



PHOTO BY CLAY COUNTY

From left, Commissioner Alexandra Compere, former Commissioner Gayward Hendry, Commissioner Kristen Burke, Clay County Sheriff's Office Administration and Business Department Director Ricky Wright, County Manager Howard Wanamaker, Commissioner Mike Cella, Sgt. Bradley Crose's mother, Sheila Russell, Commissioners Betsy Condon and Jim Renninger, Clerk of County Court Tara Green and Supervisor of Elections Chris Chambless officially opened the Clay County Outdoor Adventure Park last Friday. The gun range is on Sgt. Bradley Crose Road in honor of the Orange Park soldier who was killed in Afghanistan in 2002.

Ready, aim, fire!

County celebrates grand opening of gun range near Camp Blanding

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

MIDDLEBURG – The only thing missing during last Saturday's open house for the new Clay County Outdoor Adventure Park was the sound of gunfire.

The range, situated on a 158-acre complex off County Road 215 near Camp Blanding, has 30 lanes for gun enthusiasts. The 200-yard range is for long guns, while work is scheduled to complete a 25-yard range for handguns.

County officials joined Sgt. Bradley Crose's mother, Sheila Russell, in a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday, Sept. 29. The

park is located at Sgt. Bradley Crose Road. It was named after an Orange Park soldier who died in Afghanistan in 2002.

Residents explored the range, asking questions about access and future plans.

"We couldn't be happier," said range manager Aaron Davidson. "We had our open house so people could see it and sign up for memberships. We hope to make this self-sufficient where memberships can offset the costs."

Meg Johnson said she's glad to have a "real outdoor gun range" where she can practice firing her weapons.

SEE FIRE, 17

Still busy after all these years

Whitey's Fish Camp to celebrate its 60th anniversary with Saturday night bask

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

FLEMING ISLAND – The roadway noise from County Road 200 never ceases. Cars cross over Swimming Pen Creek with a persistent whirl. In the past half-century, progress around Whitey's Fish Camp Restaurant and Camp GroundCampground has been gauged by concrete, conveyances and waterfront homes.

"When I started here, there was no Fleming Island," said Kelly B, who worked at the iconic restaurant for over 20 years. "We were a place in the middle of the woods. A lot has changed around us, but Whitey's is still the same."

Besides serving seafood and other dishes, Whitey's is where legions of hungry customers have called home for decades.

What started began as a regular simple camp for fishingfish camp in 1963 is now now the oldest restaurant in Clay County. Now being groomedfor a third generation

SEE WHITEYS, 12





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116 Blanding - Orange Park



Town Council determines legal future of Orange Park

By Lee Wardlaw
Lee@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK – During Tuesday night’s meeting, the Town Council selected Jody Lane Brooks as its new Town Attorney.

Mayor Randy Anderson and Town Manager Sarah Campbell interviewed three law firms vying to be appointed as the new legal counsel to represent Orange Park. The previously contracted town attorneys – Kopelousos, Bradley and Garrison – will be stepping down after many successful years of service.

The council was tasked to pick between Jody Lane Brooks, Balch & Bingham and Vose Law Firm. The three introduced themselves during their interviews on Sept. 28, and they made their respective pitches and answered tough questions on how they would best represent the town of Orange Park. A discussed hot-button issue pertained to a law signed by Gov. Ron DeSantis in June, SB 170, which permits companies to sue local governments for “arbitrary or unreasonable” ordinances that harm profits. The Town Council held a special meeting to interview the three law firms that qualified on a pared down list of Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Orange Park’s attorney services. The council will make their final selection on who will earn their new attorney services contract after a long run of success from Kopelousos, Bradley, and Garrison at Town Hall at their regular meeting on Oct. 3.

Wade Vose, partner at Vose Law Firm and resident of St. Augustine, who leaned on his firm’s results-driven approach. Vose brought a background specializing in appeals, and he shared his

Brooks, Balch & Bingham, and Vose Law each made their pitch to the council and Town Manager, Sarah Campbell. Representatives made their introduction to officials and answered tough questions about how they would handle town business. SB

170, which was signed into law by Gov. Ron DeSantis in June, allows companies to sue local governments for “arbitrary or unreasonable” ordinances that harm profits, was a hot-button issue discussed between Orange Park and the three organizations that hope to become their suitors.

Paul Wade, Partner at Vose Law and St. Augustine resident, emphasized the firm’s result-driven approach when talking about the firm’s approach to the new bill. Wade, who specializes in handling appeals, shared a recent victory in which he successfully defended a critical environmental ordinance in Naples, which addressed algal blooms. The victory addressed algal blooms and red tides caused by excessive fertilizer use. In 2017, red tide forced the city to close its beaches and collect 2,000 tons of dead sea animals from the shore. The fishing industry was ravaged. During the crisis, fishermen were lining up at food banks. The firm highlighted their impressive track record in litigation, asserted a readiness to take on any challenge, and boasted an ability to take the “kill shot” in the courtroom.

Asserting their readiness to take on challenging cases and their reputation for taking the “kill shot” when necessary to protect the town’s best interests.

Patrick Krechowski, a partner at Balch & Bingham, who brought extensive experience involving land development codes. Krechowski aims to address potential developmental compliance issues across Orange Park if selected. To improve compliance with state and federal regulations, he plans to utilize Orange Park’s network of resources, notably reaching out to the Florida League of Cities to cooperate with other municipalities.

He emphasized the importance of staying informed in a dynamic legal landscape, ensuring accountability and working with

other municipalities to pave consistency throughout the town and the county. , talked about his extensive experience in addressing land development codes.

Improving compliance with state and federal regulations and tapping into Orange Park’s network and resources would also be on deck for Balch & Bingham if they were to be selected.

Krechowski also touched on litigation, a critical aspect of legal services for any municipality. He addressed the challenge of controlling where litigation may lead and the potential financial strains that it can impose. In response, he proposed a structured approach, recommending a proposed budget with specific benchmarks, allowing the town to have a clear overview of associated costs if they select the firm.

He said that the majority of services for Balch & Bingham would be covered under a flat fee, but that there may be instances that fall outside the scope of basic services. This approach aimed to alleviate any uncertainties with legal fees. Vose Law would operate entirely under a flat fee structure if they entered an agreement with the town, they said.

Brooks, founder and sole representative of her organization, pressed her expertise into the mix. Her impressive 30-year career led her to become the first Chief Legal Officer at Jacksonville Electric Authority and much of her work centered around environmental law. With a thorough knowledge of state and federal regulations and compliances, Brooks contends to be an asset to the town, if selected.

She highlighted her legal background, which spans over 30 years. She touched on her impressive career trajectory, which included becoming the first Chief Legal Officer at Jacksonville Electric Authority. Much of her work focused on environmental law. She said that her deep knowledge of state and federal regulations, coupled with

an ability to ensure compliance, makes her a valuable asset to the town.

Brooks stressed a personal advantage – her status as a nearby resident – to position herself as a legal expert and a neighbor. She accentuated the special place in her heart that Orange Park fills and expressed eagerness to start the job the moment the decision is made. Brooks offered to commit to hosting office hours during the week if selected.

Brooks spoke passionately of the town that holds a special place in her heart. She expressed her readiness to start the position immediately. She even asked for weekly office hours. Brooks positioned herself as not just a legal expert, but a neighbor. Spending a significant portion of her life in the community, Brooks is uniquely attuned to the town’s needs, she said.

The council selected Brooks.

“I talk about ‘shop local’ or ‘shop within the county.’ We would be hypocrites for not following our own recommendations,” said Mayor Randy Anderson before casting his vote. Doug Benefield agreed, saying that he found a ‘certain amount’ of value in Brooks. Alongside the mayor and the council member, Winette Sandlin concurred, saying that all three firms were qualified, but Brooks was her top choice at the final bell. “I’m going to give preference to the person that lives in the county. She’s here, she’s local, and she lives in our community. I think (Brooks) would be a good match,” she said. Vice Mayor Susana Thompson and Council Member Daniel Cobriero voted against Brooks, siding with Vose Law Firm based on their larger staffing capabilities and 80 combined years of experience, much of which relates directly to municipal law.

Ultimately, Fleming Island’s Brook was selected, with her strong local presence and commitment to the community strongly swaying the final decision for officials.

City Council discusses financing for new stormwater treatment plant

By Jack Randall
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GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Festivals, financing and dedicating the name for a new street sign were some of the highlighted topics discussed at the city council meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 3.

The city council dedicated Saturday to the Soul Food Festival, which will be the

22nd anniversary of the event. The council recognized the cultural importance of the celebration, which promotes unity and instills pride in the community.

The city just paid off its debts following the completion of the Palmetto Trail Project but is now gearing to issue more for the construction of a new stormwater treatment plant. The volatile interest rate

of around 5% forced the council to debate whether a bank loan or bond issuance would be more advantageous for the estimated \$8 million project.

“It’s better to start sooner rather than later with costs increasing,” said Vice Mayor Steven Kelley. “We’ve been trying to finance projects that have been kicked down the road for 25 years,” said Assistant City

Manager Mike Null.

The council passed a request for proposal and has decided a bank loan would be better for its immediacy and flexibility to be refinanced.

In honor of the longest-serving pastor in the history of Clay County, the council approved the name of a new street sign to be “Bishop John Newman Corner.”



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Think land conservation now ... or pay consequences later

By Allison DeFoor
President of North Florida Land Trust

Northeast Florida is at a crossroads of history for land conservation, and it is literally Now or Never. The people of Florida and their leaders have stepped up to the plate. Now it's time for you, the landowners, to step up to the plate in response.

If we do it right, there is a lot of money to be made for landowners while, at the same time, our grandchildren will get to see what the real Florida looks like. If we do it wrong, shame on us as we watch our end of Florida become like Orlando, cheapening property and lifestyle values. We can truly have it all if we choose, so let's choose.



Allison DeFoor

The leaders of Florida have spoken – again and again. Under Republican and Democrat governors, initiatives have been advanced to preserve our natural lands. Preservation 2000 under Gov. Bob Martinez put \$2 billion into land conservation in 1990, which was considered a lot of money.

Gov. Jeb Bush matched it with Florida Forever in 1999. These initiatives are built upon the Save Our Everglades and similar initiatives of governors Reuben Askew, Bob Graham and Lawton Chiles/Ken MacKay. Gov. Ron DeSantis has made ample budget provisions for environmental targets.

In Florida, the love of our environment is bipartisan, as it befits its wonder and clear economic impact; even the built attractions like Walt Disney World seek to recreate Florida's outdoors.

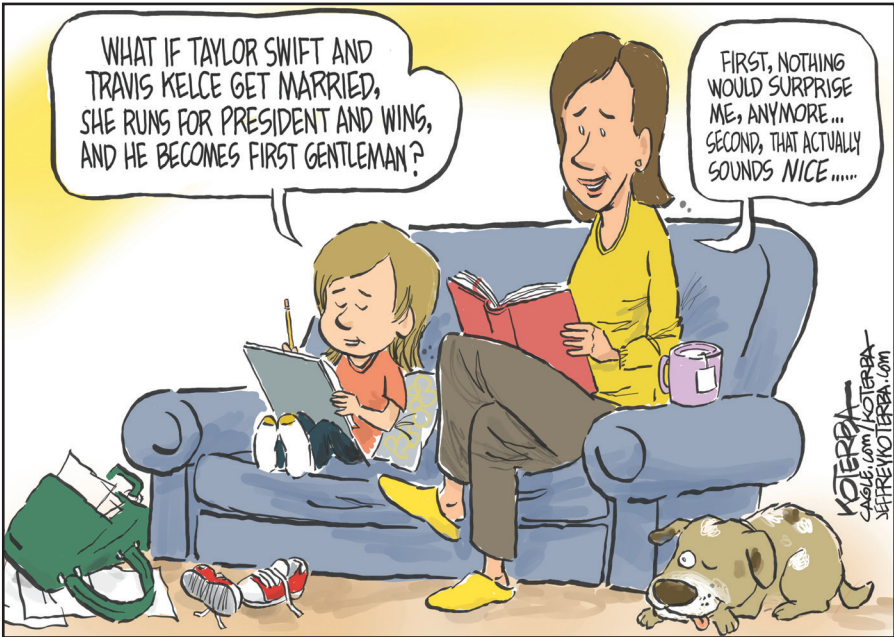
Florida's voters have done their part. No statewide initiative on the environment in our state has received less than 70% of the vote. In 2014, a citizen initiative led by Graham as the Democrat and the undersigned as the Republican created a dedicated pipeline of funding for environmental acquisition, restoration and maintenance in the billions. The effort received more than 70% of the vote statewide, carried all but four counties, and in some, it received over 80% of the vote.

No state and few nations have ever acted so boldly. The funding tied to real estate sales has skyrocketed in recent years as our population has exploded.

Local efforts mirrored these statewide initiatives. Referenda were passed in 27 counties, starting in Volusia and have been

SEE LAND, 5

OPINIONS



Florida Supreme Court to decide if ilegalized pot plan goes up in smoke

By A.G. Gancarski
For FloridaPolitics.com

The Florida Supreme Court will review oral arguments on an Adult Personal Use of Marijuana citizen initiative that could lead to a constitutional amendment for voter consideration, with legalization in effect as soon as May 2025 if 60% or more of voters approve.

The amendment, titled "Adult Personal Use of Marijuana," would allow non-medical use of the narcotic and prohibit any law subjecting use to criminal liability or civil sanctions. It would also clear all licensed Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers in the state to start making and selling recreational cannabis products.

The hearing is set for Nov. 8, with each side getting 20 minutes to make the case about whether the initiative should be put on next year's General Election ballot.

If the amendment should make the ballot, it will be with the opposition of Gov. Ron DeSantis and Attorney General Ashley Moody.

"We have medical in our Constitution, we have medical marijuana, we enforce that, you know, we abide by it, but to take action now to make it even more available, I would not do that," DeSantis said in Iowa this summer, adding that legalization in Colorado has only expanded the "black market."

Florida voters in 2016 passed a constitutional amendment legalizing marijuana only for medical uses. That laid the groundwork for a still-growing industry in the state and a host of regulations around the product. However, it's



still not legal for residents and visitors of Florida to use marijuana without a prescription.

He had previously indicated olfactory objections to the aromatic plant.

"What I don't like about it is if you go to some of these places that have done it, the stench when you're out there, I mean, it smells so putrid," he told reporters in 2022. "I could not believe the pungent odor you would see in some of these places. I don't want to see that here. I want people to be able to breathe freely."

Attorney General Moody holds to the same opinion she did in 2019, the last time a citizens' initiative sought to put the adult use question to voters, saying the drafted amendment was overbroad.

"I believe that the proposed amendment fails to meet the requirements

SEE MARIJUANA, 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.

Transpicious: (trans-PIK-yoo-us) an adjective that means being easily understood or transparent.

"My windows were transpicious after I cleaned both sides of the glass."

This Week in History

Five years ago, 2018

- A new medical marijuana center opened in Orange Park on Blanding Boulevard.
- The Florida Supreme Court rejects an appeal by Lucy Hoover, who was disqualified for running for county judge because she didn't complete all the candidate paperwork on time.
- Clay County Fire Rescue Battalion Chief Raleigh Zike was terminated for sexual misconduct,

10 years ago, 2013

- Orange Park Town Manager Cindy Hall is given her expedited retirement by the Town Council.
- City Attorney Sue Heath met with the Green Cove Springs City Council for the last time following her retirement.
- Gustafson's Dairy announces it will lay off workers and close its Clay County dairy.

20 years ago, 2003

- A three-month investigation resulted in the arrests of three Melrose residents.
- After shifting funds from different accounts, Orange Park Town Council unanimously approved \$1 million for a new headquarters for its Public Works Department.
- Clay County School Board rejected bids for Lake Asbury Junior High. The lowest bid, from Auld & White, came in 25% over budget.

30 years ago, 1993

- A section of the Shands Fishing Pier caved in at the site in Green Cove Springs. Officials estimated repairs to run as high as \$80,000.
- The Clay County Chamber of Com-

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.

Land

from page 4

renewed in all counties where offered for renewal. Conservation initiatives were also passed in 55 municipalities. Locally, Clay is preparing to take a similar Conservation Land Acquisition and Management plan to its voters in 2024. At the grassroots, Floridians care.

This year, even after some vetoes, the total commitment of state funding was over \$900 million. To this base, our House of Representatives Speaker Paul Renner courageously added a similar amount targeting wildlife corridors, including an eye-popping \$400 million for our O2O, Ocala-to-Osceola corridor.

Federal partners have also come into play. For example, these efforts expand

buffer lands around military bases such as Camp Blanding, vital to national security and our economy. Initiatives aimed at salt marshes and resiliency are aborning.

The toolkit has also been expanded. In addition to fee simple acquisition of lands, which then require ongoing management, efforts increasingly involve conservation easements that allow the landowner to retain ownership and traditional uses such as timber or farming while pocketing the value of development rights. Innovative developers, such as at Babcock Ranch and Framton, have discovered that blending conservation into their development plans for open space and recreation can actually increase the value of the lands actually developed. The majority of people in Florida living on golf courses are there for the open space, not the golf, and it is a cheaper alternative for the developer. Environmental

mitigation, though controversial to some, has allowed monetization of efforts to restore and enhance the environment.

In sum, We the People have stepped up to the plate. North Florida Land Trust has, for 24 years, led these efforts, helping establish and/or working with other regional and national partners in our region.

Landowners, it is now batter-up!

Without willing sellers, these massive efforts to create willing buyers will come to nothing. Some tools allow you to “cash out,” in farming terms, your development rights while staying in traditional uses and enjoying those income streams into the future. You are also often better stewards than the state would ever be, and that can be recognized. There are win/win alternatives.

My family has been in Florida for nine generations, which speaks to the heart of

who owns the land. You own it because you love it and often have for generations. You, like me, have seen it slipping away, now seeming to gallop away. Like me, you want our grandchildren to know the Real Florida while also making provision for them economically.

There are ways and means now to do this, and they will not be available forever. Some of us are old enough to know that big budgets can turn quickly into ‘sweep the trust funds’ when a recession inevitably arrives. North Florida Land Trust and your local land trust stand ready to help. The money is here. It is truly Now or Never. You know it in your heart.

Rev. Cn. Allison DeFoor is the President of the North Florida Land Trust. He served as Everglades Czar for Florida. His family has been in Florida since it belonged to Spain.

Marijuana

from page 4

of Section 101.161(1), Fla. Stat., and will present additional arguments through briefing at the appropriate time,” she wrote in May.

In Florida, marijuana use hasn’t been decriminalized, but medicinal use is allowed.

Moody cited a law requiring constitutional amendments to touch on just a single subject, and expressed doubt whether this one complies with all technical requirements of state law.

Smart and Safe Florida, behind the push for the citizens’ initiative, already has more than a million verified signatures, meeting the threshold needed for ballot inclusion should the Supreme Court back its position.

The committee has raised more than

\$39 million, almost entirely from Trulieve, the leading dispensary chain in the state in terms of number of storefronts.

Polling this Spring from Mason-Dixon suggests the amendment would have 50% support on the ballot, ensuring it falls short of ratification.

However, given that the vote would happen on a presidential General Election ballot, it’s all but assured that turnout will be juiced compared to that of most off-year election cycles, and anti-cannabis Republicans may suffer a backlash as a result.

(Jacob Ogles of Florida Politics contributed to this report.)

A.G. Gancarski has written for FloridaPolitics.com since 2014. He is based in Northeast Florida. He can be reached at AG@FloridaPolitics.com or on Twitter: @AGGancarski.

History

from page 4

merce’s fall membership drive reported more than 85 new members to the small business advocacy group.

- The sixth annual Knowledge, Information, Development and Support, or KIDS, conference was hosted at Orange Park Presbyterian Church.

40 years ago, 1983

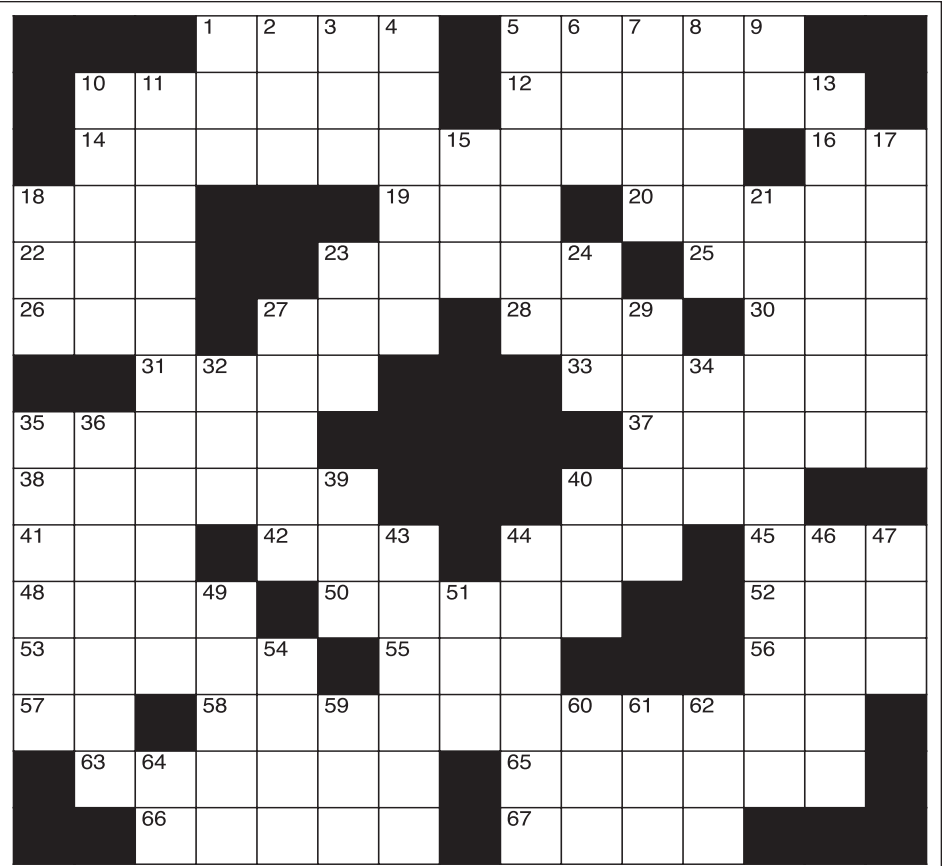
- Health Department Administrator Ed Stansel recommended a quarantine in the Doctors Lake area after two teens were exposed to a rabid bat. The teens received a rabies vaccine.
- An alleged stabbing in the parking lot of the Orange Park Mall left a Jacksonville with superficial knife wounds.
- A Middleburg couple was arrested and charged with what law enforcement characterized as a statewide check-cashing scam.

50 years ago, 1973

- The former Clay County Association for the Retarded welcomed its first staff member, Nancy Keating.
- Warwick Kenney submitted his letter of resignation to the Green Cove Springs Commission after more than 25 years of service during nine terms.
- A dive team from the Clay County Sheriff’s Office recovered the body of John Prebula from the St. Johns River after he apparently fell from the Shands Bridge Pier.

Correction

Due to a reporting error, Clay Today mistakenly reported the details of the Board of County Commissioner’s final fiscal year 2023-24 budget. The millage rate remained the same at 8.601, but with increased property values, revenues will increase by 12.03%.



- CLUES ACROSS

 - 1. Flat tableland with steep edges
 - 5. Byproduct of fire
 - 10. Talked
 - 12. Unique skill
 - 14. Unembarrassed
 - 16. Where teenagers go
 - 18. Boxing’s GOAT
 - 19. Used to anoint
 - 20. Reproductive structure found in rust fungi
 - 22. Auburn great Newton
 - 23. Some are for Christmas
 - 25. Dried, split pulses
 - 26. Self
 - 27. Where to get your mail
 - 28. High schoolers’ test
 - 30. Flightless bird
 - 31. Expectorated
 - 33. Practice of misrepresenting the truth
 - 35. Type of patch
 - 37. French river
 - 38. Told on
 - 40. Hillside
 - 41. Peyton’s little brother
 - 42. Soviet Socialist Republic
 - 44. Progressive country musician
 - 45. Witness
 - 48. Brews
- 50. Yellowish-brown
 - 52. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
 - 53. Mexican agave
 - 55. Type of “cast”
 - 56. Popular breakfast food
 - 57. Atomic #52
 - 58. Position north or south of the equator
 - 63. Gadget
 - 65. Another recording
 - 66. Irregular bulges in cell membranes
 - 67. Dark brown
- CLUES DOWN

 - 1. Licensed for Wall Street
 - 2. Partner to flow
 - 3. A very large body of water
 - 4. Accumulate on the surface of
 - 5. Central cores of stems
 - 6. Angry
 - 7. Spanish stew: __ podrida
 - 8. Fastened with a pin
 - 9. On your way: __ route
 - 10. Soviet labor camp system
 - 11. Enmities
 - 13. B complex vitamin
 - 15. Go quickly
 - 17. Toast
 - 18. A team’s best pitcher
- 21. Philly culinary specialty
 - 23. Small child
 - 24. Unhappy
 - 27. Trims away
 - 29. Full of tears
 - 32. Touch softly
 - 34. Former OSS
 - 35. A person’s chest
 - 36. Came from behind
 - 39. Fall back
 - 40. Nellie __, journalist
 - 43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
 - 44. Weather
 - 46. Sports broadcaster Ian
 - 47. Electroencephalograph
 - 49. Phenyl salicylate
 - 51. Web of Things
 - 54. Ship goods as cargo
 - 59. The bill in a restaurant
 - 60. Young female
 - 61. OJ trial judge
 - 62. One’s grandmother
 - 64. West Siberian river

City manager tells Lake Region Prosperity Partners of Keystone's 'strategic' growth

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – Residents seemed comforted during a Lake Region Prosperity Partners meeting on Thursday, Sept. 28, to know how the city is working ahead to manage growth.

