

# KEYSTONE HEIGHTS HERALD

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VOL. 9 NO. 5 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2022



## Municipalities, county leaders address problems, successes that come with growth

By Don Coble  
don@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK – Keystone Heights Mayor Karen Lake had to drive 31 miles on Wednesday, Jan. 18, to attend the Clay County Chamber of Commerce's annual State of Clay at the Thrasher-Horne Center.

By the time she took the microphone to talk about her city's successes and challenges, she seemed a bit frazzled.

"I have to tell you, I got in my car and I

SEE CLAY, 8



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

SEE SCOUT, 10



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.



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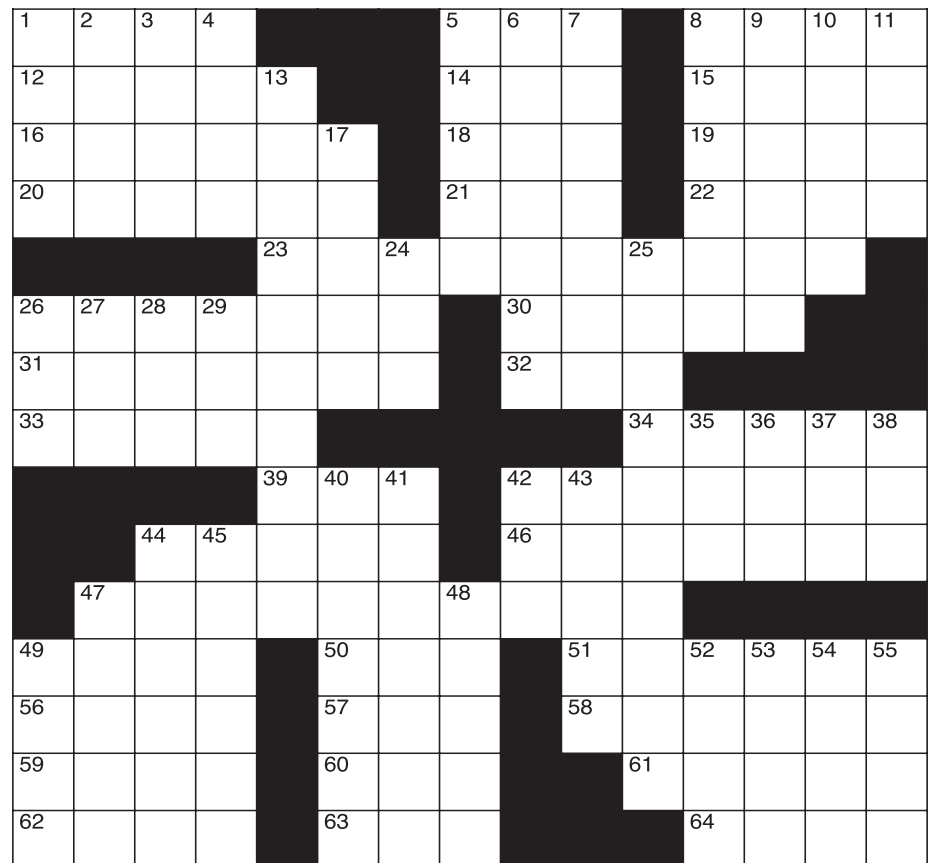
# PUZZLE FUN

## Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

Z F E R E R E R B N U

*Answer: Freezer Burn*



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. River in Tuscany
- 5. A way to represent
- 8. Rocker's guitar
- 12. Civil Rights group
- 14. Brew
- 15. Scratch
- 16. W. Asian country
- 18. The Eye Network
- 19. Clarified butter
- 20. Part of the Cascade Range
- 21. Downwind
- 22. A way to steer
- 23. Loop
- 26. Not ingested
- 30. Swampy coniferous forest
- 31. Musician
- 32. Signing
- 33. Containing iron
- 34. Part of a theorem or proof
- 39. Veterans battleground (slang)
- 42. Of enormous proportions
- 44. Italian city
- 46. Come before
- 47. Balm
- 49. Undergarments

### CLUES DOWN

- 17. Bowling alleys have many
- 24. Explosive
- 25. 'The Say Hey Kid'
- 26. Ultrahigh frequency
- 27. No (Scottish)
- 28. Make a mistake
- 29. Credit card term
- 35. Keyboard key
- 36. Woman (French)
- 37. In the middle of
- 38. Score perfectly
- 40. Coat a metal with an oxide coat
- 41. Deadly disease
- 42. A place to dock a boat (abbr.)
- 43. Belch
- 44. Member of U.S. Navy
- 45. 'In \_\_\_': separate from others
- 47. Examine extensively
- 48. Adjust
- 49. Tattle
- 52. Actor Pitt
- 53. Gulls
- 54. Within
- 55. Exceptionally talented performer

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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 9 a.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."

