring RHS 260

199: Top total 360, Nevaeh Wells Leesburg; Ansly Lyda CHS 320, Leah Anderson FIHS 255, Matcha Calixte RHS 255

Unlimited: Top total 375, Kyleigh LaFary CHS; Kenya Tinajero CHS 350

Class 2A Traditional Qualifiers

101: Top total 240, Mariannys Ramones LaBelle; Hannah Piniero MHS 205

110: Top total 320, Autumn Leviston FIHS; Arianna Seibel Guerrero MHS 235

119: Top total 300, Jillian Jacobs Fort Myers; Jennifer Morales Choctawhatchee; Bradi Johnson FIHS 280, Kethnie Gedeon CHS 255

129: Top total 370, Emma Heck CHS; Adriana Dimeo RHS 305, Jillian LaBelle FIHS 270

139: Top total 385, Arianna Durrum Springstead; Anna Shepard CHS 310, Kendall Bryan MHS 300, Kaelyn Hagan MHS 275

154: Top total 415, Nicole Caamano Springstead; Janiyah Stevens CHS 375, Madison Underwood MHS 300, Caylee Johnson MHS 290

169: Top total 370, Dana Quiroz Archbishop McCarthy

183: Top total 405, Olivia Bond-West New Smyrna Beach; Annalee Harbison CHS 385, Harper Herring RHS 300

199: Top total 445, Asha Mahri Manzueta New Smyrna Beach; Ansley Lyda CHS 335, Leah Anderson FIHS 310, Avian Clinkscale MHS 305, Matcha Calixte RHS 285

Unlimited: Top total 425 Kyleigh LaFary CHS, Kenya Tinajero CHS 400, Taylor Thompson FIHS 330



Middleburg High wrestler Sarah Walsh elevates to avoid takedown from Oakleaf's Adrianna Barrientos in Clay Rotary championship match won by Barrientos. Middleburg High's girls wrestling team, coaches Coll Robertson, right, and Jamie Harrison, left, controlled the Clay Rotary tournament from start to finish to earn their first team title with 190-pounder Cheyenne Cruce, center, earning best upperweight wrestler.

Broncos

from page 31

Lake Mary Lady Rams Tournament of Champions; also with a third period pin.

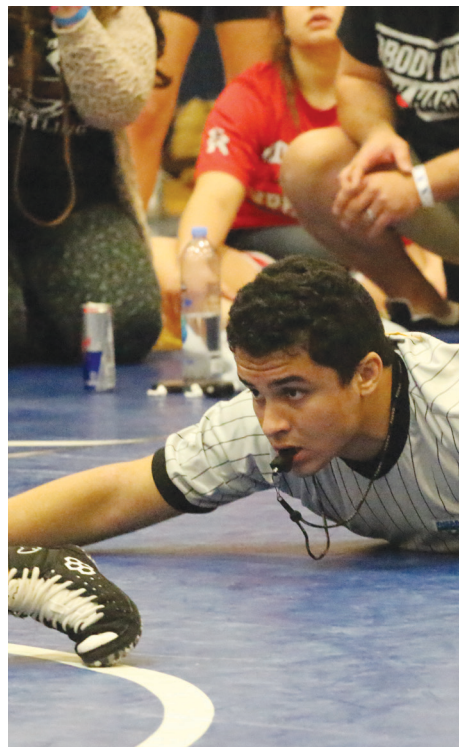
Middleburg added team points in the finals with a Gracie Bradshaw (4th-ranked in state) vs. Lily Bradshaw final at 106 with the senior Bradshaw winning by pin; 9th-ranked Skyla Fisher second at 105 to Oakleaf's Adrianna Barrientos in a first period pin, Memphis Moses at 110 as runnerup to Baker County's Makayla Johnson, Sarah Walsh at 115 runnerup to Ponte Vedra's Erin Rizzuto by pin and Heidi Castleberry at, third at 135.

"It's a good dynamic for the both teams to have competitive boys and girls teams in the same meet," said Middleburg coach Coll Robertson. "They all train together and it may get chirpy, but in the end, I remind them we are on the same team and the support for each other makes the whole team fun to be with."

In the rest of the girls competition, Oakleaf's girls finished fourth just behind state runnerup Ponte Vedra; 82.5-80, with individual titles to Adrianna (105, 2nd ranked) and Kailani Barrientos (120, 2nd-ranked) being joined on the top podium with 5th-ranked Jayla Harrison at 170 with a first period pin over Bartram Trail's Paige Stewart.

For Oakleaf, also, Sofia Shirley Montijo was runnerup at 145,

In the boys competition, 2A-Clay High (8th in 1A last year) emerged in a toss up race with Hernando (19th in 1A last year) as both tied at 199 for the team title tie. Class 3A Buchholz was third at 163 with 2A Middleburg chasing with 153.5 points in fourth place. Oakleaf finished ninth with



Former Clay High wrestler Luca Finnace was on the mat again for the Blue Devils this time as a referee for the Clay Rotary Invitational. Right: Oakleaf High wrestler Jayla Harrison power moves to first period pin to win championship match at Clay Rotary.

94.5 points. Clay and Hernando were with in two points; 189-187, prior to the championship round of finals with Clay earning individual championship wins from Class 2A top ranked (30-0) Jacob Bucci at 106 (6-0 win over Matanzas Timothy Mclean 5th ranked 2A) and 12th-ranked Dominic Martin winning at 170 (5-4 win over McKee Academy's Owen McNabb).

Also for Clay, Drew Holmquist at 113 and Brady Glavin at 126 (Lost by pin to 3A top ranked Ethan Vugman of Bartram Trail 39-1) both lost in the finals. Kedtric Wilboun was third at 220 beating Ralph Richi

of Key West 5-3. William Kelly was fifth at 285 losing to Fletcher's Toby Matson (3A 6th-ranked) by pin.

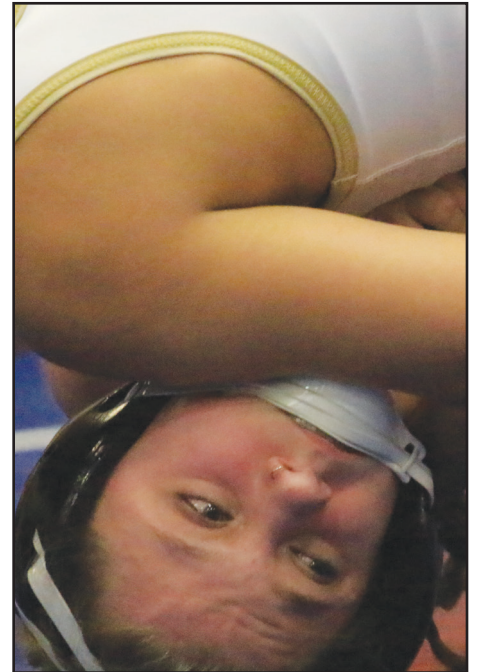
Hernando had just one individual champion; James Gadsden at 145 who pinned Middleburg's 8th-ranked Logan Moore for that title, but Hernando had runnerups at 120 (Loss to Middleburg's 18th-ranked Grady Woodard), 138 (loss to Palatka's Mikade Harvey) and at 285, loss to Andre Otto of Key West).

Adding points to Middleburg's Woodard at 120 were top six finishes by 14th-ranked Tucker Cody at 220; runnerup to

Thomas Jones of Riverside, and Moore at 145.

"This is a tough tournament and we have moved from thinking we could win from thinking it would be nice to make it to the second day," said Middleburg coach Coll Robertson. "Logan and Leduc, Grady have been the mainstays in the room and keeping the guys focused."

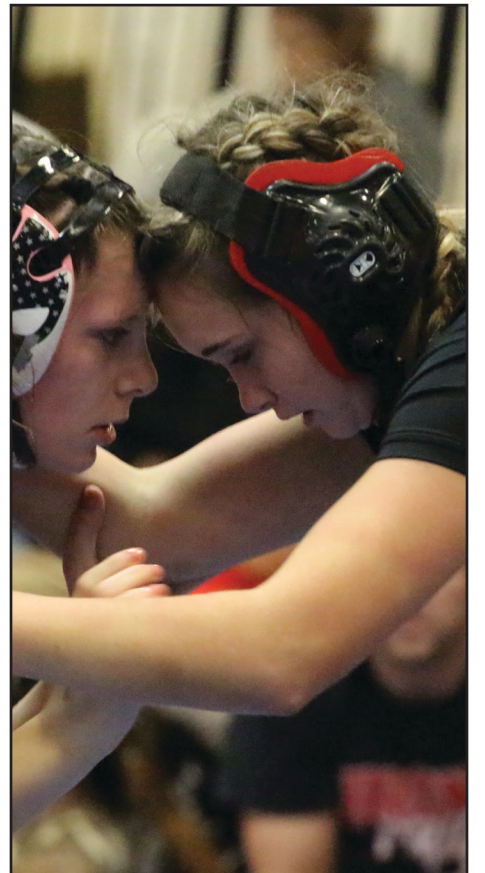
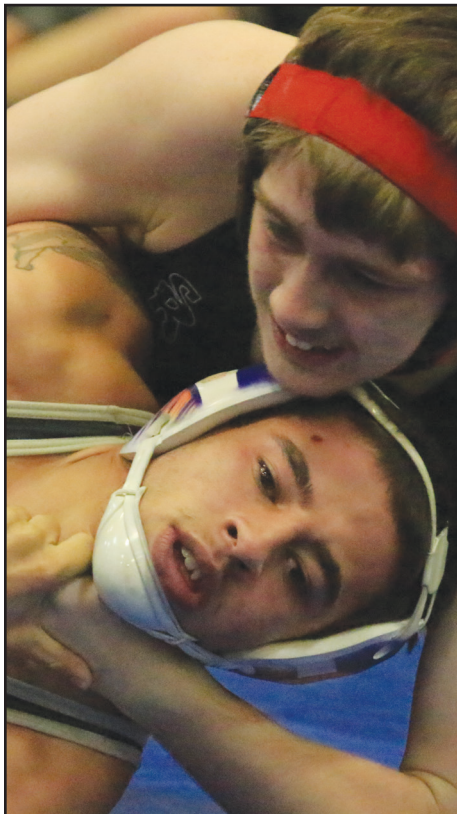
Oakleaf's Isaiah Shevchok, 5th ranked at 195, finished third; 6-3 win over Duffy Mista of Sandalwood) as the Knights top wrestler in the championship round with Ian Hortinea fourth at 120.



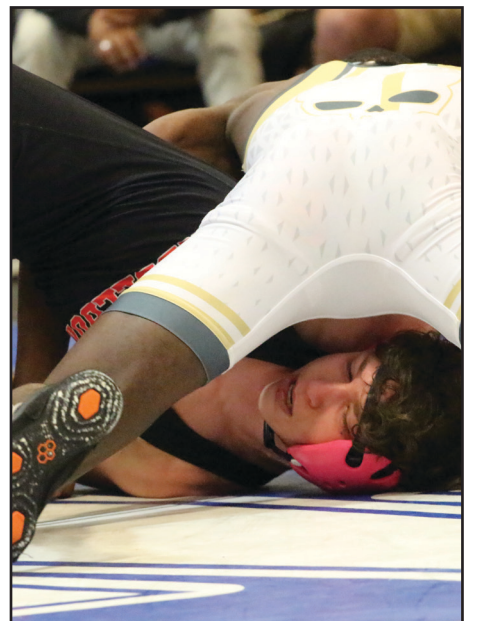
Oakleaf High wrestling coach Mark DeToro with wife next to him, had handful of medalists in his corner led by Isaiah Shevchook for the boys and by the Barrientos girls; Adrianna and Kailani, right.



Clay's Dominic Martin won topsy turvy battle at 170 over McKeel Academy's Owen McNabb, a 5-4 win.



Middleburg's Grady Woodard got an upset win and also his 100th career win with last second pin over Hernando while Cheyenne Cruce suffocates Key West's Shannon Briggs in Clay Rotary championship match at 190. Right, Memphis Moses eyeballs Baker County's Makayla Johnson in finals at 110 won by Johnson.