City Manager Lynn Rutkowski said the Florida Department of Transportation and North Florida Regional Transportation Management Center is talking with the city about relieving congestion at State Roads 100 and 21.

At the same time, she said everything in the city has been mapped technologically so responsible departments can pinpoint and quickly resolve problems.

Rutkowski also said the city is reviewing plans to build a recreational park behind Hitchcock's Plaza and is studying the feasibility of a new municipal building.

"Traffic in Keystone Heights has increased, which is not bad," she said. "We're starting to plan on what we're going to do in the future. Keystone Heights is growing, and it's growing in a very strategic, very fantastic way.

"We're looking at new innovations to bring businesses in to support our town atmosphere. Keystone Heights has a heart and soul, a very love-your-neighbor, love-your-community atmosphere. We can never lose that. So all the things that we do are very strategic and cute."

Residents have long been critical of the main intersection in town. Traffic headed north on SR 21 is often delayed by three or four light changes at SR 100. An aban-

doned Asian restaurant is also a blight and restricts drivers' vision to the east on SR 100.

Rutkowski told members the city has gained attention nationally and internationally for its progress in becoming a "smart city." Engineers with Manzan Consulting have mapped every inch of the city, compiling locations of every tree, building and garbage can that can be monitored electronically.

"That way, we can work smarter, not harder," she said.

Publications from as far away as Venice, Italy, and Seattle, and as close as Washington, D.C., Tampa and Miami have studied the benefits of using sensors, not human resources, to monitor the city.

"That's been our goal for the past three years in the city," Rutkowski said. "How can we keep our taxes, keep our millage rate where it's at, and not have to charge additional taxes and offer the services and keep up with the demand, keep up with the cost of living and the increased costs across the board? So we've been working with this. I'm proud to say Keystone Heights is the leading edge with this technology."

Keystone Heights will also be recognized for its smart city initiatives at this month's Northeast Florida League of Cities meeting.

"We've been busy for the past couple of weeks to question the visuals or capturing all of our vertical assets," Rutkowski said. "We're putting a two-dimensional digital twin to see more issues, our areas of concern, instead of deploying individuals to

ride the streets now."

The North Florida Transportation Planning Organization awarded the smart city grant.

Clay County Utilities Authority, St. Johns River Water Management District and Clay Electric Cooperative also are part of the smart city program.

Rutkowski finished by members that the city is exploring ways to replace its dilapidated town hall and building Sunrise Park behind Hitchcock's Plaza on SR 100.

The proposal includes replacing the town hall "because we can't patch the roof anymore. When you come in, you have to flip the light switch on three or four times until they turn on, and even then, only half are working."

She said the city wants to build a sports complex with two batting cages, two tennis courts that can also be converted into four pickleball courts and at least one basketball court.

Rutkowski said that the city still has about \$400,000 left over from American Rescue Plan funds that would be used toward the complex.

"So everything you need will be in one spot," she said.

To consolidate services, Keystone Heights hopes to find partners like the tax collectors and sheriff's offices to offset the costs of a new municipal headquarters. The city council and staff are exploring an expansion behind the town hall that would remove the old tennis and basketball courts.

"You can live here; you can work here," Rutkowski said. "You can shop here and be



STAFF PHOTO BY DON COBLE

Keystone Heights City Manager Lynn Rutkowski told Lake Region Prosperity Partners members how the city is completing a project to strategically monitor growth. The city has been on the world stage as publications in the United States and Italy with its 'work smarter, not harder' technology.

entertained here because this is the best place in Florida."

The Clay Chamber hosts the Lake Region Prosperities Partners meeting on the last Thursday of each month at the Keystone Beach Pavillion.

Letter to the Editor

Please consider volunteering, getting pets from rescue facilities

One-third of all dogs and cats in the United States are reported missing in their lifetime. When these animals get lost, they are often taken to vets and checked for a microchip. The pet could be surrendered to a

nearby rescue facility without a microchip.

This letter is about acknowledging the rescuers in our local area who help pets in need every day. I don't believe that rescue organizations get the recognition and donations they deserve.

Many animals in need of a caring home have been lost or rehomed. Animals such as dogs and cats have been a welcome ad-

dition to homes. With the increase in visibility and donations to rescues, more pets can go to loving homes. That will have lasting benefits on the care rescue organizations can give the pets.

I believe if more people would volunteer at animal shelters and donate to their causes, it would ultimately help pets in need. Some shelters cannot keep up with all the animals in their care.

I think people should also adopt shelter animals that are right for them. Animals

that are surrendered are usually mixed breeds, and mixed breeds are normally healthier than the pets that are bred.

In conclusion, donate, volunteer, or adopt at a shelter or rescue because animals deserve loving and happy homes.

**Keighley Archer
Orange Park**

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Obituaries claytodayonline.com

August (Augie) Anthony Chasey

August (Augie) Anthony Chasey, (82) of Orange Park, FL passed away peacefully on September 26th, 2023. Augie was born on August 9th, 1941, in Pittsburgh, PA to Angela (Palmieri) Chasey and August Chasey.



He graduated from Penn Hills High School in Penn Hills, PA in 1959 and received his bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Florida in 1963. He then received his commission in the United States Navy and became a Naval Flight Officer, serving in the Vietnam Conflict and later retiring from the Navy as a Lieutenant Commander in 1984. He was a devout Christian and a lifelong student of scripture, and attended New Beginnings church in Orange Park, FL.



August (Augie) Anthony Chasey

Augie was a compassionate, kind, and peaceful man who was always ready to lend a hand to anyone in need. A cheerful demeanor and youthful sense of humor were his hallmark traits that he will forever be remembered for.

Augie was a loving husband, father, brother, son, grandfather, and uncle and will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved him. He is preceded by his wife of fifty-seven years, Virginia (Ginny) Chasey, his mother, Angela (Palmieri) Chasey,

and his father, August Chasey. He is survived by his children, Susan (William) May of Jacksonville, FL, Allen Chasey of Peachtree City, GA, Sally (Mark) Pierce of Senoia, GA; grandchildren Kate, Erin, and Lindsay Chasey, Sarah and Brian Pierce; his brother, John (Joanne) Chasey; nieces Jennifer (Jason) Hertzell and Janie (Mark) Scadina.

Augie will be laid to rest in a private ceremony on Tuesday, October 10th, 2023 in the Jacksonville National Cemetery with full military honors. At 2pm that afternoon, a celebration in honor of his life will be held at New Beginnings church in Orange Park, FL.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Augie's honor to Seamark Ranch in Green Cove Springs, FL. The organization honors him well as he was a lifelong advocate of being in the service of others.

Brenda Ruth (Herbert) Coon

Brenda Ruth (Herbert) Coon, 70, of Green Cove Springs, passed from this life on Saturday, September 30, 2023 at her home following an extended illness.

She was born at Glendale Hospital in Palatka, FL, on December 1, 1952, to Franklin D. "Don" (Sr.) and Ruth A. Herbert. The family included her two younger brothers, Franklin (Jr.) and Walt Herbert.

Brenda graduated from Watkins Private School, Green Cove Springs, FL, in 1969.

On May 5, 1972 Brenda and Jack Coon were married. They shared their lives together in Green Cove Springs expanding their family with two sons: Thomas A. "Andy" and William R. "Randy" Coon.

Family was a priority for Brenda and Jack.

Brenda loved going to concerts, working in her yard, and going fishing. She was also eager to race go carts and ride (race) 3-wheelers. No matter what she was doing, she always looked her very best!

She also was an active member of their church, teaching Sunday school and being the church's secretary/treasurer.

Brenda had a long and successful career, retiring from Clay County Clerks Office. Brenda also worked part time for Challenge Enterprises as a caregiver for disabled adults. In addition, Brenda served as the treasurer for Clay County Cattlemen Association.

Brenda is survived by her loving husband of 51 years, Jack of Green Cove Springs, FL and her eldest son Thomas "Andy" (Mimsi) Coon of Florala, AL, brothers: Franklin Jr. (MaryKay) and Walt (Melissa), grandchildren: Brienna Paige Coon (Marcus Latham), Kier Constantino and Antonio "Toni" Constantino along with 4



Brenda Ruth (Herbert) Coon

great grandchildren, brother-in-law Gene (Joyce), sisters-in-law Martha Rebecca (Al) Spain, Delores (Ron) Chipman and many nieces and nephews.

Brenda was preceded in death by her parents: Franklin D. "Don" (Sr.) and Ruth A. (Brown) Herbert, and her son, William R. "Randy" Coon, brother- and sister-in-law Jerry and Diane Coon, and brother-in-law William T. "Tom" Coon, father- and mother-in-law Zack and Alena Coon.

Services celebrating Brenda's life will be at 11 a.m. Friday, October 6, 2023 at Johnson-Overturf Chapel in Palatka with Bro. Ricky Bybee officiating. Burial will follow at DeCoy Cemetery in Clay County. No public visitation is scheduled.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests any donation to Alzheimer's Research would be appreciated.

Memories and condolences may be expressed to the family at Brenda's Book of Memories page at www.johnsonoverturf-funerals.com.

Arrangements are entrusted to Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home in Palatka.



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Community Briefs claytodayonline.com

County needs suggestions on its Gateway to Clay project

CLAY COUNTY – Residents living on or near Wells Road are encouraged to complete a survey to share ideas for the Gateway to Clay initiative.

The project is a partnership between public safety, government and businesses to improve Wells Road.

The survey is available at claycounty.gov/community/gateway-to-clay.

Residents to vote on entry road name at Regional Sports Complex

MIDDLEBURG – The Clay County Board of County Commissioners wants the community to vote on potential names for the entry road of the new Clay County Regional Sports Complex. You can find the survey at forms.office.com/g/N6dxX8Xm5q.

The five names under consideration are Championship, Sportsmanship, Tourna-

PICK THE NAME FOR THE ROAD TO THE NEW REGIONAL SPORTS COMPLEX

- Championship
- Sportsmanship
- Tournament
- Trophy
- Victory

You can cast your vote for your pick or submit your own at <https://bit.ly/3i78mNB>. The deadline is October 9, 2023.

ment, Trophy and Victory. Residents can also submit their own options for consideration.

The complex is under construction, and crews have built a new road to access it. The 250-acre property is on State Road 21, just north of State Road 16. The designs include multipurpose fields, parking, restrooms and a walking trail. The park will be completed this year and will

SEE BRIEFS, XX

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Clay County gets \$48,469 grant from Justice Department

Money will buy 14 new cameras for Community Connect Program

For Clay Today

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The U.S. Justice Department announced it has awarded more than \$4.4 billion to support state, local and Tribal public safety and community justice activities.

More than \$36.6 million was awarded to entities in the Middle District of Florida, including \$48,469 to Clay County for its Community Connect Program and to expand the operation of the Real Time Crime Center.

The grants from the Department's Office of Justice Programs will help build community capacity to curb violence, serve victims and youth, and achieve fair outcomes through evidence-based criminal and juvenile justice strategies.

The money will allow for the deployment of 14 additional cameras in the county to help reduce crime and become a force multiplier in fighting crime.

According to the Justice Department, Clay Community Connect will continue to interface with communications, operations, intelligence, special operations and community affairs for strategic operations.



"Everyone in this country deserves to be safe in their communities," said Attorney General Merrick B. Garland. "That is why, in addition to continuing our efforts to identify and prosecute the most violent criminals, the Justice Department is putting every available resource to work to support the efforts of our law enforcement and community partners nationwide. This significant investment will go directly to state and local programs that support the victims of crime, support officer safety and wellness, build the public trust in law enforcement essential to public safety, and help make all of our communities safer."

"Improving the safety of our communities requires a comprehensive approach and commitment by those working on the front lines," said U.S. Attorney Roger B. Handberg. "The funding announced today

will greatly support those working tirelessly to help keep our citizens safe daily."

The more than \$36.6 million in grant funding awarded this fiscal year in the Middle District of Florida will support state, local, and community-based efforts and evidence-based interventions that reduce violence, crime, and recidivism while delivering treatment and services to those at-risk of justice system involvement. Funding will expand partnerships between criminal justice professionals and behavioral health experts, help people safely and successfully transition from confinement back to their communities, reach crime victims in underserved areas, steer young people away from justice system contact, improve the management of sex offenders, and support a wide range of research and statistical activities that will help justice system professionals meet community safety challenges.

"Across the country, the Justice Department is working side-by-side with our partners in state and local law enforcement to combat violent crime by using our federal resources to amplify their work on the front lines," said Deputy Attorney General Lisa O. Monaco. "The billions of dollars in grants announced today will augment those efforts and the tools law enforcement uses to curb violence, counter

deadly drug abuse, and promote safety and public trust. Together with our state and local partners, the Department will continue doing everything possible to protect the communities we all serve."

"The Department of Justice is investing in community-based approaches to violence prevention, law enforcement health and wellness, Tribal courts, improved services for victims, research and data collection efforts, reentry programs, and much more," said Associate Attorney General Vanita Gupta.

"The grants announced today further our commitment to working with our state, Tribal, and local partners to increase public safety, build police-community trust, and ensure safe, healthy, and just communities for all."

"Every sector of our society – not only the justice system, but nonprofit and faith-based groups, local leaders, and advocates, and people with lived experience who serve as credible messengers – plays a critical role in ensuring public safety and public health," said OJP Assistant Attorney General Amy L. Solomon. "The Office of Justice Programs is proud to make these substantial investments in building community infrastructure and supporting communities as co-producers of safety and justice."

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Jacksonville Artists Guild featured at Art in the Courthouse

PHOTOS BY CLERK OF COURTS

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – For the first time in the two-year history of the Art in the Courthouse program, the Clerk of County Courts and Comptroller will have an exhibit from the Jacksonville Artists Guild.

The exhibit will be on display at the Clay County Courthouse gallery on the fourth floor.

The artwork will be displayed through Nov. 2 during business hours and include beautiful paintings and 3-D creations from their new “Where We Live” exhibit. You might even recognize a few locations depicted in their paintings.

Art in the Courthouse was created in partnership with local art groups, schools, county, civic groups and judiciary.

Displays are on view for one to two months. Collections are curated by the invited group and are displayed at the discretion of the clerk’s office and Chief Administrative Judge.

For more information about the exhibit visit jacksonvilleartistsguild.org.



Orange Park Hospital celebrates NICU graduates

For Clay Today

ORANGE PARK – HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital hosted its annual NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) Reunion, an event where the hospital’s littlest survivors joined to celebrate life and reunite with caregivers. NICU clinicians looked forward to this event all year in anticipation of reuniting with the patients they cared for during their first days of life.



The day was filled with activities for the children, including fire truck tours, face painting, games, storytelling, and a NICU room exploration station for the children to see the tiny diapers, bottles and equipment needed to care for them in the NICU. The children and staff wore their favorite superhero costumes to honor the event’s theme – NICU graduates are superheroes.

specialized care in the NICU – a nursery that provides around-the-clock care to sick or pre-term babies. As the only Level II NICU in Clay County, Orange Park Hospital provides health services for babies born as early as 32 weeks or 1,250 grams and babies born with critical illness at all gestational ages. A stay in the NICU can be caused by various reasons, including prematurity, respiratory distress, infection, low blood sugar and other conditions affecting the mother and newborn.

“This is absolutely my favorite day of the year. We love getting a chance to check in with all of the families and hear how everyone is doing,” said Suzanne Jones, Director of Women and Children’s Services at HCA. “The event brings so much joy to our staff and allows families to connect with others in the area that share a similar experience.”

“We have families that come back year after year for this reunion, and we are so thankful to celebrate the outstanding care that our NICU team provides to families in our community,” said Jones. It will be the hospital’s seventh year hosting the event.

Orange Park Hospital offers highly

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◆ **BBQ Delights:** Indulge in mouthwatering BBQ dinners for just \$10.

◆ **Raise a Toast:** Visit the cash bar and sip on the exclusive “Howl at the Moon” featured drink, served in a limited edition commemorative event cup.

◆ **Groove to the Beat:** Enjoy the electrifying tunes of a live band

◆ **Event Tees:** Grab your exclusive event t-shirts, available for purchase starting Labor Day weekend at the River House. Cash only, so you can wear your support loud and proud!

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Sheriff's Office, community unite for National Night Out



STAFF PHOTOS BY DON COBLE

DOCTORS INLET – The decision by the Clay County Sheriff’s Office to move its National Night Out event to October proved beneficial as milder temperatures attracted hundreds of families at 13 different locations last Tuesday. The national initiative is a community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships. It’s routinely held on the first Tuesday of August, but the sheriff’s office moved its program to October to avoid the excessive summer heat. The Green Cove Springs Police Department moved its event into the Thomas Hogan Gym in August. Families met deputies and fire rescue members at several locations, including Doctors Inlet Reserve. Children were allowed to explore squad cars and fire trucks. To schedule an appearance for next year’s event, visit claysheriff.com.

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Whiteys

from page 1

of management., Whitey's will celebrate its 60th anniversary on Saturday, Oct. 7.

Many employees have been delivering plates of shrimp, gator tail bites and glasses of beer for more than 20 years. To them, Whitey's is family.

"I lost four people in my family last year, and they helped me with the funeral arrangements," said Michelle Shearin, who's spent the last 17 years there as a server. "They delivered food. They treated me like family. Everyone looks out for each other up here."

When Assistant Manager Kelly B. needed three major surgeries, the sibling owners said owners Elaine Cassala, Luke and Greg Lawley plus and Billy Ham ensured her position would be waiting for her after a full recovery, said she needed "three major surgeries" recently, and the brothers and sister who make up the ownership group held her position until she recovered.

"That's why I've been here so long," she said. "Whitey's will always be a staple in the community. It's amazing how many people bring their families here. We've served adults, and they started bringing their children. Now we're serving their grandchildren."

From the beginning

Whitey and Ann Ham opened a fish camp in 1963 while he was in the Navy. It consisted of a tackle shop, a nine-seat bar, soft drinks, beer, a toaster oven and sandwiches.

Originally, Whitey had difficulty catching fish during the first winter months. According to his daughter, Cassala, he finally found success running the fishing lines deeper in the cold waters of The fish's metabolism slow on Swimming Pen Creek, Doctors Lake and the St. Johns River during the winter months, so Whitey ran deeper catfish lines, according to his daughter,



STAFF PHOTOS BY DON COBLE
Servers and managers Alex Ham, Michelle Shearin, Kelly B, Robert Kelley and Amy McClain represent more than 110 years of customer service experience at Whitey's Fish Camp. The iconic restaurant will turn 60 this weekend and they said it's a second home to guests and employees.

Cassala..
"There was no money in the winter because the fish didn't bite," she said. "He ran catfish lines, and soon they had to figure out what to do with all those fish. My mom said, 'Why don't we cook these up (and sell them)?' That's how it all started."

One of the first faithful customers 50 years ago was Ronnie Van Zant, . Oa founderne of the founders of Lynyrd Sky-

nyrd. He often sat in the same seat and feasted on catfish 50 years ago."

A fire in the kitchen on March 30, 200220, destroyed the kitchen and restaurant. It re-opened 11 months later. During reconstruction, the brothers and sister worked in the bait shop.

It now has an inside and outside bar area and plus two tiki bars. There's also a Captain's Room that seats 40, beach seat-

ing for 100, a private section that can accommodate 40, the upper tiki deck for more than 50, another tiki area for 40 and a dining deck.

On most nights, especially the weekends, the outside areas fill quickly – especially since with some some patrons arriving by boat to the pier to dock and dine. t and moor their vessels at the restaurant's dock. "It's insane we've been here this long," Cassala said. "The key is to serve good food. We've had the same customers here for a long time. And we have a good management team. Our parents started it. We're carrying the tradition."

When the COVID-19 pandemic forced restaurants to close or reduce their services, Whitey's reported record sales the first week after the front doors were locked.

Manager Danielle Lawley said traffic from boaters kept the bar and kitchen busy.

"We kept getting paid," Kelly B said. "They helped as much as they could. The boat traffic was incredible. We stayed busy, even during the shutdown."

'Old soldiers' meet at Whitey's every day

One regular customer, Jerry Sorrells, aged is 72, and he's spent half his life as a regular customer. He sits in front of the bait shop during the day, and joins his

SEE WHITEYS, 15



Jerry Sorrells has been a regular customer for more than 30 years at Whitey's Fish Camp. He said a group of men called "old soldiers" meet every afternoon for a beer. Sorrells spends much of the day in front of the fish camp's bait and tackle shop.

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Orange Park man arrested in ‘Piegeon Drop’ scam

Sheriff’s Office looking for possible additional victims

For Clay Today

CLAY COUNTY – A suspect is facing charges concerning a “pigeon drop” scam investigation in Prince George’s County, Maryland.

William Coleman, 51, of Orange Park, was charged with scamming victims by asking for money or collateral to share a larger sum of money.

Coleman was arrested Tuesday in Orange County.

There have been nine pigeon drop scams reported in the county in 2023. Coleman has been charged in connection with of the two cases.

In one case, he and his accomplice(s) successfully stole thousands of dollars from their victim. In the second case, the victim ultimately did not lose any money. In both incidents, the victims are females and senior citizens. The successful scam occurred on June 8 in District Heights, Maryland. The attempted theft occurred on June 1 in Mitchellville, Maryland.

Following an extensive investigation into these two incidents, PGPD detectives



William Coleman

identified Coleman as a suspect. At the time of his arrest on Tuesday, and through subsequent search warrants, PGPD Financial Crimes detectives recovered multiple pieces of evidence indicative of these scams, including more than \$100,000 in counterfeit cash recovered by the Clay County Sheriff’s Office at his Orange Park home.

Pigeon drop scammers often carry notes or fake letters from non-existent law firms confirming the receipt of a large amount of money from either a settlement or inheritance. A similar letter was recovered inside of Coleman’s car. Deputies also found a newspaper wrapped in a bandana. In many pigeon drop scams, scammers use bandanas to wrap the money a victim withdraws from their bank. Scammers then swap out the money for bundled newspapers unbeknownst to the victims.

“These crimes target some of the most vulnerable in our community. I want residents in Prince George’s County to know our detectives work relentlessly to identify and arrest suspects in these scams. Regarding Coleman, we do not believe he acted alone and that he worked with accomplices. Detectives are looking into whether he is linked to similar crimes along the East Coast. We sincerely thank our law enforcement partners in Florida for assisting us with this



The Orange County Sheriff’s Office revealed some counterfeit money from a scam known as “Piegeon Drop.”

significant arrest,” said Chief Malik Aziz, Prince George’s County Police Department.

“I commend the coordinated efforts of Financial Crimes Investigators from the Clay County Sheriff’s Office and Investigators from the Prince George’s County Police Department.

The team worked seamlessly to execute a warrant, demonstrating exceptional teamwork. Such crimes occur all too frequently and are predatory in nature, making this arrest a significant success. Thanks to the arrest, law enforcement has prevented further losses to potential victims and put another scammer behind bars. Through the collective efforts of law enforcement, we

have effectively put an end to this scammer’s ability to target innocent people, whether in Clay County or elsewhere,” said CCSO Sheriff Michelle Cook.

Coleman remains in custody in Florida pending extradition to Prince George’s County. Law enforcement agencies remind residents to never give money or financial information to anyone you just met in person, online or on the phone. If something seems too good to be true, it usually is.

If you have any information or believe you may have been a victim of Coleman, please contact investigators from the CCSO Financial Crimes Unit or PGPD in Maryland.



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Briefs

from page 8

be an asset to bring the county's families outdoors and young people on the field. It would also be a tourism draw, marketable to regional tournaments.

The county received \$3 million in legislative matching funds for the complex's development and construction in fiscal year 2021. The county received \$1 million in legislative appropriations this year and an additional \$1.5 million for turn lanes to the park.

Voting will end on Oct. 9.

Senior Games returning to Jacksonville for 10 days

JACKSONVILLE – Senior athletes are invited to register for the Jacksonville Senior Games from Sept. 29 to Oct. 8.

Seasoned athletes 50 and older can compete in an Olympic-style event with competitive and novice classes.

The Florida Sports Foundation sanctions the games and is a qualifier for the Florida Senior Games State Championships.

Being healthy and active is not only important for physical and mental well-being. This is why the Forever Fit 50 and Beyond: Jacksonville Senior Games offers non-physical games and activities and plenty of social events that allow our participants to renew friendships, create new ones, and share experiences. In the spirit of good sportsmanship, anything is possible.

Events include 5K road race, powerlifting (bench press and deadlift), 5K and 10K cycling, singles and doubles table tennis, singles and doubles bowling, bridge, basketball free throws and spot shots, swimming, singles and doubles tennis, golf, Chinese Mah Jong and singles and doubles pickleball.

