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# Volunteers checking lists twice ahead of J.P. Hall Christmas Party

Event will provide toys, bikes to children for 42nd year

By Don Coble  
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GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Toys have changed in the past 42 years, but the need remains the same.

More than 1,000 children from Clay County will find toys under the tree because the J.P. Hall Children's Charities Christmas Party has been committed for more than four decades to spreading joy as long as people are in need.

The drive-through giveaway in the Cattleman's Arena at the Clay County Fairgrounds starts at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 16. Hundreds will get there hours in

SEE PARTY, 17



STAFF PHOTO BY DON COBLE

Gifts have been separated and bagged; bikes have been set up; and volunteers are ready for the 42nd J.P. Hall Children's Charities Christmas Party at the Clay County Fairgrounds. Starting at 9 a.m., children 14 and younger will receive toys in the drive-through event.



## Thousands usher in Christmas season with variety of events

Clay County celebrated the Christmas season in a grand fashion on Saturday, Dec. 9, with five parades, including a festive night at Keystone Heights. The Clay County Sheriff's Office employed 150 deputies to make sure traffic moved smoothly, especially with road closures in Penney Farms, Middleburg and Oakleaf. To see your neighbors at several events, visit the photo package on Pages 14-16.



## Oakleaf's Landon Brown finishes fourth at MasterChef Junior competition

9-year-old one of 12,000 applicants for "Home for the Holidays" special

By Lee Wardlaw  
lee@claytodayonline.com

OAKLEAF – Oakleaf Village Elementary's Landon Brown put his young culinary skills

STAFF PHOTO BY LEE WARDLAW

Brown, second from left, enjoyed his big-ticket watch party at Jimmy Hula's alongside friends and family on Sunday night as he made a taped appearance on Fox.

on the international stage with a fourth-place finish on Gordon Ramsay's "MasterChef Junior: Home for the Holidays" special on Fox.

Brown, just 9, was one of 12,000 applicants for the show. He completed a video interview and was selected to

SEE CHEF, 13

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# School Board rewrites tobacco policy to include pot, vaping, e-cigarettes and nicotine

By Lee Wardlaw  
lee@claytodayonline.com

FLEMING ISLAND – The School Board voted unanimously to revise its tobacco policy at its last meeting.

They revamped and updated School Board Policy 4.15 to replace a single-paragraph policy from the 1980s. The policy now includes provisions addressing tobacco, nicotine, marijuana and vaping to promote better health and well-being.

The policy prohibits the use, distribution, gift, purchase, sale, or exchange of tobacco or electronic vaping products by students, parents, employees, visitors or volunteers on school board property or at school-sanctioned events.

Students won't be permitted to be under the influence of, use, possess, distribute, sell, purchase or exchange the products at school, utilizing district transportation or attending school-related field trips or events. Students and employees are prohibited from wearing or displaying personal items depicting tobacco or smok-



ing.

The only exceptions are for individuals aged 21 or older using FDA-approved cessation products. Failure to comply could result in disciplinary actions for students, including expulsion.

The change was recognized. While developing the new policy, board members Erin Skipper and Mary Bolla were presented with the 2023 Tobacco Free Clay Appreciation Award by Monique Johnson, the Tobacco Policy Manager for the Tobacco Free Partnership of Clay County.

The organization is dedicated to reducing nicotine use and exposure.

"You and the (entire) School District have gone above and beyond for us. We're



The School Board unanimously approved a revision of its no-smoking policy to include the use of nicotine, marijuana, tobacco, electronic cigarettes and vaping cartridges for the first time since the 1980s.

really so appreciative of what you do, and we could not have done this work without you," Johnson said.

Skipper, a member of the Tobacco Free Clay Committee and a nurse, said she sees the everyday effects of the products. Skipper and Bolla worked with the rest of the board to start crafting the new policy two months ago.

"Just seeing the impact this has on our

school children and the health of everyone around us, this furthers education on the (damaging effects) of tobacco and vape usage. Students can get help, and this holds us accountable," Skipper said.

Skipper said the policy will have a far-reaching impact on students.

"I believe this was a big win for our District, and that this positively impacts our school children," she said.

# Plan for Clay County finally set in stone

BCC finalizes 5-year plan, Agricola to develop its own

By Jack Randall  
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GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The Board of County Commissioners unanimously approved the county's five-year Strategic Plan on its final meeting of the calendar year. From sticky notes on whiteboards, to community workshops, to discussions, to implementing feedback from residents and businesses, the blueprint for the county's next five years has been an undertaking that has been months in the making.

"This is a good quality product," said Commissioner Jim Renninger, in his first BCC meeting as chairman.

County Manager Howard Wanamaker was especially proud of what this plan means for the county's future. So proud, he wants to send copies to Florida's 67 other counties.

"It shows off our county, what we're up to and what we will achieve," Wanamaker said.

The plan created goals, targets and actions in five categories: community health and safety, economic and community development, good governance and quality of life. The plan is a culmination of a nearly year-long journey that was a collaborative effort between officials and the community, who gathered insightful perspectives through feedback in all five districts.

Some objectives include providing resources for citizens experiencing substance abuse, promoting "high yield recycling," enhancing greater tourism toward the county, fostering greater communication with the community, developing community connectivity and maintaining access to various water-based activities: boating, kayaking, skiing and fishing.

Assistant County Manager Troy Nagle said the BCC can still change the plan by Friday.

The Strategic Plan has an emphasis on managing the county's growth sustainability, favoring "smart" and conscious development as opposed to plans that would enlarge urban sprawl. The BCC cited this tenet as it approved and tabled rezoning



The Board of County Commissioners shared a few words of admiration for Commissioner Betsy Condon, the outgoing chairwoman. "I don't want to say she has big feet, but I have big shoes to fill," said the new BCC Chairman Jim Renninger.

requests throughout its meeting.

The Agricola Property, a proposed planned community, cited this tenet too as they brought their proposal to the BCC to rezone thousands of acres of land from "agricultural" to "planned community." Agricola was presented not merely be an ambitious project for the county, but as a national model for what modern alternative living could look like.

"As a direct response to the sprawling development around the Jacksonville area, the Agricola family asked Town Planning and Urban Design Collaborative to provide an alternative approach that supports a more sustainable lifestyle and development pattern," according to agricolaprop-

erty.com

The Agricola team pitched a self-reliant, economically feasible community that would put environmental conservation at the forefront. Agricola would have its own schools, amenities, hybrid commercial and residential buildings, an emphasis promoting agriculture and an emphasis against traditional lawns in a self-contained, walkable community off the First Coast Expressway. Timberlands would transition back to natural habitats that the public would be able to enjoy along miles of trails.

The BCC expressed admiration, anticipation and concern regarding Agricola.

The public stood before the podium

**SEE PLAN, 11**

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## Expect delays during holiday travel season

By Jesse Scheckner  
For FloridaPolitics

An estimated 6.6 million Floridians will travel 50 miles or more during the year-end holiday travel period between Dec. 23 and Jan. 1 — a record, according to AAA — The Auto Club Group.

That's nearly 218,000 (3.4%) more than last year, the previous record high, not including out-of-state visitors.

AAA forecasts more than 6 million Sunshine State residents will take to the road, a roughly 181,000-person increase from 2022. The not-for-profit organization anticipates another 356,790 will travel by air, a more than 15,000-person uptick over the year prior.

"AAA has seen steady year-over-year growth in travel demand, culminating with what is expected to be the busiest year-end holiday travel season on record in Florida and the second-busiest nationwide," AAA Vice President of Travel Debbie Haas said in a statement.

"Despite various inflationary pressures, Americans are still willing to budget for travel. With a record number of travelers, the roads, airports and cruise lines will be more crowded than normal. So finalize your travel plans, anticipate longer lines, and give yourself extra time to get to your destination."

AAA predicts about 31% of Americans — 115.2 million people — will travel during the last week of the year, up 2.5 million from 2022. An overwhelming share of them (90%) are expected to do so by car or motorcycle.

They may enjoy cheaper gas while doing so. On Monday, gas prices sat below \$3 per gallon in 23 states, including Florida, where the average price was \$2.99 — a new 2023 low.

According to transportation data and insights company INRIX, road congestion will be the worst Dec. 23-28. But motorists should also prepare for heavy traffic Dec. 30, when many people will return home or set off for New Year's Eve festivities.

The best times to set out, the company said, are before lunchtime or after 7 p.m.

"Nationwide, drivers could see travel times up to 20% longer this holiday season. In major metros, especially in Denver, Minneapolis, and Washington, DC, drivers could experience nearly double the typical delays," INRIX transportation analyst Bob Pishue said in a statement.

"Avoid peak commuting hours and use traffic apps, local (Department of Transportation) notifications, and 511 services

SEE TRAVEL, 5

## OPINIONS & VIEWPOINTS



## Red Kettle Campaign continues to make a difference

By Don Coble  
don@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — The ringing in my ears literally didn't stop until I was relieved from my post in front of Winn-Dixie. My back and feet were sore because I hadn't stood in the same spot for two hours since I was a child.

And yet, I never felt better. And I couldn't wait for another shift the next day.

Our organization helped the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign and its essential mission to provide toys for children, blankets for the homeless and food for the hungry while presenting social and spiritual services to the community.

Make no mistake: there were shared benefits. The Salvation Army gets the necessary resources to comminute its mission, but we get much more. You can't use a credit card or cash app to buy fulfillment.

It started with Winn-Dixie manager "Big" Mike Finnick, who happily allowed a red kettle and bellringer to stand at his exit door.

Maybe you noticed some of our members standing post on behalf of the Salvation Army. Yes, that was Green Cove Springs Police Chief E.J. Guzman. It can be difficult to recognize him without a gun.

You learn a lot about your neighbors — and yourself — when you ring a bell constantly for two hours. You find out the Salvation Army doesn't allow a bellringer to ask for money. You're asked to smile, make eye contact and thank everyone. Five minutes into my first shift smiles

SEE RING, 5



Working with fellow Green Cove Springs Rotary members like E.J. Guzman and Sarah McWhorter was rewarding last week. We rang the bell for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign at Winn-Dixie.

## 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.

**Aphyllous:** (ey-FIL-es) an adjective in botany that means having no leaves or bearing no foliage.

"The aphyllous trees wrapped in bright holiday lights brought cheer to the street."

## This Week in History

### Five years ago, 2018

- The Jacksonville Transportation Authority took over as the transportation coordinator for disadvantaged residents who relied on the Clay County Council on Aging's Clay Transit service. The council took on hundreds of thousands of dollars in losses due to a lack of ridership, staff turnover and maintenance costs.

- In a letter to the editor, CEO of ElderSource Linda Levin affirmed her decision to cut ties with the Clay County Council on Aging. She promised that services would continue to be provided to the county's seniors and that no one from the council would lose their jobs.

### 10 years ago, 2013

- Alesia Ford-Burse said she was excited to announce that Orange Park Performing Arts Academy was gearing up to open with its inaugural class in the fall, which became Clay County's first charter school.

- St. Vincent's Medical Center Clay County teamed up with Operation Walk USA as part of a national program to provide free hip replacement surgery to patients who could not otherwise afford it. The recipient, then-53 Johnny DeWayne Cook, who had been living with pain for 39 years from an original surgery that healed improperly.

### 20 years ago, 2003

- Clay County Fire and Rescue was awarded a \$57,036 grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to purchase new emergency medical equipment.

- The Orange Park Medical Center Auxiliary presented a \$10,000 scholarship to the St. Johns River Community College Foundation, which was earmarked for students wanting to pursue careers in the medical field.

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.

# Ring

from page 4

and appreciation came naturally.

You regret when shoppers walk past and apologize for not having money. Or they hustle by without making eye contact. What they don't realize is a smile is just as worthy. Never apologize for not being able or wanting to help. Charity comes from the heart, not from peer pressure.

**There was an elderly man who clearly was having medical issues. He was frail and weighed about 90 pounds. He wore a mask, used a walker and toted an oxygen machine. His steps were small and measured. When he left the store, he had a dollar bill rolled up in his hand. He stuffed it in the bucket and slowly returned to the car.**

**My Christmas wish is to see him again next year.**

No coins, no problem. We were there because we wanted to be there. Bellingrers don't work on commission. We appreciate it when you donate money, but we have equal appreciation for those who simply wave or smile.

I will never forget this one man, who appeared to be disheveled. I saw him going through garbage cans at the back of

the parking lot. He came to the front of the store, checked in one can, and walked to the other side of the entrance to check another can. As he passed, he stopped and turned. Without hesitation, he reached into his pocket and dropped 11 cents in the bucket. It was probably all he had, but he must have felt others needed it more.

There was an elderly man who clearly was having medical issues. He was frail and weighed about 90 pounds. He wore a mask, used a walker and toted an oxygen machine. His steps were small and measured. When he left the store, he had a dollar bill rolled up in his hand. He stuffed it in the bucket and slowly returned to the car.

My Christmas wish is to see him again next year.

Also, I met a woman who exemplified why the Salvation Army is so important. She said she grew up "in the projects" in Miami, and the Salvation Army was the only place where she could play, eat, and be safe and warm. She opened her wallet and stuck \$20 in the bucket.

Salvation Army is making a difference.

Volunteers who took a shift for the campaign are making a difference.

And, everyone who gave is making a difference.

# Travel

from page 4

to minimize holiday travel traffic frustrations."

AAA said some 7.5 million Americans, including 357,000 Floridians, will take a commercial flight between Christmas and the New Year.

If reached, the nationally projected numbers would set a new record for the period. They'd fall 42,000 air travelers in Florida short of the state record set in 2003.

Based on AAA flight booking data, two of the 10 top domestic destinations in the U.S. are in Florida: Orlando and Miami.

The time to buy plane tickets was yesterday, Haas said.

"AAA recommends booking flights as early as possible to ensure the best combination of prices and availability," she said. "Those waiting until the last minute could

catch a discount but may have fewer options in terms of non-stop flights and seat availability."

About 4 million people will travel by bus, train and cruise, the most since 2008 and a 394,000-person increase from last year. Demand for oceanic trips and the average price of a boarding pass have skyrocketed post-pandemic.

Haas said savvy travelers know that right after the holidays, when cruise lines are offering some of the best deals of the year, is the best time to book a cruise, "and AAA members get exclusive benefits in addition to those discounts."

Jesse Scheckner has covered South Florida, focusing on Miami-Dade County since 2012. The Hearst Foundation, Society of Professional Journalists, Florida Society of News Editors, Florida MMA Awards and Miami New Times have recognized his work. Email him at Jesse@FloridaPolitics.com and follow him on Twitter @JesseScheckner.

# History

from page 4

## 30 years ago, 1993

- St. Johns Country Day School students were enlisted to star in a public service announcement for the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A video crew came to the school and shot the commercials that would air statewide.

- About a dozen members of the Nathan Bedford Forrest Brigade division of

the Ku Klux Klan handed out leaflets and answered questions at Municipal Park in Keystone Heights.

## 40 years ago, 1983

- Green Cove Springs City Council members struggled with ways to force Gustafson's Dairy to pay its delinquent power bill owed the city. Officials said the dairy owed the city \$1,676.

- Robert Van Lieu of Orange Park was chosen to be a contestant on the TV game show "The Price is Right." Van Lieu won more than \$4,000 in prizes.

## DAR accepting applications for \$1,000 scholarship

CLAY COUNTY – Graduating high school seniors are encouraged to apply for a \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by the Sophia Fleming Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Applicants must graduate this year from the Clay County Public School System, St. Johns Country Day School or be home-schooled in Clay County. Students are eligible if they attend any post-secondary program of study, including colleges, universities or vocational/technical schools. No GPA information is required.

Points will be awarded from an essay, awards, recognitions, community service, and school and community letters of recommendation. The instruction sheet and application form is available at all public high school guidance offices in Clay County and St. Johns Country Day School. They are also available by clicking on Sophia Fleming Scholarship at sophiaflemingchapter.org. Applications are due Feb. 16, and the winning recipient will be notified the week of March 23. Applications need not be hand delivered or mailed by certified or registered mail. Each applicant will receive an email or telephone

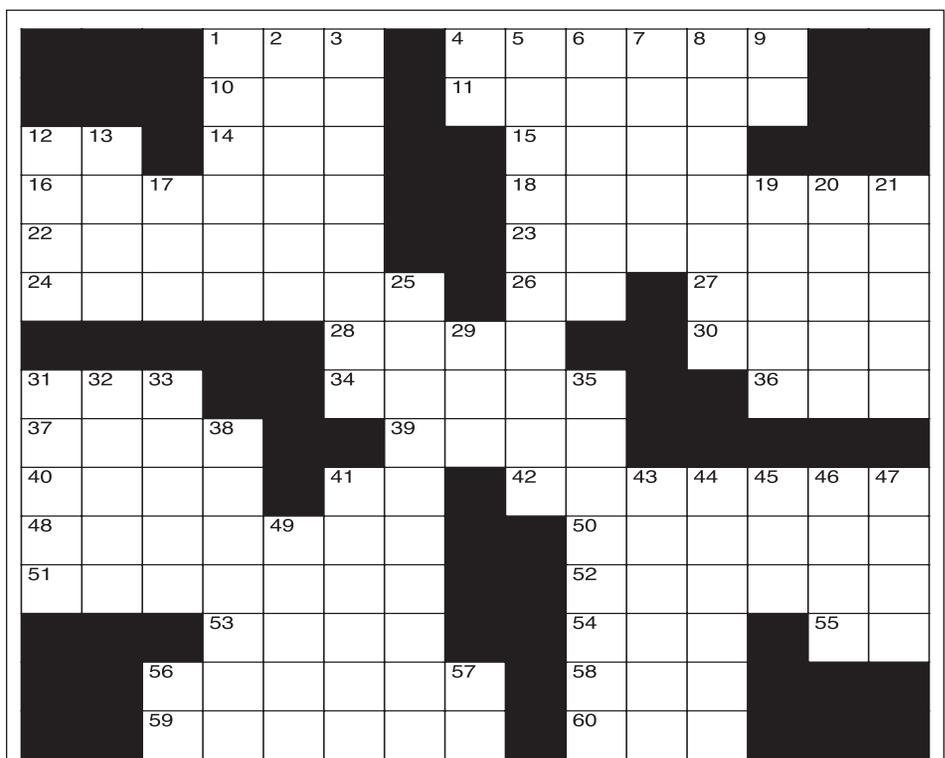
call saying his/her application has been received. Completed applications are to be printed or typed and mailed to Terreca Hurley, Scholarship Chair, 1912 Moorings Cr., Middleburg, 32068.

## Outdoor Adventure Park now open to public on Fridays

MIDDLEBURG – The Clay County Outdoor Adventure Park is open on Fridays from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. The shooting range is also available on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The gun range opened in late September with a soft rollout on the hours of operation. The 200-yard, 30-target range is the first aspect to become a reality in the sprawling 158-acre complex near Camp Blanding, at 3829 Sgt. Bradley Crose Road off County Road 215, just south of Oak Grove Baptist Church.

Local law enforcement holds training at the range for a portion of the week and is open to the public for the remainder. The range will be open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday in the upcoming months. To learn more and read FAQs, visit claycountygov.com/community/clay-county-outdoor-adventure-park.



### CLUES ACROSS

- Beats per minute
- Hindu deity
- Polynesian garland of flowers
- Not chained to
- Metric ton
- Tall, rounded vase
- Musical composition
- St. Francis of
- Discover the location of
- Compact group of mountains
- Mend
- Not current
- Atomic #64
- Young hawk
- Or
- Pouches
- Southern Thailand isthmus
- Mends with yarn
- Downwinds
- One of two equal parts of a divisible whole
- Italian archaeological site
- Cold appetizer
- Yes
- Peninsula
- Of that
- A way to divide
- Relating to the physical senses
- One who makes money

### CLUES DOWN

- Similar to the color of a clear unclouded sky
- Former name of Iran
- Made smaller
- Type of meter
- Revolt
- Killed with rocks
- Gregory, US dancer
- Nullifies
- Home to the Flyers
- Female parent
- Pre-1917 Russian emperor
- Outsourcing (abbr.)
- Regal
- Line
- Hermann, author of Siddhartha
- Clearing up
- No seats available
- Leaves of an Arabian shrub
- Groove in organ or tissue
- Not of this world

### SOLUTIONS ACROSS

- BPM
- VISHNU
- LEI
- UNTIED
- MT
- URN
- SONG
- ASSISI
- UNEARTH
- MASSIF
- RESTORE
- ARCHAIC
- GD
- EYAS
- ELSE
- SACS
- KRA

# Local teens at increased risk for fatalities from car collisions

Florida Highway Patrol shares tips for new drivers

By Jack Randall  
jack@claytodayonline.com

CLAY COUNTY – Getting behind the wheel is a rite of passage for many teenagers with fresh driver's license tucked snugly in their wallets. However, the first few years of driving are among the most dangerous.

Every time we step into the car and turn on the engine, we accept a degree of risk. The statistical likelihood of a car crash is never zero. The risk is greater for teen drivers between 16 and 19 than any other age group. Teen drivers have a fatal crash rate almost three times greater when compared to drivers 20 and older. And the risk is even greater if the driver is male.

Clay County has its share of heartbreaking stories. Allena Rae Turner, of Middleburg, was 17 when she died in a car accident on Nov. 24. According to the Florida Highway Patrol, the car the teenager was driving crashed into a tree, overturned and landed upside down in a retention pond on Oakleaf Plantation Parkway. Her boyfriend from Keystone Heights was a passenger, and he, too, died. He was 18.

In another tragic story, Taj Richey was 18 and an Oakleaf High student when he

was involved in a car crash that forever changed his life. Richey's left leg was amputated, and his right leg was saved after five surgeries. Richey's friend, Keondre Moss, died at the scene. He was 16. Their car crashed over a grassy median and hit a tree on Oakleaf Village Parkway. Initial reports from the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office said the boys may have been racing.

The rate of automobile crashes, fatalities and injuries in Clay County is comparable to statewide statistics. According to Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, of the 2,342 crashes in Clay County, 21 have been fatal – a percentage of 0.9%. In the state of Florida, there have been 359,560 crashes, 3,007 have been fatal – a percentage of 0.8%.

The fatality rate from car crashes in the state of Florida ranks ninth in the nation, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

While the county's rate is comparable to the statewide average now, the number of collisions, injuries and fatalities will only continue to grow as the county does – the completion of the First Coast Expressway is the most prominent, imminent example.

Cars have been seen historically as a symbol of freedom. Today, individual car ownership is realistically an obligation.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

One driver walked away, and another sustained minor injuries at a crash at the entrance to HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital. According to witnesses, another car hit a red Hyundai minivan in the passenger door, resulting in the minivan rolling onto its roof.

Less than 1% of county residents utilize public transportation. Less than 10% of county residents carpool. Today, nearly 60% of students get to school by car.

"I do believe that younger (meaning newer) drivers are more likely to be involved in a traffic crash," said Dylan Bryan from the Florida Highway Patrol.

Bryan pointed to some factors: lack of overall driving experience, less recognition of hazards and greater susceptibility to distractions, to name a few.

"My advice to (new) drivers is simple in writing but seems harder in application,"

Bryan said, before sharing five pieces of life-saving advice:

"Pay attention to driving. Keep your mind on driving, eyes on the road and hands on the wheel. Limit the distractions while driving. That includes food, beverages, passengers, phones, music, grooming, horseplay, etc.

"Buckle up. Always wear your seatbelt. They save lives, plain and simple. Too many classmates, friends and family have been lost due to something so simple," he said.