Left to right: Clay 106 pounder Jacob Bucci is unbeaten and top-ranked in Class 2A, while Oakleaf's Adrianna Barrientos goes for tilt, right, Middleburg's Wyatt Leduc is in a pickle in championship match.



St. Johns Country Day School: Spartans baseball signs two

St. Johns Country Day School baseball coach Tom Lucas, center, and the rest of the Spartans baseball team, right, celebrated with two teammates; Jeffrey Henry (Marysville University) and Paul Janeczko (Rollins College).

Orange Park: Raiders sign three

Orange Park, far left, signed three; JoJo Restall, football to Tusculum University; Brian Green, football to University of Florida and cheerleader Emma Allen to Iowa Western University.



Emma Allen



JoJo Restall



Brian Green



Fantasia James



Kaylah Turner



Ciara Gibson



Ivy Gunn

Oakleaf: Knights sign six

Oakleaf had six signees led by Ivy Gunn, weightlifting to Mars Hills University; Taylor Bradshaw football to Georgia Southern University; Fantasia James, basketball, to Florida International University; Kaylah Turner to Alabama A & M University; Mariyah Sanchez, softball to Mercer University and Ciara Gibson, softball to Liberty University.



Mariyah Sanchez



Taylor Bradshaw



Chase Carroll



De'marion Suggs



Tony Steele



Kristian Russell



Jayden Levy-Zlotowski



TJ Lane



Toshombee Jenkins

Middleburg: Broncos sign seven

Middleburg High had one of their biggest signing classes in Chase Carroll, golf to University of North Florida; De'Marion Suggs, football to McDougal Technical Institute; Tony Steele, football to Monmouth College, Kristian Russell, football to Highland College, Jayden Levy, football to Highland College; T.J. Lane, football to University of West Florida and Toshomba Jenkins, football to McDougal Technical Institute.



Keystone Heights

Keystone Heights all around football guy Bryar Schenck sets up to sign to play college football at River City Prep with coach Justin Moses beside him.



Fleming Island

Fleming Island list of college bounds get a smile before signing.



Jhoel Robinson



Ethan Williams



Walker Whiddon

Fleming Island: Eagles sign many

Fleming Island a bucket load of football players heading college with Jhoel Robinson to Stetson University, T.J. Lawrence to University of South Florida, Michael Zera to Blinn College, Darion Domenick to Blinn College, Ethan Williams to Georgia Southern University, Jhace Edwards to Albany State University, Walker Whiddon to Webber International University, Sam Singleton to Florida State University, Austin Allred to River City Prep, Tyler Williams to Jacksonville Athletic Academy and Brody Glickman to Jacksonville Athletic Academy. Fleming Island also signed cross country and track athlete Katie Thompson to run at University of South Florida.



Tyler Williams



Katie Thompson



Timothy Lawrence

Panthers power to first district hoops title

By Ray Dimonda
Correspondent

ORANGE PARK - Coming off a 58-8 domination of Baker County 48 hours prior, the Rickards Lady Raiders were looking to lay claim to the 5A District 2 Championship when visiting host and top seed Ridgeview High School.

The Raiders'™ Genesis Henry is the team leader in just about every statistic and would need to be under a defensive thumb if Ridgeview wanted to control the game.

The number one ranked Lady Panthers, off a 52-18 blowout of Columbia two nights ago, held Henry in check as they put the coals to the fire in the second quarter that the Raiders could not douse out going into the locker room with a 30-15 halftime lead.

With Nia Blocton on fire with a 22 point game, lane driving and foul drawing from Nacoya Blocton (eight points), and a pair of three's™ and four foul shot hits in a row from Narissa Blocton (12 points), it was an all in the family District Title for the Panthers with a 56-42 victory, holding Henry, who averages 19.5 points per game, to six total points.

"We packed it into a two-three," said Panther's™ Head Coach Tyler Miller. "Henry's™ strength is literally one-on-one to the basket. A lot of the teams we watched them play, were in man-to-man defense. She can just beat you all night in that. You saw tonight, if she got into space, she could get by everybody. Our goal was to slow her down and pack her into the two-three."

It seemed as soon as one player went cold for a moment; the teammates circled the wagons and pulled another trick out of the book. "We are a big family," said an exhausted Nia Blocton. "If one of our family members are down, we make sure we pick them up." With only a 9-8 lead after and extremely physical first quarter with nine total fouls, the Panthers went to work on the bigger game plan in the second quarter. "Our go-to all year has been to run two and press two," said Miller. "When we play teams who also like to run, we take that as an advantage because we also like to run. We don't™ change things we do just based on the other team. We are really good at running and pressing



CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY RAY DIMONDA

Ridgeview High's girls basketball team celebrates first district championship trophy with Friday win over Rickards.

so we stick to that most of the game." With 2:30 to play, Narissa Blocton was fouled going for a three-point shot. At the line, the one-handed free thrower shooter nailed all her shots. On the final attempt, Narissa was fouled again for a one-and-one. She drained the fourth shot in a row but missed the last. By time the dust settled, the Panthers were walking into the break, up 30-15.

Out of the break, the hustle never slowed. Both defenses were doing everything they had to slow the other team. With the height advantage of Nia and Nacoya, several times the Bloctons simply took the

ball from above the Raider's™ players head and drove the court. The Three pointers from Emma Rayes and Narissa Blocton were impressive, but the foul shooting from Paetyn Miller and Nacoya Blocton added more points when the Raiders took things to the next level with the physical inside play. With a 40-24 lead at the end of three, the Panthers only needed to play within their game and keep running the court like crazy.

On the throw-in of the fourth quarter, the Panthers came out with a two-two heavy

County 3-for-3 girls basketball championships

OHS, RHS, SJCDS win titles

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

ORANGE PARK - In a display of overwhelming hoops prowess, Oakleaf, Ridgeview and St. Johns Country Day School's girls basketball teams all won district titles on Friday in a splash of success not seen in Clay County.

"We just do what we do," said Oakleaf High guard Kaylah Turner, who turned in a steal and deal night of layups en route to the Lady Knights' district 3-6A knockout of Ponte Vedra, 56-21, staged at host Orange Park High School. Oakleaf won a semifinal match against Fleming Island also in convincing fashion by an 84-38 tab.

Within five miles both ways of Orange Park High School, St. Johns Country Day School avenged a regular season loss to University Christian with a tough 53-52 win Friday for the district 3-2A title while Ridgeview punched in with workmanlike efficiency to defeat a rugged Tallahassee Rickards squad 56-42. Ridgeview trounced Columbia 52-18 in their semifinal; Nia Blocton 24 points and 15 rebounds, to advance. Rickards tried to turn the game into a defensive slugfest with a slow first quarter, but the Lady Panthers doubled the score by halftime then cruised (See Ray Dimonda's story on page ...).

For Oakleaf coach Fred Cole, avenging an earlier season "almost" loss to Ponte Vedra, an overtime 66-62 contest, that had Cole in another state for his daughter Tori's college graduation, the plan was simple.

"I told them to start off with our energy and we just jumped on them early and never let up," said Cole. "We played disciplined defense all night. That first half may have been the best first half we've played all season."

With Turner, Fantasia James and Trista Brown turning over steals to layups at a rapid pace, the Knights cranked out a quick 14-4 first quarter with James rifling a few threes in the final minute.

Region Girls Basketball Dates

Region 1-5A: Thurs., Feb. 9: Rickards (Ranked No. 11, 15-11) at Ridgeview (Ranked No. 4, 20-7); Booker T. Washington (Ranked No. 17, 13-11) at Fort Walton Beach (Ranked No. 3, 18-6); Pine Forest (Ranked No. 9, 15-11) at St. Augustine (Ranked No. 10, 18-7); Ed White (Ranked No. 19, 14-10) at Daytona Beach Mainland (Ranked No. 2, 16-8)
Region semifinals Tues., Feb. 14

Region 1-6A: Thurs., Feb. 9: Pace (Ranked 25th, 18-8) at Oakleaf (Ranked No. 4, 23-2); Ponte Vedra (Ranked No. 12, 15-9) at Crestview (Ranked No. 13, 20-7); Land O'Lakes (Ranked 22nd, 18-4) at Nease (Ranked No. 10, 20-6); Niceville (Ranked 21st, 18-6) at Gainesville (Ranked No. 9, 14-7)

Region 1-2A: Thurs., Feb. 9: St. Joseph Academy (Ranked No. 24, 15-8) at St. Johns Country Day School (Ranked No. 2, 16-5); Meadowbrook Academy (Ranked No. 13, 20-4) at Munroe (Ranked No. 10, 12-9); Oak Hall (Ranked No. 20, 16-7) at North Florida Education (Ranked No. 4, 14-8), Covenant School of Jacksonville (Ranked No. 25, 19-5) at University Christian (Ranked No. 9, 12-5)

James opened the second quarter with another three to 17-4 and Oakleaf just shutdown the inside game of the Lady Sharks. A final steal to layup from James ended the half at 31-11.

More came in the second half with Ponte Vedra's top scorer finishing with just 10 points.

Ridgeview powered to the final with a 52-18 semifinal win over Columbia to advance with Rickards rocking Baker County 58-8 to showcase their defense. Rickards also upended Clay 50-18 to close Blue Devil coach Doug Deters first foray at high school hoops.

In district 4-3A, Keystone Heights High coach and former state champion point guard Jessica Sykes-Carter ended her tenure with a tough 54-52 semifinal loss to



Oakleaf guard Kaylah Turner was hot with 22 points off a ton of steals in win over Ponte Vedra as teammates, right, celebrate third district title.



St. Johns Country Day School got a bit of redemption with tough district championship win over University Christian.

eventual district champion North Marion High School.

Orange Park, a region 1-5A finalist last year, was beat by Fleming Island in the

district 3-6A tournament 54-48, but was without top scorer Eris Lester for the latter part of the season to a foot injury.

Panthers

from page 38

press that threw the Raiders off, turning the ball over right away for more Panther points. As the quarter whittled away, the Raiders became more frustrated. When the Raiders did make a charge, the Panther inside defense forced them outside where the Raiders had a good shooter, but could only drain a pair of three-pointers to help. It was not close enough as the Panthers brought home the hardware with a 56-42 District Title victory.

As fate would have it, the two will face off one more time as the draw lined up the teams for a Thursday night showdown to see who moves on in the Region Quarterfinals as the Raiders will once again face the Panthers in the Den with a 7 pm tipoff.



Left to right: Ridgeview High girls basketball coach Tyler Miller gets kind of a Gatorade splash after his Lady Panthers won first district title for program. Right, Top scorer and rebounder Nia Blocton gets a smile with coach Tyler Miller after her great game.

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ON JAX PBS
(Channel 71, Comcast 8 & 440)



Miles Davis: American Masters



Toni Morrison: American Masters



Charley Pride: American Masters

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WJCT.ORG**

REGION SOCCER UPDATES



Girls: FIHS, CHS, SJCS advance

Fleming Island High defender Kennedy Johnson battles with Fletcher forward in front of Golden Eagle goal to clear loose ball. Fleming Island defeated Fletcher 2-0; goals by Gianna Gardner and Taylor Tamares, in the region 1-6A quarterfinals on Tuesday and will advance to a semifinal match on Friday against Ponte Vedra. Ponte Vedra beat Fleming Island 3-0 for the district 3-6A championship a week ago and beat Buchholz 7-0 to advance. Boys soccer is in their region 1-5A quarterfinals on Wed., Feb. 8 with Ridgeview (8-4-4) hosting Choctawhatchee (9-6-4) at 7 p.m., Oakleaf (10-3-1) traveling to Citizen Field to play Gainesville High (14-0-1) in region 1-6A and Fleming Island (12-4-2) traveling to Gulf Breeze (18-2-1).



