

# CLAY TODAY

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## “I’m just a mom who didn’t know what else to do”

### Somer’s Garden: Transforming evil to a safe place of peace, happiness

By Kyla Woodard  
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ORANGE PARK – When Diena Thompson was given the keys to 1152 Gano Ave., decided to burn it down.

As she threw the match in, she watched for hours as the house disappeared forever. Engulfed in flames, it ceased to exist. Ridding Thompson and her neighbors of its presence and the painful memories that came with it.

It was a house that new neighbors passing by would initially never second glance at. But for Thompson, it represented a dark time from almost 15 years ago — the day her life changed forever.

“I didn’t want anyone to live on a property where my life essentially ended,” Thompson said. “The life I knew ended on October 19, 2009.”

It was then that her daughter, 7-year-old Somer Thompson, was abducted while walking home from Grove Park Elementary school. And it was in that house that Somer was murdered by then-24-year-old Jarred Harrell.

It was a story that sent shockwaves through the county and nation. And now, years after the tragedy, the spot remains flooded with memories of a little girl who never got the chance to be.

But, amid the heartache, Thompson said the positive light shines through.

What was once a place where Somer could not get the help she needed is now a place that aims to help those who may



Submitted photo: Almost 15 years after the tragedy, Diena Thompson reflects on Somer’s legacy. Once a place of unspeakable tragedy, the mother finds peace at a place where she knows Somer’s legacy will live forever.

SEE GARDEN, 12



Staff photo by Don Coble

Players from around the state said the Clay County Regional Sports Complex was the best they’ve seen in years.

## New Sports Regional Complex meets, if not exceeds, expectations

By Don Coble  
don@claytodayonline.com

MIDDLEBURG — Taxpayers were told that if they helped pay for the Clay County Regional Sports Complex, teams from around the country would come to use the facility, and they’d be repaid when out-of-towners spend money in local hotels, restaurants and shops.

It was billed as a one-of-a-kind 250-acre complex with eight multi-purpose fields that can easily be transformed to host soccer, lacrosse, flag football, field hockey, spike ball and ultimate frisbee tournaments.

Clay Today spent a day talking with athletes competing at the Sunshine State Games Ultimate Frisbee Championships to get their opinions on the facility.

Besides not having any place to buy food within 15 minutes of the complex — any enterprising food truck should take notice a tournament usually attracts between 330 to more than 1,000 people — everyone was extremely impressed.

SEE COMPLEX, 10

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# Election qualifying deadline passes; 35 contests already decided

Clay Today staff

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — At the stroke of noon last Friday, 35 unopposed candidates, including County Commissioners Jim Renninger and Kristen Burke, Superintendent of Schools David Broskie, Property Appraiser Tracy Drake, Tax Collector Diane Hutchings, Clerk of the Court Tara Green, Supervisor of Elections Chris Chambless, County Judge Kristina Mobley and School Board Member Beth Clark, won automatic re-elections when the deadline to file passed.

St. Johns Country Day School Athletics Director John Sgromolo won the District 1 seat on the Board of County Commission as an unopposed candidate. He will replace Mike Cella, who termed out.

While many offices have been decided, some races still need to be determined, including the race between current Sheriff Michelle Cook and former Sheriff Darryl Daniels. Since Cook is running as a Republican and Daniels is listed as a No Political Affiliation, they won't meet until the Gen-

eral Election on Nov. 5.

Others will have to compete in a runoff on Aug. 20.

The largest group of candidates will be for School Board in District 2. Robert Alvero, Sharon E. Flowers, James (Jim) Hughes and Elijah Matthew Mitchell have no party preferences and the runoff winner will win the seat Mary Bolla holds.

Helana Joanne Cormier, Tanya Kacsan and Erin Skipper are contending for a seat as a Republican State Committeewoman.

Cella will now face Corey Gardner (Fleming Island Plantation CDD Seat 3) in another runoff. At the same time, Rick Nelson will go against Eric Sheppard (Fleming Island Plantation CDD Seat 4), Douglas Kuhrt will face Geoffrey Rovegno (Magnolia West CDD Seat 4), Curtiss Akim will go against Cynthia Riegler (Magnolia West CDD Seat 5), Cassie Alba will face Orvia Shroyer (Ridgewood Trails CDD Seat 5) and Jeffrey M. Deal against Jose Lopez (Armstrong CDD Seat 5).



Sheriff Michelle Cook will be seeking re-election on Nov. 5. Former Sheriff Darryl Daniels will try to win back his position as the top law enforcement officer in the county.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Clay Today will test your knowledge weekly and provide interesting facts on various topics. This week, somebody needs to buy a map. Seeing the car at the stop light with a sticker from Nissan of Orange Park was strange, especially since there is no Nissan dealership in Orange Park. There's one in Jacksonville, 1.5 miles east of town in Duval County. For that matter, dealerships with Orange Park in their names like Auto Mall, AutoNation Ford, Hyundai, Mercedes-Benz, Mazda City, Volkswagen, Tom Bush BMW, Genesis, Kia, Acura, Infiniti, Lexus, Subaru and DARCARS aren't in Clay County, must less Orange Park. But they aren't alone. The Cincinnati airport isn't even in Ohio. It's in Kentucky. The Atlanta Motor Speedway is nearly 28 miles from downtown Atlanta. The Charlotte track is 17 miles away in Concord, North Carolina, and the New York Giants and New York Jets football teams play across the Hudson River in New Jersey.

## Meet Your LOCAL CANDIDATES

### District 2 | Clay County School Board

- Sharon E. Flowers
- James (Jim) Hughes
- Elijah Matthew Mitchell
- Robert Alvero

#### Sharon Flowers to focus on students, teachers, parents working together

By Don Coble  
don@claytodayonline.com

CLAY COUNTY — Sharon E. Flowers believes education should be a collaboration between a student, teacher and parents. Along with classmates, educators and parents, everyone can create a dispassionate lesson plan focusing on more rounded core education skills like reading, mathematics, English, social studies, science, technology,



Sharon E. Flowers

physical education, music, art and history. "One of the things I do believe is, when it comes to education, I think what works is when everybody works together," Flowers said. "Sometimes I don't think the kids' voices are heard at certain times. I don't believe that the parents are heard at certain times. And I don't think the teachers are heard at certain times.

"We need to unite all those voices – the school board, teachers, parents, administrators and children. We should hear their voices and make the best decisions for the children because it is all about the children."

Flowers wants to put her principles into action. That's why she's running for the District 2 seat on the Clay County School Board. She will be one of four candidates in a runoff on Aug. 20, with the winner replacing Mary Bolla, who decided not to seek re-election.

Flowers has a degree in Psychology

from Fayetteville State, a Master's in Education at Penn State and her PhD from Capella University in 2014.

She's worked as an academic counselor and Adjunct Professor at Fayetteville State. Once she moved to Florida, she taught online classes at Berean Baptist Academy and Carolina Colleges of Biblical Studies. She's also the Director of Outreach at Love Alive Church in Middleburg.

Flowers said some discussions should happen away from a school setting so all sides can speak openly and to repercussions.

"I believe in holding forums outside of the school board meetings to help build trust with that school board member, but also to invest in that school, to let that teacher or that parent or that child know that there's somebody interested in education without the political stuff behind it," she said.

Flowers said her experience in education and the U.S. Army makes her uniquely qualified to be a School Board member.

"I served 20 years in the military. I retired in 2008, so I'm not new to policies and interpreting policies as I spent the last four years of my military career as an Inspector General," she said. "I'm definitely used to looking at policies and deciphering policies. The other part is that I've taught higher education for 15 years. Part of that is teaching, and I taught educators how to become educators."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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# Meet Your

## LOCAL CANDIDATES

### District 2 | Clay County School Board

- Robert Alvero
- Sharon E. Flowers

- James (Jim) Hughes
- Elijah Matthew Mitchell

#### Robert Alvero escaped Cuba believing in freedom, education

By Jack Randall  
jack@claytodayonline.com

CLAY COUNTY — After a vicious raid on his home by the Cuban government, Robert Alvero was left with no other options. He took off from a boat and fled the island. He secured political asylum, swore allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, became a citizen, moved to Florida, started his family, and settled in Clay County.

Now, he is one of the four candidates running for School Board District 2, a crowded at-large election.

Alvero believes in freedom and that education should be free, too — free from indoctrination. In 1999, when he was enrolled in a military academy in Cuba, Alvero said he suffered from constant propa-

ganda. A target was placed on his back for not conforming, which is why he had to escape. Alvero says he wants to keep politics out of our schools because children should be focused on learning what really matters: math, reading, history, and science. He also wants to emphasize personal finance.

“I envision an education free from indoctrination or where politics are on display. Children should be their critical thinkers.”

Alvaro’s first language is Spanish, and his bilingualism is a unique aspect that sets him apart from other candidates. Last year, the Department of Justice reached



Robert Alvero

a settlement with Clay County District Schools after investigators discovered that non-English-speaking students were unable to participate in core classes. Prior to the settlement, non-English-speaking parents were not provided with information in a language they could understand.

Alvero wants to be their voice. If elected, he said he would communicate with these families openly and honestly.

Alvero supports replacing the Clay County District Schools Police Department with the Clay County Sheriff’s Office. He believes in empowering parental choice, especially regarding how library books should be accessible to children.

“I believe there are books that are supposed to be for different ages,” he said, asserting that the ultimate decision should fall on the parents.

“I support any decision that empowers the parent to make an informed decision. I’m all in for parent’s rights. I am a parent myself,” he said, referring to three of his children currently enrolled in the school system.

While he does not have teaching experience, his experience as a firefighter at the Jacksonville Fire Rescue Department and as a squadron commander in the Florida State Guard demonstrates his commitment to serving others. He believes in traditional, family-focused conservative values.

“I’m all about family, God and country. I’m a conservative person. I would do anything to help our children — our treasure.”

#### Hughes: Education is the foundation that affects a child’s future success

By Don Coble  
don@claytodayonline.com

CLAY COUNTY — Jim Hughes considers what is taught in school to be just the beginning of a child’s education, an important bedrock that will affect their future path to success.

That’s why he wants to win Seat 2 on the Clay County School Board. He said it’s important to “prepare students holistically for life beyond school — whether it be the workforce, higher education, military service or any other path — through collaborative efforts involving parents, teachers, administrators, and most importantly, the students themselves. This preparation must address Maslow’s hierarchy of needs, ensuring that students’ basic needs are met to facilitate their academic and personal growth.”

Like a pyramid, from the bottom to the top, Maslow’s hierarchy of needs includes physiological, safety, love and belonging, esteem and self-actualization.

Hughes is one of four candidates who



Jim Hughes

SEE HUGHES, 6

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## Women business owners lead with passion, optimism for success

By StatePoint Media  
For Clay Today

Passion and personal satisfaction for their business or industry are the top factors women business leaders cited for starting and staying in business, with 43% of respondents choosing that over financial success (35%) – the next most common factor. This passion was one key differentiator between women and men business leaders, with only 28% of men reporting personal satisfaction as a primary driver of staying in business.

“For many women business owners, starting and running a business is born out of a personal interest or an opportunity to make a difference in the community,” said Shana Peterson-Sheptak, head of Business Banking at PNC. “That’s not at the expense of profitability, but it shows the power of being passionate or satisfied with what you do.”

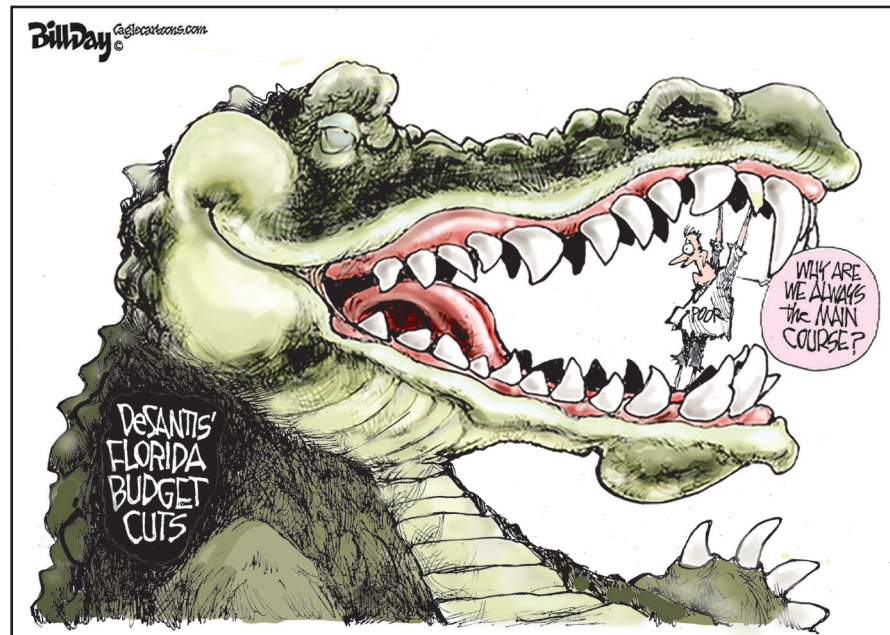
### Positive outlook

Respondents noted more than just passion for their businesses; they also reported optimism about the next six months, both for the economy and the success of their ventures. Women leaders were more likely than men to expect increases in demand (51% to 49%), sales (51% to 49%), prices of their goods and services (49% to 40%), and profits (52% to 43%) in the coming months. They also were more likely to expect their own compensation and retirement savings to increase – a significant change since PNC’s Fall 2022 survey when women leaders were less likely than men to expect increases in those two metrics.

While both women and men leaders were highly optimistic about their near-term prospects for their business, women were significantly more likely to express confidence in the national and local economies than men, 64% to 51% and 72% to 60%, respectively. Of those who expressed greater optimism for their business pros-

SEE BUSINESS, 5

## OPINIONS



## I need a vacation from the memories of my ill-fated vacation

By Don Coble  
don@claytodayonline.com

I was supposed to be a little, if not a lot, hungover and sunburned right now. I should have lost at least one flip-flop, forgotten my sunglasses and maxed out at least one credit card on my vacation. But I never opened my suitcase or left the ground.

I was packed up with nowhere to go.

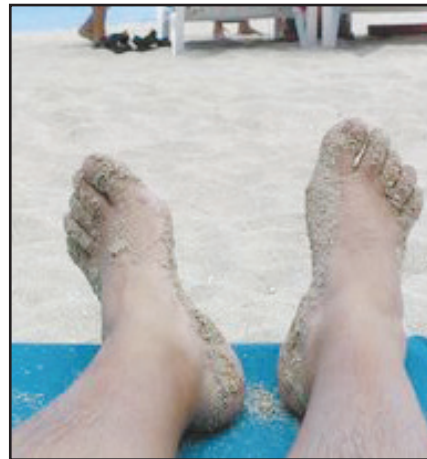
My run of bad luck actually started a few months ago. I wish I was so clever to make this up, but I’m not. This story takes a few months to tell, so be patient.

We had a bunch of community cats – the cat “ranchers” in our neighborhood said we couldn’t call them ferals – in our backyard. So with the help of Martha King, we trapped five cats and took them to the Humane Society to be neutered. Later that day, we returned them. Later, we came to learn there actually were six community cats. We’ll come back to that. It’s an important part of the story.

A couple weeks later, I decided to get away for a few days to Sint Maarten to recharge. And for the first time, I wasn’t going to take my laptop. I was planning for nothing but sunshine, a running bar tab and a trip to the French side of the island, where clothing is optional at the beaches (which is not an option for me). I like that side because it has soft, white,



Don Coble



fluffy sand.

I was dreaming about my trip at the car wash one afternoon when I felt a huge thump. Although I was in the middle of the suds cycle, someone mistakenly took their car out of neutral and rear-ended me. How many of you have been in a collision just before the rinse cycle in a car wash?

Five days before my trip, we had our air conditioning ducts cleaned. The company used a suction device to clear out the dust, but it sucked so hard it collapsed our flexible ducts. Suddenly, we had no air conditioning when it reached 100 degrees for three consecutive days. Guess how long it took to get someone out to fix it? Three days. And while they were fixing it, one of them put his foot through the ceiling in the garage.

I was still determined to get to my favorite island, especially since I hadn’t been there in 15 years. My flight to Miami was to leave at 6 a.m. on Wednesday. From there, I was supposed to land

SEE VACATION, 5

# Word OF THE WEEK

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

**Efficacious:** (ef-uh-KAY-shus) a formal adjective used to describe something — often a treatment, medicine or remedy — that has the power to produce a desired result or effect.

“Scientific studies have found COVID-19 vaccinations are 80-90% efficacious at preventing symptomatic and asymptomatic infections.”

## This Week in History

### Five years ago, 2019

•“My whole life was changed by a tick,” Kevin Gregorius said after a Lone Star tick bit him when he was walking through the woods in Fleming Island. He said he was violently ill and later diagnosed with alpha-gal syndrome. This condition made him allergic to red meat, such as beef and pork.

•Assistant Superintendent of Operations Michael Kemp urged the Clay County School Board to approve a new half-cent sales tax to fund capital improvement projects, which the school board later voted in favor of on June 27, 2019.

### 10 years ago, 2014

•A grassroots campaign gave up its mission, collecting petitions to change the position of superintendent for Clay County District Schools from elected to appointed by the school board. Today, candidates for superintendent are still voted into office.

•The Florida Department of Transportation began constructing a sidewalk along U.S. 17 from Margaret’s Walk Road to Hibernia Road on Fleming Island. The \$243,203 mile-long project on the east side of U.S. 17 included extending drainage structures to accommodate the new sidewalk.

### 20 years ago, 2004

•Johnny Pons announced his withdrawal from the race for Clay County Sheriff and threw his support behind fellow candidate Rick Beseler. Pons’ withdrawal left Beseler and Steven Richardson to do battle with incumbent Sheriff Scott Lancaster.

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.

# Vacation

from page 4

Miami was to leave at 6 a.m. on Wednesday. From there, I was supposed to land at SXM by 1:20 p.m. A half-hour later, I would be at the pool bar, where my favorite portions were served by “Sweet Laura,” who’s worked there for nearly 20 years.

The night before my flight, the sixth cat got in our house. She was pregnant. Five hours before I was supposed to leave, her first kitten was breech because the first thing out was a tail. Off to the vet. He said to give it three hours, and if she doesn’t



deliver the kittens naturally, he’ll do a C-section – for \$2,000. Two hours later, the

the storm that hit South Florida last week? Miami got 22 inches of rain, and it closed the airport for more than a day I was supposed to start my vacation. I tried to use my cellphone on the airplane to check the airline’s website to see if there were seats to Sint Maarten on Thursday. I learned that if you want to use Wi-Fi with that airline, you must pay for it, even if you’re trying to reach the same airline.

After sitting for hours, we pulled back to a gate and unloaded.

I did get some good news. I was uncharacteristically polite when I talked with the airline and the resort, and they let me move the reservation to July without a charge.

When I got home, I donned an old Sint Maarten Piranha Joe T-shirt to pretend I was there. I checked out the kittens and held one in my hand. It chirped at me, and it was the first time in days that I smiled.

Then she peed on me and my Sint Maarten T-shirt.

# Business

from page 4

pects than the national economy, nearly 80% of women leaders attributed their optimism to confidence in their abilities.

“Better than expected economic performance in the first part of 2024 is creating optimism for many business leaders,” Peterson-Sheptak said. “But women are especially confident that both their businesses will be successful in the coming months, and their leadership abilities will help make them so.”

## Providing support

According to the latest survey results, there are significant differences between men and women in terms of what they feel they need to succeed and how they prefer to receive support. While peers in the field are the most popular form of support for both women and men business leaders (64% to 69%, respectively), women indicate they are more likely to consider support from community, friends and family vital to their business success than men

(62% to 41%).

That support extends to banking relationships. PNC survey feedback has shown that women financial decision-makers seek relationships beyond banking products and services, including financial education and community connections.

PNC cultivates relationships with women financial decision-makers in many ways, including through the local cross-line of business market teams led by PNC’s more than 50 regional presidents coast to coast. Central to this year-round engagement is the company’s network of more than 5,000 PNC-certified Women’s Business Advocates who share a passion for helping women financial decision-makers achieve their financial goals.

To learn more about PNC and how it supports women financial decision-makers, visit [pnc.com/women](http://pnc.com/women).

“Women entrepreneurs are leading with passion for their business, confidence, and optimism for the future,” Peterson-Sheptak said. “We need to make sure we have the resources and people to support their success.”

# History

from page 4

- Officials at Orange Park Medical Center launched an expansion project expected to take five years to complete. The project included adding 36 private rooms to its third and fourth floors.

- Owners of GPD Fitness on Wells Road in Orange Park spent \$300,000 to upgrade and renovate the 40,000-square-foot fitness center, formerly The Q.

## 30 years ago, 1994

• Clay County Sheriff Scott Lancaster expressed growing concern regarding tapped-out capacity in the county jail. State Department of Corrections officials told Lancaster they feared overcrowding would lead to inmate violence.

• The U.S. Air Force announced it would build a Titan IV solid rocket motor warehouse at Camp Blanding. The Titan IV was used to launch satellites into space.

## 40 years ago, 1984

- L.H. “Lanny” Lancaster announced he would not seek re-election as Clay County Supervisor of Elections after serving 10 years. Before that, Lancaster had served on the Clay County Board of Commissioners for 14 years.

- Clay County School Deputy Superintendent for Finances, Sandra McCracken, said the district will use a \$1.7 million federal disbursement to help build a new middle school in the Ridgeview area.

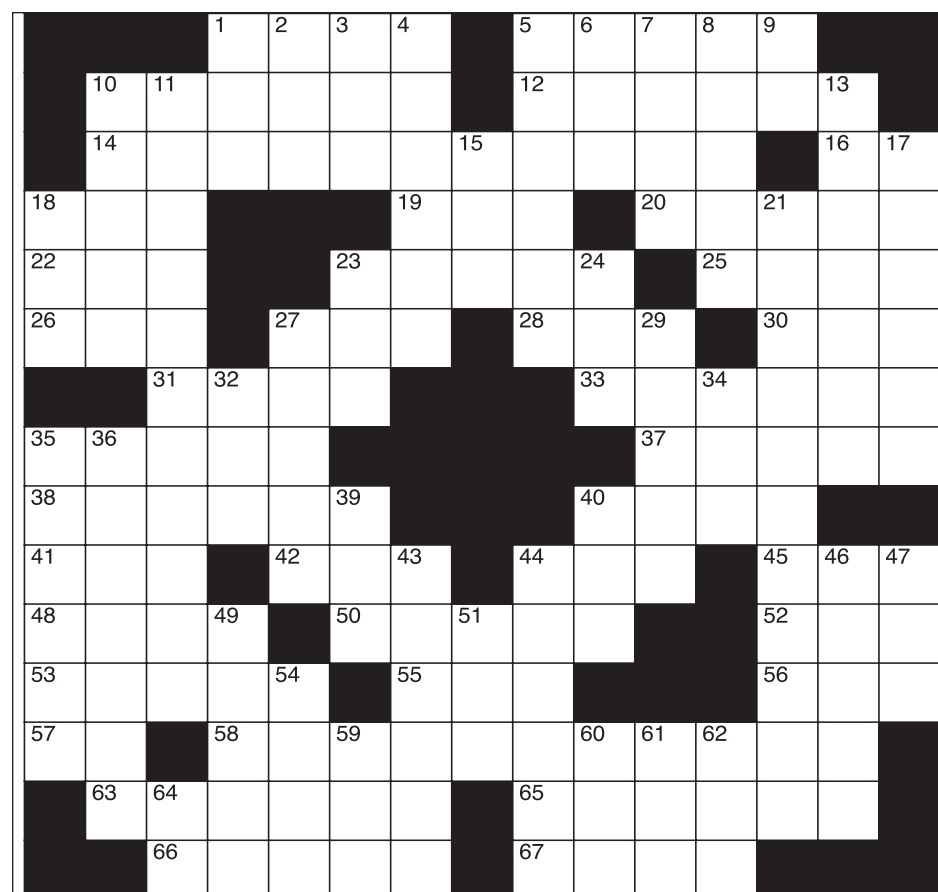
## 50 years ago, 1974

- The Clay County Board of Commissioners voted 5-0 to borrow \$500,000 from the Florida Department of Transportation to purchase rights-of-way along Blanding Boulevard to four-lane the roadway from Robyn Road to the Duval County line.

- The Town of Orange Park completed construction on a new \$340,000 sewage treatment plant on Ash Street. The new facility was set to treat one million gallons of raw sewage a day.

first kitten was born. In the next three hours, four more oozed out. By then, my alarm to leave for the airport was to ring in 86 minutes.

Then I got a text saying my flight had been delayed by an hour. Then another text. And another. And another. Did you see



### CLUES ACROSS

- Native American people
- Very long periods of time (Brit.)
- Schoolboard accessory
- Rods
- One who renews
- Sculpted body part
- Chatter incessantly
- \_\_\_ King Cole, musician
- Plates on a turtle’s shell
- University of Utah athlete
- The world of the dead
- Singer Redding
- Former Yankee great Mattingly
- Prefix indicating wrongly
- Unhappy
- Anger
- Dark brown or black
- Restaurants have a lot of them
- Made a mistake
- Damp
- Type of gasoline
- Actor LeBlanc
- Perform in a play
- One’s mother
- Prohibit
- Swiss river
- Part of a banana
- Indian hand clash cymbals
- Relative biological effectiveness

(abbr.)

- Agave
- Noted journalist Tarbell
- Computer firm
- Type of record
- Bacterium that can cause infection
- Sheaths enclosing the spinal cord
- A narrow opening (as in a rock wall)
- Pattern
- Very eager to see something

### CLUES DOWN

- Witch
- Utilize
- Writing utensil
- Places to perform
- Subsides
- Consume
- Athleisure clothing brand
- California town
- Atomic #50
- The Muse of lyric and love poetry
- Creates anew
- Humorous commentaries
- Cool!
- Most ignoble

- Soggy dirt
- Designed to be useful
- Hebrew unit of liquid capacity
- High schoolers’ test
- One-time internet accessory
- City in India
- Furniture
- You have likely chatted with one
- Pass or go by
- Proof of purchase
- A digital tape recording of sound
- More (Spanish)
- Disfigured
- White (Spanish)
- Building occupied by monks
- Georgia rock band
- Device that generates intense beam of light
- State of agitation
- Make by braiding
- Local area network
- Unit of work or energy
- Indigenous person of Thailand
- Liquefied natural gas
- Distance to top

# Meet Your LOCAL CANDIDATES

## District 2 | Clay County School Board

- Robert Alvero
- Sharon E. Flowers

- James (Jim) Hughes
- Elijah Matthew Mitchell

### Hughes from page 3

is running with no political affiliation. All four will be in a runoff on Aug. 20, with the winner taking over for Mary Bolla, who decided not to run for re-election.

Hughes was a Clay County graduate and a U.S. Navy captain. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in education at the University of North Florida. He has been in the classroom for 36 years and was a finalist for Teacher of the Year in Clay County in 1998-99. He also has a daughter who teaches in the district.

Hughes said he's taught several subjects and at several grade levels, so he has a broad understanding of all educational challenges.

"I feel like I am still able to give back some of the knowledge I've accumulated over the years as a teacher and my other activities between coaching and working

with curriculum accreditation," Hughes said. "Education has always been just a part of my life, from the student to the teacher. One of my daughters is still a teacher here in Clay County, so I've still got a vested interest in the schools right now."

Hughes would like to see an expansion to differing educational options, such as Garber (AutoMall), VyStar, as well as hospitals offering apprenticeship programs alongside traditional academic coursework. "By fostering open communication and dialogue among stakeholders, I aim to empower our students to fulfilling careers and contribute positively to society."

Hughes created a classroom technology lab at Lake Asbury Elementary in 2000 and another technology lab at Shadowlawn Elementary in 2008 before he retired in 2016. He was also the Director of Music Ministries at St. Catherine Catholic Church in Orange Park for 48 years before retiring last year.

### 19-year-old Matthew Mitchell running for School Board

By Kyla Woodard  
kyla@claytodayonline.com

CLAY COUNTY – At just 19 years old, Matthew Mitchell said he vows to invoke change in the Clay County School District.

And he is not letting his age hold him back.

Mitchell is running for the District 2 Seat occupied by Mary Bolla, who announced she would not seek re-election. Mitchell will be in a runoff with three other candidates on Aug. 20, and the winner will replace Bolla.