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## OPINIONS & VIEWPOINTS

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

By A.G. Gancarski  
For FloridaPolitics.com

**R**on 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 DeSantis 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 ephrophiliaesque," went the description.

Trump responded, "No way?"

Then, a second re-truth on a post with text on the image stating, "Here is Ron De-Sanctimonious 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.

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

SEE GROOMER, 13

## Why moving public notices to government websites is a bad idea

By Jim Folger  
President and CEO of Florida Press Association

**L**ast 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](http://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

SEE NOTICES, 5



## Word OF THE MONTH

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."*

### 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](mailto:don@claytodayonline.com).

We look forward to hearing from you!

### Opinions ...

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

## THIS MONTH 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.

### 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 \$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.

## Notices

from page 4

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 result 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 marketing 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 [jfogle@flpress.com](mailto:jfogle@flpress.com)*



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## Challenge Enterprises, BallHawker, turn wayward golf shots into a successful endeavor

By **Natalie Gilstrap**  
*For Clay Today*

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Challenge Enterprises of North Florida and BallHawker have partnered together to recover and recycle golf balls to bring a positive impact to the environment and waterways in Florida.

The partnership started when Todd Hutchinson, President of BallHawker, learned about Challenge Enterprises and its focus to promote the “Power of the People and Possibilities” for individuals with disabilities.

“Challenge Enterprises not only assists

individuals with different abilities with finding meaningful employment opportunities, but we are also an employer at our 11,000-square-foot warehouse,” said Stephanie Young, Director of Marketing and Communications.

As a family-owned business, BallHawker recovers and recycles golf balls while focusing on environmentally conscious approaches. They aim to ensure that bodies of water near golf courses are completely clean while leaving the courses renewed and refreshed. To do that, the company’s dive team coordinates with Florida golf

courses to retrieve the golf balls that have strayed off course. Currently, they recover 8,000 golf balls a day, thus preventing deteriorating golf balls from polluting the water.

At Challenge Enterprises, thousands of recovered golf balls are delivered several times a week and employees with different abilities are employed to process the balls for reuse. Recovered golf balls deemed reusable are scrubbed, air-dried and sorted according to quality.



Employees at Challenge Enterprises help BallHawker recycle golf balls to fund the nonprofit and keep golf course waterways clean.

SEE GOLF, 13

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Mar 21      Aug 15

April 18      Sep 19

May 16      Oct 17

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**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.

**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.



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# Clay

from page 1

headed up north on (State Road) 21 and there was traffic, they're paving the roads from (S.R.) 16 to Keystone. Then you move into Middleburg at a traffic light, and oh my gosh, I think it's been 15 minutes or so. You guys got some serious traffic happening."

Everyone on stage shook their heads in agreement. So did the standing-room-only crowd of more than 100.

Growth not only brings new opportunities, business and money to the county, but it also brings the challenges of managing growth. Lake, along with mayors Randy Anderson of Orange Park, Matt Johnson of Green Cove Springs, Thomas DeVille of Penney Farms and County Commission Chairwoman Betsy Condon all were concerned about the price of expansion.

With most of Oakleaf already developed, the biggest concerns are for the southern end of the county. According to Condon, more than 10,000 home permits already have been planned in the Lake Asbury area.

Nearby, Johnson said Green Cove Springs is bracing to double its population in the next 25 years. Yet, the city is determined to keep its small-town feel.

"First thing we did with the comprehensive plan that takes us 25 years out," he said. "The population is expected to double in 25 years and Green Cove Springs, so we're



From left, Commissioner Betsy Condon, and mayors Randy Anderson of Orange Park, Matt Johnson of Green Cove Springs, Thomas DeVille of Penney Farms and Karen Lake of Keystone Heights gave updates on their municipalities during State of Clay luncheon.

getting ready for that.

"One thing we're doing, and I don't just take it for granted, down (U.S. Highway) 17 you're going to pass Walnut Street you're going to take a second look. What's that it's going to catch your eye is we have a streetscape redesign. For Walnut Street, for instance, from Palmetto across 17 over to Magnolia, you're going to see real brick and then eventually all the way down to the pier and all the way back. You're going to see a whole new redesign of Walnut Street and the

focus is going to be to take people to Spring Park to the river. You're going to see a lot of eye-catching things in Green Cove Springs that have not been there before."

"Growth is coming. Now is the time for Green Cove Springs to be a destination place. Again, not just on special events, but I would say on a regular weeknight or a weekend night as well."

Anderson said his town has worked to address flooding issues, removing the final 45 septic tanks and incorporating them to

the town's sewage system and buying green spaces.