Among teen drivers and passengers

**SEE COLLISIONS, 17**

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# Fleming Island family joins lawsuit against Panera Bread

By Lee Wardlaw  
lee@claytodayonline.com

FLEMING ISLAND – A local family filed a lawsuit against Panera Bread after 46-year-old Dennis Brown died after drinking three highly-caffeinated “Charged Lemonade” at the Fleming Island Shopping Center store.

David Brown and Denise Fuller alleged the drinks caused Brown’s cardiac arrest after the Fleming Island man left the store. According to the suit, they said the beverage contains “no warning of any potentially dangerous effects.”

According to the lawsuit, filed on Dec. 4 in the Superior Court of Panera’s Delaware by the same law firm, Kline & Specter, PC, that also represents the family of a 21-year-old University of Pennsylvania student, Susan Katz, after she died in 2022 after drinking a Charged Lemonade.

Panera is being sued for wrongful death and negligence. Brown, who was suspected of having a chromosomal deficiency disorder, developmental delays, some blurred vision, and a mild intellectual disability, consumed three drinks at the Fleming Island location on Oct. 9.

On his walk home, Brown suffered a cardiac arrest, and he died a short time later, the lawsuit reads.

Brown, who frequented the fast-casual



PHOTO FROM DENNIS BROWN FAMILY  
Fleming Island’s Dennis Brown drank three ‘Charged Lemonades’ on Oct. 9 at the Panera Bread at the Fleming Island Shopping Center on County Road 220. He went into cardiac arrest and died after he left the store.

restaurant, was not a consumer of energy drinks and believed the “Charged Lemonade” to be “safe” since it was not advertised as an energy drink, according to court documents. And while the product was also offered in the same location as the restaurant chain’s non-caffeinated and less-caffeinated beverages, Brown ordered Panera’s Charged Lemonade at least seven times in two weeks during September and October, the lawsuit reads.

“Defendants knew or should have known that the Panera Charged Lemonade, as designed and formulated, once con-



STAFF PHOTOS BY JACK RANDALL

Panera Bread posted a warning about its Charged Lemonade and Charged Splash, telling customers they contain caffeine and are “not recommended for children, people sensitive to caffeine, pregnant or nursing women.”

sumed, could injure children, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and people sensitive caffeine to caffeine, causing catastrophic injuries and or death,” according to the Brown family lawsuit.

“Based on our investigation, we believe his unfortunate passing was not caused by one of the company’s products. We view this lawsuit filed by the same law firm as a previous claim to be equally without merit. Panera stands firmly by our products,” the company said in a release to NBC News.

Whether merit stands, one thing is for sure: the drinks contain caffeine – and

loads of it.

According to Panera, a 20-ounce serving of Charged Lemonade contains 260 milligrams of caffeine, while a 30-ounce drink has 390 milligrams. The Food and Drug Administration said 400 milligrams a day won’t cause dangerous effects, as long as there aren’t issues with the way the body metabolizes it.

If Brown had three small Charged Lemonades, that’s 780 milligrams, while a large would be 1,170 milligrams. The FDA said rapid consumption of 1,200 milligrams by a healthy person is enough to cause toxic effects or seizures.

Dr. Jay Schauben, former Division Director of the Poison Center and Surveillance Services at the Florida/USVI Poison Information Center of Jacksonville and now acting Clinical Toxicologist for the agency, told Clay Today consumers should learn about safe levels of caffeine, especially those contained in energy drinks.

Caffeine in coffee is not metabolized differently from caffeine in energy drinks. “Caffeine is caffeine, and it doesn’t matter (what form). You can get it from powdered drinks, and coffee chemicals are handled in the same way,” he said.

The concentration level of caffeine that becomes toxic or lethal varies dramatically.

SEE LAWSUIT, 17





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# Obituaries claytodayonline.com

## Helen Ebuenga "Lola" Gilbert

Helen Ebuenga "Lola" Gilbert passed away on December 5, 2023, after a long illness. She was born May 4, 1944, in Manila, Philippines to the late Daisy Andrabado and Miguel Ebuenga. Helen retired from the Defense Logistics Agency in 2013 after a thirty-four-year civil service career. She also served a distinguished career as a Navy Wife. Helen is survived by her husband of forty-nine years, Woodie Gilbert, two daughters, Daisy Scott (Robert) and Melissa Gayle (Larry), a granddaughter, Reese Scott, three grandsons, Dalton Scott, Jacob Gayle and Austin Gayle and a sister, Remy Quiliza. Helen will be forever remembered as "Mom" who always brought food. Funeral Services were held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Fleming Island with Father Marek Dzien officiating. Visitation will be held one hour before the service. Arrangements under the care of Helm-Gallagher Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 1811 Idlewild Avenue, SR 16, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. 904-284-9696. [www.helm-gallagherfh.com](http://www.helm-gallagherfh.com)



Helen Ebuenga "Lola" Gilbert

She graduated from Butler Township High School.

She spent 45 years doing insurance, where she rose to bodily injury manager over the South Florida region for United Automotive Insurance Company.

She was a very active member of the High Springs Women's Club. She enjoyed arts and crafts, winning many first and second-place prizes at all North Florida Regional Women's Clubs Arts and Crafts Contests.

Most important to her was her family, to whom she was completely devoted to.

She loved the holidays when the family came together from out of town and locally.

She was preceded in death by her parents Edward and Lucy Seitzinger Schoffler, her Aunt Helen Wagner, and her loving Husband of 56 years Glenn Paul Hubler.

She is survived by her 3 children: Daughters Glenda Cole and Heather Murphy, and Son Jeffrey Hubler, her Brother Asher Schoffler and Sister Charlene Wolfgang.

She had a huge loving, kind, and caring heart. Her beautiful life will forever be cherished by the entire family. We miss you every day Mom.

## Austin Daniel Hutton

Austin Daniel Hutton, 105 years old, led a long, well-lived life. He was a family man, veteran and friend to many.

He passed away peacefully on December 7, 2023, at home surrounded by his family.

Austin's wit and humor were one of his most memorable qualities, leaving laughter and smiles on the faces that surrounded him. Above these, it was his strength that he will ultimately be remembered for. He inspired all to live a healthy and meaningful life with purpose and fulfillment.

She is survived by her 3 children: Daughters Glenda Cole and Heather Murphy, and Son Jeffrey Hubler, her Brother Asher Schoffler and Sister Charlene Wolfgang.

She had a huge loving, kind, and caring heart. Her beautiful life will forever be cherished by the entire family. We miss you every day Mom.

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She had a huge loving, kind, and caring heart. Her beautiful life will forever be cherished by the entire family. We miss you every day Mom.

She is survived by her 3 children: Daughters Glenda Cole and Heather Murphy, and Son Jeffrey Hubler, her Brother Asher Schoffler and Sister Charlene Wolfgang.

In his early years, Austin attended Schenectady City Schools, Roosevelt, Oneida, and Mount Pleasant. He loved playing sports of all kinds: basketball, baseball, track and field. Golf remained his favorite sport throughout his later years with him accomplishing many awards.

Austin served in the US Army during World War II. He was proud of his service to his country. After returning from Europe, Austin met his partner and wife of 48 years, the late Dorothy Gardner Hutton. Austin built their home in Guilderland and raised five children. He believed in a strong work ethic which was shown in his many years of employment at the General Electric Company in Schenectady.

In his retirement, Austin enjoyed trips to Fla. and family vacations to Cape Cod and the Adirondacks. He was an active member of the Western Turnpike Golf Club. He also found pleasure in tending to his gardens, lawn and property. In addition to his children, Richard Hutton, Peggy Oddy (Kenneth), Mary Hutton (Stan Lis), Dan Hutton (Susan) and John Hutton (Mary), Austin is survived by his five grandchildren, Aaron, Daniel, Katie, Lauren and Michael; and two great-grandchildren, Jaxon and Ellie, who affectionately referred to him as grandpa. Austin took pride in their achievements and milestones.

The family extends their gratitude to the compassionate and dedicated health-care aides who provided support and care to Austin in his later years.

Friends will be received from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Wednesday, December 13, at DeMarco and Stone Funeral Home, 5216 Western Ave, Guilderland. His memorial service will follow promptly at noon. The burial will take place at Memory Gardens, Colonie. Austin believed in the power of kindness and selflessness. In his remembrance, the family encourages you to honor Austin by performing random acts of kindness, lending a helping hand, or simply spreading love to those around you. Online condolences may be offered at [demarcostonefuneralhome.com](http://demarcostonefuneralhome.com)

## Marion Inez "Tanny" Cummings

On Thursday, December 7, 2023, Marion Inez "Tanny" Cummings, loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother passed away peacefully at the age of 92.

Inez was born on January 17, 1931, in Lumber City, Georgia to Juliette "Jet" and William "W.J." Horton. She moved with her parents to Jacksonville, Florida as a child where she grew up in Avondale and attended Lee High School. While working for her parents' business, City Pest Control, she met her soulmate Thomas "Tommy" Cummings and they married on May 22, 1953. Together they raised four wonderful children Marsha, Rusty, Mike and Karen. Inez was not a traditional housewife of the 1950s, she was a strong woman with a tremendous work ethic and established her career outside the home as a secretary and retired as an accountant.

Inez explored many hobbies from ceramics to polka dancing and even trained to be an airplane pilot. By far her favorite hobby was traveling with her family and spending time at their cabin on Ocean Pond. Inez and Tommy traveled across the country and internationally. She kept meticulous records of their trips, including detailed itineraries, photos, videos and ultimately achieved their goal of visiting all 50 states. In retirement, they enjoyed their home on Doctor's Lake where they enjoyed boating, fishing, bird watching and hosting countless family gatherings where so many wonderful memories were made!

Inez is predeceased by her loving husband of 69 years, Tommy Cummings, son

SEE OBITUARIES, 9



Marion Inez 'Tanny' Cummings



## Elmira "Ellie" Corrine Hubler

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved Mother, Grandma and Sister.

Elmira "Ellie" Corrine Hubler 85 passed away at her home in Keystone Heights to go to her heavenly home on October 4th, 2023.

She was born April 6, 1938, in Fountain Springs Pennsylvania to Edward and Lucy (Seitzinger) Schoffler.



Austin Daniel Hutton

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# Obituaries

from page 8

Rusty Cummings (Kathy), grandson John Hall III and great-grandson Justin Smith. She is survived by her children Marsha Smith (Wayne), Mike Cummings (Pam) and Karen Alexander (Dwight), and 8 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren (and one more on the way).

Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 13, 2023, with visitation beginning at 10 o'clock and a memorial service at 11 o'clock at Jacksonville Memory Gardens located at 111 Blanding Boulevard, Orange Park, FL 32073.

## JACKSONVILLE MEMORY GARDENS FUNERAL HOME AND CEMETERY

### Carol Ann Sopiwnik Hopkins

Carol Ann Sopiwnik Hopkins, 57, passed away suddenly on Sunday, December 10, 2023 at Wayne Memorial Hospital in Jesup, Georgia.

Carol was born on August 2, 1966 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, seventh child of nine, to the late John Sopiwnik and Carolyn Elizabeth Harrison-Jent. She spent her early years in Los Lunas, New Mexico and moved around quite frequently with her family, also living in Utah and Califor-

nia, where she met and married the love of her life and high school sweetheart, Larry Gene Hopkins, their first date being Valentines Day of 1982. As a military family, they continued relocating every few years as his job required until the couple settled in Green Cove Springs Florida after his retirement in 2001 where Carol worked as a Strategic Sourcing Specialist for Medtronic. In 2019, the couple again relocated, this time to Smith River, California for four years before purchasing a recreational vehicle and heading out to travel across the United States bringing them to Jesup, Georgia.

Carol was a loving mother, grandmother, wife, daughter, and sister. She was motherly and caring by nature and she lived life to the fullest. Friends and family were always welcome in her home and she looked for any opportunity to help someone in need. Carol was artistic, vibrant and full of life. In addition to traveling, she loved dancing, crafting, listening to music, reading and writing, with dreams of finishing her own novel. Carol and her husband enjoyed watching NASCAR and football live or on television, enjoyed cruises to see the world, and spending time with the ones



Carol Ann Sopiwnik Hopkins

most precious to them, especially their grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her parents, her infant grandson, Carson Keith Webster and her brothers, John, Joe and Jesse Sopiwnik.

She is survived by her husband of thirty-nine years, Larry Gene Hopkins of Jesup, Georgia; two daughters, Patricia Elaine Hopkins-Mattson of Orange Park, Florida and Carolyn Renee Webster and husband, Stephen of Fernandina Beach, Florida; grandchildren, Kathryn Elizabeth Mattson, Robert Darrell Mattson, Nathan James Webster, Jacob Alexander Webster and Riley Joseph Webster; one brother, Jerry Sopiwnik, and four sisters, Katherine "Kitty" Bittner and her husband, Barry, and Bonnie, Lisa, and Tammy Sopiwnik. A host of nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family members also survive.

Memorial services for immediate family and closest friends to be announced at a later date.



# Community News

## Palagio Senior Living hosts Winter Wonderland Christmas tree competition

ORANGE PARK – The public can stop at Palagio Senior Center on Dec. 14 to see the Winter Wonderland Christmas trees. Assisted living facility residents decorated trees, and the public voted for the top three trees for four days. The winners will be announced at an open house from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Palagio, 1525 Kingsley Ave. in Orange Park.

Proceeds will benefit Clay County seniors in need.

For more information, contact robin.wakefield@concordisseniorliving.com.

## Fallen veterans to be honored at five Wreaths Across America in Clay

CLAY COUNTY – The National Wreaths Across America Day on Saturday, Dec. 16, and it will be observed at Magnolia Cemetery, 1040 Kingsley Ave. in Orange Park; Keystone Heights Memorial Gardens, 7304 State Road 100; Moosehaven, 1701 Park Ave. in Orange Park; Hardage-Giddens Holly Hill Memorial Park, 3601 Old Jennings Road in

SEE BRIEFS, 11

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# Clay schools earn 'A' grade from Florida DOE

By Don Coble  
don@claytodayonline.com

CLAY COUNTY – For the fourth consecutive time, the Clay County District Schools earned an “A” rating Monday from the Florida Department of Education, and it posted the second-highest scores statewide in social studies and fourth-highest in science.

“I’ve always said: Clay County is a great place to live. It’s a great place to work. And it’s a great place for students to go to school,” Superintendent David Broskie said. “We are so proud of how our students performed. It’s a testament to the teachers, staff, parents and the community at large.”

According to the FDE, the Accountability Report provides metrics to measure a school’s performance so parents and the public can understand how well a school is serving its students. The state recently aligned itself to the Benchmarks for Excellence Student Thinking Standards, which include the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking and end-of-course assessments.

It was the fourth time Clay schools earned an “A” in five years and ranked among the top 10 in the state. County schools didn’t receive a grade for the 2021 school year during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thirteen elementary schools earned an “A” rating: Orange Park, Doctors Inlet, Middleburg, Clay Hill, Lake Asbury, R.M.



STAFF PHOTO

Students in Clay County continue to receive an “A” rated education in one of the highest-performing districts in Florida.

Paterson, McRae, Fleming Island, Thunderbolt, Rideout, Shadowlawn, Discovery Oaks and Plantation Oaks. Fleming Island extended its streak of being an “A” school to 24 years, dating back to 1999, while Orange Park has been an “A” school for 21 consecutive years.

At the same time, Orange Park, Keystone Heights, Lakeside, R.M. Paterson, Fleming Island, Thunderbolt and Discovery Oaks were recognized as Schools of Excellence. Green Cove Springs and Lakeside junior highs are Schools of Excellence. They joined Lake Asbury as an “A” school.

Five high schools earned “A” marks:

Middleburg, Ridgeview, Fleming Island and Oakleaf. Keystone Heights Junior/Senior High also received an “A.”

None of the district’s 43 schools failed, but Grove Park dropped from a “C” last year to a “D.”

Eight schools moved up one-grade level compared to last year, while seven dropped one.

“A ton of work goes into it, not only the formation of curriculum that will help students be successful but also the instructional strategies used in the classroom and the professional development that goes along with that,” Broskie said. “There is a lot that

goes into it. I’m extremely proud of the entire organization.”

The only district with a higher social studies grade was neighboring St. Johns County. Nassau, Walton and St. Johns were the only districts to finish higher than Clay in science.

The state uses grades to identify schools that excel or need help. While Clay’s numbers were impressive, some figures buried deep in the report highlighted significant improvements. According to FDE, 78% of fourth-grade and 73% of sixth-grade students at R.M. Paterson Elementary demonstrated markable learning gains compared to last year. Other gains came from 78% of sixth-graders at Lakeside Elementary, 76% of fifth-graders at Swimming Pen Elementary, 74% of fourth-graders and 72% of sixth-graders at Fleming Island Elementary, 74% of fourth-graders at Discovery Oaks Elementary and 70% of Tynes Elementary fifth-graders also posted learning gains.

“We’re in the top 10 in most categories, and we’re looking forward to the future,” Broskie said. “Our goal is to provide a world-class education to students in Clay County. I think these school grades reflect the quality of the education students receive.

“Of course, you still ask yourself, how can we improve? You never reach Nirvana, but you always try.”



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# Plan

from page 2

with the same mixed bag of emotions felt by the BCC. The public wanted “assurances not just promises” that the proposed wildlife corridor would be preserved properly. A nearby farmer in the area shared concern about the flooding development would cause, which would normally be absorbed by the surrounding wetlands. The farmer criticized Agricola as being “hobby agriculture.”

The Agricola team responded, “(These assurances) would be standards. Not guidelines.”

Commissioner Betsy Condon empathized with the public and affirmed the importance of agriculture. “A farmer’s land is their 401k,” she said.

“I love it,” said Commissioner Dr. Kristen Burke, referring to Agricola’s pitch. “Although, it seems early to me.”

Burke represents District 5 where Agricola’s proposed development would take place.

“It is honorable,” said Commissioner Mike Cella. “I’ve met with them two or three times before. The concept is good. I like the handling of the wetlands. I like the open space (for the public). I like the commitment of doing something different.”

This project and many more like it – including the developments along Sandridge Road and Henley Road – will put the coun-

ty’s Strategic Plan to the test. The BCC remains hopeful and enormously grateful for its staff, the community, nonprofit organizations, constitutional offices and all participating departments which transformed ideas on sticky notes into what will hopefully be a bright future for the county.

Elizabeth Payne, CEO of the Northeast Florida Regional Council, has worked tirelessly to coordinate and hammer out details for the Strategic Plan that will define the direction of the county for the next five years. She expressed satisfaction with the final approved document after months of attending more than 30 meetings to ensure the plan’s viability.

“I think the plan looks great. Based on the way it looks now, I believe it has really come together,” Payne said. “I believe you all should be proud based on the work that you have done.”

Cella thanked Gabrielle Gunn, Director of Community and Social Services and Peyton Beattie, Community Resource Development Agent at the UF/IFAS Extension, for their contribution. It was an intensive process, but the county held strong to the finish line, he said.

“When I was at the first open house, I didn’t know how we would get to the end game, but we did it,” Cella said.

# Briefs

from page 9

Middleburg, all at noon; and Jacksonville Memory Gardens, 111 Blanding Blvd. in Orange Park at 11:45 a.m.

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.

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.

## Primrose School of Fleming Island collects canned goods for food banks

FLEMING ISLAND – Primrose schools in Northeast Florida, including Fleming Island, joined forces to donate 5,517 canned goods to the Food Pantry of Green Cove Springs, Feeding Northeast Florida and St. Johns CARES.

Primrose’s Caring and Giving Initiative encouraged children to complete age-ap-



propriate household chores for allowance money to buy canned goods and fostered giving without expectation, a key component of the Primrose Schools Balanced Learning curriculum.

This nationwide initiative was featured on NBC Nightly News.

“Nurturing generosity in young children is an investment in the future of our society,” said Jo Kirchner, CEO of Primrose Schools. “At Primrose Schools, we believe that teaching children the value of giving, sharing and caring is a cornerstone of early education. And, by educating children to be service-minded and to give without expectation, we are working together toward a brighter future of caring, community-oriented citizens.”

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# Woman uses patience, passion to Trap-Neuter-Release unowned cats

Martha King has devoted 22 years to controlling cat populations

By Don Coble  
don@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK – Martha King usually keeps a crossword puzzle within arm’s reach on the passenger seat. It’s one of the necessary distractions to keep her mind busy while she sits and waits. And waits. And waits.

King has been devoted to the Trap-Neuter-Release program for 22 years. The program traps unowned cats to be spayed or neutered and then returned to their outdoor homes.

It’s a process that requires a lot of pa-

ience. She got to the Clay County Humane Society at 3:30 a.m. last Tuesday with two cats she had trapped a day earlier. The Humane Society offers free spay and neutering for the first 30 cats every Tuesday. The doors open at 7 a.m., so she had 3½ hours to kill and work on her crosswords.

She wasn’t alone. Seven other cars were idling silently in the parking lot, with others who wanted to help control the community cat population.

“We all know each other,” said Lisa Perez-Dryden, who had eight cats in separate traps in the back of her mini-van. “It’s



STAFF PHOTOS BY DON COBLE

Martha King arrived at the Clay County Humane Society at 3:30 a.m. to ensure the two outdoor cats would be among the 30 organization spays or neuters every Tuesday. She is often joined by a handful of others who are committed to the Trap-Neuter-Release program,



a small community, and we’re doing a very important job.”

“We’ve met each other here and formed friendships over time,” King said.

King had two kittens to drop off. They were trapped a day earlier and spent the night in her climate-controlled garage to keep them calm and safe.

She spent hours waiting in her car after setting the traps to see if they’d take the bait. More crosswords. She returned to the Humane Society seven hours later to return the two cats to where they were trapped. During the downtime, she set more traps. Cats and kittens caught on Tuesday and Wednesday will go to the Clay County Animal Services in Green Cove Springs, where they offer free spay and neutering to the first 40 cats dropped off on Thursdays.

“I average between five and 10 cats a week,” King said. “In the past 22 years, I’ve probably trapped thousands of cats. Thousands.”

Why?

“Because I like cats,” she said. “They’re in unfortunate circumstances, and I don’t like to find dead kittens. That’s how I started. I thought the only way not to find dead or suffering kittens is to have no kittens at

all.

“They can start reproducing when they’re four months old here in Florida. They can have three litters a year. If they have four or five each time. You do the math.”

Alleycat.org found that TNR stabilizes colonies. A two-year study of six spayed or neutered colonies found an average population decreased by 36%.

“Clay County has a cat problem. Florida as a cat problem,” King said.

The Safe Animal Shelter accepts requests to trap-neuter-release community cats on its website, safeanimalshelter.com/trap-and-release. Safe then passes the information to cat lovers like King.

While Safe is the facilitator between concerned residents and trappers, it doesn’t shelter the cats or offer free spay or neutering.

“We aren’t rescuing cats,” King said. “And we don’t call them ferals. They’re community cats. People complain about the cats, but it’s not the cats’ fault. And removing them doesn’t work because other cats will come in their place that aren’t fixed. So the idea is to fix them. They hold the spots, and they go away by attrition.”

According to Alley Cat Allies, a nonprofit cat advocacy group, other cats generally don’t move in when a fixed cat returns to its original location. They call it the Vacuum Effect. When a cat is removed, it creates a territorial opening that will not remain empty.

King said it’s important not to feed cats until they are fixed.