Matthew Mitchell

It covers the Orange Park and Oakleaf areas, but Mitchell said that will not stop his mission to help the greater educational good of the entire county.

"It's a county-wide vote. So, while I represent that specific area, I must represent all 40,000 students in the school district," Mitchell said. Mitchell said his main policy priorities will be student success and teacher empowerment. "I look at the concern of, there's 40%, if not more, of students not reading at grade level," Mitchell said. "That's a concern that I have."

Mitchell added that he will focus on raising the graduation rate from 95 percent

to a full 100%.

As a former class president and graduate of Clay High, Mitchell said he understands the necessary tools to bring to his position. His experience within the school system gives him an advantage in knowing exactly what students and teachers want.

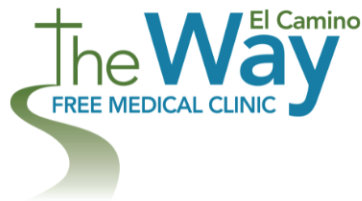
"I know what happens in the students' lives daily because I just lived it. Just two years ago. And, so, having someone that just lived with students in high school and interacted with students every single day gives me the value," Mitchell said. "It's so much value that the board lacks right now."

Mitchell, a former Legislative Analyst for the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation and the Florida Department of Education, is a third-generation Clay County native. He was on the Superintendent's Youth Advisory Council, participation in the American Legion's Boys State program, and legislative work in education policy inspired him to enter the race.

Mitchell also assured potential voters across the county that he would always be there to answer the call. "No matter what call it is and no matter what issue it is, they should know that I am going to make a decision that impacts the students' success," Mitchell said.

"We need a leader who understands the policymaking process and how it impacts everyday learning in the classroom for our teachers and students. I'm proud to be a product of the Clay County school system, and as your school board member, I'll focus on the actual issues that are impacting our county, not talking points."

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# Dunbar High students reunite for the first time in six years

By Kyla Woodard  
kyla@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS—The historical Dunbar High School’s graduating students talked, laughed, and reminisced at their class reunion last Friday and Saturday.

“What we are trying to do is to keep the Dunbar legacy alive,” said Betty Demmons, secretary of the Dunbar High School Reunion.

Dunbar High School, built in 1942, is a former all-Black school in Clay County. The school helped alleviate the lack of educational opportunities for Black children in the county, as segregation laws at the time separated Black students from white students.

The Black students commuted daily to Dunbar by bus from Penney Farms, Middleburg, Doctors Inlet and Hibernia.

With only 350 students, 14 teachers, one principal, one part-time librarian, one part-time counselor, four lunchroom workers, two custodians, and five bus drivers, the small but mighty school became a gateway to success.

On Friday night, many of these students reunited for the first time since 2018 due to the pandemic. Hugs were shared as students rubbed shoulders with old class-



mates. While mingling, they were also able to eat and look through old photo albums.

Each student was then able to introduce themselves and tell stories of their experience at the high school.

On Saturday, the students reunited at their old stomping grounds. Now known as the Augusta Savage Arts and Community Center, the building used to be the old Dunbar. The students were joyful from touring the halls to sitting in the old library and remembering their teachers.

Demmons said it was great to see all her old classmates again. Many classmates traveled from all around the country, including California and Tennessee.

“It is just a joy to see all of us because we don’t get to see each other like we used



Dunbar High School students reunited at their old stomping grounds for the first time since 2018. STAFF PHOTOS BY KYLA WOODARD

to,” Demmons said.

The school officially closed after the last graduating class of 1967, with the start of integration. Junior-year students were then transferred to Clay High and Orange Park High. And because of that, Demmons said many students lost contact.

“We kind of, like, was separated and we lost some connection and all like that. And, we are just trying to keep our history alive,” Demmons said.

Demmons said it’s important to remember this history, especially with the grow-

ing changes in the county.

“We are running into so many people that don’t know anything about Dunbar. And they’ve heard nothing about Dunbar,” Demmons said.

She said that the group feels that they might lose their heritage if they don’t pull in others in the community. So, their main job at hand is keeping people educated and informed.

“If we don’t preserve it, we are going to lose it,” Demmons said. “And it’s our main focus, and we want to be remembered.”



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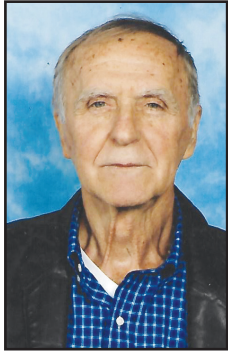
(904) 264-5464

# Obituaries claytodayonline.com

## Niculae Popescu

June 14, 1941 – February 1, 2024

Niculae Popescu the son of Gheorghe and Ioana Popescu born in Bucharest, Romania. From a young age, he had a curiosity and a natural talent for technical and mechanical things. He attended a technical high school and the Polytechnic University of Bucharest from which he graduated with a master's degree in mechanical engineering. He then worked for the Institute de Proiectari Industria Usoara as a design engineer and senior engineer. He designed and put mass production lines and machinery into operation for manufacturing consumer products. He was very knowledgeable, straight-thinking, and dynamic, authored and implemented several inventions. His engineering work was highly appreciated, and he received merit awards for his very valuable contributions.



Niculae Popescu

In 1974 he married Maria Elena (Marilena) Stefanescu (deceased) and is survived by two children, Anita and Theo, two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

In 1986 due to the communist regime and the political climate in Romania at that time Niculae fled Romania to Yugoslavia and was ultimately sponsored to relocate to the United States. His family joined him in 1987 and they lived in Glendora CA. It took some time to find engineering work, but over the years he held several positions as a mechanical engineer, designing and improving products. He loved his work, engineering came naturally to him.

He relocated to Jacksonville, FL where he was offered a Lead Engineer position at Gardeau Ameristeel. He met Barbara and the two of them lived a very active lifestyle, dancing, exercise class, long walks, going to church, political rallies, and shopping at garage sales, and flea markets.

## REMEMBRANCE

"You can shed tears that he is gone, Or you can smile because he has lived.

You can close your eyes And pray that he'll come back,

Or you can open your eyes And see all he has left.

Your heart can be empty Because you can't see him,

Or you can be full of The love you shared,'

You can turn your back on tomorrow And live yesterday, or you

Can be happy for tomorrow Because of yesterday.

You can remember him And only that he's gone,

Or you can cherish His memory and let it live on.

You can cry and close your mind, Be empty and turn your back,

Or you can do What he wants:

Smile, Open Your Eyes, Love, and Go On."

– Author Unknown

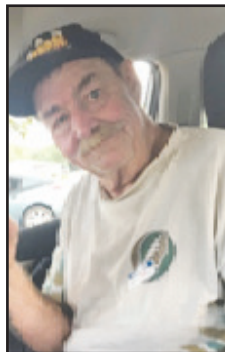
I will remember you always Niculae and miss you forever.

## William Bryan Penuel

July 21, 1959- May 22, 2024

William B. Penuel passed away on May 22, 2024 at Her Heart Facility in Jacksonville. He was the son of Betty and Franklin Penuel born in Seaford, DE. He is survived by his two daughters, Amanda Penuel and Sarah Clark, his son,

Franklin Penuel, his brother Randolph Penuel and his grandson, Jason Conti. In 1993, he entered the Navy for 6 years. Bryan enjoyed lending a hand and making people laugh. A private memorial service will be held on July 18th at Jacksonville National Cemetery.



William Bryan Penuel

# College Briefs

## D'Olimpio, McKenzie earn degrees at University of Alabama

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. – The University of Alabama provides numerous opportunities for service and growth to help prepare future generations through its educational, cultural and social experiences. Alabama is not only home to competitive academic programs, expert faculty, and a beautiful campus, but it is also the place where legends are made, including Hannah D'Olimpio of Fleming Island, who received a Bachelor of Science in Commerce and Business Administration and Tracy McKenzie of Green Cove Springs, who received a Master of Science in Nursing.

The University of Alabama, part of The University of Alabama System, is the state's flagship university. UA shapes a better world through its teaching, research and service. With a global reputation for excellence, UA provides an inclusive, forward-thinking environment and nearly 200 degree programs on a beautiful, student-centered campus.

## Aiosa, Daly graduated from Georgia Tech

ATLANTA – The Georgia Institute of Technology presented degrees to more than 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students during the Institute's 266th Commencement, including Nicole Aiosa of Middleburg and Miguel Daly of Orange Park.

The Georgia Institute of Technology, or Georgia Tech, is one of the top public research universities in the U.S., developing leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition.

The Institute offers degrees in business, computing, design, engineering,

liberal arts and sciences. Its more than 47,000 undergraduate and graduate students represent 54 U.S. states and territories and more than 143 countries. They study at the main campus in Atlanta, at campuses in France and China, or through distance and online learning.

## Hudson, Hodges earn spots on Alabama's Dean's List

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. – A total of 13,103 students enrolled during Spring Semester at The University of Alabama earned a spot on the dean's list with an academic record of 3.5 (or greater) or the president's list with an academic record of 4.0. These driven students are making waves across UA's more than 70 undergraduate programs.

The UA dean's and president's lists recognize full-time undergraduate students. The lists do not apply to graduate students or undergraduate students who take less than a full course load.

Local students on the Dean's List were Lilly Hudson, Chloe Hodges and Hannah D'Olimpio of Fleming Island.

## Fleming's Rhodes on American International's Dean's List

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. – American International College student Jered Rhodes of Fleming Island earned Dean's List honors for the Spring semester.

Rhodes is majoring in Management.

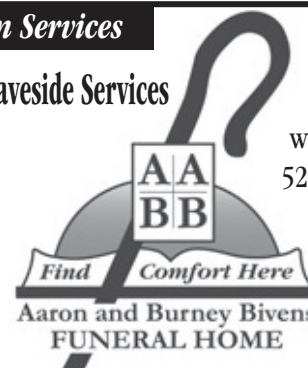
Dean's List honors are awarded to full-time students who have achieved a 3.3 to 4.0 GPA. Founded in 1885, American International College (AIC) is a private, co-educational, doctoral granting institution located in Springfield, Massachusetts, comprising the School of Business, Arts, and Sciences, the School of Education, and the School of Health Sciences.

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# BASCA's 30-year anniversary celebrates its 'forever homes'

By Jack Randall  
jack@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK — BASCA CEO Patrick Kennedy gave Clay Today a house tour of a property located on Old Jennings Road, the permanent home for seven with disabilities.

The home was spacious, clean and wheelchair accessible. The kitchen's sweeping granite countertop was wide enough to accommodate multiple people. "Too many cooks" is a figure of speech that does not apply in this home kitchen. Past the kitchen is the living room, shared bathrooms and eight bedrooms. Continue down the hallway, and you'll step out to the back porch, the outside table, and the backyard.

One of the individuals set out food and water for a community cat that has been wandering the neighborhood.

Each individual owns their bedroom. They fully own their space, as demonstrated by their unique ways of decorating. Family portraits, posters, books, TVs, toys and other belongings reflect the individuals who live there.

Kennedy said this is what makes BASCA stand out from other group homes, where residents share bedrooms and are typically assigned roommates.

"Having your room — that is our unique idea. And still today, we are still one of the very few organizations that provide that. We believe in it fully," Kennedy said during the house tour, describing each detail with the passion of a realtor from HGTV.

"It is not a transitional place. This is their 'forever home' — the phrase we coined. That is why we wanted to give them

their own room and space," Pat Bray said during an interview at the BASCA community center in Orange Park.

BASCA, which now stands for Building Abilities of Special Children and Adults, is celebrating its 30th anniversary. Bray was one of the original founding memories who got together with other parents in June 1994.

Bray's daughter, Shannon, graduated high school in the spring of 1994. She and other parents of recent children with special needs wanted to continue to enrich their children's lives.

"What would be the next steps of their life? That's how it started 30 years ago in Orange Park. The first meeting was at the Baptist Church on Kingsley (Avenue). We met there basically every Tuesday night. (There were) activities for young adults and a speaker who talked about issues," Bray said.

Bray shared how she and other parents — such as John and Linda Cone and Tony and Jo Knott — came together to create activities and environments for children with special needs.

"It progressed from there. We started going bowling," Bray said.

In 1995, a Saturday bowling event was started at Bowl America of Orange Park, led by Linda Cone. The event was later named "High Rollers," with an attendance of 170 weekly participants. The event continued until the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic. The Bowl America building was sold in 2022, but BASCA continues to bowl at other locations.

BASCA's first forever home was in Lake-



PHOTO BY ROBIN SNYDER

Six of the seven residents of the Old Jennings Road home lounge in their living room to pose for a photo.

side, and its doors were opened in 2001 for six women.

"That was the start of our great idea to support individuals forever. They came to live there because their parents were aging, and we wanted to support them and give them a home. That's why we call it their forever home. And we have four of them," Bray said.

"When we look back, 30 years is a big deal. And we have come a long way," she said.

Two forever homes are fully housed with eight residents, and two others have seven. Residents' families pay for room and board, which covers the cost of their rent, utilities, and food. Additionally, the state of Florida provides funding per resident. Each home has an attached staff office on site, and there are always personnel on duty.

During the day, residents from the four forever homes are transported to the BASCA Day Program at the community center in Orange Park, where individuals enjoy activities and cultivate life skills with an individualized support plan. Daily training includes coordination, sensory stimulation, physical exercise and group socialization. Training is conducted in a classroom environment and community field trips, the Pirate and Treasure Museum in St. Augustine being one of the favorites.

The BASCA community center is also the site of its thrift store, BASCA Bargain Boutique, which opened in 2016. It's full of hidden gems — furniture, clothing, knick-knacks, art, books and toys — and is always looking for more. For those interested in donating, visit [bascainc.org/boutique/](http://bascainc.org/boutique/). BASCA Bargain Boutique will transport donated or purchased furniture.

Bob and Marge Holliday are thankful their son, Michael, has been able to live at the Old Jennings Road forever home since 2005.

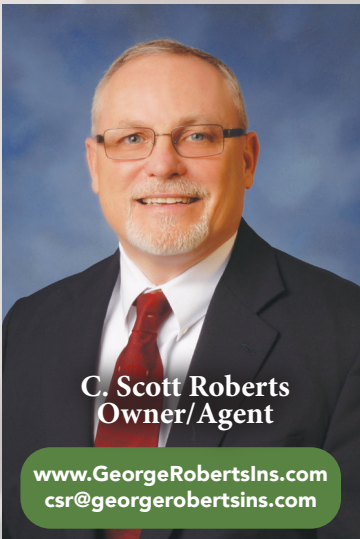
Michael loves the Jaguars and goes to EverBank Stadium to watch home games. He decorated the walls in his room with posters of his favorite team, and he had his own chair in the living room designated as "Michael's Chair."

"It is his home. He'll come back for Christmas or Thanksgiving weekend. By Sunday, he'll be packed up and ready to return to his home. That is a good feeling. He considers that his home, and he likes to see us every once in a while," Bob Holliday said.

BASCA invites the community to tour its facilities, volunteer for an event, and become a Friend of BASCA to help those with intellectual and developmental differences who call BASCA home. To contact and schedule a campus tour or to learn more, visit [bascainc.org](http://bascainc.org).




Bob and Marge Holliday's son, Michael, has left his personal touch on his room.




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# Complex

from page 1

“Those are among the best fields I’ve ever played on, and I’ve been playing Ultimate Frisbee since 2014,” said Sunshine State Game Director Eric Tumelty. “The quality of the grass, it’s all even. It’s all full-rooted grass. There are no patches of dirt. There are no weeds, no rough grass that cuts you up when you slide. I’ve played on Astroturf before, and if you dive or slide, it can slice up your whole arms or legs. So with this grass, I don’t think anyone had

any major cuts or bruises from sliding or diving.”

Roger King drove from Tampa and said fields were designed mainly for soccer. He said what struck him the most was, “Everything here is so very green. It’s aesthetically pleasing. These are great fields, and they look like they can be used for many different sports.”

The first of three phases is done. The county received \$3 million in legislative matching funds and another \$2.5 million in legislative appropriations to start the first of the \$7 million needed. The county broke ground on March 28, 2023, and opened



STAFF PHOTO BY DON COBLE

Out of town players raved on the pristine conditions at the Clay County Regional Sports Complex.

the complex on April 5. Eight days later, 97 teams competed in the Jaguars NFL Regional Flag Football Tournament.

Airstream Ventures, which books Clay County’s sports events, also has booked the Florida Prep Lacrosse Showcase, the United Flag Football League Championship and Spike the Ball Regional Championship. Airstream CEO Alan Verlander said he’s currently negotiating to bring two more Florida Lacrosse Showcases, seven-on-seven and five-on-five regional football championships, another United Flag Football League Championship, Collee Lacrosse Spring Break Round Robin, United Rugby Championship, High School and Middle School Cross Country Meets with more than 1,000 runners and Punt, Pass and Kick Championships.

“I’ve heard nothing but compliments,” said Kyle O’Conner of Oviedo. “You have plenty of space to hold lots of events. It’s one of the best complexes I’ve played at. The lines are clear. The grass is perfect.”

“Props to the grounds crew,” said Miami’s A.J.

Tumelty said the fields were worthy of world championship competitions.

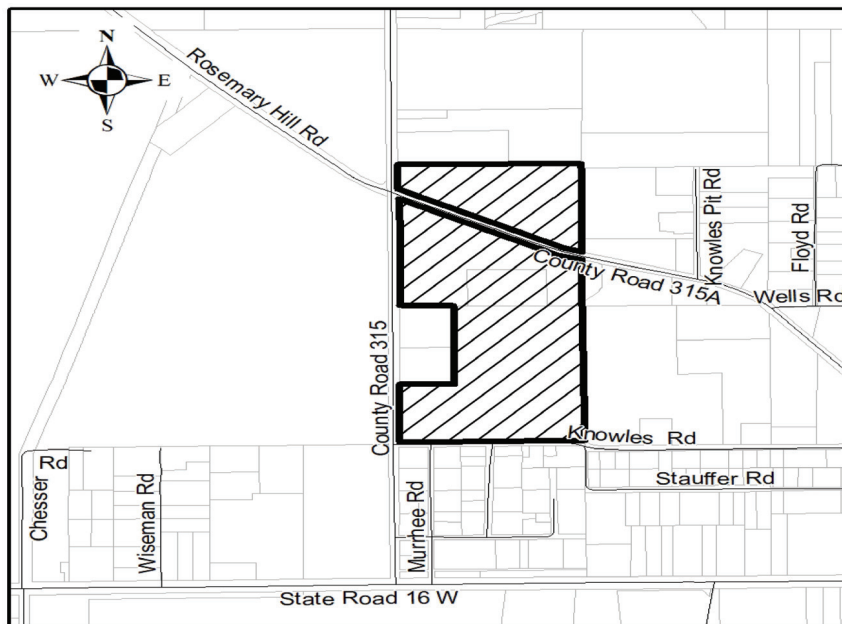
“All I heard was good things about the fields,” he said. “I know a lot of players didn’t interact with the staff, but the staff here was incredibly helpful, from making sure water (coolers) were full and ice (was available) to having a perfect lining of the field. Those lines were World Championship, National Championship caliber lines.”

Tumelty then said what taxpayers should want to hear most.

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE CLAY COUNTY 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Planning Commission of Clay County, Florida, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as can be heard and that the Board of County Commissioners of Clay County, Florida, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as can be heard. The hearings will be held in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, 4th Floor, Clay County Administration Building, 477 Houston St, Green Cove Springs, Florida. The public hearings are scheduled for the purpose of considering the adoption of a large-scale amendment to the Future Land Use Map of the Clay County 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The ordinance adopting the proposed amendment is entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CLAY COUNTY 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN INITIALLY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 163.3184, FLORIDA STATUTES, UNDER ORDINANCE NO. 2018-31, AS SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED, IN ORDER TO AMEND THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP TO CHANGE THE FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION OF FOUR PARCELS (TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION #s 08-06-26-015261-000-00, 08-06-26-015261-003-01, 08-06-26-015261-003-00, AND 08-06-26-015261-004-01), TOTALING APPROXIMATELY 72.1 ACRES, FROM RURAL RESIDENTIAL (RR) AND AGRICULTURE (AG) TO RURAL FRINGE (RF); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**



Interested parties may appear at the hearings and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance. After the public hearings the Board may take immediate action on the proposed ordinance, or may continue its deliberations to a date, time and place then announced without publishing further notice thereof. A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for inspection by the public at the Clay County 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.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, a person deciding to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the hearings or at any subsequent hearing to which the Board has continued its deliberations is advised that such person will need a record of all proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of all proceedings is made, which must include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

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).

Clay County Board of County Commissioners

Legal 112932 published June 20, 2024 in Clay County’s Clay Today newspaper.

### How to report a problem with a Clay Electric outdoor light

If you are aware of an inoperative or malfunctioning outdoor light on Clay Electric Cooperative’s lines, call 1-800-224-4917 to report the problem; login to MyClayElectric, click Submit an Inquiry, then Other Issues/General Inquiry, then Outdoor Light Problem; or email [contactus@clayelectric.com](mailto:contactus@clayelectric.com) to report the problem.

When reporting the problem, you will need to provide the following information so the co-op can make the appropriate repair, and contact you should there be any questions:

- (1) Specific street address where the outdoor light is located
- (2) A description of where the outdoor light is located on the property
- (3) A description of the nature of the malfunction or failure of illumination of the outdoor light
- (4) Sufficient contact information, including your name, address, telephone number, and account number (if a Clay Electric Cooperative member)



This ad is printed in compliance with Florida Statute 768.1382.

# Ridgeview's Raelynn Walker earns second JROTC Honor Platoon Award

ORANGE PARK — For the second consecutive year, Ridgeview High Navy Junior ROTC Cadet Lt. Cmdr. Raelynn Walker brought home the Honor Platoon award from Leadership Academy and the Basic Leadership Training Course.

On Saturday, June 15, NJROTC Areas 8, 9 and 10 held its annual Leadership Academy Graduation in Gainesville, Georgia, with 300 cadets from 84 high schools in the Southeastern region of the United States attending this intensive 7-day lead-

ership course.

Last year, Cadet Walker was one of four cadets chosen from Ridgeview to attend. This year, she returned as one of four female cadets from Area 10 to lead a platoon of 24 cadets. As Platoon Mentor, she motivat-



Raelynn Walker

ed and inspired her cadets to excel while actively serving as Company Commander for one of the four companies.

Because of her attention to detail and thorough preparation of her cadets, this outstanding young woman's platoon won every platoon award except one and was awarded the Honor Platoon.

During the Area NJROTC Basic Leadership Training Course last summer held at Camp Blanding, Walker's platoon also earned the Honor Platoon distinction. Next

month, she will return to Camp Blanding as the commanding officer of basic leadership training. She has proven herself to be a superb leader in all respects.

Walker was promoted to Cadet Lt. Cmdr. in May and was selected as the coming school year's Commanding Officer of Ridgeview's NJROTC Unit. She was also selected to attend the Naval Academy Summer Seminar and is on track to earn an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy and become a naval officer.

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The City of Green Cove Springs proposes to adopt the following Ordinances:

### ORDINANCE NO. O-16-2024

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA REZONING ±24.17 ACRES OF REAL PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED ON US HIGHWAY 17 S, IDENTIFIED AS TAX ID NUMBER 016579-000-00, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY EXHIBIT "A", FROM MUH, MIXED USE HIGHWAY TO C-2, COMMERCIAL HIGH INTENSITY; 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 Ordinances:

Planning & Zoning Board: Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 5:00 pm or shortly thereafter;  
 City Council: Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 7:00 pm or shortly thereafter;  
 City Council: Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at 7:00 pm 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, they 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 Florida Relay – Dial 7-1-1.

Said Ordinances are 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  
 Lyndie Knowles, Development Services Representative  
 321 Walnut Street  
 Green Cove Springs, FL 32043

Steve Kennedy, City Manager

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The City of Green Cove Springs proposes to adopt the following Ordinances:

### ORDINANCE NO. O-17-2024

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ROOKERY PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT TO ALLOW FOR DUPLEXES AS AN ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL PRODUCT TYPE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, 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 Ordinances:

Planning & Zoning Board: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter  
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Said Ordinances are 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  
 Lyndie Knowles, Development Services Representative  
 321 Walnut Street  
 Green Cove Springs, FL 32043  
 Steve Kennedy, City Manager

# Garden

from page 1

be in need.

Now known as Somer's Garden, the land acts as a food forest, cultivating fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs in a self-sustaining process. Thompson said it was made to be self-sustaining so it never had to be taken care of, but was always able to give to others.

In the garden, birds chirp as banana trees stand tall, corn stalks look to grow, and pears hang from their leafy homes. Additionally, Thompson said pomegranate trees, peach trees, fig trees, muscadines, and turkey tail mushrooms had found a place in the vast garden.

Thompson said this atmosphere is what she hoped would come out of the land.

"It's just more about it being a peaceful place for people to come and just enjoy



Retired teacher Geraldine Thompson, a LCCOP resident, provided some of the children's books to the Garden.

nature in all its splendor," Thompson said.

And, she said she can envision Somer being right there in it.

"Somer was so much like me. So much like me. Had this been here instead of the house with the monster in it, I think Somer probably would've skinned her knee in here a time or two. I could see her in here running around," Thompson said.

The property was given to the Somer Thompson Foundation in 2015. Thompson said her initial plan for the house was to pull out as much as possible and donate it to Habitat for Humanity. However, following advice from the Orange Park Fire Department, she decided to clear it out completely, and the department also used it as a training exercise. Following its removal, Thompson said many local businesses in the community helped to clean up the debris that remained.

Asking others what they thought should come from the space, Thompson said she had much input from her community. Eventually, deciding on a garden.

For Thompson, the garden has many purposes. People who are in need or just want to experience fresh local produce can pick fruits and vegetables in the garden.



Members of the Life Care Center of Orange Park helped plant trees, bushes and plants at Somer's Garden.

"If it can help someone so hungry because they haven't eaten, a homeless person, so be it," Thompson said. "We should be taking care of people and helping to combat the issues that we currently deal with."

Thompson said creating the garden was also a way for her to give back to the community that has constantly kept her going.

"If it weren't for my community, I wouldn't be who I am today. I truly believe that. They're what has held me up and given me the strength to be as strong as I can be," Thompson said.

But most of all, Thompson said her intention was to get rid of a bad place she and her children frequently saw every day. She said it afforded her the opportunity not to have to relive what happened there regularly.

"They continued going to school down the street for years. The twins were only in second grade when all of this happened," Thompson said. "And we own a house right around the corner."

Her sentiment was much reciprocated. Thompson said she was graced with words of gratitude when she got rid of the house. Especially from the neighbor who lived across the street from it.

On the day she burned the house down, Thompson said the older resident cried to her.

"She came over and cried and told me thank you," Thompson said. "It bothered her every day to look at this and be reminded that nobody could help save Somer that day."

In addition to sustenance, the garden provides an opportunity for reading. A little box full of books is in the garden, available for children and adults to choose from.

But Thompson said the community cannot only bring books to put in the box but also take the books with them, making it a free book library.

"I think this would be a great place to come, sit on the bench under the muscadines where there's a cool breeze, and you're in the shade and read a book," Thompson said. "And you got them right there, you don't even have to bring a book."

Thompson said the book library has also allowed personal notes from the community to be shared with her.

"People have left things in there. Sweet, little mementos for me and my family. Like a hand-drawn picture of the actual garden," Thompson said. "With the colors and everything."

Thompson said the garden has grown tremendously since it opened in 2016, and it has even become the first public food forest in Northeast Florida.

It was adopted by residents and staff at the Life Care Center of Orange Park in May. Robin Dake, the center's activity director, said that the nursing and rehab facility residents worked together to add donated soil and plants to the garden.

Dake said the facility hosted a Spring Fling for Somer event to learn more about food forests and obtain donations for the cause. The center also raffled off a garden basket to raise money.

For the future, Dake says that the center hopes to put out plant labels so people can read what all the plants in the garden are.

"I believe that is the whole goal because they were completely excited about what we wanted to bring and add to it. And that's their goal as well," Dake said. "They just want to bring goodness and happiness."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Somer's Garden is a perfect place for a child to pick a book and read.

**somertompsonfoundation.org**

The foundation is a nonprofit that helps families with abducted children.

To help, visit the website, [somertompsonfoundation.org](http://somertompsonfoundation.org).