St. Johns Country Day School opened their defense of their 11th state title with a resounding 8-0 win over St. Joseph Academy on Tuesday in the Region 1-2A quarterfinals. Pictured is senior Lauryn Mateo tangled with the St. Joseph goalie. Mateo eventually secured the ball and scored the fourth goal of the night. St. Johns (17-1-1) will host Christ's Church Academy (7-10-1) on Friday at 7 p.m. St. Johns got two goals from Avery Raimonda and one goal each from Sophia Pontieri, Sydney Schmidt, Lauryn Mateo, Hannah Melicharek, Bree Barry and Bella DeLeon. In the region 1-3A quarterfinals, Bolles defeated Keystone Heights 9-1 to end the Lady Indians season. Keystone Heights finished at 19-6. Sophomore forward Kiersten Shaw finished with 71 goals. In Ocala, Clay High won a 5-4 decision over Vanguard High in the region 1-5A quarterfinals to advance. Clay (11-4) will travel to Arnold High (8-7-1) in Panama City for the region semifinal on Friday.

Showdown
from page 31

In the Olympics competition, Gunn, who blasted the Olympic Snatch lifts with a 160 that gapped the field by 15 pounds; mainly Wise, produced the top total of the day with a 365 off her 160 Snatch and a three-way tie for best in Clean and Jerk at 205 with Elena Bulubya of Sunlake and Wise.

In the ensuing clean and jerk, with the rest of the field completed and most athletes warming up for the third discipline, the bench press, Gunn and Wise put on a display of gamesmanship that had the Oakleaf gymnasium frozen to their center platform.

The new Olympics lift combines the Clean and Jerk with the Olympic snatch totals.

In round one of the clean and jerk, Wise opened at 180 with Gunn answering at 190.

In round two, Wise was successful with a best lift of 190 to pressure Gunn. Gunn got three red lights on her 205 attempt to go big.

"Three reds to all checks; that was in-

tense," said Gunn. "Coach White told me I didn't lock out my elbows. I love competing and the adrenaline of being in a close competition."

Wise doubled down with her next best with a 205 to seemingly ice Gunn, but Gunn responded in front of her home gym by blasting the 205 to set up a similar battle at Friday's state championships in Lakeland.

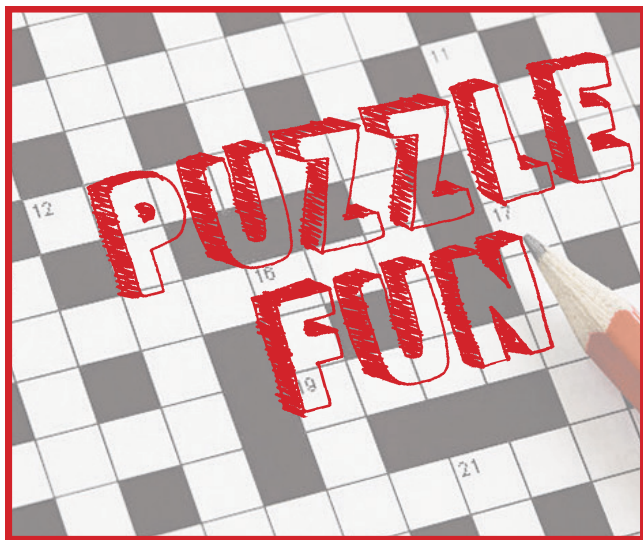
"She came up to me afterward and congratulated me knowing we will more than likely do this again in a week," said Gunn. "It's all good."

In the mix, also, was Bartram Trail's Madisyn Moody who put her best 180 in the mix just to make the final lifts interesting.

Wise eventually outdueled Gunn in the bench press 185-180 to win the Traditional event.

"Bench is so boring," said Gunn. "This lift is what it's all about."

The clean and jerk, the second of the three disciplines to be competed for in the event, provided the most fireworks of the day as Gunn, Wise and Bartram Trail's Madisyn Moody making the day a thriller.



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

Level: Intermediate



Gunn

from page32

instead of a cheerleader that lifts weights,” said Gunn. “I was really pushed last week at Flagler Palm Coast, a meet with three Class 3A powerhouses, and I was pushed. I knew then I could push at the state meet.”

From there, her father, Todd Gunn, quickly decided to find a technique coach and give his daughter the best path to success.

For Gunn and, for White, the building up of the program from a few lifters to a team of nearly 40 athletes makes the endeavor well worth the time in the gym.

“I’m glad to be a part of the season that will build the program up to encourage more girls to compete,” said Gunn. “Tamira started it and won two state titles to put us on the map. I’d like to have my name as part of that conversation.”

Gunn commented that the weightlifting team idea kind of came as a surprise to her dad, Todd, but they eventually watched a few meets, crunched the lift numbers and were “all in.”

“Everyone knew she was strong as the base of the cheerleader and coach White finally asked her,” said Todd Gunn. “She tried it, was winning a few meets and, finally, said, I like this.”

White commented that Todd Gunn’s “allowing” of his team to borrow his daughter was the key to getting her on the team in full compete mode.

“I go to all the meets and, I remember, last year, she won regions and was like five pounds out of state and that’s when we got the technique coach,” said Gunn. “I never realized how critical the technique is in her events.”

☉ * ☺ ☼ ☽ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓ ♀ ♂ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

CRYPTO FUN

☺ ☽ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓ ♀ ♂ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to infants.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 18 = A)

- A. 25 18 9 21 20 21 11 22
Clue: Keeps child calm
- B. 19 5 18 23 1 11 26
Clue: Provides warmth
- C. 9 22 18 14 5 11
Clue: Sleeping spot
- D. 19 21 19
Clue: Protects clothes

Answers: A. pacifier B. blanket C. cradle D. bib

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to babies.

FITNAN

--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Infant

Guess Who?

I am a singer born in Mississippi on February 11, 1979. I grew up in a family of musicians. My younger brother is a performer as well. I gained fame on a hit TV series in the 1990s.

Answer: Brandy

ALL ABOUT BABY WORD SEARCH

I E J R S E L T T O B N C H P E I B C J
I C L C N C G J N G I O Y A J U T U T R C
C U O D O S T R O L L E R M O L T R N C H
D E B C D A S C N M E L I B O M C C P H
H T I Y N A C A R R R I A G E M J Y I U N N
E M S S C N W T D R B S H D D R P M T N S
A R P B E R E S Y C A R R I E R B G G S
D E U S U N I E R M S A U A J A D D T L R
I J B R I R O B S Y T A H U S T I W A R S
N H M S N G P P M N U S M N M M T I P S
B T S O R Y B C C P P Y O A M J G A C A
S A B W E P S C L L A O S H J E J A I M
B B P B C R B L D O P T Y R Y A R E O J
W I L R N A O R C S T B D M E S P N C B
L H T U U U W A C M A H J U E P I R N S
W U R J O I A T S B T W U A E T A C C L
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D S C G B T D L N I I Y C R R J M W D N
U U M M L A M E G S L N J N W T M D Y G
N N D W U W O M P U R I G U G P Y P S Y

WORDS

- BABY
- BASSINET
- BATH
- BOTTLES
- BOUNCER
- BURP CLOTH
- CARRIAGE
- CARRIER
- CAR SEAT
- CRIB
- DIAPERS
- HAT
- MOBILE
- MONITOR
- ONESIE
- PAJAMAS
- RATTLE
- SLING
- SPIT
- SPOONS
- STROLLER
- SWADDLE
- SWING
- TOYS

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

4	2	3	5	8	9	7	1	6
7	1	8	6	3	2	5	4	9
9	6	5	4	1	7	2	8	3
8	4	1	9	5	3	6	7	2
3	9	7	2	6	1	8	5	4
2	5	6	7	4	8	9	3	1
6	7	4	1	2	5	3	9	8
1	8	9	3	7	6	4	2	5
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U	S	E	S		E	C	G		C	S	C					
C	A	B	A	L		L	A	R		P	A	C	A			
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CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: STEVEN C CULLEN, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No.: 948/2020
Legal Description: LOT 18 BLK 108 HIGHRIIDGE ESTATES AS REC O R 3148 PG 1060

Parcel ID No.: 160823-004476-000-00
Opening Bid Amount: \$1,874.41
Physical Address: 7058 SEWANEE ST KEYSTONE HEIGHT

Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL
Name in which assessed: WINDER VI LLC

Said property being in the County of Clay, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder online on the 19th day of April, 2023 at 9:30 A.M. at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated this 6th day of February, 2023
 TARA S. GREEN
 Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
 Clay County, Florida
 By: Larry Williams
 Deputy Clerk

Legal 55752 Published 2/9/2023, 2/16/2023, 2/23/2023 and 3/2/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF ACTION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA Case No.: 10-12-857-DR STACY CAPOZZI, Plaintiff,

vs. JONATHAN SANCHEZ, Respondent.
 TO: JONATHAN SANCHEZ
 760 Penlon Court
 Orlando, FL 32807

You are notified that an action for Petition to Modify Child Support has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on

Cassandra Henderson, Henderson Legal Services, PA, Petitioner's attorney, whose address is P.O. Box 6571, Brandon, FL 33508, (813) 641-4305, on or before 30 days from the date of publication, whichever is later and file the original with the Clerk of this

Court either before service on the Petitioner's attorney of immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

Dated: January 9, 2023
 CLERK OF THE COURT
 Tara S. Green
 By: Gracie Moore
 Deputy Clerk

"If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at (904) 255-1695 or crtinrtp@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 55751 Published 2/9/2023, 2/16/2023, 2/23/2023 and 3/2/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: STEVEN C CULLEN, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No.: 812/2020
Legal Description: LOT 9 BLK 72 HIGHRIIDGE ESTATES AS REC O R 2601 PG 793

Parcel ID No.: 220823-003670-000-00
Opening Bid Amount: \$1,619.37
Physical Address: 7173 COE DR , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS

Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL
Name in which assessed: ROBIN MORLEY

Said property being in the County of Clay,

State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder online on the 29th day of March, 2023 at 9:30 A.M. at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated this 6th day of February, 2023
 TARA S. GREEN
 Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
 Clay County, Florida
 By: Larry Williams
 Deputy Clerk

MEETING DATES OF THE CLAY COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY

The Board of Supervisors of the Clay County Utility Authority will meet in Regular Session at 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, in the Board Room at the Clay County Utility Authority, 3176 Old Jennings Road, Middleburg, Florida.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in this matter, should contact the Clay County Utility Authority by mail at 3176 Old Jennings Road, Middleburg, Florida 32068 or by telephone at (904) 213-2464, no later than 7 days prior to the hearing or proceeding for which this notice has been given. Persons requiring auditory assistance may access the foregoing telephone number by contacting the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (Voice) or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

If any person intends to appeal any decision related to this action, such person will need to provide a court reporter at such person's own expense, for a transcript of the proceedings. All interested persons are invited to attend. For further information, call (904) 213-2464.

Legal 55749 Published 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

PUBLIC AUCTION

On 02/24/2023 at 00:00 AM an auction will take place at 1046 airpark rd green cove springs fl 32043. The vehicles which will be auctioned include:

1G3NL52F83C136150
 2003
 OLDS
 Please be advised, per F.S. 713.78 that a newspaper ad must be published for 1 day in a newspaper of general circulation (daily or weekly circulation) which has been in circulation for at least 1 year. The advertisement must be published at least 10 calendar days prior to the date of sale, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the sale is to be held. The 10 calendar days do not include the date of the advertisement nor the date of the sale.

Legal 55748 Published 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

PUBLIC AUCTION

On 02/22/2023 at 00:00 AM an auction will take place at 1046 airpark rd green cove springs fl 32043. The vehicles which will be auctioned include:

1J4G248SXYC116526
 2000
 JEEP
 Please be advised, per F.S. 713.78 that a newspaper ad must be published for 1 day in a newspaper of general circulation (daily or weekly circulation) which has been in circulation for at least 1 year. The advertisement must be published at least 10 calendar days prior to the date of sale, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the sale is to be held. The 10 calendar days do not include the date of the advertisement nor the date of the sale.

