

# THE OAKLEAF

—Serving Oakleaf, Argyle, & Western Clay County—

**ZELL**  
Orthodontics

Dr. Karen Koehler Zell

904.268.3052  
zellorthodontics.com

9640 Crosshill Blvd., #102  
Jacksonville, FL 32222

Improving lives one smile at a time.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Vol .14 • No. 12

## Oakleaf Village, Coppergate, Swimming Pen elementaries receive Purple Star award at School Board meeting

School board recognizes teachers of year, All-State Student Performers

By Kyla Woodard  
kyla@claytodayonline.com

FLEMING ISLAND - Three of Clay's elementary schools were awarded a distinction on Thursday, Feb. 6.

**INSURANCE RATES TOO HIGH? WE CAN HELP!**

Auto • Business • Home • Life/Health

✓ Been in business over 60 years

www.GeorgeRobertsIns.com  
darbyann@georgerobertsins.com

**ROBERTS INSURANCE**

EXPERIENCE, SERVICE & GREAT RATES

Middleburg 2361 Blanding Blvd. • 904-282-7665  
Keystone Heights 333 S. Lawrence Blvd. • 352-473-7209

**Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Competitive rates, not-for-profit,  
right here in your community.

Keystone • (352) 473-4917  
Orange Park • (904) 272-2456  
clayelectric.com

During a presentation at the school board meeting, Swimming Pen, Oakleaf Village and Coppergate elementary schools were recognized as recipients of the Florida Department of Education's Purple Star School of Distinction Designation.

The Florida legislature established the honor in 2021 to recognize schools that support the unique needs of military families.

The schools are judged based on the resources provided for military students transitioning to new schools, the systems to help navigate their challenges and the additional activities provided for their families.

Naval Air Station Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Gregory deWindt and Naval Air Station Jacksonville School Liaison Officer Teri Wanamaker presented the award to the schools.

Orange Park Elementary's Amanda Watson, Lake Asbury Junior High's Misty Massey and Bannerman Learning Center's Sierra Hardin were recognized for their



PHOTO COURTESY OF ONE CLAY

During a presentation at the school board meeting, Swimming Pen, Oakleaf Village and Coppergate elementaries were recognized as recipients of the Florida Department of Education's Purple Star School of Distinction Designation.

wins at this year's Apple Awards.

Watson won Teacher of the Year, while Massey and Hardin took home the School-Related Employee and Rookie Teacher of the Year titles, respectively.

The meeting also was a place to acknowledge the All-State Student Performers. Nineteen students from Lake Asbury Junior, Lakeside Junior, Oakleaf Junior,

Clay High, Fleming Island High, Keystone Heights Junior/Senior High, Oakleaf High, Orange Park High and Ridgeview High were selected to participate this year.

The students were chosen through a demanding statewide audition and nomination process last Fall.

SEE AWARDS, 3

More **TRUCK**  
For Your **BUCK**



**GORDON**  
CHEVROLET • ORANGE PARK

www.GordonChevy.com  
166 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park



## Oakleaf Plantation Library project moves ahead with \$750,000 grant

By Kyla Woodard  
kyla@claytodayonline.com

GREEN COVE SPRINGS - Another step forward was made for the future Oakleaf Plantation Library on Tuesday.

The Board of County Commissioners approved a grant agreement with the State of Florida Department of State for \$750,000 to start the design plan for the project.

The Florida Legislature appropriated the funds for the State Fiscal Year 2024/2025.

Clay Today reported that the library is set to be located near Oakleaf Village Elementary at the end of Plantation Oaks

Boulevard.

District 2 Commissioner Alexandra Compere, representing Oakleaf constituents, said she's excited that the project is coming along, especially for residents in the area.

She said that a request for qualifications is set to be sent before the end of the month.

In other news, the BCC proclaimed February as Black History Month. The board recognized many historical county figures and community leaders for their influence and impact.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CLAY COUNTY GOVERNMENT

The Board of County Commissioners proclaimed February as Black History Month at Tuesday's meeting. The board recognized many historical county figures and community leaders for their influence and impact.

## Oakleaf and Middleburg High EKG students learn about healthcare careers at Ascension St. Vincent's Clay County

For Clay Today

MIDDLEBURG — Students enrolled in electrocardiogram (EKG) programs at Oakleaf High School and Middleburg High School spent the day at the hospital for "Heart of Healthcare Career Day."

A panel of associates across the hospital shared stories about their careers and advised the students on accomplishing



A panel of associates from across the hospital shared stories about their careers and gave the students advice on accomplishing their goals.

their goals. The students also toured the hospital and observed how each department works with each other to take care of patients.

Jhimerea Gadson is one of the students in the EKG program at Oakleaf High. She says she still isn't sure which path in the healthcare industry she will focus on. Still, she's taking every opportunity to learn from healthcare professionals while volunteering and spending time in the hospital.

"The exciting part is really learning what everybody does," said Gadson. "There's a lot of things that you don't really know unless you come to the hospital and volunteer. So, you get to see a lot of different things and learn a lot of things that you wouldn't know."

This is the inaugural "Heart of Healthcare Career Day" at St. Vincent's Clay. Organizers look forward to making this an annual event at the hospital.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

This is the inaugural 'Heart of Healthcare Career Day' at St. Vincent's Clay.