All of the goodness and happiness in the garden stems from Thompson's desire to continue Somer's legacy.

Even with all the light it seeks to shine, sitting in the garden, Thompson said she can't help but feel sadness about what could've been.

"I wonder what she would look like... How tall would she be? What would she be into? Would she be going to college? Would she have a job? Would she have a boyfriend? Would she be married? God only knows."

Thompson said the garden also brings her happiness as she continues recognizing her daughter's story's impact on the community.

"I know that people still think about Somer. I know that people still recognize myself and my children when we're out in public," Thompson said. "I have to smile at that because they remember Somer."

Even with the outpouring of kind words from the public, Thompson said she wants others to understand that what she did was simply her motherly instincts. Even though it was painful, her voice had to be heard.

"To anybody who says wonderful things, again, gosh, thank you," Thompson said. "But, again, I'm just a mom. I'm just a mom who didn't know what else to do."

Thompson said that the years since have made her a better mother, daughter, neighbor and person. She looks at what happened and hopes for a better future for children like Somer.

"I hope that someday we can figure out what causes people to do these horrible things and eradicate that," Thompson said. "But, I know that's probably not going to ever happen."

It took Thompson years to obtain the property where her daughter's life tragically ended. What she would turn it into, she wasn't initially certain. But she knew one thing for sure.

"I think more than anything, Somer would've wanted the monster's house gone."

# County, Ascension St. Vincent's offering free school, sports physicals



Ascension St. Vincent's Community Outreach-Faith Community Nursing Manager is the "driving force" behind the free physicals program, according to the parks and recreation supervisor Paul Grybb.

By Kyla Woodard  
kyla@claytodayonline.com

MIDDLEBURG — Most of the hard work behind a championship is done during the offseason, including a sports physical.

That's why Clay County Parks and Recreation is partnering with Ascension St. Vincent's Clay on Saturday, June 22, to offer free physicals for children between 4 and 18 at Hunter-Douglas Park, 4227 Longmire Road.

"Ascension St. Vincent's really was the driving force for this," said Paul Grybb, Parks and Recreation Supervisor. "They are the ones that provide the nurses and the medical staff that come and conduct

CLAY TODAY ARCHIVES

School and sports physicals will be offered on Saturday between 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at Hunter-Douglas Park at 4227 Longmire Road in Middleburg.

the physicals at the end of the summer camp that we put on. We run the camp Monday through Friday, and then they open it up for the physicals on Saturday. It's something that's gone on for the last few years."

Physicals will be provided between 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

A parent or guardian must be with a child to get a free school or sports physical. If a child is getting a required sports physical, they must have their FHSAA form. The physical form is posted at fhsaa.com.

"A lot of high schools and junior highs have already started their summer conditioning for their fall athletics," Grybb said. "This helps those who might have a problem getting into a place with them having to pay for it."

Grybb said the physicals were made possible by Ascension St. Vincent's Community Outreach-Faith Community Nursing Manager Willie Roberts.

"The most important thing is to recognize Willie Roberts," Grybb said. "That's really the driving force behind making this happen. At the parks department, we provide the facilities and can help provide staffing and support. But this came about because of her outreach."

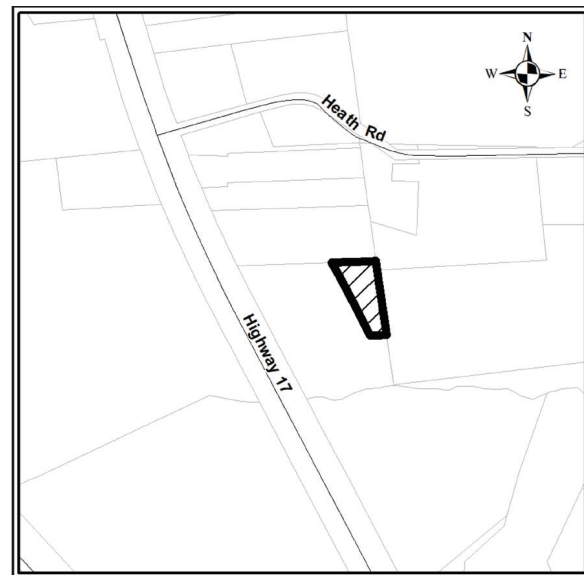
For questions, email parksandrecreation@claycountygov.com, or call (904) 284-6378.



## NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE CLAY COUNTY 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Planning Commission of Clay County, Florida, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, July 2, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as can be heard, and that the Board of County Commissioners of Clay County, Florida, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as can be heard. The hearings will be held in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, 4th Floor, Clay County Administration Building, 477 Houston St, Green Cove Springs, Florida. The public hearings are scheduled for the purpose of considering the adoption of a small-scale amendment to the Future Land Use Map of the Clay County 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The ordinance adopting the proposed amendment is entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CLAY COUNTY 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN INITIALLY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 163.3184, FLORIDA STATUTES, UNDER ORDINANCE NO. 2018-31, AS SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED, IN ORDER TO AMEND THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP TO CHANGE THE FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION OF A PORTION OF A SINGLE PARCEL (TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION # 39-05-26-015159-000-00), TOTALING APPROXIMATELY .63 OF AN ACRE, FROM RURAL FRINGE (RF) TO COMMERCIAL (COM); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**



Interested parties may appear at the hearings and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance. After the public hearings the Board may take immediate action on the proposed ordinance, or may continue its deliberations to a date, time and place then announced without publishing further notice thereof. A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for inspection by the public at the Clay County 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.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, a person deciding to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the hearings or at any subsequent hearing to which the Board has continued its deliberations is advised that such person will need a record of all proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of all proceedings is made, which must include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

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).

Clay County Board of County Commissioners

Legal 113355 published June 20, 2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper.

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# Leadership Clay tours Mid-Clay Wastewater Treatment Facility

For Clay Today

GREEN COVE SPRINGS—The Clay County Utility Authority was honored to take the Leadership Clay group on a tour of the Mid-Clay Wastewater Treatment Facility. The group toured the water filtration system and saw the biosolids created in the final process.

The Mid-Clay facility stores reclaimed water during wet periods for use during dry months and reduces nitrogen to the lower St. Johns River by more than 19,000 pounds a year. Its nine rapid infiltration basins allow the facility to handle more than two million gallons of reclaimed water daily.

“CCUA is proud to be able to share our facilities and explain our systems to the Leadership Clay group and other local groups. The facility tour is always an enlightening experience as many in the public are not aware of the extensive process it takes to ensure our community has water to use every day”, said CCUA’s Executive Director, Jeremy Johnston.



Leadership Clay are led on a tour of the Mid-Clay Wastewater Treatment Facility in Green Cove Springs.

At the Mid-Clay facility, reclaimed water is introduced into the cells, which percolates into the surficial aquifer at the highest elevations of the site, allowing water to be stored in the soils beneath the site. Subsurface movement of this water continues downhill, with a portion to be recaptured in a subsurface collection system. From there, the recaptured water is pumped to CCUA’s adjoining reclaimed water distribution system and used to augment the reclaimed water system.

The Leadership Clay program was created in 2004 to bring together community leaders for a year-long program that enriches their knowledge of the Clay County Utility Authority at 3176 Old Jennings Road in Middleburg. The classes have done county-wide tours focusing on local medical centers, manufacturing, and historical tours. To learn more about CCUA’s facilities and water processes, visit [clayutility.org](http://clayutility.org).



# Proposed business park still on hold in Green Cove Springs

By Don Coble  
[don@claytodayonline.com](mailto:don@claytodayonline.com)

The final reading of an ordinance that would allow for the development of nearly 112 acres on the southeast corner of U.S. Highway 17 and State Road 16 was taken off the City Council agenda Tuesday night to allow the developer and the city to get more answers on how the project would affect the city.

Owners HLM Investments and Louis L. Huntly Enterprises of Orange Park requested that the zoning be changed from mixed-use to industrial on Feb. 6. Council didn’t approve the first reading until its last meeting on June 4, but only with the stipulation that issues like land uses, site designs, buffering, and traffic studies, which are part of the city’s Future Land Use amendments, be addressed.

In Phase I of development, Huntley wants to turn the abandoned industrial building into 119,000 square feet of manufacturing space, 231,200 square feet of retail space, including one gas station with a convenience store, 264,000

square feet of warehouse space, 130,500 square feet of light industrial space and a train-delivery system.

The city asked the Florida Department of Transportation to conduct a basic study of how the project would impact traffic at the already busy intersection. The agency responded with information that was not favorable to Huntley.

It read: “FDOT has reviewed the transmitted City of Green Cove Springs 24-01ESR Comprehensive Plan Amendment pursuant to Section 163.3184(3), Florida Statutes. The proposal is anticipated to have significant adverse impacts on both US 17 and SR 16 near the project site. FDOT agrees with the City of Green Cove Springs staff condition of approval, requiring the completion of an Access Management Plan and Traffic Impact Analysis prior to the approval of a subsequent development order for the project.”

The City Council meets at City Hall on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

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FILM REVIEW

# 'Rights of a Father' highlights conversation of pro life/choice

By Jack Randall  
jack@claytodayonline.com

JACKSONVILLE — "Rights of a Father," a film featuring a fictional court case set in Clay County and filmed at the historic 1890 Clay County Courthouse, was premiered at the Ritz Theatre and Museum the evening of June 15, the night before Father's Day.

The film's premise: Raymond is overjoyed when he finds out his fiancé, Rose, is pregnant, but, learning that she is reconsidering the pregnancy, he sues her to carry the unborn baby to term to save his child's life. Raymond is played by Greg Blue and Rose is played by Darcy Stinnette.

"I am very excited. This is my very first premier for really my first role. This is a very surreal feeling," Blue said, during the red-carpet event before the film.

"It's going to be a really great night. I think people are going to leave satisfied, and it's going to prompt a lot of conversations. We're going to take you on a roller-coaster," Stinnette said.

An enthusiastic audience arrived for the film's premiere. Ticket holders were asked to wear a blue wristband to support Raymond or a pink wristband to support Rose. Actors, actresses and VIP ticketholders strutted down the red carpet to share their thoughts about the film, and which side they'd choose. One woman arrived wearing a bikini, her body glistening in gold body paint with the words "CHOICE" written above her navel — she wore a pink wristband on each hand.

Director Junior Ashwood stepped out onto the stage when the lights dimmed. He thanked everyone for coming and welcomed



STAFF PHOTOS BY JACK RANDALL

Ticketholders were asked, based on the movie's premise, which side they would support: Raymond or Rose.



From left, Director Junior Ashwood, Danielle Williams, Mike Trnka, George Smith, Felecia Blackshear and Dean Phillippi Sr.

the audience to watch with an open mind, regardless of which wristband was being worn.

"Enjoy, enjoy, enjoy this film," he said. "Rights of a Father" was able to portray the conflict impartially, which made each argument feel genuine, not preachy. Ash-

wood courageously took a stab at one of the nation's most polarizing issues — especially regarding the overturning of Roe v. Wade in June 2022 — by first putting it in personal terms, then putting it on "trial." The narrative builds up slowly to the courtroom battle to first establish the relationship be-

tween Raymond and Rose.

Ashwood was able to capture the small romantic gestures of domestic life, such as when Raymond tells an Uber driver, "She's not allowed to open doors," as he holds the car door open for her.

The theme of the "door" is interwoven throughout the film such as when Raymond slams the door as he shuts himself in the bathroom, and when Rose, unable to communicate with Raymond, confronts him at work. She is only granted entry after a man pushes the button that opens the door, symbolizing how women's voices are commonly shut out.

The cinematography was exceptional for a fully self-funded film, with many shots being a proud visual representation of the Jacksonville metropolitan area.

While the sound quality is ambivalent for some courtroom scenes due to the aged acoustics of the 1890 courthouse, Drake Wells, played by George Smith, and Jordan Moss, played by Julie Jones, were able to give commendable performances as they argued each side of the "case."

The characters felt real and also their points. The film's bombshell, unexpected ending left viewers stunned. The credits rolled and applause rumbled through the auditorium.

"He sold it," said one viewer regarding Raymond. "He had it," another added.

"They loved each other... but (Raymond) wanted to fight, so that put (Rose) in the position to do what she did."

The movie is slated for streaming services soon. For more information and for the full cast list, visit IMDb.

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# El Nino, B-Unit, Oasis win Sunshine State titles at Sports Complex



STAFF PHOTOS BY DON COBLE

Players said the Clay County Sports Complex was the best site for Ultimate Games they've seen since the sport was added to the Sunshine State Games schedule.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KIMBERLY MORGAN

Ultimate Frisbee is a mix of lacrosse, frisbee, football and soccer.

By Don Coble  
don@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Players from El Nino came from Fort Lauderdale and Miami, so they were accustomed to hot conditions, which paid off during the two-day Sunshine State Games Ultimate Championships at the Clay County Regional Sports Complex last weekend. The championship, which is a mix of lacrosse, soccer, football and frisbee without hitting or running with the disc, was won by the South Florida visitors, 7-6, against the Jacksonville Psy-

chedelics after a 75-minute time limit was reached. Eight teams were in the men's division, and five teams in the mixed championship. B-Unit from Gainesville and Oasis finished with 6-1 records in mixed, and since their only losses were against each other, they tied for the overall victory. One team "kicks off" to the other by throwing the disc to the far side of the field. The other team can advance the disc by completing throws without dropping it or having it intercepted while being defended. A player scores when he catches the disc in the endzone.




Championship game highlights: El Nino in white; Jacksonville's Psychedelic in purple.

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**CHAMBLESS**  
**SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS**

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# Night Ranger to appear Oct. 26 at Thrasher-Horne Center

**For Clay Today**

ORANGE PARK — Heavy-hitting rock legends Night Ranger recently released a live album titled “40 Years and a Night” with Contemporary Youth Orchestra. The historic collaboration with CYO marks the first time Night Ranger has performed with a live symphonic orchestra, providing a unique and soaring backdrop to signature classics such as “Sister Christian,” “(You Can Still) Rock In America,” and “Don’t Tell Me You Love Me” among many others. The live concert event was a two-part special for AXS TV in the fall of 2023. In addition to all this, Night Ranger is also on the road continuing the celebration of their landmark 40-year anniversary and will continue to tour across the country throughout 2024.

Fans can see much of that concert when Night Ranger appears at the Thrasher-Horne Center on Oct. 26 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which range from \$39 to \$80, with VIP packages ranging from \$214 to \$484, are available at the box office or at [thcenter.org](http://thcenter.org).

Having sold more than 17 million albums worldwide, performed across more than 4,000 stages, and captivated a radio audience exceeding 1 billion, Night Ranger has epitomized and transcended the arena rock sound and style well beyond that era. The band continues to grow its ever-evolv-

ing fan base, proving that powerful songs alongside incredibly talented musicians are the perfect formula for continued success.

Night Ranger has earned widespread recognition that includes both multi-platinum and gold album status, all while leaving their indelible mark on the music industry with a long list of best-selling albums (“Dawn Patrol,” “Midnight Madness,” “7 Wishes, Big” “Life” and “Man In Motion.”) Their popularity is fueled by an impressive number of instantly recognizable hit singles and signature album tracks. During the years, the band’s music has made notable contributions to and been featured in many different areas of global media and pop culture.

Night Ranger was one of MTV’s first big “video” bands, with more than 10 No. 1 hit videos. Their songs can be heard on TV shows like “The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt,” “American Dad,” “Glee,” “Grey’s Anatomy” and “Parks & Recreation.”

Most recently, the band’s classic hit “Sister Christian” was heard in a Dr. Pepper commercial.

Night Ranger is Jack Blades (bass and vocals), Kelly Keagy (drums and vocals), Brad Gillis (lead and rhythm guitars), Eric Levy (keyboards) and Keri Kelli (lead and rhythm guitars).



Night Ranger will appear at the Thrasher-Horne Center on Oct. 26 at 7:30 p.m.

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE CHANGE

*THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Planning Commission of Clay County, Florida, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as can be heard, and that the Board of County Commissioners of Clay County, Florida, will hold two public hearings, one on Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as can be heard, and one on Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as can be heard. The hearings will be held in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, 4th Floor, Clay County Administration Building, 477 Houston St, Green Cove Springs, Florida. The ordinance to be transmitted is entitled:*

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING ARTICLE III OF THE CLAY COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, BEING THE CODIFICATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 93-16, AS SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED, AND COMPRISING THE ZONING AND LAND USE PROVISIONS, BY AMENDING SECTION 3-5 TO ADD A NEW CONDITIONAL USE AS SUBSECTION (p) FOR CARWASH IN CONJUNCTION WITH A CONVENIENCE STORE THAT INCLUDES GAS PUMPS IN THE BRANAN FIELD COMMUNITY CENTER (BF CC) ZONING DISTRICT AND TO RENUMBER ALL SUBSEQUENT CONDITIONAL USES ACCORDINGLY; AND BY AMENDING SEC. 3-33A.III.3.b OF THE BRANAN FIELD LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO ADD A NEW CONDITIONAL USE AS SUBSECTION ix. FOR CARWASH IN CONJUNCTION WITH A CONVENIENCE STORE THAT INCLUDES GAS PUMPS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Interested parties may appear at the hearings and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance. After the public hearings the Board may take immediate action on the proposed ordinance, or may continue its deliberations to a date, time and place then announced without publishing further notice thereof. A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for inspection by the public at the Clay County 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.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, a person deciding to appeal any decision made by the Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter considered at the hearings or at any subsequent hearing to which the Board has continued its deliberations is advised that such person will need a record of all proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of all proceedings is made, which must include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

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).

Clay County Board of County Commissioners

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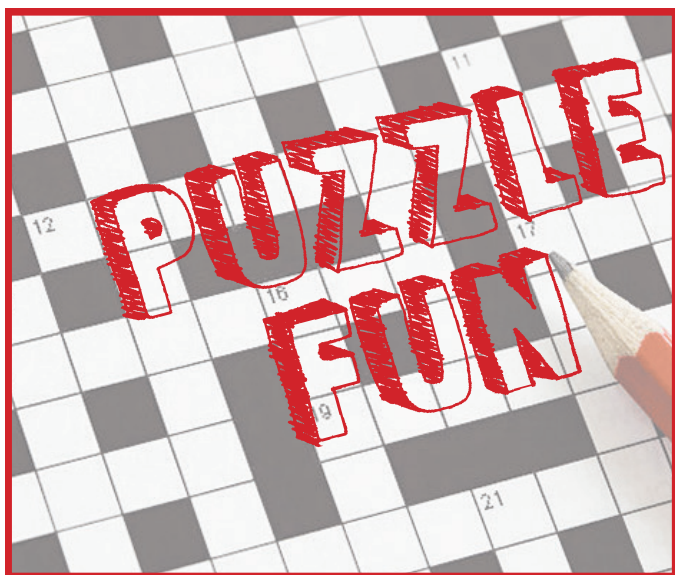
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Level: Advanced

### Rep. Aaron Bean: 'Schools are for education, not espionage'

For Clay Today

WASHINGTON, D.C. — To address the aggressive and systematic threats from foreign adversaries, Chairman of the Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee, U.S. Rep. Aaron Bean (FL-04) introduced H.R. 8649, the Transparency in Reporting of Adversarial Contributions to Education (TRACE) Act.



Aaron Bean

This legislation builds on the momentum of the Parents Bill of Rights Act to solidify the rights of parents to know how foreign funding is impacting their child's classroom and adds a layer of deterrence to keep foreign nations from reaching America's youth.

Bean, who represents all of Clay and Nassau counties and a portion of Duval, told Fox News, "American schools are for education, not espionage. We cannot allow our students—the future of our great nation — to be corrupted by foreign adversaries who are systematically and aggressively attempting to influence our nation's K-12 schools."

"Yet this is what happens when our institutions of learning accept the Trojan Horse of foreign funding. My bill aims to solidify the rights of parents to know how foreign influence may be impacting their child's classroom and deter the ability of foreign nations to reach America's youth."

Watch Congressman Bean's remarks at the House Committee on Education and the Workforce markup at [youtube.com/watch?v=kbojBIACMAk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbojBIACMAk).

☉ \* ☼ ☽ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓ ♀ ☼ ☽ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

## CRYPTO FUN

☼ ☽ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to grilling.  
Each number corresponds to a letter.  
(Hint: 24 = O)

**A. 12 11 26 10 10**

Clue: Outdoor cooking device

**B. 8 11 24 8 13 2 17**

Clue: Gas fuel

**C. 5 23 13 11 5 24 13 10**

Clue: Grill fuel option

**D. 5 24 24 4 26 2 12**

Clue: Preparing a meal

Answers: A. grill B. propane C. charcoal D. cooking

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to grilling.

**R B G R U E**

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

Answer: Burger

## Guess Who?

I am a singer/songwriter born in Alabama on June 20, 1949. I founded several R&B groups and also played tennis on scholarship. I co-wrote a song to help raise funds for famine in Africa. Today, I'm a judge on "American Idol."

Answer: Lionel Richie

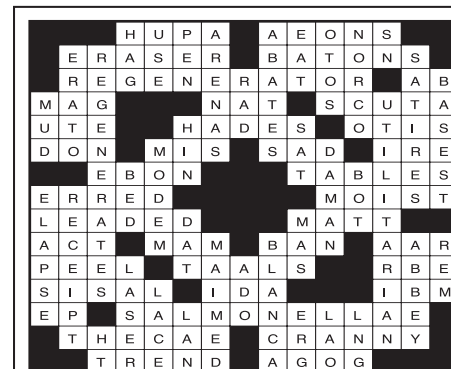
## GRILL & BBQ WORD SEARCH

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

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

### WORDS

- ACIDIC
- ASADO
- BARBECUE
- BARK
- BASTE
- BRINE
- BRISKET
- BURGERS
- CARRYOVER
- CHAR
- CHARCOAL
- CHIMNEY
- DRY-AGED
- FLAME
- FLAT
- FORK-TENDER
- GRILL
- HEAT
- LEAN
- MARINADE
- RIBS
- RUB
- SMOKE
- TEMPERATURE



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

# Guitars for Kids keeps rockin' at annual Juneboree

By Don Coble  
don@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Paul Wane thought there was no greater joy than seeing a smile on a child's face when he hands them an instrument as part of his Rising Stars: Guitars for Kids program. That was until he received a Father's Day card from one of his Rising Stars. "It made me cry," he said during last Saturday's Jupin' and Jivin' Juneboree at the Boogerville Hideout. The third annual event raised awareness and money to help him repurpose instruments to "inspire creativity and build unity across generations." Wane en-

visions "communities united by the magic of music, where individuals are provided platforms that showcase their talents and bring their dreams to reality." More than 300 instruments have been given to children in Northeast Florida. The June 15 event included music, games, prizes, face-painting, a reptile encounter, a bounce house, water slides, fireworks and more instrument giveaways, including a guitar for Caylin. Also, another band of Rising Star musicians, Groovin' Knights, made their debut. For more information on how to help the Guitars for Kids program, email PaulWaneMusic@gmail.com.



Groovin' Knights



Crowd at Boogerville Hideout.

STAFF PHOTOS BY DON COBLE



Rising Stars Directors Julie Myers and Lisa Wane. Paul Wane's Guitars for Kids presents Caylin with an acoustic guitar at Jupin' and Jivin' Juneboree.

## Orange Park Hospital launches interfacility transport services

For Clay Today

ORANGE PARK — HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital launched its interfacility transport services on Monday, June 17, at its Blessing of the Fleet. Team members and first responders gathered to recognize the valuable lives that will be transported in the ambulances due to this new service.



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ORANGE PARK HOSPITAL

The new interfacility transport service will supplement the work of our local first responders by allowing ALS-certified EMTs and paramedics to transport Orange Park Hospital patients between its hospital and freestanding emergency departments.

The hospital treats thousands of patients yearly at its Emergency Departments (more than 120,000 in 2023), with a large portion transported by agencies and organizations comprising the local EMS system. The new interfacility transport service will supplement the work of our local first responders by allowing ALS-certified EMTs and paramedics to transport Orange Park Hospital patients between its hospital and freestanding emergency departments.

"At HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital, we continue to look for ways to further improve our care delivery to the local community," says Jeff Taylor, Chief Executive Officer. "The new interfacility transport service will extend the reach of emergency services at our facilities and help our care teams provide timely, high-quality care to community members in their time of need."

Hospital has grown from a small-town community hospital to a large tertiary facility offering high-acuity specialized services. Currently, the hospital is working on:

- Expanding the capacity of its CARF-certified inpatient rehabilitation facility from 20 to 42 beds
- Increasing cardiovascular care capabilities
- Modernizing and expanding imaging assets and services by upgrading its magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machine and adding a scanner, purchasing two new computed tomography (CT) machines and opening two new fluoroscopy rooms

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## Faith Walk

by Pastor Billy Register  
True Life Church  
Clay County

### Life Without Limits

Our faith teaches us to live a life without limits, trusting in God's limitless power and potential for us. Ephesians 3:20-21 tells us that God "is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us." This means God's power is beyond our comprehension and capable of achieving the unimaginable in our lives.

Jesus assures us in John 14:12 that, "Whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these." This promise challenges us to break free from our limitations and expect great things through our faith in Him.

Romans 8:37 reads, "In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." This powerful statement encourages us to live victoriously, knowing that with God's help, we can overcome any challenge. We're not limited by our circumstances but empowered by His love and strength. John 10:10 further emphasizes the abundant life Jesus offers: "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." Jesus promises a life filled with abundance, joy, and purpose. By trusting in Him, we can experience life to its fullest potential.

Living without limits also involves embracing the possibilities that God places before us, even when they seem daunting or impossible. Philippians 4:13 reinforces this with the powerful reminder, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." This verse encourages us to step out in faith, knowing that Christ's strength is sufficient to carry us through any challenge or opportunity. By leaning into God's empowerment, we can boldly pursue our dreams and callings, confident that God's limitless power is at work within us. This mindset allows us to overcome obstacles and achieve far beyond what we could accomplish on our own. Living without limits means having faith in God's boundless power and allowing Him to work through us. It means expecting great things and not being confined by our own doubts or fears. Let's embrace this value, trusting that with God, all things are possible, and live a life that reflects His limitless love and power.

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

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## Community Briefs



### Health alert: Toxic blue-green algae at Doctors Lake

DOCTORS INLET — The Florida Department of Health Clay County issued a health alert for harmful blue-green algae toxins in Doctors Lake based on samples taken on June 11.

Water sample testing is underway. Blue-green algae have the potential to produce toxins. Since environmental conditions can change at any time, it is essential to exercise caution, even if the presence of toxins has not yet been confirmed.

Residents and visitors are advised to take the following precautions:

- You should not drink, swim, wade, water ski or engage in activities that may cause you to come in direct contact with waters where there is a visible bloom.
- Exercise caution when using personal watercraft or boating to avoid stirring up or contacting the algae or the affected water.
- Avoid getting affected water in your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Wash your skin and clothing with soap and water if you have contact with algae or discolored or smelly water.
- You should keep pets and livestock away from the waters in this location.
- Eating fillets from healthy fish caught in freshwater lakes experiencing blooms is safe. Rinse fish fillets with tap or bottled water, throw out the guts, and cook fish well.
- You should not eat shellfish from this location.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection and partners collect algae samples from reported bloom locations for toxin analysis. Once completed, the results will be posted on the DEP Algal Bloom Dashboard at [floridadep.gov/AlgalBloom](http://floridadep.gov/AlgalBloom), and can also be viewed on the Protecting Florida Together website at [protectingfloridatogether.gov/](http://protectingfloridatogether.gov/), where you can sign up to be notified of the latest conditions.

### SJR State College wants to hear from alums; offering new students five new courses

ORANGE PARK — Chances are that your friends, neighbors and countless local professionals are St. Johns River State College graduates. Many have forged ahead to become pillars of our community, from sheriffs, judges, legislators and healthcare professionals to teachers, coaches, and business and community leaders.

This summer, SJR State is kicking off its "like no other" campaign with opportunities to share your college experience — and it won't be the same without you. The college would love to hear what made former students' experiences at SJR State like no other. Did you love your professors? Did you discover your professional passion? Prepare for a great career? Find a community of friends? Get the support you need to succeed? Did you meet the love of your life on campus? Let us know, or pass this along to your favorite SJR State alum.

Access the college's web page and describe your SJR State experience — whether it was from 1960 or 2024. They'd love to share it on its website and/or social media.