“Orange Park and Clay County are full of cats,” King said. “It’s not just Clay County. It’s all the counties around. We’re fortunate enough to have two programs to help us out for free. It’s just a terrible problem.”

Until it’s resolved, King plans to fill in many more crossword puzzles as she patiently waits for more cats to Trap-Neuter-Release.

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## Chef

from page 1

compete with eight other aspiring chefs for \$25,000, a trip to Mexico and other prizes.

The finals started with a one-hour show on Sunday and a pair of one-hour shows on Monday. A group of friends, classmates, and family met at Jimmy Hula's on Monday night for a watch party. Since the show was taped nearly nine months ago, Brown and his family were the only ones who knew how it turned out.

Brown told his classmates he was "away on business" for a month in February. He was prevented contractually from talking about the show. Two weeks ago, the show allowed the contestants to say they were part of the show but couldn't discuss the finish.

Landon and his friends stayed well past bedtime to take in the huge moment. Sunday Night Football, step aside.

Sitting with a close friend, Chris Perotta Jr., 9, Landon sported his classic cooking apron from the show. The group looked on in awe and laughed along as Brown cracked jokes, smiled and cooked hard-to-master dishes against the clock, along with the scrutiny of Ramsay, his daughter, Tilly Ramsay, and celebrity judges Daphne Oz and Aaron Sanchez.

"I'm just so proud of him," Perotta said. "We're really excited about it. A lot of people are (posting about it) on (Facebook and social media), saying, 'Congratulations, Landon, and 'that's so exciting,'" his mother, Ashley Brown, said. "They are saying he is going to own his own restaurant

one day."

"It's really nice to see Chris's good friend up there on TV, just for the world to see. It's pretty cool," said Chris Perotta, Chris Jr.'s father.

Throughout the competition, Brown's warming, affectionate persona seemed to warm Ramsay, much to the approval of the Oakleaf community. Brown advanced to the semifinal round after cooking a winning holiday pie with teammate Rae, a skilled 11-year-old chef from Oakville, Texas, in the partner round.

During the show, the pair enjoyed a cup of hot cocoa on the balcony with Ramsay, taking a breather and relaxing as other contestants scrambled to the finish line. With his trademark personality on display, Brown laughed and joked with the international celebrity and his teammate.

In Monday's final, he got a mystery box containing items the judges randomly selected. Brown was required to cook a challenging street steak taco, with skirt steak to cut into small strips and grilled. He knew he could have been eliminated if he overcooked the steak by the thinnest of margins. Additional ingredients were a spicy cricket salsa with chili peppers and tomatoes, salt, pepper, guacamole and garlic powder.

Landon also made Jewish-inspired cookies with blue sprinkles.

He barely missed the final cut. "Young man, cooking these tacos was a bold move. The tortilla tastes beautiful. What you did on those things, getting them nice and crispy, that was delicious. But one skirt steak was a little bit rare, and another was a little bit well-done," Ramsay



Nine-year-old Landon Brown of Oakleaf shares an embrace with international celebrity chef and show judge, Gordon Ramsay. The pair formed a close bond through the Master Chef Junior competition.



STAFF PHOTOS BY LEE WARDLAW

Three MasterChef Junior celebrities – eventual winner Rae, Gordon Ramsay and Landon Brown – take a break to sip on hot chocolate on the balcony between taping sessions of "MasterChef Junior: Home for the Holidays." Rae and Landon advanced to the semifinals.

said. "It tastes good, but (the presentation) does not look as good. The salsa is super hot. It just needs a little bit of a cooking-down agent. You nailed the cookies. The cookies were beautiful. Really good job," Ramsay Landon also had to create a dish with crickets, which earned a compliment from Tilly Ramsay.

The journey included room and board, three meals daily, home-schooling, an on-site tutor and a game room. He also took trips to world-famous Los Angeles landmarks like the Hollywood sign, the Los Angeles Zoo and others.

Landon said he considers other contestants Colbie, Rae and Elijah as good friends.

"It doesn't matter if you get eliminated

or not. You're still a good chef," Elijah said as he hugged Landon before leaving the show.

Ramsay put the strong relationship he and Landon formed on the center stage. He congratulated Brown, one of his favorites, for an epic performance and admirable personality.

"Young man, you did amazing. Honestly, me personally, I'm going to miss you. I love your spirit. Give credit to your parents and, most importantly, yourself. Come on up here," Ramsay said.

After the two embraced, Brown walked out of the studio to begin his 2,100-mile journey home.

On Monday, Brown was back at his favorite place – the kitchen.

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# Clarke House hosts annual Hometown Holiday in the Park

Hundreds enjoy night of fun, games, shopping at historic home

By Lee Wardlaw  
lee@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK – The community once again gathered last Friday and Saturday for the Hometown Holiday in the Park at the Clarke House for two nights of fun-filled holiday-themed lights and festivities, which included games and activities for youth, a holiday shopping village with gourmet food trucks and craft artisan vendors, live musical performances, and tours of the iconic 111-year-old home that helped shape the town’s unique history.

Children experienced an unforgettable experience of games, camaraderie and fun, which included a colorful, challenging obstacle course, pony rides, a bubble machine and “train rides” on two all-terrain vehicles. Parents and children took a winding tour of the back of the historic property, where they saw large, fluorescent, holiday-themed lights.

An important visitor was on hand, who came all the way from the North Pole. Santa Claus took Christmas list requests and spent several minutes with each child, taking plenty of time with every little boy and girl.

In addition to rides and games, there were classic Christmas movies, shopping



STAFF PHOTOS BY LEE WARDLAW  
Along with train rides, visits with Santa Claus, children had fun in the bubbles, and other entertainment, children enjoyed a colorful obstacle course at Hometown Holiday in the Park last Friday and Saturday.

in the Christmas village and food vendors.

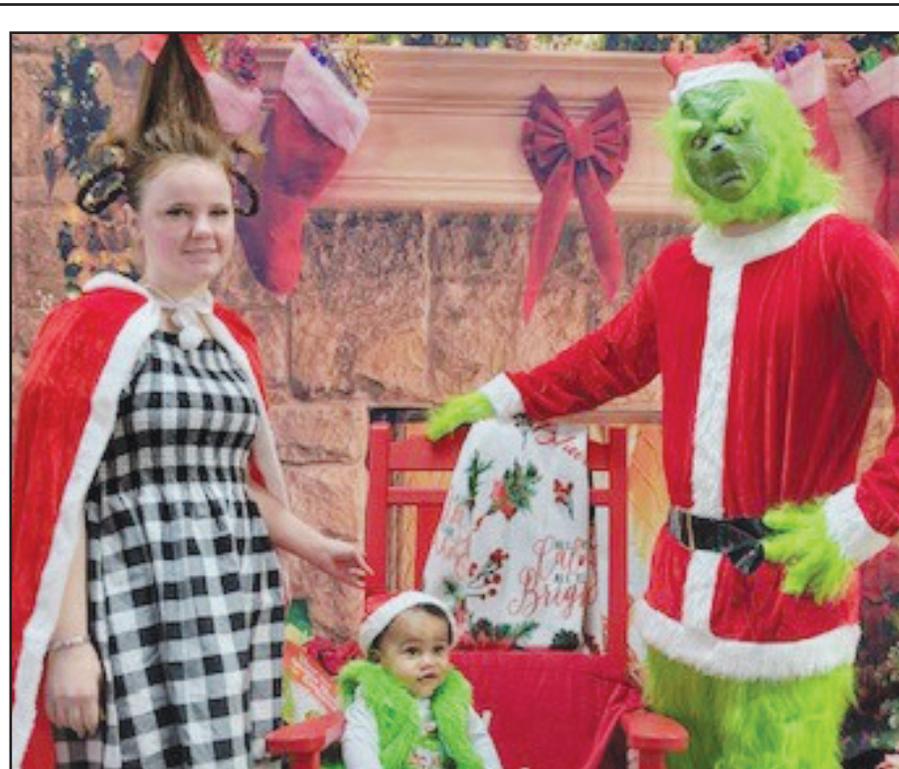
Hundreds came for the event centered around the historic house open for business, which offered a central community hub for the action. With residents touring the house and park, the event offered everyone a distinct, neighborly, family-friendly, welcoming environment.



Amal Makhoulf, 6, enjoyed a wonderful chat with Santa Claus, her favorite icon from the North Pole.



Crafts and artisan vendors offered unique items for residents to purchase to support local businesses.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

### Happier Grinch joins guests at Golden Corral

ORANGE PARK – Hungry customers at Golden Corral were surprised when they were joined by the Grinch for breakfast last week. The popular character by Dr. Seuss, posed for photos while others feasted on the expansive selection of early-morning dishes.

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# Move to Elrod Acres leads to record crowd for A Country Christmas

By Don Coble  
don@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Matt Mitchell knew moving A Country Christmas from a street in Orange Park South to the expansive Elrod Acres would be successful.

But the Fleming Island man admitted he was surprised when more than 3,000 came to the farm on Thunder Road to enjoy his Christmas-themed wonderland last weekend.

“What an amazing opening weekend,” he said. “We wanted to make history in Northeast Florida.”

When 750 braved the rain on opening night, Mitchell knew he had created something special. Then on Saturday, Dec. 9, more than 2,250 filled the parking lots, had their picture taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus, listened to live music, played with Christmas and Star Wars characters, ate from food trucks, visited a live nativity, looked at classic cars, played games, petted animals like donkeys, goats and camels and wrote letters to Santa Claus.

Mitchell organized neighbors on Apopka Drive to decorate their houses last year for “Nights of Lights.” Mitchell said he hung nearly 70,000 lights on his house, and it attracted hundreds. But there wasn’t a lot of parking in the neighborhood. And Mitch-



ell had bigger ideas.

“We started putting up lights by Sept. 15,” he said. “It’s definitely worth the move in terms of parking and the amount of room we have out here compared to where we were last year. It’s definitely paid off. It’s like walking into a Hallmark movie.”

Mitchell said a portion of the proceeds will go to Mercy Support Services.

The final weekend is this Friday, Dec. 15, and Saturday. Friday’s hours are 5-9 p.m., while Saturday’s festivities last from noon to 9 p.m. Tickets are available online at [acountrychristmas.org](http://acountrychristmas.org).



PHOTOS BY LAUREN MCCLURE, MATTHEW MITCHELL

A Country Christmas founder Matt Mitchell, left, joins Sheriff Michelle Cook and Santa Claus for a photo on opening night. Guests also enjoyed lights, games and music at its new site in GCS.



While Elrod Acres is located at 3679 Thunder Road, guests are reminded parking is located between Jennifer Lane and

Whisper Trail off State Road 16. The Clay County Sheriff’s Office said nobody should park on the SR 16 shoulder.

## CLAY TODAY CREATIVE ARTS CONTEST

Accepting submissions for fiction, poetry, photography, art

By Jack Randall  
jack@claytodayonline.com

CLAY COUNTY – Are you creative in writing, storytelling or designing? Are you a high school student excited to get a jumpstart in developing a published portfolio? Do you have a big imagination and a deep desire to share your passion with your community?

How about winning \$100 for your creative work?

Clay Today is reaching out to its readership and the county school system to invite students to submit fiction, poetry, photography and digital artwork for the inaugural Clay Today Creative Arts Contest.

Throughout the year, one finalist from each category will be chosen each month on a rolling acceptance basis. The chosen finalists for each month will have their fiction, poetry, photography or digital artwork published on our website and in the monthly print issue of “School News.”

From among the twelve finalists for each category, chosen from each month

of the year, the readership of Clay Today will vote for the best work of fiction, poetry, photography and digital artwork for 2024. The entry that wins the most votes for each category will be published in “Best of Clay,” and the four winners will be gifted a grand prize of \$100 for their contribution and recognition. The four winners will also win a year’s subscription to Clay Today.

All students living or enrolled in Clay County are welcome to apply. High school students interested in careers in fine art or publishing are encouraged. The submission guidelines are as follows:

For submissions in each category, submit an accompanying cover letter with a brief bio (name, grade, the school enrolled) or intention to be published anonymously. You are welcome to share briefly what the piece means to you and the journey of its creation. The content of the cover letter will not influence the judging process.

For fiction, following the cover letter, submit a 1000-to-5000-word narrative in a .doc or .docx format. Work will only be considered in Times New Roman, Calibri, or another professional font. The editorial team will look for work demonstrating a creative command of language, captivating characters and alluring themes. Genre fiction is acceptable, but we are looking for exceptional storytelling ability that leaves a unique impression. If a story is meaningful to write, it will be meaningful to read.

For poetry, following the cover letter, submit one to three independent poems, each on a separate page in a .doc or .docx

format. Up to three poems can be included, but only one will be chosen. The editorial team is looking for work containing colorful imagery, powerful emotion, purposeful syntax, and a unique perspective or voice.

For photography, following the cover letter, submit a high-resolution image in a .pdf format. The photograph can feature a landscape, portrait, still life, abstract, macro or any other scene. However, it must be captured with a camera and the photograph must be taken in a setting within Clay County.

For digital art, following the cover letter, submit a high-resolution image in a .pdf format. The editorial team is keeping the guidelines open. Digital paintings, digital sketches, and 2D or 3D graphics are all acceptable formats. The artwork must be original. The use of artificial intelligence is not allowed.

There is no prompt for each of the four categories. The only stipulation is that photography must feature a setting in Clay County. Students can send work for each category, but only one submission for each. Any evidence of using artificial intelligence for any step in the creative process will result in immediate disqualification. We welcome interpretations and commentary on mature themes and topics. However, explicit pornographic material will be rejected. Finalists throughout the year will be chosen each month on a rolling acceptance basis.

Send your submissions with your cover letter and work attached to [jack@claytodayonline.com](mailto:jack@claytodayonline.com)

dayonline.com

Reach out with any questions. Let your voice be heard. Leave your mark on the world. Best of luck to our contestants! Judging will begin in January 2024.



Please do keep us in mind for your real estate needs this holiday season!



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## Clay County enjoys host of holly, jolly Christmas festivities

PHOTOS BY DON COBLE, TINA BULLOCK, MICHELLE COOK, BRENDA DIMAGGIO, MIKE CELLA

CLAY COUNTY – Expectations of record crowds at more than a dozen events on Saturday, Dec. 9, came true – and exceeded them. The day of parades, festivals, light displays, performances and celebrations started with the Penney Farms Christmas parade in the morning and it ended with numerous events after nightfall, including parades on Fleming Island, Keystone Heights, Oakleaf, Middleburg and the Whitey's Fish Camp Boat Parade on Swimming Pen Creek and Doctors Lake. If that wasn't enough, there also was a parade of trees in Green Cove Springs and Keystone Heights, A Country Christmas at Elrod Acres, Hometown Holiday at the Clarke House Park in Orange Park, a performance of "The Nutcracker" at the Thrasher-Horne Center, Circus Delman at the Orange Park Mall, holiday lights at Snitkaw Farms in Green Cove Springs and a nativity scene display at River Christian Church. Since it was the first year, there was a significant focus on the Oakleaf parade. Although portions of Oakleaf Oaks Boulevard and Oakleaf Plantation Parkway had to be closed, and access to five neighborhoods was restricted, thousands attended without problems. One of the largest gatherings was at Keystone Heights. The Lake Region Kiwanis Club honored many floats and bands, including Keystone Heights High JROTC as the best marching band, New Grace Baptist Church as the Most Original, Keystone Heights Sports Association as the Closest to the Theme, Keystone Heights Animal Hospital as Best Business entry, Keystone Heights High basketball team as Best Youth and Women's Club of Keystone Heights with the Judge's Choice.



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# Lawsuit

from page 7

“It’s a very personal thing. Some (people) can tolerate very high dosages of caffeine, perhaps because they are younger, or maybe because they are a chronic user,” Schauben said. “But others react to the substance in an entirely separate scenario. Other individuals may react very negatively to smaller dosages of caffeine, perhaps even just one to two cups of coffee. These are very, very difficult questions to answer.”

Pre-existing conditions and medical concerns compound the risks, which potentially contributed to Brown’s death.

“An older (individual) or someone with a pre-existing nervous system or a heart condition are at much higher risk,” Schauben said.

Individuals with medical concerns, along with obesity and other factors, are at much higher risk and could see adverse effects of even normal dosages of caffeine. They should stay under the 400 milligrams a day, he said.

Schauben said those who consume caffeine daily, especially energy drinks, should heed caution.

“(You) just need to be cognizant of how much caffeine you drink,” he said.

Keeping track of dosages infused in energy drinks is important because caffeine content often trumps regular coffee, so buyers beware.

“People need to understand how much (caffeine content) they are taking in, based on the energy drink (product) they select. Some have higher amounts than others. You need to be careful when drinking higher dosages. It could result in adverse effects,” he said.

“People need to understand that caffeine is beneficial in some cases and can be quite dangerous in others, just like any drug on the market, whether it be prescription or over the counter. A small amount may (work) toward your benefit, but if you take much larger amounts, it can hurt you,” Schauben said.

People should schedule an appointment with their physician, Schauben said.

“That may be the best way to go if (you) have a concern on what (equates) to a safe amount,” he said. “That doctor (should be) clued in on your (medical history) and pre-existing medical conditions which may put you at risk. This is a very individualized thing.”



# Party

from page 1

advance because it may be the only toys children will get. A year ago, the first car rolled into the parking lot at 5 p.m. Friday – 16 hours before children were greeted with a new stuffed animal and a wave from Santa Claus.

“We’ve had a ton of calls this year,” said charity Chairman and Executive Director Virginia Hall. “We’re expecting a big crowd.”

The only requirements to receive a bag of toys are that children must be from Clay County and only children in the car can receive gifts. There is no paperwork. Toys are divided by age and gender. Before the family leaves, children can pick out one of nearly 800 refurbished bicycles delivered by a group of volunteers led by Richard Knoff in Green Cove Springs and The James Boys from Orange Park. Bikes will be given away on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Hall said the organization will collect new, unwrapped toys and monetary donations until the party starts.

“We’re expecting big crowds, and it’s always harder to find toys and get donations for the older kids,” Hall said. “Everyone always wants to do stuff for the little kids, but it’s a little more challenging for children 10-to-14. They need stuff, too.”

She said games, sports equipment,

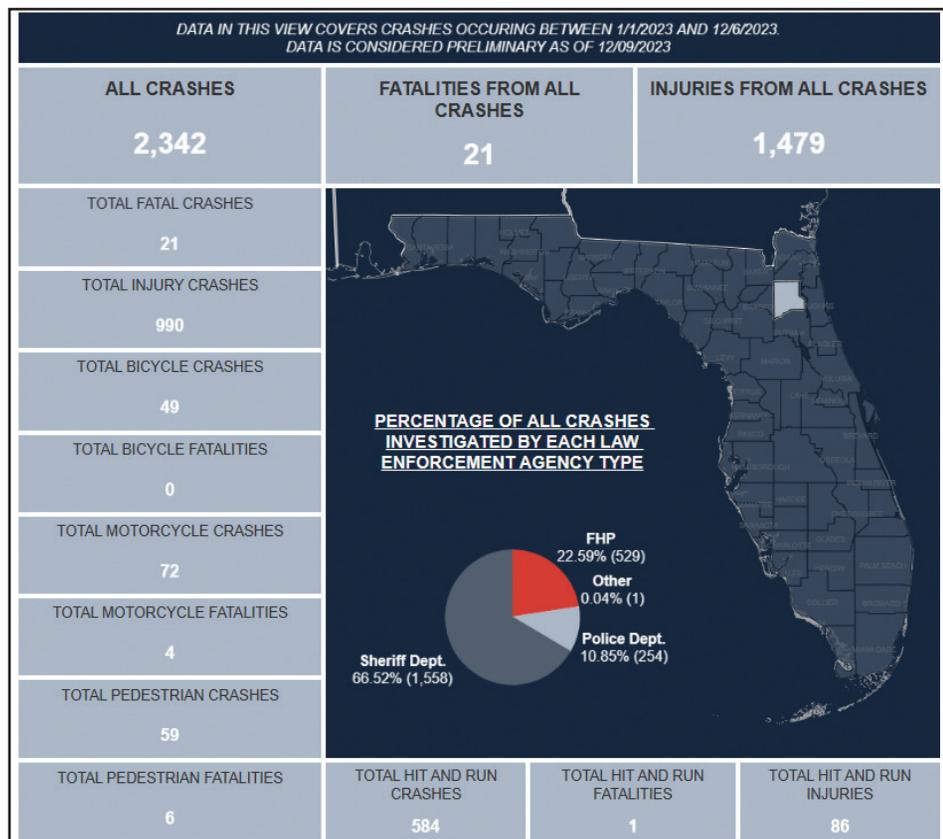


LEGO blocks are popular with older children.

Hall is a fourth-generation resident of the county. Her grandfather created the charity, which is a family affair. Hall said she’s handing over many duties to her sons, J.P., Matthew and Grant.

“I’ll still be there,” she said, “but I’ve been slowly turning over the reigns to my children to lead the efforts, especially J.P. and Matthew, the two oldest. They’re doing a great job. I’m very proud of them.”

In a perfect world, the Halls would like to believe nobody needs a helping hand. But as long as there are children who may do without, they will be there.



Clay County statistics provided by the Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

# Collisions

from page 6

16–19 years of age who were killed in crashes in 2020, 56% were not wearing a seat belt, according to the CDC.

“Plan to be patient,” Bryan said. Have a plan for your trip and allow adequate time to get to your location. If you’re running behind, you’ve already planned for that and don’t need to hurry or cause a hazardous driving situation.

“Drive your car. Don’t let the advanced technology in vehicles today give you a false sense of security of traffic safety.

Just because the vehicles nowadays can basically drive themselves, don’t rely on it. Drive your car.

“Don’t drive impaired, whether that be by alcohol, controlled substances, prescription medication, dietary supplements or even energy drinks. I hope our youth understand that if you feel different, you drive different.”

While the chance for fatal car crashes is never zero, following traffic laws and focusing on the road are some ways Bryan recommends that would lower that statistical likelihood as much as possible.

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# North Florida Land Trust gets \$15 million for C2C

For Clay Today

CAMP BLANDING – North Florida Land Trust and its partners have been awarded \$15,243,902 by the United States Department of Agriculture’s National Resources Conservation Service through its Regional Conservation Partnership Program.

The funding will support the Corridor to Coast initiative that extends through the Northeast and Central Florida region to the east coast and includes a “critical linkage” within the Florida Wildlife Corridor and Ecological Greenways Network, the Ocala to Osceola (O2O) wildlife corridor. The RCPP will support the conservation of working farms, forests and natural buffer

## LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Clay County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, December 28, 2023 at 6:00 P.M., in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, 4th Floor, Clay County Administration Building, 477 Houston Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida, for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to issuing a Variance to the Clay County Land Development Code, Article VI, Section 6-8(5)(d), to waive the requirement for canopy trees within 10 feet of the property line and spaced no more than fifty feet apart along the western boundary of the property.