Legal 55746 Published 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

TWO CREEKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT NOTICE OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors ("Board") of the Two Creeks Community Development District ("District") will hold a regular meeting on **February 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.**, at the at the Courtyard by Marriott located at 610 Wells Road, Orange Park, Florida 32073. In accordance with Sections 119.071(3) (a) and 281.301, Florida Statutes, a por-

tion of the regular board meeting will be closed to the public, as it relates to the District's security system plan. Information and discussion related to the District's security system plan are confidential and exempt from the public records and public meeting requirements. Prior to the discussion of the security system plan, the public will be asked to leave. Upon completion of the discussion related to the security system plan, the public will be notified that they may return to the meeting.

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.two creeksodd.org or by emailing the District Manager, clbrow@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 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. Carol L. Brown
 District Manager

Legal 55226 Published 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

ELITE TOWING gives notice that on 02/27/2023 at 09:00 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 2865 SUITE C BLANDING BLVD 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.

2C3CDXCT7E1H116013 2014 DODG

Legal 55225 Published 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

PUBLIC SALE

SCOTT'S AFFORDABLE TOWING INC gives Notice to sell the following vehicles for towing and storage lien on February 23, 2023 at 10:00 AM at 2909 BLANDING BLVD MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes:

(1) 1999 Chrysler ID# 1C4G-P64L8XB741237

(2) 2006 Hyundai ID# 5NPEU-46F06H146486

Legal 55224 Published 2/9/2023 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 GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO. 10-2019-CA-001332 NEWREZ LLC F/K/A NEW PENN FINANCIAL LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING, Plaintiff,

vs. UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARY B. DICKSON; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVEISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF MARY DICKSON, DECEASED, et al.

DEFENDANT(S). NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated August 03, 2022, and entered in 10-2019-CA-001332 of the Circuit Court of the FOURTH Judicial Circuit and in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein NEWREZ LLC F/K/A NEW PENN FINANCIAL LLC

D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING is the Plaintiff and UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARY B. DICKSON; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVEISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF MARY DICKSON; DECEASED; KEITH DICKSON; MARK DICKSON; DON DICKSON; SHERRY MILLER 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.realtaxdeed.com, at 10:00 AM on March 15, 2023, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

A PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN LOT 1, DIVISION 1, SILCOX ESTATE, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 42 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA; BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 2 OF SAID DIVISION 1; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 53 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE WEST LINE OF LOTS 1 AND 2 OF SAID DIVISION 1, A DISTANCE OF 642.40 FEET TO AN INTERSECTION WITH THE NORTHWESTERLY LINE OF THOSE LANDS DESCRIBED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 463, PAGE 220 OF SAID PUBLIC RECORDS AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 00 DEGREES 53 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST, ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 1, A DISTANCE OF 150.42 FEET TO AN INTERSECTION WITH THE LANDS DESCRIBED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2762, PAGE 1169; THEN ALONG THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF THOSE LANDS AS DESCRIBED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2762, PAGE 1169 OF THE FOLLOWING THREE COURSES AND DISTANCES:

SOUTH 82 DEGREES 51 MINUTES 53 SECONDS EAST, 63.12 FEET; SOUTH 86 DEG 58 MIN 30 SEC EAST, 45.68 FEET; SOUTH 86 DEG 33 MIN 39 SEC EAST, 103.34 FEET TO AN INTERSECTION WITH THE APPARENT WEST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF GAY ROAD; THEN SOUTH 12 DEG 23 MIN 16 SEC EAST, ALONG SAID WESTERLY LINE, 194.24 FEET TO AN INTERSECTION WITH THE NORTH LINE OF THOSE LANDS AS DESCRIBED IN THE OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 463, PAGE 220; THENCE ALONG THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID LANDS THE FOLLOWING TWO COURSES AND DISTANCES: SOUTH 89 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST, 100 FEET; NORTH 69 DEGREES 04 MINUTES 55 SECONDS WEST, 161.55 FEET TO AN INTERSECTION WITH THE AFOREMENTIONED WEST LINE OF LOT 1 AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Property Address: 4020 GAY ROAD 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 in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 45.031. Dated this 2 day of February, 2023.

Tara S. Green
 As Clerk of the Court
 By: Leigh Lucroy
 AS Deputy Clerk

IMPORTANT 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 crtinrtp@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 55223 Published 2/9/2023 and 2/16/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No. 2022CP523

Division: B IN RE: ESTATE OF BISHOP WOOD BOWER, Deceased.

The administration of the estate of BISHOP WOOD BOWER, deceased, whose date of death was January 23, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is PO Box 698, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other

persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD 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 February 9, 2023.

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Dale S. Wilson
 E-Mail Address: wilsdale@bellsouth.net Florida Bar No. 176945 Dale S. Wilson
 PO Box 1808
 Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 Telephone: (904)284-5618
 Personal Representative: Bishop William Bower HC 60, Box 159 C Copper Center, Alaska 99573

Legal 55222 Published 2/9/2023 and 2/16/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

REQUEST FOR BID NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN sealed bids will be received until 4:00 P.M., Thursday, March 02, 2023, for the following:

RFP NO. 22/23-24, Solid Waste Transfer Stations - Operation, Transport, and Disposal

Bids will be opened at 9:00 A.M., or as soon thereafter, on Friday, March 03, 2023 in the Clay County Administration Building, Conference Room "B", Fourth Floor, 477 Houston St, Green Cove Springs, Florida and through the County's electronic bidding system as well. Bids will not be valid unless received by the bid deadline.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held at the Rosemary Hill Landfill, 3545 Rosemary Hill Road 825 North Orange Ave Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043, on February 16, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

The solicitation package is available at: [HTTPS://PROCUREMENT.OPENGOV.COM/PORTAL/CLAYCOUNTY?STATUS=ALL](https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/claycounty?status=all).

In order to submit a response to this solicitation the respondent must be registered on Clay County's Public Portal.

For information concerning procedures for responding to this Bid, contact Jessica Loos in the Purchasing Department at (904) 284-6388 or by email: purchasing@claycountygov.com.

Bidders are prohibited from contacting, by any means, whether orally, telephonically, electronically or in writing, any member of the Board, any County employee, including the County Manager, the County Attorney or the Commission Auditor, any member of the designated Evaluation Committee or any agent of the County regarding the Request for Bids in any respect during the Request for Bid Period. The Request for Bid Period during which no contact may occur commences from the date of publication of the notice of a Request for Bids and ends upon a Bid Decision becoming final, i.e. after the notice of bid protest period of 72 hours has expired. However, in the event of a notice of protest, the no contact rule continues in place during the Protest Period and does not end until a resolution of the protest has occurred and become final. The following exceptions exist to the no-contact rule:

a. Inquiries may be submitted to the Purchasing Department if specifically provided in the Request for Bids;

b. Pre-bid conferences provided for in the Request for Bids; and

c. Formal presentations by Bidders to the designated Evaluation Committee or to the Board or any committee thereof specifically contemplated in the Request for Bids.

The Board reserves the right and power to reject any and all Bids without cause and to waive technical and non-technical or non-material defects in the Request for Bids or submittal of any Bid, and in its discretion to re-advertise the Request for Bids. The Board reserves the right to award Bids, quotes, or Proposals which would be in the Best Interest of the County. Interested vendors are advised that the Clay County Board of County Commissioners has a local preference policy

and Buy American policy. The complete policy for both can be viewed at: <https://www.claycountygov.com/government/purchasing/vendor-information>. A PERSON OR AFFILIATE WHO HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE CONVICTED VENDOR LIST FOLLOWING A CONVICTION FOR A PUBLIC ENTITY CRIME MAY NOT SUBMIT A BID ON A CONTRACT TO PROVIDE ANY 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 A PUBLIC ENTITY, MAY NOT BE AWARDED OR PERFORM WORK AS A CONTRACTOR, SUPPLIER, SUBCONTRACTOR, OR CONSULTANT UNDER A CONTRACT WITH ANY PUBLIC ENTITY, AND MAY NOT TRANSACT BUSINESS WITH ANY PUBLIC ENTITY IN EXCESS OF THE THRESHOLD AMOUNT PROVIDED IN SECTION 287.017, FLORIDA STATUTES, FOR CATEGORY TWO FOR A PERIOD OF 36 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF BEING PLACED ON THE CONVICTED VENDOR LIST.

Legal 55221 Published 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: BRADFORD WILLIAMS, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No.: 645/2018
Legal Description: LOT 11 BLK 29 HIGHRIIDGE ESTATE AS REC O R 779 PG 64

Opening Bid Amount: \$1,679.06
Parcel ID No.: 200823-002826-000-00
Physical Address: 6405 BAYLOR AVE , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS

Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL
Name in which assessed: CARMELO MONTALVO

Said property being in the County of Clay, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder online on the 29th day of March, 2023 at 9:30 A.M. at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated this 2nd day of February, 2023.
 TARA S. GREEN
 Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
 Clay County, Florida
 By: Larry Williams
 Deputy Clerk

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 4TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO.: 2019 CA 000146

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE FOR THE NOTEHOLDERS FOR THE CWABS INC., ASSET-BACKED NOTES SERIES 2005-SD2, Plaintiff,

vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVEISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF CHARLES FREDERICK FORTNER A/K/A CHARLES F. FORTNER; BETTY FORTNER; KAREN HAYES; UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVEISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF BROOKS WAYNE FORTNER A/K/A BROOKS W. FORTNER; DEBRA FORTNER; CRYSTAL FORTNER; AMANDA FORTNER; ADAM FORTNER; CHAD FORTNER; KATHERINE JEANNETTE SWAIN, MOTHER AND NATURAL GUARDIAN OF LEANN FORTNER, A MINOR; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2;

Defendants. **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** pursuant to an Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion to Cancel the March 01, 2023 Foreclosure Sale Date entered in Civil Case No. 2019 CA 000146 of the Circuit Court of the 4TH Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE

STARTING A NEW

Business

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

One easy step

Email legal@claytodayonline.com or call 904-579-2154 to request the necessary form. It will run in our legal section for one week for \$35. Affidavit will be mailed to you.

CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

**SANDRIDGE
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICT NOTICE
OF MEETING**

in the above styled cause, in the Circuit Court of Clay County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Clay County, Florida described as:

SEE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"

At a public sale, to the highest bidder for cash at public sale on March 13, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., after first given notice as required by Section 45.031, in an online sale at the following website: <http://www.clay.realforeclose.com> in accordance with Section 45.031, Florida Statutes (1979). WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court the 1st day of February 2023.

TARA S. GREEN

Clerk of the Circuit Court

By: Leigh Lucroy
LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Lot 227, OAK FOREST, AN UNRECORDED SUBDIVISION, situated in Sections 32 and 33 of Township 7 South, Range 24 East and in Sections 3, 4, 10 and 15 of Township 8 South, Range 24 East, Clay County, Florida, including the South 30 feet for right-of-way and being more particularly described as follows: Commence at a concrete monument at the Southwest corner of Section 33, Township 7 South, Range 24 East, Clay County, Florida, and run N. 89°31'23"E, a distance of 571.11 feet along the South line of said Section 33 to a point; thence run S. 52°22'55"E, a distance of 21.66 feet to a point; thence run N. 89°09'06"E, a distance of 1911.38 feet for a Point of Beginning; thence continue N. 89°09'06"E, a distance of 150.32 feet to a point; thence run N.17°43'12" E., a distance of 1400.65 feet to a point; thence run S. 89°34'57"W., a distance of 345.09 feet to a point; thence run S. 09°50'18" W., a distance of 1353.86 feet to the Point of Beginning; including the South 30 feet for right of way.

Legal 55052 Published 2/9/2023 and 2/16/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF SALE

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

CASE NO.: 2022-CC-844

DIVISION: D

SPENCER'S PLANTATION OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., Plaintiff,

vs.

JAMES E. FRAZIER, DOTIE B. FRAZIER, UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1 and UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2,

Defendants.

Notice is given that pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on December 5, 2022, in the above styled civil action of the County Court, in and for Clay County, Florida, in which JAMES E. FRAZIER, DOTIE B. FRAZIER, UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1/TIFFANY FRAZIER and UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2/ WILLIAM FRAZIER, WHO MAY BE IN POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY are the Defendants, and SPENCER'S PLANTATION OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., is the Plaintiff, I will sell to the highest bidder for cash at 10:00 a.m. on February 28, 2023, on Clay County's Public Auction website: www.clay.realforeclose.com in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes, the following described real property set forth in the Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure:

Lot 164, SPENCER PLANTATION UNIT TWO, according to the map or plat there of as recorded in Plat Book 47, Page 43 through 48, of the current public records of Clay County, Florida.