Age groups are 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, 85-89 and 90 and older.

For more information about the 2022 Forever Fit 50 and Beyond: Jacksonville Senior Games, call (904) 255-5667 or email adultsvcs@coj.net.

41st Orange Park Town Hall Fall Festival October 21-22

ORANGE PARK – The Fall Festival will return to Orange Park Town Council Park on Oct. 21 and 22.

Opening ceremonies will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday, followed by music, food, crafts, vendors, children's activities and live entertainment.

Admission is free.

With thousands expected, parking will be available at Moosehaven, and a free shuttle will be provided. There are limited handicapped parking spaces at the town's police department on Smith Street.

For more information, visit opfallfestival.com or email Emily Dockery at edockery@townop.com.

'Laughter is the Best Medicine' Ha-Has for Ta-Tas show Oct. 28

ORANGE PARK – The Pink Ribbon Symposium will present its HaHas for Ta-Tas comedy event on Oct. 28 at 10 a.m. at the Springs Church, 900 Park Ave.

The event will feature comedians Foxy Hamm and Bobby Parker, with Charlie Ed-dins serving as MC. A fee of \$5 will help support the nonprofit group dedicated to beating breast cancer.

To register, visit pinkribbonsymposium.org.

Pentecostals of Orange Park to celebrate 25th anniversary

ORANGE PARK – The Pentecostals of Orange Park will celebrate its 25th anniversary during the weekend of Nov. 3.

The church is located at 530 Madeira Dr.

For more information, visit tpcoc.org.

Residents encouraged to support Wreaths Across America

CLAY COUNTY – The National Wreaths Across America Day will be held on Saturday, Dec. 16. Join the more than two million volunteers and supporters who will gather to Remember, Honor and Teach at more than 4,000 participating locations in all 50 states, at sea and abroad.

The event will include three locations in Clay County – Magnolia Cemetery, 1040 Kingsley Ave. in Orange Park at 9:30 a.m.; Keystone Heights Memorial Gardens, 7304 State Road 100 at noon; and Hardage-Giddens Holly Hill Memorial Park, 3601 Old Jennings Road in Middleburg at noon.

Sponsor a veteran's wreath in honor of or in memory of a loved one who served in the armed forces. Or, sponsor and allow the group to designate a recipient among the millions of heroes who rest in honored glory. To sponsor a wreath, visit wreath-sacrossamerica.com.

Volunteer with the organization as they honor our veterans throughout the year. There are many ways to get involved, from laying wreaths locally to leading a sponsorship group or coordinating a ceremony location.

Invite your network of friends, family, coworkers and organizations to join us as we strive to honor every veteran. As our mission's scope grows, so does the need for support.

Swine and Dine Derby leaving starting gate on Oct. 21

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Mark your calendar for an afternoon of food, music and pig races on Oct. 21 at the Swine and Dine Derby at the Clay County Fairgrounds.

The event is sponsored by the Rotary

Clubs of Green Cove Springs and Fleming Island, and it includes admission, dinner, soft drink, pig races and entertainment. Beer and wine will be available for sale for \$5. All money benefits the organization's scholarship fund.

The band 5 Good Years will play. There also will be a derby hat contest, petting zoo, 50/50 raffle and games and activities for children. The first pig race at 5 p.m. supports The Way Free Clinic and Clay County Dental Care. Race No. 2 is at 6 p.m. and benefits college scholarships for Clay County students.

The third race at 7 p.m. will go to the Rotarians for Development of Youth programs. Advance tickets are \$35 for adults and \$12 for children until Oct. 16. They are available at ipswebdesign.wufoo.com. Tickets are \$40 for adults and \$12 for children at the gate.

Outdoor Adventure Vendor Show coming on Oct. 21

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The Rotary Club of Northeast Florida will offer its Outdoor Adventure Vendor Show on Oct. 21 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Clay County Shrine Club, 2471 Russell Road.

The event will include more than 50 indoor and outdoor vendors and the Shrine Club will be selling food.

Orange Park Hospital welcomes Dr. Irene Moridi to staff

ORANGE PARK – HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital is excited to announce distinguished physician and accomplished researcher Dr. Irene Moridi, will serve as the newest OB/GYN physician for HCA Florida Orange Park Women's Health.

Moridi is from Washington, D.C. where she most recently served as Clinical Instructor for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology with Howard University Hospital.



Irene Moridi

She earned her medical degree with high distinction from Birjand University

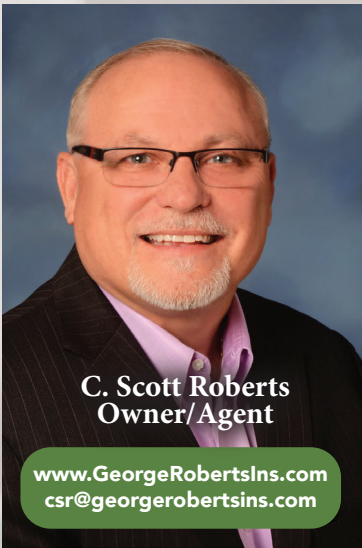
and pursued a post-doctoral fellowship at Yale, further advancing her expertise in reproductive medicine.

She has researched several fertility-related topics, including improving treatments for patients with endometriosis, PCOS, fibroids and ovarian aging.

"My ultimate goal is to empower my patients, promote reproductive health, and contribute to a future where everyone has equal opportunities for a healthy and fulfilling journey. I firmly believe in the power of education, research, and advocacy to create positive change in reproductive medicine," Moridi said.

She will work with Dr. Nikki Rowan, Dr. Bradley Corbin and Dr. Sook Marino to provide comprehensive women's care services, including annual wellness visits, contraception management and pregnancy care.

To make an appointment or referral, please call (904) 830-3290.




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Whiteys

from page 12

buddies in the afternoons for a beer.

It's the the beloved only routine he's cherished for half of his lifeknown for years.

"This is the meeting place for all my friends," he said. "On Fridays, there's usually about 40 of us. We play cards and have a few beers."

It's also where Sorrells has said goodbye to many of his friends.

"I bet I've lost 25 friends from up here," Sorrells said. "When it's your friends, it takes something out of you."

Sorrells said many longtime customers are cremated and have their ashes interred off one of Whitey's docks into the Swimming Pen Creek.

"This place is more than home," Sorrells said. "It's special."

The restaurant is filled with memorabilia and artifacts from several Southern Rock bands. Lynyrd Skynyrd, 38 Special and Molly Hatchet – all bands with Clay County residents – are prominently displayed.

"I can't tell you how many people come up here to tour the place," Cassala said. "It's crazy."

The celebration

Saturday's bash will be a flashback to 1963. In addition to glow disco, balloon drop, tie-dying station, antique cars and prizes, the band Nickoloff will hit the stage at 8 p.m.

Actually, the party started Thursday night when Johnny Van Zant and Rickey Medlocke appeared for the Florida launch of their new Hell House Whiskey. They signed more than 550 bottles of the hooch that memorializes the place where Sky-



Whitey's Fish Camp has become the epicenter of the Southern Rock movement. The interior, particularly around the bar, is filled with displays and memorabilia from Southern legends like Lynyrd Skynyrd, 39 Special, Van Zant, The Curt Towne Band, Molly Hatchet, Allman Brothers Band and The Allman Betts Band.



nyrd wrote most of their early hits more than 50 years ago in Green Cove Springs.

On Friday, the band Big Engine performed. The Jacksonville band has appeared with Motorhead, Bret Michaels, Vince Neil, Charlie Daniels, 38 Special, Ted Nugent, Jackyl, Great White and Black Stone Cherry.

"It's going to be a busy, busy week," said assistant manager Amy McClain, who's been at Whitey's for 21 years. "And we just found out the boat parade will be back, too."

The parade in 2020 filled the creek and spilled well onto Doctors Lake. More importantly, it raised \$20,855 for the Safe Animal Shelter.

This year's parade will feature boats with Christmas-themed lights on Dec. 9.

In addition to the restaurant and bait shop, Whitey's has 40 campsites for recreational vehicles.

Better yet, the site is less than 50 yards from the front doors of the restaurant and bar.

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State Farm launches fire prevention program

NFPA: Nearly half of all home fires start in kitchen

For Clay Today

CLAY COUNTY – According to the National Fire Protection Association, cooking is the leading cause of home fires, with nearly half (49%) of all home fires involving cooking equipment; cooking is also the leading cause of home fire injuries (42%) and 20% of reported home fire deaths.

State Farm and the NFPA have teamed up to promote this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Cooking Safety Starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention," through Oct. 15, to educate everyone about simple but important steps they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

State Farm agents throughout the county are donating more than 4,500 "Cooking Safety Starts with YOU" and "Sparky the Fire Dog" fire safety kits to fire departments and elementary schools. In Florida alone,

500 fire kits have been donated by State Farm agents.

"This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign works to highlight when and where cooking fires happen most often, along with simple ways to minimize those risks," said Lorraine Carli, National Fire Protection Association Vice President of Outreach and Advocacy.

Florida Fire Departments and local State Farm Agents encourage residents to cook cautiously. Everyone needs to make fire prevention an important part of their overall home safety plan. This also is a good time of year to check your smoke alarms are functioning.

Here are some valuable cooking safety tips through this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign:

- Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove to prevent spills and burns.
- Always keep a lid nearby when cook-



ing on the stove. If a small fire starts, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner.

- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, boiling, grilling or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for a short time, turn off the stove.

- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.

Keep kids and pets three feet from the stove/oven where hot foods and liquids are served.

- Watch what you heat. Set a timer to remind you that you are cooking.

- Keep anything that can catch fire – oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains – away from your stovetop.

- Be alert. If you are tired or have consumed alcohol, don't use the stove/oven.

For more information about Fire Prevention Week and this year's theme, "Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay Attention to Fire Prevention," visit fpw.org.

To download free "Sparky the Fire Dog" educational resources such as videos, games and fire safety lesson plans for elementary school students, visit sparky.org/.

SJR State hosting Fall Frenzy event for financial aid

ORANGE PARK – St. Johns River State College will present "FASFA Frenzy" at its Orange Park campus on Oct. 17. The event will provide information to families interested in applying for college financial aid.

Fall Frenzy will provide qualified students with the information necessary to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, which

is the first and most important step in applying for financial aid. To apply for federal student aid, such as federal grants, work-study and loans, students are required to complete the FAFSA form. Potential students can base their financial information on the previous year's tax return. Those intending to enroll in college during the 2024-25 academic year are encouraged to complete the form when available in December. The event will be in the D Building from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.. The final session will start at 7:30 p.m. Filling out the FAFSA doesn't obligate students to a particular career track or college.



The Nutcracker to take stage

For Clay Today

ORANGE PARK – The Florida Ballet's annual presentation of "The Nutcracker" will be sure to thrill audiences of all ages. Whether you're seeing it again or for the first time, this holiday classic will capture your imagination and transport you to a magical world of swirling snowflakes, waltzing flowers and dancing bonbons.

The classic holiday show will be performed three times in two days at the Thrasher-Horne Center. Shows are scheduled for noon and 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 9 and at 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 10.

From the captivating dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy to the iconic snow scene, this enchanting ballet – set to the beloved music of Tchaikovsky – continues to be a tradition with family and friends.

Create an annual holiday tradition with family and friends and make memories to cherish for years to come. Featuring The Florida Ballet's professional Company and over 100 local student dancers, The Florida Ballet's Nutcracker will surely delight audience members of all ages.

Tickets for the noon show on Dec. 9 start at \$10. Tickets for the 4:30 p.m.

shows start at \$28. They are available at the box office at 283 College Dr. or at thcenter.org.

"Nutcracker in a Nutshell" is a sweet, abbreviated performance designed to introduce young children to ballet as a performance art. This 50-minute performance will feature Act 1 of the production, including the opening party scene, the battle with soldiers and rats, a growing tree, and beautiful swirling snowflakes. The performance provides a fun-filled opportunity for families with younger children who may not enjoy the full-length, two-hour performance. Grammy award winner

Aaron Lewis, St. Michael's Soldiers Rock the Box 3 to honor heroes

ORANGE PARK – St. Michael's Soldiers presents Rock the Box 3, a Free Night of Music for our Heroes, on Oct. 7 at 7:30 p.m. A maximum of two free tickets are available for troops and veterans, hospital and front-line Workers, first responders, teachers and linemen. For tickets, visit thcenter.org.my.salesforce-sites.com.

The night of music will include Joshua Henry and Aaron Lewis.

You must submit ticket requests and receive tickets for entry; free tickets will

not be available at the show. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please purchase tickets if you want to pick out a seat location or guarantee a seat. If you are interested in buying tickets starting at \$89, visit thcenter.org.

St. Michael's Soldiers is dedicated to the support of the deployed men and women of the U.S. Military.

Grand Funk bringing 'We're An American Band' tour to town

ORANGE PARK – Multi-platinum-selling iconic group GRAND FUNK RAILROAD announced tour dates to their highly anticipated upcoming 'The American Band Tour,' in honor of the 50th anniversary of their 1973 "We're An American Band" platinum-selling single and album.

One of those stops will be at the Thrasher-Horne Center on Feb. 10 at 7:30 p.m. For tickets, which start at \$39, visit the box office or thcenter.org.

One of rock's most definitive anthems, founding member Don Brewer (vocals and drums) was the soul writer and vocalist on "We're An American Band," which went all the way to No. 1 on the Billboard "Hot 100" chart on Sept. 29, 1973. "We're An American Band" came to me when we were flying to town on its "Phoenix Tour" in 1972," said Brewer of writing the song.

"We were being sued by our former manager, Terry Knight, and he was trying to stop us from performing. The line, 'We're comin' to your town, we'll help you party it down,' came to me first, and I wrote the song around that line, taking snippets of things going on during the tour at that time - like staying up all night with Freddy King playing poker, four young chiquitas in Omaha, sweet, sweet Connie in Little Rock, and, finally, the declaration, 'We're An American Band,' because it sounds great and sings well. I feel lucky and blessed every time we play it live."

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A day after County Commissioners Mike Cella and Betsy Condon joined the ribbon-cutting festivities for the new Clay County Outdoor Adventure Park, and they returned the next day to check out the 158-acre facility that includes a 20-lane gun range.



Fire

from page 1

The range will be open to the public on Saturday, Oct. 7, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The hours soon will be extended to include Fridays. The range will be accessible only to law enforcement Monday through Wednesday, and it will be closed on Sundays, Davidson said.

“I think we’re far enough behind [Oak Grove Baptist Church] that they won’t hear us, but we’re going to close out of respect for the church.”

After backstops for the handgun lanes are completed, Davidson said the park will add archery and skeet shooting. Only targets bought at the range will be allowed. The range will sell the only targets allowed.

Shooting guns costs \$15 for a county resident and an additional \$10 for a shooter sharing the lane. Each lane can accommodate one or two shooters.

STAFF PHOTOS BY DON COBLE
Gun Range Manager Aaron Davidson explained the amenities to shooter Meg Johnson at the Clay County Outdoor Adventure Park on Sept. 30 during the range’s open house. The park will open for long-range shooting on Saturday, Oct. 7, with plans to complete work for short-range shooting in the next few months.

Non-county residents will pay \$20 and an additional \$15 for a second shooter-partner. Current law enforcement officers with a badge or identification can use the facility for free. Fees for retired law enforcement is \$12 and \$10 for a second person-partner.

The range also features an annual membership of \$250 for county residents, or \$200 while the cost for retired law enforcement officers, active-duty military and veterans is \$200 a year.

Membership perks include additional range fees, lane waitlist priority, three guest passes, a \$5 fee for sharing a lane, 10% off pro shop merchandise and a free shirt.

The berm behind the target area is nearly 25 feet high. The area behind targets is filled with ballistic sand to stop projectiles that can be sifted to remove slugs.

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The next chapter: Keystone Heights residents get sneak peek of library improvements

By Natalie Gilstrap
For Clay Today

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – The Keystone Heights Public Library recently hosted an open house to show the community its improvements and to showcase the non-profit organization Friends of the Library.

“I wanted to highlight some of the things we’ve done, and I also wanted to showcase our Friends of the Library group, who do a lot of behind the scenes,” said Katie Jackson, Branch Manager.

Community members were able to see the new changes that the library has made, such as combining the two adult sections into one and expanding their young adult area. The library also improved its DVD section by providing additional options and making it more accessible.

Guests enjoyed various activities such as crafts, table games, paint stenciling and temporary tattooing. The event also had refreshments, a raffle and a historic corner where residents could learn the history and view historic newspapers and pictures. Patrons also learned about the library’s many programs and about a non-profit group called Friends of the Library, which supports local libraries.

“I love what they are doing here and how they created different sections for the younger kids, inviting the teens and still



PHOTO BY NATALIE GILSTRAP

Residents got a sneak peek of the improvements at the Keystone Heights Public Library during its recent open house.

giving the adults a quiet space to read and do what they want. It’s amazing.” Said City Manager Lynn Rutkowski

Overall, the event was a success as locals filled the library and loved the new improvements.

Other guests, like City Manager Lynn

Rutkowski and County Commissioner Betsy Condon, attended the open house to show their support.

The improvements to the library are expected to benefit the community, such as providing a safe place for teens to hang out after school, bringing the community to-

gether for programs, and being more open to all age groups.

“It’s going to impact it in such a positive way,” Rutkowski said.

To learn more about Keystone Heights Public Library and its program, visit clay-countygov.com/community/library.

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Rev. Dawn Keane assumes pastordship at First United Methodist in Green Cove Springs

By Lee Wardlaw
lee@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS- A fresh chapter of spiritual leadership has begun at the First United Methodist Church of Green Cove Springs as Rev. Dawn Keane has taken the helm as the new pastor.

Keane received the keys to her new office recently, and since then, she has been hard at work with one goal in mind: to build a vision for First United. Keane has already started that process by engaging with the congregation. She has been out and about in the community, meeting residents and families at the church, in their homes and over coffee.

"I've been reaching out to people in the (church) community and (building relationships). That's one of the things that I really want to do, just like Jesus would do. I want to show (congregants) love and 'create disciples.' It has been a wonderful way to learn more about them and hear their vision for the church. I'm excited to see how God will work through (First United)," she said.

Becoming a pastor was never something she never expected. But sometimes, God works in mysterious ways. Her journey started in 2017. She enrolled as a Biblical Studies student at Christian Colorado University and planned to become a Christian teacher.

"But God had other plans for me," she said.

Keane enrolled in the Asbury Theological Seminary in 2021, where she plans to graduate with a Master of Divinity degree in 2025. In the meantime, Keane is off to a fast start. She was ordained as an Elder by the Florida Conference of the Global Methodist Church on Jan. 1.

"It's amazing to see how God was already planting the seed for my ministry," Keane said.

After being ordained, Keane left her future in the hands of God, praying regularly about her future. "I just started praying about God's plans for me," Keane said.

Nancy Ryan, longtime Lay Leader for First United, said she is excited about the new leadership and the skillset Keane brings.

"We're off to a great start. (Keane) has been a real Godsend for me," she said.



STAFF PHOTO BY LEE WARDLAW

Dawn Keane began her theological journey as a Biblical Studies student at Christian Colorado University in 2017. Still, she never thought she would become the newly-appointed pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Green Cove Springs. "God had other plans for me," she said.

This year, a rule that placed pastors in United Methodist Church congregations via one-year appointments was rescinded. With clear leadership established and a blueprint, the opportunities could be boundless for the church that celebrated its 150th anniversary two years ago.

Ryan said before the rule change, pastors would come and go often. That won't be the case, as Keane will have solid footing at a church with deep roots in the county.

Timing is everything.

Now, Keane will have a much longer period to work on the programs and initiatives she sets into motion. "This (slightly) changes our strategy, and it (certainly) makes long-term planning easier," Ryan said.

Keane will soon roll out an upcoming sermon series called "Discipled," which will focus on how her congregants (and all believers) can become God's hands and feet in the world by disciplining others.

"I'm just really excited about this upcoming series. We can't sit on the worldly fence, with one foot with God and the other

foot in the world," she said.

She will also seek to address the needs of new residents in the family-friendly city and county on the cusp of growth. "There's changing demographics in the community, so the church council is actively discussing how we can address those needs as well," Keane said.

After her first service in the Fellowship Hall, Keane already met with the congregation for a meet-and-greet over a covered plate.

"Breaking bread together, sharing meals and meeting in the Fellowship Hall is an essential part of our church community," she said.

Keane feels a sense of belonging at the church, which is genuinely undeniable when she walks into the chapel. "When you walk into the sanctuary, you feel God's presence. When you talk to people here, you can sense their love for one another. They pray for each other. You just know that God is working," she said.

If you want to meet Keane, knock on her office door. Her hours are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Faith Walk

by Pastor Billy Register
True Life Church
Clay County

We Need Diversity and Unity

As we look at the scriptural teaching of the body of Christ, we may wonder how diverse individuals can come together as one body. It's something unlike what we see in the world around us. Let's explore this question, taking inspiration from 1 Corinthians Chapter 12, which beautifully illustrates the importance of both diversity and unity in the body of Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 compares Christian believers to different parts of a body – eyes, ears, hands, and feet. Just as every part has a unique role in the body, each believer has a unique role in the church. No part is more important than the other. This metaphor reminds us to value and embrace our differences.

The passage also emphasizes that "if one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it." This means that we are interconnected. When one member of the church goes through a tough time, we should all empathize and support them. When one rejoices, we should all share in their joy. It's a call to care for one another deeply.

1 Corinthians 12:27 says, "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." This reinforces the idea that unity doesn't mean we all have to be the same. We are unique individuals, each with our own gifts and talents, but together, we make up the body of Christ. Our diversity enriches the body's strength and purpose.

So, what does this teach us about diversity and unity in our community of faith? It tells us that our differences are not obstacles to unity; they are sources of strength. We should celebrate our unique qualities and appreciate how each person contributes to the body of Christ. Unity isn't about making everyone the same; it's about recognizing our differences and working together as one body.

Let's always embrace diversity and foster unity within the body of Christ. It reminds us to value our differences and work together for the cause of Christ. As we support and honor one another, we become a vibrant representation of Jesus, showcasing the beauty of diversity and the strength of unity in our faith journey.

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HAPPENINGS FROM OUR CLAY COUNTY SCHOOLS

OCTOBER 2023

Dorothy White crosses 30-year mark at Wilkinson

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

CLAY HILL – Hairstyles, fashion and music trends have come and gone during the past 30 years, but one thing remains the same – Dorothy White stepping into traffic to ensure Wilkinson Elementary and Junior High students arrive safely.

Short in stature but immense in fervor, White's service as a crossing guard since 1993 has made her beloved by the community.

That service was recognized recently by Sheriff Michelle Cook, who approached White before the early morning bell rang and offered her a card, a pin and a hug on behalf of the community.

Rain or shine, White continues to be a sentry for "her kids" at the intersection of Freedom Drive and CR 218. She has overseen generations of children on their commute to and from school – some even became the parents of current students. She is steadfast and excited at the prospect of overseeing grandchildren, the next generation to safely "follow in their footsteps."

"I'll be 75 (on Oct. 25)," she said. "I'm not quitting. I do this because I love the kids. I only get to see them for a short period of time, but they always make me smile."

Children haven't changed much in the past 30 years," White said. Although, some groups have been better behaved than others.

"I've had some issues with some, but I tell them I'm here to take care of you. I'm here to protect you getting across the

street," she said. "Most of the time, they say, 'Yes, ma'am.'"

She knows every child who steps into the intersection. She said this year's group of students are incredibly "adorable."

"I've got a set of triplets and some twins," she said. "They're all so wonderful. That's why I love my job."

The Wilkinson schools are in a rural area of the county, which sometimes entails crossing more than just school children.

"I crossed dogs and ducks," she said. "I've had horses and donkeys, too."

Her favorite memory was when a stray dog approached the crossing. A neighbor noticed the trotting animal and called the Clay County Sheriff's Office, fearing it was vicious. By the time the deputy arrived, the dog had plopped down beside White – sitting, staying and wagging a tail as the children crossed the busy road.

"There's a woman who walks her dog in the afternoons, but that morning she walked alone," White said. "She saw me with the stray dog. She offered to take it home if nobody claimed it. She still has that dog. His name is Murphy. When they visit, the dog runs up like he wants to hug me."

As the county grows, so does traffic on CR 218. And with that comes distracted, indifferent drivers. White said close calls

SEE WHITE, 8

PHOTOS BY CCSO

Dorothy White has spent the last 30 years in front of Wilkinson Elementary and Junior High, helping students cross County Road 218 to Freedom Drive.



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Middleburg's Stilts trades banking career for education award

Economics, Government, U.S. History teacher selected as Warren Tracy Teacher of the Year

By Lee Wardlaw
lee@claytodayonline.com

MIDDLEBURG – In a major victory for the County School District, Breyana Stilts, an Economics, Government and U.S. History Teacher at Middleburg High, was recently selected as the Warren Tracy Teacher of the Year by the Florida Council for the Social Studies.

Stilts reflected on her journey to becoming an educator, how she instilled her unique teaching style in the classroom and the significance of bringing home the prestigious award to the county where she grew up.