Fall applications are open, including five new programs to begin in August:

- Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice, Applied Intelligence Studies
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Information Systems Technology
- Associate in Science in Computer Programming and Analysis
- Associate in Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography

### College offering fast-track pilot program this fall

ORANGE PARK — In partnership with Jax Beach Aviation, St. Johns River State College will launch a fast-track pilot program at the Jacksonville Executive at Craig Airport this fall to address the national pilot shortage.

The Professional Aeronautics Certificate is a 21-month accelerated program accredited by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and designed for career-focused students seeking a direct pathway to a career in professional aviation. The program is open to new and returning students, with additional enrollment opportunities for high school juniors and seniors through dual enrollment.



The PAC program offers a weekly classroom course at SJR State's Orange Park campus with flight training at Jax Beach Aviation. FAA certifications include private pilot, instrument rating, commercial pilot and flight instructor certifications (airplane). A typical week for a student will consist of 20 hours of training encompassing classroom study, flight training and after-class assignments.

Students will experience industry-leading training equipment, including the Cirrus SR20 Technologically Advanced Aircraft and simulation via Advanced Aviation Training Devices with Boeing's ForeFlight Electronic Flight Bag. Graduates can earn the required certificates and skills to build hours as flight instructors or in other commercial operations.

Christopher Johnson, PAC program architect and former Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University professor, will host online information sessions on June 24 and July 1. To register, visit, [jaxbeachaviation.com/sjr-state-college-flight-program/](http://jaxbeachaviation.com/sjr-state-college-flight-program/).

Classes begin in August. Admission requirements apply. Seating is limited.



### Camp Chowenwaw swimming pool open all summer

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Now that summer is here, the best way to escape the heat is to stay submerged in cool water.

The swimming pool at Camp Chowenwaw is open daily. The fee is nominal: \$3 for swimmers 16-64, \$2 for swimmers 2-15, seniors 65 and older \$2, and children 2 and younger are free.

In June, hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturdays, and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays. In July, hours expand on weekdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Camp Chowenwaw is at 1517 Ball Road.

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# CLAY TODAY ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

June 21 - 27, 2024



Jeremy Allen White stars in "The Bear"

One of the biggest dramedy hits of the '20s so far, **"The Bear,"** returns with its third season, streaming Thursday, June 27, on Hulu.



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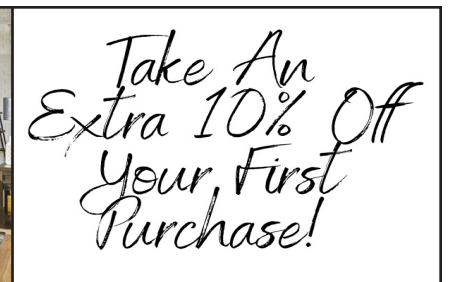
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“Hard Knocks: Offseason With the New York Giants” (HBO/Max — July 2, Series Premiere)

This brand-new iteration of the groundbreaking franchise brings viewers inside the New York Giants organization as the team prepares for their highly anticipated 100th season. Camera crews chronicle the team’s every move as general manager Joe Schoen and other members of the team’s front office and staff navigate the critical offseason period from January to July 2024, from the NFL Scouting Combine, to free agency, to the NFL Draft and team minicamps.

# A third helping: ‘The Bear’ returns with Michelin-star dreams



Ayo Edebiri stars in “The Bear”

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FOURTH OF JULY

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Yes, Chef! One of the biggest dramedy hits of the ‘20s so far, FX’s “The Bear,” returns with its highly anticipated third season, streaming Thursday, June 27, on Hulu, with all 10 episodes of the fresh new season served up at once on premiere day. The titular restaurant reopens as a fine dining establishment this season, and Carmen “Carmy” Berzatto (Jeremy Allen White, “Shameless”), Sydney Adamu (Ayo Edebiri, “Bottoms,” 2023) and Richie Jerimovich (Ebon Moss-Bachrach, “NO-S4A2”) are under a mountain of stress trying to make it all work.

Members of the main cast returning this season are Abby Elliott (“Odd Mom Out”) as co-owner of The Bear and Car-

my’s sister, Natalie “Sugar” Berzatto; Lionel Boyce (“Hap and Leonard”) as pastry chef Marcus Brooks; Liza Colon-Zayas (“IF,” 2024) as line cook Tina Marrero; and Matty Matheson (“It’s Suppertime!”) as The Bear’s handyman, Neil Fak. Other recurring cast members in the series are Oliver Platt (“Chicago Med”) as Berzatto family friend and investor in The Bear, Jimmy “Cicero” Kalinowski; Edwin Lee Gibson (“Winning Time: The Rise of the Lakers Dynasty”) as long-time line cook Ebraheim; and Molly Gordon (“Theater Camp,” 2023) as Carmy’s long-suffering girlfriend, Claire.

The heat is on for The Bear — formerly known as The Beef — to make its mark on Chicago’s culinary scene and start turning a profit, but last season’s finale left one very important member of the kitchen in the cold. Plagued by stress-induced panic attacks while the team prepared tirelessly for the grand opening, Carmy found himself locked in the walk-in fridge during the restaurant’s family and friends soft opening service. Trapped unintentionally in the frozen cell, Carmy faced everything that led him to leave the fridge door handle repair task unchecked on his to-do list.

The all-important fine dining kitchen education that the staff of The Beef gained before their restaurant became The Bear was put to use while Carmy was incapacitated. Richie, having spent some time working his way up from polishing

forks to understanding floor management and elite customer service in one of the Windy City’s finest restaurants, stepped up and called out orders while Sydney got her hands dirty on the line. In five crucial minutes, the team pulled it off and service returned to its normal chaotic pace.

In the official trailer for the upcoming season of “The Bear,” it’s all about non-negotiables. Carmy butts heads against everyone else, it seems, in his pursuit of perfection and a new dream of a Michelin star. While he contends with how he blew up his relationship with Claire from the fridge, Carmy sends Sydney a legally binding partnership agreement. For the restaurant! Everyone ups their culinary skills to meet Carmy’s ever-increasing standards, and Cicero and Sugar have a spat over money.

No one from the cast and crew of “The Bear” is talking details about Season 3, but in an interview with Gold Derby, Platt commended the Emmy-winning writing of the series, saying, “You don’t often see writing this muscular and efficient.”

About the outstanding success of the series, Platt said, “The most remarkable thing about ‘The Bear’ is that it, for all intents and purposes, came out of nowhere. Obviously, FX has really talented programmers. But honestly, if you asked them, I think they’d tell you they were shocked. I know they loved it, but there was no guarantee other people would.”

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# Game on: 'Outchef'd' Season 3 features some hot competition

Season 3 of "Outchef'd" promises some good, hearty gameplay, with new episodes airing every Thursday on Food Network.

Despite a winding career path — as he first found stardom through the NFL, playing for the Carolina Panthers, Miami Dolphins and the New England Patriots — Eddie Jackson ("Yum and Yummer") found his home on the Food Network, having shifted to focus on his passion for food after retiring from the NFL in 2009.

Jackson, who was taught to cook by his grandmother and his father while growing up in Texas, first joined the network back in 2015 as a contestant on "Food Network Star." Not only did Jackson win the season, but he charmed the judges and audiences watching from home with a bright and bold personality, making stomachs across the country grumble with his flavorful dishes.

Nearly a decade later, Jackson now finds himself hosting his own series, bringing his unique blend of talents to an all-new format of culinary competition in "Outchef'd." This series — which reached more than 10.1 million viewers last season alone — follows Jackson as he "gives talented home cooks the

surprise of their lives" (per Food Network) as they are asked to do battle against elite chefs, hoping to titillate the taste buds of visiting judges.

Throughout this third season, Jackson invites the likes of Rocco DiSpirito ("Rocco's Dinner Party"), Alex Guarnaschelli ("Ciao House"), Antonia Lofaso ("Beachside Brawl") and Michael Voltaggio ("Battle of the Brothers") to the kitchen — each a talented chef in their own right — and, in one episode, Jackson even joins the competition himself, entering a cook-off in an episode hosted by Ted Allen ("Chopped").

During this week's coming episode, airing Thursday, June 27, "Jackson challenges home cook Lydia Wexler to take on the renowned chef Michael Voltaggio in an intense salmon showdown," promises Food Network. "A panel of judges off the streets of New York City will determine if Lydia can outchef Michael and walk away with \$5,000."

Following episodes will watch as one hobby cook is surprised by "an epic poultry power play" against celebrity chef Antonia Lofaso, another is launched into a halibut



Eddie Jackson hosts "Outchef'd"

face-off against the world-famous Rocco DeSpirito, and a third is stunned by a seafood showdown against the one and only Alex Guarnaschelli in an epic "Outchef'd" finale.

Jackson knows a good game when he sees it and proves it in each and every episode of "Outchef'd," airing Thursdays on the Food Network.

## lifestyle

BY CAROLINE COLLACUTT

### Monetized mayhem: Beloved reality series 'The Mole' sees new host in redux Season 2

Keep your friends close and your money closer as Season 2 of "The Mole" premieres Friday, June 28, on Netflix.

With a storied history, "The Mole" first appeared on American television as an early aughts broadcast hit, hosted by CNN's Anderson Cooper for five seasons, from 2001-2008. Based on the unscripted Belgian series "De Mol" — which was created by Bart De Pauw ("The Loft," 2014), Michel Vanhove ("Schalkse ruiters"), Michiel Devlieger ("Van Vlees en Bloed") and Tom Lenaerts ("Two Summers," 2022) — Cooper's iteration left crowds hungry for more, with the eagerness of fans leading to the show's revival after a 14-year hiatus, making its "re-debut" on Netflix in 2022.

With the first season of this modern iteration hosted by MSNBC anchor Alex Wagner ("Now with Alex Wagner"), the series now returns for a second year, this time led by award-winning journalist

Ari Shapiro (host of NPR'S "All Things Considered"), with both newsworthy hosts bringing the same edge to this tricky competition as their predecessors.

"Each week," explains Netflix, Shapiro watches on as "the contestants [work] together on a series of missions testing their skills and endurance — be it breaking out of a locked prison cell or searching for sunken treasure — to add money to a collective prize pot.

"But within the cast lies a saboteur," they continue, "aka the Mole, who's secretly been tasked by the show's producers to undermine the players' efforts and keep the earnings as low as possible, all while staying under the radar and above suspicion."

Twelve contestants (including the season's "mole") enter the game, each coming from vastly different walks of life. Their goal is to earn the life-changing sum of money promised in the jackpot, sniff out the mole and avoid elimination from



Ari Shapiro hosts "The Mole"

the game. Anyone who completes the challenge will be added to the historic, decades-spanning list of past winners — but only if they're bright enough to outwit the Mole once and for all.

Contestants for Season 2 are Andy, a forensic accountant; Deanna, a web sleuth; Hannah, a marketing consultant; Jennifer, a program analyst; Melissa, a

poker player; Michael, a parking manager; Muna, a software engineer; Ness, a marketer; Ryan, a volleyball coach; Sean, a stay-at-home dad and retired undercover cop; Tony, a VIP host; and Quaylyn, a bus driver.

Get caught up in the games and deception when Season 2 of "The Mole" premieres Friday, June 28, on Netflix.

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## HORSE RACING

### SATURDAY

9 a.m. **WTLV (12.1) Horse Racing Royal Ascot.** From Ascot Racecourse in Berkshire, England. (Live)

### THURSDAY

4:30 p.m. **FS1 Horse Racing America's Day at the Races.** The best racehorses square off in the premiere races from across the country. (Live)

## MOTORCYCLE RACING

### SATURDAY

11 a.m. **FS1 Motorcycle Racing Motoamerica King of the Baggers Rewind: Brainerd International Raceway.** Coverage of motorcycle racing action from around the world.

## OLYMPICS

### FRIDAY

5:30 p.m. **USA U.S. Olympic Trials Swimming, Qualifying Heats.** From Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

6:30 p.m. **USA U.S. Olympic Trials Track and Field.** From Hayward Field in Eugene, Ore. (Live)

8 p.m. **WTLV (12.1) U.S. Olympic Trials Swimming.** From Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. (Live)

9 p.m. **WTLV (12.1) U.S. Olympic Trials Track and Field.** From Hayward Field in Eugene, Ore. (Live)

### SATURDAY

1 p.m. **WTLV (12.1) U.S. Olympic Trials Diving.** From Allan Jones Aquatic Center in Knoxville, Tenn. (Live)

6:30 p.m. **USA U.S. Olympic Trials Swimming, Qualifying Heats.** From Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

7 p.m. **WTLV (12.1) U.S. Olympic Trials Diving.** From Allan Jones Aquatic Center in Knoxville, Tenn. (Live)

8 p.m. **WTLV (12.1) U.S. Olympic Trials Swimming.** From Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. (Live)

9 p.m. **WTLV (12.1) U.S. Olympic Trials Track and Field.** From Hayward Field in Eugene, Ore. (Live)

### SUNDAY

2 p.m. **WTLV (12.1) U.S. Olympic Trials Diving.** From Allan Jones Aquatic Center in Knoxville, Tenn. (Live)

7 p.m. **WTLV (12.1) U.S. Olympic Trials Diving.** From Allan Jones Aquatic Center in Knoxville, Tenn. (Live)

8 p.m. **WTLV (12.1) U.S. Olympic Trials Swimming.** Athletes compete for spots on the U.S. Olympic team in a variety of sports. (Live)

8:30 p.m. **WTLV (12.1) U.S. Olympic Trials Track and Field.** From Hayward Field in Eugene, Ore. (Live)

### MONDAY

8 p.m. **WTLV (12.1) U.S. Olympic Trials Track and Field.** From Hayward Field in Eugene, Ore. (Live)

### THURSDAY

6:30 p.m. **USA U.S. Olympic Trials Men's Gymnastics.** From the Target Center in Minneapolis. (Live)

8 p.m. **WTLV (12.1) U.S. Olympic Trials Track and Field.** From Hayward Field in Eugene, Ore. (Live)

9 p.m. **USA U.S. Olympic Trials Track and Field.** From Hayward Field in Eugene, Ore.

## RACKET SPORTS

### WEDNESDAY

8 p.m. **ESPN2 PPA Tour Pickleball Orange County Cup.** From Life Time Rancho San Clemente in San Clemente, Calif. (Live)

## SOCCER

### FRIDAY

12 p.m. **FS1 2024 UEFA European Championship Poland vs. Austria.** Poland takes on Austria at Olympiastadion in Berlin in Group D of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

3 p.m. **WFOX (30.1) 2024 UEFA European Championship Netherlands vs. France.** Netherlands is up against France in Leipzig in Group D of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

8 p.m. **FS1 2024 Copa America Peru vs. Chile.** Group A. (Live)

10 p.m. **FS1 2024 UEFA European Championship Netherlands vs. France.** Netherlands is up against France in Leipzig in Group D of the 2024 European Championships.

### SATURDAY

12 p.m. **WFOX (30.1) 2024 UEFA European Championship Türkiye vs. Portugal.** Türkiye is up against Portugal in Dortmund in Group F of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

3 p.m. **WFOX (30.1) 2024 UEFA European Championship Belgium vs. Romania.** Belgium is up against Romania in Cologne in Group E of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

6 p.m. **ESPN2 USL Championship Soccer Oakland Roots SC at Monterey Bay FC.** From Cardinale Stadium in Seaside, Calif. (Live)

6 p.m. **FS1 2024 Copa America Ecuador vs. Venezuela.** Group B. (Live)

7:30 p.m. **WPXC (21.1) NWSL Soccer San Diego Wave FC at Houston Dash.** From Shell Energy Stadium in Houston. (Live)

9 p.m. **FS1 2024 Copa America Mexico vs. Jamaica.** Group B. (Live)

10 p.m. **WPXC (21.1) NWSL Soccer Angel City FC at Bay FC.** From PayPal Park in San Jose, Calif. (Live)

10:30 p.m. **ESPN2 USL Championship Soccer Charleston Battery at Phoenix Rising FC.** From Phoenix Rising Soccer Stadium in Phoenix. (Live)

11 p.m. **FS1 2024 UEFA European Championship Türkiye vs. Portugal.** Türkiye is up against Portugal in Dortmund in Group F of the 2024 European Championships.

### SUNDAY

8 a.m. **FS1 2024 UEFA European Championship Belgium vs. Romania.** Belgium is up against Romania in Cologne in Group E of the 2024 European Championships.

10 a.m. **FS1 2024 Copa America Mexico vs. Jamaica.** Group B.

1:30 p.m. **ESPN NWSL Soccer Washington Spirit at NJ/NY Gotham FC.** From Red Bull Arena in Harrison, N.J. (Live)

3 p.m. **FS1 2024 UEFA European Championship Scotland vs. Hungary.** Scotland is up against Hungary in Stuttgart in Group A of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

**WFOX (30.1) 2024 UEFA European Championship Switzerland vs. Germany.** Switzerland contests Germany in Frankfurt am Main in Group A of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

6 p.m. **WFOX (30.1) 2024 Copa America United States vs. Bolivia.** Group C. (Live)

9 p.m. **WFOX (30.1) 2024 Copa America Uruguay vs. Panama.** Group C. (Live)

11 p.m. **FS1 2024 Copa America United States vs. Bolivia.** Group C.

### MONDAY

3 p.m. **FS1 2024 UEFA European Championship Albania vs. Spain.** Albania is up against Spain in Düsseldorf in Group B of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

6 p.m. **WFOX (30.1) 2024 UEFA European Championship Croatia vs. Italy.** Croatia is up against Italy in Leipzig in Group B of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

9 p.m. **FS1 2024 Copa America Colombia vs. Paraguay.** Group D. (Live)

9 p.m. **FS1 2024 Copa America Brazil vs. Costa Rica.** Group D. (Live)

11 p.m. **FS1 2024 UEFA European Championship Croatia vs. Italy.** Croatia is up against Italy in Leipzig in Group B of the 2024 European Championships.

### TUESDAY

12 p.m. **FS1 2024 UEFA European Championship Netherlands vs. Austria.** Netherlands is up against Austria in Berlin in Group D of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

6 p.m. **WFOX (30.1) 2024 UEFA European Championship France vs. Poland.** France is up against Poland in Dortmund in Group D of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

3 p.m. **FS1 2024 UEFA European Championship Denmark vs. Serbia.** Denmark is up against Serbia in Munich in Group C of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

6 p.m. **WFOX (30.1) 2024 UEFA European Championship England vs. Slovenia.** England is up against Slovenia in Cologne in Group C of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

9 p.m. **FS1 2024 Copa America Chile vs. Argentina.** Group A. (Live)

11 p.m. **FS1 2024 UEFA European Championship England vs. Slovenia.** England is up against Slovenia in Cologne in Group C of the 2024 European Championships.

### WEDNESDAY

12 p.m. **FS1 2024 UEFA European Championship Slovakia vs. Romania.** Slovakia is up against Romania in Frankfurt am Main in Group E of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

6 p.m. **WFOX (30.1) 2024 UEFA European Championship Ukraine vs. Belgium.** Ukraine is up against Belgium in Stuttgart in Group E of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

3 p.m. **FS1 2024 UEFA European Championship Czechia vs. Türkiye.** Czechia is up against Türkiye in Hamburg in Group F of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

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**WFOX (30.1) 2024 UEFA European Championship Georgia vs. Portugal.** Georgia is up against Portugal in Gelsenkirchen in Group F of the 2024 European Championships. (Live)

6 p.m. **FS1 2024 Copa America Ecuador vs. Jamaica.** Group B. (Live)

9 p.m. **FS1 2024 Copa America Venezuela vs. Mexico.** Group B. (Live)

11 p.m. **FS1 2024 UEFA European Championship Georgia vs. Portugal.** Georgia is up against Portugal in Gelsenkirchen in Group F of the 2024 European Championships.

### THURSDAY

6 p.m. **WFOX (30.1) 2024 Copa America Panama vs. United States.** Group C. (Live)

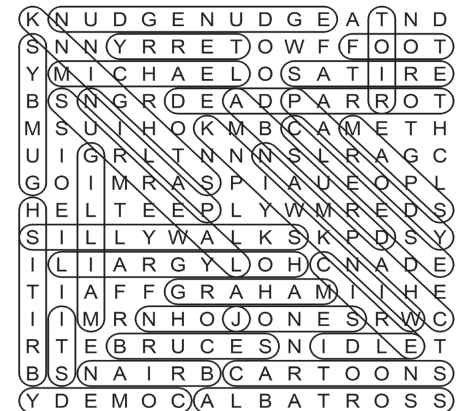
11 p.m. **FS1 2024 Copa America Panama vs. United States.** Group C.

## WATER SPORTS

### SUNDAY

9 p.m. **ESPN2 Surfing WSL: Tahiti Pro.** All the action from the world of surfing.

Word Search Solution  
Puzzle on Page 7



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# infocus

## “Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F” (Netflix — July 3, Movie Premiere)

Detective Axel Foley (Eddie Murphy) is back on the beat in Beverly Hills. After his daughter’s life is threatened, she (Taylour Paige) and Foley team up with a new partner (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) and old pals Billy Rosewood (Judge Reinhold) and John Taggart (John Ashton) to turn up the heat and uncover a conspiracy. Paul Reiser, Bronson Pinchot and Kevin Bacon also star.



## “The Real Bros of Simi Valley: High School Reunion” (Roku — July 5, Movie Premiere)

With their 10-year high school reunion around the corner, Xander (Jimmy Tatro) and his squad embark on a journey to become the dopest versions of themselves in time to flex on all of their old classmates. Starring Nick Colletti, Tanner Petulla, Cody Ko, Peter Gilroy, Colleen Donovan, Madeline Whitby, Monica Joy Sherer, Monette Moio, Christian Pierce, Tony Hawk, Shaun White, Zoey Deutch, Tyler Posey, Retta, Tre Hale and Rob Riggle.



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I L I A R G Y L O H C N A D E  
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## weblinks

From the mind of comedian Julio Torres, this brand-new comedy series follows a fictionalized version of Julio himself as he continues to search the streets of New York City for his prized golden oyster earring. Along the way, Julio’s journey grows increasingly surreal, leading him to face an oddball cast of characters, an over-saturated reality and a demanding new sense of purpose. Season 1 of “Fantasmas” continues with a new episode, airing Friday, June 28, on HBO. For the series’ official trailer, visit [youtube.com/watch?v=0Hy1q\\_YIAL4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Hy1q_YIAL4)

## Monty Python

ABSURD	COMEDY	IDLE	PARODY
ALBATROSS	DEAD PARROT	ITS	RIOT
BRIAN	ERIC	JOHN	SATIRE
BRITISH	FOOT	JONES	SILLY WALKS
BRUCES	GILLIAM	KNIGHTS	SPAM
CARTOONS	GRAHAM	MICHAEL	SURREAL
CHAPMAN	GUMBYS	NUDGE NUDGE	TERRY
CLEESE	HOLY GRAIL	PALIN	WINK WINK

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Solution on page 5



Ayo Edebiri stars in “The Bear”

## triviaquiz

## ‘Bear’ in mind

BY STAFF WRITERS

### Questions:

- Name the institute where sous chef Sydney (Ayo Edebiri) received her culinary training in the TV series “The Bear.”
- What dreaded health rating did the restaurant earn in Season 1?
- Who guest-starred as Carmy’s (Jeremy Allen White) mother in Season 2?
- Which city did Marcus (Lionel Boyce) travel to in Season 2 in order to train under a world-class pastry chef?
- Ebon Moss-Bachrach, who plays Richie, and Jon Bernthal, who plays Mikey, previously starred together in a different project — name the film.
- Name the actor who has guest-starred as Carmy’s tyrannical former boss in New York.
- Who was (accidentally) stabbed in a tense Season 1 episode that was shot in a single take?
- Which three numbers are tattooed on Carmy’s bicep?
- Which cast member is actually a professional chef, cookbook author and restaurateur in real life?
- True or false: The series is shot at an actual restaurant.

- Culinary Institute of America
- 2
- Jamie Lee Curtis
- Copenhagen
- “The Punisher”
- Joel McHale
- Richie
- 773 (Chicago area code)
- Matty Matheson (who plays handyman Neil Fak)
- False

Answers:



**Across**

- 1. Yukon maker, for short
- 4. Head-and-shoulders above
- 8. Apr. hiree
- 11. Part of R.P.M.
- 12. Woodwind
- 13. "Notorious" (1946) setting
- 14. Time when a lot of feature stories are run
- 17. The Bears, on scoreboards
- 18. "\_\_\_ Lasso"
- 19. As well
- 21. Spreadsheet lines
- 24. Fro's antonym.
- 25. "Greetings"
- 26. "\_\_\_ Golden Pond" (1981)

- 27. Toward
- 28. No more than
- 30. Feedbag filler
- 32. Sack
- 34. Unstinting amount
- 35. Commonplace
- 41. "Good Will Hunting" (1997) setting
- 42. Bowling alley
- 43. \_\_\_ Tse-tung
- 44. Poehler of "Parks and Recreation"
- 45. Put in the hold
- 46. Have title to

**Down**

- 1. Certain Drs.
- 2. Diner owner in TV's "Alice"

- 3. Swamp swimmers
- 4. "The Bluest Eye" author Morrison
- 5. Actor Vigoda
- 6. Below the belt
- 7. For fear that
- 8. Words to live by
- 9. Bake-off entry
- 10. Hunky-dory
- 15. Question from behind a counter
- 16. Hairy man-monster
- 19. Mote of matter
- 20. Single
- 22. "\_\_\_ Price Glory?" (1952)
- 23. Convenes
- 29. Dilapidated
- 31. Where Bowie fell
- 33. Fish dish
- 34. Some
- 35. Ultimate fighting sport, for short
- 36. Sight
- 37. Hair pad
- 38. Lennon's wife
- 39. Bird call
- 40. Whole lot

Solution:  
Taylor Swift



From struggling to breathe on the exhaust-filled streets of The Motor City, to belting it out on stages across the globe, Alice Cooper earned his name as one of the most recognizable characters in the history of rock music. Next delving into the legendary career of this glam rocker — who rose to fame in 1971 with his hit single, "I'm Eighteen" — "Biography" continues with an all-new episode, airing Sunday, June 23, on A&E. For more specials from the series, check out [aetv.com/biography](http://aetv.com/biography)

One of the most celebrated films to debut at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival, Elaine McMillion Sheldon's "King Coal" captures the life of a coal miner's daughter living in Appalachia, utilizing stunning cinematography and flowing prose to bring the young woman's story to life. Kicking off the 37th season of "POV," Sheldon's film debuts Monday, June 24, on PBS. More breath-taking features from the groundbreaking "POV" documentary series are available to stream online, at [pbs.org/pov/](http://pbs.org/pov/)

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weblinks

The (not so) old adage remains true: don't believe everything you read on the internet. After meeting online, Ayla experienced an instant connection with Gabby, with the two of them bonding over their shared sickle-cell struggles. Now a year into their relationship, Gabby still refuses to meet or video chat, and Nev and Kamie worry things might not be as they appear. A brand-new episode of "Catfish: The TV Show" premieres Tuesday, June 25, on MTV, clearing things up once and for all for Ayla. Visit [mtv.com/shows/catfish-the-tv-show](http://mtv.com/shows/catfish-the-tv-show)

Being opportunistic is going to come in handy for these professional basketball teams, when the best and the brightest prospects from across the NBA (potentially including Bronny James, Alex Sarr and Reed Sheppard) are selected in the season's First Round draft, airing live from the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, N.Y., this Wednesday, June 26, on ESPN. For live updates from the event, NBA fanatics can rely on ESPN's Draftcast, found at [espn.com/nba/draft/live](http://espn.com/nba/draft/live)

There is no doubt that this year, the road to the White House will be paved on new ground. As November approaches, hear presidential candidates Joe Biden and Donald Trump speak publicly on matters important to American voters, from the economy, to immigration, to ongoing global events. The world watches on as the first official Presidential Debate for the 2024 election takes place Thursday, June 27, on CNN. More details on the event (including a history of past debates) can be found at [cnn.com/2024/05/15/politics/joe-biden-debate/index.html](http://cnn.com/2024/05/15/politics/joe-biden-debate/index.html)

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## SUDOKU

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

To complete this puzzle, place the numbers 1-9 in the empty cells, so that every row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold outline) contains all nine digits.

Each number 1-9 may appear only once in each row, column and 3-by-3 box.