PARCEL ID: 03-04-25-007864-011-44 more specifically described as follows: 2784 Wood Stork Trail, Orange Park, Florida 32073.

Dated this 1st day of February, 2023.

CLERK OF COUNTY COURT
By: Jennifer Brosky
Deputy Clerk

Legal 54869 Published 2/9/2023 and 2/16/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**NOTICE OF
RECREATIONAL TRAILS
PROGRAM (RTP) GRANT**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Green Cove Springs proposes to apply for a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Grant for the FCT Property.

The following public meeting will be held for the sole purpose of discussing the grant application and to hear comments related to the grant application. The hearing will be held in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 321 Walnut Street, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 on:

Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 6:00 pm

in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in this matter should contact City Hall at (904) 297-7500 at least three (3) days prior to the meeting. Hearing impaired persons may access through Florida Relay – Dial 7.1.1.

City of Green Cove Springs
Erin West, City Clerk
321 Walnut Street
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
L. Steve Kennedy, City Manager

Legal 54867 Published 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

The Board of Supervisors ("Board") of the Sandridge Community Development District ("District") will hold a Regular Meeting on February 28, 2023 at 2:00 p.m., or immediately after the adjournment of the Creekside Community Development District Meeting, scheduled to commence at 2:00 p.m., at the Holiday Inn and Suites, 620 Wells Road, Orange Park, Florida 32073. The purpose of the meeting is for the Board to consider any business that may come before it, necessary for the operation of the District.

The meeting is open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law for community development districts. The meeting may be continued in progress to a date and time certain announced at the meeting. A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting the offices of the District Manager, Wrathell, Hunt & Associates, LLC, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, (561) 571-0010, during normal business hours or by visiting the District's website <https://sandridgecd.net/>.

If anyone chooses to appeal any decision of the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, such person will need a record of the proceedings and should accordingly ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based. Any person requiring special accommodations at the meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Manager's Office at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 for aid in contacting the District Office.

Legal 54866 Published 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**CREEKVIEW
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICT NOTICE
OF MEETING**

The Board of Supervisors ("Board") of the Creekview Community Development District ("District") will hold a Regular Meeting on February 28, 2023 at 2:00 p.m., at the Holiday Inn and Suites, 620 Wells Road, Orange Park, Florida 32073 for the purpose of considering any business that may properly come before the Board, necessary for the operation of the District. The meeting is open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law. The meeting may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record at the meeting. There may be occasions when Board Supervisors or District Staff may participate by speaker telephone.

Any person requiring special accommodations at the meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Office at (877) 276-0889 at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service by dialing 800-955-8770, for aid in contacting the District Office.

Each person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting is advised that person will need a record of 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.

**NOTICE OF
FORECLOSURE SALE**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
CASE NO. 2022CA00162
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,

vs.
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF TROY WITTER, DECEASED, et al.

Defendant(s).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated August 03, 2022, and entered in 2022CA00162 of the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION is the Plaintiff and THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF TROY WITTER, DECEASED; DREVITA ELMORE-WITTER; T.W., A MINOR, BY AND THROUGH HER NATURAL GUARDIAN, DREVITA ELMORE-WITTER; T.W., A MINOR, BY AND THROUGH HER NATURAL GUARDIAN,

CATHY WITTER; T.W. JR., A MINOR, BY AN THROUGH HIS NATURAL GUARDIAN, CATHY WITTER; HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY OF CLAY COUNTY FLORIDA; JAX FEDERAL CREDIT UNION; RIDEOUT HIDEAWAY HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.; T.W. JR., A MINOR, BY AND THROUGH HER NATURAL GUARDIAN, CATHY WITTER 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 March 08, 2023, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 39, RIDEOUT HIDEAWAY ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 38, PAGE(S) 60 THROUGH 63, INCLUSIVE, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, Property Address: 3449 FALLON 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 January, 2023.

Tara S. Green
As Clerk of the Court
By: Leigh Lucroy
As Deputy Clerk

IMPORTANT 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 crtinrtp@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 54853 Published 2/9/2023 and 2/16/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF ACTION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2022CA001182
U.S. BANK NA, SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO BANK OF AMERICA, NA, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO LASALLE BANK NA, AS TRUSTEE, ON BEHALF OF THE HOLDERS OF THE WASHINGTON MUTUAL MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, WMALT SERIES 2007-OA3, Plaintiff,

vs.
RAFAEL PALENCIA; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF RAFAEL PALENCIA; THE COTTAGES AT OAKLEAF CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC.; UNKNOWN TENANT(S) IN POSSESSION #1 and #2, et al.
Defendant(s)
TO: RAFAEL PALENCIA
(Current Residence Unknown)
(Last Known Address(es))
3750 SILVER BLUFF BOULEVARD, #301
ORANGE PARK, FL 32065

YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT AN ACTION FOR Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:

CONDOMINIUM UNIT 301, OF THE COTTAGES OF OAKLEAF, A CONDOMINIUM, ACCORDING TO THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2366, PAGE 1558, AS AMENDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2381, PAGE 771, OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2390, PAGE 1298, OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2407, PAGE 1139, OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2411, PAGE 248, OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2411, PAGE 253, OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2422, PAGE 1327, OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2422, PAGE 1332, OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2470, PAGE 1286, OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2491, PAGE 1782, OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2491, PAGE 1788, OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2491, PAGE 1794, OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2503, PAGE 2000, AND OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 2508, PAGE 975, TOGETHER WITH AN UNDIVIDED INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS AS SET FORTH IN THE EXHIBITS TO THE SAID DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A: 3750 SILVER BLUFF BOULEVARD, #301, ORANGE PARK, FL 32065.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Brian L. Rosaler, Esquire, POPKIN & ROSALER, P.A., 1701 West Hillsboro Boulevard, Suite 400, Deerfield Beach, FL 33442., Attorney for Plaintiff, within 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 CRTINRTP@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 31st day of January, 2023.

TARA S. GREEN
As Clerk of the Court and/or Comptroller
By Leigh Lucroy
As Deputy Clerk

Legal 54836 Published 2/9/2023 and 2/16/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**ROLLING HILLS
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICT NOTICE
OF BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS'
MEETING**

The Board of Supervisors ("Board") of the Rolling Hills Community Development District ("District") will hold a meeting of the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Rolling Hills Amenity Center, 3212 Bradley Creek Parkway, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043. A copy of the agenda may be obtained at the offices of the District Manager, Governmental Management Services, LLC, 475 West Town Place, Suite 114, St. Augustine, Florida 32092, Ph: (904) 940-5850 ("District Manager's Office"), during normal business hours.

The meeting is open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law. The meeting may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record at the meeting. There may be occasions when Board Supervisors or District Staff may participate by speaker telephone.

Any person requiring special accommodations at the meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Manager's Office at least forty-eight (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 Manager's Office.

Any person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting is advised that person will need a record of 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.

Marilee Giles
District Manager

Legal 54835 Published 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF SALE

IN THE 4th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No. 2022 CA 653
21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff,

vs.

ANY UNKNOWN PARTY WHO MAY CLAIM AS HEIR, DEVISEE, GRANTEE, ASSIGNEE, LIENOR, CREDITOR, TRUSTEE, OR OTHER CLAIMANT, BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST CLINTON ELVIE CARPENTER; and UNKNOWN TENANT, Defendant.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment dated January 25, 2023, entered in Case No.: 2022 CA 653 of the Circuit Court in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein ANY UNKNOWN PARTY WHO MAY CLAIM AS HEIR, DEVISEE, GRANTEE, ASSIGNEE, LIENOR, CREDITOR, TRUSTEE, OR OTHER CLAIMANT, BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST CLINTON ELVIE CARPENTER, are the Defendants, that Tara S. Green will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, on March 13, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the Clerk of the Circuit Court, online at www.clay.realforeclose.com, the following described real property as set forth in the Final Judgment: Legal: LOT 17, BLOCK 1, SECTION 19, RIDGEWOOD DIVISION OF ORANGE PARK, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN DEED BOOK Q, PAGE 663, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

TOGETHER WITH A 2004 FLEETWOOD 56X32 MANUFACTURED HOME BEARING SERIAL NO.:S GAFL475A75463BP21 AND S GAFL475B75463BP21.

NOTICE IF YOU ARE A PERSON CLAIMING A RIGHT TO FUNDS REMAINING AFTER THE SALE, YOU MUST FILE A CLAIM WITH THE CLERK NO LATER THAN THE DATE THAT

THE CLERK REPORTS THE FUNDS AS UNCLAIMED. IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY REMAINING FUNDS. AFTER THE FUNDS ARE REPORTED AS UNCLAIMED, ONLY THE OWNER OF RECORD AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MAY CLAIM THE SURPLUS.

Dated this 30th day of January, 2023.
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: Rebecca Crews
As Deputy Clerk

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, PERSONS NEEDING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS FUNCTION SHOULD CONTACT COUNTY CIVIL NOT LATER THAN ONE (1) DAY PRIOR TO THE FUNCTION 904-630-2028; if you are hearing impaired, call 1-800-955-8771; if you are voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8770.

Legal 54627 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 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
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
Case No. 2022CA000932
Citizens Bank NA f/k/a RBS Citizens NA Plaintiff,

vs.
Thomas McBriinn a/k/a Thomas Creighton McBriinn; Amanda Denielle Heaps;; Oakleaf Plantation Property Owners Association, Inc.
Defendants.

TO: Thomas McBriinn a/k/a Thomas Creighton McBriinn
Last own Address: 688 Wakeview Drive Orange Park, FL 32065

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Clay County, Florida; LOT 19, WORTHINGTON OAKS AT OAKLEAF PLANTATION, A SUBDIVISION.
ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 39, PAGE(S) 52 THROUGH 60, 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 Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 2001 NW 64th St, Suite 130, Ft.

Lauderdale, FL 33309, within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

Dated on 01/30/2023.
Tara Green
As Clerk of the Court
By: Leigh Lucroy
As Deputy Clerk

Legal 54626 Published 2/9/2023 and 2/16/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2022-CA-00829

DIVISION:
LEEALLWAY LLC, a Florida limited liability company, Plaintiff,

vs.
ROBIN L. ROSIER, an individual; CHRISTOPHER D. ROSIER, an individual; GOLIATH PROPERTIES, LLC, a Florida limited liability company; JOHN DOE AND JANE DOE AS UNKNOWN TENANTS IN POSSESSION; AND ANY ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the final judgment entered on January 26, 2023 in Case No. 2022-CA-000829 of the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, in which ROBIN L. ROSIER, CHRISTOPHER D. ROSIER and GOLIATH PROPERTIES, LLC are Defendants, I, the Clay County Clerk of the Court, will sell to the highest bidder for cash at: www.clay.realforeclose.com at the hour of 10:00 a.m. on the 27th day of February, 2023 the following described real property:

The North 400 feet of the South 440 feet of the West, 165 feet of the East, 2310.02 feet of Section 25, Township 4 South, Range 23 East, Clay County Florida. SUBJECT TO AN easement for ingress and egress over the Easterly 15 feet thereof. ("Land").

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). 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 crtinrtp@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.
Dated this 30th day of January, 2023.
TARA S. GREEN
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: Leigh Lucroy
Deputy Clerk

Legal 54625 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2021-CP-579
Division: B
IN RE: ESTATE OF DONALD O. NEWTON, SR., Deceased.

The administration of the estate of DONALD O. NEWTON, SR., deceased, whose date of death was August 16, 2021, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida Probate Division, the address of which is PO Box 698 or 825 N. Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. The name and address 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 PERIOD 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 February 2, 2023.