Stilts never taught high school before being hired at Middleburg.

"I was shocked. This was only my first year at Middleburg. After hearing that I had won the award, I was honestly kind of thrown into a loop," she said.

Stilts transitioned from a four-year career in the corporate banking world at Wells Fargo as an Account Resolution Specialist. She had only been an educator for one year prior to winning the award. She taught Intensive Reading to middle school children from sixth to eighth grade in Duval County in 2021-22.

Despite her surprise, Stilts attributed her success to the relationships she built with her students and her strong support from her colleagues.

"I built a really great relationship with my kids and had a really strong support system with the Social Studies team here, but even they couldn't prepare me for the kids' reaction (to the classes I taught)," she said.

Stilts was nominated by to students, colleagues and parents. Above all, she credited her students for the honor.

"That means they're taking the extra



STAFF PHOTO BY LEE WARDLAW

Middleburg High's Breyana Stilts emphasizes real-life scenarios, like filing taxes, budgeting, calculating deductions, planning finances, registering to vote and analyzing political platforms in her classroom.

effort. For some (students), it takes an effort just to get to school. To put in that extra effort and (take their time) to give a nomination is (impactful). They recognize how important this is to me," Stilts said.

"To me, that means they have a greater appreciation for this country's history than they did before. It means they take pride in their civic responsibilities and duties and actively participate in the community."

Stilts' teaching style is anything but traditional. She emphasizes a hands-on learning experience and ensures her students actively engage in their learning and exploration.

Instead of relying on traditional methods like textbooks and worksheets, she encourages movement and interaction in the classroom. "We don't do a lot of paper-based work or typical work that you would think of when you see a history book. We move around a lot. Yesterday, we had a gallery walk where we walked around and viewed (photographs) from the Second Industrial Revolution. We talked about the effects of communications and steel and how they influenced that (era)," she said.

Her teaching philosophy centers students at the forefront of their learning. Stilts believes that students must take charge of their education and be responsible for their learning.

"I can guide them, but they need to make it happen for themselves," she said.

Stilts' teaching style draws inspiration from her own experiences as a student. Stilts said Oakleaf High Principal Matthew

Boyack, who taught her world history at Orange Park, made an everlasting impact.

"He had such an impact on me that I still remember how I felt in the classroom. That's the kind of classroom (environment) that I want to create," she said.

Middleburg Principal Martin Aftuck, who was Stilts' Principal at Orange Park while she was a student, also played an influential role, Stilts said.

Stilts expressed gratitude for the blessing she had the opportunity to work with fellow educators who molded her teaching style.

Her economics and government coursework focuses on preparing students for real-life scenarios, like filing taxes, budgeting, calculating deductions, planning finances, registering to vote and analyzing political platforms. There is no greater honor than representing the county. "I don't think there's any greater than being able to represent (my) community," she said.

The hard work required to achieve the award is nothing new for Stilts. She earned her online Master of Library and Information Science from Wayne State in May while teaching children across Northeast Florida for the past two years. Her journey toward the award was not a one-time event but a continuing daily commitment.

"Every single day in the classroom is a testament to your teaching style. There are no missed opportunities. You have to come in every day and be ready to deliver an engaging lesson," Stilts said.



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Daniels' inspiring tactics leads to state honor

Orange Park teacher wins Florida Council for Social Studies Excellence Award

By Lee Wardlaw
lee@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK – Justin Daniels, a veteran educator and cornerstone of the Orange Park High community, recently earned the prestigious 2023 Florida Council for Social Studies Excellence in Teaching Award.

Daniels, a longtime Standard and Advanced Placement Social Studies teacher and department chair, has amassed a large trophy case during his educational tenure. But no honor has been bigger than this one.

When asked about his reaction to winning statewide honor, the eight-year employee leads more than 10 teachers in his department, serves as boys' wrestling and girls' tennis coach, and expresses pride for earning the recognition.

"If you get a general award, like 'Teacher of the Year,' that's great, but it's even more amazing to be recognized for working hard in a subject that you're really passionate about, something that you've really dedicated your teaching expertise and poured your life into," he said.

Daniels' journey to excellence started in the county. The homegrown teacher graduated from Middleburg High, where his former educators inspired him.

"I had an incredible educational experience (at Middleburg). I had fantastic teachers that (made me realize) that this could be a possible career path for myself," Daniels said.

The veteran educator credited his



STAFF PHOTO BY LEE WARDLAW

Justin Daniels brings a sense of excitement and honesty to challenge his students at Orange Park High to embrace learning social studies.

unique teaching style for helping him reach the big milestone.

"I approach my class every day with a sense of excitement. I'm transparent with the students. I'm honest with them," he said.

If they want to hear "stupid stories," Daniels tells them one. He replays scenes

from "Buffalo Rider," a 1978 movie where half of the plot literally involves the character "Buffalo Jones" riding a buffalo. "I try not to take everything so seriously," Daniels said. The jokes and laughter are all part of a hook to keep students engaged from the moment they walk into the classroom.

"When they walk into class, they ask, 'Are we going to see 'Guy on a Buffalo' today?' While it's irrelevant, they walked into my classroom and immediately engaged with me, which means they are ready for class. That's the whole point. I want them to be excited for class because what we're (learning) contains (immense) value," he said.

While very important, government and economics can be incredibly boring, which Daniels admits.

"Those are the two most boring classes they will ever receive," he said.

"By any means necessary" is his only option. He said both subjects will transcend the rest of his students' lives after leaving the classroom. "They're building to become active citizens and learn to manage their money. Those are two things that will impact (my students) immediately and the world around them," Daniels said.

In his classroom, "busy work" carries a negative connotation and is crossed off students' to-do lists.

"There is a negative connotation with what 'busy work' is. I don't want to fill their life with that. (Instead), it should be work that is engaging," he said.

Just ask students how they feel in his

classroom.

"Yesterday, we played a game, and a (child) said, 'Is class over?' And I said it's (already) been 40 minutes. He said, 'Man, that was so fast,' and I said, 'That's because we were doing something that is so engaging. It's not busy, it's active,' Daniels said.

Building positive relationships that make a positive impact takes center stage.

"I went into administration for a bit, and being away from the classroom (I rediscovered) my purpose. Everything was constantly pulling me back into the classroom. I want to be amongst (the children), building positive relationships and impacting them. Social Sciences is a (subject) that will hold incredible value for the rest of their lives," he said.

Students, teachers and parents (named and anonymous) have to nominate their teacher of choice for that individual to qualify. Daniels said his students' decision to put him up for the award reflects they share the value of Social Studies with him.

"It's nice to see that they see value in this. It's (validating)," Daniels said.

Winning the Excellence in Teaching Award is not only a personal achievement for Daniels, but also reflects a storied winning tradition in the classroom in the county, he said.

"It's a testament to the long tradition of Clay County providing students with excellent opportunities, whether through social studies (or other subjects). The county's pathways to success are so immense," he said.

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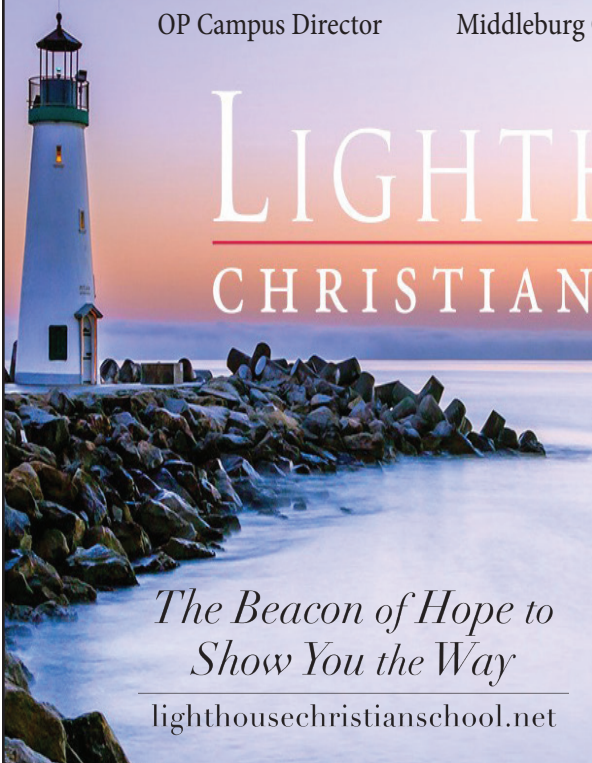




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Fleming Island Band prepares for trip to New York City



By Zeinab Faraj
For School News

FLEMING ISLAND – The Eagle Band is practicing tirelessly as they prepare to take their talents to Carnegie Hall in New York City. Nerves are running high as the adventure approaches.

Senior Kortnee, the Section Leader and Spirit Sgt. who plays the saxophone, is “overjoyed to be a part of this trip” to take on this “once-in-a-lifetime (opportunity).” Kophamer and other band members have challenged themselves to build their confidence by “sight-reading pieces of music we’ve never seen.”

When they take to the stage, Kophamer will be ready to feel the “adrenaline of the moment,” he said.

World-renowned composer David Gill-

ingham is also reportedly writing a piece that the band will perform in New York, and Kophamer is “very excited about that.”

Band One Director Alexander Buck is “absolutely thrilled and immensely proud” of band members. He believes the selection they have chosen to perform is a “testament to the hard work and dedication of our students (who have dedicated) countless hours of practice.”

The prospect of stepping onto the renowned stage has left an “overwhelming sense of excitement and anticipation,” Buck said.

Other than practicing, the obstacle of making the trip possible is fundraising. Buck said the band is “actively raising funds to support this incredible opportunity,” and he called on local businesses and community members for financial assistance.

“Your support will make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students, and together, we can make this Carnegie Hall trip a resounding success,” Buck said.

Senior and Woodwind Captain Tyler Wilkinson is “beyond excited” about taking the trip with his fellow band members. Wilkinson said playing at Carnegie Hall is an honor he will “forever cherish.” The band is “practicing tirelessly,” he said, not just for themselves but also to “make our school proud in New York City.”

The Fleming Island community is eager to show support for the band as they prime for their cross-country trip and touch up to what will be an exciting performance.

If you want to support the band, contact Buck at alexander.buck@myoneclay.net.

Six OneClay Seniors named National Merit Semifinalists

Clay County District Schools is excited to announce that six students have been named as Semifinalists in the 2023 National Merit® Scholarship Program. Years of classroom preparation, intense studying, and outstanding test scores have prepared these students for the next level. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state.

These six academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,250



National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$28 million that will be offered next spring.

To become a Finalist, the Semifinalist and a high school official must submit a detailed scholarship application, in which

National Merit Semifinalists

Clay High School - Seyhan Bulut

Oakleaf High School - Pujan Patel

Orange Park High School - Justin Hart and Luke Rykalsky

Ridgeview High School - Nathan Bartholomew and Benjamin Lohse

they provide information about the Semifinalist's academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received.

National Merit Scholarship winners will be announced in four nationwide news releases this spring, and we look forward to following along.

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Students win bike lane design competition

Work will be painted on roads near their schools for Mobility Week

For School News



CLAY COUNTY – Two Clay County elementary students' artwork is getting viewed by thousands – in a different way.

The students won the Florida Department of Transportation Mobility Week Bike Lane Design Contest, and now, those winning designs are installed near Middleburg and Argyle elementary schools in recognition of FDOT's Mobility Week Partnership for Elementary School Kids.

The contest is part of an FDOT statewide initiative that promotes awareness of safe multimodal transportation choices, including bicycle and pedestrian safety. The bike lane design contest allows elementary school students to submit designs for a fun and creative bike lane symbol. Six Clay County District Schools elementary schools registered for the contest.

Argyle student Naomi Dorsey designed a colorful bicycle rider with flames from

the back tire. Middleburg student Andrea Navarro-Vasquez designed a pirate-themed bike and rider.

The winning artwork was turned into templates and delivered to the county's engineering department, and FDOT maintenance crews assisted with the thermal installation in the bike lanes. This fun symbol does not replace or cover up the original white regulation bike lane symbol. Still, it is a vibrant way to encourage discovering how active and sustainable travel choices like walking, biking, riding transit, or carpooling can reduce traffic congestion, benefit the environment, and improve community health.

Mobility Week is celebrated from Oct. 27 through Nov. 4.



PHOTOS BY CLAY COUNTY

Middleburg Elementary School student Andrea Navarro-Vasquez designed a pirate-themed bike and rider, while Argyle Elementary student Naomi Dorsey designed a colorful bicycle rider with flames from the back tire. Their works will be painted on bike lanes near their schools.

Rings for Clay state champs



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Clay High's girls weightlifting team got their state championship rings during halftime ceremonies recently with senior Anna Lee Harbison showing off her five state champion rings for her career.



STAFF PHOTO BY RANDY LEFKO

Retired Middleburg High girls volleyball coach Carrie Prewitt returned to her home gym after a 30-year career to be celebrated with the naming of the gym after her. Prewitt, a 30-plus year coach for the Lady Broncos, was on hand for the Middleburg vs. Fleming Island home game.

Gym named after Prewitt; Forkum keeps Broncos

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

MIDDLEBURG - Two eras of volleyball at Middleburg High crossed paths Thursday night as a former coach, Carrie Prewitt, was honored for her decades of commitment, and a new coach, Meredith Forkum, jet-bolted her team to one of the more decisive wins in her short career.

"Felt like it was like a blink of an eye and it was over," said Prewitt, who spent nearly 30 years in the Middleburg gym with a plethora of district and region titles and numerous Final Four finishes. "I was never expecting this because you don't do something like this expecting days like today."

Prewitt, who has been succeeded at the coach position by Forkum, a former player of hers and also a more recent assistant coach, noted that her lifespan has centered around the gym.

"I kind of realized the other day that for the past 30 years, I've spent more time in this building than in any building in my lifetime," said Prewitt. "Recently, I have taken time to take care of my mom, did some hiking in the final years and spent time with my kids and grandkids."

As for the celebration, which featured a ton of alums, friends and family members who flew in from around the country to share the moment, Prewitt, who was presented a huge portrait by Middleburg Athletic Director Casey Thompson and Principal Martin Aftuck, was toured around the gym to see her door display above the entrance way plus a huge banner on the outside wall of the gym's main doors.

"I hope that the things that I put into it, like the hard work, the dedication, the commitment to the players, things like that are what I hope they think about when they walk through the doors," said Prewitt. "If they put those kinds of expectations on themselves knowing the history of the athletes before them, then that's something I would be proud of."

For Forkum, in a county rivalry game with a 7-1 Fleming Island High team that also featured a first-time, alum coach in former Fleming Island High standout Amy Schermerhorn, the game was a typical great rivalry game in the Bronco gym that made her mentor smile.

"Coach Prewitt always prepared us for games like this in her long history here and I think this year's team is very aware of that," said Forkum, who saw her team, led by hitter Connor Rahn's 12 scoring kills with Brooke Forkum, Meredith's junior daughter, adding nine at the net, to a 3-0 win over the Golden Eagles (now 7-2). "Those two are our team leaders and they showed why. Sophomores Kate Lowery, five kills, and Camden Rahn also played well in the very loud gym."

Middleburg's record improves to 8-3; ranked fourth in 5A, with recent wins over Orange Park and Oakleaf in county play with the teams' three losses; 7A-Doral Academy (now 8-4, 20-8 region finalist last year), 3A-Trinity Christian Academy (now 14-2, 25-4 last year region finalist) and 5A-Jensen Beach (now 13-2, 29-3 5A state champion last year), coming in the Nike Invitational Tournament in Tampa early in the season.

For Fleming Island, junior Savannah Jackson tapped out eight scoring kills to lead the Golden Eagles with Emily Topp and Rauly Eason adding four a piece; Eason with three blocks also.

Schermerhorn has guided her Golden Eagles to wins over Fletcher and Creekside thus far with Christ's Church Academy with their lone loss to Buchholz on August 24. Eason and Jackson have been the 1-2 punch at the net with 81 and 64 kills apiece with Samantha Rupert at 54 kills.

On the schedule for Fleming Island is Bishop Kenny (4A Final Four last year, 5th in 4A 2023), Orange Park and Ridgeview to end September with top contenders. The Ridgeview game will be a good benchmark game as Middleburg and Ridgeview are dominating their district



Middleburg High retired volleyball coach Carrie Prewitt gets a portrait of herself prior to Broncos game against Fleming Island in commemoration of the gym being named Carrie Prewitt gymnasium. Below: Former Middleburg High volleyball stand out Meredith Forum, a recent assistant coach under Carrie Prewitt, takes over for the program and brings many of Carrie Prewitt's fiery sideline exchanges to the huddles.



4-5A but will not play each other in regular season play and Fleming Island is a solid late-season common foe. Ridgeview, 8-1, ranked third in 5A, with astounding play up front from Haley Robinson, finished with a silver medal at the JJVA River City Classic with the Panthers losing a 2-1 match to Trinity Christian Academy, ranked 13th in Florida and fourth in 3A. The second-place finish was the highest ever for Ridgeview in the prestigious tournament.

"We are getting great play in our defensive back with our Oakleaf transfer Sydney Little," said Ridgeview High coach Steven Henry. "She was a little tentative at first coming in as a senior and not wanting to take a spot, but she is too good (20-25 digs a game) to keep off the court."

Ridgeview advanced through the tournament with wins over 2A-Christ's Church Academy (now 7-5, 2A Final Four last year), Satellite (now 9-4), a Puerto Rico team; Colegio Evangelico Capitan Correa, and 4A-Bolles (7-5). The Puerto Rico team was the defending tournament champion, but was without the size of last year, according to Henry.

Ridgeview is led at the net by Robinson's 81 kills and 52 blocks with Brianna Adams adding 45 kills and Kennedy Baugh with 16 blocks.

Ridgeview coach Steven Henry's schedule gets no rest with a road game to

4A-Bishop Kenny (8-4) on Thurs., Sept. 21, a Friday noon game against Episcopal and then Fleming Island at home Tues., Sept. 26.

"We want to control our games to our strengths," said Henry. "I've seen a few Fleming Island games, but no Middleburg games yet. I try to keep that one a secret so we don't get ahead of ourselves. We block big up front and execute our scoring plays."

Around the county, also at the JJVA River City High School Classic, Orange Park was with one loss until Middleburg came to the Raiderdome, but the Lady Raiders rebounded to finish at 4-1; wins over St. Augustine, Keystone Heights, Belleview and Effingham (GA) (8-2 overall), Clay finished 2-3 with wins over Keystone Heights, St. John Paul II (4-7 overall), Keystone Heights finished 1-4; win over Sandalwood (2-9 overall), Oakleaf finished 4-1; wins over Nease, Sandalwood, St. John Paul II and Newberry (8-3 overall).

St. Johns Country Day School sits at 5-3 with three recent wins over Beaches Chapel, Duval Carter and Harvest Community. The Spartans, led by Brynn White's 63 kills and 15 blocks set up for a gauntlet week with Global Outreach Charter (6-3) on Mon., Sept 18 with Orange Park on Tues., Sept 26 and Ridgeview on Wed., Sept. 27, both on the road.



Rep. Garrison helps celebrate American Founders' month

Students at Ridgeview High in Ms. Moore's American Government classes were able to hear directly from Representative Sam Garrison. Donald, a student in Ms. Moore's class, sent an email to Representative Garrison inviting him to come speak about laws and the new cell phone policy in Florida schools this year. Way to go Donald and thank you Representative Garrison for speaking with #OneClay students at RHS about the legislative process in Florida.



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White

from page 1

have become too common.

"We have problems just about every day," she said. "Some of these people are parents that just won't slow down. They're dropping off their kid at the elementary or junior high. I get upset because they know it could be their child that I'm crossing here."

One morning, a pickup truck sped through the school zone, and White raised her arm to shake her finger at the driver. He immediately slowed, rolled his window, stuck his head out, and yelled, "I'm sorry!"

White has tremendous love for "her kids." That's why the lockdowns from the COVID-19 pandemic took such an emotional toll. Classrooms transitioned online, so her job was put on hold. "I cried when that happened," White said. The hardest part, she said, was not seeing her little friends or saying 'Goodbye. Have a good summer.' to the sixth graders who were moving on to high school.

"Those were the toughest days," she said. "When we came back, I was the happiest person ever. I got to see a bunch of my kids, and I got to see new faces who were starting school. It was such a delight."



Sheriff Michelle Cook surprised White with a pin, card and a hug to commemorate her service.

Anyone driving west along CR 218 before or after school should look for White. Wave and she'll wave back. Just watch your speed and pay attention because she plans to be there for a long time.

Police Briefs claytodayonline.com

Man jailed for running over, at CCSO deputies after traffic stop

FLEMING ISLAND – A traffic stop quickly escalated into a litany of serious charges for a Middleburg man on Sept. 27 when he ran over a Clay County Sheriff's Office deputy's foot with his car while attempting to flee.

Oliver Mardoche Osier, 22, was charged with aggravated attempting to flee or elude with injury, three counts of aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, driving with a suspended license, possession of marijuana and aggravated assault with intent to commit a felony after he was pulled over on Marsh Hawk Lane after a deputy saw him driving erratically on U.S. Highway 17.

According to the arrest report, Osier stopped in an apartment complex parking lot. When the deputy asked for his driver's license, Osier put the car in gear and sped away. In the process, he drove over the deputy's foot.

According to the report, another deputy had to "jump out of the path" after Osier drove toward him. The ensuing chase included speeds of nearly 90 mph on Old Hard Road. Osier continued onto County Road 220 and to Lakeshore Drive West. When a third deputy tried to stop him in the parking lot of Crossroad Lutheran Church, Osier steered his car toward the deputy's cruiser, forcing him to swerve to avoid a collision. Osier then slammed into a CCSO cruiser being driven by another deputy.

After the crash, deputies eventually used a taser to subdue Osier following a brief scuffle, according to the report.

Deputies found marijuana and a rifle in the trunk.

A further investigation revealed Osier's license was suspended in May for failing to pay a traffic fine.

Osier will be in court on Oct. 31. Until then, he will be in the Clay County Jail with a \$777,028 bond.

Bond set at \$1 million for man accused of carjacking, robberies

ORANGE PARK – An Orange Park man was arrested on Sept. 20 in connection with a carjacking and a series of burglaries.

Jayden Anthony Butler, 18, had additional charges filed on Sept. 30. He's now accused of carjacking, attempted grand theft auto, burglary and armed robbery.

His bond was set at \$1,50,012.

According to one of four arrest reports, Butler's spree started on May 25 when a woman said Butler put a gun against her

head inside her apartment and said, "Where's the money!" Butler then hit the woman in the head with the handgun. He and another woman, identified as Izza Azzaria, took \$70 and a pocket knife from a backpack. She told deputies the two defendants warned her if they saw her again, they'd kill her.

The victim identified the two men after looking through suspect photos provided by CCSO. Deputies found items reported stolen in a bedroom where Butler lived on Wells Road.

Butler was also charged in connection with three incidents on June 18.

It started with the theft of a handgun from a car on Aurora Boulevard in Orange Park.

Forty-four minutes later, he was accused of attempting to steal a car from Ursa Street in Orange Park. According to the arrest report, Butler admitted he was the lookout while four others broke into the steering column of Kia so they could steal the car and go to a party in Jacksonville. The screwdriver broke in the ignition, so they couldn't take the car.

Then, at 10:15 p.m., Butler is suspected of being one of three men with handguns who pointed their weapons at a couple on Ursa Street and demanded the keys to their car. Deputies found the stolen car a half-mile away in an apartment complex parking lot where Butler lived on Wells Road.

Butler's bond was set at \$1,050,012.

CCSO makes arrest following four-hour SWAT standoff

ORANGE PARK – Troy Allen Moore, 32, was arrested on charges of aggravated assault on a Clay County Sheriff's Office deputy and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon following a four-hour standoff with CCSO at a Wells Road apartment complex.

Shortly after midnight on Oct. 1, deputies received a call regarding a disturbance. According to CCSO, Moore was inside the apartment, brandishing a firearm and threatening to use it. Deputies encountered two victims who reported that while visiting their residence, Moore accused them of stealing items belonging to his fiancée. An argument ensued, during which Moore displayed a firearm and pointed it at the victims.

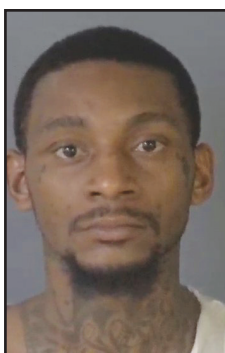
Both victims escaped and dialed 911.



Jayden A. Butler



Oliver Osier



Allen Moore



Fire damages four units at Middletown Apartments

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ORANGE PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

ORANGE PARK – An unattended candle started a fire in a bedroom on Thursday, Sept. 28. The Orange Park Fire Department contained the blaze that damaged three units and destroyed one at the Middletown Apartments on Debarry Avenue. The building was evacuated, and there were no injuries, according to the Orange Park Police Department.