Location Address for BOA-23-0024

598 C.R. 226

Tax Parcel Identification Number 38-06-26-016513-000-00

Interested parties may appear at the hearing and be heard with respect to the proposed Variance. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at such hearing, such person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. A copy of the Variance Application is available for inspection by the public at the County Economic Development Services Department, Planning and Zoning Division, Third Floor of the Administration Building, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

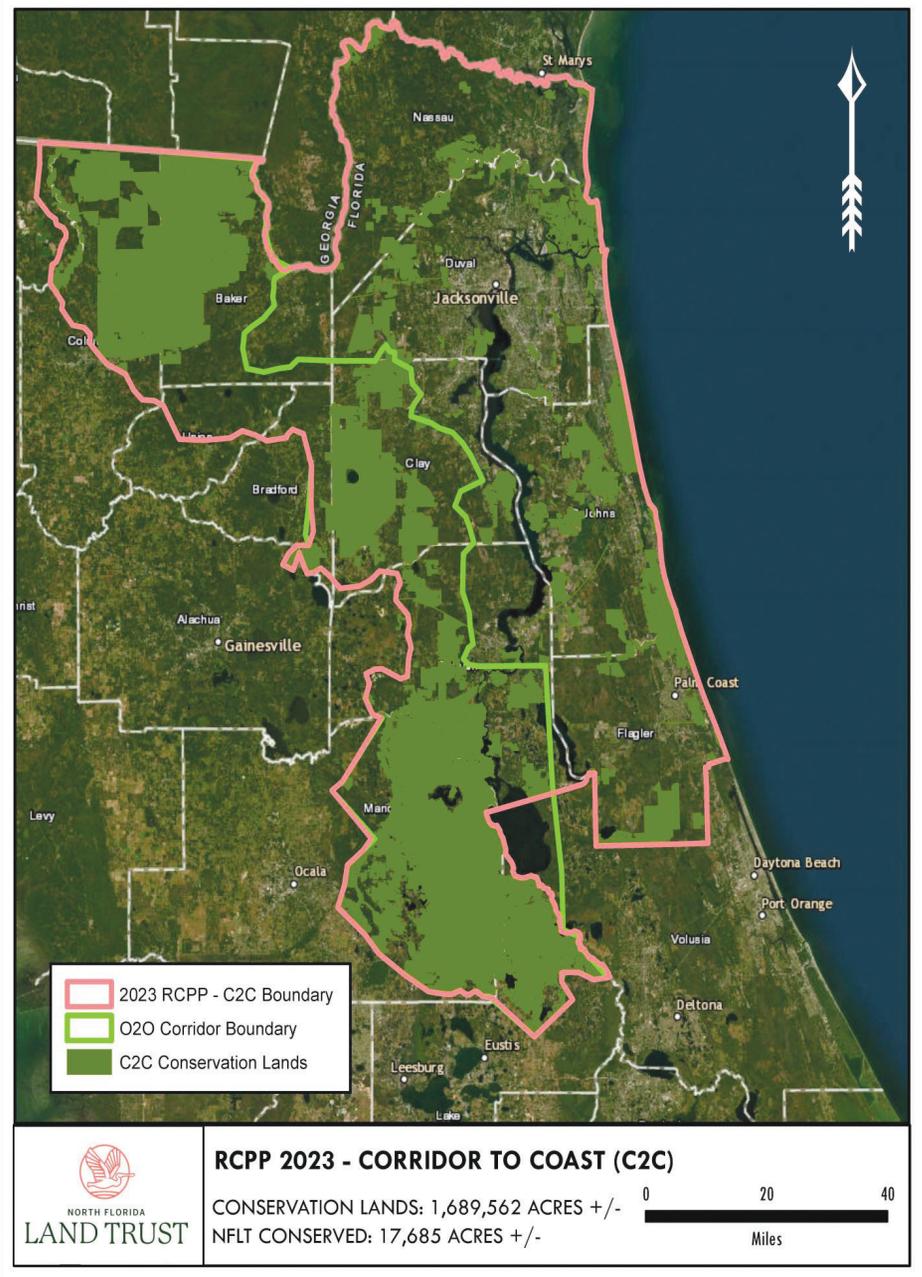
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing accommodations to participate in this matter should contact Clay County Risk Management by mail at P.O. Box 1366, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043, or by telephone at (904) 278-4718, no later than three (3) days prior to the hearing or proceeding for which this notice has been given. Deaf and hard of hearing persons can access the telephone number by contacting the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (Voice) or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

BOA-23-0024 published December 14, 2023 in Clay Today.

Clay County Board of Adjustment  
Keith Hadden  
Chairman

Legal 94221 published December 14, 2023 in Clay County’s Clay Today Newspaper.

## CONSERVATION AREAS AND PUBLIC LANDS



The Corridor to Coast initiative extends through Northeast and Central Florida to link the Florida Wildlife Corridor and Ecological Greenways Network, including a swatch through Camp Blanding.

lands that provide ecological benefits to the region.

The C2C is an extension of the O2O partnership led by NFLT and includes public and private organizations dedicated to landscape-scale conservation. The C2C is approximately 5,200,000 acres and covers nine counties, including privately owned working lands and forests, freshwater wetlands, natural areas, pastures and public conservation lands. The RCPP will increase land protection and restoration funding in Baker, Clay and Putnam counties.

NFLT is committed to promoting conservation activities that protect Camp Blanding from the threat of encroaching development. Camp Blanding is in the heart of the C2C. NFLT partners with the military installation through the Army Compatible Use Buffer program, which provides funding for protecting land surrounding the Camp Blanding training center.

It also adds new funding opportunities in Nassau, Duval, St. Johns and Flagler counties.

The RCPP will bring local, state, and federal financial landowner assistance programs to private landowners for land

management that protects natural resources and wildlife to enhance regional conservation goals further.

“Extending our conservation reach is so important right now because it is now or never,” said Allison DeFoor, president of NFLT. “This is the third time we have been awarded funding through the RCPP and have successfully improved the lands throughout the O2O. With this initiative extending from the corridor to the coast, we can expand our work to protect natural spaces and resources and increase our ability to make a major difference for our future.”

Protecting and improving the land and these natural buffers have many ecological benefits and provide habitats for many wildlife species. It helps protect against flooding by providing storage and decreases the potential for soil erosion and pollution like fertilizers, insecticides, oil, grease and other human-made and natural pollutants that can enter water sources through runoff, drainage, seepage or precipitation. These water-abundant landscapes are critical for protecting the region from rising sea levels, erosion, and increased rainfall.

# Latter-day Saint Charities supports LJD Jewish Family & Community Services

For Clay Today

Latter-day Saint Charities, the humanitarian arm of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, recently donated funds to The LJD Jewish Family & Community Services to provide local struggling individuals and families, including seniors, with housing assistance.

The one-time payment is estimated to assist more than 80 households in Northeast Florida, including Clay County, during the next year. The goal is to allow families to remain in their homes wherever possible.

“Emergency Financial Assistance is the heart of JFCS wraparound care, keeping families safe, together and in their homes,” said JFCS Chief Executive Officer Colleen Rodriguez. “For families struggling with poverty, whether generational or situational, housing stability is a top barrier to family safety and wellbeing.”

Clay County Latter-day Saints churches on Fleming Island, Middleburg and Orange Park participated.

Flexible funding from Latter-day Saint Charities will allow The JFCS to directly address the needs of families in crisis and help them achieve housing stability. This funding will allow JFCS to meet people where they are and provide the support that makes sense for each family. Whether



PHOTO BY LATTER-DAY SAINT CHARITIES  
Members from Latter-day Saint Charities and the LJD Jewish Family & Community Services explore exhibits at the Frisch Family Holocaust Memorial Gallery.

it’s rent, utilities, a car repair, prescription assistance, or a GED program (so a mom can earn higher pay)... that’s a win for the entire family. With support tailored to each family, JFCS can help families build the skills and resources to achieve and maintain true housing stability.

Latter-day Saint Charities is committed to supporting local non-profit organizations with interfaith efforts to achieve the greatest good. JFCS met the criteria for support due to its long-standing impact in this area and the impressive programs in place to help those in need in many ways.

# Scottish Athletics Masters world champions coming to fairgrounds

Special to Clay Today

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The Foundation for Scottish Athletics, based in Jacksonville, has been awarded the 2024 Scottish Athletics Masters World Championship by the Scottish Masters Athletics International.

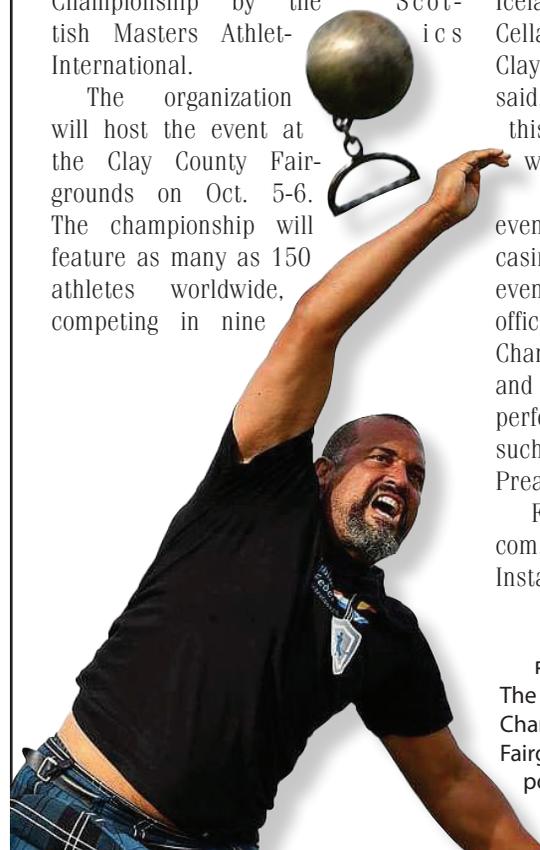
The organization will host the event at the Clay County Fairgrounds on Oct. 5-6. The championship will feature as many as 150 athletes worldwide, competing in nine

events, including the famous Caber Toss, in their respective age divisions.

In past years, the world championships were at locations around the globe, including Neuendorf, Switzerland; Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada; and Hafnarfjörður, Iceland. Clay County Commissioner Mike Cella, who also serves as Chairman of the Clay County Tourism Development Council, said, “We are super excited about hosting this world-class event and look forward to welcoming the world to Clay County.”

In addition to the sports events, the event will feature a Celtic festival showcasing Celtic music, food and vendors. The event also welcomes McTavish Spirits, the official bourbon for the 2024 Masters World Championship. The famous Scottish author and actor Graham McTavish is known for performing in popular movies and TV shows such as Outlander, The Hobbit trilogy, Preacher and many more.

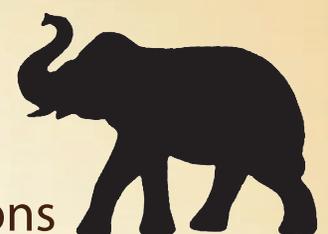
For tickets and prices, visit 2024MWC.com. For updates, visit MWC’s Facebook or Instagram pages.



PHOTOS FROM FOUNDATION FOR SCOTTISH ATHLETICS  
The Scottish Athletics Masters World Championship will be at the Clay County Fairgrounds on Oct. 5-6, and it will feature popular events like the Caber Toss, Sheaf Toss and Weight for Distance



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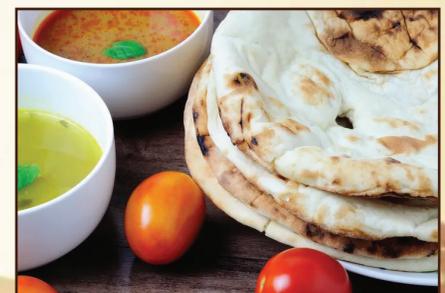
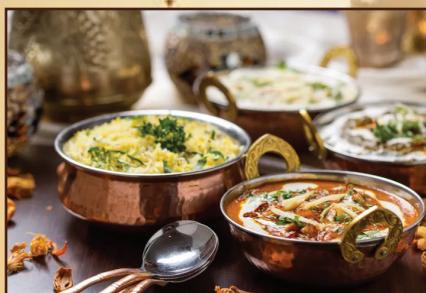


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## Faith Walk

by Pastor Billy Register  
True Life Church  
Clay County

### Best Christmas Ever: A Season of Joy

Christmas, often seen as a time of joy, is a season that heralds the arrival of happiness, delight, and the celebration of the birth of Jesus. It is a time that resonates with the joyous proclamation of the angels, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people” (Luke 2:10).

At the core of the Christmas story lies the gift of joy, a concept deeply entrenched in our faith. The birth of Jesus was a moment of great jubilation, marking the arrival of the long-awaited Messiah who would bring salvation and the promise of eternal joy to the world.

Christmas is a time for Christian families to come together, rejoicing in the love and joy that Christ’s birth embodies. The act of gift-giving during Christmas symbolizes the never-ending joy that God gave all humanity through the gift of His Son. Just as God generously gave the greatest gift of all in Jesus, we exchange gifts as a symbol of joy, sharing the love and happiness that the arrival of Jesus brought into the world.

The Star of Bethlehem symbolizes the spiritual light that Jesus brought into the world, illuminating our lives with joy. His birth represents a new light of hope and joy that guides us through life’s journey. John 1:5 says, “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it”.

Let this Christmas be a time that inspires us to commit to a spirit of continuous joy and celebration throughout the year. The Bible encourages us to “rejoice always” (1 Thessalonians 5:16) and to find joy in the Lord, for “the joy of the Lord is your strength” (Nehemiah 8:10). Christmas serves as a reminder to nurture joy and celebrate the eternal happiness found in Jesus.

Remember, Christmas is a season of joy! It celebrates the birth of Jesus, the source of all joy! May this Christmas season be the best ever, a time of abundant joy for you and your family, filled with love, celebration, and a heart full of praise for the Giver of Joy.

You can write the Pastor at [pastor-billy@findtruelife.com](mailto:pastor-billy@findtruelife.com)

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# Rev. George Reed takes over at Mt. Zion AME

Special to Clay Today

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Rev. George L. Reed Jr. was recently appointed the new Pastor at Mt. Zion AME Church.

Reed is from Jacksonville, and he is the eldest son of State Presider Dr. Loranda P. Denson and Reverend George Reed, Sr. He experienced a spiritual awakening and received the baptism of the Holy Ghost in Triumph the Church and Kingdom of God in Christ on Dec. 14, 2003. Since then, Reed has continued to serve God, people and the community.

Reed received his ministerial license in 2005 and served as youth pastor until 2008, when he was ordained an Elder. He is anointed to deliver a precise interpretation of the Scripture, and this is evident in his writing, homilies, lectures and pastoral counseling.

Since accepting his calling into Kingdom Ministry, Reverend Reed has served as the keynote jubilation speaker for national organizational luncheons, community empowerment summits, youth retreats, conferences and worship services.

Additionally, Reed has served in numerous capacities under the auspices of his grandfather, Presiding Elder Lorenzo Monroe and subsequent leaders, namely as Vice-President of the National Board of Trustees, District Youth Mentor and Dis-



PHOTOS BY MT. ZION AME CHURCH

Rev. George L. Reed was joined by his wife, Tammyla Harris-Reed, when they moved from Crescent City so Rev. Reed could take the pulpit at Mt. Zion AME Church at 549 Palmetto Ave. in Green Cove Springs.

trict Youth Activities Coordinator.

Reed is skilled in parliamentary procedure, biblical research, and leadership. He is bi-vocational, so in addition to serving as Pastor he is employed in the corporate sector with more than 30 years of experience in course development, training, and customer service management. Reed’s mantra is simple: “I’m committed to serve and called to lead.”

Reed was educated in the Duval County Public School System, and he graduated Magna Cum Laude from Edward H. White

High.

He earned a Bachelor of Theology and Christian Counseling from Saint Thomas Christian University, where he graduated Valedictorian; a Bachelor of Business Administration and Organizational Management from Edward Waters University in 2019; and he is pursuing a Master of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary.

Reed enjoys date nights with his wife, Tammyla Harris-Reed, and rooting for the Miami Dolphins and the Jacksonville Jaguars when he isn’t serving in ministry.

**A half-ton of dog food donated to Clay County Animal Services**

PHOTOS BY CLAY COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Residents and local organizations combined to donate 1,025 pounds of dog food to Clay County Animal Services. When the county learned its dog food order was running late, it asked our neighbors for help, and they delivered – quite literally.

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# Rotary Club of Orange Park Sunrise donates cookie trays

For Clay Today

CLAY COUNTY – The Rotary Club of Orange Park Sunrise spread holiday cheer by delivering Holiday Cookie Trays to various organizations in Northeast Florida.

The beneficiaries included military organizations, first responders, and nonprofits.

The Navy-Marine Corp Relief Society at NAS JAX, USO Greater JAX, Clay County Fire and Rescue, Clay County Sheriff Department and 911 Emergency Team in Green Cove Springs, Florida Army National Guard Recruiting Office in Orange Park, Orange Park Police Department, First Coast Women Services, Quigley House, Waste Not Want Not and Clay County Rescue Mission were among the recipients. A total of 18 trays, each containing seven dozen cookies, were distributed.

Duane Mallicoat, the Club's President-Elect, said this marked the fourth year of the Holiday Cookie Tray Project.

The project is funded annually through donations from club members. This year, the donations surpassed the project's cost, and Orange Park Sunrise gave an excess of \$300 to the Rotary Foundation's Global



Polio Eradication Initiative.

This initiative exemplifies the spirit of giving and community service that the Rotary Club Orange Park Sunrise embodies, especially during the holiday season.

For more information about the Rotary Club of Orange Park Sunrise and its activities, please contact Jenielle Holderfield at RotaryOPSunriseCharity@gmail.com or visit [oprotarysunrise.com](http://oprotarysunrise.com).



The Rotary Club of Orange Park Sunrise recently donated 18 trays of cookies to several organizations, including The Navy-Marine Corp Relief Society at NAS JAX, USO Greater JAX, Clay County Fire and Rescue, Clay County Sheriff Department and 911 Emergency Team in Green Cove Springs, Florida Army National Guard Recruiting Office in Orange Park, Orange Park Police Department, First Coast Women Services, Quigley House, Waste Not Want Not and Clay County Rescue Mission.

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# Man charged with shooting at Middleburg Christmas parade revelers

## Nobody hurt after man became agitated at parade attendees

By Don Coble  
don@claytodayonline.com

MIDDLEBURG – According to a neighbor, a man fired shots after he became “agitated” by attendees during the Middleburg Christmas parade on Dec. 9.

Douglas Allen Moore, 43, of Middleburg, was charged with six counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, discharging a firearm while being intoxicated

and discharging a firearm in public after neighbors said he shot at them on Yucca Street near the parade route. Members of the Clay County Sheriff’s Office SWAT/Fugitive Task Force were working security for the parade and they quickly responded when they heard the shots.

According to the arrest report, the neighbors were yelling at Moore, asking him why he was shooting at them. He was

quickly “taken to the ground” after he refused to comply with deputies’ orders to get on the ground. Deputies said Moore’s speech was slurred, and his eyes were bloodshot and watery.

“I am thankful for the quick re-



Douglas Allen Moore

sponse by the deputies who ran toward the sound of gunfire to keep our community safe,” Sheriff Michelle Cook said in a release.

According to court records, Moore was charged in October 2011 for DUI, in November 2011 for driving with an open container in his car and for DUI and open container in 2005. Moore’s bond is \$200,022, and he will make his next court appearance on Jan. 8.

## Police Briefs claytodayonline.com

### Seven-mile chase ends when deputies deploy spiked stop sticks on Fleming Island

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The Clay County Sheriff’s Office successfully used stop sticks to stop a seven-mile chase of a woman suspected of stealing a car in Jacksonville.

Nichole Marie Downing, 40, of Jacksonville, was charged with grand theft auto, driving under the influence, attempting to flee from law enforcement with emergency lights and siren active and driving with a suspended license



Nichole Marie Downing

on Dec. 6 after a deputy noticed her weaving and driving 10 mph slower than the posted speed limit on U.S. Highway 17.

Believing she was either impaired or under the influence, the deputy tried to make a traffic stop. According to the arrest report, the deputy was alerted the car had been reported stolen as Downing sped on eight different streets in the downtown area to get away.

Downing ran over spikes deployed by CCSO on U.S. 17 at Water Oak Lane. She ran into the front of the deputy’s car before finally coming to a stop in a ditch on Fleming Island.

CCSO said she admitted to running because a passenger had an open container

of alcohol.

Her bond was set at \$155,011.

### CCSO: Man caught tossing fentanyl, crack cocaine while being chased

ORANGE PARK – A man already wanted on drug charges tried to run from Clay County Sheriff’s Office deputies when they spotted him sitting in his car on Old Orange Park road on Nov. 8.

Jarmal Daryan Michael Hill, 25, of Jacksonville, was apprehended 150 yards after he started running. Deputies saw him “throw multiple baggies containing (redacted) powdery substance toward the pond adjacent to him.”

According to the arrest report, Hill was charged with trafficking fentanyl, possession of crack cocaine and drug paraphernalia, and resisting arrest as other deputies closed in with their blue lights and siren active.

They uncovered one baggie with fentanyl and the other with crack cocaine.

A further investigation prompted CCSO to add four additional counts on Dec. 11 of trafficking fentanyl and selling methamphetamine.

Hill’s bond was set at \$1,090,031.



Daryan Michael Hill

### Man charged with taking well pump, pressure tank while clearing property

FLEMING ISLAND – A 40-year-old man was charged with taking a well pump and pressure tank because he thought they were about to be thrown away during a move.

James Harold Martinez, of Green Cove Springs, was charged with grand theft after the new owner of a property on U.S. Highway 17 said he saw Martinez work on the well and pump while he was clearing land. According to the arrest report, when the owner returned, they were gone and the well was capped.

A Clay County Sheriff’s Office deputy interviewed Martinez, and he said he didn’t ask about the equipment and thought they were about to be thrown away.

Martinez posted a bond and will be in court on Jan. 2.



James Harold Martinez

### South Carolina, Jacksonville men plead guilty after Orange Park drug bust

JACKSONVILLE – U.S. Attorney Roger B. Handberg announced that Jason Laquan Callum, 42, of Jamestown, South Carolina, and Rodney Alexander Leandro, 49, of Jacksonville, have pleaded guilty to conspiring to distribute cocaine. Callum faces a maximum penalty of life in federal prison for conspiring to distribute 5 kilograms or more of cocaine. Leandro faces a maximum penalty of 40 years in federal prison

for conspiring to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine.

A superseding indictment was filed on Sept. 27. Leandro and Callum are to be sentenced on March 28.

According to court documents, in March 2019, the Drug Enforcement Administration learned about a kilogram-level cocaine dealer operating in Orange Park. On April 10, 2019, law enforcement executed a search warrant on the dealer’s residence and located various narcotics, including cocaine, empty plastic heat-sealed kilogram bags with cocaine residue and \$34,530 in cash. The dealer confessed and identified Leandro and Callum as his sources of supply and agreed to set up a drug transaction.

On Feb. 4, 2020, Callum and Leandro agreed to send a kilogram of cocaine to the dealer CD by a courier from South Carolina to the Jacksonville area for \$33,000. Once the courier arrived, Clay County Sheriff’s Office deputies intercepted the courier’s vehicle, and during the interaction, the courier admitted to having cocaine in the front seat. Further, the courier explained that she began transporting drugs for Callum in 2019, and she delivered drugs to various states, including South Carolina, New York, Ohio, Florida, and North Carolina. The courier admitted to making at least 10 trips that involved cocaine, and each delivery had at least one kilogram or more of cocaine. The courier has also pleaded guilty to cocaine distribution in the Middle District of Florida. The Drug Enforcement Administration investigated the case – Jacksonville Tactical Diversion Squad and Task Force Two; DEA Charleston, South Carolina; the Clay County Sheriff’s Office and the Charleston County Aviation Authority Police Department.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Kirwinn Mike is prosecuting it.