Attorney for Personal Representative:

/s/ Dale S. Wilson
Dale S. Wilson, Esquire
E-Mail Addresses: wilsdale@bellsouth.net
Florida Bar No. 176945
Dale S. Wilson PA
PO Box 1808
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
Telephone: (904)284-5618
Personal Representative:
/s/ David E. Newton
David E. Newton
3160 CR 218
Middleburg, FL 32068

Legal 54624 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

PUBLIC NOTICE

Atlantic Self Storage PUBLIC SALE will be on February 16th, 2023 at 10:00 AM starting location:

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING: 912 Blandling Blvd. Orange Park FL 32065 – Unit 359 – Brad Williams; Unit 422 – Mark Bunton; Unit 493 – Natalie Adkins; Unit 649 – Michael Lucero; Unit 7 – J&L Sweepstakes (Royal Time)(Equipment); Unit 7 – Jong Jin Park; Unit 744 – Elizabeth Bitar-Davison; Unit 827 – Paul Rodgers(Theatre organ); Unit 907 – Karen L Tatem

1075 Blandling Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065 – Unit 206 – Billy Clark Foster; Unit 245 – Michael Lynwood Jones-Gary; Unit 266 – Luluina Teofilo; Unit 416 – Natashia D Tate; Unit 46 – Brian G Zacharias (misc tools & material); Unit 620 – Michael Edward Torres

Those listed above are delinquent in rent and under FL Statute 83.806 the contents of their units will be sold at Public Sale with a 10% Buyer's Premium. The above units contain household goods and personal items unless otherwise noted. All Vehicles are sold AS-IS, PARTS ONLY. Terms of sale are CASH ONLY, due at the end of each Public Sale.

Legal 54450 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**PUBLIC NOTICE
OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property under The Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801 - 83.809). The undersigned will sell by competitive bidding at lock-erfox.com on Thursday the 23rd day of February, 2023 at 12:00 PM. Said property is SecurCare Self Storage, 2000 Wells Road A, Orange Park, FL, 32073 Clay County Carter, Tristan 301 Cat Trees, Shelves, Lamp, Table, Chairs, Fish Tank, Cage Parts, Dresser, Misc Boxes, Giles, Chymeka 709 Bed Frames, Mattresses, Microwave, Speakers, Chair, Misc Totes,

CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

Misc Boxes, Coffee Pot, Clothes, Cooler, Shelving, Washer, Baby Toys, Banks, Skylor 630 Mattress, Clothes, Misc Totes, Cooler, Chairs, Desk, Tent, Garden Supplies, Camping Supplies, Backpacks, Reaves, Paul 524 Tires Rims, Hair Dryer Machine, Rocking Chair, Weights, Gym Equipment, Yard Tools, TV, Misc Boxes, Clothes, Misc Bags. All purchased items are sold as is, where is, and must be removed within 48 hours of the sale. A refundable \$100 cash deposit for each unit won is required. All purchases must be paid in cash. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.

Legal 54449 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Clay County Sheriff's Office is designating the Accounting Controller to the Senior Management Service Class with the State of Florida, Division of Retirement, effective January 06, 2023.

Legal 54448 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

LEGAL NOTICE

The Clay County School Board is hereby announcing that Professional Architectural Services are required for the development of plans and specifications, bidding, and construction administration for Architectural Services County-Wide. Interested Architects should apply in duplicate to Dr. Michael Kemp, Director of Facility Planning and Construction, Clay County District Schools, 925 West Center Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043. The application shall include, at a minimum, a letter of interest and a completed Standard Form 330. Applications will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. February 23, 2023.

Legal 54446 Published 2/2/2023, 2/9/2023 and 2/16/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: TONY L. CULVERHOUSE, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No.: 2140/2020
Legal Description: PT LOTS 6 & 7 BONEY SHORES UNIT 2 AS REC O R 817 PG 579 & 1535 PG 669
Parcel ID No.: 170824-007177-002-00
Opening Bid Amount: \$3,088.15
Physical Address: W R THOMAS, KEYSTONE HEIGHTS
Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL
Name in which assessed: VINCENT J & CAROL ANN SHEA
Said property being in the County of Clay, State of Florida.
Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder online on the 29th day of March, 2023 at 9:30 A.M. at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.
Dated this 30th day of January, 2023
TARA S. GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida
By: Jewel Baskin
Deputy Clerk

Legal 54444 Published 2/2/2023, 2/9/2023, 2/16/2023 and 2/23/2023 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. 2023-CA-75
Parcels 103 and 803
STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, Petitioner,
vs.
CLAY COUNTY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN, INC. a Florida not for profit corporation; EVERENCE ASSOCIATION, INC., a fraternal benefit society of Elkhart County, Indiana, holder of that

certain Real Estate Mortgage; The Estate of Nancy S. Ferretti, All heirs, beneficiaries, devisees, legatees, spouses and creditors of Nancy S. Ferretti; The Estate of Barbara A. Romydy, All heirs, beneficiaries, devisees, legatees, spouses and creditors of Barbara A. Romydy; 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 103
CR 220 – Clay County
A Part Of Section 4, Township 5 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida, Being More Particularly Described As Follows:

Commence At The North 1/4 Corner Of Section 4, Township 5 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida; Thence South 89°22'59" West, Along The North Line Of Said Section 4, A Distance Of 434.80 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 Along Said Baseline Of Survey Of County Road No. 220, The Following 2 Courses:
1) South 34°46'39" West, 1,016.45 Feet To A Point Of Curvature Of A Curve To The Right, Having A Radius Of 1,145.92 Feet; 2) Along The Arc Of Said Curve, Through An Angle Of 18°18'55", An Arc Distance Of 366.31 Feet And A Chord Bearing And Distance Of South 43°56'07" West, 364.75 Feet; Thence South 00°36'37" West, A Distance Of 62.28 Feet To The Intersection Of The Easterly Existing Right Of Way Line Of County Road No. 739, (Henley Road, As Per Florida Department Of Transportation Right Of Way Map Section 71580, F.P. No. 4307192, Having A Variable Width Right Of Way); And The Southeasterly Existing Right Of Way Line Of Said County Road No. 220, And A Curve To The Left Having A Radius Of 1,195.92 Feet, And To The Point Of Beginning; Thence Along Said Southeasterly Existing Right Of Way Line, And The Arc Of Said Curve, Through An Angle Of 06°44'18", An Arc Distance Of 140.65 Feet And A Chord Bearing And Distance Of North 51°32'28" East, 140.57 Feet To A Curve To The Left, Having A Radius Of 463.00 Feet; Thence Along The Arc Of Said Curve, Through An Angle Of 36°04'29", An Arc Distance Of 291.52 Feet And A Chord Bearing And Distance Of South 22°08'11" West, 286.72 Feet To The Northerly Line Of Lot 3, Eagle Glen, As Recorded In Plat Book 27, Pages 76-79, Of The Public Records Of Said Clay County, In Section 4, Township 5 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida; Thence South 89°32'05" West, Along Said Northerly Line Of Lot 3, A Distance Of 3.93 Feet To Said Easterly Existing Right Of Way Line Of County Road No. 739 (Henley Road); Thence North 00°36'37" East, Along Said Easterly Existing Right Of Way Line, A Distance Of 178.21 Feet To The Point Of Beginning, Containing: 5,679 Square Feet, More Or Less.
Being a Part of Tax Parcel No. 040525-008997-000-00
AND
Item # 4307192
Parcel 803
CR 220 – Clay County

A perpetual easement for the purpose of construction of new concrete driveway, tying in, conforming, harmonizing and/or reconnecting existing grade, slope, pavement, drainage, utility, driveway, walkway, turnout, and/or other features, in, over, under, upon and through the following described land in Clay County, Florida, to-wit:
A Part Of Section 4, Township 5 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida, Being More Particularly Described As Follows:
Commence At The North 1/4 Corner Of Section 4, Township 5 South, Range 25 East, Clay County, Florida; Thence South 89°22'59" West, Along The North Line Of Said Section 4, A Distance Of 434.80 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 Along Said Baseline Of Survey Of County Road No. 220, The Following 2 Courses: 1) South 34°46'39" West, 1,016.45 Feet To A Point Of Curvature Of A Curve To The Right, Having A Radius Of 1,145.92 Feet; 2) Along The Arc Of Said Curve, Through An Angle Of 03°17'40", An Arc Distance Of 65.89 Feet And A Chord Bearing And Distance

Of South 36°25'29" West, 65.88 Feet; Thence South 51°55'41" 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 South 89°53'55" East, A Distance Of 6.33 Feet To A Curve To The Right, Having A Radius Of 1,200.92 Feet; Thence Along The Arc Of Said Curve, Through An Angle Of 05°46'42", An Arc Distance Of 121.12 Feet And A Chord Bearing And Distance Of South 40°46'31" West, 121.07 Feet; Thence South 46°20'08" East, A Distance Of 5.00 Feet To A Curve To The Right, Having A Radius Of 1,205.92 Feet; Thence Along The Arc Of Said Curve, Through An Angle Of 05°47'14", An Arc Distance Of 121.80 Feet And A Chord Bearing And Distance Of South 46°33'29" West, 121.75 Feet To A Curve To The Left, Having A Radius Of 458.00 Feet; Thence Along The Arc Of Said Curve, Through An Angle Of 12°03'52", An Arc Distance Of 96.44 Feet And A Chord Bearing And Distance Of South 30°38'04" West, 96.26 Feet; Thence North 65°23'52" West, A Distance Of 5.00 Feet To A Curve To The Right, Having A Radius Of 463.00 Feet; Thence Along The Arc Of Said Curve, Through An Angle Of 15°34'18", An Arc Distance Of 125.83 Feet And A Chord Bearing And Distance Of North 32°23'17" East, 125.45 Feet To Said Southeasterly Existing Right Of Way Line Of County Road No. 220, And A Curve To The Left, Having A Radius Of 1,195.92 Feet; Thence Along Said Southeasterly Existing Right Of Way Line, And The Arc Of Said Curve, Through An Angle Of 10°06'00", An Arc Distance Of 210.82 Feet And A Chord Bearing And Distance Of North 43°07'19" East, 210.54 Feet To The Point Of Beginning, Containing: 2,235 Square Feet, More Or Less.

Being a Part of Tax Parcel No. 040525-008997-000-00
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 **Wednesday, May 10, 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 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 H. Lester**, one of the Judges of this Court, on **Wednesday, May 31, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.**, (one hour reserved) in hearing room 4-077 at the Clay County Courthouse, William

Legal 54443 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

LEGAL NOTICE
A perpetual easement for the purpose of construction of new concrete driveway, tying in, conforming, harmonizing and/or reconnecting existing grade, slope, pavement, drainage, utility, driveway, walkway, turnout, and/or other features, in, over, under, upon and through the following described land in Clay County, Florida, to-wit:
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AND
Item # 4307192
Parcel 803
CR 220 – Clay County

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Being a Part of Tax Parcel No. 040525-008997-000-00
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 **Wednesday, May 10, 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 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 H. Lester**, one of the Judges of this Court, on **Wednesday, May 31, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.**, (one hour reserved) in hearing room 4-077 at the Clay County Courthouse, William

Legal 54443 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE COMPLAINT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO: 102019CA001140A001XX
IN RE: FORFEITURE OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PRTY:
2016 HYUNDAI, VIN KMHTC6AE-0GU258373
MICHELLE COOK, AS SHERIFF OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA PLAINTIFF VS.
AMY LYNN DILL, CLAIMANT TO: ALL PERSON CLAIMING A SECURITY OR OTHER INTEREST IN THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY
The above-described property was seized, pursuant to the provisions of the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act, Florida Statutes, Section 932.701-706, by the Clay County Sheriff's Office on or about August 28, 2019 at or in the vicinity of Clay County, Florida. The Clay County Sheriff's Office is currently in the possession of said property and has filed a Complaint for the purpose of forfeiture of said

property in the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit of Florida. In order to protect your rights you must file an Answer to the Complaint with the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Clay County, Florida, within twenty (20) days of the publication. You must also serve a copy of your Answer on the Plaintiff's counsel, Jeffrey Davenport, General Counsel, 901 North Orange Ave., Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043. Failure to do so may result in the entry of a default against you and a Final Order of Forfeiture of the above-described property.
Dated this 30th day of January, 2023,
MICHELLE COOK, SHERIFF OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
By: Jeffrey Davenport
Bar Number 60825
Clay County Sheriff's Office, General Counsel
901 N. Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043
e-service: jdavenport@claysheriff.com
Telephone: (904) 529-6077
Legal 54442 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

PUBLIC NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

PUBLIC NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property under The Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801 - 83.809). The undersigned will sell by competitive bidding at lockertox.com on Thursday the 23rd day of February, 2023 at 12:00 PM. Said property is SecurCare Self Storage, 996 Blanding Blvd, Orange Park, FL, 32065 Kline, Ariel 501 Bike, Mannequin, Bags, Misc.Boxes, Fan, Exercise machine, Misc.Items, Kline, Ariel 503 Tote boxes hutch dropleaf desk mattress lamp bike laundry baskets. Etheridge,Danyelle 401 Clothes, Misc. bags, suit cases, Misc.Boxes, Toys, Bed Frame, Mattresses, comforter, DVDs, Bennett Jr, Richard 408 Ladders, tools floor scraper, vacuum, Yard equipment, Fishing Pole, Harness, Misc.totes, Cooler
All purchased items are sold as is, where is, and must be removed within 48 hours of the sale. A refundable \$100 cash deposit for each unit won is required. All purchases must be paid in cash. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.