Deputies began speaking with the victims and learned that three additional individuals were still inside the apartment with Moore. As deputies engaged with the victims, Moore emerged armed with a firearm from the apartment's front door. He noticed the presence of deputies, pointed the firearm at one of them and retreated into the residence with the others. Moore proceeded to turn off all the lights. Depu-

ties made continuous attempts to establish communication. In response, the deputies deployed SWAT, Negotiation, and Investigation teams. For safety reasons, residents in nearby apartments were evacuated. After several hours, Moore contacted 911 and voluntarily agreed to surrender. He was eventually taken into custody and

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Police

from page 29

transported to the Clay County Jail without further incident.

The investigation is ongoing.

Moore will return to court on Oct. 30. His bond was \$200,009.

CCSO: Charges escalate after DUI suspect threatens deputy

ORANGE PARK – A man suspected of driving under the influence is now facing charges of threatening a Clay County Sheriff's Office deputy.

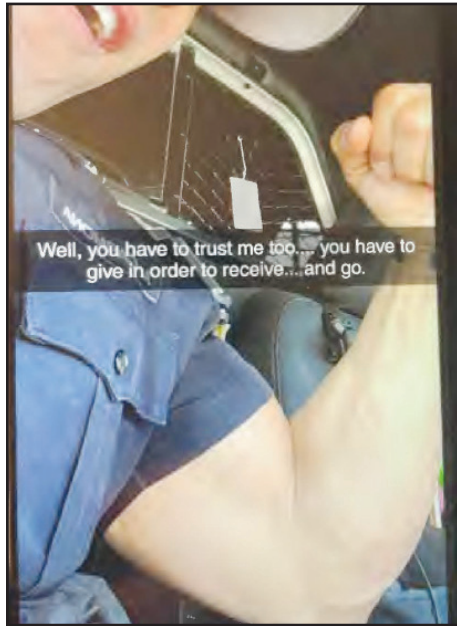
Michael Christopher Dyne, 34, of Middleburg, was charged on Sept. 28 with DUI and threatening death or bodily harm to law enforcement after he tried to drive away from a restaurant on Blanding Boulevard. According to the arrest report, Dyne drove through a parking lot and crashed into a curb and a tree at another restaurant.

He tried to hide behind his truck when he saw deputies. According to the report, he had trouble standing up after he was detained. When he was asked if he'd submit to a field sobriety test, he cursed at the deputy and threatened him.

Dyne's bond was set at \$15,006.



Christopher Dyne



Former JSO officer sentenced for attempting online sexual enticement of child

JACKSONVILLE – Chief U.S. District Court Judge Timothy J. Corrigan sentenced Alejandro Carmona-Fonseca, 49, of Green Cove Springs, to 11 years and eight months in federal prison, followed by 15 years of supervised release for attempted online enticement of a minor to engage in sexual activity.

Carmona-Fonseca pleaded guilty on Dec. 14. He has been detained since his June 6, 2022 arrest. Carmona-Fonseca was employed as an officer with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

According to court documents, this case began when the Clay County Sheriff's Office received a report from My Time Fitness in Lake Asbury that a gym member, Carmona-Fonseca, sent a nude photo to another gym member, a minor child (MV1). During an interview with CCSO, MV1 said Carmona-Fonseca had requested MV1's Snapchat account, and MV1 provided it to him. MV1 told Carmona-Fonseca he was in high school. Carmona-Fonseca sent images and videos with his genitals exposed to MV1. At one point, Carmona-Fonseca sent MV1 a picture of himself in his police uniform and wrote, "you can call me your police daddy." At times, Carmona-Fonseca would ask for shirtless pictures of MV1.

With the consent of MV1 and his parents, CCSO assumed MV1's identity over Snapchat and, on March 3, 2022, a Homeland Security Investigations Task Force Officer/CCSO detective began communicating with Carmona-Fonseca using MV1's Snapchat account. The TFO confirmed that Carmona-Fonseca was friends with MV1 and that location services were available on Snapchat. The TFO observed Carmona-Fonseca's location numerous times during the chat. Carmona-Fonseca's location showed him next to a JSO substation on numerous occasions, the areas where he worked as a patrol officer, near his residence, and near the gym he frequented. The TFO communicated with Carmona-Fonseca on March 3 and March 4, 2022. During those conversations, Carmona-Fonseca sent a video in his police uniform. He also sent one in which he was nude with his genitals exposed. Carmona-Fonseca

also made several requests for nude videos of MV1 flexing. Carmona-Fonseca said that everything stayed between them and because it was Snapchat, it would disappear.

Further investigation by law enforcement also identified additional victims that Carmona-Fonseca had exploited over Snapchat.

"Instead of honoring his oath to serve and protect, this former law enforcement officer chose to use his position of trust to exploit the innocence of the very children he was charged with protecting," said HSI Jacksonville Assistant Special Agent in Charge K. Jim Phillips. "Alongside our law enforcement partners, HSI and the Northeast Florida INTERCEPT Task Force will continue to aggressively target those who prey upon our children."

The Clay County Sheriff's Office, Homeland Security Investigations and the Northeast Florida INTERCEPT Task Force investigated the case. It was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Ashley Washington.

It is another case brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who sexually exploit children and to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.justice.gov/psc.

Arrests & Bookings

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

Tuesday, Oct. 3

Homer P. Gonzalez, 68, Oakleaf, aggravated assault with intent to commit felony, follow/harass/stalking

Shaun A. Thornton, 43, Orange Park, DWLSR
Jiquan J. Payton, 23, Green Cove Springs, violation of pretrial release conditions for protection against domestic violence

Jerry L. Mack, 41, Green Cove Springs, FTA-DWLSR

Blake E. Eckert, 37, Middleburg, attempting to flee/elude law enforcement with lights/siren active
Joshua M. Maselli, 36, Green Cove Springs, violation of pretrial release conditions for protection against domestic violence

Robbie J. Malloy, 34, Orange Park, grand theft
Jesus M.W. Abad, 54, Oakleaf, violation of pretrial release conditions for protection against domestic violence

Monday, Oct. 2

Jeffrey A. Davis-Cole, 38, Orange Park, felony battery by strangulation, petit theft
Orentheious P. Redding, 39, Green Cove Springs, fugitive from justice

Keith T. Ceragioli, 34, Green Cove Springs, non-support

Kimberly A. Morgan, 56, Green Cove Springs, FTA-DWLSR

Henry Wimberly, 33, Keystone Heights, domestic

battery, possession-controlled substance, two counts possession-drug paraphernalia
Bernard D. Rashad, 29, Middleburg, possession-controlled substance, domestic battery

Sunday, Oct. 1

Garrett J. Venables, 31, Orange Park, DUI with property damage/injury

Darreon W. Thompson, 18, Middleburg, child abuse

Laura R. Blevins, 34, Keystone Heights, FTA
Jeremy P. Gassett, 51, Keystone Heights, possession-methamphetamine

Matthew J. Strickley, 44, Orange Park, domestic battery

Heather Y. Mowery, 48, Orange Park, DUI
Eugenio Calvillo, 43, Orange Park, DUI

Rickey J. Hanks, 43, Oakleaf, trafficking-molly/ecstasy

Saturday, Sept. 30

Todd H. Lumetta, 56, Orange Park, failure to report transient residence

Steven J. Smith, 44, Middleburg, disorderly intoxication, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement

Johnathan D. Ervin, 38, Fleming Island, shoplifting

Randolph L. Nobles, 63, Middleburg, DWLSR
Troy A. Moore, 32, Orange Park, aggravated assault on law enforcement/firefighter/EMT, two counts aggravated assault with deadly weapon

Friday, Sept. 29

Brian G. Brockett, 30, Fleming Island, DWLSR, illegal license plate

Michelle R. Garcia, 47, Middleburg, possession-marijuana, DUI

Rushan Z. Aisin, 29, Middleburg, battery

Jiquan J. Payton, 23, Orange Park, battery with assault, battery

Jayden A. Butler, 18, Green Cove Springs, armed carjacking, burglary, armed robbery, grand theft auto

Gabriel R. Bright, 37, Green Cove Springs, FTA-driving without valid license

Scott D. Dodd, 39, Green Cove Springs, VOP-five counts burglary

Shiela M.B. Butler, 61, Middleburg, two counts VOP-community control

Jacob R. Shannon, 36, Green Cove Springs, VOP-trafficking amphetamine sentencing provision, VOP-possession-drug paraphernalia, VOP-possession-marijuana

Anthony R.J. Pierre, 30, Green Cove Springs, FTA-driving without valid license

Tyrell D. Campbell, 22, Green Cove Springs, VOP-burglary

Teresa A. Davis, 59, Green Cove Springs, FTA-DWLSR

Tynezia C. Tomblin, 29, Green Cove Springs, VOP-resisting law enforcement with violence

Naquan D. Person-Daise, 28, Green Cove Springs, battery in jail

Gilbert L. Niehuas, 25, Middleburg, adult false imprisonment, vandalism

Isaias A. Huacache, 18, Orange Park, DUI with BAL .15 or more, possession-alcohol by person younger than 18

Thursday, Sept. 28

Melvin J. Monroe, 45, Orange Park, domestic battery

Yanique Edwards-Walker, 36, Orange Park, child neglect

Michael C. Dyne, 34, Orange Park, making death/serious injury threat to law enforcement, DUI with property damage/injury

Elisha G. Robertson, 42, Orange Park, domestic battery

Thomas J. Brewster, 42, Middleburg, DWLSR, giving false name/ID, failure to register vehicle, DWLSR

Adrian L. Kelley, 46, Middleburg, domestic bat-

tery, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement

Dontae T. McGhee, 34, Green Cove Springs, two counts FTA-failure to redeliver hired/leased property

Joseph N. Hudson, 26, Green Cove Springs, violation of pretrial release conditions for protection against domestic violence

Jennifer M. Courtemanche, 50, Green Cove Springs, VOP-criminal mischief

Marco A.L. Hernandez, 19, Middleburg, driving without valid license

Earl C. Smith, 39, Middleburg, FTA

Robbie L. Dorminey, 51, Green Cove Springs, violation of pretrial release conditions for protection against domestic violence

Amanda C. Castle, 39, Middleburg, possession-methamphetamine, possession-drug paraphernalia

Almira N. Jones, 24, Keystone Heights, two counts battery of person 65 or older, battery

Wednesday, Sept. 27

Aumani E. Thomas, 21, Fleming Island, possession-marijuana

Olivier M. Osier, 22, Fleming Island, aggravated attempting to flee with injury/property damage, five counts aggravated battery with intent to commit a felony, possession-marijuana, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement, DWLSR

David B. Perkins, 46, Keystone Heights, possession-cocaine, possession-drug paraphernalia

Adonica S. Kelley, 48, Green Cove Springs, VOP-community control

Timothy M. Hughes, 38, Middleburg, VOP-possession ammo/firearm by convicted felon, VOP-selling methamphetamine, four counts VOP-possession-controlled substance

Christian G. Rijo, 21, Green Cove Springs, VOP-fraud, VOP-dealing in stolen property

Ethan T. Finney, 18, Orange Park, attempting to flee/elude law enforcement with lights/siren active

Ashlyan Y. Cassell, 18, Orange Park, DUI

Leonele Cardozo-Carrillo, 35, Orange Park, driving without valid license

TODAY'S Sports

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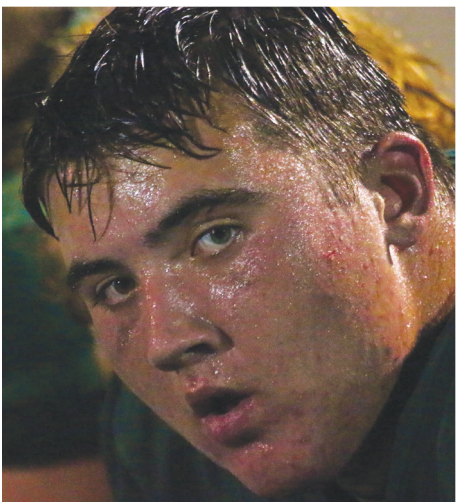
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GAME OF THE WEEK
Middleburg @ Clay 7 p.m.

Keystone vs. Crescent City
Ridgeview vs. Eastside
Orange Park BYE

Fleming Island vs. Lake Minneola
Oakleaf vs. Bradford



STAFF PHOTO BY RANDY LEFKO

Fleming Island offensive tackle Braden Cunningham is a picture of near exhaustion after having to play offense and defense for the Golden Eagles in an exciting 49-28 district loss Friday night.

Broughton's heroics fall short

By Mike Zima
Correspondent

FLEMING ISLAND - Fleming Island High junior quarterback Cibastian Broughton ran for 241 yards and two touchdowns, but it was not enough as visiting Bartram Trail spoiled the Golden Eagles' Homecoming game with a 49-28 victory on September 29. The 77 points scored came in a circus-like second half after both teams were held scoreless in the first half.

"Cibastian is probably the best athlete I have ever coached, and he tries to be a leader," said Parker. "He is the kind of kid who is going to put the team on his back

SEE EAGLES, 36

Broncos alive for playoff repeat

Game of Week:
Clay vs. Middleburg

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

FLEMING ISLAND - Monster schedules, excruciating losses and now, the heat is on.

Area high school football teams are very much aware at the midway point of the 2023 season as to who has a shot at the coveted top eight spots per region that will go to the state playoffs.

Theoretically, by FHSAA rules, the top 32 teams per class are those who qualify for region invitations.

Based on a whole slew of calculations and numbers, teams can now put some adjustments into play to achieve what the entire summer was all about.

With schedules and strengths of schedules now the key factor to an in or an out, those who go are not just the top team and the runner-up based on district schedules.

Sure, winning key district games is a must, but also playing and beating tough teams from afar is more helpful.

Middleburg, with a gauntlet to start their last two seasons, is in a prime position to achieve a repeat region bid despite losing the first three games.

With a 14-0 win over Ribault two weeks ago and a 36-0 trampling of Ridgeview on Friday with everything back Jaydan Jenkins all over the field with 130 yards rushing, a flying horizontal pass catch of about 40 yards and a 70-yard scoring run, Middleburg may have found the keys to winning again although the penalty flags were piling up



STAFF PHOTO BY RANDY LEFKO

Middleburg High wide receiver Jaydan Jenkins lets fly to catch 40-yard pass from Bronco quarterback Carson Stewart in first-half action of Bronco's 36-0 district win over Ridgeview.

on both sides something consistent around area games that seemed a bit ridiculous at times.

Also, kicker Kaleb Robison whipped end zone kickoffs, a 65 yard punt, and field goals of 42 and 20 plus all PAT kicks.

Coach Ryan Wolfe has an unpredictable Columbia High team, loaded with athletes and long on playoff history, as the first-most obstacle to getting a second playoff shot as they are a direct district foe, but Clay High, in the Middleburg region, but not district can gum up the works in this week's clash at Blue Devil Field.

"I think we are at number seven or eight now, but I won't look at that stuff until later in the season," said Wolfe. "The kids saw last year that going 0-4 does not keep us out of the playoffs. All we can do is keep

winning games. Clay will be a good rivalry game. I think Columbia, though 1-4, is still the team to watch for us."

Middleburg has Columbia the week after Clay in their final district game.

"Clay is in the region and that makes it an important game," said Wolfe. "Plus there are some good teams in the Panhandle; Escambia, Lincoln, Choctawhatchee that will get region spots."

Clay coach Kyle Kennard, with back-to-back late field goal wins wrapped around a 35-14 win over Gainesville, has the Blue Devils also in prime position for a playoff spot and now the game has a bit more rivalry tinge to it than just bragging rights on Blanding Blvd though he thinks not.

"Middleburg is just an in-county rival-

SEE BRONCOS, 37



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Athlete Of The Week



Fleming Island junior quarterback **Cibastian Broughton** ran for 241 yards; one jaunt an 80 yard touchdown sprint, and a second 16 yard score while also throwing for 144 yards with a 57 yard bomb, but the Golden Eagles fell to Bartram Trail 49-21 in a huge district clash on Friday.



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Indians avoid shutout against 5-0 Bradford

By Lee Wardlaw
Lee@claytodayonline.com

STARKE – The Keystone Heights Indians rallied late against Bradford County on Friday, Sept. 29 – not to win, but to avoid a shutout.

The Tornadoes (5-0), a contender for a state championship, Keystone Heights (2-3) got a late touchdown run from Cartez Daniels in a 48-6 loss.

In the first quarter, the Indians The Keystone Heights Indians may have lost in a hard-fought, 41-6 battle to a rock-solid undefeated Bradford Tornadoes that could compete for a state championship this season, but there were still bright spots along the way.

With seven minutes remaining in the first quarter, linebacker Damien Dunlap picked up a big fumble recovery. In the second quarter, he did it again. Dunlap commended his defensive line, notably middle linebacker Zane Leger, who forced the ball loose both times.

“So my teammates were on point tonight, and my other linebacker, Zane (Leger), forced both of those fumbles. I just recovered it,” Dunlap said. Both opportunities led to unsuccessful counteroffensives for the Indians, but it kept the team resolved against a formidable Tornadoes offense.

The Indians came back after half-time with an eagerness to not go down without a fight. At the beginning of the third quarter, the Indians found footing to put



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Keystone Heights senior running back Cartez Daniels has been strong ball carrier for Indians.

together a massive drive. The Indians quarterback Ford Baylor led a memorable downfield march for Keystone Heights, bouncing several mid-range throws to tall, athletic wide receivers Wyatt Van Zant and Andru Seimer, keeping the drive’s ember burning.

A successful 16-yard post pattern from Baylor to, giving the Indians new life in the early stages of the game. Then, with 9:55 remaining in the second quarter, he did it again, giving the Indians a chance yet again.

But Dunlap didn’t give credit to him-

self. It was his teammates who helped him get the job done, and no one was more clutch than middle linebacker Zane Leger, who forced the ball into action. “So my teammates were on point tonight, and my other linebacker, Zane (Leger), forced both of those fumbles. I just recovered it,” he said.

Then, at the beginning of the third quarter, the Indians put together the drive that earned their touchdown. It was quarterback Ford Baylor who pieced to-

SEE INDIANS, 41

Oakleaf lose in trenches at Creekside

Gauntlet schedule
continues for Foy

By Don Long
Correspondent

CREEKSIDE - In a war of sorts at the line of scrimmage, the Creekside High Knights football team took a page out of the Oakleaf playbook and used a strong offensive line presence to punch out a 38-20 district win Friday night at Creekside.

Both teams answered the first call on offense with Creekside rumbling 60 yards to pound in from three yards out to go ahead 7-0, but Oakleaf responded with a Chris Foy II 30-yard touchdown romp to tie the game.

From there, Creekside maintained the edge up front to build a 28-7 lead into the third quarter behind three interceptions on Oakleaf quarterback Brandon Wallace, Jr., and time-consuming scoring drives.

Creekside scored off a 50-yard run, then scooped up an Oakleaf fumble that led to another long scoring drive; a 12-yard scamper, then one from 16 yards to go up 28-7.

After negotiating a fumbled punt snap at their own five, Oakleaf’s defense



CORRESPONDENT PHOTOS BY DON LONG

Sophomore Jordin Price is another young gun for Oakleaf coach Chris Foy.

stopped Creekside and gave Wallace field position for a Foy eight-yard score.

A Creekside field goal got negated with a Wallace to Michael Connor 40-yard toss to the four-yard line where Wallace finished the task to put the score at 31-20 with time on the clock.

Creekside ate more clock to go up 38-20 with an insurance score.

The Oakleaf schedule gets no rest with undefeated Bradford and unbeaten Buchholz coming to Oakleaf with Madison County on the road a week before Bartram Trail.



Fleming Island Dreadnaughts



Mussante tops at FSU XC Invite

By Randy Lefko

Sports Editor with excerpts from Florida Southern Athletics, University of North Florida Athletics

TALLAHASSEE – The Florida Southern College women's cross country team, led by junior frontrunner Emma Mussante (Middleburg HS, Middleburg, FL) took on arguably its toughest field so far this season with several strong NCAA Division I programs and several Sunshine State Conference teams competing at the Florida State University Invitational Friday morning. The Moccasins finished eighth among the 35 teams including topping nine NCAA Division I institutions and finishing as the third NCAA Division II squad.

Mussante was the top Moccasin finisher as she crossed the line 24th overall with a time of 18:17.5 on the 5K course. Redshirt junior Ellie Fluman was the next FSC finisher as she placed 48th in the 335-member field after clocking in at 18:47.9.

Southeastern Conference member LSU took the top team prize as the Tigers compiled 27 points to best fellow SEC member Florida who turned in 42 points. Florida International rounded out the top three with 106 points. Sunshine State Conference member Tampa took fourth with 110 points and was the top NCAA Division II finisher. The next three finishers included Miami (170 pts.), Palm Beach Atlantic (222 pts.) and the hosts Florida State (241 pts.). The Moccasins came in with 259 points to secure eighth place, just one point ahead of USF who collected 260 points.

In the men's race, FSC graduate student Alex Guy (Keystone Heights) was third third-team finisher behind Christian Gillers and Owen Allen, who finished in the top 11 of the 342-athlete field. Guy finished 20th in 25:24.3 with teammate Bryson Yamnitz in 21st in 25:25.7.

The Moccasins will be in action next Saturday, Oct. 7 at the UAH Invitational in Huntsville, Ala. The women's race is currently scheduled for 9:50 a.m. (EST).

Also in the men's field was Flagler Col-



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAYTONA STATE COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Former Middleburg High cross country runner Molly Burt, third from left in white, takes off a start with her teammates now at Daytona State College.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FLORIDA GULF COAST ATHLETICS

Former Bishop Snyder cross country and swimming athlete Kaitlyn Frost, far left, is a freshman runner for the strong Florida Gulf Coast University cross country team.

lege junior A'Jani Stokes (Oakleaf HS) in 117th in 26:42.3.

For the girls, University of South Florida freshman Katelyn Thompson (Fleming Island HS) finished 119th in 19:50.6, Daytona State College freshman Molly Burt (Middleburg HS) was 234th in 21:37.1 and Florida Gulf Coast freshman Kaitlyn Frost (Bishop Snyder) was 260th in 22:25.3. Frost improved from a 23:58.7 at the Mountain Dew Classic in Gainesville two weeks ago. For the University of North Florida women's cross country team, Emma Millson (Fleming Island HS) was the third team finisher for Lady Ospreys at the

Gans Creek Classic in Columbia, MO with the team finishing 10th overall in the 23 team field which included team champion Nebraska in front of Missouri, Wichita State and Kansas State as UNF took on some of the best teams of the midwest United States.

Millson, a junior, finished 63rd in 22:33.0 for a personal best behind teammates Isa Leen, 48th in 22:16.9, and Erica Fisher in 53rd in 22:23.4.

The UNF men's team finished as second team behind a fourth-place finish from Robert Pedroza in 24:00.5. Illinois scored 46 points with three top 10 finishers to win



PHOTO COURTESY OF JODIE MUSSANTE

Two former Middleburg High cross country teammates, Emma Mussante, left, Holly Burt, right, take a moment for a selfie after FSU Invitational in Tallahassee. Mussante runs for Florida Southern College with Burt at Daytona State College.

with UNF second with 76 points.

UNF will prepare for the ASUN XC Championship race on October 28 in Nashville, TN, with an October 13 race date at the Florida Southern Invite in Lakeland.

Myers, Keester strong at Pre-State XC

By Randy Lefko

Sports Editor

TALLAHASSEE - With familiar names leading the boy's field at the FSU Pre-State Cross Country Invitational on the FHSAA state cross country course in Tallahassee, defending two-time state champion and three-time FSU Pre-state champion Patrick Koon of Leon and Belen Jesuit's Joshua Ruiz were, as usual, finishing 1-2 with both clocking spectacular sub-16 minute splits on the hilly course.

The third piece of the upcoming state meet puzzle is Fleming Island's Graham

Myers, who was third at last year's state championships in Class 3A behind the pair.

Myers, who was third to the pair with just Koon registering his course record at the time 14:56.70 to win over Ruiz, finished in 13th with a 15:38.60. Myers, third in Class 3A last year to the pair in 15:42.10, has had faster times this season.

Ironically, also in the top 10 chase of the Koon-Ruiz front, were two more Ruiz siblings; Justin and Joseph, who were ninth and 10th for the defending 3A team champions with splits of 15:33.60 and 15:34.70, respectively, to give Belen Jesuit

another top team in advance of the Class 3A championship race on the same course in November. Fleming Island, with Myers third last year, finished third in team points behind Fort Myers HS, 125-144, just ahead of Leon's 168 for fourth. Nease was third at FSU behind Brother Martin of New Orleans, but Nease is a Class 4A top team.

For the Golden Eagles, one key to repeating a top five or top three, is senior John Keester IV, who was 22nd at FSU's

SEE CROSS COUNTRY, 35



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Fleming Island senior Graham Myers and teammate John Keester IV took top finishes for the Golden Eagles at FSU's Pre-State Invitational with Myers chasing state nemesis Patrick Koon of Leon and Joshua Ruiz of Belen Jesuit.

Cross Country

from page 34

meet in 15:54.00, and 21st last year at the state meet in 16:32.60. Keester has maintained a stone's throw of most of this season's lead pack with an eye on keeping Myers in his sights and his finish will be critical for Fleming Island's team points.