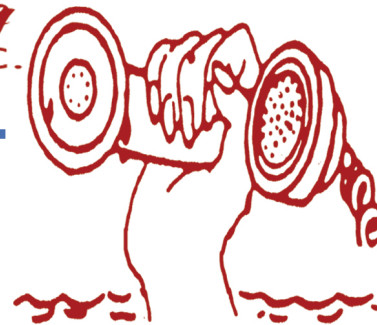
Solution on page 4

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## celebrityfacts

### Patton Oswalt of "The 1% Club" on Fox and Prime Video:

His first television acting role was in a Season 6 episode of "Seinfeld," in which he played a clerk at a video rental store.

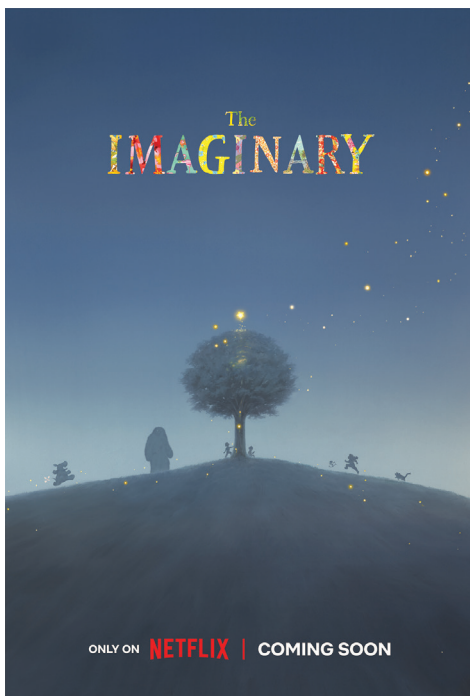


## infocus

### The IMAGINARY

"The Imaginary" (Netflix — July 5, Movie Premiere)

This Japanese animated film from Studio Ponoc portrays the depths of humanity and creativity through the eyes of young Amanda and her imaginary companion, Rudger. Their fantastical adventures, launched from her attic, lead them to discover a magical world of creatures and places never before seen. But, a sinister force threatens to destroy their imaginary world and the friendship within it.



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# celebrityfacts

## Michael Chiklis of "Hotel Cocaine" on MGM+:

Before he transformed his image to play tough police detective Vic Mackey (and win a Primetime Emmy Award) in the drama series "The Shield," he played a much more cuddly family man in the sitcom "Daddio."



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## WORD SEARCH

Solution on page 16

In the grid below, twenty answers can be found that fit the category for today. Circle each answer that you find and list it in the space provided at the right of the grid. Answers can be found in all directions—forward, backward, horizontally, vertically and diagonally. An example is given to get you started. Can you find the twenty answers in today's puzzle?

### Today's Category: Vice Presidents

K	Y	E	R	H	P	M	U	H	E	I	L	1.	Agnew
S	I	R	R	A	H	E	R	L	C	L	R	2.	_____
I	W	N	U	O	H	L	A	C	A	Z	E	3.	_____
T	D	P	B	O	G	D	G	W	L	Z	L	4.	_____
R	Y	T	B	A	N	Y	N	E	L	M	L	5.	_____
U	R	A	R	O	R	R	E	U	A	A	E	6.	_____
C	R	N	M	C	X	K	W	N	W	R	F	7.	_____
T	E	L	Y	A	U	Q	L	R	E	S	E	8.	_____
R	G	C	F	C	Q	J	W	E	W	H	K	9.	_____
Q	S	L	N	L	F	L	D	K	Y	A	C	10.	_____
W	O	W	S	E	W	A	D	A	D	L	O	11.	_____
C	M	O	V	Y	P	U	T	I	T	L	R	12.	_____
												13.	_____
												14.	_____
												15.	_____
												16.	_____
												17.	_____
												18.	_____
												19.	_____
												20.	_____



## Betsy Brandt, seen recently in "The Bad Orphan" on Lifetime:

After her acclaimed work in the drama series "Breaking Bad," she played the wife of the title star in the sitcom "The Michael J. Fox Show," then was featured in the comedy show "Life in Pieces."



## Andrew McCarthy of "Brats" on Hulu:

Though he has continued acting, he also has pursued directing, having guided episodes of such series as "Orange Is the New Black" and "The Blacklist" (as well as the documentary "Brats").

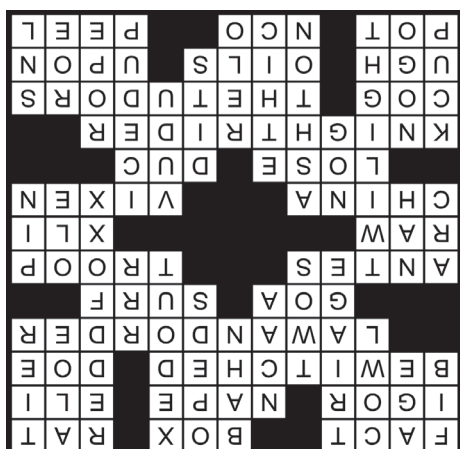
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### Crossword Solution Puzzle on Page 11



### Bingo Solution Puzzle on Page 16

### Bingo — Solution

	C	A	M	P	S
Disney Princesses	Cinderella	Ariel/Aurora	Mulan/Moana	Pocahontas	Snow White
Soda	Coca-Cola	A&W	Mountain Dew	Pepsi	Sprite
Things in a basement	Cabinets/Christmas decorations	Air purifier	Mop	Plant pots	Shelves/Sporting equipment
Parts of a computer	CPU	Audio card	Memory	Printer	Software
Seas	Caribbean/Caspian	Arabian/Adriatic/Aegean	Mediterranean	Persian	South China/Sargasso

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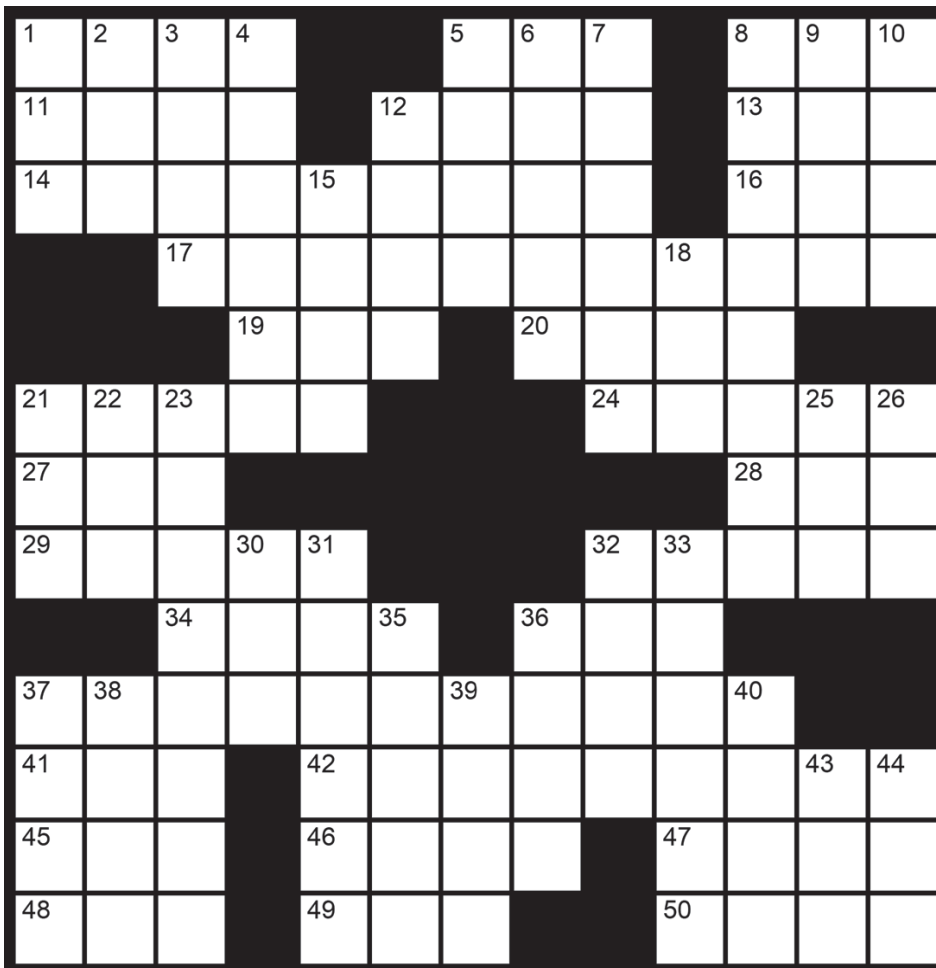
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MKT-58940-A AECSPAD

**gametime**  
**crossword fun**

Solution on page 10



**Across**

- 1. "MythBusters" topic, perhaps
- 5. The "B" in "HBO"
- 8. Splinter is one in "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles"
- 11. "Young Frankenstein" (1974) lab assistant
- 12. Scruff
- 13. One of the Mannings on "Manningcast"

- 14. Sitcom whose lead character is Samantha Stephens
- 16. Meadow mom
- 17. Sam Waterston series
- 19. \_\_\_ few rounds
- 20. Turf's partner
- 21. Chips in?
- 24. "F \_\_\_"
- 27. "WWE \_\_\_"
- 28. First Super Bowl coached by two African American coaches
- 29. "\_\_\_ Beach"
- 32. Temptress
- 34. Shake
- 36. French nobleman
- 37. KITT's show
- 41. Minor player
- 42. Jonathan Rhys Meyers historical series
- 45. "That's disgusting!"
- 46. Perfume ingredients
- 47. Versed in
- 48. Put a lid on it
- 49. Army fig.
- 50. Emma of "The Avengers"
- 4. Medical prioritizing
- 5. Road, in Germany
- 6. Some essays
- 7. Marked for deletion
- 8. "Sanford and Son" star
- 9. Insect repellent ingredient
- 10. Seating section
- 12. Org. with eligibility rules
- 15. Rare bills
- 18. Elementary education, initially
- 21. Compass doodle
- 22. "No dice"
- 23. "The \_\_\_ Zone"
- 25. Word of encouragement
- 26. Grenade part
- 30. Wassail alternative
- 31. Actor Kutcher
- 32. Fandango At Home's previous name
- 33. Froze over
- 35. Standard
- 36. Morse code taps
- 37. Single-serve coffee brand
- 38. NASA scrub
- 39. Move, in Realtor-ese
- 40. "American Ninja Warrior" course piece
- 43. Lobster eggs
- 44. Skit show with a musical guest

**Down**

- 1. Taradiddle
- 2. "The Gilded \_\_\_"
- 3. Hood

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## #

**21 Jump Street ★★★** (2012) Two cops working under cover at a high school must confront their teenage issues all over again. **MTV Mon. 7 p.m., Mon. 12 a.m.**

**22 Jump Street ★★★** (2014) Officers Jenko and Schmidt begin to question their partnership while undercover at a local college. **MTV Mon. 9:30 p.m.**

## A

**Abyss, The ★★★** (1989) Oil-platform workers, including an estranged couple, and a Navy SEAL make a startling discovery. **BBCA Sun. 4:06 p.m., Sun. 12:18 a.m.**

**Amazing Spider-Man, The ★★★** (2012) Having acquired superhuman powers, Peter Parker begins a quest to solve his parents' disappearance. **FREE Thu. 1 p.m.**

**Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues ★★★** (2013) Ron Burgundy tries to stay classy when he and his team go to work at a 24-hour news channel. **FX Mon. 12:30 p.m.**

**Apollo 13 ★★★** (1995) In 1970, astronauts try to return alive after a failed moon mission. **SYFY Fri. 3:30 p.m.**

**Avalon ★★★** (1990) The patriarch (Armin Mueller-Stahl) of a Jewish family hands down its history in postwar Baltimore. **TCM Mon. 4 p.m.**

**Avengers: Endgame ★★★** (2019) The Avengers devise a plan to bring back their vanquished allies for an epic showdown with Thanos. **TBS Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 1:30 p.m.**

**Avengers: Infinity War ★★★** (2018) Iron Man, Thor and the rest of the Avengers battle their most powerful enemy yet -- the evil Thanos. **TBS Sat. 12 a.m.**

## B

**Back to the Future ★★★** (1985) Teen (Michael J. Fox) goes to 1955 in crackpot's (Christopher Lloyd) DeLoorean time machine. **AMC Wed. 7 p.m., Thu. 3 p.m.**

**Back to the Future Part II ★★★** (1989) Young man (Michael J. Fox) and an inventor (Christopher Lloyd) take a time machine to 2015. **AMC Wed. 9:30 p.m., Thu. 5:30 p.m.**

**Back to the Future Part III ★★★** (1990) A young man (Michael J. Fox) and an inventor (Christopher Lloyd) visit the Old West. **AMC Wed. 4:30 p.m.**

**Batman Begins ★★★** (2005) Bruce Wayne (Christian Bale) becomes Gotham City's Dark Knight. **TNT Sat. 10 p.m.**

**Beast With Five Fingers, The ★★★** (1946) Crawling hand chases pianist's secretary (Peter Lorre) around villa. **TCM Wed. 2:45 p.m.**

**Big ★★★** (1988) A wishing machine turns boy into a man (Tom Hanks) with a job and girlfriend (Elizabeth Perkins). **AMC Sat. 12:15 p.m.**

**Breakfast Club, The ★★★** (1985) A teen wrestler (Emilio Estevez), rebel (Judd Nelson), brain, beauty (Molly Ringwald) and shy girl. **AMC Sat. 4:45 p.m.**

**Brigadoon ★★★** (1954) New Yorkers (Gene Kelly, Van Johnson) find a magic village in Scotland. **TCM Tue. 1:30 p.m.**

**Bumblebee ★★★** (2018) A teen revives Bumblebee the Autobot after finding him in a junkyard in a small beach town in 1987. **FX Fri. 12:30 p.m., Tue. 3 p.m.**

## C

**Caine Mutiny, The ★★★** (1954) An officer (Van Johnson) stands trial for relieving Capt. Queeg (Humphrey Bogart) of his command. **TCM Tue. 5:45 p.m.**

**Cinderella ★★★★★** (1950) Poor Cinderella meets her Prince Charming, thanks to her fairy godmother. **FREE Sat. 2:20 p.m.**

**Crazy Rich Asians ★★★** (2018) A woman learns more about her boyfriend and his family after traveling to Singapore for a wedding. **TNT Thu. 8 p.m., next-Thu. 12:30 a.m.**

**Crossfire Trail ★★★** (2001) A drifter (Tom Selleck) protects the wife (Virginia Madsen) and daughter of his dead friend. **TNT Wed. 8 p.m.**

## D

**District 9 ★★★** (2009) South Africa assigns a restricted area for extraterrestrial refugees. **SYFY Sun. 10:54 p.m.**

**Dreamgirls ★★★** (2006) After a manager gives them a shot at stardom, three singers learn about the high cost of fame. **BET Fri. 3 p.m.**

## E

**Elysium ★★★** (2013) In 2154 the wealthy live on a luxurious space station, while the poor scrape by in Earth's ruins. **SYFY Mon. 12:31 p.m., Mon. 11 p.m.**

## F

**Fantasia ★★★★★** (1940) Disney animation set to classical music include Mickey Mouse as "The Sorcerer's Apprentice." **FREE Sat. 11 p.m.**

**Fast Times at Ridgemont High ★★★** (1982) Teens (Sean Penn, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Judge Reinhold) date, dream, party and aggravate teachers. **AMC Sat. 12 a.m., Wed. 12 a.m., Thu. 1 p.m.**

**Ferris Bueller's Day Off ★★★** (1986) A teen (Matthew Broderick) plays hooky in Chicago with friends (Alan Ruck, Mia Sara). **AMC Sat. 9:30 p.m.**

**Fifth Element, The ★★★** (1997) A New York City cabdriver tries to save 2259 Earth from impact with an onrushing anti-life force. **BBCA Sun. 7:06 p.m.**

**Forrest Gump ★★★★★** (1994) An innocent man (Tom Hanks) enters history from the '50s to the '90s. **CMTV Sat. 12 p.m., Sat. 8:30 p.m.**

**Freaky Friday ★★★** (2003) A woman (Jamie Lee Curtis) and her daughter (Lindsay Lohan) magically exchange bodies. **FREE Wed. 3:05 p.m.**

**Fresh ★★★** (1994) Death and violence anger a 12-year-old drug courier who pits his employers against each other. **VH1 Thu. 10:30 p.m.**

**Frozen ★★★** (2013) A fearless princess and a mountaineer set out to free their kingdom from eternal winter. **DISN Wed. 8 p.m., FREE Sat. 6:20 p.m.**

**Frozen II ★★★** (2019) Elsa the Snow Queen embarks on a journey to the enchanted forests and dark seas beyond her kingdom. **DISN Thu. 8 p.m., FREE Sat. 8:50 p.m.**

## G

**Go-Between, The ★★★★★** (1971) A boy (Dominic Guard) carries letters for two lovers (Julie Christie, Alan Bates) in 1900 Britain. **TCM Sat. 8 p.m.**

**Green Mile, The ★★★** (1999) A guard (Tom Hanks) thinks an inmate (Michael Clarke Duncan) has a supernatural power to heal. **AMC Sun. 2:30 p.m.**

## H

**Hangover, The ★★★** (2009) After a wild stag party, three groomsmen must find their missing pal before his wedding. **COM Sun. 4:30 p.m., Sun. 11 p.m., PARMT Tue. 8 p.m.**

**Hitch ★★★** (2005) A smooth-talker (Will Smith) helps a shy accountant (Kevin James) woo an heiress. **TNT Thu. 4 p.m.**

**Hours, The ★★★** (2002) The writings of Virginia Woolf affect a housewife and emulate the life of a New Yorker. **TCM Thu. 9:30 p.m.**

**Hunchback of Notre Dame, The ★★★** (1939) Bell ringer Quasimodo (Charles Laughton) saves a Gypsy (Maureen O'Hara) in medieval Paris. **TCM Mon. 8 p.m.**

## I

**Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade ★★★** (1989) Jones (Harrison Ford) and his father (Sean Connery) race Nazis to the Holy Grail. **PARMT Sat. 5:05 p.m., Sat. 10:35 p.m.**

**Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom ★★★★★** (1984) Jones (Harrison Ford), a singer (Kate Capshaw) and an orphan (Ke Huy Quan) look for missing stones. **PARMT Sat. 2:30 p.m., Sat. 1:25 a.m.**

**Iron Man ★★★★★** (2008) A wealthy industrialist (Robert Downey Jr.) builds an armored suit and uses it to fight criminals. **FX Thu. 5 p.m.**

**Iron Man 3 ★★★★★** (2013) Tony Stark must rely on ingenuity and instinct to protect those he loves from a powerful enemy. **FX Thu. 10:30 p.m.**

## J

**John Wick ★★★** (2014) An ex-hitman (Keanu Reeves) comes out of retirement to hunt down the mobsters who ruined his life. **BRAVO Fri. 5:45 p.m.**

**John Wick: Chapter 2 ★★★★★** (2017) Legendary hit man John Wick squares off against some of the world's deadliest killers in Rome. **BRAVO Fri. 12 p.m., Fri. 7:45 p.m.**

**John Wick: Chapter 3 -- Parabellum ★★★★★** (2019) Hit man John Wick fights for his life when he becomes the target of the world's top assassins. **BRAVO Fri. 2:45 p.m., Fri. 10:30 p.m.**

**Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle ★★★** (2017) Four teens find adventure as adults inside a video game that transports them to the jungle. **FX Sun. 5:30 p.m., Sun. 10:30 p.m.**

**Jungle Book, The ★★★** (2016) Young Mowgli meets an array of jungle animals as he embarks on an epic journey of self-discovery. **DISN Sun. 8 p.m.**

## K

**Kiss of Death ★★★** (1947) Hoodlum (Victor Mature) leads DA (Brian Donlevy) to volatile, grinning gangster (Richard Widmark). **TCM Tue. 12 a.m.**

**Kramer vs. Kramer ★★★★★** (1979) An adman (Dustin Hoffman) fights for his son (Justin Henry) after his wife (Meryl Streep) walks out. **TCM Sat. 3 p.m.**

## L

**Last Time I Saw Paris, The ★★★** (1954) Money ruins writer (Van Johnson) and wife (Elizabeth Taylor) in postwar Paris. **TCM Tue. 3:30 p.m.**

**League of Their Own, A ★★★★★** (1992) The All-American Girls Professional Baseball League begins in 1943 with a has-been as a manager. **E! Sat. 6 p.m., Sat. 9 p.m.**

**Lightyear ★★★** (2022) Buzz Lightyear embarks on an intergalactic adventure with a group of ambitious recruits and a robot. **FREE Sun. 7:30 p.m.**

**Lion King, The ★★★★★** (1994) Young Simba, son of Mufasa, must fight his wicked Uncle Scar to be king after his father is killed. **FREE Mon. 7 p.m.**

**Little Women ★★★** (1994) With her husband away at war, a woman raises four daughters in 19th-century New England. **TCM Mon. 10:15 p.m.**

**Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King, The ★★★★★** (2003) Frodo and Sam march toward Mount Doom while Gandalf prepares for the final battle for Middle Earth. **AMC Wed. 12 p.m.**

**Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers, The ★★★** (2003) Frodo and Sam march toward Mount Doom while Gandalf prepares for the final battle for Middle Earth. **AMC Tue. 7 p.m.**

**Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers, The ★★★** (2002) Now divided, members of a fellowship take different paths to destroy the ring and defeat evil. **AMC Mon. 7 p.m.**

**Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers, The ★★★** (2002) Now divided, members of a fellowship take different paths to destroy the ring and defeat evil. **AMC Tue. 3 p.m.**

**Lost Boys, The ★★★** (1987) A woman (Dianne Wiest) and her sons (Jason Patric, Corey Haim) move to a town full of vampires. **BBCA Mon. 1 p.m., Mon. 11:03 p.m.**

**Love in the Afternoon ★★★** (1957) An older American playboy loves a private eye's young daughter in Paris. **TCM Fri. 4 p.m.**

## M

**M ★★★★★** (1931) Berlin's underworld races the police to find the whistling killer (Peter Lorre) of little girls. **TCM Wed. 6 p.m.**

**Man Who Knew Too Much, The ★★★★★** (1934) Anarchists kidnap a couple's (Leslie Banks, Edna Best) daughter to hide a plot. **TCM Wed. 1:15 p.m.**

**Martian, The ★★★** (2015) Left behind by his crew, a stranded astronaut (Matt Damon) must find a way to survive on Mars. **TNT Mon. 2:30 p.m.**

**Model and the Marriage Broker, The ★★★** (1952) Marriage broker (Thelma Ritter) plays Cupid for couple (Jeanne Crain, Scott Brady). **TCM Tue. 10 p.m.**

**Moneyball ★★★** (2011) A baseball manager (Brad Pitt) on a tight budget takes a new approach to assembling his team. **BBCA Sat. 4 p.m., Sat. 9:30 p.m.**

**Monsters University ★★★★★** (2013) Back in their college days, Mike and Sulley's rivalry gets them kicked out of the Scare Program. **FREE Sun. 5 p.m.**

**Monsters, Inc. ★★★★★** (2001) A blue behemoth (John Goodman) and his one-eyed pal (Billy Crystal) scare children. **DISN Mon. 8 p.m., FREE Sun. 3 p.m.**

**Moulin Rouge ★★★** (2001) A young writer falls in love with a courtesan in 1890s France. **TCM Wed. 8 p.m.**

**My Cousin Vinny ★★★★★** (1992) A Brooklyn lawyer (Joe Pesci) defends his cousin (Ralph Macchio) in Alabama. **AMC Fri. 5:30 p.m., PARMT Fri. 8 p.m., Fri. 11 p.m., TNT Fri. 7:30 p.m., Fri. 11 p.m.**

## N

**No Time to Die ★★★** (2021) Legendary spy James Bond tracks a mysterious villain who's armed with a dangerous new technology. **SYFY Fri. 12 p.m.**

## O

**Others, The ★★★** (2001) A devout woman (Nicole Kidman) believes ghosts inhabit her darkened island mansion. **TCM Wed. 10:30 p.m.**

**Out of Africa ★★★** (1985) A baroness (Meryl Streep) loves a British hunter (Robert Redford) in early 1900s Kenya. **TCM Sat. 5 p.m.**

## P

**Parent Trap, The ★★★** (1998) Separated twin sisters (Lindsay Lohan) plot to reunite parents (Dennis Quaid, Natasha Richardson). **FREE Tue. 5 p.m.**

**Peter Pan ★★★** (1953) Peter and Tinker Bell take three children to Neverland to see the Lost Boys and Captain Hook. **FREE Sun. 1:05 p.m.**

**Pitch Perfect ★★★** (2012) A new college student (Anna Kendrick) shakes things up when she joins a female a cappella group. **TBS Sun. 11 p.m., TNT Fri. 1 p.m., Fri. 1:30 a.m.**

**Princess and the Frog, The ★★★** (2009) A young woman's (Anika Noni Rose) encounter with a royal amphibian leads to a wild adventure. **FREE Sat. 4:15 p.m.**

## Q

**Queen, The ★★★** (1968) A sensitive portrayal reveals transvestites competing in beauty contests. **TCM Fri. 1:30 a.m.**

## R

**Raiders of the Lost Ark ★★★★★** (1981) Indiana Jones (Harrison Ford) braves snakes and Nazis to find the biblical ark of the covenant. **PARMT Sat. 12 p.m., Sat. 8 p.m.**

**Raya and the Last Dragon ★★★** (2021) A lone warrior must track down the last dragon to save the world from ancient monsters. **DISN Tue. 8 p.m.**

**Ready Player One ★★★** (2018) A teen searches for a hidden treasure in an expansive virtual reality universe in 2045. **SYFY Thu. 8:30 p.m.**

**Right Stuff, The ★★★★★** (1983) Test pilot Chuck Yeager (Sam Shepard) and the first astronauts pioneer the U.S. space program. **TCM Mon. 12:30 p.m.**

**Rio Grande ★★★★★** (1950) Cavalry colonel's (John Wayne) wife (Maureen O'Hara) and soldier son join him. **TCM Sun. 11:30 p.m.**

**Romancing the Stone ★★★** (1984) Mousy novelist (Kathleen Turner) meets mercenary (Michael Douglas) in Colombia. **BRAVO Fri. 1:30 a.m., E! Sat. 12 a.m.**

## S

**Salt ★★★** (2010) A CIA officer (Angelina Jolie) goes on the run after a defector accuses her of being a Russian spy. **TNT Sun. 11 p.m.**

**Sand Pebbles, The ★★★★★** (1966) Politics and low tide hold the U.S. gunboat San Pueblo on the Chang River in 1926 China. **TCM Sun. 8 p.m.**

**Sense and Sensibility ★★★** (1995) Men romance and abandon sisters (Emma Thompson, Kate Winslet) in 1800s England. **TCM Sun. 5:30 p.m.**

**Signs ★★★** (2002) A widower (Mel Gibson) investigates huge circles in his crop fields. **BBCA Thu. 8 p.m., nextThu. 1 a.m.**

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MONDAY EVENING

C=COMCAST AT=AT&T VERSE DN=DISH NETWORK DTV=DIRECTV

MOVIES

SPORTS

KIDS

JUNE 24, 2024

Table with 11 columns (C, AT, DN, DTV, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30, 11 PM, 11:30) and 54 rows of programming details for Monday evening.

TUESDAY EVENING

C=COMCAST AT=AT&T VERSE DN=DISH NETWORK DTV=DIRECTV

MOVIES

SPORTS

KIDS

JUNE 25, 2024

Table with 11 columns (C, AT, DN, DTV, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30, 11 PM, 11:30) and 54 rows of programming details for Tuesday evening.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

C=COMCAST AT=AT&T UVERSE DN=DISH NETWORK DTV=DIRECTV

MOVIES

SPORTS

KIDS

JUNE 26, 2024

Table with columns for channel, time, and program details for Wednesday evening. Includes programs like 'Last Man Standing', 'The Big Bang Theory', 'Chicago Fire', and 'Blue Bloods'.

THURSDAY EVENING

C=COMCAST AT=AT&T UVERSE DN=DISH NETWORK DTV=DIRECTV

MOVIES

SPORTS

KIDS

JUNE 27, 2024

Table with columns for channel, time, and program details for Thursday evening. Includes programs like 'Vote 2024: The Presidential Debate', 'U.S. Olympic Trials', 'The Conners', and 'Grey's Anatomy'.