Legal 54429 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 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.: 2021CA000311
NDF1, LLC, Plaintiff,
vs.
STEVEN L MATHIS; et al., Defendants.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated JAN 25, 2023 entered in Civil Case No. 2021CA000311 of the Circuit Court of the 4th Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein NDF1, LLC, is Plaintiff and STEVEN L. MATHIS; et al., are the defendants.
TARA S. GREEN, will sell to the highest bidder online at www.Clay.realforeclose.com at 10:00 a.m. on March 13, 2023 the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to-wit:
LOT 44, SAVANNAH GLEN, UNIT 3, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF AS .RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 33, PAGE(S) 63 through 66, inclusive OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
Property address: 551 Bay Hawk Court, Orange Park, Florida 32073
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.. The Court, in its discretion, may enlarge the time of the sale. Notice of the changed time of sale shall be published as provided herein.
DATED this 27th day of January, 2023.
TARA S. GREEN
Clerk of Circuit Court
By: Gracie Moore
Deputy Clerk

Legal 53904 Published 2/2/2023, 2/9/2023, 2/16/2023 and 2/23/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: STEVEN C CULLEN, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:
Certificate No.: 2069/2020
Legal Description: LOT 45 & (1/29 INT) LOT 23 PEAR LAKE ESTATES AS REC OR 2772 PG 137, 2919 PG 594, 3096 PG 2145 & 3187 PG 1013
Parcel ID No.: 100824-007026-001-42
Opening Bid Amount: 4,856.67
Physical Address: 6968 PEAR LAKE, KEYSTONE HEIGHTS
Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL W/SPECIAL FEATURES OR YARD ITEMS
Name in which assessed: JOHN W HOWARD
Said property being in the County of Clay, State of Florida.
Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder online on the 29th day of March, 2023 at 9:30 A.M. at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.
Dated this 26th day of January, 2023
TARA S. GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida
By: Jewel Baskin
Deputy Clerk

Legal 53902 Published 2/2/2023, 2/9/2023, 2/16/2023 and 2/23/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: STEVEN C CULLEN, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:
Certificate No.: 2067/2020
Legal Description: LOT 6 & (1/29 INT) LOT 23 PEAR LAKE ESTATES AS REC O R 3633 PG 1770
Parcel ID No.: 100824-007026-001-33
Opening Bid Amount: \$3,308.43
Physical Address: 7035 RIDGE TRAIL, KEYSTONE HEIGHTS
Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL
Name in which assessed: TAX EASE FLORIDA REO LLC
Said property being in the County of Clay, State of Florida.
Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder online on the 29th day of March, 2023 at 9:30 A.M. at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.
Dated this 26th day of January, 2023
TARA S. GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida
By: Jewel Baskin
Deputy Clerk

Legal 53901 Published 2/2/2023, 2/9/2023, 2/16/2023 and 2/23/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO: 2023-CP-33
DIVISION: B
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF JOHN EDWARD BRYAN, deceased.
The administration of the estate of JOHN EDWARD BRYAN, deceased, whose date of death was November 15, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clay County Courthouse, 825 Orange Avenue, 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 the decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE

TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN 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 the first publication of this Notice is February 2, 2023.
Attorney for Personal Representative:
MARY C. COBB, Esquire
The Cobb Law Firm, P.A.
431 Stowe Avenue
Orange Park, FL 32073
(904) 269-5800
Florida Bar No.: 23972
Email: maryc.cobb@gmail.com
Personal Representative:
DAVID E. BRYAN
450 Oldfield DR
Fleming Island, FL 32003

Legal 53899 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 4TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
CASE NO: 2022CA000533
U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST C/O U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,
vs.


ROTHERMAN REAL ESTATE CONSULTANTS, LLC; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2, Defendants.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated January 25, 2023 entered in **Civil Case No. 2022CA000533** of the Circuit Court of the 4th Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST C/O U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION IS Plaintiff and BUDNER, ESTATE OF TOBE, et al, are Defendants. The Clerk, TARA S. GREEN, shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at **Clay County's On-Line Public Auction website: <https://clay.realforeclose.com>**, at **10:00 AM on March 13, 2023**, in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes, the following described property located in Clay County, Florida, as set forth in said Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure, to-wit:

THE SOUTH 57 FEET OF THE EAST 100 FEET OF LOT 4, EXCEPT THE NORTH 13 FEET OF THE WEST 55 FEET OF THE EAST 100 FEET OF LOT 4, BLOCK 24, GREEN COVE SPRINGS, ACCORDING TO TE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 1, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. The court, in its discretion, may enlarge the time of the sale. Notice of the changed time of sale shall be published as provided herein.
If you are a person with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at (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.
Dated this 26th day of January, 2023.
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: Leigh Lucroy
Deputy Clerk

Legal 53898 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 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 GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
CASE NO. 2022CA000751
THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO JPMORGAN CHASE



STARTING A NEW Business

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

One easy step

Email legal@claytodayonline.com or call 904-579-2154 to request the necessary form. It will run in our legal section for one week for \$35. Affidavit will be mailed to you.

CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

BANK, AS TRUSTEE FOR CENTEX HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 2002-C, Plaintiff,

vs. ELLEN M. RENNER; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ELLEN M. RENNER; CITIFINANCIAL EQUITY SERVICES, INC., et al. Defendant(s).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 25, 2023, and entered in 2022CA000751 of the Circuit Court of the FOURTH Judicial Circuit in and for CLAY County, Florida, wherein THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO JPM-ORGAN CHASE BANK, AS TRUSTEE FOR CENTEX HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 2002-C is the Plaintiff and ELLEN M. RENNER; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ELLEN M. RENNER; CITIFINANCIAL EQUITY 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 March 27, 2023,

the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: **PARCEL NO. 8 OF SYLVIA ACRES IN SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTH HALF OF THE NORTH HALF OF SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST AND RUN N 89.1 DEGREES 41 MINUTES 29 SECONDS E ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID NORTH 1/2 OF NORTH 1/2, 1525.0 FEET TO THENCE CORNER OF "HOLLY OAKS", AN UNRECORDED SUBDIVISION THENCE RUN S 00 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 12 SECONDS E ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID SUBDIVISION 2051.60 FEET TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER "SYLVIA ACRES", AN UNRECORDED SUBDIVISION, BEING ON THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY OF A 100 FOOT ACCESS ROAD; THENCE RUN N 89 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 05 SECONDS E ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY 199.85 FEET TO THE P.C. OF A CURVE HAVING A RADIUS OF 529.05 FEET AND BEING CONCAVE TO THE NORTHWEST, THENCE RUN NORTH-EASTERLY ALONG THE ARC OF SAID RIGHT OF WAY CURVE AN ARC DISTANCE OF 290.67 FEET (THROUGH A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 31 DEGREES 28 MINUTES 44 SECONDS) TO THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY OF A 60 FOOT ACCESS ROAD; THENCE RUN SOUTH 08 DEGREES 33 MINUTES 13 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY, 278.68 FEET, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 08 DEGREES 33 MINUTES 13 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY 200 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST, 222.31 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 08 DEGREES 33 MINUTES 13 SECONDS WEST, 200 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 05 SECONDS WEST, 222.31 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. BEING AND LYING IN "SYLVIA ACRES" IN SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA. Property Address: 2049 BLUE SKY COURT 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 26th day of January, 2023. Tara S. Green As Clerk of the Court By: Rebecca Crews As Deputy Clerk **IMPORTANT AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT.** If you are a person with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at crtintrp@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 53897 Published 2/9/2023 and 2/16/2023 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 NUMBER: 10-2021-DP-000109 DIVISION: E IN THE INTEREST OF: B.J. K.J. J.L. MINOR CHILDREN THE STATE OF FLORIDA TO: **Kenya Soto, 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 children, B.J. who was born on March 6, 2015, K.J. who was born on August 30, 2016, and J.L. who was born on November 15, 2018. You are hereby commanded to appear before

the **Honorable Angela M. Cox**, the Clay County Courthouse, Juvenile Dependency Courthouse, 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida at the hour of 2:00 p.m. o'clock on March 3, 2023, AD.

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 THESE CHILDREN. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILDREN 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 crtintrp@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 24th day of January, 2023. Tara S. Green as Clerk of Said Court By: Denise Haselwood Deputy Clerk

Legal 53889 Published 2/2/2023, 2/9/2023, 2/16/2023 and 2/23/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO. 2022CA000235 M&T BANK, Plaintiff, vs. JAMES D BLATZNER, et al., Defendants. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure filed **January 25, 2023** entered in Civil Case No. 2022CA000235 of the Circuit Court of the FOURTH Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Green Cove Springs, Florida, the Clerk of Court, TARA S. GREEN, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.Clay.RealForeclose.com in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the 13th day of March, 2023 at 10:00 AM on the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit: LOT 101, COPPERGATE UNIT THREE B, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 38, PAGES 18-22, INCLUSIVE, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. Dated this 25th day of January, 2023. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT As Clerk of the Court By: Leigh Lucroy Deputy Clerk **If you are a person with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to access court facilities or participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance.** To request such an accommodation, please contact Court Administration at least three business days prior to the required service by using one of the following methods: Phone- (904) 630-2564; Fax- (904) 630-1146; TTD/TTY- (800) 955-8770 (Florida Relay Service). E-Mail- crtintrp@coj.net Legal 53705 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 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: 4653 US 17, Fleming Island, FL 32003 February 21, 2023 at 10:00am Sharon Brown Bedroom. dining room, washer/dryer/ Boxes household items Jim Piner 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 53703 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 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 CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.: 2022CA000650 MATRIX FINANCIAL SERVICES CORPORATION PLAINTIFF,

VS. ROBERT DAVID BERNARD, DEBORAH BERNARD MCOOY, MICHELLE BERNARD GULKIS, UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF ROBERT C. BERNARD ET AL., DEFENDANTS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated the 18th day of January, 2023, and entered in Case No. 2022CA000650, of the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein Matrix Financial Services Corporation is the Plaintiff and MAGNOLIA POINT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF ROBERT C. BERNARD; MICHELLE BERNARD GULKIS; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MICHELLE BERNARD GUILDS N/K/A RICH GULKIS; UNKNOWN TENANT #2; DEBORAH BERNARD MCOOY; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF DEBORAH BERNARD MCOOY; ROBERT DAVID BERNARD; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ROBERT DAVID BERNARD N/K/A NANCY BERNARD; and UNKNOWN TENANTS IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY are defendants. Tara S. Green as the Clerk of the Circuit Court shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash electronically at www.clay.realforeclose.com at 10:00 a.m. on the 22nd day of March, 2023, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: **See attached Exhibit "A"**