Myers, the region champion last year with Koon seventh, and Keester, ninth at regions, as well as coaches David Allen and Jason Poole, all know the keys to the castle belong to the 3-4-5 finishers with 800 meter fourth at state (1:56.28) Roman Mollicone Fleming Island's third finisher at FSU in a distant 16:46.10 for 100th place with sophomore Andrew Boyer at 139th in 17:07.30. Mollicone, with a handful of sub-2 minute 800s, is a big meet gamer and



Oakleaf High sophomore Grant Keppel is a strong finisher who can have an impact in Oakleaf's district of doom in cross country. eammates Tyler Mess and Adam Ruoss.

could be the hero of Fleming Island's region and state attacks.

That gap from two to 3-4-5 left Fleming Island in 12th place at FSU with 376 points; behind Ponte Vedra (8th, 313 Pts), a top region challenger with Leon (2022 region finish: 1. PV, 2. FIHS, 3. Leon, 1-2-3, 42-54-64).



Clay High's top runner is Jacob Sanders who 13th in 18:51.30 at Matanzas High's Paradise Landing Run Matanzas Invitational.



Oakleaf High's Morgan Wade, right, has step by step put herself in contention for a top region finish and possible state meet invite.

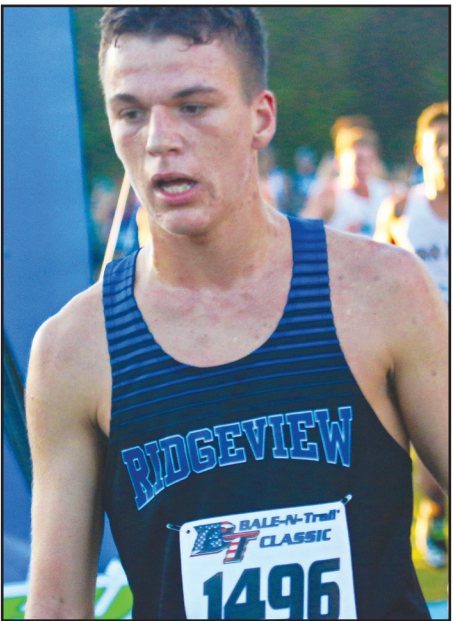
In other area races

Ridgeview, under the tutelage of returning Paul Grybb, has slowly inched toward the front with its five runners and took third at the Coach Hope Memorial race in Fernandina Beach behind Fletcher and West Florida. St. Johns Country Day School was fourth behind senior Richard Nichols 18:17.50 for the top area finisher in fifth place. Ridgeview's Brandon Ander-

son, a senior, was seventh for Grybb in 18:19.6. Fletcher took the top three spots with 17:28.8 winning.

In the girls race, won by Fernandina Beach sophomore Mikaela Nichols, ironically, in 20:43.8, Ridgeview's Emily Turner edged St. Johns' Rebecca Stratton for top area finisher with her eighth place in 22:19.1 to Stratton's 10th in 22:49.2.

In team points, Fernandina Beach held



Ridgeview High cross country returns to the leadership of Paul Grybb and is getting good mileage from teammates Tyler Mess and Adam Ruoss.

the home course advantage with 23 points to win over Fletcher's 105 with St. Johns taking third with 113 points to Ridgeview's 156. Middleburg was fourth for the girls with 168 points.

At Matanzas High School at the Paradise Landscaping Run Matanzas Cross Country 5K, Oakleaf's boys team finished third ahead of Keystone Heights in fifth and Clay at 12th.

Keystone Heights' senior Tyler Griffin was the top area finisher in eighth in 18:24.16 with Oakleaf sophomore Grant Keppel 12th in 18:39.03. Clay's Jacob Sanders was 13th in 18:51.30.

For the girl's race, Oakleaf was fourth behind team champion Master's Academy with Clay ninth and Keystone Heights 10th.

For Keystone Heights, another Griffin, sister Olivia Griffin, topped Morgan Wade of Oakleaf for eighth place and ninth for Wade with splits of 22:14.1 and 22:15.13. Clay's Erika Martinez was 14th in 22:32.67 with teammate Kaygen Williamson just 32 seconds behind her in 16th place.

Middleburg High School hosts the Middleburg Classic on Sat., Oct. 7 on the school campus.



Middleburg Wrestling Coach Dusinberre loses cancer battle

Longtime Middleburg High School wrestling coach Richard Charles "Duece" Dusinberre has passed away after a three year battle with cancer. Dusinberre was long a staple of Clay County wrestling and was also a fixture watching his sons and grandsons coach and play youth football for the Middleburg Athletic Association. Dusinberre, 50, was part of the Bronco coaching staff with Coll Robertson, now head coach, and Jamie Harrison that got the first girls state wrestling champion, Cheyenne Cruce, also unbeaten, last year. Dusinberre worked alongside Robertson the past five years despite his fight with cancer to develop the Bronco program into a state meet contender.

Eagles

from page 31

and compete.”

Broughton’s rushing total was an unofficial school record for rushing yards in a game by a Fleming Island quarterback. Combined with his 144 passing yards, he accounted for 72 percent of the Golden Eagles’ total offense. With his team trailing in the second half, Broughton was even inserted to return kickoffs, though he never got an opportunity.

Despite lofty preseason expectations for each team, both the Bears and Golden Eagles came into the contest with 2-2 records, making it as much of a must-win game for both teams as can be in only the fifth week of the season. Fleming Island head coach Chad Parker, who admitted before the game that it meant more to him than other games because he had been the assistant head coach and running backs coach at Bartram Trail last year, went for broke by playing more of his Golden Eagles on both sides of the ball.

“When I coached at Orange Park, the big thing was, ‘Play our best 11,’” said Parker. “Depth is definitely an issue for us [at Fleming Island].”

The strategy paid off in the first half, as the Golden Eagles kept the high-flying Bears—who boast Riley Trujillo, a quarterback who is headed to Central Florida on a football scholarship, Laython Biddle, a running back who is committed to playing at the Naval Academy, and Arthur Lewis, a slot man/running back who is just a sophomore but who is already entertaining several Division I offers—off of the scoreboard. Braden Cunningham, Fleming Island’s star offensive tackle, also played defensive tackle and recovered a Bears’ fumble in the end zone to thwart a drive that had reached the five-yard line. But the Fleming Island offense also failed to score, hurt by a holding penalty that nullified what would have been a 46-yard touchdown run by De’mhir Jackson and a turnover at the Bartram Trail five-yard line, leaving the teams tied 0-0 at halftime.

The second half was a complete reversal of the first half, with the two teams exploding for 77 points and 897 yards of offense. Lewis turned a swing pass from Trujillo into a 62-yard score on the first play from scrimmage, and the Bears never let up. Bartram Trail reached the end zone on their first six possessions of the second half. While Fleming Island answered the Bears’ first score with a touchdown of its own, the fatigued Golden Eagles were unable to keep pace. At least four Fleming Island players left the game with leg cramps.

“We played more guys both ways,” said Parker. “With that comes conditioning, and we were not there yet. We just got to get in better shape.”

Lewis ran the same wheel route on which he had scored Bartram Trail’s first touchdown to the other side of the field on the Bears’ second possession of the third quarter and scored again, this time on a 30-yard pass from Trujillo that gave the Bears a 14-7 lead. In all, Trujillo threw



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Fleming Island quarterback Cibastian Broughton breaks for 80 yd touchdown run in second half of Fleming Island district loss to Bartram trail.



Fleming Island wide receiver Trace Burney battles with Bartram Trail defender for long pass in third quarter action of Golden Eagles district loss to the Bears. Burney caught a 57-yard scoring pass in fourth quarter for Fleming Island.



Fleming Island High School dance team.

three touchdown passes to Lewis.

With the Golden Eagles wary of the passing game, the Bears changed tactics and started feeding Biddle. He ran for 270 yards and three touchdowns on 22 carries.

“They [the Bears] are loaded with talent,” said Parker, who pointed out that

Bartram Trail has a roster of 190 players and fields two junior varsity teams while Fleming Island has a roster of 60. “It was only a matter of time.”

Fleming Island kept pace for a while. One play after Lewis’s first touchdown, Golden Eagles running back Tyler Beverly

burst through a hole on the right side and was not caught until he gained 77 yards, reaching the Bears’ three-yard line. Three plays later, after a block in the back penalty nullified an apparent touchdown pass from Broughton to Trace Burney, Broughton rolled left, cut upfield, and cut back into the end zone from 16 yards out. Parker Sirdevan’s extra point tied the game at 7 with 9:46 remaining in the third quarter.

One play after Biddle scored on a 36-yard run to give the Bears a 21-7 lead, Broughton faded back, faked a pass, took off up the middle and outran everyone 80 yards to cut the deficit back to a single score with three minutes left in the third quarter. Broughton, who is on the Fleming Island track team and credited weightlifting with his legs for his improved speed, has been clocked at 11.1 in the 100-meter dash. The junior could not be headed off by the two Bears’ safeties who had angles on him.

The game’s defining sequence spanned the end of the third and the beginning of the fourth quarters. Down 28-14, the Golden Eagles marched from their 20-yard line to the Bartram Trail 32. On a third and two from there, Broughton took the snap and feinted towards the line as if it was a running play but pulled back to pass. The Bears’ Ryan Spencer blitzed from Broughton’s blind side and sacked him for an eight-yard loss as the third quarter ended. On fourth down, Broughton’s deep pass intended for Jackson fell incomplete.

Taking over at their own 40, the Bears needed just two plays to put the game away. Biddle swept left, escaped the grasp of Fleming Island’s Jackson—another of Fleming’s two-way players—at the corner and sped all the way to the end zone. The 60-yard score gave Bartram Trail a commanding 35-14 lead with 11:07 left in the game.

Broughton did not let his Golden Eagles teammates give up, pulling his offensive lineman aside on the sideline and encouraging them to keep fighting. Midway through the fourth quarter, Broughton faked a swing pass to Daevean Boykin in the flat, then lofted a perfect spiral to a streaking Burney along the left sideline. Burney hauled it in and cruised 57 yards to the end zone for a touchdown, cutting the Bears’ lead to 42-21.

Broughton led the Golden Eagles on their final scoring drive with under two minutes to play. He scrambled for 21 yards and followed that with a 39-yard completion to Burney. After Broughton ran for 11 yards and a first down at the nine-yard line, Jackson took a handoff, ran right, broke a tackle and scampered into the end zone for the game’s final touchdown with 0:54 remaining.

The Golden Eagles, now 2-3 overall and 0-2 in District 3-4S, must recover in time to face Lake Minneola on Friday, October 6. The Class 4S Hawks are also 2-3.

“The season is not lost,” said Parker. “Seven and three and six and four will get us to the playoffs. If we take care of business the next few weeks, we will go to the playoffs.”

OHS Hannah Johnson doubles up in MSU tie

By MSU Athletics

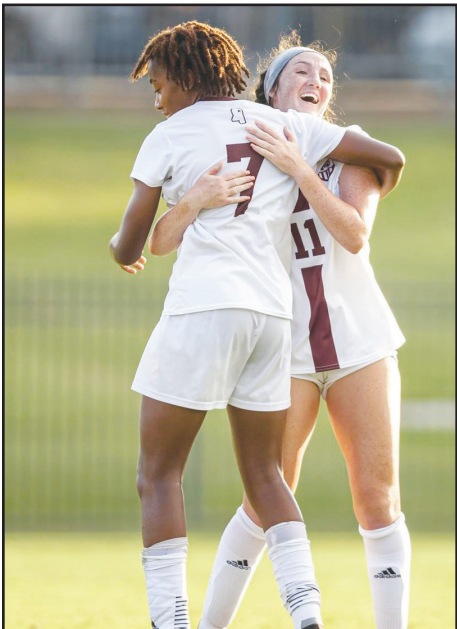
STARKVILLE, MS - In a thrilling Friday night soccer matchup at the MSU Soccer Field, the Bulldogs (6-3-3, 1-2-1 SEC) squared off against the Lady Volunteers of Tennessee (6-2-3, 1-1-2 SEC) in a women's college soccer showdown that ended in a 3-3 draw.

The Bulldogs got off to a strong start, scoring two goals in the first half.

In the 29th minute, Mississippi State notched their opening goal when junior forward Hannah Johnson (Oakleaf High School, Florida) skillfully placed the ball into the bottom left corner of the net, courtesy of an assist from Zoe Main and Maggie Wadsworth.

"The goals were amazing; just the whole team's effort honestly, said Johnson, who, with 100-plus goals in her high school career, scored 36 goals for Oakleaf in 2019 and 28 goals in 2020. "I think our execution is great. I think the rest of the game went well and we will continue to work hard to secure hard-fought results throughout SEC Play."

In the 43rd minute, the Bulldogs extended their lead as Ally Perry seized an opportunity in the box, capitalizing on a



miscommunication among Tennessee players and slotting a close-range shot into the net.

Johnson, now with three goals on the season, was not done getting in on the scoring action just yet as she opened the scoring in the second half, sending a perfectly placed header into the side net off a serve from the duo of Macey Hodge and Haley McWhirter in the 54th minute to



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MSU ATHLETICS

Former Oakleaf High forward soccer ace Hannah Johnson, a 36-goal scorer for Lady Knights in 2019, is a top scorer for Mississippi State University with three goals; two in a 3-3 tie with Tennessee last week.

make it 3-nill Dawgs.

Sizzy Lawton ignited the comeback for Tennessee with a goal in the 72nd minute and Jordan Fusco followed suit in the 77th. Tennessee benefited from an own goal by State in the 86th minute to pull even at 3-3.

"Just a really physical game end to end. A lot of energy from both sides," said MSU coach James Armstrong. "Playing the num-

ber 12 school in the country, scored three goals with 23 shots, that is a really good attacking display. I thought defensively we were great as well. We just need to learn how to close out a game."

The Bulldogs will return to the pitch on Thursday night when they travel to Gainesville for a matchup with Florida. The match is slated for a 5:00 kick and will be streamed via SEC Network Plus.



Fleming Island QB hopeful

STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Fleming Island High quarterback hopeful Bella Gordon takes a few practice tosses during third-quarter action in Golden Eagles district clash with Bartram Trail. Gordon did not enter the game.

Broncos, Panthers clash forthcoming in volleyball

Broncos smash Bishop Kenny, 3-0

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

MIDDLEBURG - Both have played monster schedules. Both have a handful of hard-fought losses to top-ranked teams. One has a new coach; albeit a coach that has been on the bench next to an icon. The other has a coach destined to push his program to a Final Four and getting closer each year.

As area high school volleyball inches toward their respective district tournaments in anticipation to advancing into a state playoff run and a possible Final Four invite, Middleburg and Ridgeview high schools look to be on a collision and explosive course that could create a final game that puts one on a state path and other on a bus home.

"Right now, the only team in our way is Middleburg," said Ridgeview coach Steven Henry, who lost the district title to Middleburg last year, but advanced to the region final to lose to Ocala Vanguard with Vanguard beating Middleburg in the region quarterfi-

nal. "We saw Vanguard at the recent JJVA Tournament (RHS second to Trinity Christian) and they did not look as strong. It will come down to a district final with both of us and possibly a region final with the both of us."

In 2022, Middleburg came to Ridgeview for the district championship game with a chip on their shoulder that was to get legendary coach Carrie Prewitt a few extra trophies prior to her career coming to an historic end.

Middleburg powerhitter Connor Rahn had the game of a lifetime to give Prewitt one final district title in an upset of sorts over Ridgeview in dramatic fashion.

"Just about everyone is back from both teams," said Henry. "It depends on who has the most confidence."

Confidence? Middleburg exacted a bit on 4A Final Four finisher Bishop Kenny on Tuesday in a 3-0 blowout (25-23, 25-22, 25-19).

"We knew it would be a great match," said Forkum. "We were swinging big, serving aggressive and played some great de-



Clay High senior libero Aubri Martin, in blue, has been fiery leader of Lady Blue Devils and is capable of generating a possible district tournament upset.



Fleming Island is led by the net presence of senior Rauly Eason, who surpassed 500 kills this year and is pictured taking on two Keystone Heights blockers; Abbie Roach, left, and Kierstyn Shaw in match Monday at Fleming Island.



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Middleburg High first year head coach Meredith Forkum has her eye on a big prize in her first year since replacing Carrie Prewitt and her Broncos are now top ranked in Class 5A above defending state champion Jensen Beach. MHS beat Bishop Kenny 3-0 Tuesday. Kenny was 4A Final Four finisher 2022.



Ridgeview High power hitter Haley Robinson has been a devastating force above the net for the Panthers for four years and will get one more shot with a handful of senior teammates to get to the elusive Class 5A Final Four.



Middleburg sophomore Kate Lowery has been a surprisingly effective blocker for the Broncos, here taking on Trinity Christian locomotive Amaria King, in Broncos recent clash.

fense."

Forkum, ranked No. 1 in Class 5A as of October 2 ahead of Jensen Beach, has had the team in the top five in class 5A throughout the season much like Ridgeview, now ranked No. 6 after a week of losses to the likes of Trinity Christian, Ponte Vedra, Bishop Kenny and Beachside with Beachside (No. 4 5A, 17-3), Trinity Christian (No. 4 3A, 19-2) and a surging Ponte Vedra (No. 13 6A, 6-8-0) to end the Panthers' season. Ponte Vedra did beat Ridgeview on September 19 with Middleburg beating Ponte Vedra 3-1

two days later. Both Ridgeview and Middleburg have lost to Trinity Christian.

"It (vs. Trinity Christian) was a tough match just like we knew it would be," said Forkum. "We fought hard and battled through some tough situations and plays but fell short. Connor (Rahn, 193 kills) kicked into gear that second set and played great volleyball. Brooke (Forkum) is a formidable left hander with 180 kills from the opposite end. Sophomore Kate Lowery, with

SEE VOLLEYBALL, 40

FHSAA selects FAMU for state football finals

From FHSAA

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — After competing in two separate locations for the last two years, the Florida High School Football State Championships will return to one location in 2023. In partnership between Visit Tallahassee and Florida A&M University (FAMU), Ken Riley Field at Bragg Memorial Stadium will serve as host to all nine

championship games, Thursday, December 7th – Saturday, December 9th. “The FHSAA is excited about the upcoming Florida High School Football State Championships to be hosted on Ken Riley Field at Bragg Memorial Stadium in Tallahassee,” said FHSAA Executive Director, Craig Damon. “Creating opportunities for our student-athletes is a top priority of



ours and finding a facility large enough to host the whole series in one location and welcome thousands that wish to attend, is a dream come true. We have worked with the folks at Visit Tallahassee and in Leon County for many years now with great success and we could not be more grateful for their efforts in making these championships a quality experience for the student-athletes of the State of Florida.” Bragg Memorial Stadium, newly minted Ken Riley Field at Bragg Memorial Stadium, is located on the campus of FAMU and serves as the home site of the Rattlers football team. Originally built in 1957, the stadium has a seating capacity of 19,633 and recently completed significant facility upgrades. Specific classification matchups and game times will be announced at a later date. Tickets for the event will be available online at a presale rate of \$17, and will be \$20 if purchased the day of the game. Parking fees will be included in the price of each ticket. Visit the FHSAA football sport page at FHSAA.com for info.

Volleyball

from page 39

her long arms, has become a great blocker (23 blocks) for us.” Unfortunately, the region playoffs favored Henry revamping his team and Pre-witt’s final game being in the quarterfinals against eventual Final Four finisher Ocala Vanguard with Vanguard ending the seasons of both coaches. Ridgeview lost to Vanguard in the region final. In Class 6A, former Fleming Island High standout hitter Amy Schermerhorn has had much success, at 14-5, 2-0 in district 3-6A, in her initial campaign as head coach and thinks she has accomplished her goal after seeing the team in week one. “I think the girls have improved on their games because they have improved on how they practice,” said Schermerhorn, after a 3-0 win over Keystone Heights on Monday. “We all know that you play like you practice. We started with strong opener with Creekside and a good game with Fletcher then battled it out with Bartram Trail with them hosting us on Thursday.” Schermerhorn has been driven at the net by hits from senior hitter Raully Eason (169 kills, 500th career recently) and junior Savannah Jackson (107 kills) who lead the offensive attack. “Those two are our main hitters, but junior Kaylee Kirkland (86 kills) has come on strong at the season’s end to give us a third hitter that defenses have to be concerned about,” said Schermerhorn, ranked 17th in Class 6A. “I see a little of me out there wishing I could be out there.” Fleming Island finishes with Oakleaf, Bartram Trail, Providence and Menendez. At St. Johns in Class 2A, first year coach Jenna Williams is 9-5, ranked 17th in 2A, Clay, in 5A, is 4-12, Oakleaf is 7-8 in 5A and Keystone Heights is 2-15 in 4A. Orange Park, with veteran coach Scott Conklin, has improved to a 12-7 record for 6A, led by hitter RYANNE ROBINSON’s astounding 275 kills, and finishes with Bishop Snyder, St. Augustine and ED White.





Keystone Heights opportunistic defense has scored points and recovered fumbles and interceptions throughout the season led by linebacker Kyle Perkins.

Indians
from page 32

gether a memorable downfield march for Keystone Heights, bouncing several mid-range throws to tall, physical, and athletic wide receivers Wyatt Van Zant and Andru Seimer, keeping the drive going in several key situations down the stretch.

It was a 16-yard post pattern from Baylor to Seimer that put the Indians within striking distance in the red zone. with 6:45 remaining in the quarter, Keystone Heights advanced to Tornadoes' territory on a pattern advancing the ball from their 49-yard line to the Bradford 35. Then, fifteen seconds later, Van Zant advanced the Indians to the Tornadoes 16-yard line on the same pattern.

But it was Keystone Heights' physical running back, Cortez Daniels, who finally marched the Indians into the end zone for a score on what originally appeared to be yet another failed attempt. On 3rd and 4th and fourth downs, Baylor was stuffed on a scramble attempt. The Tornadoes defense was determined to prevent the Indians from capitalizing on the opportunity.

Last chance on fourth down and under pressure, it was Keystone Heights' physical running back who charged into the end zone.

Now, it was 4th and 4, and in the big moment, Keystone Heights head coach Steve Reynolds knew the name of his running back, Cortez Daniels. "It was fourth down. I knew we needed that, because it would be big for us. I just made sure to keep my legs churning and make sure that I got to the end zone," Daniels said.

The scoring drive gave a silver lining to what was a tough 48-6 loss.

But one highlight was not enough. "The team and I and the team could have played



Keystone Heights quarterback's coach Ken Mudge, and Orange Park High quarterback gunslinger in his days under legendary Coach Danny Green, has been grooming sophomore quarterback Baylor Ford to create potent pass game for Indians offense.

a lot better," Daniels said.

Dunlap agreed.

"It's not what we wanted to end up, but it is what it is. We played with our hearts. Next week, we will recover and get better, study (our opponent) more, and just come prepared," he said.

Keystone Heights has reason to keep its heads up for its homecoming game against Crescent City next week. The Indians squad has improved in many ways and the game against Tornadoes showed their fortitude against great adversity. Already matching last year's win total, the Indians plan to continue their resilience in the race for the Already matching last season's win total, an improved Indians' squad will meet Crescent City next week at home. It will be an opportunity to get better, best last year's win total, and stay alive in the race for the state playoffs.

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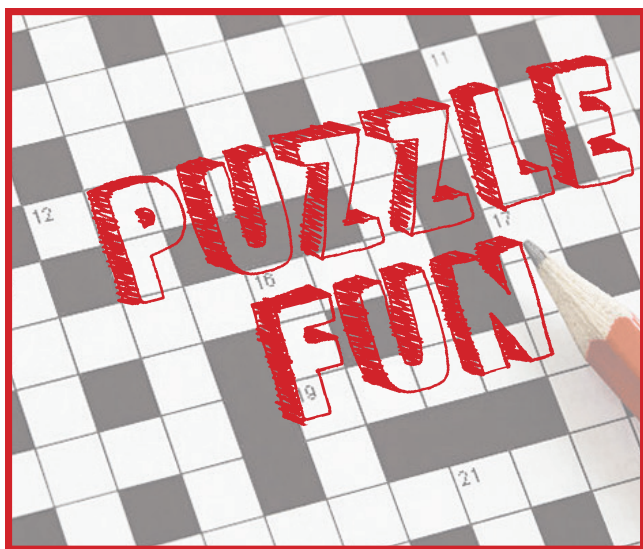


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Van der Valk

World on Fire

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	2	9	3					
4				8				1
							9	5
					1		7	
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Level: Intermediate

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to chiropractic care.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 25 = E)

- A. 16 11 6 10 17 9**

Clue: Move or tweak

- B. 17 23 21 22 25**

Clue: Keeps people upright

- C. 23 16 21 22**

Clue: Hurting

- D. 5 25 14 21 25 24**

Clue: Ease of pain

Answers: A. adjust B. spine C. pain D. relief

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to chiropractic care.

K C N E

--	--	--	--

Answer: Neck

Guess Who?

I am an actor born in Illinois on October 6, 1976. I trained at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, and with the Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre comedy troupe. I've been on a number of shows, including "Fleabag" and "Stranger Things."