# BINGO

Fill in each box of the BINGO grid below with an answer that begins with the letter above each column and belongs to the category listed before each row. List one answer for each box, although there is more than one acceptable answer for many of the boxes.

	C	A	M	P	S
Disney Princesses					
Soda					
Things in a basement					
Parts of a computer					
Seas					

## celebritypipeline

BY JAY BOBBIN

### A 'Rookie' move: The police show's return will be delayed

**Q: I see that "The Rookie" won't be back with new episodes until 2025. Why? - Pat Herrick, Providence, R.I.**

A: The way ABC is positioning it, waiting until after the end-of-year holidays to start airing the Nathan Fillion-starring drama's seventh year supposedly will give the series added strength, since there won't be any interruptions during said holiday season ... and all of the episodes can run on consecutive weeks without repeats or breaks. (At least that's what been said so far. The reality, as demonstrated by the most recent spring schedule, is that a repeat or two might sneak in.)

"The Rookie" has been a steady player in the ratings for ABC, which is giving similar treatment to another procedural, "Will Trent." One of broadcast television's "buzzier" series of late, that show also won't be back until after the new year for Season 3. ABC has rightfully pointed out that it can use its holiday programming to give the returns of both dramas plenty of advance promotion, which surely will be welcomed by fans who will be hungry for them by then.

**Q: Is it true that there will be a TV series of "Legally Blonde"? And if so, when will it start? - Stacy Frost, via e-mail**

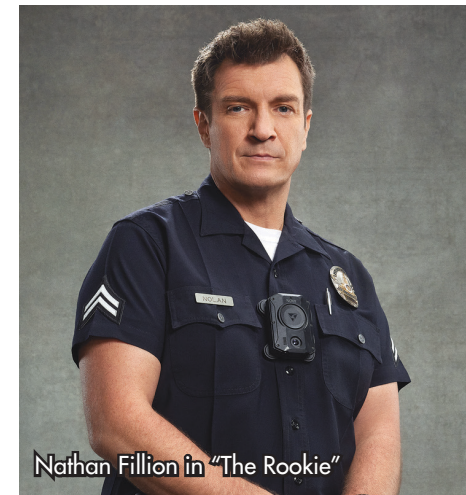
A: It's been a long time coming, but yes, the adventures of sprightly Elle Woods will be getting new chapters via a Prime Video series that Reese Witherspoon is developing - but as an executive producer, not the star, since the show will focus on Elle's teen years before the audience came to know her through the "Legally Blonde" movies that featured Witherspoon in the role.

Work on the show is in the early stages, so it may take a while for it to be available for streaming. Rest assured that you'll know when it's ready, though, since Witherspoon is hugely active in promoting the projects she's involved in on either side of the cameras. It's a sure bet she'll be making the talk-show rounds to discuss the series incarnation of "Legally Blonde" when the time comes.

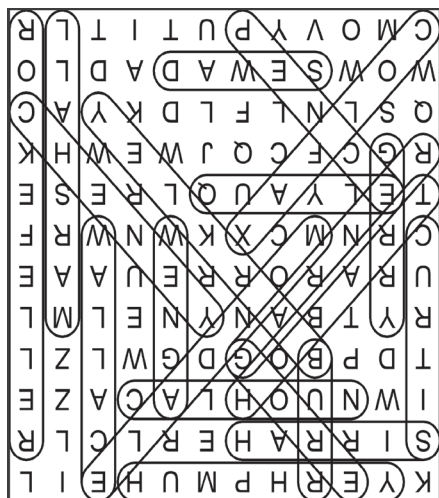
**Q: Since she still has her weekday talk show, how will Drew Barrymore have time to do the new version of "Hollywood Squares"? - Allison Fisher, Glen Burnie, Md.**

A: A combination of factors makes that possible, one being that the talk show is in repeats during the summer ... so Barrymore has time for other projects including the "Hollywood Squares" revival that will have her as the "center square" of the tic-tac-toe-styled set that will accommodate nine celebrities in total. She's also an executive producer of the program, which CBS plans to air this fall.

Also, the taping of game shows operates on its own schedule, and several episodes can be taped in one day. The "Squares" time commitment isn't too bad for Barrymore, then, since she can do several weeks' worth of episodes at once and be finished for the whole season well before she needs to be back to resume work on "The Drew Barrymore Show."



Nathan Fillion in "The Rookie"



1. Agnew
2. Barkey
3. Burr
4. Calhoun
5. Cheney
6. Cofax
7. Curtis
8. Dawes
9. Garner
10. Gerry
11. Gore
12. Harris
13. Hobart
14. Humphrey
15. Marshall
16. Mondale
17. Pence
18. Quayle
19. Rockefeller
20. Wallace

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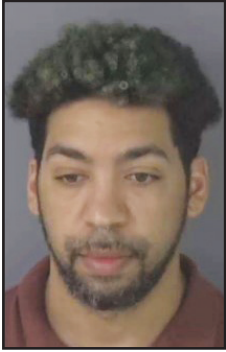
# Police Briefs claytodayonline.com

## CCSO: Man arrested for not telling partner he had HIV

MIDDLEBURG – A 35-year-old man was arrested after the Clay County Sheriff's Office said he intentionally had sex with someone without notifying them he was infected with the HIV virus.

Andre Aziz Shirley, of Middleburg, was charged on June 7 with not informing his partner he had HIV after the victim was told they had contracted the HIV virus.

Shirley's bond was set at \$25,003.



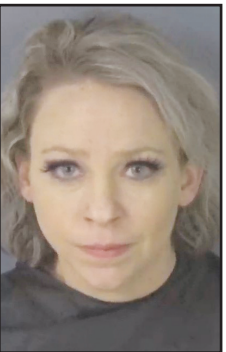
Andre Aziz Shirley

## Woman suspected of being twice over DUI limit crashes with child in car

MIDDLEBURG – A woman who crashed in a construction zone on County Road 218 on June 15 was arrested after the Clay County Sheriff's Office said she more than doubled the legal limit of intoxication.

Andrea Hall Boze, 40, of Orange Park, was charged with DUI with a blood alcohol level of greater than .15 with a passenger younger than 18 and with property damage or injury after her car collided with a concrete barrier near the Swimming Pen bridge.

According to the arrest report, she had damaged approximately \$600 in construc-



Andrea Hall Boze

tion barriers as Clay County Utilities Authority was completing work on new water pipes. Her car wound up on the other side of the barriers, away from the travel lanes.

Deputies noticed her uneasiness and suspected her of being intoxicated. She failed a field sobriety test. Once at the Clay County Jail, her breath alcohol concentration samples were .184 and .179 – more than twice the legal limit of .08.

Her bond was set at \$2,004.

## Woman charged with stabbing woman she thinks played role in sister's death

MIDDLEBURG – A woman was accused of stabbing another woman on June 15 she believed was responsible for the death of her sister.

According to the Clay County Sheriff's Office, Alexis Megas Pawloski, 27, of Orange Park, was charged with aggravated battery with a deadly weapon after a woman was stabbed in the chest with a folded pocket knife during a "verbal altercation" with the victim and another person.

After the stabbing, Pawloski was tracked to Suzanne Drive by the Life 360 App, and other witnesses restrained her until CCSO deputies arrived to take her into custody.

Pawloski's bond was set at \$25,003. Her next court date is July 22.



Alexis Megas Pawloski

## Stolen tag stop leads to drugs, suspended license arrest

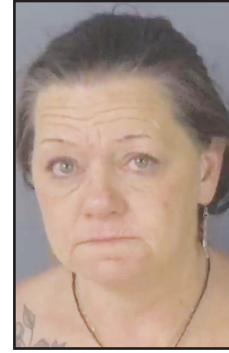
ORANGE PARK – A traffic stop for a license tag reported stolen last year in

Jacksonville led to four drug charges and driving with a suspended license violation for an Orange Park woman on June 15.

Tracy Lynn Osborne, 49, was charged with possession of heroin, fentanyl and methamphetamine, as well as driving with a suspended license after she was stopped at the intersection of Gifford Avenue and Maricopa Court. Osborne told a deputy she didn't know the tag was stolen, but she admitted her license was suspended, so she was arrested and her car was searched.

Deputies uncovered 1.18 grams of heroin, 3.63 grams of methamphetamine, .54 grams of fentanyl and six Adderall pills.

Judge Raymond Forbess set her bond at \$55,015.



Tracy Lynn Osborne

## CCSO helps send woman to prison for conspiracy to create animal crush videos

JACKSONVILLE – U.S. District Judge Wendy W. Berger sentenced Nicole Danielle Devilbiss, 35, of Jacksonville, to four years and three months in federal prison for conspiracy to create and distribute animal crush videos. Devilbiss entered a guilty plea on Feb. 13. She has been in custody since her arrest on Oct. 31, 2023.

According to court documents, in September 2023, Homeland Security Investigations received information regarding an individual residing in Jacksonville who was identified as an administrator of a messaging application group chat that was dedicated to the abuse, torture, and death of various-aged monkeys. The HSI investigation revealed that numerous people involved in the group exchanged hundreds, if not thousands, of messages about the abuse and torture of monkeys, as well as videos depicting the abuse and torture of monkeys. The purpose of the group was to fund, view, distribute and promote animal crush videos that depicted, among other

things, the torture, murder and sexually sadistic mutilation of animals, specifically baby and adult monkeys.

The co-conspirators agreed to create animal crush videos using videographers and animals in other countries, to include Indonesia, which would then be sent to the United States. The name of the group changed multiple times to innocuous names that were inconsistent with the goals and interests of the group, which appeared to be to avoid detection by law enforcement. This investigation led to the identification of Devilbiss as a member of that group. Law enforcement obtained some of those messages and videos that were exchanged involving Devilbiss, which detailed her interest in the abuse and torture of monkeys.

Devilbiss and her co-conspirators collectively funded the creation of animal crush videos using online payment applications. Co-conspirators outside the United States received this funding and used it to create animal crush videos.

During the execution of a search warrant at Devilbiss's residence, numerous electronic devices were seized. Law enforcement found numerous videos depicting the torture of monkeys on Devilbiss's devices. Law enforcement also located a journal that detailed Devilbiss's interest in obtaining a monkey locally to abuse to create additional content.

"This investigation uncovered an unsettling underworld dedicated to the torment, torture and exploitation of innocent animals," said Homeland Security Investigations Tallahassee Assistant Special Agent in Charge Nicholas Ingegno. "Through our relentless pursuit of justice, alongside our sheriffs with Clay County, Jacksonville, and St. Johns County, we have exposed a network of depraved people inflicting unspeakable cruelty on monkeys, who record their suffering and share it for profit and perverse pleasure."

This case was investigated by the Clay County Sheriff's Office, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, and Homeland Security Investigations. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Ashley Washington and Elisibeth Adams prosecuted it.

# 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, June 18

Amanda C. Marshall, 42, Middleburg, DWLSR  
Dennis X.C. Robles, 44, Green Cove Springs, violation of injunction for protection against domestic violence  
Jacob C. Bridges, 30, Orange Park, battery  
Jesus M.S. Ortiz, 39, Green Cove Springs, VOP community control  
Max A. Sportsman, 26, Orange Park, aggravated battery on pregnant woman  
Sherman L. Williams, 43, Middleburg, do-

mestic battery

## Monday, June 17

Daniel G. Gessell, 32, Middleburg, trespassing  
Kalil K. Heffner, 18, Green Cove Springs, VOP community control  
Kirk F. Bricker, 55, Fleming Island, domestic battery  
Joshua O. Davis, 38, Orange Park, battery, criminal mischief  
Christopher T.J. Gilstrap, 24, Keystone Heights, larceny  
Katelyn D. Doran, 29, Green Cove Springs, VOP resisting law enforcement, VOP reckless driving  
Travis M. Kuykendall, 45, Green Cove Springs, FTA criminal mischief  
Joshua A. Vincent, 35, Green Cove Springs, VOP battery  
Daniel J. Siewert, 18, Middleburg, grand

theft auto

Tania J.B. Zuniga, 26, Middleburg, driving without valid license

## Sunday, June 16

Derrick J. Eady, 42, Orange Park, child abuse  
Elaina A. Stewart, 46, Orange Park, domestic battery  
Dora L. Abreu, 28, Fleming Island, petit theft  
Shawn L. Dobbs, 20, Orange Park, battery  
Scott A. Brown, 22, Oakleaf, possession marijuana, possession drug paraphernalia, DWLSR  
Alexis M. Pawloski, 27, Middleburg, aggravated battery with deadly weapon  
Alonzo B. Cazares, 25, Orange Park, battery  
Juan M. Juarez, 30, Fleming Island, DUI, driving without valid license  
Kyeandre S. Mack, 27, Green Cove Springs, DUI, reckless driving

## Saturday, June 15

David E. Smith, 50, Fleming Island, Fleming Island, domestic battery  
Scott D. Todd, 40, Green Cove Springs, VOP

violation of injunction

Anthony D. Davis, 41, Green Cove Springs, possession marijuana  
Rachel E. Jennings, 48, Orange Park, possession controlled substance, solicitation on public road right of way  
Tracy L. Osborne, 49, Orange Park, possession fentanyl, possession methamphetamine, possession heroin, possession amphetamine, DWLSR  
Nickolas Snell, 44, Green Cove Springs, shoplifting  
Dustin L. Ward, 30, Green Cove Springs, VOP community control  
Joshua A. Vincent, 35, Orange Park, felony battery  
William T. White, 55, Orange Park, possession controlled substance, possession drug paraphernalia  
Darreon W. Thompson, 18, Middleburg, VOP community control  
Angela C. Fisher, 30, Orange Park, Orange

# Ground Zero Boxing: 'A small gym with a huge heart'

By Kyla Woodard  
kyla@claytodayonline.com

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS- For Giovanni Cruz, being in the ring has always been his calling.

"Boxing is pretty much my language," Cruz said. "It's something that I use as a tool because everything in that ring defines a lot about life."

As a boxer, Cruz understands what it takes to survive a match. But, as a coach, Cruz teaches others what it means to survive in life.

Ground Zero Boxing is a community gym completely run from Cruz's backyard. It's where he coaches, trains, and mentors local at-risk youth. Cruz said nobody gets turned away at the gym and everyone can become better than they were in the past.

The idea of a safe haven came following a hard time in Cruz's life. Cruz said his niece was an at-risk youth who often found solace in running to his home. After her passing, Cruz said he had to do something.

"I couldn't stand around doing nothing," Cruz said. "It was just hard on us."

Cruz and his wife, Karina Cruz, then devised a solution — to remove other youth from problematic situations and provide a place for them to call home, as they did his niece.

"If we can try to put out any positivity in the world and try to help as many people as we can then that's all that matters," Karina said. Beginning the gym in his backyard in 2015, Cruz said he began charging students \$30 a month to re-invest back in the gym because he didn't have all the equipment necessary at the time.

About six months later, a student introduced him to the local owner of Keystone Mixed Martial Arts Academy. Cruz said the two agreed to partner up.

But, following the Covid-19 pandemic, Cruz said they were forced to close down. But, by that time, he had gathered all the needed equipment.

With his home already possessing a steel building to place the boxing ring in, Cruz



Giovanni Cruz runs a free boxing program from his home in order to help at-risk youth.

said everything lined up perfectly. He moved the equipment back into his yard and ran the gym for free.

"With it being free, you can freely just come in, and people tend to open up more," Cruz said.

With a family-oriented atmosphere, Cruz said intricate time is taken to teach the boxers everything they need to know.

Cruz said the youth are offered whatever they come in for. Whether that be to compete or just work out.

"If you're coming in to compete, your typical training is super intense. Your training ranges from six miles a day to doing hill climbs, to doing an average workout, to then sparring," Cruz said.

Additionally, Cruz said people who are just starting, begin with a basic average workout.

But, with the free gym still comes rules.

"One of the things I do give you is you can't fight outside the gym, [and] the drugs and alcohol they have to stop," Cruz said.

Cruz said that students are also reminded that their actions do cause consequences.

"I may not find out this week, I may not find out a month from now, but one way or

another, it's going to get around," Cruz said. "And I will find out."

Since the gym's beginning, Cruz said he has seen many accomplishments and changes in the youth he has helped. From quitting drugs and alcohol to going into the military, Cruz said he has watched many turn their lives around.

"It's been amazing for these individuals," Cruz said.

Cruz said he still keeps in contact with many of the youth, and some still call him every week.

Cruz added that one of his youth even credited him as a father figure, feeling like they owed him everything.

"I tell them they don't owe me nothing for my actions. That no one in life owes you nothing or you don't owe no one in life at anything," Cruz said. "Just do right by yourself."

Colton Crane began boxing with the gym to find something to do. An avid sports player, Crane said he never tried martial arts or boxing until he heard of a family member attending the gym.

Crane began going to the gym daily. Seven to eight months in, Cruz told him he was

ready to start competing.

"We started competing, and I've had four fights now. Over two years, and I'm 4-0," Crane said.

Crane eventually became the Florida State Junior Olympic champion in April. Crane said Cruz taught him to believe in himself and his abilities.

"I couldn't ask for a better coach. Not only is he a good coach, but he's an even better person," Crane said. "That makes it even better."

Crane said he thinks the mission surrounding the gym is great, keeping kids out of trouble and busy.

"Boxing's great for just being disciplined and beating adversity in life," Crane said.

Cruz said that his overall mission was to protect the youth, and he hopes to continue this mission with the help of the community. Cruz said that help from the public is necessary to keep the program going.

Cruz hopes to raise money to make the necessary changes to the gym by using a GoFundMe and Amazon Wishlist.

Cruz said the building doesn't have electricity, with Cruz having to use an extension cord. Additionally, Cruz hopes to make a few upgrades and use some of the funds to buy boxing tape for when the boxers do compete.

"We have had some donations that are so amazing because the community has stepped up in so many ways. A lot of the things came out of my pocket," Cruz said. "I believe in the program and the community's been amazing about it."

For the future, Cruz said he hopes to eventually expand his gym to new heights.

But for now, he said he will continue his "small gym with a big heart" to coach his boxers on the right path and show them what it means to overcome.

"You could have the right people in your corner or the wrong people in your corner. And, life is as tough as the strongest opponent you fight in that ring," Cruz said. "And, when it puts you down, you must keep getting up."

## Arrests

from page 37

Park, possession controlled substance, possession drug paraphernalia

Andrea H. Boze, 40, Middleburg, DUI with BAL .15 or greater with passenger younger than 18, DUI with property damage/injury

### Friday, June 14

Lorenzo Tobler, 38, Green Cove Springs, VOP community control

Noah L. Hodges, 18, Keystone Heights, sexual battery of victim younger than 12, transmitting information harmful to minors, use of two-way communication device to facilitate felony

Brian L. Levelle, 52, Green Cove Springs, FTA DWLSR

Marvin R. Schreiner, 60, Green Cove Springs, violation of parole

Timothy L. Brown, 43, Orange Park, possession controlled substance, possession drug paraphernalia, possession ammo/firearm by convicted felon, trespassing, use of false ID to

adversely affect another

John M. Clarke, 50, Orange Park, felony domestic battery

Hong Y.H. Vo, 38, Fleming Island, petit theft

### Thursday, June 13

Andre A. Shirley, 35, Middleburg, HIV-infected person having sex without notifying partner

Dominic D. Rossi, 26, Orange Park, shoplifting, possession methamphetamine

Adriene N. Griffis, 35, Middleburg, two counts FTA DWLSR, FTA hit and run

William H. Smith, 28, Green Cove Springs, VOP domestic battery

Porscha S. Anthony, 38, Orange Park, two counts battery on law enforcement

Scott R. Santos, 37, Fleming Island, shoplifting

Warren R. Chase, 21, Green Cove Springs, VOP possession ammo/firearm by convicted felon, VOP possession methamphetamine, VOP possession marijuana

John H. Hall, 30, Green Cove Springs, VOP battery

Toyeda D. Wilkins, 27, Middleburg, burglary

Tereso V. Aldaba, 21, Green Cove Springs,

VOP child abuse, burglary

Merritt Detzauer, 43, Green Cove Springs, VOP disorderly conduct

Michael L. Barfield, 36, Green Cove Springs, FTA petit theft

Darin T. Ashcraft, 59, Green Cove Springs, DWLSR

Ricardo L. Thomas, 44, Green Cove Springs, domestic battery

Andrew P. McGowan, 20, Green Cove Springs, assault

Katelyn D. Doran, 29, Orange Park, shoplifting

Christen Whitaker, 39, Green Cove Springs, DUI with property damage/injury, refusal to submit to BAL test

### Wednesday, June 12

Joseph P. Rodgers, 35, Middleburg, burglary, possession methamphetamine, possession marijuana, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement

Joshua E. McKean, 29, Middleburg, possession methamphetamine, possession marijuana, possession drug paraphernalia

Keith E. Pflieger, 45, Keystone Heights, VOP

possession controlled substance

Cheyenne M. Davis, 24, Green Cove Springs, two counts VOP possession controlled substance, FTA DWLSR

David A. Manning, 39, Green Cove Springs, VOP lewd/lascivious molestation

Clifford C. Boyette-Carter, 26, Fleming Island, grand theft

Dyson A. Graham, 35, Fleming Island, possession marijuana, DUI

Tremain T. McCreary, 27, Orange Park, resist/obstruct/oppose law enforcement

### Tuesday, June 11

Toby D. Tyler, 52, Fleming Island, battery

Shawn M. Smith, 26, Keystone Heights, domestic battery

Christopher P. Bushey, 32, Middleburg, trespassing

Bradley R. Wimberly, 40, Fleming Island, domestic battery

Christopher J. Schwab, 43, Green Cove Springs, writ of bodily attachment

Johnathan S. Woodham, 36, Starke, battery, tampering in felony

Kristopher A. Handy, 26, Green Cove Springs, FTA

# TODAY'S Sports

Clay Today | June 20, 2024 | claytodayonline.com

## KHHS Lowery leaving to coach at Palatka High

By Randy Lefko  
randy@claytodayonline.com

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS - Five time state champion weightlifting coach Lantz Lowery announced he will leave Keystone Heights High to take a football and weightlifting position at Palatka High next fall.

"I want to see if the formula I used at Keystone Heights will work at Palatka," said Lowery, who won five state team titles; three in a row with a handful of individual state titles in his near 20 years as Indians' boys weightlifting coach. "When I became boys weightlifting coach many years ago, I was told I would never win anything at Keystone Heights."

Lowery has been coaching for nearly 20 years at Keystone Heights with a brief year at Interlachen after getting the Indians' first state weightlifting title for Key-

stone Heights in 2014. Lowery, who won three state titles in a row since 2021, has accounted for nearly two dozen individual state titles with Keystone Heights having individual titles in the 1990s.

"We have won the district weightlifting title ever since the inception of districts, regions and then state," said Keystone Heights Athletic Director Chuck Dickinson, who brought Lowery on board as football coach in the early 2000s. "We won the Traditional region last year with Suwannee winning the Olympics in 2023, but we've won district and region titles for nearly 20 years."

Palatka has its own bucket load of state weightlifting titles dating back as far as 1987, with 39 individual titles in that span.

"I see the plaques and trophies all over Palatka and my challenge is to resurrect



Keystone Heights High boys weightlifting coach Lantz Lowery will take his impressive resume to Palatka High next fall to test his impressive formula for state titles.

their powerhouse stature," said Lowery, now 60. "I get them to buy in, we lift against every Clay County school because that's the best county for weightlifting and

I go from ground zero to state contender. That's the plan."

Lowery, also a long-time defensive foot-

**LOWERY, 41**

## BEST OF RIDGEVIEW

Willis, Haber: Clay Today  
Ridgeview Athletes of the Year

By Randy Lefko  
randy@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK - Ridgeview High sports teams had strong late-season flurries from girls' volleyball, softball and a record-setting high jumper plus a weightlifter who stormed back to a state medal from a questionable season-ending decision last year to highlight a solid school year of competition for the Panthers.

In the spring, it was track high jumper T'Vario Willis who stole headlines as he inched up week after week in his craft to be one of the best jumpers in Florida with his 6-foot-7.5 leap during the season; as region champion and his new track opening leap at Ridgeview High in regular season action and a 6-foot-7 win at the Ponte Vedra Craig Speziale Invite. Willis stayed at 6-foot-7.5 at the Clay County Championships, then did it again at Ridgeview Invite on a new track facility. Willis would finish

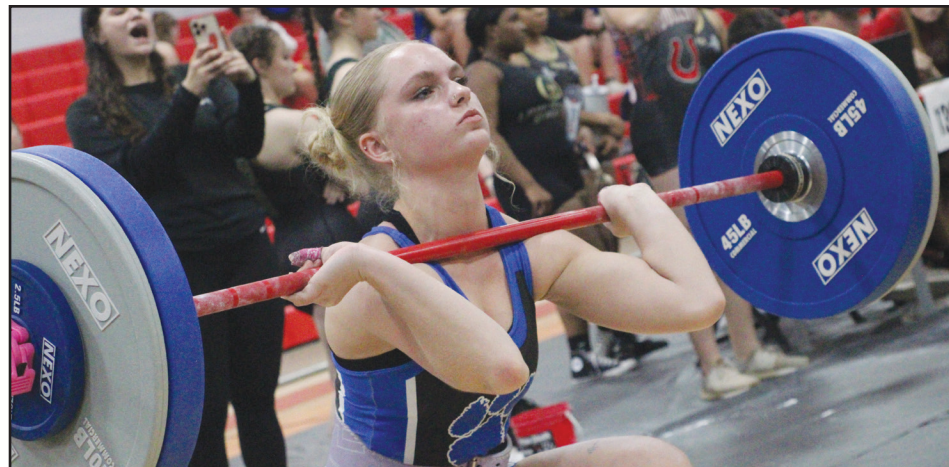


### Clay Today/Ridgeview athletes of the year

Left: Ridgeview High high jumper T'Vario Willis set a school record jump of 6-foot-7.5 twice in 2024 while girls weightlifter Ania Haber returned from a shortened 2023 to storm to a handful of state weightlifting medals in 2024.

sixth in Class 3A after a 6-foot-3.5 leap at the state championship meet.

His consistency in his craft was an example of focusing on technique every time he jumped. Willis also garnered team points in the 400 with a 54.89 best, the 200 with a 23.71 best and the 100 with a



11.90 best plus relays.

In girls' weightlifting, Ania Haber had her season abruptly ended two years ago from a questionable weigh-in snafu only to maintain a laser focus on her craft and make a silent but lethal battle to own a handful of state championship medals just

a year later. Girls weightlifting had highlights from sisters Deja and Jada Hill; both district champions in Olympics and second placers in Tradition for the Panthers with Ania Haber getting second in Tradition

**SEE BEST, 46**



PHOTO COURTESY OF RACING LOUISVILLE.COM

Former St. Johns Country Day School soccer all stater Carson Pickett is one of top defenders in National Womens Soccer League.

## SJCDS Pickett selected top player of month

SJCDS Pickett named in top players of month

*Courtesy of NWSLSoccer.com*

The National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) announced today the 11 players selected to the Best XI of the Month, presented by Prime, for May by the NWSL Media Association and the NWSL's on-air broadcast talent. Six teams are represented in the league's Top 11, including the Chicago Red Stars, NJ/NY Gotham FC, the Orlando Pride, the Portland Thorns, Racing Louisville FC and the Washington Spirit.

One of the top defenders on the month's best team is former St. Johns Country Day School star Carson Pickett.

Pickett, a defender for the Racing Louisville team out of Kentucky, recorded two tackles, three interceptions and four blocks in May. Additionally, the veteran defender notched one assist in Racing's 3-3 draw against the Kansas City Current on May 18.

Racing Louisville is currently has three wins, three losses and six ties to be in seventh place in the 14-team NWSL field with the top eight to advance to playoffs. Two teams remain unbeaten; Kansas City Current at 8-0-5 and Orlando Pride at 8-0-4.

Pickett, for the 2023 season, came to Louisville after playing for the North Carolina Courage, and appeared in 26 matches at outside back across all competitions for

Louisville in 2023, starting 24 of them. She continued as one of the league's most attacking-minded defenders in her first season with the club, ranking near the top of the NWSL in penalty area entries (2nd), crosses (2nd) and passes into the final third (4th).

Pickett played two games for the U.S. Women's National team in 2022.