"Over the past 40 years we've had a lot of issues with flooding," he said. About in 2022, we started purchasing seven wetland properties and that's going to be our key to controlling flooding within a town and focusing on what else we need to do and putting a lot of money towards the stormwater."

Anderson said Orange Park has applied for grants from the St. Johns River Management District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to help pay for removing the septic tanks.

"We will have 100% coverage for switching these 45 properties over to water and sewer service of the town," he said. "So hopefully by the end of the year or beginning of next year, those 45 residents will be switched over."

Condon, who also lives near Keystone Heights, said growth has become a major project for the county commission. She said she hears from disgruntled residents at every meeting about roadway construction projects that never seem to end, traffic, challenges to the infrastructure and seemingly uncontrolled growth.

"You know when you get a phone call from your husband, and he wants to know if I can this traffic fixed," Condon said. "With all of the traffic that goes around Clay County, we feel your pain - whether they're state projects or county projects. But with growth comes the need for good services around



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According to AAA roadside data, "vehicles 10 years and older are twice as likely to be stranded at the roadside, and four times more likely to require a tow." The top reasons for requiring a tow: battery and electrical systems issues (23%), engine cooling system failures (11%) and tire damage that cannot be repaired or replaced at the roadside (1%). With the average vehicle age exceeding 11.5 years, an inspection is especially important to avoid a hassle: **Check the battery** - replace if necessary. The electrical system should charge at the correct rate. **Check the AC** - proper cooling performance is critical for interior comfort. **Check the tires**, tire pressure, tread, bulges and bald spots. **Check all fluids** - engine oil, power steering, brake, transmission, windshield washer solvent and antifreeze/coolant. **Check the wipers & lighting** so that you can see and be seen. If you have questions about your vehicle's maintenance, please give us a call or stop by.

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the county.”

All representatives were happy to talk about their municipality’s successes.

Lake said the recently-started Black Creek Restoration plan which will funnel water from the south fork of the Black Creek to lakes Geneva and Butler will prove to be a boon for the entire county and surrounding areas. She also said there were major improvements made at the Keystone Beach Pavillion, as well as the addition of pickleball courts.

DeVille said Penney Farms is continuing to map out infrastructure plans that weren’t recorded when the town was established in 1926.

Anderson said Orange Park rebuilt Clarke Park, added a new hardware store and has more than 9,000 cars passing through town every day.

In addition to its downtown comprehen-

sive plan, Green Cove Springs soon will reap the benefits of the First Coast Expressway once it’s completed south of the city limits. Major commerce, including a Town Center-like development, is likely to follow.

Condon said the BCC recently passed an impact fee so new residents will help share the financial responsibility for expanding roads and building new schools, fire stations

and libraries, hiring new sheriff’s office deputies and expanding electrical and water services.

“Maybe my favorite thing about it is that we were able to protect 250 acres of land from ever being developed (in Middleburg) into homes to protect the natural beauty of Clay County,” Condon said. “The North Florida Land Trust bought 800 acres, so we

have over 1,000 acres where they’re going to let us build trails through there. Across the road will be our Regional Sports Park. We’re going to have eight multipurpose fields.

“This is huge for Clay County because nowhere in Northeast Florida can any kind of sports complex for soccer, lacrosse, those kinds of things.”

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# Scout

from page 1

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.

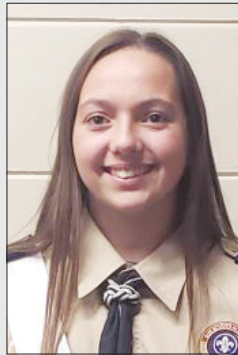
"You've demonstrated character; you've learned competencies and oaths, and those are going to set you apart as leaders in the society," Garrick said. "You're a testimony to your families. And I think that everybody here would agree that earning Eagle Scout means a great number of things."

For Fleming Island's Karl Bolt, it meant embracing the challenge of hiking and camping at the Philmont Scout Ranch in New

## MADELYN CONSIDINE September 19, 2022

Madelyn began her scouting adventure when she joined Troop 9892 in September 2019 and earned her First Class Rank in March 2021. She has served her Troop as Historian, Webmaster, Quartermaster, Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, and Senior Patrol Leader.

Madelyn is an Ordeal member of the Order of the Arrow and has earned 34 Merit Badges. She has attended National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) and summer camp at Camps



Shands and St. Johns River Base at Echockotee.

For her Eagle Project, Madelyn built storage solutions for a local quilting club that meets at Crossroad Lutheran Church in Fleming Island. This project helped the quilting club keep all their material, sewing machines, and donations items organized so they may continue to create quilts for those who are healing, for military veterans or in local nursing homes. Madelyn is a graduate of Oakleaf High School where she was enrolled in the Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) and earned her AICE Diploma. She was a member of the National Honor Society, International Thespian Society, National Society of High School Scholars, and Knights in Shining Armor. Madelyn is in the Technical Theater Certification Program at the Florida School of the Arts.