Answer: Brett Gelman

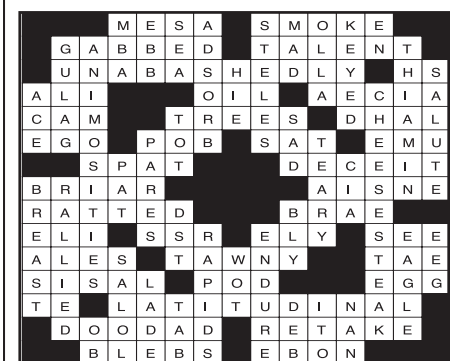
CHIROPRACTIC WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

ACTIVATOR
ADJUSTMENT
ARTICULATE
ATLAS
BONES
CERVICAL
CHIROPRACTIC
COCCYX
DIAGNOSIS
DISC
FLEXORS
HANDS
JOINT
LUMBAR
MANIPULATION
MASSAGE
NECK
NERVES
PAINFUL
SACRUM
SPINAL
STIMULATION
SUBLUXATION
VERTEBRAE



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

READ LOCAL.

SHOP LOCAL.

**LIVE
LOCAL.**

CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

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. 2023CA001303
MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT, LLC,
Plaintiff,
vs.
KAREN SUE BOYLES A/K/A KAREN S. BOYLES, et al.
Defendant(s).

TO: KAREN S. BOYLES A/K/A KAREN SUE BOYLES, UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF KAREN S. BOYLES A/K/A KAREN SUE BOYLES,

whose residence is unknown and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the mortgage being foreclosed herein. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTICED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property:

LOT 616, OAK FOREST, UNIT II, SITUATED IN SECTIONS 3, 4, 10 AND 15 OF TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, INCLUDING THE EAST 30 FEET FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
COMMENCE AT A CONCRETE MONUMENT AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA AND RUN N 89° 31' 23" E ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 4, A DISTANCE OF 571.11 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUN S 52° 22' 55" E A DISTANCE OF 21.66 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUN S 17° 37' 18" W A DISTANCE OF 31.92 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUN S 52° 22' 55" W A DISTANCE OF 31.92 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUN S 00° 03' 00" E A DISTANCE OF 724.17 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUN N 89° 54' 08" E A DISTANCE OF 1996.33 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUN S 27° 22' 07" E A DISTANCE OF 866.03 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUN N 62° 37' 53" E A DISTANCE OF 241.76 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUN S 46° 35' 02" E A DISTANCE OF 6019.87 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUN S 31° 57' 25" E A DISTANCE OF 518.99 FEET FOR A POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE N 31° 57' 25" E A DISTANCE OF 321.64 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUN N 89° 07' 58" E A DISTANCE OF 718.63 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUN S 89° 07' 58" W A DISTANCE OF 892.98 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, INCLUDING THE EAST 30 FEET FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on counsel for Plaintiff, whose address is 6409 Congress Avenue, Suite 100, Boca Raton, Florida 33487 on or before (30 days from Date of First Publication of this Notice) 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 or petition filed herein. WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court at County, Florida, this 29th day of September, 2023.
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
BY: Gracie Moore
DEPUTY CLERK
Legal 86792 Published 10/5/2023 and 10/12/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF PUBLIC
SALE:

ELITE TOWING gives notice that on 10/20/2023 at 09:00 AM the following vehicles(s) may be sold by public sale at 4353 CO RD 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.
1G1ZA5EU8BF110607 2011 CHEV
Legal 86791 Published 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF PUBLIC
SALE:

ELITE TOWING gives notice that on 10/16/2023 at 09:00 AM the following vehicles(s) may be sold by public sale at 4353 CO RD 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.
JACDS58X317J13622 2001 ISU
JTKKU10479J036743 2009 TOYOT
Legal 86790 Published 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: HENRY YEH, 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.: 1632/2018
Legal Description: PT OF N1/2 OF NW1/4 AS REC O R 88 PG 583 & 570 PG 305
Parcel ID No.: 220524-006519-000-00
Opening Bid Amount: \$2,427.91
Physical Address: FORMAN CIR , MID-DLEBURG
Classification: CHURCHES MISC
Name in which assessed: ETERNAL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST INC
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 November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.
Dated this 2nd day of October, 2023
TARA S. GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
Clay County, Florida
By: Christina Spadea
Deputy Clerk
Legal 86789 Published 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023, 10/19/2023 and 10/26/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: BRAD-FORD 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.: 3778/2019
Legal Description: LOT 10 BLK 33 LAKE GENEVA O R 1510 PG 1342 & 1343
Parcel ID No.: 280823-021924-001-00
Opening Bid Amount: \$1,403.25
Physical Address: CYPRESS ST , KEY-STONE HEIGHTS
Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL
Name in which assessed: VIRGINIA P SHELL
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 November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.
Dated this 2nd day of October, 2023
TARA S. GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
Clay County, Florida
By: Christina Spadea
Deputy Clerk
Legal 86788 Published 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023, 10/19/2023 and 10/26/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

FICTITIOUS NAME

Notice Under Fictitious Name Law Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of
Adams Appraisals, located at 411 Walnut St. #17833, in the County of Clay, in the City of Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043 intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.
Dated at Green Cove Springs, Florida, this 30th day of September 2023.
Angela L Adams
Legal 86786 Published 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF AGENCY
ACTION TAKEN BY THE
ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Notice is given that the following permit was issued on September 21, 2023:
Fleming Island Plantation CDD 210 N University Dr Ste 802 Coral Springs, FL 33071 permit #75785-5. The project is located in Clay County, Sections 17, Township 5 South, Range 26 East. The permit authorizes a surface water management system on 10.25 acres for the inclusion of four new pickleball courts to replace the existing volleyball courts known as Fleming Island Plantation. The receiving water body is Pond Node 15A-N1.
A person whose substantial interests are or may be affected has the right to request an administrative hearing by filing a written petition with the St. Johns River Water Management District (District). Pursuant to Chapter 28-106 and Rule 40C-1.1007, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), the petition must be filed (received) either by delivery at the office of the District Clerk at District Headquarters, P.O. Box 1429, Palatka FL 32178-1429 (4049 Reid St, Palatka, FL 32177) or by e-mail with the District Clerk at Clerk@sjrwm.com, within twenty-one (21) days of newspaper publication of the notice of District decision (for those persons to whom the District does not mail or email actual notice). A petition must comply with Sections 120.54(5)(b)4. And 120.569(2)(c), Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Chapter 28-106, F.A.C. The District will not accept a petition sent by facsimile (fax). Mediation pursuant to Section 120.573, F.S., may be available and choosing mediation does not affect your right to an administrative hearing. A petition for an administrative hearing is deemed filed upon receipt of the complete petition by the District Clerk at the District Headquarters in Palatka, Florida dur-

ing the District's regular business hours. The District's regular business hours are 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., excluding weekends and District holidays. Petitions received by the District Clerk after the District's regular business hours shall be deemed filed as of 8 a.m. on the District's next regular business day. The District's acceptance of petitions filed by e-mail is subject to certain conditions set forth in the District's Statement of Agency Organization and Operation (issued pursuant to Rule 28-101.001, Florida Administrative Code), which is available for viewing at www.sjrwm.com. These conditions include, but are not limited to, the petition being in the form of a PDF or TIFF file and being capable of being stored and printed by the District. Further, pursuant to the District's Statement of Agency Organization and Operation, attempting to file a petition by facsimile (fax) is prohibited and shall not constitute filing.
The right to an administrative hearing and the relevant procedures to be followed are governed by Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, Chapter 28-106, Florida Administrative Code, and Rule 40C-1.1007, Florida Administrative Code. Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means the District's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this notice. Failure to file a petition for an administrative hearing within the requisite time frame shall constitute a waiver of the right to an administrative hearing. (Rule 28-106.111, F.A.C.).
If you wish to do so, please visit http://www.sjrwm.com/nor_dec/ to read the complete Notice of Rights to determine any legal rights you may have concerning the District's decision(s) on the permit application(s) described above. You can also request the Notice of Rights by contacting the Director of Business and Administrative Services, 4049 Reid St., Palatka, FL 32177-2529, tele.no. (386)329-4570.
Legal 86785 Published 10/5/2023 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, November 02, 2023, for the following:
RFB NO. 23/24-01, Guardrail Repair, Installation and Replacement
Bids will be opened at 9:00 A.M., or as soon thereafter, on Friday, November 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.
Proposals require a five (5%) percent bid bond and may not be withdrawn after the scheduled opening time for a period of thirty (30) days. The term bid bond shall include bonds or cashier or certified checks payable to the County. The solicitation package is available at: H T T P S : // P R O C U R E M E N T . O P E N O V . C O M / P O R T A L / 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 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 86784 Published 10/5/2023 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. 10-2022-CA-000084
MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT, LLC,
Plaintiff,
vs.
ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER AND AGAINST THE ESTATE OF WOLF D. SCHNEIDER, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS, et al.,
Defendant.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure filed September 27, 2023 entered in Civil Case No. 10-2022-CA-000084 of the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Green Cove Springs, Florida, the Clerk of Court, Clerk of Court of Clay County, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.Clay.RealForeclose.com in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the 1st day of November, 2023 at on the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:
A PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN AND BEING A PART OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA. SAID PARCEL BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE EASTERLY BOUNDARY OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF COUNTY ROAD NO. 315 AND THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF SAID SECTION 5 AND RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 29 MINUTES AND 30 SECONDS EAST, ALONG THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY THEREOF, 1284.15 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF A PARCEL OF LAND DESCRIBED IN O.R. BOOK 1658, PAGE 80 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF SAID COUNTY; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 89 DEGREES, 29 MINUTES AND 30 SECONDS EAST, ALONG THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY THEREOF, 1029.00 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID PARCEL (O.R. BOOK 1658, PAGE 80); THENCE NORTH 01 DEGREES 26 MINUTES AND 02 SECONDS WEST, ALONG THE EASTERLY BOUNDARY THEREOF, 267.69 FEET TO AN IRON ROD AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM POINT OF BEGINNING THUS DESCRIBED RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES, 54 MINUTES AND 08 SECONDS WEST, PARALLEL WITH THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID PARCEL (O.R. BOOK 1658, PAGE 80) A DISTANCE OF 250.00 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE NORTH 01 DEGREES 26 MINUTES 02 SECONDS WEST, PARALLEL WITH THE EASTERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID PARCEL (O.R. BOOK 1658, PAGE 80) A DISTANCE OF 350.00 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 54 MINUTES AND 08 SECONDS EAST, PARALLEL WITH THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID PARCEL (O.R. BOOK 1658, PAGE 80) A DISTANCE

OF 250.00 FEET TO AN IRON ROD ON THE EASTERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID PARCEL (O.R. BOOK 1658, PAGE 80) THENCE SOUTH 01 DEGREES 26 MINUTES AND 02 SECONDS EAST, ALONG SAID EASTERLY BOUNDARY, 350 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. TOGETHER WITH AN EASEMENT FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS 35.0 FEET WIDE AND LYING RIGHT OF, ADJACENT TO AND CONTIGUOUS WITH THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LINE: COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF A PARCEL OF LAND DESCRIBED IN O.R. BOOK 1658, PAGE 80 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING AND RUN NORTH 37 DEGREES, 18 MINUTES AND 44 SECONDS EAST, ALONG THE WESTERLY BOUNDARY THEREOF 660.62 FEET; THENCE NORTH 84 DEGREES 25 MINUTES AND 39 SECONDS EAST, 404.08 FEET TO THE END OF SAID EASEMENT. SIDE LINES OF SAID EASEMENT TO BE LENGTHENED OR SHORTENED TO INTERSECT AT ANGLE POINTS AND INTERSECT THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID PARCEL DESCRIBED IN O.R. BOOK 1658, PAGE 80.
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 28th day of September, 2023.
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
As Clerk of the Court
By: Jennifer Brosky
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 - crtntpr@col.net.
Legal 86782 Published 10/5/2023 and 10/12/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF PUBLIC
SALE

BURGART ENTERPRISES TOWING INC. gives notice that on 10/20/2023 at 12:00 PM the following vehicle(s) will 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.
1N4AL1D25C115147 2005 NISS
Legal 86781 Published 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Notice of Public Sale

On October 17, 2023, at 10 A.M. 246 Jefferson Ave, Orange Park, Florida 32065. The following vehicles will be auctioned off for towing and storage charges.
2020 SUBARU JF2SKAJC2LH431626
Legal 86780 Published 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

FICTITIOUS NAME

Notice Under Fictitious Name Law Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of
Heartwood Music, located at 411 Walnut St. #4100, in the County of Clay, in the City of Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043 intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.
Dated at Green Cove Springs, Florida, this 29th day of September 2023.
Claralynn R. Nunemaker
Legal 86779 Published 10/5/2023 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
October 19, 2023, at 10:00 AM at 2909 BLANDING BLVD MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068,
pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes.
2009 Nissan ID# 1N4AL21E29N407194
2006 Nissan ID# JN8AZ08T66W417481
2015 Volkswagen ID # 1YW-CV7A30FC073857
Legal 86778 Published 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF
FORECLOSURE SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No: 2018 CA 0894
Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as trustee of Discovery Mortgage Loan Trust, Plaintiff,
vs.
Kenneth M. Hall Jr., et al., Defendants.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated September 27, 2023, and entered in Case No. 2018 CA 0894 of the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida wherein Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as trustee of Discovery Mortgage Loan Trust, is the Plaintiff and Middleburg Holdings 32068, LLC, as Successor Trustee of the Clay County Land Trust #33-04-25-008101-047-48; Kenneth M. Hall Jr.; Duval Assets 2021, LLC, as Successor Trustee of the 3548 Talisman Drive Land Trust; Coppergate Estates Owners Association, Inc.; Unknown Tenant #1 n/k/a Chris Ellison; Clerk of the Court, Clay County, Florida; Boris Luksis; Unknown Spouse of Kenneth Hall Jr.; Amy Lynn Bromley; Nicole Louise Gardner; Christine Marie Gardner; Ryan David Gardner; Jacqueline Anne Gardner; Elizabeth Jean Gardner; Kenneth Paul Gardner; Brandon Michael Gardner; & Victoria Lynn Gardner, are Defendants, I, Tara S. Green, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at 10:00 a.m. on www.clay.realforeclose.com on November 1, 2023 the following described property set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
LOT 108, COPPERGATE, UNIT THREE-BAS PER PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 38, PAGE 18, 19, 20, 21 AND 22, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
Commonly known as: 3548 TALISMAN DR., 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 before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.
If the sale is set aside, the Purchaser may be entitled to only a return of the sale deposit less any applicable fees and costs and shall have no other recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.
DATED in Clay, Florida this, 28th day of September, 2023
As Clerk of Circuit Court
CLAY County, Florida
Jennifer Brosky
Deputy Clerk
Legal 86777 Published 10/5/2023 and 10/12/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

SANDRIDGE
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICT NOTICE OF
FISCAL YEAR 2024
MEETINGS

The Board of Supervisors ("Board") of the Sandridge Community Development District ("District") will hold regular meetings for Fiscal Year 2024 at 2:00 p.m., at the

TO THE PATIENTS OF:
HCA Florida Orange Park ENT
1825 Kingsley Ave Suite 250
Orange Park, FL 32073
(904) 830- 3250

HCA Florida Orange Park ENT will close on October 6, 2023.
Dr. Alexander Farag will provide care at the Jacksonville Sinus Institute after Monday, October 9:

Jacksonville Sinus Institute
836 Prudential Drive, Suite 1601
Jacksonville, FL 32207
(Phone) 904-396-8060
(Fax) 904-390-7385

Your medical records are confidential and will not be relocated. If you have any questions, please call
(904) 830-3250.

Legal ad 85902 published September 28, October 5,12, 2023 in Clay County's Clay Today Newspaper.

CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

Holiday Inn and Suites, 620 Wells Road, Orange Park, Florida 32073 on the following dates:

October 24, 2023
November 28, 2023
January 23, 2024
February 27, 2024
March 26, 2024
April 23, 2024
May 28, 2024
June 25, 2024
July 23, 2024
August 27, 2024
September 24, 2024

The meetings are open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law. The meetings may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record at the meetings. There may be occasions when Board Supervisors or District Staff may participate by speaker telephone. A copy of the agenda for the meetings 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://sandridgecdd.net/>.

Any person requiring special accommodations at the meetings 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 meetings. 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 meetings 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.

District Manager
Legal 86775 Published 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

CREEKVIEW
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICT NOTICE OF
FISCAL YEAR 2024
MEETINGS

The Board of Supervisors ("Board") of the Creekview Community Development District ("District") will hold regular meetings for Fiscal Year 2024 at 2:00 p.m., or immediately thereafter the adjournment of the Sandridge CDD meetings, scheduled to commence at 2:00 p.m., at the Holiday Inn and Suites, 620 Wells Road, Orange Park, Florida 32073 on the following dates:

October 24, 2023
November 28, 2023
January 23, 2024
February 27, 2024
March 26, 2024
April 23, 2024
May 28, 2024
June 25, 2024
July 23, 2024
August 27, 2024
September 24, 2024

The purpose of the meetings is for the Board to consider any business, which may properly come before it. The meetings are open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law. The meetings may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record at the meetings. There may be occasions when Board Supervisors or District Staff may participate by speaker telephone. A copy of the agenda for the meetings Budgets may be obtained by contacting the offices of the District Manager, Wrathell Hunt & Associates, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida, 33431, (877) 276-0889 ("District Manager's Office"), during normal business hours or by visiting the District's website, <https://creekviewcdd.net/>.

Any person requiring special accommodations at the meetings 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 meetings. 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 meetings 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.

District Manager
Legal 86774 Published 10/5/2023 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. 2023CA000008 ALLIED FIRST BANK, SB DBA SERVBANK, Plaintiff, vs.

SARA RENNARD, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure filed **September 27, 2023** entered in Civil Case No. 2023CA000008 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 10th day of January, 2024 at 10:00 AM on the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit: Lot 6, Block 164, Black Creek Park Unit One, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 11, Pages 21 through 33, 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 27th day of September, 2023. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT As Clerk of the Court BY: Chelsey Mason 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 86772 Published 10/5/2023 and 10/19/2023 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.: 2020-CA-000162 AUX MORTGAGE TRUST II, A DELAWARE TRUST, WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, TRUSTEE, Plaintiff, v. ESTATE OF WESLEY K. THOMAS, et al. Defendants.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered 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: **Lot 14, Block 6, TANGLEWOOD VILLAGE UNIT SIX, according to the map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 17, Page 1, Public Records of Clay County, Florida.** . at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at 10:00 a.m. on the 1st day of November, 2023, at www.clay.realforeclose.com. ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM BEFORE THE CLERK REPORTS THE SURPLUS AS UNCLAIMED PER SECTION 45.031, FLORIDA STATUTES. DATED this 27th day of September, 2023 Tara S. Green Clerk of the Circuit Court Gracie Moore By: Deputy Clerk
Legal 86771 Published 10/5/2023 and 10/12/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Notice of Meeting Dates
Fleming Island Plantation
Community Development
District

The Board of Supervisors of the Fleming Island Plantation Community Development District will hold its meetings for Fiscal Year 2024 at the Splash Park, 1510 Calming Water Drive, Fleming Island, Florida on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted as follows:

October 24, 2023
November 28, 2023
December 19, 2023 (Third Tuesday due to Holidays)
January 23, 2024
February 27, 2024
March 26, 2024
April 23, 2024
May 28, 2024
June 25, 2024
July 23, 2024
August 27, 2024
September 24, 2024

There may be occasions when one or more Supervisors will participate by telephone. These meetings may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record at the meetings without further publication of notice.

Any person requiring special accommodations at these meetings because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Office at (954) 603-0033 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 711 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 these meetings is advised that person will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the pro-

ceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based. Janice Eggleton Davis District Manager
Legal 86642 Published 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

FICTITIOUS NAME

Notice Under Fictitious Name Law Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of **Brose Law**, located at 5000 US HWY 17 S, Ste 18-127, in the County of Clay, in the City of Fleming Island, Florida 32003 intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Dated at Fleming Island, Florida, this 26th day of September 2023. BitterWit, LLC.

Legal 86641 Published 10/5/2023 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.: 2023 CA 001214 MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs. SARAH D. COVINGTON; et al., Defendant(s). TO: Sarah D. Covington Last Known Residence: 324 Mercury Drive Orange Park, FL 32073 TO: Unknown Spouse of Sarah D. Covington Last Known Residence: 324 Mercury Drive Orange Park, FL 32073

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in CLAY County, Florida: **LOT 10, BLOCK 24, MEADOWBROOK, UNIT 7, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGES 4 AND 5, 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 ALDRIDGE PITE, LLP, Plaintiff's attorney, at 5300 West Atlantic Avenue Suite 303 Delray Beach, FL 33484, on or before 30 days from first publication, 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 or petition. Dated on September 27, 2023. As Clerk of the Court By: Chelsey Mason

Legal 86586 Published 10/5/2023 and 10/12/2023 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 CIVIL DIVISION CASE# 2023-CA-001138 LENDING CREDIT 22, LLC Plaintiff v.

DUVAL HOLDINGS 1752 LLC TRUSTEE FOR CLAY COUNTY LAND TRUST 12/13/2016 Defendant

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order of Final Judgment of foreclosure dated September 14, 2023 and entered in Case No. 23-CA-001138 of the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida wherein the property will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.clay.realforeclose.com, the Clerk's website for on-line auctions at **10:00 o'clock a.m. on the 1st day of November, 2023** the following described property as set forth in said Order or Final Judgment, to wit: (LEGAL DESCRIPTION) **LOT 4, GLEN LAUREL UNIT 1 Property Address: 1752 GLEN LAUREL DRIVE, MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068**

The above is to be published in the business observer. 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. 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 ADA Coordinator at least 7 days before your scheduled 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 in Clay County, Florida this day of September 25, 2023 Julius Adams Attorney for Plaintiff PO BOX 8504 Tampa, Fl 33674 jadams@lawandsupport.com 727-506-2308

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT By: Chelsey Mason Deputy Clerk
Legal 86585 Published 10/5/2023 and 10/12/2023 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: 2023CA001231 NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, Plaintiff, vs.

Sione T. Reece, et. al., Defendants. TO: SLONET T. REECE 2070 TANAGER DR ORANGE PARK FL 32073 SLONET T. REECE 167 JARDIN DE MER PL JACKSONVILLE, FL 32250 SLONET T. REECE 500 EAST ADAMS ST JACKSONVILLE, FL 32250 UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SLONE T. REECE

2070 TANAGER DR ORANGE PARK FL 32073 UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SLONE T. REECE 167 JARDIN DE MER PL JACKSONVILLE, FL 32250 UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SLONE T. REECE 500 EAST ADAMS ST JACKSONVILLE, FL 32250 LAST KNOWN ADDRESS STATED, CURRENT RESIDENCE UNKNOWN

and any unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors and other unknown persons or unknown spouses claiming by, through and under the above-named Defendant(s), if deceased or whose last known addresses are unknown. **YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that an action to foreclose Mortgage covering the following real and personal property described as follows, to wit: **A portion of Lot 31, as shown on Plat of Woodside, as recorded in Plat Book 21, pages 16, 17, 18 and 19, less and except a portion thereof, as recorded in the Current Public Records of Clay County, Florida, and being more particularly described as follows:** Begin at the Northwest corner of said Lot 31, also being the Northeast corner of Lot 30 of said Woodside, said corner lying on the Southerly right-of-way line of Interstate No. 295 (State Road 9A, according to State Road Dept. right-of-way map, section No. 72001-2404, dated February 13, 1967), also being a point on a curve leading to the left; thence along and around the arc of said curve and along said right-of-way line being concave Northerly and having a radius of 5879.50 feet, an arc distance of 48.32 feet said arc being subtended by a chord bearing and distance of South 84° 00' 18" East, 48.32 feet to a point on said curve; thence South 00° 03' 56" East, 115.64 feet, to a point lying on the Northerly right-of-way line of Tanager Drive (a 50 foot right-of-way as now established), also being a point on a curve leading to the left; thence along and around the arc of said curve being concave Southerly and having a radius of 182.89 feet, an arc distance of 50.77 feet, said arc being subtended by a chord bearing and distance of North 71° 44' 59" West, 50.61 feet to a point on said curve; thence North 00° 03' 56" West, along the Westerly line on said Lot 31 104.83 feet to Point of Beginning.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Anthony Vamvas, Esq., Lender Legal PLLC, 1800 Pembroke Drive, Suite 250, Orlando, Florida 32810 and file the original with the Clerk of the above-styled Court on or before 30 days from the first publication, or otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. WITNESS my hand and seal of the said Court on the 25th day of September, 2023. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT By: Chelsey Mason Deputy Clerk
Legal 86334 Published 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: JEFFREY W KOCH-BB8 FINANCIAL, 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.: 818/2016 Legal Description: LOT 33 BLK 75 HIGHLRIDGE ESTATE AS REC O R 569 PG 205 & 1232 PG 63 Parcel ID No.: 210823-003739-000-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$1,782.90 Physical Address: 6168 EMORY AVE , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL Name in which assessed: RACHEL L SIMMONS** 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 November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.** Dated this 25th day of September, 2023 TARA S . GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: JEFFREY W KOCH-BB8 FINANCIAL, 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.: 818/2016 Legal Description: LOT 33 BLK 75 HIGHLRIDGE ESTATE AS REC O R 569 PG 205 & 1232 PG 63 Parcel ID No.: 210823-003739-000-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$1,782.90 Physical Address: 6168 EMORY AVE , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL Name in which assessed: RACHEL L SIMMONS** 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 November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.** Dated this 25th day of September, 2023 TARA S . GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk
Legal 86329 Published 9/28/2023, 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023 and 10/19/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC FTB COLLATERAL ASSIGNEE, 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.: 1771/2021 Legal Description: LOT 43 BLK 3 BLACK CREEK PARK UNIT 4 AS REC O R 4037 PG 946 Parcel ID No.: 320524-006700-380-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$1,724.59 Physical Address: 4818 JOAN AVE , MIDDLEBURG Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL Name in which assessed: HARRY T THURAN & DARRELL C HEIMBACH JR** 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 November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.** Dated this 25th day of September, 2023 TARA S . GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk

Legal 86328 Published 9/28/2023, 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023 and 10/19/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC FTB COLLATERAL ASSIGNEE, 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.: 1020/2021 Legal Description: PT OF GOV LT 1 S32T8R23 & LOTS 1-5 & PT LOTS 6 & 7 BREEZY POINT 1 S31T8R23 AS REC OR 198 PG 206 & 208; 237 PG 422 EX PT REC OR 655 PG 61; 661 PG 508 ; 848 PG 66 & BREEZY SHORES PB 41 PG 18 Parcel ID No.: 320823-004895-000-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$3,422.31 Physical Address: BREEZY POINT , MELROSE Classification: NO AG ACREAGE Name in which assessed: CHARLES J HARRIS ET AL, CHARLES J HARRIS TRUST, CHARLES J HARRIS JR, BONNIE** 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 November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.** Dated this 25th day of September, 2023 TARA S . GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk

Legal 86327 Published 9/28/2023, 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023 and 10/19/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: CHARLENE S KNOWLES, 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.: 2854/2018 Legal Description: PT OF LOT 5 HIBERNIA AS REC O R 88 PG 394 & 773 PG 363 Parcel ID No.: 380526-014712-000-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$5,432.53 Physical Address: HIBERNIA , FLEMING ISLAND Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL W/SPECIAL FEATURES OR YARD ITEM Name in which assessed: JOSEPHINE HAGEN, C/O LILLIAN BOWENS** 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 November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.** Dated this 25th day of September, 2023 TARA S . GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk

Legal 86326 Published 9/28/2023, 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023 and 10/19/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2023-CP-455 PROBATE DIVISION: D IN RE: THE ESTATE OF HELEN JEANNETTE STEWART, Deceased. TO: ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS

OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE

Within three months from the time of the first publication of this notice, you are required to file with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 825 N. Orange Avenue, P. O. Box 698, Green Cove Springs, Florida, 32043-0698, a written and verified statement of any Claim or demand you may have against the Estate of HELEN JEANNETTE STEWART, Deceased.