IF YOU ARE A PERSON CLAIMING A RIGHT TO FUNDS REMAINING AFTER THE SALE, YOU MUST FILE A CLAIM WITH THE CLERK NO LATER THAN THE DATE THAT THE CLERK REPORTS THE FUNDS AS UNCLAIMED. IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY REMAINING FUNDS. AFTER THE FUNDS ARE REPORTED AS UNCLAIMED, ONLY THE OWNER OF RECORD AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MAY CLAIM THE SURPLUS. IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS AN ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO ACCESS COURT FACILITIES OR PARTICIPATE IN A COURT PROCEEDING, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. TO REQUEST SUCH AN ACCOMMODATION, PLEASE CONTACT COURT ADMINISTRATION AT LEAST THREE BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO THE REQUIRED SERVICE BY USING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS: PHONE - (904) 630-2564; FAX - (904) 630-1146; TTD/TTY - (800) 955-8770 (FLORIDA RELAY SERVICE). E-MAIL - CRTINTRP@COJ.NET. Dated this 25th day of January, 2023. Tara S. Green Clerk of The Circuit Court By: Rebecca Crews Deputy Clerk

EXHIBIT "A" LOT G A PORTION OF LOTS 6 AND 7, MAGNOLIA POINT, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 20, PAGES 22 THROUGH 34 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: FOR A POINT OF REFERENCE, COMMENCE AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE CENTERLINE OF MUIRFIELD DRIVE (FORMERLY GOVERNORS DRIVE), A 66 FOOT RIGHT OF WAY AS PRESENTLY ESTABLISHED, WITH THE CENTERLINE OF MAMMARONECK COURT (FORMERLY CROOKED LAKE COURT), A 60 FOOT RIGHT OF WAY AS PRESENTLY ESTABLISHED, SAID POINT LYING ON A CURVE CONCAVE SOUTHWESTERLY AND HAVING A RADIUS OF 608.45 FEET; THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG AND AROUND THE ARC OF SAID CURVE, AND ALONG SAID CENTERLINE OF MUIRFIELD DRIVE, THROUGH A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 09 DEGREES 20 MINUTES 00 SECONDS, AN ARC DISTANCE OF 99.11 FEET TO THE POINT OF TANGENCY OF SAID CURVE, SAID ARC BEING SUBTENDED BY A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF NORTH 68 DEGREES 16 MINUTES 28 SECONDS WEST, 99.01 FEET; THENCE NORTH 72 DEGREES 56 MINUTES 28 SECONDS WEST, ALONG SAID CENTERLINE, 258.69 FEET; THENCE NORTH 17 DEGREES 03 MINUTES 32 SECONDS EAST, DEPARTING SAID CENTERLINE OF MUIRFIELD DRIVE, 33.00 FEET TO THE NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF SAID MUIRFIELD DRIVE AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTINUE NORTH 17 DEGREES 03 MINUTES 32 SECONDS EAST, DEPARTING SAID NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF MUIRFIELD DRIVE, 190.00 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT 6; THENCE SOUTH 72 DEGREES 56 MINUTES 28 SECONDS EAST, ALONG SAID NORTH LINE OF LOT 6 AND ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT 7, A DISTANCE OF 81.18 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 17 DEGREES 03 MINUTES 32 SECONDS WEST, DEPARTING SAID NORTH LINE OF LOT 7, A DISTANCE OF 190.00 FEET TO SAID NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF MUIRFIELD DRIVE; THENCE NORTH 72 DEGREES 56 MINUTES 28 SECONDS WEST, ALONG SAID NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE 81.18 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. EXCEPT ANY PART IN OFFICIAL RECORDS VOLUME 1394, PAGE 1320

Legal 53698 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION Case No. 2019 CA 001270 Division A VILLAGE CAPITAL & INVESTMENT, LLC, Plaintiff, vs.

ICARIAN INVESTMENT GROUP LLC AS TRUSTEE OF THE 1844 WOODLAND GLEN RD TRUST UNKNOWN SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE OF THE 1844 WOODLAND GLEN RD TRUST UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF THE 1844 WOODLAND GLEN RD TRUST, AZALEA RIDGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION OF CLAY COUNTY, INC., GRACE MARIE SAEZ, AND UNKNOWN TENANTS/OWNERS, Defendants.

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in this cause on June 8, 2022, in the Circuit Court of Clay County, Florida, TARA S. GREEN, Clerk of the Circuit Court, will sell the property situated in Clay County, Florida described as: LOT 210, AZALEA RIDGE UNIT 1, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED TN PLAT BOOK 53, PAGE 56 THROUGH 68, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, and commonly known as: 1844 WOODLAND GLEN RD, MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068; including the building, appurtenances, and fixtures located therein, at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, online at www.clay.realforeclose.com, on **March 22, 2023** at 10:00 A.M.

Any persons 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. Dated this 25th day of January, 2023. Clerk of the Circuit Court TARA S. GREEN BY: Rebecca Crews Deputy Clerk

Legal 53525 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF ACTION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE: 2022-CA-1041 DIVISION: B CR 218 & PINE TREE LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company Plaintiff, vs.

ALICE MARIE PASS and THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF BILLIE F. DOWNING, DECEASED, et al., Defendants.

TO: the Unknown Heirs, Beneficiaries, Devisees, Grantees, Assignees, Lienors, Creditors, Trustees, and all others who may claim an interest in the Estate of Billie F. Downing, Deceased, et al:

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action To Quiet Title to the following property in Clay County, Florida: **Legal Description:** For a point of reference begin at the Southwest corner of Government Lot 6, Section 14, Township 5 South, Range 24 East and run thence North 0 degrees 4 minutes 30 seconds West 396 feet to 30 seconds West a distance of 272.93 feet to a point on the line Government Lot 6; thence North 89 degrees 55 minutes 30 seconds East 623 feet to a point; thence South 0 degrees 4 minutes 30 seconds East 271.75 feet to an iron pipe; thence South 89 degrees 10 minutes 40 seconds West 623.05 feet to the point of beginning. AND

A parcel of land situated in Government Lot 6, Section 14, Township 5 South, Range 24 East, Clay County, Florida, said parcel being more particularly described as follows: For a point of beginning, commence at the intersection of the West line of said Government Lot 6, with the Northerly right of way line of State Road No. 218, as per S.R.D. Map. Section No. 7112-201, seconds East, 244.71 feet; thence North 00 degrees 26 minutes 10 seconds West, 343.00 feet, thence South 88 degrees 54 minutes 10 seconds West, 242.53 feet; thence along the West line of said Government Lot 6, South 00 degrees 04 minutes 30 seconds East, 340.21 feet to said Point of Beginning. **REC DB 106 PGS 82 & 179, OR 196 PG 286 & 2538 PG 191. OR 576 PG 678" a/k/a a one-half undivided interest in 2193 Pine Tree Lane, Middleburg, Florida 32068.**

has been filed against you, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Herschel B. Betman, Esq., the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 5150 Belfort Rd. Building 100, Jacksonville, Florida 32256, on or before 30 days from the first day of publication and to file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on the plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition. Dated: 01/25/2023 Tara S. Green Clerk of Court By: Rebecca Crews Deputy Clerk

Legal 53524 Published 2/2/2023, 2/9/2023, 2/16/2023 and 2/23/2023 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 March 15, 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 1/25/2023, in Civil Case No. 2019CA001396, pending in the Circuit Court in Clay County, Florida. DATED this 25th day of January, 2023. TARA S. GREEN CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA By: Gracie Moore Deputy Clerk

Legal 53521 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

SCHOOL BOARD OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE/NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT K-5 MATH and 6-12 SOCIAL STUDIES TEXTBOOKS

Approval to Advertise: The School Board of Clay County, Florida ("the Board") approves the advertisement of a Legal Public Notice for the K-5 Math and 6-12 Social Studies Textbook Adoption.

Purpose & Effect: The proposed adoption pertains to the implementation of the state and school district policies and procedures regarding K-5 Math and 6-12 Social Studies.

Access to Text of Proposed Amendments: The selected texts will be displayed for public viewing on April 6, prior to the regular school board meeting between the hours of 5pm and 6pm. The texts are also available for viewing by appointment in the Instructional Resources Department of Clay County District Schools, located at 900 Walnut Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043, from February 1 through April 4.

Rule Making Authority: The Board is authorized to select adequate instructional materials for all students in accordance with section 1006.283 of the Florida Statutes

Laws Implemented: The laws implemented by the above-referenced adoption fall within Florida Statute 1006.28. **Person(s) Originating Policy Changes:** The proposed adoption was originated by the Chief Academic Officer in collaboration with the Supervisor of Instructional Resources.

Public Hearing: The Board intends to formally adopt the proposed texts following a public hearing. The public hearing shall be held on **Thursday, April 6, 2023**, during the course of the Board's regular meeting, which begins at 6:00 p.m. and takes place in the Boardroom at the Teacher In-service Training Center at Fleming Island High School, 2233 Village Square Parkway, Orange Park, Florida. 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). 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 51120 Published 2/9/2023 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 February 23, 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 A84 David Griffin A101 Tammy Young B04 Steven Dombroski F32 Christopher Tanori 1104 Richard Thompson L15 Lawrence Morrison 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 50893 Published 2/2/2023 and 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

PUBLIC AUCTION

The following vehicles will be sold at public auction for towing and storage costs. G & M Towing, Inc. reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. 2016 NISSAN VIN# 1N4AL3AP-0GC272765 2012 CHEVROLET VIN# 1G1PF-55C4C7278700 2011 HONDA VIN# 1HGCP2F-69BA066920 auction will be held at 9:00 a.m. 02/27/2023 G & M Towing Inc, located at 4995 Highway 17 S., Green Cove Springs, FL 32043.

Legal 55766 Published 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

BURGART ENTERPRISES TOWING INC. gives notice that on 02/24/2023 at 12:00 PM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 4360 CR 218 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. 3G1BEG5M5J615336 2018 CHEV

Legal 55762 Published 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on dates below these vehicles will be sold at public sale on the date listed below at 10AM for monies owed on vehicle repair and storage cost pursuant to Florida Statutes 713.585 or Florida Statutes 713.78. Please note, parties claiming interest have right to a hearing prior to the date of sale with the Clerk of Courts as reflected in the notice. The owner has the right to recover possession of the vehicle without judicial proceedings as pursuant to Florida Statute 559.917. Any proceeds recovered from the sale of the vehicle over the amount of the lien will be deposited clerk of the court for disposition upon court order. "No Title Guaranteed, A Buyer Fee May Apply" at 10:00 AM 03/06/23 3 M Trucking 3653 Trailridge Rd Middleburg, FL 32068 2009 DODG 3D4GG47B99T545030 \$1,095.00

Legal 55761 Published 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: STEVEN C CULLEN, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: **Certificate No.: 2278/2020 Legal Description: PT LOT 45 LIVE OAK FOREST AS REC O R 2071 PG 1415 & 2567 PG 639 Parcel ID No.: 360823-007852-065-05 Opening Bid Amount: \$2,982.90 Physical Address: LEANING OAK DR, MELROSE Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL Name in which assessed: JOE WILIAMS & REBECCA BROWNLEE** Said property being in the County of Clay, State of Florida.

Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder online on the 29th day of March, 2023 at 9:30 A.M. at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com. Dated this 6th day of February, 2023 TARA S. GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Larry Williams Deputy Clerk **Legal 55753 Published 2/9/2023, 2/16/2023, 2/23/2023 and 3/2/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

Clay County School Board Public Notice

The Clay County School Board will hold a School Board Workshop on **Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.**, in the District Multi-Purpose Center located at the corner of Walnut Street and Gratio Place in Green Cove Springs, Florida, 32043, for the purpose of reviewing the agenda for the March 2, 2023 Regular Meeting. This Workshop will also include a Transportation Presentation and Discussion as well as a Strategic Plan Update and Board Priorities. The meeting is open to the public and all interested parties 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 54868 Published 2/9/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

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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 and

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All line ads are 4 lines, 20-25 characters per line. Additional lines may be purchased. All rates are NET.

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