She plans to transfer to either the University of Florida or the University of Central Florida to pursue a degree in Stage Management. She would one day like to be a Scoutmaster for her own children's Troop.

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.

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# GOLF

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# Brass Transit

## THE MUSICAL LEGACY OF CHICAGO

**FRANCESCA CONSIDINE**  
July 7, 2022

Francesca began her scouting adventure when she joined Troop 9892 in September 2019 and earned her First Class Rank in October 2020. She has served her Troop as Chaplain Aide, Instructor, Quartermaster, Troop Guide, Outdoor Ethics Guide, Den Chief, Bugler, Assistant Patrol Leader, and Order of the Arrow Troop Representative.



Francesca is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow and has served as the OA Unit Representative for Echockotee Lodge.

She has earned 26 Merit Badges, BSA Lifeguard, National Honor Patrol in 2021, and Honor Camper. She has attended summer camp at Camps Shands and St. Johns River Base at Echockotee.

Francesca's Eagle Project consisted of creating the stable and manger for a live Nativity at Crossroad's Lutheran Church in Fleming Island. This project was created to be the centerpiece of Christmas festivities and will be used in the church's annual Nativity play.

Francesca is a junior at Oakleaf High School where she is enrolled in the Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) program. She's a member of the National Honor Society, National Science Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, the Future Farmers of America (FFA), and a Theater troupe. She has worked as a Counselor in Training at St. Johns River Base at Echockotee and was awarded CIT of the Week. While still undecided on a college, Francesca plans to major in Business and minor in Foreign Linguistics while also taking travel and tourism classes and chef training. In the future, Francesca would like to open her own café.

tions 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."

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 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 cita-



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## 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 commu-

nity. 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.



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.



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## Groomer

from page 4

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 Midterms and got 1.2 Million Votes MORE than Ron DeSantimonious 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.

## Golf

from page 6

Balls are then sorted into premium brands such as Callaway, Bridgestone, Snell, Srixon, TaylorMade, Titleist and Vice. These brands are then boxed, labeled and sold by BallHawker or in Golf Pro Shops throughout the state. Any remaining useable golf balls are packed, shipped and sold in bulk to other retailers.

Challenge Enterprises looks forward to the continuous success and opportunities this partnership will bring in the future. The golf balls purchased from BallHawker will help the waterways stay clean and bring support to small businesses. In addition, it will allow Challenge Enterprises to increase their job opportunities for those living with disabilities.

“In the past nine months, the BallHawker enterprise has grown from 14 golf courses yielding 20,000 golf balls per week to 40 golf courses yielding 50,000-plus golf balls per week,” Young said. “This growth translates into more job opportunities and a greater number of individuals becoming independent members of our community.”

To learn more about Challenge Enterprises visit [www.challengeenterprises.org](http://www.challengeenterprises.org). To learn more about BallHawker visit [ballhawker.com](http://ballhawker.com).



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## 'She's a little miracle baby'

# Lake Asbury girl survives rare form of brain, spinal cord cancer

By Lee Wardlaw  
lee@claytodayonline.com

LAKE ASBURY – Katie Rose Hayes is a bright, active and extremely happy four-year-old girl. She's a student at Pinewood Christian Academy and she excels in her two favorite activities – soccer and music. A bright young little girl, Katie is surrounded by loving family members and has plenty of little friends, too.

Hayes has been enjoying life in Clay County since April 2020 with her mother and father. Before she moved here, her life was marred by a long, bumpy battle with cancer.

Shortly after her birth in 2018, doctors informed her parents, Tom and Mary Hayes, they weren't sure if their little girl would survive after she was diagnosed with cancer with she was four weeks old,

The date was Oct. 25, 2018.

This was when Katie was diagnosed with glioblastoma multiforme, a rare and aggressive tumor that's found in the brain and spinal cord.

Hayes was considered a healthy baby when she was born in September, but her parents were in for a grim surprise when they took her to the hospital in Volusia County. Katie was admitted with symptoms including a swollen head and continuous projectile vomiting. Hayes left the hospital with one simple recommendation for her parents: to switch from her previous formula



Katie Rose Hayes, photographed the night before she was admitted for surgery at the Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children on Oct. 25, 2018. From left, Mary Hayes, Katie Rose and Tom are a happy family following Katie's successful treatment and their relocation to Clay County.

to a new one.

However, after Hayes first-run in with health issues, her grandmother, Rosemary Wells, was onto something.

Katie's mother, Mary Wells, can still recall



PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY MARY HAYES

Rosemary's exact words like it was yesterday.

"Something's not right. You need to call your pediatrician," she said.

The pediatrician advised Katie to return to the hospital, where the infant was diagnosed with hydrocephalus, a buildup of fluid within the cavities of the brain.