Each claim must be in writing and must indicate the basis for the claim, the name and address of the creditor or his agent or attorney, and the amount claimed. If the claim is not yet due, the date when it will become due shall be stated. If the claim is contingent or unliquidated, the nature of the uncertainty shall be stated. If the claim is secured, the security shall be described. The claimant shall deliver a copy of the claim to the clerk who shall furnish the copy to the Personal Representative. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. DATED September 25, 2023.

TERRANCE A. JONES, ESQUIRE Florida Bar No.: 0454958 1688 Colonial Drive Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 (904) 333-4400 terrance@terrancejoneslaw.com Attorney for Personal Representative **Tabatha Melcolm** Personal Representative First Published on September 28, 2023. **Legal 86325 Published 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: JIMMY PAR JOE JR, 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.: 868/2016 Legal Description: LOT 2 BLK 93 HIGHLRIDGE ESTATES AS REC O R 3144 PG 566 Parcel ID No.: 210823-004162-000-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$2,002.81 Physical Address: 6267 REED DR , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL Name in which assessed: CRYSTAL I 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 November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.** Dated this 25th day of September, 2023 TARA S . GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk

Legal 86321 Published 9/28/2023, 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023 and 10/19/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: MICHAEL K MAYO, ALPHA REAL ESTATE INVESTORS LLC, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: **Certificate No.: 939/2016 Legal Description: LOT 3 BLK 124 HIGHLRIDGE ESTATE AS REC O R 3142 PG 416 Parcel ID No.: 290823-004584-000-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$1,984.18 Physical Address: 6338 SWARTHMORE DR , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL Name in which assessed: ELLA III 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 November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.** Dated this 25th day of September, 2023 TARA S . GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk

Legal 86320 Published 9/28/2023, 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023 and 10/19/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: MICHAEL K MAYO, ALPHA REAL ESTATE INVESTORS LLC, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: **Certificate No.: 789/2016 Legal Description: LOT 1 BLK 67 HIGHLRIDGE ESTATES AS REC O R 3142 PG 487 Parcel ID No.: 220823-003582-000-00**

CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

Opening Bid Amount: \$1,984.18
Physical Address: 7298 LEHIGH DR , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS
Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL
Name in which assessed: ELLA III 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 November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.**
Dated this 25th day of September, 2023
TARA S . GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
Clay County, Florida
By: Christina Spadea
Deputy Clerk
Legal 86319 Published 9/28/2023, 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023 and 10/19/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: MICHAEL K MAYO, ALPHA REAL ESTATE INVESTORS LLC, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:
Certificate No.: 2196/2016
Legal Description: LOT 18 BLK 2 LAKESIDE TERRACE AS REC O R 2722 PG 2018
Parcel ID No.: 140824-007074-000-00
Opening Bid Amount: \$2,194.35
Physical Address: 7211 CARDINAL ST , FLORAHOME
Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL
Name in which assessed: GERTA SAINTIL-LUMA
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 November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.**
Dated this 25th day of September, 2023
TARA S . GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
Clay County, Florida
By: Christina Spadea
Deputy Clerk
Legal 86318 Published 9/28/2023, 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023 and 10/19/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: MICHAEL K MAYO, ALPHA REAL ESTATE INVESTORS LLC, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:
Certificate No.: 772/2016
Legal Description: LOT 11 BLK 62 HIGHBRIDGE ESTATE AS REC O R 3155 PG 856
Parcel ID No.: 210823-003502-000-00
Opening Bid Amount: \$1,768.96
Physical Address: 7244 FURMAN ST , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS
Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL
Name in which assessed: DENTON II 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 November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.**
Dated this 25th day of September, 2023
TARA S . GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
Clay County, Florida
By: Christina Spadea
Deputy Clerk
Legal 86317 Published 9/28/2023, 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023 and 10/19/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Clay County, Florida has received an unsolicited proposal submitted under the provisions of Section 255.065, Florida Statutes, Public-Private Partnerships, to design, build and finance two (2) new fire stations in Clay County. The County is required to publish notice of the acceptance of the unsolicited proposal and a willingness to accept other proposals. As such the County will accept other proposals to build two fire stations in Clay County.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN sealed bids will be received until 4:00 P.M., Thursday, November 2, 2023, for the following:
RFP NO. 22/23-95, Public Private Partnership (P3) to Design, Build and Finance Two (2) Fire Stations in Clay County
Bids will be opened at 9:00 A.M., or as soon thereafter, on Friday, November 3, 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.
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 Donna Fish in the Purchasing Department at (904) 278-3761 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 suppliers 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 86316 Published 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 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 lockerfox.com on Tuesday the 17th day of October, 2023 at 12:00 P.M. Said property is SecurCare Self Storage, 2000 Wells Road A, Orange Park, FL, 32073 Clay County Cecil, Smith 206 Household Goods, Furniture, bins 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. Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase by cash or credit/debit card per facility policy. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.
Legal 86315 Published 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 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 lockerfox.com on Wednesday the 25th day of October, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. Said property is SecurCare Self Storage, 2000 Wells Road A, Orange Park, FL, 32073 Clay County Williams, Briellequanne 665 Bags, Boxes, Couch, Electric Fan, Pictures, MiniFridge. 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. Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase by cash or credit/debit card per facility policy. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.
Legal 86314 Published 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF PUBLIC 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 lockerfox.com on Tuesday the 17th day of October, 2023 at 12:00 P.M. Said property is SecurCare Self Storage, 3585 US Highway 17, Fleming Island, FL, 32003 Clay County O'Conner, Corliss B066 Clothes, shoes, hair dresser chair, light, electronics, totes, suitcase, misc . Gillen , Shannon F326 furniture, table, toddler bed, clothes, suitcase, bags, misc . Davis, Mark A015 Tools, construction materials, misc . 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. Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase by cash or credit/debit card per facility policy. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.
Legal 86313 Published 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: LORI DENES, LD 401 K PLAN & TRUST, 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.: 2238/2016
Legal Description: LOTS 3-5 & PT NE1/4 HALL LAKE U I O R 2983 PG 767
Parcel ID No.: 180824-007237-000-00
Opening Bid Amount: \$6,006.95
Physical Address: HALL LAKE , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS
Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL
W/SPECIAL FEATURES OR YARD ITEM
Name in which assessed: MIKKI ASHLEY & SCOTT ENGEL
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 **15th day of November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.**
Dated this 25th day of September, 2023
TARA S . GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
Clay County, Florida
By: Christina Spadea
Deputy Clerk
Legal 86311 Published 9/28/2023, 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023 and 10/19/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO.: 2023-CP-0000474
In re: THE ESTATE OF HAROLD E. DREER, Deceased.
The administration of the estate of Harold E. Dreer, whose date of death was October 9, 2022, and whose Social Security Number is ****-4759, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clay County Courthouse, 825 N Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida 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 WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE 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 SO FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE 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 the first publication of this Notice is September 28, 2023.
Personal Representative:
Norma Crawford
Post Office Box 946
Keystone Heights, Florida 32656
Attorneys for Personal Representative:
TAYLOR ARRUBLA HARDWICK P.A.
By /s/Jennifer T. Arrubla
James J. Taylor Jr.
Florida Bar No. 334057
Jennifer T. Arrubla
Florida Bar No. 98804
420 S. Lawrence Blvd.
Keystone Heights, Florida 32656
Primary Email: Jennifer@tah-law.com
Secondary Email: Jim@tah-law.com
Kim@tah-law.com
352-473-8088 (telephone)
352-473-8161 (facsimile)
Legal 85791 Published 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 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 OCTOBER 19, 2023, at 11:00AM.
The entire contents of the following units will be sold to satisfy a lien and other charges according to FL Statutes 83.801.
PERSONAL PROPERTY/HOUSEHOLD ITEMS:
Unit # Tenant or Business Name
B51 CLINTON JORDAN
D23 CLINTON JORDAN
D73 TAMIA PRESTON
D74 JERRY DUNN
H20 LUCAS COLON
H28 IRENE TATAR
I85 JERRY DUNN
J10 EVELYN ROBINSON
Total Units: 8
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 48 hours.
Storage Rentals of America
369 Blanding Blvd.
Orange Park, FL 32073
904-977-6400
Legal 85790 Published 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NUMBER: 10-2023-DP-46
DIVISION: E
IN THE INTEREST OF:
M.M.
M.M.
MINOR CHILDREN
THE STATE OF FLORIDA
TO:
Dyani Blunt, 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, M.M. who was born on August 25, 2010, M.M. who was born on August 25, 2010, and M.M. who was born on January 24, 2012. You are hereby commanded to appear before the **Honorable Angela M. Cox**, at the Clay County Courthouse, Juvenile Dependency Courtroom, 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida at the hour of 2:00 p.m. o'clock on October 31, 2023, A.D. You must appear at the hearing on the date and time specified.
FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO 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 crtntrp@coj.net at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled court appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
WITNESS my hand as clerk of said Court and the Seal thereof, this 19th day of September, 2023.
Tara S. Green
as Clerk of Said Court
By: Denise Haselwood
As Deputy Clerk
Legal 85789 Published 9/28/2023, 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023 and 10/19/2023 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: 918 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park FL, 32065
October 17th, 2023 at 10:00 am
Leandra Herring- Household Goods/Furniture
Destany Underwood- Household Goods/Furniture, TV/Stereo Equipment
Terrilyn Taylor- Household Goods/Furniture, Tools/Appliances
Laquinta Wilkins- Household Goods/Furniture
Markeiya Arline- Household Goods/Furniture, TV/Stereo Equipment
Don Hart III- Household Goods/Furniture
Terry Davis- Household Goods/Furniture
Ashlie Sena- Household Goods/Furniture
Khelene Cates- Household Goods/Furniture, TV/Stereo Equipment, Tools/Appliances, Household Goods
Donna Stevens- Household Goods/Furniture
Cameron Tudor- Household Goods/Furniture, Tools/Appliances
Desephannie Johnson- Household Goods/Furniture
Sherwood Willis- Household Goods/Furniture, Office Furniture/Machines/Equipment
Juan Lagares- Household Goods/Furniture

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 85719 Published 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 4TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2017-CA-000020
DIVISION: A
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE RMAC TRUST, SERIES 2016-CTT, Plaintiff,
v.
MAHALA L. WAUGH; UNKNOWN SPOUSE
OF MAHALA L. WAUGH; PARK WEST CIVIL ASSOCIATION, INC., TENANT
I/UNKNOWN TENANT; TENANT II/UNKNOWN TENANT; TENANT III/UNKNOWN TENANT; TENANT IV/UNKNOWN TENANT, et. al.; Defendants.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to an Order resetting Foreclosure Sale in Foreclosure entered on September 5, 2023 and entered in Case No. 2017-CA-000020 in the Circuit Court of the 4th Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein MAHALA L. WAUGH; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MAHALA L. WAUGH; PARK WEST CIVIL ASSOCIATION, INC.; TENANT I/UNKNOWN TENANT; TENANT II/UNKNOWN TENANT; TENANT III/UNKNOWN TENANT; TENANT IV/UNKNOWN TENANT, are the Defendants. The Clerk of the Court, Tara S. Green will sell to the highest bidder for cash at <https://clay.realforeclose.com> on **October 11, 2023 at 10:00 AM**, following described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
LOT 22, BLOCK 8, PARK WEST, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 14, PAGE(S) 14, AS RECORDED IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, and commonly known as 2093 Derby Court, Orange park, FL 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 WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.
WITNESS my hand and the seal of the court on September 19, 2023.
TARA S. GREEN
As Clerk of the Circuit Court
Clay County, Florida.
Rebecca Crews
DEPUTY CLERK
IMPORTANT
"IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS ANY ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT THE ADA COORDINATOR AT (904) 255-1695 OR CRTNTRP@COJ.NET AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED COURT APPEARANCE, OR IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTIFICATION IF THE TIME BEFORE THE SCHEDULED APPEARANCE IS LESS THAN 7 DAYS; IF YOU ARE HEARING OR VOICE IMPAIRED, CALL 711"

Legal 85609 Published 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
CASE NO. 2023CA000222
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,
vs.
JOHN D. EDENFIELD, et al.
Defendant(s).
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated **August 02, 2023**, and entered in 2023CA000222 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 JOHN D. EDENFIELD 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 **November 01, 2023**, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
LOT 1, BLOCK 8, BLACK CREEK PARK UNIT THREE, A SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED AS PLAT BOOK 13, PAGES 32, 33 AND 34, IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA.
Property Address: 4533 MAGNOLIA STREET, 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 11th day of September, 2023.

Tara S. Green
As Clerk of the Court
By: Chelsey Mason
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 crtntrp@coj.net or (904) 255-1695 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
Legal 85608 Published 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF ACTION

IN THE 4th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No. 2023CA001176
21st MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff,
vs.
JOSHUA LUCAS JONES; SAMANTHA RENEE GRAHAM; and UNKNOWN TENANT Defendant.
TO: JOSHUA LUCAS JONES
last known address, 4787 Alligator Blvd., Middleburg, Florida 32068
Notice is hereby given to JOSHUA LUCAS JONES that an action of foreclosure on the following property in Clay County, Florida:
SEE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A" TOGETHER WITH A 2020 LIVE OAK 56X32 MANUFACTURED HOME BEARING SERIAL NO.'S: LOHGA32071665A AND LOHGA32071665B.
has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Leslie S. White, Esquire, the Plaintiffs attorney, whose address is, 420 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 700, P.O. Box 2346, Orlando, Florida 32802-2346 on or before 30 days from the first date of publication and file the original with the clerk of the court either before service on the Plaintiffs' attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.
DATED ON September 18, 2023.
County Clerk of Circuit Court
By: Jennifer Brosky
Deputy Clerk
EXHIBIT "A" PARCEL "A" A Parcel of land situated in the Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 29, Township 5 South, Range 24 East, Clay County, Florida; said Parcel being more particularly described as follows: Commence at a concrete monument at the Northwest corner of Lot 1 of Block 16 of 'Black Creek Park Unit Three' as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 13, Page 33 of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida; and run North 85 degrees 37 minutes 10 seconds West, along the Southerly right of way line of Alligator Boulevard a distance of 154.94 feet to an iron rod and the Point of Beginning; thence continue North 85 degrees 37 minutes 10 seconds West, along said Southerly right of way line 42.76 feet to an iron pipe; thence run South 89 degrees 41 minutes 40 seconds West, along said Southerly right of way line 423.27 feet to an iron rod; thence run South 00 degrees 52 minutes 39 seconds East, 467.75 feet to an iron rod; thence run North 89 degrees 41 minutes 07 seconds East, 465.85 feet to an iron rod; thence run North 00 degrees 52 minutes 39 seconds West, 464.18 feet to the Point of Beginning.
Legal 85607 Published 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND RELATIVE ADOPTION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 4TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE# 2023 DR 1275
Division F
IN RE: THE ADOPTION OF:
Bennett
TO: Leanne D. Barrett
Quality Inn Hotel, 2006 Colby Taylor Dr. Richmond, KY 40475
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that a joint Petition for Adoption by Stepparent has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Mary Bennett whose address is 5823 Hillridge Rd, Keystone Heights, FL 32656, on or before October 30, 2023, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 825 North Orange Ave, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043, before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.
The minor child(ren) are identified as follows:
Date of Birth Place of Birth
9/10/2011 Fayette County, KY
5/1/2018 Harlan County, KY
Physical Description of Respondent:
Age: 36
Race: W
Hair Color: Sandy
Eye Color: Blue
Approximate Height: 5' 4"
Approximate Weight: 135

CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the addresses on record at the clerk's office.

Dated: September 18, 2023
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: Rebecca Crews
Deputy Clerk
Legal 85456 Published 9/28/2023, 10/5/2023, 10/12/2023 and 10/19/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Notice of Meeting
Armstrong Community
Development District

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Armstrong Community Development District will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 3:30 p.m. at the Plantation Oaks Amenity Center, 845 Oakleaf Plantation Parkway, Orange Park, Florida 32065. The meeting is open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida Law for Community Development Districts. A copy of the agenda for this meeting may be obtained from the District Manager, at 475 West Town Place, Suite 114, St. Augustine, FL 32092 (and phone (904) 940-5850). This meeting may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record at the meeting. There may be occasions when one or more Supervisors will participate by telephone.

Any person requiring special accommodations at this meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Office at (904) 940-5850 at least two calendar days 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.

Each person who decides to appeal any action taken at these meetings 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.

Marilee Giles
District Manager
Legal 85455 Published 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

SUMMONS AND
NOTICE OF ACTION
BY PUBLICATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY FLORIDA
CASE NUMBER: 2014-DP-98
DIVISION: E
IN THE INTEREST OF:
D.M. DOB: 04/27/2010
MINOR CHILD
THE GUARDIAN AD LITEM OFFICE TO:
Michelle Hersey

15725 Dewanna Road
Jacksonville, FL 32218
Last Known Address
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the above-styled Court by The GUARDIAN AD LITEM OFFICE for termination of parental rights and permanent commitment for subsequent adoption of the above named child, D.M., who was born on April 27, 2010. You are hereby commanded to appear before the Honorable Angela M. Cox, at the Clay County Courthouse, Juvenile Dependency Courtroom, 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida at the hour of 2:00 p.m. o'clock on **October 24, 2023**. 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 OF THIS CHILD. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS PETITION FILED IN YOUR DEPENDENCY CASE.

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 crtintpr@coj.net at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled court appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

WITNESS my hand as clerk of said Court and the Seal thereof, this 13th day of September, 2023.

Tara S. Green
Clerk of Said Court
By Tammy Rosenbaum
As Deputy Clerk
Legal 84712 Published 9/21/2023, 9/28/2023, 10/5/2023 and 10/12/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

NOTICE OF
APPLICATION FOR TAX
DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: RAM TAX LIEN FUND LP, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:
Certificate No.: 204/2021
Legal Description: LOT 53 KINGSLEY COVE AS REC O R 4193 PG 1009
Parcel ID No.: 150623-021646-002-53
Opening Bid Amount: \$2,209.21
Physical Address: 6426 CABANA TRC , STARKE
Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL
Name in which assessed: KC FARMS 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 **15th day of November, 2023 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.**
Dated this 11th day of September,

2023
TARA S . GREEN
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller
Clay County, Florida
By: Christina Spadea
Deputy Clerk
Legal 84376 Published 9/14/2023, 9/21/2023, 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 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:
2406 Hutton Ct. Middleburg Fl. 32068
October 17, 2023 10:00 AM.
Mellissa Baker-Patterson
Household Goods
Mellissa Baker-Patterson
Household Goods
Roxann Foley
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 84374 Published 9/28/2023 and 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

PUBLIC AUCTION

L&K Transmission 970 Blanding Blvd Orange Park FL will auction off the following vehicle for towing, repair and storage charges, starting price listed, pursuant to Florida statutes, section 713585, on October 23, 2023 at 9:00 am. 2008 Ford F-150, 1FTRF12238KB44216, \$4265.
Legal 83672 Published 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

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, October 17, 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 87056 Published 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

FICTITIOUS NAME

Notice Under Fictitious Name Law Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of **Sassy & Sun Kissed Spray Tans**, located at 3818 Old Jennings Rd, in the County of Clay, in the City of Middleburg, Florida 32068 intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.
Dated at Middleburg, Florida, this 2nd day of October 2023.
Sassy Fit Booti-que LLC
Legal 86793 Published 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

Notice of Meeting
Dates Fleming Island
Plantation Community
Development District

The Board of Supervisors of the Fleming Island Plantation Community Development District will hold its meetings for Fiscal Year 2024 at the Splash Park, 1510 Calming Water Drive, Fleming Island, Florida on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted as follows:
October 24, 2023
November 28, 2023
December 19, 2023 (Third Tuesday due to Holidays)
January 23, 2024
February 27, 2024
March 26, 2024
April 23, 2024
May 28, 2024
June 25, 2024
July 23, 2024
August 27, 2024
September 24, 2024
There may be occasions when one or more Supervisors will participate by telephone. These meetings may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record at the meetings without further publication of notice.

Any person requiring special accommodations at these meetings because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Office at (954) 603-0033 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 711 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 these meetings is advised that person will 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.

Janice Eggleton Davis
District Manager
Legal 86642 Published 10/5/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

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for Clay County

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904-349-4972.

Burial Plots

3 Burial Plots: 1 double depth and 1 single. Located at Holly Hill Memorial Gardens in Middleburg, Fl. Lot 261 3 & 4 in Garden of Love Section - Valued at \$3,795 a piece. Will sell for \$3,500 a piece. Leave message or call back at 904-662-1702 or email rodsnow@comcast.net

Garage, Yard &
Estate Sales

**Fleming Island
Black Creek at Eagle
Harbor Community**
on Canova/Old Hard Road between 220 and Town Center Dr. will be holding our semi-annual Garage sale on Saturday, October 7, from 7 AM to 12 PM. Terrific deals on toys, furniture, electronics, and clothes can be found at individual homes. Plenty of street parking. Don't miss the great deals! Look for our signs!

Garage, Yard &
Estate Sales

**Annual Village Green Yard Sale
Corner of Kingsley and Village
Way Orange Park Saturday,
October 14th Starting at 8 a.m.**

Garage, Yard &
Estate Sales

**Magnolia Point
Community Yard Sale
3616 Magnolia Point Blvd.
Green Cove Springs
October 7th- 8am-4pm
Both gates open to the public
No early entry**

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Auctions

Online Auction Only Glades Formulating Corporation Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors Case No.:50-2023-CA-013463-XXXX-MB

Auction ends: Tues, October 10, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. Assets located in Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315.2019 Ford F-150 Lariat 4WD Crew Cab Pickup Truck, 2019 Ford F-350 Super Duty Truck, 2002 Sterling M8500 Conventional Cab Flatbed Truck, 2004 Princeton Z2-3X Truck Mounted Piggy-back Forklift and more! Registration, catalog, photos and terms available at www.moeckerauctions.com Preview: 10/09 by appointment. Call for details (954) 252-2887 I (800) 840-BIDS (No onsite attendance)AB-1098 AU-3219, Eric Rubin

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Classifieds for Clay County

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Driver Qualifications
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Capable of heavy lifting/ assembly

Warehouse Worker

18+ years old
Own Transportation
Capable of heavy lifting/ assembly

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904-219-2188

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