Pickett, a left-back who was the fourth pick in the 2016 NWSL Draft, is a back-to-back Best XI selection over the past two seasons and won a national championship in 2014 with Florida State. The Florida native led the NWSL in assists this past season with six, a year after tying for second in the league with five.

In all, Pickett has one goal and 16 assists in 130 NWSL appearances with the Courage, OL Reign and Orlando Pride and has regularly ranked among the league leaders in chances created and interceptions, among other areas.

Also selected from Racing Louisville was Savannah DeMelo, who played three games in May, recording two goals and six tackles. The California native added five successful dribbles past opponents to her stat sheet throughout the month.

The NWSL Best XI of the Month, presented by Amazon Prime, is selected each month of the regular season by the NWSL Media Association, a collection of writers that cover the league consistently, and the NWSL's on-air broadcast talent.



### Stotler 44th in 100 fly

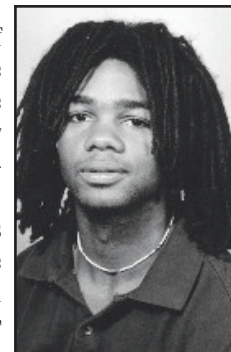
Former Clay High state champion swimmer Sara Stotler, now a standout at the University of Tennessee, finished 44th in the 100 butterfly in her U.S. Olympic Trials preliminary race in Indianapolis on Saturday. Stotler finished in one minute, 0.16 seconds to finish behind top qualifier Gretchen Walsh's 55.94 split. Stotler's time was just 1.23 seconds off the final qualifying time in the 76 athlete field.

### OPHS Cozier gets Hall of Fame selection

*Courtesy of Charlotte49ers.com*

The Charlotte 49ers have announced the fourth class elected to its Athletics Hall of Fame. The 2024 Hall of Fame Class is the 49ers' first to be made up entirely of student-athletes.

On the list is former Orange Park High School star Mac Cozier who earned two All-American selections while on Charlotte's soccer team in 1994 and 1995.



Mac Cozier

Mac Cozier, full name Mangea Allan Cozier (MAC), was the first player in 49ers men's soccer history to be named National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) First Team All-America. He starred for the 49ers from 1992-95, led the program to a pair of NCAA Tournament appearances and top 10 national rankings in three seasons.

Cozier completed his career with 34 goals, 31 assists and 99 points – the only player in school history with over 30 career goals and 30 career assists. He ranks first all-time in career assists, second in points and fourth goals scored.

"I am extremely honored and forever humbled to have been selected as an inductee into the Charlotte 49ers Hall of Fame," Cozier, now 50, said. "This moment is beyond anything I could have ever imagined, and I am grateful for this recognition. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to Mike Hill, Tom

Whitstone and the selection committee for deeming me worthy of this prestigious honor. It is such a great privilege to be a part of this wonderful 49er community and to share these experiences with my family, the University, and my amazing teammates. My family has always been there and supported me throughout this journey. The University, for opening doors and giving me an opportunity to pursue my dreams. My teammates, I can't thank you enough for your friendships, your desire to achieve great things on the field and for all of the memories we created."

He was named NSCAA first team all-America in 1994 after leading Charlotte to a 16-4 record, an unbeaten Metro Conference Championship and the highest final national ranks in program history: #1 in the South Region; No. 4 in the nation. He scored 14 goals with 11 assists and was named the Metro Conference Offensive Player of the Year.

The 49ers advanced to the NCAA Tournament in both 1992 and 1994, winning a pair of unbeaten Metro titles along the way. In 1994, the one of the most memorable games in 49ers history, Charlotte defeated top-ranked South Carolina, 3-1, on the road to capture the league title. Cozier had an assist on the 49ers third goal.

A two-time All-South Region selection and four-time all-conference choice, Cozier was a Missouri Athletic Club (MAC) National Player of the Year Finalist in 1995 after scoring seven goals with six assists to earn First Team all-Conference USA honors despite missing games due to a commitment to the U-23 US National Team competing at the World University Games in Japan. Cozier trained with the team throughout the summer and had an assist on the game-winning goal in a match against Trinidad and Tobago to help his team to a silver medal at the Olympic Festival.





Left: Keystone Heights High boys weightlifting coach Lantz Lowery had plenty of quiet moments to motivate his team; here with powerhouse Colton Hollingsworth while, right, in 2022, Lowery and his boys won their second straight state title in dominant fashion.

## Lowery

from page 39

ball coach under Chuck Dickinson and recently with Steve Reynolds, is known as a fiery, emotional coach that inspires to build tough, strong athletes. Lowery was part of Keystone Heights' 2021 10-2 record with a region semifinal finish.

"Lantz built a standard of excellence here both on and off the field and we wish him the same great success in Palatka as he delivered here," said Reynolds, who coached just weightlifting last year. "The kids here loved him and would compete at the highest level because of his passion for the sports he coached."

For Dickinson, who has had Lowery at his side for nearly 25 years as football coach and as weightlifting coach, Lowery will be missed because of his knowledge of the sport he was coaching, plus his connection to the athletes under his tutelage.

"Ask any coach of any sport, to win one state title is hard enough, to win three in a row is amazing, to win five, enough said," said Dickinson. "Lantz has done more for

the kids of Keystone Heights that to win state titles. He has taught the old adage of dedication and hard work can achieve anything."

On the football field, Lowery was embodied by the phrase "Snot kickers", a term used for his usually mobile and ferocious linebackers dating back to John Brown, Mike Lowery and Sam Anderson.

In weightlifting, where Lowery was masterful in directing Keystone Heights to

three consecutive years of Class 1A team titles, Lowery's secret sauce of "Nine lifts, we win" created an aura of prowess that included a string of state titles, a multitude of individual state titles and two consecutive Dairy Farmer Weightlifting Coach of the Year awards, plus a National Federation Coaching Association award with Clay High former coach Rodney Keller. Lowery started his reign in 2014 with a tie for in the Class 1A team title with Baker Coun-

ty with Lowery selected as Class 1A Co-Coach of the year with Baker County coach Scott McDonald.

"For me, the best team we had was the second state title in 2022 with the likes of Mason Dicks and Galeb Moncrief," said Lowery. "They were totally bought in and I put them through the ringer all season and they produced a second state title."

### Lantz Lowery File

**2024:** Class 1A Traditional Runnerups; Suwannee 43, Keystone Heights 30. State Champions: Trey Jeffries III (238) Class 1A Olympics third place; Suwannee 53, South Sumter 45, Keystone Heights 21. State champions: Trey Jeffries III (238)

**2023:** Class 1A Traditional Champions, 41-35 over Suwannee. State champions: Brian Overton (169), Trey Jeffries III (219). Class 1A Olympics runnerups, Suwannee 49, South Sumter/Keystone Heights 29. State Champions: Brian Overton (169)

**2022:** Class 1A Traditional champions, 55-17 over West Nassau. State champions: Ulysses Freed (154), Logan Williams (169), Mason Dicks (Unlimited) Class 1A Olympic Snatch champions, 44-20 over South Sumter. State Champi-

ons: Ulysses Freed (154), Bryar Schenck (183).

**2021:** Class 1A Weightlifting Champions, 37-30 over Mount Dora. State Champions: Zach Glover (139), Kade Sanders (169)

**2014:** Class 1A Weightlifting Champions, Tied 16-16 with Baker County. State Champions: none

**Earlier Keystone Heights state champions:** 154 Darrell Byrnes (1995), 154 Bear Snay (1998)



Left: Lantz Lowery was also a staple on the sidelines of the Keystone Heights football team that finished 10-2 with a region semifinal playoff game and a 50-0 blowout in their region opener. Right: State champion weightlifter Trey Jeffries, right, returned to double up with two more state titles in his senior season last year.

# Reynolds predicts historic year for Indians

By Randy Lefko  
randy@claytodayonline.com

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – Keystone Heights High football coach Steve Reynolds likes that the Keystone Heights community cherishes their hometown football team and is seeing 2024 as return to his fanbase faith in his short coaching status.

“This is a great hometown sports town and not just for football,” said Reynolds, entering his second season as head football coach after nearly 20 years coaching at various levels of positions including Bradford County, Oakleaf High School and St. Johns Country Day School. “The parents and kids in this town are all about their kids and their sports. I think we have a solid core of kids coming back with a good attitude about giving the people in the stands a solid effort on every play.”

Reynolds finished with a 5-5 regular season record last year as head coach after being part of a deep playoff run two years ago followed by a 2-8 record under long time head coach Chuck Dickinson. Dickinson stepped in after the 2022 season but remains as athletic director.

“Coach Dickinson has built a great foundation here that builds off of athletes that love this school,” said Reynolds. “We built the depth last year and did a lot of roster management to determine who plays where and a lot of kids who got on the field now have varsity reps under their belts.”

In his spring game against Interlachen and Ridgeview two weeks ago, Reynolds saw some old Keystone Heights toughness and resilience with Interlachtoughnessng play going for an 80-yard touchdown bomb, but Keystone Heights regrouping to take away wins against both teams.

“On that first play, I think, we had a



One offensive duo important to Keystone Heights success in 2024 in quarterback Baylor Ford and wide receiver Jackson Parmeter.

blown coverage with a defensive player, Tallon Campbell, who has been a steady great player for Keystone Heights returning to the field and having a great game after that with plenty of great plays,” said Reynolds. “That was the essence of Keystone Heights football; live and die as a team.”

Keystone Heights’ offense displayed the same Indians toughness behind rugged running from fullback Zane Leger and tailback Colton Hollingsworth who repeatedly crashed the Interlachen defense to push to a 28-14 halftime score for Keystone Heights. Damien Dunlap also put in some tough yards.

“They just buckled down and hammered the offensive line, led by our big guy at center Bryce Daniels and just moved In-



Keystone Heights running back Zane Leger will be load to take on off swing passes from quarterback Baylor Ford.



Steve Reynolds has plenty of players from their 50-0 playoff win two years ago in 2022 that will be seniors in 2024.



Fullback and linebacker Zane Leger is prototype big ball carrier and rugged tackler in tradition of Keystone Heights football.

terlachen right down the field to answer their touchdown with one of our own very authoritatively,” said Reynolds. “That told me that this team could be special. Colton made great plays on defense though only about 150 pounds; probably our most explosive player.”

At quarterback, Baylor Ford opened the offense with strikes to Jackson Parmeter and even Campbell to keep the chains moving and put points on the board.

“Tallon showed the team a lot about the character of himself and the team wholeheartedly rallied around him,” said Reynolds. “That tells a lot about a team’s chemistry.”

Ford was thrown into the mix last year and gave a glimpse of his leadership.

“He could have a great season and showed that he won’t flinch,” said Reynolds, who finished with three straight regular season wins before losing 36-10 in region playoffs to Yulee. “Parmeter has a few interceptions with Campbell also.”

Reynolds is planning two or three 7 v 7 throwing competitions over the summer with June 19 going to Trenton for a jambo-

ree-style morning with several teams and then June 25 evening a 6 p.m. match at Fleming Island.

“Fleming Island gave us a call and they allowed us to see a level we don’t see often,” said Reynolds. “Trenton is a good teaching environment with plenty of different looks.”

Reynolds noted that individual camps have already been visited by players like Daniels, who just attended at FSU and Central Florida with another group going to Valdosta.

“Baylor, Jackson, Bryce, have been scheduling camps coming up with guys like Jackson Herman, Luke Bacorn and Peter Bostich have been planning camps,” said Reynolds.

For August, Reynolds wants to see leadership and closeness as a team.

“They will be traveling a lot in groups to camps and I’ll get them to my house for hot dogs and stuff,” said Reynolds. “If I get five kids or 35 kids, it’s all good for the team. I want to see them putting the team up front.”



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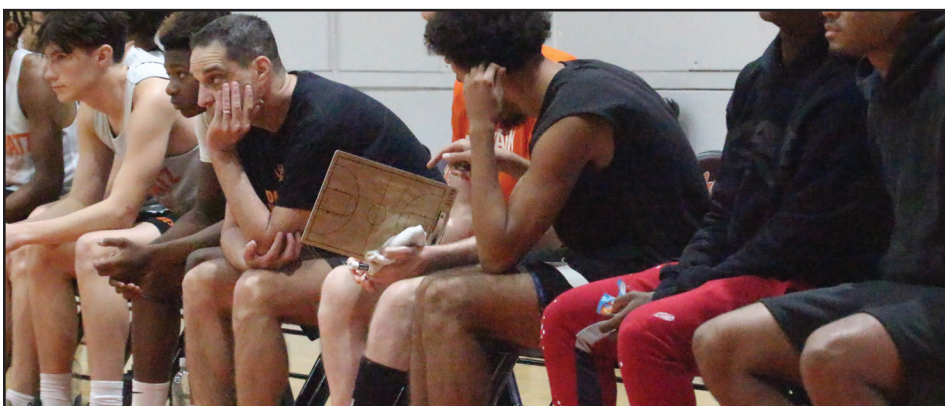
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# Best

from page 39

and Olympics to put points on the board from the lightweights while, in the heavier weights, senior Harper Herring finished her strong career with a third in Olympics and second in Tradition with Calixte M-Daelle going second in Tradition and third in Olympics. In Tradition, Madison Roach scored with a second-place finish at 169.

Ridgeview finished third in team points in Olympics and fourth in Tradition.

Deja Hill, Haber, Kaylin Driver, M-Daelle, Roach, Herring, and Cassandra Garcia all had top 10 finishes at regions in Tradition while Jada Hill, Deja Hill, Haber, Driver, M-Daelle, Roach, Herring and Garcia all top 10 finishers in Olympics.

At the Class 2A championships, in Olympics, Deja Hill finished seventh in 110, Haber was fifth in 119 and Harper was seventh at 183.

In Tradition, Haber finished sixth, M-Daelle was ninth in 154 and Herring was



Ridgeview High weightlifting sisters Jada and Deja Hill, left, brought Mighty Mite power to Panther lineup with state medals while senior hitter Hannah Crosby's leadership nearly upended Middleburg in the district softball championship game with the Panthers returning to regions for a second season under coach Angela Agurkis.



Ridgeview running back Rahyn Hutchinson was one of top running backs in area despite 1-9 season record.



On the flag football team, breakaways including this 50-yard scoring play got Lady Panthers late playoff run.



Ridgeview baseball pitcher Keegan Roach was strong mound man for solid Panthers team.



Track runner Emily Turner was strong distance race point getter; up to regions, for Panthers track and will return as top runner for cross country.

eighth in 183.

For their individual drive to maintain excellence in their sport, Willis and Haber are the Clay Today Ridgeview athletes of the year.

In the fall with the volleyball team under coach Stephen Henry battling against the best teams in the state and with a senior basher in Haley Robinson patrolling the top of the net, the Lady Panthers opened with eight straight wins until tournament losses against a Trinity Christian Academy team that finished at 25-4 and in the Class 3A Final Four, a Ponte Vedra team that made it to the Class 6A region finals and a Bishop Kenny team that made the Class 4A Final Four.

A month later, in one of the more pumped-up away game gym atmospheres, the Lady Panthers were ignited by strong net play from Katie Cole and high-energy action on the defense from Brianna Adams and Mariah Bostic-Jones to take a thun-



Triple jumpers Avi Miller and Ann Gellica-Taravine were lone state meet jumpers for Panthers; both in top 20 in Class 3A.

derous 3-2 upset in one of the more memorable wins in Panther history.

Ridgeview's only Achilles Heel was the Middleburg High Broncos who won the district title over the Panthers and a region final playoff en route to the Class 5A title.

In softball, second-year coach Angela Agurkis took a scrappy batch of returners from her splendid rookie campaign that featured a district title over Middleburg and a region final finish that turned surprisingly into a season of questions up to a 3-7 opening slate of games that was mid-season at a 10-0 loss to Middleburg to a near-miracle run at the end of the season that featured four wins in six games including Ponte Vedra, Clay and Orange Park and ended with a dramatic walk-off homer loss to Middleburg in eight innings.

Agurkis' near turnaround behind the power of Hannah Crosby, Hannah McCrea and Brookly Schneider and the savviness of Ky Torrence on the basepaths was a story waiting to be written of a Phoenix rising, but Agurkis' magic stopped with the dramatic 4-3 loss in eight innings to Middleburg after grabbing a 3-0 for most of the game.

In football, new coach Merlin Smith looks to right the ship of three straight 1-9

# Best

from page 46

seasons with the last winning record for Panther football fans in 2020 under coach Matt Knauss (7-4).

Cross County got a 40th-place finish for girls from sophomore Emily Turner in 22:02.5 at the region 1-3A championship meet and a 28th place finish at districts against the likes of Florida powerhouses Ponte Vedra and Fleming Island to give her top billing for next season.

In golf, the Ridgeview boys finished sixth in districts with Joseph DeRosa top finisher with an 87 score the girls got Madelyn Stuckey and Maggie McLaren finishing side by side at 11th and 12th in districts with Ridgeview fourth.

In girls' basketball, the Lady Panthers had the Blocton trio; Nia, Narissa and Nacoya on the floor for most of the year; minus Nia next season, as coach Gussie Solomon directed the Lady Panthers to a region semifinal finish and a seventh in Class 5A finish. Ridgeview's region semi-loss was to No. 3 Booker T. Washington (23-2).

First-year basketball coach Chandler Hodges got through a two-win season but put some grit back into the Panther bench.

Ridgeview girls soccer loses long-time coach Trevor Clark after a finish with three wins; Yulee, West Nassau and Middleburg before losing in the district tournament to top seed Lincoln. The Panthers had six games decided by just 1-2 goals.

For the boys, coach Paul Tamaro finished a 3-9-1 with the best game a 2-1 win over St. Johns Country Day School.

For the boys in Olympics and Tradition, the team finished third at districts in a small six-team field while, at regions, the boys got eighth in Olympics with Jayden Campbell third at 129, Dondoza Roberts sixth at 154, Lucious Harris seventh at 183 and Braylon Hawkins third at 238.

In Tradition, Campbell finished fourth, Dominick Ostrom finished ninth at 154 with Roberts fifth, Riley Stechschulte ninth at 183 and Hawkins seventh at 238.

At the 2A championships, in Tradition, Campbell finished sixth and Hawkins was ninth in Olympics.

Ridgeview baseball's best game was a



Colton Gulbrand was one of top hitters for Panther baseball. Below: Braylon Hawkins powered to strong finishes in wrestling and weightlifting for Panthers.



tough 1-0 loss to Fleming Island with the Panthers finishing 10-14-1.

In flag football, the Lady Panthers jumped their lineup and finished strong with back-to-back playoff losses to region finalist ED White to end the season at 6-9.

Ridgeview's Rayhn Hutchinson, who finished 2-2, then battled back with two wins in consolation before a pin in the consolation semifinals.

In track, triple jumpers Ava Miller and Ann-Gellica Taravine both made the Class 3A championship meet with Taravine finishing 10th and Miller 12th.



James Laycock was warrior for Panthers wrestling team in one of toughest regions in Florida.



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# NOTICE OF INTENT TO VACATE A PLAT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Jax-Palatka Farms, LLC located at 7643 Gate Parkway, Jacksonville, FL 32256; Cathedral Oak, LLC located at 1845 Town Center Parkway, Fleming Island, FL 32003; Parcel 61 Ventures, LLC located at 7807 Baymeadows Road East, Jacksonville, FL 32256; and the Reinhold Corporation, Inc. located at 1845 Town Center Parkway, Fleming Island, FL 32003 intends to petition the Board of County Commissioners for Clay County, Florida to vacate all or a portion of the plats listed and recorded in the public records of Clay County, Florida as listed:

Portion of Plat "A" of Florida Farms and Industries (FFI) Company's Property PB 2 PG 27  
 FFI Company's Subdivision of Sec 18; the E 1/2 Sec 19, T 6S, R 25E; and that part of Sec 13, T6S, R24E Lying East of Black Creek PB 2 PG 28  
 Portion of Section 3 of Plat "A" of FFI Company's Property PB 2 PG 29

Including the following replats of the plats listed above:

FFI Replat Block 9 PB 2 PG 32  
 Portion FFI Replat portion of Sec 17, all of Sec 18, portion of Sec 19 PB 2 PG 33  
 FFI Company's Plat of Resubdivision Certain Lots in Block 25  
 And a portion of Long Branch Farm PB 2 PG 35  
 Portion of Florida Farms and Industries Plat PB 2 PG 36  
 FFI Company's Plat showing Resubdivision PB 2 PG 37

The area to be vacated is more particularly described as follows and depicted on the following maps:

## LANDS NORTH OF STATE ROAD 16 TO BE INCLUDED IN PETITION TO VACATE

### PARCEL "A"

#### LESS AND EXCEPT FROM ALL OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LANDS:

Any Portion Lying within the "Town of Penney Farms" and any Portion Lying within the Limits of "Cathedral Oak Parkway Phase 3" as per the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 71 on Pages 1 thru 19 of the public records of Clay County, Florida and any Portion Lying in a Public, Maintained Road.

#### PART 1

Those Certain Tracts of Land being a Portion of "Plat A of The Florida Farms and Industries Company's Property" as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 27 of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida; Said Tract being situated in Sections 32, 33 and 34, Township 5 South, Range 25 East, and in Sections 3, 4, 5, 8, 9 and 10, Township 6 South, Range 25 East and described as follows:

- BLOCK 1, Lots 5 through 8, inclusive.
- BLOCK 2, Lots 1 through 10, inclusive.
- LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands conveyed in Official Records Book 1 on Page 674 of said public records to the State of Florida for Right of Way of former State Road 218 now County Road 218.
- BLOCK 3, Lots 1 through 8, inclusive.
- BLOCK 4, Lots 1 through 12, inclusive.
- BLOCK 5, Lots 1 through 4, inclusive.
- BLOCK 6, Lots 1 through 3, inclusive.
- BLOCK 7, Lots 1 through 12, inclusive.
- LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands described in Official Records Book 2905 on Page 547 of said public records as conveyed to the School District of Clay County, Florida.
- BLOCK 8, Lots 1 through 8, inclusive.
- LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands described in Official Records Book 2905 on Page 547 of said public records as conveyed to the School District of Clay County, Florida.
- BLOCK 9, Lots 1 through 12, inclusive.
- LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands described in Official Records Book 1 on Page 674 of said public records as conveyed to the State of Florida for Right of Way of former State Road 218 now County Road 218.
- BLOCK 10, Lots 5 through 8, inclusive.
- BLOCK 13, Lots 3 through 6, inclusive.
- BLOCK 14, Lots 3 through 9, inclusive.
- BLOCK 15, Lots 1 and 2.
- BLOCK 16, Lots 1 through 4, inclusive.
- BLOCK 17: All.
- BLOCK 18: All.
- BLOCK 21, Lots 9 through 14, inclusive.
- TOGETHER WITH: That portion of those certain Unnumbered Lands lying southerly of and immediately adjacent to said Lot 14 and North of Green Cove Springs Road. as shown on said plat.
- LESS AND EXCEPT FROM SAID LOT 14 AND SAID UNNUMBERED LOT: Those lands conveyed to James Morrissey and Jeanette Case Morrissey as recorded in Official Records Book 251 on Page 211 of said public records.
- BLOCK 22, Lots 5 through 8, inclusive.
- LESS AND EXCEPT: Any Portion of Those lands conveyed to Claude D. Kelley and Frances S. Kelley as described in Official Records Book 357 on Page 178; Official Records Book 395 on Page 571; Official Records Book 442 on Page 614; Official Records Book 442 on Page 615; Official Records Book 495 on Page 35 and Official Records Book 549 on Page 190 of said public records, that may lie within said Lot 5.
- BLOCK 24, All of that Portion Lying North of the Town Limits of Penny Farms as described in Laws of Florida 1974; Chapter 74-575.
- LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands described in Official Records Book 1 on Page 674 of said public records as conveyed to the State of Florida for Right of Way of former State Road 218 now County Road 218.
- BLOCK 25, Lots 1 through 3, inclusive, and Lots 5 through 12, inclusive.
- LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands described in Official Records Book 1 on Page 674 of said public records as conveyed to the State of Florida for Right of Way of former State Road 218 now County Road 218.
- BLOCK 26, All of that Portion Lying North of the Town Limits of Penny Farms as described in Laws of Florida 1974; Chapter 74-575.
- BLOCK 27, Lots 3 through 8, inclusive.
- LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands as conveyed to B. A. Franklin and Katherine E. Franklin described in Deed Book 37 on Page 260 of said public records.

#### PART 2

Those Certain 60' Wide, Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands being noted as Avenues and Roads on "Plat A of The Florida Farms and Industries Company's Property" as per plat thereof recorded

in Plat Book 2 on Page 27 of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida; Said Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands being described as follows:  
 All or Any Portion of "Donnelly Road", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat, That May Lie Within Sections 32, 33 and 34, Township 5 South, Range 25 East.  
 All of "Tebo Road", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat; Lying in Sections 32, 33 and 34, Township 5 South, Range 25 East.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT: That portion lying within the lands described in Official Records Book 2905 on Page 547 of said public records as conveyed to the School District of Clay County, Florida.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands described in Official Records Book 1 on Page 674 of said public records as conveyed to the State of Florida for Right of Way of former State Road 218 now County Road 218.  
 All of "Borden Road", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands described in Official Records Book 1 on Page 674 of said public records as conveyed to the State of Florida for Right of Way of former State Road 218 now County Road 218.  
 That portion of "Bermuda Road", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands Lying between Block 15 and Block 16 as shown on said Plat.  
 All of "Farmside Road", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands described in Official Records Book 1 on Page 674 of said public records as conveyed to the State of Florida for Right of Way of former State Road 218 now County Road 218.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT: That portion Lying South of Block 19, South of Block 20 and That Portion in common with Ohio Avenue.  
 The Avenue (Mellontown), Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat; Lying Between Blocks 4, 5, 6, 7, 14, 15, 16 and 17, and between Lots 9 through 15, Block 26 and Lots 2 through 8, Block 27 as shown on said Plat.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands conveyed to B. A. Franklin and Katherine E. Franklin as described in Deed Book 37 on Page 260, of said public records.  
 All of "Conway Avenue," Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT: That portion lying within the lands described in Official Records Book 2905 on Page 547 of said public records as conveyed to the School District of Clay County, Florida.  
 All of "Railroad Avenue," lying between Blocks 2, 3, 8, 9, 12, 13, 18 and 19, as shown on said Plat.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands described in Official Records Book 1 on Page 674 of said public records as conveyed to the State of Florida for Right of Way of former State Road 218 now County Road 218.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT: That portion lying within the lands described in Official Records Book 2905 on Page 547 of said public records as conveyed to the School District of Clay County, Florida.  
 That Portion of "Ohio Avenue" Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat, Lying between Blocks 1 and 2 and Lying between Blocks 9 and 10.  
 That "Un-Named", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat, lying between Block 21 and 22.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT: The South 1846.26 feet of that "Un-Named", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat, Lying between Block 21 and Block 22.