The next step, the doctor said, was a visit to the Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children. There, she received a shunt, a hollow tube that is surgically placed in the brain to help drain cerebrospinal fluid and redirect it to her stomach.

In the flash, Katie's mother and father packed her up in the car and headed straight to Orlando. Mary thought her daughter was asleep in the backseat during the ride, but she would later find out that wasn't the case when the Hayes family arrived at the children's hospital.

Katie's heart rate was dangerously low. As soon as she arrived, she received a CT scan. That's when Hayes received her grim cancerous diagnosis. The news of the scan results was confirmed in less than a half hour.

After evaluating her prognosis, a team of pediatric intensive care specialists came to the decision that Katie would be taken to surgery the next day – if she survived the night.

While it was a long road to recovery Hayes' prognosis has drastically shifted course since.

Dr. Samer Elbabaa, a world-renowned pediatric neurosurgeon at Arnold Palmer, began the operation at 2 p.m on Oct. 26. The majority of a tennis ball-sized tumor that took up 60% of Katie's brain was removed. That's when the little girl started to fight back.

Cancer didn't easily go away after that, the process requiring 10 rounds of chemotherapy.

However, on May 31, the nine-month-old child had the opportunity to ring the cancer-free bell at the hospital, signifying her final round of treatment.

The road to recovery wouldn't have been possible without Elbabaa, who was responsible for conducting the risky, high-stakes surgery.

"She's a little miracle baby. We firmly believe that God has big plans for her life," her mother said.

After leaving the hospital, Hayes was given a new drug called Vitrakvi, which is prescribed for patients that test positive for particular genes that help cancerous tumors grow. The child took the medication from 2019 to 2020.

Miraculously, the child is now back to full health.

Katie will undergo another series of MRIs in February, but any suspected images are believed to be scar tissue. Past scans in 2021 and 2022 have also come to the same conclusion.

Along with her life being saved, several other miracles were included in Hayes' prognosis during her fight with cancer.

"When (Katie) was going through chemo, they thought she was going to be very, very sick, but she wasn't. She was just thriving and hitting her milestones," the mother said.

Internal organ damage, complete blindness and hearing loss were to be expected, but instead, the child only has some deficiencies with her left-side peripheral vision.

Soon after her recovery, Hayes was hailed as a miracle baby by Elbabaa, his

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# Love of water, Jesus leads to creation of Saltwater Gospel

By Lee Wardlaw  
lee@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK – Shawn Moss is an agent at Florida Farm Bureau Insurance in Middleburg, but when he's not in the office, you'll likely either find him doing one of two things: reading his Bible or fishing on St. Johns River, Black Creek or another beautiful waterway.

That's why the Orange Park resident combined his strong passion for fishing and unflinching love for Jesus when creating his small business in 2020: Saltwater Gospel.

The brand sells performance fishing apparel, lifestyle apparel, performance hats, Dri-Fit headwear and Solar UPF wear.

Also available are two versions of Jesus-themed bumper stickers – one of the Christian religious figure holding a freshly-caught red drum and the other of the Savior posing with a sea trout.

Moss said his love for fishing and how the thrilling, fun outdoor activity helps him further connect with the awesome higher power that he so strongly believes in.

"Fishing is just really special to me. I consider it my church. You won't see me in church every Sunday. I believe that my church is on the water. A lot of hunters and fishermen will tell you the same thing, that they're closer to God out on the water or in the tree stand," he said.

Moss said that he wants to further express faith through his products, but that the items are for everybody regardless of religious beliefs.

"I didn't want to make a cliché Christian brand. I actually want to make dope products that people will wear. I couldn't tell you how many times people walked by my booth and said 'Oh man, that's a cool hat.' I really wanted to make lifestyle apparel that people can go fishing with or go out for a happy hour in," he said.

The entrepreneur envisions Saltwater Gospel as a casual, open-door avenue for those who may be interested in learning more about Christ, Moss said.

"It's just a creative invitation to open discussion. I think fishing is a great platform for that. Some people that buy my products do share my beliefs, and some don't," he said.

In the meantime, Moss has enjoyed impressive sales and attending several events to promote his products.

"Sales were really good in the fourth quarter of 2022 and we hope to continue that in 2023," Moss said.

Saltwater Gospel was on hand at the 75th annual Jacksonville Boat Show at the Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center last weekend and toured several other events across the state a year ago, including the Orange Park Town Festival.



Available in both the red drum and trout editions, religious-themed stickers have been a hot seller for Saltwater Gospel, an Orange Park-based performance fishing and lifestyle apparel brand that has been in business for nearly three years.

## Miracle

from page 14

team, and the entire staff.

The story was especially intriguing due to the rarity of the disease in children and the long odds of her survival, her mother said.