Owen J.D. Greene, 19, Orange Park, three counts lewd/lascivious behavior of child younger than 16

Rebecca L. Lester, 52, Middleburg, VOP-stalking

Hunter L. Underwood, 18, Green Cove Springs, possession-marijuana, possession-drug paraphernalia

Leopold A. Green, 36, Orange Park, domestic battery

Edgar A. Castro, 24, violation of injunction for protection against domestic violence

Delia A. Donaldson, 50, Orange Park,

DUI, DWLSR

Shardasia M. Wilson, 24, Green Cove Springs, violation of pretrial release conditions for protection against domestic violence, domestic battery, possession-drug paraphernalia

John T. Meira, 22, Middleburg, grand theft auto

Devon D. Tillman, 20, Middleburg, domestic battery

Timothy T. Perry, 43, Middleburg, three counts possession-

## Arrests & Bookings

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

### Tuesday, Dec. 12

Darin W. Etchison, 19, Orange Park, possession-marijuana, alter/remove/destroy serial number from firearm

William A. Seco, 33, Orange Park, DUI with property damage, refusal to submit to BAL test

Mazie R. Casciani, 31, Orange Park, grand theft

# Manhunt ends with arrest in Little Black Creek

Suspect wanted for carjacking caught after two-mile run

Clay Today Staff

MIDDLEBURG – Home surveillance cameras helped the Clay County and Jacksonville sheriff's offices and the Florida Highway Patrol to track down a man last Sunday wanted for carjacking.

According to updates and SaferWatch alerts, the License Plate Recognition system identified the car. The man abandoned his car shortly after 10 a.m. on Blanding and escaped into the Mayfield community. Cameras showed him running through yards, and many residents said they saw him with a handgun, which prompted law enforcement to order a shelter-in-place warning.

The chase included portions of Tailsman Drive, Saga Court and into a wooded area.

Deputies positioned several squad cars two miles away on CR 200 at Little Black Creek and Joe Johns Road to get ahead of the suspect. Tracking dogs and JSO Air Unit and drones were used to track him. He eventually was spotted in the creek behind Creekwater Inflatables, across the street from the Safe Animal Shelter. Tactical Tracking Teams subdued the man at 1:36 p.m. in the creek following an "exhaustive fight."

Because the case remains under investigation, JSO, the lead agency in the manhunt, hasn't released the man's identity.

Sheriff Michelle Cook responded on social media about the collaboration, writing, "INCREDIBLE work done today! Our Real



PHOTO BY CCSO

A suspect wanted by the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office for carjacking was tracked to Blanding Boulevard near Henley Road Sunday, triggering a two-hour manhunt that ended with deputies overwhelming him while he hid in Little Black Creek near County Road 220.



Time Crime Team picked up on the stolen/armed carjacking vehicle traveling through our county using the LPR system. Deputies responded to the area and the suspect fled on foot. CCSO, FHP and JSO conducted an extensive search through neighborhoods and the swamp off of Joe Johns Rd. The

team used drones, tactical tracking teams, the JSO Air Unit and K9 Units to track down the suspect..... who was hiding in 8 feet of water.

After an exhaustive fight with officers and engagement by the K9, the suspect was taken into custody."

## Arrests

from page 22

fentanyl, possession-drug paraphernalia, VOP-possession-fentanyl

John J. Fennell, 32, Orange Park, trespassing

### Monday, Dec. 11

Harlin B. Mosley, 20, Orange Park, two counts possession-controlled substance

Randall S. Messer, 35, Orange Park, battery

Robert Hall, 53, Middleburg, domestic battery

Montey B. Looney, 40, Middleburg, sex predator violation-failure to report vacating permanent residence

Emory L. Daniels, 30, Green Cove Springs, petit theft, trespassing

Desean J. Johnson, 39, Green Cove Springs, VOP-fugitive from justice

Juan B. DeLa Cruz, 31, Green Cove Springs, violation of jail rules

Jordan T.V. Wingerden, 21, VOP-battery

Jarmal D.M. Hill, 25, Orange Park, four counts trafficking-fentanyl, selling methamphetamine

### Sunday, Dec. 10

Ronald G. Thacker, 40, Green Cove

Springs, domestic battery

Douglas A. Moore, 43, Middleburg, aggravated assault with deadly weapon, use of firearm while under the influence of alcohol, discharging firearm in public

### Saturday, Dec. 9

Samantha J. Reiman, 48, Middleburg, DUI, accident with property damage/injuries

Stuart E. Bates, 62, Fleming Island, trespassing

Jack A. Grimsley, 34, Middleburg, DUI

Raymond L. Colon, 31, Orange Park, shoplifting, giving false name/ID

Scott E. Bowen, 56, Keystone Heights, petit theft

Sam M. Chambers, 49, Green Cove Springs, violation of injunction for protection against domestic violence

Amber L. Maturo, 21, Middleburg, trespassing

### Friday, Dec. 8

Rebecca A. Bates, 45, Fleming Island, DUI with property damage/injuries

Jarmal D.M. Hill, 25, Orange Park, trafficking-fentanyl, possession-cocaine, possession-drug paraphernalia, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement

Sam M. Chambers, 49, Keystone Heights, violation of injunction for protec-

tion against domestic violence

Michael D.D. Brown, 26, Orange Park, criminal mischief

Clarence T. Huling, 31, Orange Park, grand larceny

Natasha C. McDaniel, 34, Orange Park, battery

Brian M. Jad, 26, Green Cove Springs, VOP-battery

Travis L. Bates, 35, Green Cove Springs, VOP-warrantless arrest

Brian L. Burdette, 48, Green Cove Springs, writ of attachment

Krista L. Shepler, 37, Green Cove Springs, criminal mischief

James J. Williams, 45, Green Cove Springs, violation of jail rules

Jack W. McKerrell, 28, Green Cove Springs, violation of jail rules

Denessa R. Kelley, 21, Middleburg, VOP-possession-cocaine, possession-bath salts

### Thursday, Dec. 7

Dianne C. Weaver, 64, Green Cove Springs, disorderly intoxication, trespassing

Devin K. Cummings, 29, Orange Park, trespassing

Abraham Desir, 38, Green Cove Springs, FTA-failure to register vehicle tag

Raheim R. Harrion, 29, Green Cove Springs, violation of pretrial injunction for protection against domestic violence

Marti E. Deremer, 36, Green Cove Springs, attempting to flee/elude law enforcement

Gregory T. Mangham, 46, Green Cove Springs, fugitive from justice

Tamari T. Cousey, 21, Green Cove Springs, vandalism

Melinie S. Wilson, 46, Middleburg, DUI

Rebecca L. Lester, 52, Middleburg, violation of jail rules-no contact order

### Wednesday, Dec. 6

Demetrius T. Kale, 29, Orange Park, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement

Ayana N. Butler, 25, Orange Park, FTA-DWLSR

Natalie C. Johnson, 36, Orange Park, fraudulent use of credit card

David J. Burch, 54, Green Cove Springs, violation of pretrial release conditions for protection against domestic violence

James H. Martinez, 40, Fleming Island, grand theft

Diego F. Garfias, 34, Orange Park, driving without valid license

Nichole M. Downing, 40, Green Cove Springs, grand theft auto, DUI, attempting to flee/elude law enforcement with lights/siren active, DWLSR

Bradley J. Priest, 38, Green Cove Springs, battery

# Whitey's Boat Parade embarks after three-year hiatus

SAFE Animal Shelter as beneficiary

By Jack Randall  
jack@claytodayonline.com

FLEMING ISLAND – The 21st Annual Whitey's Fish Camp Boat parade made a successful return to Doctors Lake and Swimming Pen Creek for the first time since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

More than 1,000 residents came out in festive spirits to watch 17 holiday-decorated boats process along Swimming Pen Creek. Christmas music and cheer filled the restaurant, the docks, and along the bridge of County Road 220.

The fleet of shimmering vessels was applauded as it lapped around. The board of judges awarded first place, the \$200 grand prize, to G2 Dumpsters, for its Polar Express theme. "Santa is Real" finished second, and the "Yellow Submarine" was third. All entries in the parade received a \$30 voucher for participating.

"We had a lot of great boats this year. We were so happy to bring (the parade) back. It's a lot of work, but it's special," said co-owner Elaine Cassala.

There were many moving pieces for the event, she said. The restaurant worked hard by reaching out to local businesses, coordinating with Swimming Pen Elementary, acquiring items for the silent auction – most notably a limited edition "Hell House" guitar valued at \$2,000 – and utilizing the

Clay County's Sheriff's Office.

"It's been smooth sailing on my end," said Lt. Matt Williams, thankful the event was able to be celebrated without any hiccups.

"It was a concerted effort with the Green Cove Springs Police Department. Two sheriff's office marine units helped and patrolled the water," he said.

The Whitey's Boat Parade fell on the same day as five other parades in the county, three events and a circus. Meanwhile, at Whitey's, a charity raffle and silent auction went on to benefit the SAFE Animal Shelter. Waterfront tables were reserved with a reservation fee of \$200-to-\$500, which would be donated to the shelter.

"The partnership with Whitey's has been amazing. They've been great supporters," said Director Sandy Summerton.

"Medical is usually our highest expense, even with the help of veterinarians and the discounts they give us. We'll spay and neuter over 100 animals a month. We also have to worry about food, blankets and energy costs, especially AC in the summer," she said.

Summerton said they're currently housing about 80 animals in the shelter, and 296 animals are in the shelter's care. SAFE is accepting donations for much-needed Purina One dog food and Fancy Feast adult cat food.



STAFF PHOTOS BY JACK RANDALL

Some of the 17 contestants had their boats docked at Whitey's before the parade. Paradegoers crowded the docks after the vessels embarked.



The SAFE Animal Shelter was the beneficiary of the event, which is a significant source of the charity's revenue.



The grand prize winner was G2 Dumpsters. The company offers dumpster rental to comprehensive waste material removal for residents around the Fleming Island



A sheriff's office marine unit manned by Dep. Bill Maher ensured the parade's "smooth sailing." The Clay County Sheriff's Office works with the USCG Auxiliary to conduct free, monthly boating safety classes.

# TODAY'S Sports

Clay Today | December 14, 2023 | claytodayonline.com



STAFF PHOTO BY RANDY LEFKO

Fleming Island forward Taylor Suarez gets excited after his third of four goals of the night ties Tallahassee Chiles en route to a 4-3 win Friday night. Suarez, the next night, scored two more goals in a 4-0 win over Fletcher. Fleming Island is now 9-1.

## Suarez's four goals fuel Eagles' double whammy

By Randy Lefko  
Sports Editor

FLEMING ISLAND - After spotting Tallahassee Chiles (16-3, region semifinals last year) the first goal of the night in less than two minutes, Fleming Island High boys soccer coach Michael Green wanted to see what his boys were made of for the rest of the game. Four goals from senior Taylor Suarez answered his question of resiliency as the Golden Eagles knocked in Suarez's final goal with two minutes left to pull out a 4-3 win Friday night at Fleming Island High.

"His speed gets him in the break fast and he's very good on his feet with the ball," said Green, now 9-1, who went back-to-back wins with a 4-0 win over Fletcher the next day, Saturday, in Neptune Beach with Suarez scoring two more goals. "We are finding our way downfield and finding him as defenses seem to be collapsing on

Lucas Horvath in the middle. Lucas and the rest of the mids are finding good passing lanes and catching Taylor on the fly. Taylor is just always sprinting hard downfield, start to finish."

Suarez smacked in his first of his four goals against Chiles just before the first-half water break to tie the game, Chiles responded to go up just before halftime, but Suarez got an early second-half goal at 34:39 of the second half to tie the game at 2-2.

Chiles got one more on a penalty kick to go up 3-2 near the second-half water break.

"I just kept telling them to believe in the process and keep pushing the ball forward," said Green. "We were getting in the zone and their goalie was very good."

With center defender backs Hunter Till-

SEE EAGLES, 29

## Raiderdome Classic Invite

# Eagles 'almost' there

By Randy Lefko  
Sports Editor

FLEMING ISLAND - Fleming Island High boys basketball coach Traavis Chandler lamented that his new team had some fresh faces and some unknown entities.

"We were with a lot of new faces and would need some time to find the right combinations of athletic ability, determination and grit," said Chandler. "We may have gotten a bit closer tonight. We are very close to the Final Four ready that we want."

Chandler, after a scintillating 68-59 win over a very talented University Christian team that featured a stellar 6'-7" postman along with a handful of 6'-3" 6'-4" wingmen. "Tonight, our freshman center, Carson Crawford, showed that he will become a dominating paint player and junior Luke Frisbee, a junior varsity player last year and a state meet swimmer, showed some toughness with his energy and late shooting."

SEE BASKETBALL, 28



Oakleaf High guard Aaron Rivers goes Superman airborne for layup in Knights double overtime win over Final Four finisher Ribault Thursday afternoon in Fortegra Invite opener in Jacksonville. Knights lost in semifinal to unbeaten Providence, then beat NFEI to finish third in the tournament.



## Hammer time

Fleming Island senior wrestler Kaden Schaefer shows off his "Hammer" after being an individual champion at the prestigious Danny Byron Wrestling Invitational at Osceola High School on Saturday. See story on page 27.

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**NEW ARRIVALS**

**BENNINGTON**

# Area lifters heading to Suwannee Christmas match

By Randy Lefko  
Sports Editor

MIDDLEBURG - With a few new faces looking to bring some highlights back for Christmas, area girls weightlifters are readying to travel to Suwannee High School for what most coaches call, the first pre-state level weightlifting tournament before the Christmas break.

Listed on the Power of Christmas preliminary team roster are Fleming Island, Clay, Ridgeview, St. Johns Country Day School and Clay.

"The firepower that goes to the Suwannee Power of Christmas Invitational is about as good as the state championships," said Fleming Island girls weightlifting coach Sean Coultis, who guided graduate Autumn Leviston to a Christmas title en route to a state weightlifting title last year. "We have a handful of girls that have seen what putting the work in does and they have seen the results."

Last year, Clay High, the defending state champions and a repeat state champion, finished second at Suwannee, but used the experience to tweak under then-coach Rodney Keller to dominate the forthcoming state championship meet.

Now, former Clay High weightlifter Autumn Null has taken over for Keller and the Blue Devils' storied lineup has mostly graduated except for superstar Emma Heck, a twice-state champion and only a junior. ast year, with the likes of six-time state (2A and 3A) champion Navarre High School on hand and Clay, last year's 2A champions, plus host Suwannee, the 1A champions; Sunlake High, the 2A champions in 2019 and 2020; plus Leesburg, 2A runner-ups 2019 and 2020; plus River Ridge, the 1A champions 2016 thru 2018, Coultis, Null and Middleburg coach Rhiannon Weiskopf know the task at hand is enormous.

"We have around 60 athletes on our lifting roster, with 23 lifting for points," said Weiskopf, who guided her Lady Broncos



Fleming Island sophomore Kathryn Ward, above, and Middleburg Alissa Daigle will be key athletes for both teams at the prestigious Power of Christmas invitational at Suwannee high on Saturday.



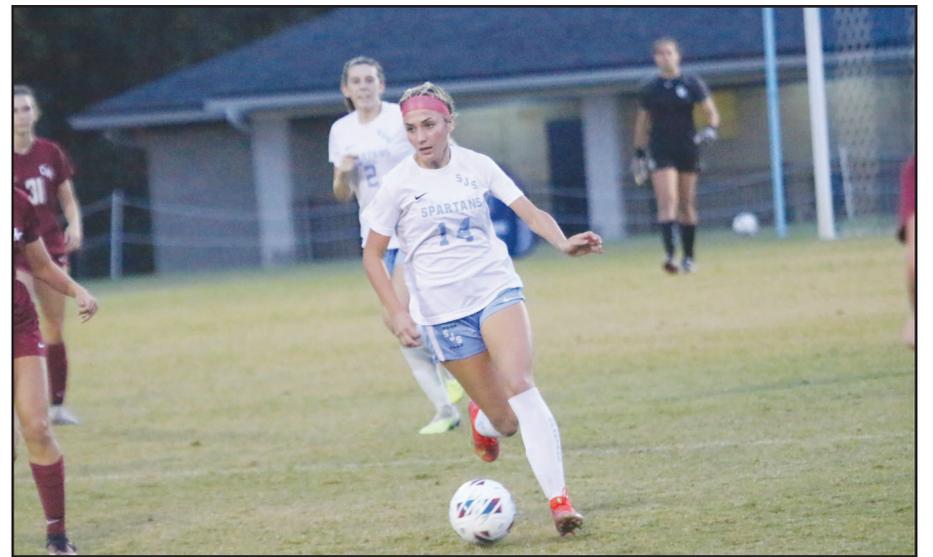
to a dual-match win over Coultis's Golden Eagles last week. "Fleming Island is a very competitive team and knew the competition would be very close. Some of our lifters hit several PRs, which helped us pull out the win."

Weiskopf's list of first placers in their meet; Memphis Moses (wrestler), KK Hagen (softball), and Madison Underwood

SEE LIFT, 34



Clay High School was second at the Power of Christmas tournament last year and brings a new head coach, former Clay weightlifter Autumn Null, and new faces to Suwannee High on Saturday.



Left: St. Johns Country Day School forward Sydney Schmidt is the young leader of the Lady Spartans looking to put coach Mike Pickett back in the W column at the Class 2A championships with back-to-back wins over Doral Academy and American Heritage at the Monteverde Academy Invitational. Spartans return to the area to take on defending 7A champions Bartram Trail and Bishop Moore in their usual rugged schedule.

## Lady Spartans showing glimpse of state stature

By Randy Lefko  
Sports Editor

ORANGE PARK - Most soccer followers surely would not think that St. Johns Country Day School girl's soccer coach Mike Pickett would not retool his program after a state title loss last year.

He has.

With a double-win weekend on the road against two state powers; 7A-Doral Academy (region finalist last year) and 5A-American Heritage-Plantation (18-2-2, 5A champions), plus a 2-0 win over a previously unbeaten Atlantic Coast High, Pickett and his Lady Spartans seemed to have found the secret sauce of yesteryear with the strong weekend.

Now at 5-1-3, St. Johns has been led by sophomore Sydney Schmidt's six goals; two against American Heritage with two assists from Calli Berrang,

SEE SOCCER, 32



Clay High forward Kirra Dodson, a top scorer for the Blue Devils last year, has been sharing duties with sophomore sensation Brooke Bunton with Bunton at 13 goals for the season and Dodson at nine for the 5-1 Blue Devils.



Keystone Heights super scorer Kiersten Shaw is blasting away towards another high goal count season with 17 goals on just 26 shots thus far. Shaw was top area scorer with 71 goals last year.

# Fleming Island wrestling brings two 'Hammers' home

Keystone Memorial: at FIHS, Fri.-Sat., Dec. 15-16

By Randy Lefko  
Sports Editor

KISSIMMEE - In one of the strongest fields in the early rounds of the 2023 wrestling season, Fleming Island High came home with two individual champion "Hammers"; Jordan Mukaddam and Kaden Schaefer, in a first look at how the Golden Eagles look to upend the power programs of Florida and even Georgia. Georgia multiple state champions Camden County had their usual monster team on hand to test the Floridian mettle. Fleming Island was second in Class 2A last year in both Duals and the IBT state meet.

"This is by far the toughest early regular season tournament of the season and it shows just where our preparation is," said Fleming Island coach P.J. Cobbert, who came home with two individual champions and a handful of top-five finishes in the gauntlet two days of battles. "We had some brackets that our boys will never see the level of talent that they saw this weekend again this season including the state meet. It was that strong."

On day one, on Friday, the brackets were separated into White, Blue and Gold divisions denoting a hierarchy of elite wrestling.

For Cobbert, Mukaddam, a senior, won the gold first place at 120 with a 3-0 win over (Second in 3A) Southwest Miami's Angel Delgado, a senior (7th at 126 last year); Laird Duhaylungsod, a junior, pinned Jefferson Cuttino of Glynn Academy (GA) in

138 Gold, Kaden Schaefer, as senior at 150 Gold, won with a 16-0 Tech Fall over Camden's Jamaal Coppedge and Christopher Chop, a senior at 175 gold, pinned Evangelo Mercado of Southwest Miami. The rest of the Fleming Island lineup finished in the top five of their weight divisions.

On day two, with a more competitive and deep bracket lineup, Mukaddam beat Delgado, this time in overtime to take first place with a 4-1 slate.

At 150 Gold, Schaefer finished unbeaten in five matches with an unfortunate injury default win over Cade Morgan of Glynn Academy in his fifth match. Schaefer's wins to go 5-0 including Camden County, Lake Gibson, South Dade and Osceola high

One wrestler Cobbert got a surprise meet from was new junior Kevin Reyes, a Class 3A state weightlifting champion returning to the mat after last wrestling in junior high.

"He's super strong, but, more importantly, hates to lose," said Cobbert. "He is slowly learning more and more technique that, when combined with his strength, could make him a formidable challenger in the spring."

In Tallahassee at the Capital City Classic hosted by Tallahassee Lincoln, Middleburg and Ridgeview High finished fourth and eighth against some mainly north Florida teams plus a Miami Southridge team.

Middleburg scored 221.5 points for fourth behind Florida High at third with 223 and Lincoln and Southridge going 1-2



CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY JOCELYN DUHAYLUNGSOD

Fleming Island heavyweight wrestler Kevin Reyes battles in front of coach P.J. Cobbert in Golden Eagles visit to Osceola High School for Danny Byron Invitational

with 247.5 and 240.0 in one of the tightest finishes in Classic recent history.

Middleburg got champion golds from Gavin Fisher at 106 and Porter Loveland at 190. Sean Blouin advanced but lost in the finals at 144 with David Hall at 165 losing in the championship final and Tucker Cody losing at 215 in the championship final to Jordan Mills of Matanzas.

Ridgeview got a third from Raymond Goforth at 215 with a 9-1 record. Goforth lost via pin to Lincoln's Jordan Baker.

At the 42nd Annual Kiwanis Invitational

in Brooksville Oakleaf finished fifth against a host of Class 2A powers in Zephyrhills Christian (10th in 1A), the team champion with 293.5 points followed by Brandon (5th in 2A) at 273, Heritage (8th in 2A) at 186.5, Wakulla (23rd in 1A) at 149 and Oakleaf (17th in 2A) at 145.5.

Oakleaf sophomore Sebastian Bonachea at 126 was an individual champion with a 5-1 win over Brandon's Luke Williams. Keon Barrientos lost in his 144 semifinals, then battled back with two third-period pins to finish third.

## Cruce, KK, Moore win titles at Ponte Vedra's Own the Ocean Invitational

By Randy Lefko  
Sports Editor

PONTEVEDRA - Middleburg High defending state wrestling champion Cheyenne Cruce continued her reign while Oakleaf's Kailani "KK" Barrientos and Jazmine Moore registered five pins in six matches combined on their way to titles at the Ponte Vedra High School Own the Ocean PV Girls Wrestling Invitational on Saturday.

Middleburg finished third behind team champion Freedom, second to Matanzas at last year's state championships with Middleburg tied for fifth, who scored 159 points and South Dade with 150 as the Broncos scored 98.0 points. Oakleaf, with just five wrestlers, took sixth with 78 points.

"The girl's numbers increased a lot from last year to this year," said Middleburg coach Jamie Harrison. "The girls around the county are a mix of returners

and new faces and they will all learn the ins and outs as the season progresses, but the foundations are solid. Clay County will be well represented at the end of the season."