#### PART 3

Those Certain Tracts of Land being a Portion of "Section 3 of Plat "A" of Florida Farms and Industries Company's Property" in Clay County, Florida, as per the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 29, of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida; Said Tracts being situated in Sections 10 and 11, Township 6 South, Range 25 East and described as follows:  
 BLOCK 21, Lots 1, 16 and 17, Together with Those Lands Lying North of and Adjacent to said

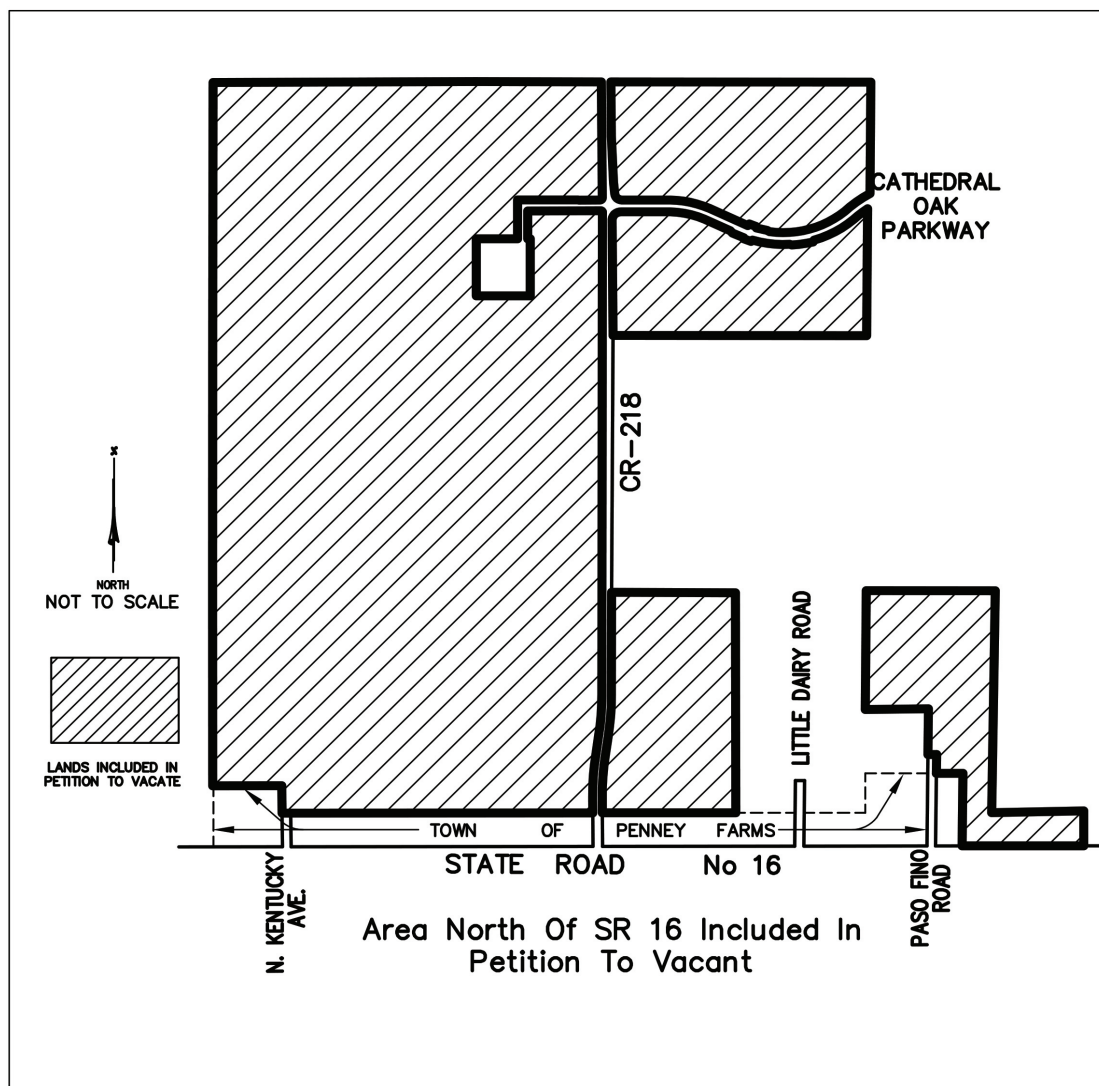
Lots 1, 16 and 17 shown as FF & I Railroad on said Plat.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT FROM LOT 16:  
 Those lands conveyed to James Morrissey and Jeanette Case Morrissey as recorded in Official Records Book 251 on Page 211 of said public records.  
 Those lands conveyed to Penney Farms Cemetery Association as recorded in Official Records Book 945 on Page 350 of said public records.  
 Those lands conveyed to Penney Retirement Community, Inc. in Official Records Book 945 on Page 351, of said public records.  
 BLOCK 76, Lot 16.

#### PART 4

All of "Lyman Avenue", being that Certain 60' Wide, Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands Lying Between Lot 1 of Block 21 and Lot 16 of Block 76 as shown on "Section 3 of Plat "A" of The Florida Farms and Industries Company's Property" as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 29 of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida.

#### DESCRIPTION: PARCEL "B"

Lands Lying within the following Re-Subdivisions and/or Re-Plats that were recorded Subsequent to "Plat A of The Florida Farms and Industries Company's Property" as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 27 of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida; Said Lands being described as follows:  
 ENTIRE PLAT OF: Lands shown on "Florida Farms & Industries Co's Property Plat showing Re-Subdivision of all of Block 9 of Plat "A" recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 27, Clay County, Florida, as per the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 32, of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida: Inclusive of Any and All, Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands Lying within said Plat.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands conveyed in Official Records Book 1 on Page 674 of said public records to the State of Florida for Right of Way of former State Road 218 now County Road 218.  
 ENTIRE PLAT OF: Lands shown on "Florida Farms and Industries Co. Plat Showing Resubdivision" of Lots 3,5,6,7,8 and 9, of Block 25 and a Portion of Long Branch Farm North of Long Branch and West of the FF & I.  
 RR." as per the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 35, of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida. Inclusive of Any and All, Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands Lying within said Plat.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands conveyed in Official Records Book 1 on Page 674 of said public records to the State of Florida for Right of Way of former State Road 218 now County Road 218.  
 ENTIRE PLAT OF: Lands shown on "Florida Farms and Industries Company Plat Showing Resubdivision" as per the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 36, of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida: Inclusive of Any and All, Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands Lying within said Plat.  
 LESS AND EXCEPT: That Portion Lying South of the North Town Limits of Penny Farms as described in Laws of Florida 1974; Chapter 74-575.



Area North Of SR 16 Included In Petition To Vacant

# NOTICE OF INTENT TO VACATE A PLAT (Continued)

## LANDS SOUTH OF STATE ROAD 16 TO BE INCLUDED IN PETITION TO VACATE

**PARCEL "A"**

**LESS AND EXCEPT FROM ALL OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LANDS:**

Any Portion Lying within the "Town of Penney Farms" and Any Portion Lying in a Public, Maintained Road.

**PART 1**

Those Certain Tracts of Land being a Portion of "Plat A of The Florida Farms and Industries Company's Property" as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 27 of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida; Said Tracts being situated in Sections 17 and 20, Township 6 South, Range 25 East and described as follows:

BLOCK 28, Lots 1 through 5, inclusive.

AND: That Portion of the Florida Farms and Industries Company Railroad Right of Way; Lying North of and Adjacent to said Lot 5, Block 28 as shown on said Plat

BLOCK 29: Lots 1 through 10, inclusive.

BLOCK 30: Lots 5 through 9, inclusive

BLOCK 38: Lots 9 through 16, inclusive

BLOCK 39: Lots 1 through 18, inclusive.

BLOCK 40: Lots 1 through 6, inclusive.

**PART 1-A**

Those Certain Non Public, Un-Dedicated Lands being Un-Designated or Noted as Avenues and Roads on "Plat A of The Florida Farms and Industries Company's Property" as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 27 of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida; Said Non Public, Un-Dedicated or Un-Designated Lands being described as follows:

That Portion of "Avenue" (also known as Mellontown or South Kentucky Ave), Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands Lying South of the Northerly Line of Florida Farms and Industries Company Railroad and Lying Between Blocks 28 and 29, and between Blocks 39 and 40, as shown on said Plat.

LESS AND EXCEPT: That Portion of The East 1/2 of said "Avenue" Extending South from the Northerly Line of Florida Farms and Industries Company Railroad to a Westerly Prolongation of the North Line of Lot 9 of Block 29 as shown on said Plat.

All of "Cleveland Avenue", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat.

All of "Adams Road", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat.

**PART 2**

Those Certain Tracts of Land being a Portion of "The Florida Farms and Industries Companies Subdivision of Sec. 18; E1/2 of Sec.19; T6S, R2S; And That Part of Sec. 13, T6S, R24E; Lying East of Black Creek, In Clay County, Florida" as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 28 of the Public Records of said County; Said Tracts being described as follows:

BLOCK 28: All (Lots 9 through 14).

BLOCK 40: All (Lots 7 through 13).

BLOCK 41: All (Lots 1 through 7).

LESS AND EXCEPT: That Portion of Lot 1 – Block 41, Lying within the Boundaries of "Greens Creek Mitigation Bank, Phase 1", described in Official Records Book 3369 on Page 1342 of said public records.

BLOCK 42: All (Lots 1 through 12).

BLOCK 43: Lots 1 through 5, inclusive, That Portion of Lot 6, Lying South of State Road 16.

AND: That Portion of the "Florida Farms Industries Company's Railroad Right of Way", Lying Within said Blocks 28, 42 and 43 In Sec. 18, T6S, R25E. as shown on said Plat.

LESS AND EXCEPT: Those lands described in Deed Book 91 on Page 19 of said public records as conveyed to the Florida State Road Department as Right of Way of State Road 16.

**PART 2-A**

Those Certain Non Public, Un-Dedicated Lands being Un-Designated or Noted as Avenues and Roads on "The Florida Farms and Industries Companies Subdivision of Sec. 18; E1/2 of Sec.19; T6S, R2S; And That Part of Sec. 13, T6S, R24E; Lying East of Black Creek, In Clay County, Florida" as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 28 of the Public Records of said County; Said Non Public, Un-Dedicated or Un-Designated Lands being described as follows:

All of "McDuffie Avenue, Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat.

All of "Prospect Avenue", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat.

All of "Adams Road", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat.

That Certain "Undesignated, Non Public and Un-Dedicated Land Lying South of Lot 1 of Block 43 and South of Lot 12 of Block 42 In Sec. 18, T6S, R25E. as shown on said Plat.

**PART 3**

Those Certain Tracts of Land being a Portion of "Section 3 of Plat "A" of Florida Farms and Industries Company's Property in Clay County, Florida, as per the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 29, of the public records of Clay County, Florida, said Tracts being situated in being in Sections 15, 16, 21, 22 and 27, Township 6 South, Range 25 East and described as follows:

BLOCK 30: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and 10.

BLOCK 31: Lots 1 through 10.

LESS AND EXCEPT: That portion of Lot 4 and Lot 10 in Block 30 and That portion of Lot 4, Lot 5, Lot 9 and Lot 10 of Block 31; Lying within the Voluntary Annexation into Town of Penny Farms (Town Ordinance 94-05) and as described and recorded in Official Records Book 1584 on Page 314 of the public records of said County.

BLOCK 32: Lots 2 through 13, inclusive and That Certain Un-Named and Un-Numbered Land; Lying Northerly of and Adjacent to Lots 6 and 7 of Block 32; Said Land Bounded on the East by a Northerly prolongation of the East Line of Block 32, on the North by the Southerly Line of Florida Farms and Industries Company Railroad and on the West by a Northerly Prolongation of the West Line of Lot 6.

AND: That Portion of the "Florida Farms Industries Company's Railroad Right of Way"; Lying North of That Certain Un-Named and Un-Numbered Land; Lying Northerly of and Adjacent to Lots 6 and 7 of Block 32; Said Portion Bounded on the East by a Northerly prolongation of the East Line of Block 32, on the North by the Northerly Line of said Florida Farms and Industries Company Railroad and on the West by a Northerly Prolongation of the West Line of Lot 6.

LESS AND EXCEPT: Those Portions of Lot 13 of Block 32 as described in Official Records Book 672 on Page 19 and in Official Records Book 1046 on Page 460 of said public records as conveyed to Jerry W. Smith and Joyce R. Smith.

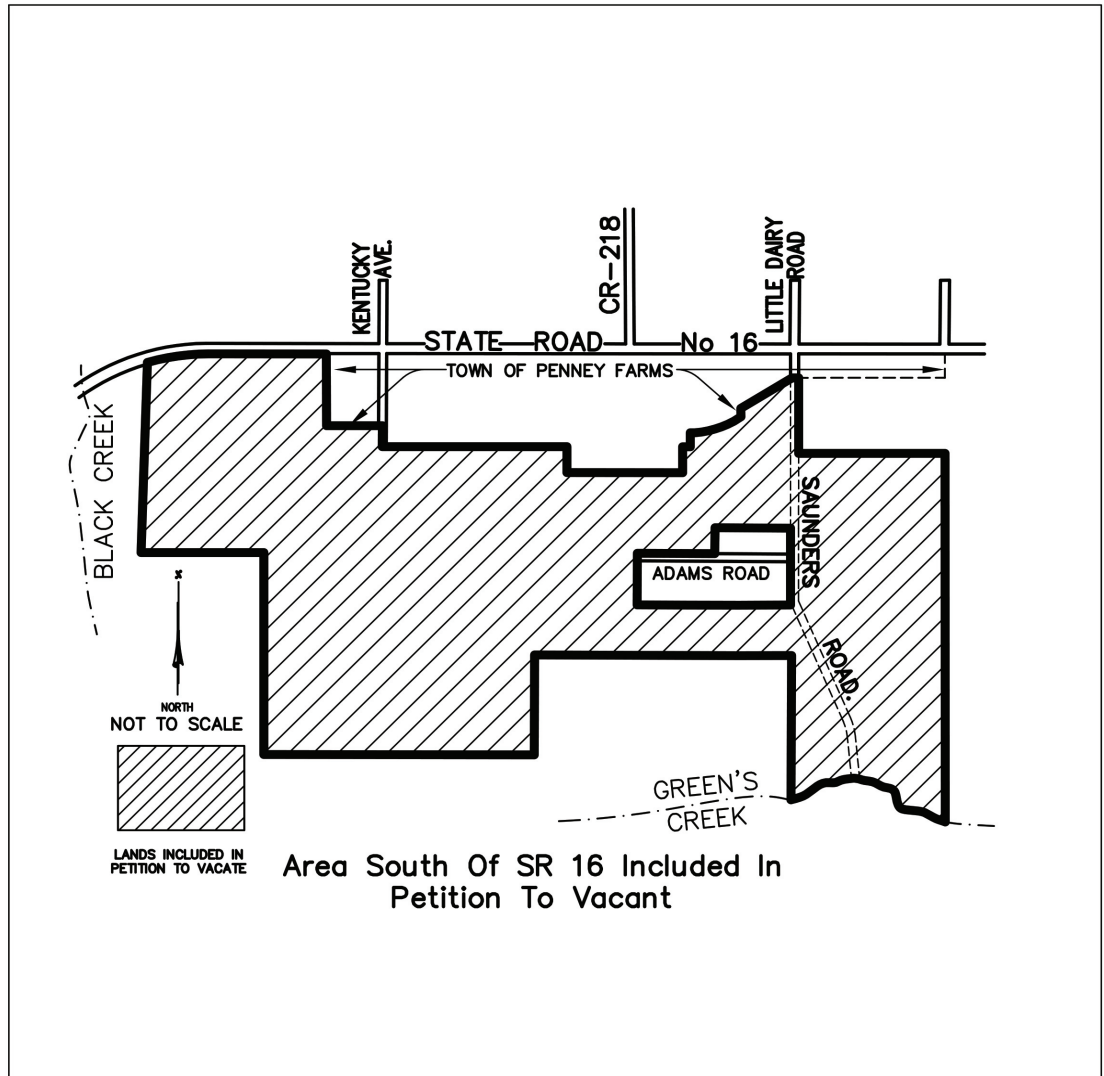
BLOCK 33: Lots 1 through 4 and Lots 13 through 16.

BLOCK 34: Lots 11 and 12.

BLOCK 35: Lots 1 through 16, inclusive.

LESS AND EXCEPT: That Portion of said Block 35 lying in Sec. 22, T6S, R25E, as conveyed in Deed Book 37 on Page 478 of said public records for "A 50 foot Right of Way for County Road" known as Saunders Road.

BLOCK 36: Lots 5, 6, 11 and 12.



Area South Of SR 16 Included In Petition To Vacant

BLOCK 37: Lots 5, 6, 9, 10, 11 and 12.

BLOCK 38: Lots 5, 6, 7 and 8.

BLOCK 56: Lot 8, Lot 9 and That Portion of the NE 1/4 of NW 1/4 and the NE 1/4 of Sec. 27, T6S, R25E, Lying North of Greens Creek; Being Un-Named and Un-Numbered Lands as shown on said Plat.

LESS AND EXCEPT: That Portion of said Block 56 lying in Sec. 27, T6S, R25E, as conveyed in Deed Book 37 on Page 478 of said public records for "A 50 foot Right of Way for County Road" known as Saunders Road.

BLOCK 57: Lot 9, Lot 10 and That Portion of the NE 1/4 of Sec. 27, T6S, R25E; Lying North of Greens Creek; Being Un-Named and Un-Numbered Lands as shown on said Plat.

BLOCK 68: Lots 11 through 20, inclusive

**PART 3-A**

Those Certain Non Public, Un-Dedicated Lands being Un-Designated or Noted as Avenues and Roads on "Section 3 of Plat "A" of Florida Farms and Industries Company's Property in Clay County, Florida", as per the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 29, of the public records of Clay County, Florida; Said Non Public, Un-Dedicated or Un-Designated Lands being described as follows:

That Portion of "Dunlap Avenue", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat; Lying South of Voluntary Annexation into Town of Penny Farms (Town Ordinance 94-05) and as described and recorded in Official Records Book 1584 on Page 314 of the public records of said County.

That Portion of "Young Avenue", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands; Lying South of an Easterly prolongation of the North Line of Lot 10 - Block 31 and North of the South line of Block 37 as shown on said Plat.

LESS AND EXCEPT: That Portion of "Young Avenue", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands Lying Between Lot 10 - Block 36 and Lands Designated US in Block 37 and That Portion common to "Adams Road", Non Public and Un-Dedicated shown on said Plat.

All of "Ohio Avenue", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands, Lying Between Blocks 32 and 33; Blocks 35 and 36 and Adjacent to Block 56.

That Portion of "Pierce Avenue", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands: Lying Between Blocks 33 and 34; Blocks 33 and 68: Blocks 35 and 68 and Blocks 56 and 57.

Those Portions of "Adams Road", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands: Lying Between Blocks 30 and 38; South of and adjacent to Lot 8 of Block 31; Between Blocks 33 and 35 and Between Blocks 34 and 68 as shown on said Plat.

All of "Bennett Road", Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands as shown on said Plat.

**DESCRIPTION: PARCEL "B"**

Lands Lying within the following Re-Subdivision and/or Re-Plat that was recorded Subsequent to "Plat A of The Florida Farms and Industries Company's Property" as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 27 of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida; Said Lands being described as follows:

ENTIRE PLAT OF: Lands Shown on "Florida Farms and Industries Company's Subdivision Plat Showing Re-Subdivision" as per Plat thereof Recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 37 of the Public Records of said County; Inclusive of Any and All, Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands Lying within said Plat.

**AND:**

Lands Lying within the following Re-Subdivision and/or Re-Plat that was recorded Subsequent to "The Florida Farms and Industries Company's Subdivision of Sec. 18: The E 1/2 Sec. 19, T6S, R25E; That Part of Sec. 13, T6S, R24E; Lying East of Black Creek, In Clay County, Florida" as per

plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 28 of the Public Records of Clay County, Florida. ENTIRE PLAT OF: Lands shown on "The Florida Farms and Industries Company's Property" as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2 on Page 33 of the Public Records of said County. Inclusive of Any and All, Non Public and Un-Dedicated Lands Lying within said Plat.

LESS AND EXCEPT: Those Portions of said Plat as shown Lying in Sec.17, T6S, R25E; The same as being within the present Limits of The Town of Penney Farms as described in Laws of Florida 1974; Chapter 74-575.

ALSO LESS AND EXCEPT: Those Lands described in Deed Book 91 on Page 19 and Those Lands described in Official Records Book 62 on Page 575 of said public records as conveyed to the State of Florida for Right of Way of State Road 16.

**General Location /Address of the Property:**

Being approximately 7,267 acres located north and south of State Road 16 in the vicinity of the Town of Penney Farms.

The application, once filed, will be maintained by the County and may be examined by parties in interest by contacting:

**Kellie Henry**  
Economic and Development Services Coordinator  
477 Houston Street  
Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043  
904-529-3814

The Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing to consider the Petition to Vacate after review of the application. Notice of the public hearing will be given in the local paper. The hearing will be held on the 4th Floor of the Clay County Administration Building located at 477 Houston Street in Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043. Interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed request.

Petitioners:  
Jax-Palatka Farms, LLC  
Cathedral Oak, LLC  
Parcel 61 Ventures, LLC  
Reinhold Corporation







CLAY COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:** DARLA VAN NIEUKERK, 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.:** 722/2017  
**Legal Description:** LOT 27 BLK 39 HIGHRIDGE ESTATE AS REC O R 1429 PG 1750  
**Parcel ID No.:** 210823-003073-000-00  
**Opening Bid Amount:** \$1,758.57  
**Physical Address:** 6292 DRAKE AVE , KEYSTONE HEIGHTS  
**Classification:** VACANT RESIDENTIAL  
**Name in which assessed:** JOHN CHADWICK  
 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 **24th day of July, 2024 at 9:30 A.M at www.clayrealtaxdeed.com.**  
**Dated this 3rd day of June, 2024**  
**TARA S. GREEN**  
 Clay County Clerk & Comptroller  
 Clay County, Florida  
 By: Christina Spadea  
 Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 111932 Published 6/6/2024, 6/13/2024, 6/20/2024 and 6/27/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

**PINE RIDGE PLANTATION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET(S); AND NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING.**

The Board of Supervisors ("Board") of the Pine Ridge Plantation Community Development District ("District") will hold a public hearing and regular meeting as

follows:  
**DATE:** July 23, 2024  
**TIME:** 6:00 pm  
**LOCATION:** Pine Ridge Plantation Amenity Center  
 4200 Pine Ridge Parkway  
 Middleburg, FL 32068  
 The purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments and objections on the adoption of the District's proposed budget(s) for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2025 ("Proposed Budget"). A regular Board meeting of the District will also be held at the above time where the Board may consider any other business that may properly come before it. A copy of the agenda and Proposed Budget may be obtained at the offices of the District Manager, Governmental Management Services, 475 West Town Place, Suite 114, St. Augustine, Florida 32092, (904) 940-5850 ("District Manager's Office"), during normal business hours, or by visiting the District's website at <https://pineridgeplantationcdd.com>.  
 The public hearing and meeting are open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law. The public hearing and/or meeting may be continued in progress to a date, time certain, and place to be specified on the record at the public hearing and/or meeting. There may be occasions when Board Supervisors or District Staff may participate by speaker telephone.  
 Any person requiring special accommodations at the public hearing or meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Manager's Office at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the public hearing and meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1, or 1-800-955-8771 (TTY) / 1-800-955-8770 (Voice), for aid in contacting the District Manager's Office.  
 Each person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the public hearing or meeting is advised that person will need a record of proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.  
 Marilee Giles  
 District Manager  
**Legal 111268 Published 6/13/2024 and 6/20/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA  
**CASE NO:** 2024-DR-0766  
**DIVISION:** F  
**IN RE:** THE MARRIAGE OF SANDRA FONAH, Petitioner, and ALHAJI FONAH, Respondent.  
**TO:** ALHAJI FONAH  
 2004 Garrison Way  
 Green Cove Springs, Florida  
**YOU ARE NOTIFIED** that an action has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Petitioner's Attorney, ELIZABETH A. HASLETT, 415 N. Palmetto Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043, on or before 30 days from the 1st day of publication, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at Clay County Courthouse, 825 North Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043, before service on the Petitioner's counsel or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Dissolution of Marriage.  
 Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Notice of Current Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record at the Clerk's office.  
**May 22, 2024.**  
**TARA S GREEN**  
 Clerk of Court  
 Clay County Courthouse  
 Rebecca Crews  
 Deputy Clerk  
**/s/ Elizabeth A. Haslett**  
 ELIZABETH A. HASLETT, ESQUIRE  
 415 N. Palmetto Avenue  
 Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043  
 Tel: (904) 363-2100  
 pleadings@haslettlaw.com  
**Attorney for Petitioner**  
**Legal 110703 Published 5/30/2024, 6/6/2024, 6/13/2024 and 6/20/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 4TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA  
**Case No.:** 2022CA000987  
**DIRECT GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY,**

Plaintiff,  
 v.  
**ARIEL MARIE OSTER, WILLIAM TREVOR SHEERING, AND ARIEL MARIE OSTER AS PARENT, NATURAL AND LEGAL GUARDIAN OF S.G., A MINOR,**  
 Defendants.  
**TO:** ARIEL MARIE OSTER AS PARENT, NATURAL AND LEGAL GUARDIAN OF S.G., A MINOR; Address Unknown  
**YOU ARE NOTIFIED** that Direct General Insurance Company has instituted an Action for Declaratory Judgment against you in the Circuit Civil in and for Clay County and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses and responses to Plaintiff's First Request for Admissions to Defendant, ARIEL MARIE OSTER AS PARENT, NATURAL AND LEGAL GUARDIAN OF S.G., A MINOR, if any, to it on McFARLANE LAW, whose address is 210 N. University Drive, 6th Floor, Coral Springs, Florida 33071, and file the original with the Clerk of Court at 825 N. Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 on or before 30 days, either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint for Declaratory Judgment.  
 This notice shall be published once each week for four (4) consecutive weeks in Clay Today.  
 Witness my hand and seal of this Court on this 14th day of May, 2024.  
**Tara S. Green**  
 As Clerk of the Court  
 By: Taylor Tison  
 As Deputy Clerk  
**Legal 110618 Published 5/30/2024, 6/6/2024, 6/13/2024 and 6/20/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

**ARMSTRONG COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025 BUDGET; AND NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING.**

The Board of Supervisors ("Board") of the Armstrong Community Development District ("District") will hold a public hearing

on July 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Plantation Oaks Amenity Center, 845 Oakleaf Plantation Parkway, Orange Park, Florida 32065, for the purpose of hearing comments and objections on the adoption of the proposed budget ("Proposed Budget") of the District for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2024 and ending September 30, 2025 ("Fiscal Year 2024/2025"). A regular board meeting of the District will also be held at that time where the Board may consider any other business that may properly come before it. A copy of the agenda and Proposed Budget may be obtained at the offices of the District Manager, c/o Governmental Management Services - North Florida LLC, 475 West Town Place, Suite 114, St. Augustine, Florida 32092, (904) 940-5850 ("District Manager's Office"), during normal business hours, or by visiting the District's website at [armstrongcdd.com](http://armstrongcdd.com).  
 The public hearing and meeting are open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law. The public hearing and meeting may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record at the meeting. There may be occasions when Board Supervisors or District Staff may participate by speaker telephone.  
 Any person requiring special accommodations at this meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Manager's Office at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1, or 1-800-955-8771 (TTY) / 1-800-955-8770 (Voice), for aid in contacting the District Manager's Office.  
 Each person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the public hearing or meeting is advised that person will need a record of proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.  
 Marilee Giles  
 District Manager  
**Legal 110519 Published 6/13/2024 and 6/20/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**

**STATE OF FLORIDA, DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT INVITATION TO BID**

**Issuing Agency:** Department of Military Affairs  
**Project Number and Name:** 222021 Support Area A Paving  
**Project Location:** Camp Blanding Joint Training Center, 5629 FL-16 W, Starke, FL  
**General Statement of Work:** Licensed asphalt contractor shall furnish all labor, supervision, materials, equipment, bonding and insurance, and permits (if needed) for the following:  
 Repave approximately 276,517 square feet that makes up the Support Area A Marshaling Area. Mill the two areas at opposite ends of the area, totaling approximately 8,334 square yards, to remove deficient areas. The products of milling operations will remain on-site at Camp Blanding at a location to be designated. Apply an FDOT approved tack product by heated distributor truck at rate of 0.10 gallons per square yard. This area shall receive a leveling course of approximately 687.55 tons of hot mix asphalt placed by spreader and compacted prior to further work. Finish paving by placing approximately 2,534.74 tons of SP-12.5 hot mix asphalt over the combined 18,368 square feet of driveways and 258,149 square feet of marshaling and maintenance area. This material shall be placed with a powered asphalt spreader and compacted to a thickness of 1 1/2" at satisfactory density. Contractor to ensure applicable testing and monitoring samples are obtained utilizing a vendor of their choice.  
**Estimated Construction Cost (range):** Level 5 \$600,000-650,000  
**Type of Contractor:** Asphalt  
**Date of VIP Posting:** June 18, 2024  
**Site Visit Date:** As stated on the Vendor Information Portal (late bids will not be accepted)  
**Point Of Contact:** Department of Military Affairs, CFMO Contract Management Office at (904) 823-0285 or e-mail [ng.fl.fiarng.list.cfmo-contracting@army.mil](mailto:ng.fl.fiarng.list.cfmo-contracting@army.mil).  
**FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS PLEASE REFER TO THE MYFLORIDAMARKETPLACE VENDOR INFORMATION PORTAL AT:**  
<https://vendor.myfloridamarketplace.com/>  
**Legal 113480 Published 6/20/2024 in Clay County's Clay Today newspaper**



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