Researchers found that only five children in the U.S. had previously been diagnosed with the disease 10 years before Hayes. Katie is the only GBM patient in Arnold Palmer's history.

Hayes' little fingerprints can still be felt in Florida and across the world.

Katie's story is now written about in medical books as a case study for other brain tumors, and doctors at Arnold Palmer still mimic the protocol used during her procedure when performing operations on other children to this very day.

Katie's mother said that people have reached out from as far as Australia, Canada and Germany to inform her of how Hayes' story has impacted their outlook on life.

"People are saying 'If Katie can do this, I can do this,' even if it's just something in everyday life. She has a ton of prayer warriors," she said.

"I'm just trying to get out in the community and love people. My goal is to do this full-time," he said.

The venture took a major self-commitment from Shawn to get everything going in the beginning and didn't come without scary moments.

"It was a little scary, you know. 'Where am I going to get the money for this, and what if I go all in and go into debt?' I had a fear of failure," Moss said.

The community's positive reactions to his products, however, allowed Moss to harbor a renewed sense of hope in his endeavor.

"Once I got that positive feedback from the community and when it was so well received by Clay County, it gave me the

confidence to step out and move forward," he said. To find out more about Saltwater Gospel, call or text (904) 282-0497 or visit [www.saltwatergospel.com](http://www.saltwatergospel.com).

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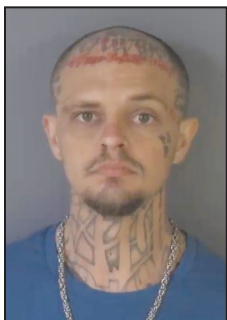
## Police Briefs

### 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 following the attack on Auburn Avenue on Thursday night.



William Burroughs

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.

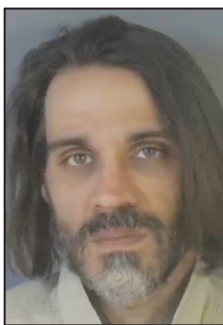
Burroughs will remain in the Clay County Jail without bond until his next hearing on March 13.

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.

### Keystone man arrested for shooting, punching woman

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – A 38-year-old man was in the Clay County Jail with a \$250,003 bond after the Clay County Sheriff's Office said he shot a woman in the foot and beat her with brass knuckles during a family disturbance on Jan. 18.

Steven Thomas Pentheny, of Keystone Heights, was charged with aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, battery and possession of a handgun and ammo by a convicted felon after deputies responded to a person being shot.



Steven Pentheny

When they arrived, they saw Pentheny walking in the wooded area behind the home. He surrendered without incident, and during a search, deputies found the gun and brass knuckles. They also found a used syringe, a portion of a plastic straw and a metal spoon.

The woman was transported to UF Health in Gainesville.

## 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 classic 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](http://OrangeParkMall.com).

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# Arrests & Bookings

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

**Wednesday, Feb. 7**

Shatamra L. Gillyard, 25, Melrose, VOP-trespassing  
 Priscilla L. Manning, 55, Keystone Heights, battery

**Wednesday, Feb. 1**

Mark A. Rabeth, 35, Keystone Heights,

two counts aggravated assault on law enforcement/firefighter/EMT

**Wednesday, Jan. 31**

Michael W. Castor, 62, Keystone Heights, petit theft

**Tuesday, Jan. 30**

Michael R. Williams, 35, Keystone Heights, trespassing

**Monday, Jan. 29**

Charles J. Bailey, 36, Keystone Heights, DWSLR

**Saturday, Jan. 28**

Jose A. Lozano, 42, Keystone Heights,

driving without valid license

Jeremiah L. Riggs, 42, Middleburg, possession-fentanyl, possession-marijuana

**Friday, Jan. 27**

Scott G. Ballou, 34, Keystone Heights, trespassing

Angela L. Stewart, 50, Keystone Heights, fugitive from justice

Cody A. Carpenter, 30, Keystone Heights, possession-drug paraphernalia, violation of injunction for protection against domestic violence

Dyllan B Page, 19, Keystone Heights, DWSLR

**Saturday, Jan. 21**

James E. Watson, 45, Keystone Heights, possession-controlled substance

**Friday, Jan. 20**

Trenton A. Edsall, 20, Keystone Heights, loitering

**Wednesday, Jan. 18**

Steven T. Pentheny, 38, Keystone Heights, aggravated battery with deadly weapon, battery, possession-ammo/firearm by felon

**Friday, Jan. 13**

William O.A. Alvarez, 32, Keystone Heights, DWSLR, riding a motorcycle without valid license

**Thursday, Jan. 12**

Christian Z. Kocher, 27, Keystone Heights, VOP-community control  
 Damon J.H. Worth, 25, Melrose, possession-controlled substance, possession-drug paraphernalia