Also, Fleming Island and Clay had one athlete each competing; Auryanna Phelps at 135 who finished 2-2 for the Golden Eagles Vasheer Burke for Clay at 100 who also finished 2-2. Burke made it to her semifinal but lost to Sayuri Caceres of Lincoln, the 100-pound runner-up.

Middleburg's points came from Cruce as the lone individual champion plus a second to Skyla Fisher at 105, a fourth to Memphis Moses at 115 and a third to Sarah Walsh at 120. Cruce, Moses and Fisher were state qualifiers last year.

Oakleaf got fourths from Jayla Harrison at 170 and Jazmine Soto at 105. Harrison was third at 170 at state last year.



Middleburg High's Cheyenne Cruce, the 190 pound girls state champion from last year, continued her unbeaten streak with an individual title at the Own the Ocean girls invitational at Ponte Vedra on Saturday.



Oakleaf High forward Jelani Wright sends three pointer off in front of Knights bench to tie Ribault and send Fortegra Invite contest into overtime on Thursday. Knights, now 6-1, beat Ribault in double overtime, lost in semi to unbeaten Providence, then beat NFEI for third place.



Clay High guard Demetrius Swilley is headed to a crowd in Raiderdome Classic contest against previously unbeaten Franklin County High. Blue Devils doubled up with win over Orange Park on Friday with win over Franklin County on Saturday at Orange Park High.

## Basketball

from page 25

Crawford finished with 22 tough points in his battle with Christian's Henry Arthur who, in the fourth quarter, was miffed by referee calls against his attempt to body up against Crawford.

"They know he is just a freshman and they wanted to exploit that," said Chandler. "He manned up and played as tough a game against a team determined to shake him."

For Frisbee, who canned three consecutive corner three-pointers en route to five threes and a best game of 16 points in the Golden Eagles 73-41 win over Ridgeview on Friday.

"He has such a big engine from his swimming for a guy his size and he gets down the court very quickly," said Chandler. "When he is in that corner and we find him, he has landed that shot time and time. His stamina puts him three steps ahead of his defender."

Against Ridgeview, Crawford led the Golden Eagles with a 19-point game with 10 rebounds.

In game one of the Raiderdome Classic, Clay High, after their own "Thrilla in Manila" 57-55 win over Orange Park, with sophomore Alex Brown cashing in for 23 points, got enough rest and recoup to travel to the Raiderdome and take out previously unbeaten Franklin County (4-1) with a strong 61-48 response that has the Blue Devils at 5-1. The lone loss for coach Jared Moses was a 71-45 game to Bartram Trail on November 28.

"I told them that they need to get away from making "being a young team" as an excuse to lose," said Moses. "To have the game we had on Friday against Orange Park, then not blink to play as strong tonight against a very good team is a good sign as we head into the Christmas break."

Moses won't get a break in the limelight of the two wins with a schedule to the Christmas break that has once-beaten (5-1) Oakleaf, a winner over Final Four Ribault Thursday in the Fortegra Invitational, on December 15 and at Beachside (5-4) on



Fleming Island forward Luke Frisbee awaits crowd roar with second of three three pointers in Golden Eagles win over Ridgeview.

the December 19.

Oakleaf, unbeaten in a clash with also unbeaten Ribault, went to two overtimes to take out the 4A Final Four Trojans 80-75 behind clutch outside shooting, lockdown fourth-quarter defense and a big three-pointer from guard Jelani Wright in the second overtime that followed a three-point drive and foul shot play from guard Aaron Rivers that put Oakleaf up 74-73.

The edge was enough to keep the Oakleaf's ahead as Ribault was forced to intentionally foul and the Knights hit three of four freebies to the win.

Oakleaf advanced to the tournament round two but lost 61-47 to Providence before defeating NFEI 78-51 for third place.

For Ribault, Rivers led the scoring with 26 points, three steals and four assists from the paint. Austin Davenport snared 13 rebounds.

Against NFEI, Oakleaf got points of 23 from Rivers, 14 from Wright and Michael Compere who also snagged 10 rebounds.



Ridgeview forward Deshun Green puts brakes on in corner in front of coach Chandler Hodges in Panthers loss to Fleming Island on Friday.

Against Providence, Compere and Rivers could muster just 11 points apiece to lead the Knights.

Ridgeview, under new coach Chandler Hodges, a Middleburg High standout, sits at 1-5 with a win over West Nassau in game one and a tough trip around the county with losses to Orange Park, Middleburg, Oakleaf, Clay and Fleming Island.

Hodges is getting 14 points per game from T'Vario Willis to lead the Panthers.

Middleburg, 4-1 with a loss on December 1 to P.K. Yonge (70-61) has been consistently scoring above 50 points with three games over 70 points. The Broncos get to the Christmas break with a flurry of six games to December 21; two on the road, four at home; Suwannee at 3:30 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 16.

Keystone Heights is 2-4 with two losses last week; Fort White and Palatka after two wins; Union County and Old Plank Christian Academy. Senior Andru Seimur leads the Indians with a 13.5 points per

game average with Garrison Teague, Michael Bruzzese and Zane Leger just under 10 points per game.

Keystone Heights gets a visit from Clay on Tues., Dec. 12 and back to back-to-back games against Interlachen at home Thurs., Dec. 14 and a road game at Hawthorne Fri., Dec. 15.

Meanwhile, at St. Johns Country Day School (5-2), the Spartans got two wins last week; Christ's Church Academy and West Nassau, before Stanton knocked the streak out with a 69-61 loss to the Spartans.

The Spartans scoring attack is led by Cameron Cooper's 18.3 points per game, 22 threes, with junior Grayson Moody and Elliot Graham emerging with just under 210 points as well. Ian Mamea and Dylan Reach are snagging six-plus rebounds per game.

St. Johns finishes with six home games to December 29 including 7A Toco Creek on Fri., Dec. 15.



Clay High's defense stands at the ready in Blue Devils 0-0 tie with Oakleaf.

## Eagles

from page 25

Tillman and Parker Snyder keeping Chiles at bay at midfield, Fleming Island kept taking body blows downfield attempting to tie the game before the final whistle.

Just before the second-half water break, Chiles got issued a yellow card on their coach for the constant badgering of the referees on the field.

Suarez had two shots near the 15-minute mark to tie the score, but Chiles' defense rejected the run and retaliated with a shot just off the upper right corner of the Fleming Island goal post.

Another Horvath to Suarez service got the tying goal off the top of the goalie box near the seven-minute mark, 3-3, after a midfield throw-in.

Chiles, looking to put the game into overtime, used clock time to substitute nearly their entire team in the last five minutes, but Fleming Island got a breakaway to Suarez that became a midfield throw-in that Suarez got a one-on-one in front of the Chiles goalie after a deflection off a Daniel Vizcarrondo shot on goal. Suarez chose to lift the ball over the charging goalie and high-bounced the game-winner into the net with 2:50 left on the clock.

"I saw him charging me and I chose to just lift it over him," said Suarez. "He was a big guy. Never thought I'd get four goals tonight, credit our defense for getting the ball deep quickly."

Green has a gauntlet of games to finish the first half of the season and plans to see how much grit his team has.

"We got Bartram Trail (3-1-2) this week with Mandarin (7-0-1) then Buchholz (5-0 before the break," said Green. "I'm putting them through the gauntlet."

Around the county, Keystone Heights looks like old Keystone Heights with a 6-0 slate with high-scoring games; one a 12-4 win over Newberry with two shutouts thus far; 7-0 over Branford and 8-0 over Interlachen.

Indians coach Travis Waters is getting double-digit scoring from lead goal guy Aaron Wiley with 15 scores and Bryce Huntley with 11 goals. Anthony Brunt, at

nine goals, could make the Indians a three-headed monster when he gets his total to the double-figure mark. Keystone Heights field defense has allowed just 13 goalie saves on senior Thomas Harrigan.

Oakleaf, 3-1-3, beat Toco Creek 2-0 on Friday after ties against Orange Park and Clay; 2-2 and 0-0 in the past week, knocked in a 6-0 win over Bishop Snyder before the Toco Creek game. Oakleaf will finish with Middleburg (5-2) on Tues., Dec. 12 with Fleming Island on the hook after the Christmas break for a January 10 showdown.

Middleburg, after a 2-0 loss to Ridgeview, pounded both Palatka and Baker County; 7-0 and 8-1, to start a two-game win streak.

Against Palatka, Brandon Anderson scored twice with two assists with goals from Bryce Davis, Xavier Abuhl, Lucas Wahlstrom and Hunter Hare.

Against Baker County, Abuhl, the team scoring lead with nine goals, blasted a hat trick of three goals with Davis netting two and Anderson, Wade Mathis and Hare getting one goal apiece.

Clay is also with just one loss; 3-1-2, after a 0-0 tie with Oakleaf and wins of 6-2 and 3-1 over St. Augustine and Orange Park. Freshman Gavin Tenga leads the scoring with five goals with Josiah Warren with three. Clay finishes with five games to the break; Stanton, Atlantic Coast, Middleburg, Trinity Christian and Ridgeview (1-4-1).

In 2A, St. Johns Country Day School is at 3-3 with recent wins over Ridgeview (3-1) and Global Outreach (3-0) with Orange Park (2-4-2, 3-1 loss to Clay on Friday) a final game before the break. Junior Corban Berrang has 10 of the Spartans' 13 goals for the season with Bodie Brafford scoring twice.

For Orange Park, sophomore Kelvin McLeod leads the Raiders with six goals with Lennox Dunkley with four.

Fleming Island midfielder Britton Julian goes up to smack ball back into Chiles side of midfield in Golden Eagles 4-3 win Friday night.



CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY RAY DIMONDA

St. Johns Country Day School's Nate Robinson stretches for ball in Spartans win over Global Outreach Charter Academy on Thursday.



Middleburg High's Xavier Abuhl is top scorer with nine goals for once beaten Broncos.





Ridgeview High guard Emma Rayes cuts around Fleming Island defender Kristina Gallagher in Panthers win Friday night. Rayes opened scoring with a three pointer to start the contest.



Orange Park girls basketball coach Michael Nesmith has been pushing his center Mychaela Parker to be more authoritative in the paint and Parker has produced double digit points and rebounds for 6-1 Raiders.

## Lady Panthers' first quarter burst beats Fleming Island

By Randy Lefko  
Sports Editor

ORANGE PARK - After a three-game skid that saw Ridgeview High's girls basketball team lose to three ranked teams; Providence (OT 61-55, No. 1 in 3A), Ponte Vedra (55-54, 11th in 6A) and Bishop Kenny (54-52, No. 2 in 4A), Panther head coach Gussie Solomon was sent an email inquiring about the close games that her team



Orange Park High guard Sydney Kenney squeezes through two Oakleaf defenders in Raiders win.

was losing, but no answer.

The answer may have come Friday night at Fleming Island (2-4) when the Panthers revved up to a 9-0 opening salvo behind a balanced front attack started with a three-pointer from sophomore Emma Rayes and ending with scores of 18-4 after the first quarter and 28-9 at the halftime break. Leading the charge for Solomon was the sister combination of Nia and Narissa Blocton.

In the second quarter, a three-pointer again; this one from Ziyah Campbell to



Oakleaf High guard Armaany Mullins makes move around Orange Park defender Piera Alexander in Lady Raiders win Thursday. Knights won first game of season at Bartram Trail on Friday.

open the second stanza was precluded by a buzzer-beating three from Jamya Davis to end the first quarter as Ridgeview kept the pressure on the Golden Eagle attack.

On defense, Rayes took on Fleming Island shooting guard Victoria Noble (10.3 PPG) while sophomore Narissa Blocton's job was to slow down Fleming Island's lead scorer, London Jenkins (13.8 PPG).

Unbeaten Providence (8-0), on Saturday, handed Orange Park (6-1, ranked 10th in 6A) their first loss with a 59-45 game at Providence to put the Lady Raiders at 6-1. Providence, with seven three-pointers and three scorers in double figures, outscored the Raiders in the first three quarters; 49-27, before Orange Park shook off the cobwebs and ran up an 18-10 fourth quarter to make at least a showing of the lopsided contest.

Orange Park had wins over 65-32 over

Fleming Island and 66-47 over Flagler Palm Coast before the Providence game.

In Class 2A, St. Johns Country Day School has piled up five straight wins after a season-opening loss to Orange Park with wins over Middleburg (56-27) and ED White (63-45) last week.

Against Middleburg, first-year coach Tyler Miller has found a balanced success in the post-Taliah Scott era with senior Mary Kate Kent singing the nets with 22 points and Kendall Proffitt and Sophia Mejias adding 17 and 14, the Lady Spartans rolled to a 24-7 first quarter lead before going into autopilot the rest of the game, outscoring the Lady Broncos in each stanza.

Mejias is slowly inching toward the double-figure scoring range of Kent and Proffitt and could put the Lady Spartans in a position to run up against three competi-

tive teams from the southeast USA with the Spartans traveling to play Porter-Gaud (SC), Academic Magnet (SC) and Barbo-urville (KY) in the Dec. 28-30 13th annual Carolina Invitational tournament in Charleston, SC.

Oakleaf got their first win of 2023 with a 47-30 victory over Bartram Trail to stop a five-game season opening losing streak as coach Fred Cole looks to find the Final Four magic.

"Mary Kate has been important in keeping all of our players in the game so that defenses can't focus on one," said St. Johns coach Tyler Miller. "Our approach as we are not big underneath is to hit three pointers from all corners."

Against Bartram Trail, Oakleaf surged away from a one-point gap for most of the first half before putting that game at 34-20 into the fourth quarter.

"For us, not turning the ball over was key against Bartram Trail," said Oakleaf coach Fred Cole. "And we are hitting shots. We couldn't buy a bucket in our first few games and now we are hitting better."

Cole and the Oakleaf girls will be competing in the Jarvis Williams Tournament in Palatka as well as the Battle on the Island at Fleming Island over the Christmas Holiday.

Clay continues their buildup of wins in the coach Doug Deters era with a 5-3 record off wins over Middleburg (38-17) and Englewood (46-3) with a loss to Florida School of Deaf and Blind sandwiched between the two; 36-27.

Against Englewood, freshman Aiyana Haynes pumped in 15 points with recent lead scorer Teaghan Moses adding seven and Layla Summers hitting eight with each hitting one three-pointer apiece.

Keystone Heights (1-6) visits Clay on Tues., Dec. 12.



Former Fleming Island High School quarterback Kade Bell, here as quarterback at Jacksonville University in 2012, has been hired to be offensive coordinator at University of Pittsburgh. Bell has been a high-profile offensive coach for nearly a decade under the mentorship of his dad, Kerwin Bell, a University of Florida and NFL alum, that played at Lafayette Mayo High School in Florida.

## Fleming Island QB Kade Bell new offense coordinator at Pitt

By Randy Lefko  
Sports Editor  
w excerpts from Pitt Athletics

PITTSBURGH—Calling him “one of college football’s most dynamic and aggressive offensive minds,” University of Pittsburgh head football coach Pat Narduzzi announced the hiring of Kade Bell as the Panthers’ offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach, in a recent press release from University of Pittsburgh Athletics Department.

Bell is a former Fleming Island High School quarterback under then head coach Kerwin Bell, his father. Bell earned his Pitt appointment after directing one of the country’s most explosive offenses at Western Carolina the past three seasons.

In 2023, the Catamounts led the Foot-

ball Championship Subdivision (FCS) in total offense with an average of 504.1 yards per game. Additionally, WCU ranked third in passing offense (321.1 yards per game) and fourth in scoring (37.5 points per game).

Western Carolina paced the highly competitive Southern Conference in no fewer than eight offensive categories while setting school records for total yards (5,545) and passing touchdowns (33). Bell’s quarterback, Cole Gonzales, a finalist for the prestigious Walter Payton Award (most outstanding FCS offensive player), finished the regular season with an FCS-best 28 touchdown passes and a sterling 166.40 efficiency rating (third in FCS).

In 52 career games as an offensive coordinator, Bell’s teams have produced more than 500 yards 31 times (60%).

“Kade’s offensive approach—relent-



PHOTO COURTESY OF WESTERN CAROLINA ATHLETICS

Former Western Carolina offensive coordinator Kade Bell, who set numerous conference records with his offensive playcalling, will take his talents to the University of Pittsburgh next.

lessly fast and aggressive—is everything a defensive coordinator hates to face and the type of system our players will absolutely love,” Narduzzi said. “He’s an incredibly creative play caller who is widely regarded as one of the brightest young coaches in the country. Beyond ‘Xs and Os,’ Kade understands and greatly values relationship-building with his players and fellow coaches. On and off the field, Kade Bell will make us better.”

Prior to Western Carolina, Bell was the associate head coach and offensive coordinator at Tusculum University, where during the 2021 spring season his offense averaged 533.4 yards and 37.6 points per game en route to the South Atlantic Conference (SAC) title.

Bell was the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Valdosta State from 2016-18. In his final season, the Blazers went 14-0 and claimed the NCAA Division II national championship. VSU averaged a national-best 52 points per game, breaking the NCAA Division II record for points in a season (728).

The Blazers led the nation in touchdown passes (50), yards per play (7.9), yards per

rush (7.2) and points per play (an NCAA Division II-record 0.78). VSU’s average of 524 yards per game that season ranked fourth. Bell began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at Valdosta State in 2016, working with the quarterbacks for a Blazers team that qualified for the NCAA Division II playoffs. His additional experience includes one season (2019) at the University of South Florida as an offensive analyst.

Bell is the son of Kerwin Bell, the former Florida Gators quarterback and professional football player who is presently the head coach at Western Carolina. The elder Bell was also the head coach at Valdosta State (2016-18) and Jacksonville University (2007-15).

Kade, who graduated Fleming Island in 2011, was a four-year starting quarterback under his father at Jacksonville from 2011-15, producing 9,613 total yards and accounting for 93 touchdowns. He earned his bachelor’s degree in sports management from Jacksonville and would also earn a master’s degree in public administration from Valdosta State in 2018.

Bell and his wife, Charlotte, have a daughter, Palmer.

## Furman falls in playoffs

Courtesy of Furman Athletics

MISSOULA, MONT. – Furman quarterback Tyler Huff returned to the Paladin lineup after two weeks off with a shoulder injury and did about as much as could be asked with a 53 yard scoring run and a fourth down touchdown pass with a defensive lineman in his face, but Furman came up just short in overtime to No. 2 seed Montana 35-28 in the FCS Playoff Quarterfinals in Washington Grizzly Stadium in Missoula, Montana on Friday.

The Grizzlies (12-1) advance to the semifinal round next weekend and will face the winner of Saturday’s North Dakota State at South Dakota match-up. Southern Conference champion Furman finishes its season with a 10-3 record.

Huff passed for 188 yards and a touchdown and rushed for 71 yards, including a 53-yard touchdown dash in the first quar-

ter.

Down 20-14 at the half, Furman had grabbed the lead late in the third quarter. Furman defensive back Micah Robinson picked off a Montana pass and raced 34 yards to the Montana 19 before Dominic Roberto cashed in the turnover with a one-yard plunge three plays later to give the Paladins a 21-20 advantage.

After being stopped on its next two possessions late in the fourth quarter, Furman got the ball back at its own 43-yard line with 1:37 left and no timeouts. Four pass completions by Huff and a pass interference call helped the Paladins march to the Montana 19, but Furman faced fourth-and-10 with 19 seconds remaining. With a blitzing linebacker in his face Huff floated a pass towards the back of the endzone and tight end Mason Pline leaped to secure the touchdown catch with 13 seconds on the



PHOTO COURTESY OF FURMAN ATHLETICS

Furman University graduate quarterback Tyler Huff nearly pulled off first-ever second round playoff win for Paladins, but the Montana Grizzlies won an overtime thriller to end the Furman season.

clock. Following a five-yard penalty against the Paladins who were set to attempt a two-point conversion, Ian Williams booted through the extra point to force overtime.

In the overtime, on a second-and-11 play from Furman’s 13 yard line, Montana quarterback Clifton McDowell fired a pass into a tight window to hit White with the go-ahead score down the left seam on the first possession of overtime. After stuffing the Paladins for a loss of five on the opening play of Furman’s drive, Montana forced back-to-back incompletions before quarterback Tyler Huff’s fourth down throw to Kyndel Dean along the right sideline fell incomplete to end the game.

The Grizzlies (12-1) advance to the semifinal round next weekend and will face the winner of Saturday’s North Dakota State at South Dakota match-up. Southern Conference champion Furman finishes its season with a 10-3 record.



**CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY RAY DIMONDA**  
Oakleaf High forward Ellie Thompson tries to wrestle ball downfield with Middleburg defender Paloma Romeron on her back in Broncos 2-1 win.

## Soccer

from page 26

thus far and three from Mia Johnson to flex some muscle. Pickett got goals from Gabby DeSuza, Johnson, and Reygan Rope-ro in their win over Doral Academy with Schmidt getting two assists.

The rest for the weary is not forthcoming any time soon as St. Johns travels to Bartram Trail (7-2-1, defending 7A champion on Wed., Dec. 13) and a road trip into the Panhandle with games against unbeaten 4A-South Walton (6-0, region semis last year) and 6A-Niceville (6-1-2).

After that, 4A champion Bishop Moore comes back to town to finish the first half of the season.

In an inter-county rivalry that should have some spunk, Clay (5-1) with 13 goals from sophomore Brooke Bunton plus nine from last year's super scorer Kirra Dodson will host Fleming Island (2-4-1) on Tues., Dec. 12. Senior Erick Martinez is sneaking into the scoring space with five goals thus far.

Keystone Heights, with another super scorer, sophomore Keirsten Shaw already at 17 goals on just 26 shots on goal after a 71-goal slate last year, has the Lady Indians at 5-2-1 after a season-opening loss to Clay.

Orange Park (6-1) opened hot with four wins but lost to Oakleaf 6-1 on November 28.

Ridgeview is 2-4 with games against Middleburg and Clay to end their first half of the season.

Oakleaf is 4-4-1 with a recent 2-1 loss to a surprising Middleburg (4-3) squad led by former Fleming Island coach Joy Rosano. Middleburg has Ridgeview, Nease and St. Augustine to finish the break.

Fleming Island ends on the road with trips to Fletcher, Creekside (5-0-1) and Stanton (5-3-1) for first-year coach Taylor Berry.

# BATTLE ON THE ISLAND TOURNAMENT



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STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Clay High forward Kirra Dodson splits Fleming Island defenders Jenna Moreland, left, and Megan Cobb in thrilling 2-2 between the two schools. Fleming Island scored two first half goals before Clay's Brooke Bunton scored twice in the second half for the tie.



Clay High guard Madison Kilgore splits two Keystone Heights defenders en route to basket in Blue Devils' 41-34 win Tuesday night. Win puts Clay at 6-3 under coach Doug Deters.

- SAVE THE DATE -

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## BATTLE ON THE ISLAND TOURNAMENT

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Level: Intermediate

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**CRYPTO FUN**

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Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to going vegan.  
Each number corresponds to a letter.  
(Hint: 17 = A)

Answers: A. vegetables B. plant C. abstain D. diet

- A. 4 6 21 6 19 17 26 9 6 5**  
Clue: Plant foods
- B. 2 9 17 11 19**  
Clue: Organism that photosynthesizes
- C. 17 26 5 19 17 10 11**  
Clue: Restrain from doing
- D. 20 10 6 19**  
Clue: Foods and beverages consumed

### WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to veganism.

**A E N B S**

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Answer: Beans

### Guess Who?

I am an actor born in Canada on November 12, 1980. I was a "Mickey Mouse Club" child actor and I also performed in an Elvis Presley tribute band as a kid. My most recent film has me playing a popular doll with blonde hair.

Answer: Ryan Gosling

## VEGAN LINGO WORD SEARCH

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

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

### WORDS

- ANIMAL
- AQUAFABA
- BUDDHA BOWL
- BYPRODUCT
- CAROB
- CASEIN
- CONSUMPTION
- ETHICAL
- FAUX
- FLEGG
- FLEXITARIAN
- GELATIN
- HARDLINE
- HEALTH
- JACKFRUIT
- LEGUMES
- MOCKMEAT
- NUTRITIONAL YEAST
- PAREVE
- RAW
- SEITAN
- TEMPEH
- VEGAN
- WELFARE

### Lift from page 26

(track) among the list with Fleming Island, could be a Who's Who of athletes at Middleburg High with her team comprised of athletes from multiple other sports on campus.

"We are blessed to have the best coaches, for allowing multi-sport athletes to lift with girls weightlifting," said Weiskopf. "We can pull from all different sports and clubs; softball, cheerleading, basketball, wrestling, band, and volleyball. We are very lucky to have such a great group of athletes who genuinely want to work hard for themselves and the team."

For Coultis, a smooth transition from a team with no state meet qualifiers a few years ago, to a team chock full of state qualifiers and a state champion, promises a few good years in his future.

"This is my third season and, to date, we now have 60 girls on the team," said Coultis, who was eighth in Traditional at Suwannee last year. "Step one was to create a weightlifting class, generate the interest then have them compete. We had none my first year, six got to state last year."

Coultis maintains that making the team practices lively and fun is step one, but reminding the athletes that weightlifting will only improve their sport.

"I try to get our veteran girls to welcome the new girls and remind them that they were once the ones scared to death to put weight above their heads," said Coultis. "I ask them for one month and if they don't see improvement, they can leave. Most stay."

Coultis named Bradi Johnson as a top name to make a state run; district, and region champion, at Suwannee with six girls, including freshman state qualifier Kyla Marshall, also to be competitive.

"Kathryn Ward, a sophomore, is a fresh face that can make some noise," said Coultis. "Leah Anderson and Kyla both returned from state last year."

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Level: Intermediate

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M	T		U	R	N		S	O	N	G		
A	S	S	I	S	I		U	N	E	A	R	T
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## CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

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.:** 795/2021  
**Legal Description:** LOTS 21 & 22 BLK 79 HIGHLRIDGE ESTATES AS REC O R 3851 PG 239  
**Parcel ID No.:** 210823-003847-000-00  
**Opening Bid Amount:** \$1,472.46  
**Physical Address:** 6192 HUNTER AVE , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS  
**Classification:** VACANT RESIDENTIAL  
**Name in which assessed:** GT MARINE AND OUTDOORS 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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com).  
**Dated this 11th day of December, 2023**  
TARA S . GREEN  
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
Clay County, Florida  
By: Christina Spadea  
Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 94240 Published 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023 and 1/4/2024 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.:** 1309/2021  
**Legal Description:** PT OF E1/2 S6T5R24 A/K/A LOT 21A PARK PL AS REC O R 2005 PG 1867  
**Parcel ID No.:** 060524-005947-005-43  
**Opening Bid Amount:** \$4,059.73  
**Physical Address:** 1773 SPARROW CT , MIDDLEBURG  
**Classification:** MOBILE HOME  
**Name in which assessed:** CRAIG A KELSEY (ESTATE OF)  
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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com).  
**Dated this 11th day of December, 2023**  
TARA S . GREEN  
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
Clay County, Florida  
By: Christina Spadea  
Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 94239 Published 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023 and 1/4/2024 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.:** 1503/2021  
**Legal Description:** LOT 5 BLK 67 JACKSONVILLE SO UNIT 2 AS REC O R 552 PG 119  
**Parcel ID No.:** 160524-005954-340-00  
**Opening Bid Amount:** \$1,924.69  
**Physical Address:** 2219 COSMOS AVE , MIDDLEBURG  
**Classification:** VACANT RESIDENTIAL  
**Name in which assessed:** MAXINE ESTELLE DICKERSON P/R ALDA DICKERSON BORDER(ESTATE OF)  
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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com).  
**Dated this 12th day of December, 2023**  
TARA S . GREEN  
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
Clay County, Florida  
By: Christina Spadea  
Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 94238 Published 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023 and 1/4/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION  
FOR TAX DEED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:** BUFFALO BILL 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.:** 488/2017  
**Legal Description:** LOT 142 SILVER SANDS ESTATES AS REC O R 359 PG 376,636 PG 33,2995

**PG 2008 & 3475 PG 888**  
**Parcel ID No.:** 140823-001530-002-00  
**Opening Bid Amount:** \$2,714.26  
**Physical Address:** 5685 SILVER SANDS CIR , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS  
**Classification:** VACANT RESIDENTIAL  
**Name in which assessed:** ROBERT JO ORTON ET AL, ROBERT ORTON, MARY LESLIE RODGERS, AMY JO BENTZ  
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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com).  
**Dated this 11th day of December, 2023**  
TARA S . GREEN  
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
Clay County, Florida  
By: Christina Spadea  
Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 94237 Published 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023 and 1/4/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION  
FOR TAX DEED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:** BUFFALO BILL 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.:** 489/2017  
**Legal Description:** LOT 143 SILVER SANDS ESTATES AS REC O R 359 PG 376,636 PG 33,2995  
**PG 2008 & 3475 PG 888**  
**Parcel ID No.:** 140823-001530-003-00  
**Opening Bid Amount:** \$2,723.97  
**Physical Address:** 5683 SILVER SANDS CIR , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS  
**Classification:** VACANT RESIDENTIAL  
**Name in which assessed:** ROBERTA J ORTON ET AL, ROBERT ORTON, MARY LESLIE RODGERS, AMY JO BENTZ  
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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com).  
**Dated this 11th day of December, 2023**  
TARA S . GREEN  
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
Clay County, Florida  
By: Christina Spadea  
Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 94236 Published 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023 and 1/4/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION  
FOR TAX DEED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:** BUFFALO BILL 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.:** 496/2017  
**Legal Description:** LOT 162 SILVER SANDS ESTATES AS REC O R 359 PG 369,181 PGS  
**1772-1773,2727 PG 1044,2995 PG 2008 & 3475 PG 888**  
**Parcel ID No.:** 140823-001532-002-00  
**Opening Bid Amount:** \$2,704.55  
**Physical Address:** 5634 E OVERLOOK DR , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS  
**Classification:** VACANT RESIDENTIAL  
**Name in which assessed:** ROBERTA JO ORTON ETAL, ROBERT ORTON, MARY LESLIE RODGERS, AMY JO BENTZ  
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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com).  
**Dated this 11th day of December, 2023**  
TARA S . GREEN  
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
Clay County, Florida  
By: Christina Spadea  
Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 94235 Published 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023 and 1/4/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION  
FOR TAX DEED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:** BUFFALO BILL 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.:** 486/2017  
**Legal Description:** LOT 140 SILVER SANDS ESTATE AS REC O R 359 PG 369,181 PGS  
**1772-1773,2727 PG 1044,2995 PG 2008 & 3475 PG 888**  
**Parcel ID No.:** 140823-001530-000-00  
**Opening Bid Amount:** \$2,694.84  
**Physical Address:** 5689 SILVER SANDS CIR , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS  
**Classification:** VACANT RESIDENTIAL  
**Name in which assessed:** ROBERTA JO ORTON ETAL, ROBERT ORTON, MARY LESLIE RODGERS, AMY JO BENTZ  
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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com).  
**Dated this 11th day of December, 2023**  
TARA S . GREEN  
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
Clay County, Florida  
By: Christina Spadea  
Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 94234 Published 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023 and 1/4/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION  
FOR TAX DEED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:** BUFFALO BILL 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.:** 487/2017  
**Legal Description:** LOT 141 SILVER SANDS ESTATES AS REC O R 359 PG 376,636 PG 33,2995  
**PG 2008 & 3475 PG 888**  
**Parcel ID No.:** 140823-001530-001-00  
**Opening Bid Amount:** \$2,694.84  
**Physical Address:** 5687 SILVER SANDS CIR , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS  
**Classification:** VACANT RESIDENTIAL  
**Name in which assessed:** ROBERTA J ORTON ET AL, ROBERT ORTON, MARY LESLIE RODGERS, AMY JO BENTZ  
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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com).  
**Dated this 11th day of December, 2023**  
TARA S . GREEN  
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
Clay County, Florida  
By: Christina Spadea  
Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 94233 Published 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023 and 1/4/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION  
FOR TAX DEED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:** BUFFALO BILL 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.:** 515/2017  
**Legal Description:** LOT 274 SILVER SANDS ESTATES AS REC O R 748 PG 303,1606 PG 994 & 2257 PG 325  
**Parcel ID No.:** 140823-001543-004-00  
**Opening Bid Amount:** \$2,519.23  
**Physical Address:** 5757 W OVERLOOK DR , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS  
**Classification:** VACANT RESIDENTIAL  
**Name in which assessed:** ANN SCOTT, LEWIS BURCH  
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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com).  
**Dated this 11th day of December, 2023**  
TARA S . GREEN  
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
Clay County, Florida  
By: Christina Spadea  
Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 94232 Published 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023 and 1/4/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION  
FOR TAX DEED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:** BUFFALO BILL 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.:** 854/2017  
**Legal Description:** LOT 20 BLK 80 HIGHLRIDGE ESTATE AS REC O R 360 PG 505  
**Parcel ID No.:** 220823-003878-000-00  
**Opening Bid Amount:** \$1,962.43  
**Physical Address:** 6114 HUNTER AVE , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS  
**Classification:** VACANT RESIDENTIAL  
**Name in which assessed:** ISADORE MOSCOVITZ, C/O ARLENE SHAIN-BROWN  
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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com).  
**Dated this 11th day of December, 2023**  
TARA S . GREEN  
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
Clay County, Florida  
By: Christina Spadea  
Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 94231 Published 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023 and 1/4/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION  
FOR TAX DEED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:** BUFFALO BILL 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.:** 1521/2019  
**Legal Description:** LOT 4 BLK 110 JACKSONVILLE SOUTH UNIT 2 AS REC O R 642 PG 278  
**Parcel ID No.:** 160524-005955-345-00  
**Opening Bid Amount:** \$3,057.06  
**Physical Address:** 2530 COSMOS AVE , MIDDLEBURG  
**Classification:** VACANT RESIDENTIAL  
**Name in which assessed:** THOMAS GI-GLIO, JEANETTE GIGLIO  
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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com).  
**Dated this 11th day of December, 2023**  
TARA S . GREEN  
Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
Clay County, Florida  
By: Christina Spadea  
Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 94230 Published 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023 and 1/4/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

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

**ORDINANCE NO. O-38-2023**  
**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE LEASING OF THE OLD CITY FIREHOUSE LOCATED AT 25 RODERIGO AVENUE; AND PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The following public hearing has been scheduled and will be held in the City Council Chambers, 321 Walnut Street, Green Cove Springs, to hear comments, if any, regarding said Ordinance: City Council: Second & Final Reading on Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter  
Please be advised that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this scheduled public hearing, he will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.  
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in this matter should contact City Hall at (904) 297-7500 at least three (3) days prior to the meeting. Hearing impaired persons may access through (904) 284-4849 (TDD).  
Said Ordinance is available at City Hall for review during the hours of 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Thursday. All interested individuals are invited to attend this public hearing.  
City of Green Cove Springs Erin West, City Clerk  
321 Walnut Street  
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043  
L. Steve Kennedy, City Manager  
**Legal 94229 Published 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

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

**ORDINANCE NO. O-37-2023**  
**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE STATE REVOLVING FUND LOAN PROGRAM; MAKING FINDINGS; AUTHORIZING THE LOAN APPLICATION; AUTHORIZING THE LOAN AGREEMENT; ESTABLISHING PLEDGED REVENUES; DESIGNATING AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES; PROVIDING ASSURANCES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, AND EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The following public hearing has been scheduled and will be held in the City Council Chambers, 321 Walnut Street, Green Cove Springs, to hear comments, if any, regarding said Ordinance: City Council: Second & Final Reading on Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter  
Please be advised that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this scheduled public hearing, he will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.  
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in this matter should contact City Hall at (904) 297-7500 at least three (3) days prior to the meeting. Hearing impaired persons may access through (904) 284-4849 (TDD).

Said Ordinance is available at City Hall for review during the hours of 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Thursday. All interested individuals are invited to attend this public hearing.  
City of Green Cove Springs Erin West, City Clerk  
321 Walnut Street  
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043  
L. Steve Kennedy, City Manager  
**Legal 94227 Published 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

NOTICE OF REGULAR  
MEETING FOR  
CROSS CREEK  
NORTH COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors ("Board") of Cross Creek North Community Development District ("District") will hold a meeting on **January 9, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.** at the Cross Creek North Amenity Center located at 2895 Big Oak Drive, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043.

A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting the District Manager, c/o Rizzetta & Company, Inc. 3434 Colwell Avenue, Suite 200, Tampa, FL 33614 ("District Manager's Office") on the District's website [www.crosscreeknorthhdd.org](http://www.crosscreeknorthhdd.org) or by emailing the District Manager at [lgallagher@rizzetta.com](mailto:lgallagher@rizzetta.com) and/or by telephoning 904-436-6270 during normal business hours. The meetings are open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law for community development districts. The meetings may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record at such meeting.

There may be occasions when one or more Supervisors or staff will participate by telephone. Pursuant to provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations at this meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Office at (904) 436-6270 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1, or 1-800-955-8771 (TTY) / 1-800-955-8770 (Voice), for aid in contacting the District Office.

A person who decides to appeal any decision made at the meeting with respect to any matter considered at the meeting is advised that person will need a record of the proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.  
Lesley Gallagher  
District Manager  
**Legal 94226 Published 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PROBATE DIVISION  
File No. 2023CP000585  
IN RE: ESTATE OF EDUARDO ENRIQUE RODRIGUEZ-TAULET aka EDUARDO E. RODRIGUEZ  
Deceased.

The administration of the estate of EDUARDO ENRIQUE RODRIGUEZ-TAULET AKA EDUARDO E. RODRIGUEZ, deceased, whose date of death was January 18, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, the address of which is 825 N Orange Ave, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's Attorney are set forth below.  
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.  
The date of first publication of this notice is December 14, 2023.

**John J. Cronin III, Esq.**  
**Live Oak Law, PLLC**  
E-Mail: [John@liveoaklawfirm.com](mailto:John@liveoaklawfirm.com)  
Florida Bar No.: 0097864  
Address: 1060 Woodcock Road  
Orlando, FL 32803  
Telephone No.: (321) 765-9109  
Fax No.: (407) 442-0685  
**Wanda I. Alonso**  
2237 Fresco Drive  
Middleburg, FL 32068  
**Legal 94225 Published 12/14/2023 and 12/21/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## PUBLIC SALE

We Stor of Middleburg, LLC will conduct a public sale to the highest bidder. The sale will take place online at self-storageauction.com in enforcement of Florida Statutes section 83.806 ending Thursday, December 28, 2023, at 4:30pm on the following units. The company reserves the right to reject any bid and withdraw any items from the sale. All units contain household goods unless otherwise noted: Carol Taylor and Christopher Turner.  
**Legal 94224 Published 12/14/2023 and 12/21/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Clay County Towing gives notice of lien and intent to sell the following vehicles at 2864 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg, FL 32068 at date and time listed below.  
**CLAY COUNTY TOWING & RECOVERY AUCTION:** January 9, 2024 @ 10:00 AM  
2009 CHEV. VIN# 1GCEC290292187858  
2008 PONT. VIN# 1G2ZH17N584115063  
Pursuant to subsection 713-78 of the FL Statute, Clay County Towing reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.  
**Legal 94223 Published 12/14/2023 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  
December 28, 2023, at 10:00 AM at 2909 BLANDING BLVD MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068,  
pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes.  
2006 Honda ID # 1HFSC55076A203076  
**Legal 94222 Published 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## PUBLIC AUCTION

The following vehicles will be sold at public auction for towing and storage costs, G & M Towing, Inc. reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.  
2018 FORD VIN # 1FTEW1C-G4JFB96042  
2004 SATURN  
VIN # 1G8AJ52F74Z126609  
2009 HONDA VIN # JHL-RE48739C024776  
Auction will be held at 9:00 AM 01/01/2024 G & M Towing, Inc. located at 4995 Highway 17 S, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043.  
**Legal 94219 Published 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
SALE

BURGART ENTERPRISES TOWING INC. gives notice that on 12/29/2023 at 12:00 PM the following vehicles(s) may be sold by public sale at 4360 CR 218 MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78.  
1XNC20148F1060577 2015 TCTC JH4KC1F59FC000206 2015 ACUR  
**Legal 94219 Published 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## LIEN AUCTION

Sale Date: December 29, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.  
Location: 4225 CR 218, Middleburg, Florida  
Vehicle: 2002 FORD  
VIN# 1FTSW31F72EB73936  
**Legal 94002 Published 12/14/2023 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 December 5, 2023 (Name and address of applicant) St. Johns Classical Academy, Inc. 114 Canova Rd, Fleming Isle, FL 32003-7902. Permit# 95621-5. The project is located in CLAY COUNTY, Section 5; Township 5 SOUTH Range 26 East. The permit authorizes a surface water management system on 10.24 acres for Recreational Construction known as St. Johns Classical Academy. The receiving water body is Swimming Pen Creek. 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](mailto: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

CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

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 during 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.sjrwmd.com](http://www.sjrwmd.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.sjrwmd.com/nor\\_dec/](http://www.sjrwmd.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 Regulatory Support, 4049 Reid St., Palatka, FL 32177-2529, tele. no. (386)329-4570. Legal 94001 Published 12/14/2023 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.: 2022CA000595 ALLIED FIRST BANK, SB DBA SERVBANK, Plaintiff, v. ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, LEGATEES, DEVISEES, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, CREDITORS AND ANY OTHER PERSON CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST FLEMING OSCAR FRISBEE, DECEASED, et al, Defendants. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Final Judgment in Foreclosure entered on November 28, 2023 and entered in Case No. 2022-CA-000595 in the Circuit Court of the 4th Judicial Circuit in and for Clay County, Florida, wherein ALLIED FIRST BANK, SB DBA SERVBANK if the Plaintiff and ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, LEGATEES, DEVISEES, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, CREDITORS AND ANY OTHER PERSON CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST FLEMING OSCAR FRISBEE, DECEASED; J.J.F, A MINOR CHILD IN THE CARE OF HIS LEGAL GUARDIAN WANDA ABELS, 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 January 31, 2024 at 10:00 AM, following described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: COMMENCE FOR A POINT OF REFERENCE AT THE SECTION CORNER COMMON TO SECTION 10, 11, 14 AND 15, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 23 EAST, CLAY COUNTY FLORIDA; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 45 MINUTES 51 SECONDS WEST, 886.2 FEET ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 15 TO A POINT IN THE CENTER LINE OF LING BRANCH CEMETERY ROAD, A COUNTY MAINTAINED ROAD HAVING A WIDTH OF 80 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 06 MINUTES 55 SECONDS WEST, 40.0

FEET TO THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF LONG BRANCH CEMETERY ROAD AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 06 MINUTES 55 SECONDS WEST, 195.0 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 45 MINUTES 51 SECONDS WEST; 220.0 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 06 MINUTES 55 SECONDS EAST, 195.0 FEET TO THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF SAID LONG BRANCH CEMETERY ROAD; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 45 MINUTES 51 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE, 220.0 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. TOGETHER WITH A 1992 SKY-LINE MOBILE HOME SHOWING VIN #03610565E. and commonly known as 805 JONATHAN RD., JACKSONVILLE, FL 32234 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 December 7, 2023. TARA S. GREEN As Clerk of the Circuit Court Clay County, Florida. Gracie Moore 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 CRTINTRP@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 93921 Published 12/14/2023 and 12/21/2023 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 **whisk & crumb**, in the County of Clay, in the City of Orange Park, Florida intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Dated at Orange Park, Florida, this 6th day of December 2023. Tiffany Gonzales Legal 93844 Published 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**NOTICE OF SALE UNDER FLA. STAT. CHAPTER 45**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO: 2022 CA 000804 SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC., Plaintiff v. DEBORA S. PIKE A/K/A DEBORAH PIKE, Defendant(s), NOTICE IS GIVEN that, in accordance with the Consent Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated September 19, 2023, in the above-styled cause, the Clerk of Circuit Court, Tara S. Green, shall sell the subject property at public sale on the 17th day of January, 2024, at 10:00 AM to the highest and best bidder for cash at <https://www.clay.realforeclose.com> on the following described property: LOT 12, RAGGEDY POINT, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 14, PAGE 36 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA. Property Address: 372 Raggedy Point Court, Orange Park, FL 32003. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Dated: December 5, 2023. Clerk of Court By: Jennifer Brosky Deputy Clerk Legal 93842 Published 12/14/2023 and 12/21/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: BUFFALO BILL 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.: 1766/2019 Legal Description: LOT 26 BLK 146 BLACK CREEK PARK UNIT 1 AS REC O R 4123 PG 1368 Parcel ID No.: 320524-006698-466-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$2,185.87 Physical Address: 5287 CHICORY CIR , MIDDLEBURG Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL Name in which assessed: CODY AUGUSTIN 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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com). Dated this 4th day of December, 2023 TARA S. GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk Legal 93685 Published 12/7/2023, 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023, and 12/28/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: BUFFALO BILL 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.: 1647/2018 Legal Description: PT OF SEC 25 & 26 A/K/A LOT 13 B MAGNOLIA WOODS AS REC O R 2085 PGS 1222 & 1228 & 2085 PG 1230 Parcel ID No.: 250524-006593-038-04 Opening Bid Amount: \$6,212.55 Physical Address: SPRING DR , MID-DLEBURG Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL Name in which assessed: SILIM SIITAM 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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com). Dated this 4th day of December, 2023 TARA S. GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk Legal 93684 Published 12/7/2023, 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023 and 12/28/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: BUFFALO BILL 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.: 379/2018 Legal Description: LOT 24 BLK 7 BIG TREE LAKES SEC B AS REC O R 890 PG 626 Parcel ID No.: 140823-001437-476-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$2,217.81 Physical Address: 5876 SEQUOIA , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL Name in which assessed: LINDA L BURCH 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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com). Dated this 4th day of December, 2023 TARA S. GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk

Deputy Clerk Legal 93682 Published 12/7/2023, 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023 and 12/28/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: BUFFALO BILL 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.: 1890/2018 Legal Description: LOT 345 OAK FOREST AS REC O R 556 PG 671 Parcel ID No.: 100824-006919-424-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$6,953.85 Physical Address: 5523 INDIAN TRL , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL Name in which assessed: BIENVENIDO MERCADO 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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com). Dated this 4th day of December, 2023 TARA S. GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk Legal 93683 Published 12/7/2023, 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023 and 12/28/2023 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.: 3687/2018 Legal Description: LOTS 19 & 20 BLK 31 OF LAKE GENEVA AS REC O R 3550 PG 786 Parcel ID No.: 280823-021917-007-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$11,244.70 Physical Address: 7730 CYPRESS ST , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Classification: MOBILE HOME Name in which assessed: OMAHA 2011 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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com). Dated this 4th day of December, 2023 TARA S. GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk Legal 93681 Published 12/7/2023, 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023 and 12/28/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: DEL REY PACHECO, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate No.: 812/2017 Legal Description: LOT 13 BLK 71 HIGHLRIDGE ESTATE AS REC O R 1923 PG 1711 Parcel ID No.: 220823-003650-000-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$1,701.38 Physical Address: LEHIGH DR , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL Name in which assessed: BURGREN ENTERPRISES 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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com). Dated this 4th day of December, 2023 TARA S. GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk Legal 93680 Published 12/7/2023, 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023 and 12/28/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: BLUEBIRD PROPERTY HOLDINGS 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.: 830/2017 Legal Description: LOT 24 BLK 76 HIGHLRIDGE ESTATE AS REC O R 3148 PG 1025 Parcel ID No.: 210823-003768-000-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$1,666.40 Physical Address: 6180 HARVARD AVE , 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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com). Dated this 4th day of December, 2023 TARA S. GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk Legal 93679 Published 12/7/2023, 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023 and 12/28/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: BUFFALO BILL 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.: 1929/2019 Legal Description: PT OF W1/2 A/K/A PRLC 10 AS REC O R 804 PG 10,4091 PG 1399 & 4098 PG 891 Parcel ID No.: 160724-006901-022-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$2,965.33 Physical Address: 5331 STATE ROAD 21 , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL Name in which assessed: JOAN DAVIS (HEIRS) C/O CANDICE LEE DAVIS P/R 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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com). Dated this 4th day of December, 2023 TARA S. GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk Legal 93678 Published 12/7/2023, 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023 and 12/28/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: BUFFALO BILL 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.: 1835/2019 Legal Description: LOT 25 BLK 202 BLACK CREEK PARK UNIT 2 AS REC O R 2855 PG 570 Parcel ID No.: 350524-006699-820-00 Opening Bid Amount: \$2,169.15

Physical Address: 2790 TANSY AVE , MIDDLEBURG Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL Name in which assessed: JOSEPH M G PRINSTON 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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com). Dated this 4th day of December, 2023 TARA S. GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk Legal 93662 Published 12/7/2023, 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023 and 12/28/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: CINDA M WITTMAN, 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.: 314/2021 Legal Description: LOT 23 BLK 11 BIG TREE LAKES SEC C AS REC O R 872 PG 379 Parcel ID No.: 130823-001437-863-35 Opening Bid Amount: \$2,293.24 Physical Address: 5712 CARIBBEAN CIR , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL W/SPECIAL FEATURES OR YARD ITEM Name in which assessed: ALMA JEAN TAYLOR (ESTATE OF), C/O DALE JOHNSON 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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com). Dated this 4th day of December, 2023 TARA S. GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk Legal 93661 Published 12/7/2023, 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023 and 12/28/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: CITRUS CAPITAL HOLDINGS 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.: 3748/2020 Legal Description: UNIT 1321 & PT OF COMMONS AREA O R 809 PG 632 RAVINES RESORT CONDO CLUSTER 13 AS REC O R 3826 PG 1516 Parcel ID No.: 130524-021388-055-25 Opening Bid Amount: \$2,545.39 Physical Address: 2960 RAVINES RD 1321 , MIDDLEBURG Classification: CONDO Name in which assessed: ROY JAMES DODGEN III 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 21st day of February, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com). Dated this 4th day of December, 2023 TARA S. GREEN Clay County Clerk & Comptroller Clay County, Florida By: Christina Spadea Deputy Clerk Legal 93660 Published 12/7/2023, 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023 and 12/28/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper

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## CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

## PUBLIC AUCTION

Extra Space Storage, on behalf of itself or its affiliates, Life Storage or Storage Express, will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:  
 Extra Space Storage #6162 2406 Hutton Ct. Middleburg FL, 32068. 01-09-2024 10:00 AM.  
 Samuel Furniss-Roe - Household goods  
 Leigh Pecor - 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 93656 Published 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay today newspaper**

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA  
 PROBATE DIVISION  
 File No. 2023-CP-000576  
 IN RE: ESTATE OF DENNIS MICHAEL BROWN A/K/A DENNIS M. BROWN  
 Deceased.

The administration of the estate of Dennis Michael Brown a/k/a Dennis M. Brown, deceased, whose date of death was October 9, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.  
 ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is December 7, 2023.

Attorney for Personal Representatives:  
 Thomas P. Moss, Esq.  
 Florida Bar Number: 0157376  
 Sawyer & Sawyer, P.A.  
 8913 Conroy Windermere Road  
 Orlando, Florida 32835  
 Telephone: (407) 909-1900  
 Fax: (407) 909-1992  
 E-Mail: tmoss@sawyerandsawyerpa.com  
 Secondary E-Mail: tdaylor@sawyerand-sawyerpa.com

Personal Representatives:  
 Denise M. Fuller  
 13900 Myrtlewood Drive  
 Orlando, Florida 32832  
 David J. Brown  
 5528 Pulaski Avenue  
 Philadelphia, PA 19144

**Legal 93654 Published 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## PUBLIC AUCTION

Extra Space Storage, on behalf of itself or its affiliates, Life Storage or Storage Express, will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:  
 1939 East West Parkway Fleming Island, FL 32003, December 26, 2023 at 10:00am  
 Geri McKinney-Household Goods  
 Brittany Schmelzle-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 93653 Published 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## NOTICE OF ACTION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, CIVIL DIVISION  
 Case No. 10-2023-CA-001434  
 Division  
 COUNTRYPLACE MORTGAGE, LTD.  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
 MARY ELIZABETH WADE, et al.  
 Defendants.

TO:  
 MARY ELIZABETH WADE  
 CURRENT RESIDENCE UNKNOWN  
 LAST KNOWN ADDRESS  
 4041 SUNBEAM RD  
 JACKSONVILLE, FL 32257  
 UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARY ELIZABETH WADE  
 CURRENT RESIDENCE UNKNOWN

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS  
 4041 SUNBEAM RD  
 JACKSONVILLE, FL 32257  
 You are notified that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Clay County, Florida:

A PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 23 EAST CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA; SAID PARCEL BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:  
 COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 24; THENCE ON THE EAST LINE THEREOF RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 53 SECONDS WEST 1983.61 FEET; THENCE NORTH 87 DEGREES 54 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST 304.75 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 87 DEGREES 54 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST 1000.00 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4; THENCE ON LAST SAID LINE NORTH 00 DEGREES 04 MINUTES 44 SECONDS WEST 440.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 87 DEGREES 54 MINUTES 40 SECONDS EAST 1000.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 04 MINUTES 44 SECONDS EAST 440.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

TOGETHER WITH AN EASEMENT FOR INGRESS, EGRESS AND UTILITIES AS DESCRIBED AND RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 1820, PAGES 531 THRU 540 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF SAID COUNTY.

TOGETHER WITH AND SUBJECT TO AN EASEMENT FOR INGRESS, EGRESS AND UTILITIES AS DESCRIBED AND RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 1832, PAGE 2027 ~ EXHIBIT "B" OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF SAID COUNTY.

commonly known as 1240 NOLAN ROAD, MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068 has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Jennifer M. Scott of Kass Shuler, P.A., plaintiff's attorney, whose address is P.O. Box 800, Tampa, Florida 33601, (813) 229-0900, on or before 30 days from the first date of publication, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.  
 Dated: November 30, 2023.  
 CLERK OF THE COURT  
 HONORABLE TARA S. GREEN  
 P O BOX 698  
 GREEN COVE SPRINGS, Florida 32043  
 By: Chelsey Mason  
 Deputy Clerk

**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 crlntrp@coj.net or (904) 630-2564 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.**  
**Legal 93651 Published 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## PUBLIC AUCTION

Extra Space Storage, on behalf of itself or its affiliates, Life Storage or Storage Express, 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  
 December 26th, 2023 at 9:30 am  
 Richard Moore – Household Goods/Furniture  
 Richard Moore - Household Goods/Furniture, TV/Stereo Equipment, Tools/Appliances  
 Tarlann Pons – Household Goods/Furniture  
 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 proper

**Legal 93649 Published 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 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-000600  
 IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CHERYL HELFERT WELSH, also known as CHERYL H. WELSH.  
 Deceased.

The administration of the estate of Cheryl Helfert Welsh, also known as Cheryl H. Welsh, whose date of death was October 24, 2023, and whose Social Security Number is \*\*\*-\*\*-0118, 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 December 7, 2023.

Personal Representative:  
 Michele A. Graff  
 13295 SW 106th Street  
 Dunnellon, Florida 34432  
 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 93483 Published 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA  
 PROBATE DIVISION  
 File No. 2023-CP-000378  
 IN RE: ESTATE OF CLIFFORD THOMAS RINGER, Deceased.

The administration of the estate of CLIFFORD THOMAS RINGER, deceased, whose date of death was JANUARY 27, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 825 N. ORANGE AVE. #308, GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FL 32043. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is December 7, 2023.  
 Signed on this 30th day of November, 2023.  
 MATTHEW MCCONNELL, Esq.  
 Florida Bar No. 126161  
 Attorney for Personal Representative  
 Dickman Law Firm  
 Post Office Box 111868  
 Naples, FL 34108  
 T: 239-434-0840 / F : 239-434-0940  
 matthew@dickmanlawfirm.org

BARBARA RINGER  
 Personal Representative  
 3349 WILDERNESS CIR.  
 MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068  
**Legal 93482 Published 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## PUBLIC AUCTION

Extra Space Storage, on behalf of itself or its affiliates, Life Storage or Storage Express, will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated: 4653 US 17, Fleming Island, FL 32003 December 26, 2023, at 10:00am.  
 Roxanne Van hof  
 house hold  
 Deleah Liles  
 dinette set, coffe table, side table, boxes  
 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 93481 Published 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## PUBLIC AUCTION

Extra Space Storage, on behalf of itself or its affiliates, Life Storage or Storage Express, will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:  
 1709 Blanding Blvd, Middleburg, FL 32068, Tuesday, December 26, 2023 @ 12:00 PM.  
 Dawn Rourk: 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 93311 Published 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA  
 PROBATE DIVISION  
 FILE NO.: 2023-CP-000603  
 DIVISION B

IN RE: ESTATE OF PAMELA SUE ALDERMAN.  
 Deceased.

The administration of the estate of PAMELA SUE ALDERMAN, deceased, whose date of death was September 29, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 825 North 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.

THE ESTATE IS INTESTATE.  
 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 THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (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 THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS 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 PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of the first publication of this Notice is December 7, 2023.

Attorney for Personal Representative:  
 GERALDINE C. HARTIN, Esquire  
 Florida Bar 15201  
 3168 U. S. Highway 17, Suite A  
 Fleming Island, FL .32003  
 904-278-3888

geraldine.hartin@gmail.com  
 Personal Representative:  
 RACHEL K. LANNIN  
 2510 Maybrook Court  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37128  
**Legal 93303 Published 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CLAY COUNTY FLORIDA  
 PROBATE DIVISION  
 File No. 2023-CP-000194

Division A  
 IN RE: ESTATE OF BILLY W. MCFARLAND  
 Deceased.

The administration of the estate of Billy W. McFarland, deceased, whose date of death was December 21, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 825 N Orange Ave. # 308, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

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 THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is December 7, 2023.

Attorney for Personal Representative:  
 STEVEN L. ZAKROCKI, P.L.  
 /s/ Steven L. Zakrocki  
 Steven L. Zakrocki  
 Florida Bar No. 55056  
 1510 N. Ponce de Leon Blvd., Suite B

St. Augustine, Florida 32084  
 Telephone: (904) 201-4149  
 Email: steve@zakrockilaw.com  
 Personal Representative:  
 Tracey Anne Williamson  
 943 Evans Road  
 Nashville, TN 37204  
**Legal 93301 Published 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE COUNTY COURT, FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA  
 PROBATE DIVISION  
 File No. 2023-CP-000252  
 Division

IN RE: ESTATE OF KENNETH LESTER TANNER, Deceased.

The administration of the estate of KENNETH LESTER TANNER, deceased, whose date of death was December 27, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Clay County, Florida, Case No. 2023-CP-000252, the address of which is 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, FL, 32043. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

The date of publication of this notice is December 7, 2023.

Attorney of Personal Representative:  
 FRANKLIN D. FIELDS, ESQ.  
 Fla. Bar #0723691  
 Law Office of Franklin D. Fields  
 311 State Road 26  
 Melrose, FL 32666  
 Telephone: (352) 475-1176  
 Personal Representatives:  
 Jeffrey Taylor  
 6765 Benson Ave.  
 Cocoa, FL 32927

**Legal 93229 Published 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:** ROBERT W OTT-RCLOVERLAND 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: 923/2020**  
**Legal Description: LOT 9 BLK 102 HIGHRIDGE ESTATE AS REC O R 2492 PG 254**

**Parcel ID No.: 160823-004356-000-00**  
**Opening Bid Amount: \$1,869.26**  
**Physical Address: 6209 OLGETHORPE AVE., KEYSTONE HEIGHTS**  
**Classification: VACANT RESIDENTIAL**  
**Name in which assessed: EARL & TATJANA NELSON, TATJANA NELSON**

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 10th day of January, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at www.clay.realtaxdeed.com.

**Dated this 27th day of November, 2023**  
 TARA S. GREEN  
 Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
 Clay County, Florida  
 By: Christina Spadea  
 Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 93220 Published 11/30/2023, 12/7/2023, 12/14/2023 and 12/21/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## SUMMONS AND

## NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA  
 CASE NO.: 10-2022-DP-000064  
 DIVISION: JV-E  
 IN THE INTEREST OF:

**PI.**  
**DOB: 01/26/2022**  
 MINOR CHILD  
 THE STATE OF FLORIDA

TO:  
 Robert Imler, FATHER  
 Address Unknown

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that a Petition has been filed in the above-styled Court by the FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES for termination of parental rights and permanent commitment for subsequent adoption of the above-named child, P.I., born Janu-

ary 6, 2022. You are hereby commanded to appear before **Honorable Angela M. Cox**, at the Clay County Courthouse, Juvenile Dependency Courtroom, 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida at the hour of **2:00 p.m. o'clock on January 5, 2024 A.D.** You must appear at the hearing on the date and time specified.

**FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THIS R.S. AND YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS AS A PARENT TO THIS CHILD.** Pursuant to Sections 39.804(4)(d) and 63.082(6)(g), Florida Statutes, you are hereby informed of the availability of private placement with an adoption entity, as defined in Section 63.032(3), Florida Statutes.

**If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Court ADA Coordinator at (904) 255-1695 or crlntrp@coj.net at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled court appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.** WITNESS my hand as clerk of said Court and the Seal thereof, this 2nd day of November 2023.

Tara S. Green  
 Clerk of Said Court  
 By: Tammy Rosenbaum  
 Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 92805 Published 11/30/2023, 12/7/2023, 12/14/2023 and 12/21/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## PUBLIC AUCTION

Extra Space Storage, on behalf of itself or its affiliates, Life Storage or Storage Express, will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:

600 Blanding Blvd Orange Park, FL 32073, 12/26/2023 at 10:00 AM  
 Sandra Staley Household Goods  
 Angela Battles Household Goods  
 Stephanie Bryer Household Goods  
 Meredith Bittner Household Goods, Beanie Babies

Michael Robinson Household Goods  
 Barbara Fowler 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 92722 Published 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

FIRST COAST TOWING gives notice that on 01/07/2024 at 10:00 AM the following vehicles(s) may be sold by public sale at FIRST COAST TOWING INC - 2905 BLANDING BLVD. MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78.

1FAHP35N58W100999 2008 FORD  
 1GCPYBEH3MZ172526 2021 CHEV  
 1N4A6GC9L3C373736 2020 NISS  
 3C4PDCAB7LT280995 2020 DODG  
 3FADP4BJ0HM143510 2017 FORD  
 KMHDH4AE2DU979395 2013 HYUN  
**Legal 92716 Published 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

## NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (NO CHILD OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 4TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA  
 CASE# 2023DR1516  
 Division  
 Allison N. Shurn  
 Petitioner  
 and  
 Mariah N. Shurn  
 Respondent.

TO: Mariah N. Shurn  
 1964 Traceland Avenue, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043  
 YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for dissolution of marriage has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Allison N. Shurn whose address is 1964 Traceland Avenue, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043, on or before January 1, 2024, 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.

**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**

CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

address. (You may file Designation of Current mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the addresses on record at the clerk's office.  
**WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.**  
 Dated: November 17, 2023  
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
 By: Jennifer Brosky  
 Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 92553 Published 11/23/2023, 11/30/2023, 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 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.: 1268/2021**  
**Legal Description: PT OF SW1/4 S5T5R24 A/K/A LOT 4 MIMOSA WOODS UNREC AS REC O R 1848 PG 1421**  
**Parcel ID No.: 050524-005931-003-04**  
**Opening Bid Amount: \$4,928.57**  
**Physical Address: 101 PLANKTON AVE, MIDDLEBURG**  
**Classification: MOBILE HOME**  
**Name in which assessed: JOHN L. & PATRICIA L. HILLS, PATRICIA L. HILLIS**  
 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 10th day of January, 2024 at 9:30 A.M. at [www.clay.realtaxdeed.com](http://www.clay.realtaxdeed.com).  
 Dated this 17th day of November, 2023  
 TARA S. GREEN  
 Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
 Clay County, Florida  
 By: Christina Spadea  
 Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 92539 Published 11/23/2023, 11/30/2023, 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO USE UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTING NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS**

The City of Green Cove Springs, Florida (the "City") here by provides notice, pursuant to section 197.3632(3)(a), Florida Statutes, of its intent to use the uniform method of collecting non-ad valorem special assessments to be levied within the incorporated area of the City, for the cost of providing utility, roadways, stormwater, and other public infrastructure services, facilities, and programs for the Reynolds

Park/Clay County Port within the incorporated area of the City commencing for the Fiscal Year beginning on October 1, 2024 and continuing until discontinued by the City. The City will consider the adoption of a resolution electing to use the uniform method of collecting such assessments authorized by section 197.3632, Florida Statutes, at a public hearing to be held at 7:00 p.m. on December 19, 2023 in City Hall, 321 Walnut Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida. Such resolution will state the need for the levy and will contain a legal description of the boundaries of the real property subject to the levy. Copies of the proposed form of resolution, which contains the legal description of the real property subject to the levy, are on file at the City Manager's office in City Hall, located at 321 Walnut Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida. All interested persons are invited to attend.

In the event any person decides to appeal any decision by the City with respect to any matter relating to the consideration of the resolution at the above-referenced public hearing, a record of the proceeding may be needed and in such an event, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the public hearing is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence on which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the City Clerk's Office at (904) 297-7500, ext. 3307, at least two days prior to the date of the hearing. If you have any questions, please contact the City at (904) 297-7500, Monday through Thursday between 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m..

City of Green Cove Springs  
 Erin West, City Clerk  
 321 Walnut Street  
 Green Cove Springs, FL 32043  
 L. Steve Kennedy, City Manager  
**Legal 92470 Published 11/23/2023, 11/30/2023, 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

**SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**CASE NO.: 10-2021-DP-000065**  
 DIVISION: JV - E  
 IN THE INTEREST OF:  
**J.M.**  
**DOB: 03/30/2015**  
 A MINOR CHILD  
 THE STATE OF FLORIDA  
 TO:  
**Johnathan McConnell, FATHER**  
**Address Unknown**

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that a Petition has been filed in the above-styled Court by the FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES for termination of parental rights and permanent commitment for subsequent adoption of the above-named child, J.M. born March 30, 2015. You are hereby commanded to appear before **Honorable Angela M. Cox**, at the Clay County Courthouse, Juvenile Dependency Courtroom, 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida at the hour of **2:00 p.m.** o'clock on **December 19, 2023, A.D.** You must appear at the hearing on the date and

time specified.  
**FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THIS CHILD. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION ATTACHED TO THIS NOTICE.**  
 If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Court ADA Coordinator at (904) 255-1695 or [crtinrtp@coj.net](mailto:crtinrtp@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 14th day of November 2023.  
 Tara S. Green  
 as Clerk of Said Court  
 By: Tammy Rosenbaum  
**Legal 92251 Published 11/23/2023, 11/30/2023, 12/7/2023 and 12/14/2023 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

**NOTICE**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
 FILE NUMBER: 2023-GA-14  
 DIVISION: A  
 IN RE: GUARDIANSHIP OF EMILY TAYLOR,  
 Pursuant to Section 744-631(2), Florida Statutes, PATRICIA A. TAYLOR and MICHAEL E. TAYLOR, Plenary Guardian of the Person and Property of EMILY TAYLOR, gives notice of their intention to make application for Authority to Act related to selling the property located at 5400 LaMoja Avenue, Unit 17, Jacksonville, Florida, 32210.  
 The Honorable Judge James E. Kallaher of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, Probate Division, will call up this matter on January 11, 2024, at 9:20 a.m., via Zoom hearing. Join Zoom Meeting, <https://zoom.us/j/7793110365>. Meeting ID: 779 311 0365.  
 GERALDINE C. HARTIN, Esquire  
 HAMILTON & HARTIN, PA  
 Florida Bar: 15201  
 3168 Highway 17, Suite A  
 Fleming Island, FL 32003  
 904-278-3888  
[geraldine.hartin@gmail.com](mailto:geraldine.hartin@gmail.com)  
**Legal 94244 Published 12/14/2023, 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023 and 1/4/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

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### MESSAGE TO ADVERTISERS

All ads are non-refundable. Please check your ad copy the first week of publication. We will only apply credit for the first run and credits are subject to approval of the publisher. If ad is canceled prior to the first insertion cancellation must be made by classified deadline of Monday by noon. Ads must comply with Federal, State &

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### DEADLINE MONDAY NOON

### LINER ADS

All line ads are 4 lines, 20-25 characters per line. Additional lines may be purchased. All rates are NET.

### PRIVATE PARTY COMMERCIAL

1 week \$14.50	1 week \$23
2 week \$24	2 week \$40
3 week \$32	3 week \$56
4 week \$40	4 week \$72

Cost includes online at:  
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Ads are \$27 per column inch with a minimum of 2"

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1.5" x 4" \$160 for 4 weeks

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**Email:** legal@claytodayonline.com  
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Create & maintain project plan & schedule to include equipment lead times, infrastructure, receiving, installation and commissioning. Be go-to person for all aspects of production facility commissioning & set up the CI strategy. Coordinate resource availability. Establish relationships w/ OE manufacturers, systems integrators, facility infrastructure equipment suppliers & sub-contractors. Drive development & adoption of project management SOPs w/ technical integration. Evaluate value engineering & Kaizen opportunities & manages project risks/roadblocks through successful mitigation. Travel up to 70% nationally. Need BS in Industrial Engineering or a related field. Need 3 yrs. exp. as Industrial or Process Engineer, Project Manager or related. Need 3 yrs. exp. w/ following: IQ, OQ, and PQ or Project Management DMAIC methodology; MS Outlook Projects or Smartsheet, Minitab, Visio, Solidworks, AutoCAD, Bluebeam, or Adobe; Negotiating with suppliers & sub-contractors; DOE, Process Capability study, Measurement System Analysis, ANOVA, PFMEA and Control Plan; Working on APQP or EV/DV and PV; Factory Acceptance Testing/Site Acceptance Testing; & Setting up & qualifying new production facility. Need 1 yr. w/ with Offsite construction manufacturing (Wall or Roof Truss Lines) and factory simulation model (Visual Components or Simio).  
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