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 Saturday, Feb 25: 1:30pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm  
 Sunday, Feb 26: 1:30pm, 4:30pm

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# SPORTS

## KEYSTONE HEIGHTS



### 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.

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## KHHS Wright, SJCDs Frisbee take region totals to state

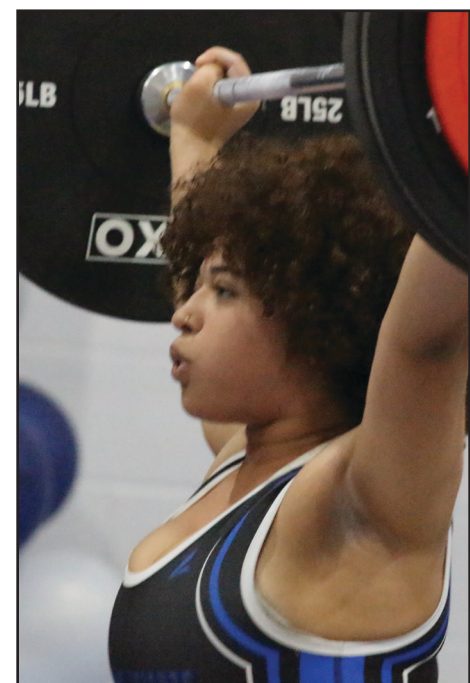
By Randy Lefko  
Sports Editor

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.

SEE STATE, 21

Keystone Heights weightlifter Kaylee Wright will be making her third trip to the class 1Astate championships this year for the region title last week.



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# Reynolds tabbed to lead 2023 Indians football

Little school to big school to medium school

By Randy Lefko  
Sports Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS - Keystone Heights High School football has named a familiar face to lead the Indians football program with defensive coordinator Steven Reynolds being named to head the program after long-time coach Chuck Dickinson stepped down after the 2022 season.

"I've gone from a small school to a big school to now a medium school," said Reynolds, who has been on the Keystone Heights High School football sidelines the past three years as well as part of the boys weightlifting teams that have won two consecutive state titles. "It's ironic how life goes full circle for you and you wind up in a place you have always cherished."

Reynolds, a former head coach at Bradford County High, then Oakleaf High School for four years, left Oakleaf after being replaced by another Bradford County former coach, Derek Chipoletti. Chipoletti and



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Keystone Heights High football will see a familiar face at the head coach spot in 2023 with defensive coordinator Steve Reynolds taking over after long-time coach Chuck Dickinson stepped down after 2022. Reynolds has had immense coaching success in Bradford County, Oakleaf and Keystone Heights where he was part of unbeaten season and region playoff finish two years ago.

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Reynolds both teamed together a second time for two years at St. Johns Country Day School.

"I can't stress enough the caliber of not just football here at Keystone Heights, but in all the athletes here," said Reynolds. "What coach Dickinson leaves, as well as Wesley Dicks, who coached before Dickinson, is a core value of working hard, rewarding through toil and hard work, the principles of serving others and being a family type of team. The lasting friendships of Keystone Heights athletes is a big part of all the sports here."

Reynolds came to Keystone Heights as an offensive coordinator at Bradford under the Chipoletti coaching staff; Neil and Derek, father and son, plus another Oakleaf coaching alum, Dana Arthur, now in Georgia, that rebuilt the very intense rivalry between the two schools.

"I played at Bradford County and have been on this field a hundred times and have always seen great players on this field," said Reynolds, with three boys and wife Lauren

Elizabeth. "Both schools have had great success in a lot of sports in the last few decades."

Reynolds recalled games against Keystone Heights.

"Kids were always tough here," said Reynolds, who was part of a 23-8 won loss run (2-8 last year with a massive graduation class) for the Indians with an unbeaten season two years ago and a deep region run. "It was a region driven rivalry."

Reynolds has not yet completed his coaching staff if any new faces will join him, but emphasized that the coaching staff at Keystone Heights with him under Dickinson was top of the line and he hoped coaches like Lantz Lowery, who has been here as long as coach Dickinson, and young guys like Ken Mudge and Jacob Alvarez.

"Mudge is solid, Alvarez is young and both of those guys are good, young coaches that want to learn the craft," said Reynolds. In the Indians unbeaten region playoff run on two years ago, with a region semi-final loss to The Villages, Reynolds noted that Keystone Heights' region football lineup has always been power packed.

"Keystone Heights has always had the

toughest region slate when the playoffs got going," said Reynolds. "Against The Villages, a few plays made a big difference, but the next game would have been Cocoa High. This school has always run into the state's best teams in our class in the playoffs."

Reynolds planned on inviting the alum players of the Keystone Heights for the upcoming seasons to add a little bit of the history of the program for the new kids.

"There were players like Jimmy Brumbaugh, Matt Teague, Greg Story all have great stories of their playing days that the kids would marvel at," said Reynolds. "Jack Taylor was another great one. I'd like to see them to our pregame meals and tell the kids about the history of this place."

Quarterback Jack Taylor once talked to the Keystone Heights locker room and Reynolds recalled the message.

"He came here and told them that everything he accomplished in his life, everything he has done he owes to the Keystone Heights community," said Reynolds. "He told them that what they learn here is the first building block to do whatever they want to do in life."



Addison Frisbee, left, with Dad and Coach Justin Frisbee, will look to defend her Olympic State title in Lakeland.

## State

from page 19

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 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 Traditional 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.

### 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

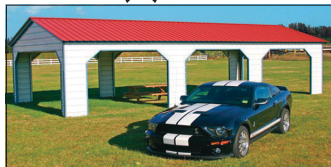
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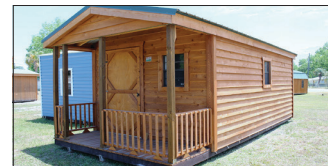
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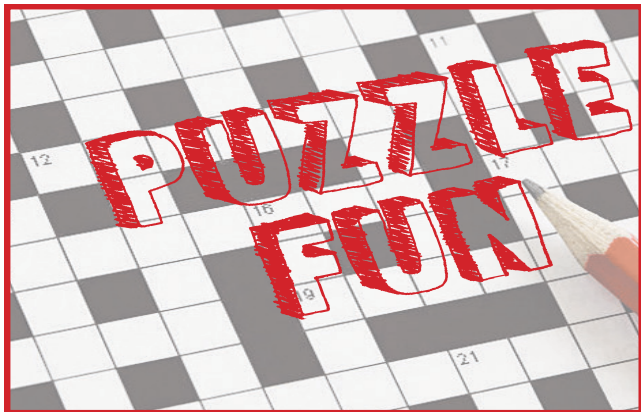
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## Community Briefs

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

### Mission of the Dirt Road offering free showers

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – Adults can sign up for free showers on Tuesdays and Fridays at the Mission of the Dirt Road, 7790 State Road 100.

Adults can utilize the services from 10 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays and from 9 a.m. to noon on Fridays. Families with children can get free showers on Tuesdays from 4-6 p.m. Showers are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Residents are required to sign up during the day of the shower. To make a reservation, call or text (601) 568-3473.

## CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to the library.  
Each number corresponds to a letter.  
(Hint: 13 = O)

**A. 4 9 19 9 14 13 23**

Clue: List or itemized display

**B. 8 13 13 26 15**

Clue: Recorded written information

**C. 13 11 23 9 22 18 10 20**

Clue: Sort

**D. 15 3 20 14 25 20 15**

Clue: Racks

Answers: A. catalog B. books C. organize D. shelves

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to the library.

**O V E M U L**

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Volume

## Guess Who?

I am a singer and actress born in California on February 15, 1986. I unsuccessfully auditioned for "American Idol" when I was 17. However, I rose to fame on a television series about a high school chorus.

Answer: Amber Riley

## LIBRARY WORD SEARCH

I R E S E A R C H U I I L S P F N S U B  
S U K P L E W T D Q U G L E N R F N A E W  
L Q L S U D C W E D B A I N H D S R R U I  
A T F U L D B C A T A L O G L T Y L S E I  
C F L P G Y I N H W Q C R E T U R N S L Y  
I P N M K B L P O C M P U A L B B G L T I  
D U Q A L P H A B E T I C A L B B G L I  
O O L C F I N M H P E K K Q O K E N O Y  
I N A I D M Q C H E C K O U T I U I R D  
R K H S W M E M B E R P L L O B B D P U  
E M T D R A C C D D T O L P B F N O T S  
P E R A T T I O H O O E R E L N K I A Y  
Q T A Y S U B G D P W I B H L R M C Q K  
E I N P N T O B N E M B R Q Y D O N K L M  
L N H F O S C R R A T K U K P O I E T O  
R G S R O L R R I L Y Q S H N E C W C G  
G N O H L H Y A I B B U D N B M T R G S  
L W E Q G Y N W Q M I T D Q L G W M O S

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

## WORDS

- ALPHABETICAL
- BINDING
- BOOKS
- BORROW
- CAMPUS
- CARD
- CATALOG
- CHECKOUT
- COMPUTERS
- GENRE
- LEARNING
- LIBRARIAN
- LIBRARY
- MEETING
- MEMBER
- PERIODICALS
- QUIET
- REFERENCE
- RESEARCH
- RETURN
- SCHOOL
- STUDY

A	R	N	O		M	A	P		B	A	S	S						
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B	E	E	F			E	A	T				D	I	O	R			

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