## AWARDS

from page 1



Nineteen students from Lake Asbury Junior, Lakeside Junior, Oakleaf Junior, Clay High, Fleming Island High, Keystone Heights Junior/Senior High, Oakleaf High, Orange Park High and Ridgeway High were selected to participate this year.



Orange Park Elementary's Amanda Watson, Lake Asbury Junior High's Misty Massey and Bannerman Learning Center's Sierra Hardin were recognized for their wins at this year's Apple Awards.

## By any language, children enjoyed free dental care at Fortis College

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

ORANGE PARK – Theo didn't speak English, but he knew enough to jump into the dental chair and open his mouth wide. Really wide.

Dental assistant students and instructors at Fortis College still communicated despite wearing masks. Theo quickly understood their hand and eye gestures to complete his examination as part of the annual Give Kids a Smile program on Friday, Feb. 7.

He was stumped by the final procedure



STAFF PHOTOS BY DON COBLE

Theo didn't have to understand English to know he needed to open wide to start his dental exam.

when they applied fluoride because it left a thick, sticky film on his teeth. One of the students laughingly rubbed her teeth with her tongue to assure him it was all right.

The American Dental Association program was open to families from noon to 4 p.m. Dental Assisting instructors, and students performed pediatric oral health-care to underserved children, 1 to 8. The children received screening exams, fluoride varnish and coronal polishing. They also were taught how to brush and floss properly.

Give Kids a Smile started in St. Louis in 2003, and it's grown to include more than 6,500 dentists and 30,000 dental team



Yuri had to be reminded by dental assistant student Breanna Bryant a few times not to bite the suction tube.



Sarah gets ready for her first dental examination.

members who volunteer to treat more than 300,000 children nationally.

At Fortis, not only do children get crucial dental care, but students also get essential hands-on experience.

Including Theo's brother, Yuri.

He had trouble understanding not to bite the suction tube until instructor Lashae Spinks pinched her lips like a kiss to show him to close his lips but not bite.

Theo and Yuri only understood Portu-

guese.

Sarah was in another room. She only understood Spanish, and Friday's visit was her first trip to the dentist. Her teeth, however, were in perfect condition. But, like Theo, she wasn't sure what to make of the fluoride treatment.

Give Kids a Smile is traditionally held on the first Friday of February. Fortis reported 19 children received free dental care.



*Judge throws the cook at them*

# Ray Forbess liked his team's BBQ being judged

Local team hired to serve Earnhardt Jr.'s race team

By Don Coble  
don@claytodayonline.com

DAYTONA BEACH — Ray Forbess Jr. happily traded his black robe and gavel for an apron and tongs last weekend.

Instead of hearing pleas and testimony, he gladly listened as guests savored eating barbecue prepared by professional pitmaster Josh Skipper as race cars thundered past fewer than 75 yards away.

Most of the time, Forbess sits on the bench as one of six circuit judges. He took several days off and worked with Skipper, Matthew Mitchell and Jimbo to cater a private gathering for BRANDT and Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s JR Motorsports at the Daytona International Speedway.

Forbess arrived at the speedway Friday afternoon and didn't get home until early Monday.

"It felt really good," he said. "It was worth it. It's absolutely fun to step away and do something like this. There's so much satisfaction when people enjoy it and tell you it's the best thing they ever ate, and

they don't know what I really do."

Skipper is part of the Blues Hog BBQ team that travels to national competitions. The team won the Grand Champions ribbon at the 2022 Memphis in May, signifying the World Championships.

Forbess has joined Skipper for the last three years at Daytona. He knows his way around the smoker and appreciates the creativity of turning a piece of meat into culinary perfection.

"You can cook 10 slabs of ribs, and they will come out different every time, and they will still be the best ribs you've ever had," he said.

Saturday's menu included pulled pork and smoked turkey for lunch. JR Motorsports included car owners Earnhardt Jr., his sister Kelley Earnhardt Miller, husband L.W. Miller and Rick Hendrick with driver Justin Allgaier. The team competed in the Xfinity Series United Tools Rental 300. Allgaier started on the pole but crashed on the last lap and finished 18th.

Allgaier also ran in Sunday's Daytona



STAFF PHOTO BY DON COBLE

When he's not sitting behind the bench at the Clay County Courthouse, Ray Forbess Jr. can usually be found behind a flume of white smoke from a barbecue grill. He joined longtime friend and champion pitmaster Josh Skipper, left, last weekend at the Daytona International Speedway to cater a private party for BRANDT for Saturday's Xfinity Series race for the JR Motorsports team owned by Dale Earnhardt Jr., his sister Kelley Earnhardt-Miller, husband L.W. Miller, Rick Hendrick and driver Justin Allgaier, and Sunday's Daytona 500 for JR Motorsports, which Country Music superstar Chris Stapleton sponsored.

500. It was the first start for JR Motorsports in the NASCAR Cup Series. After failing to qualify for the starting lineup on speed during time trials on Wednesday, Allgaier drove his way into the race during the first of two 150-mile qualifying races Thursday.

Country music star Chris Stapleton's Traveller Whiskey sponsored the car. Stapleton watched the qualifying race from his home in Nashville, Tennessee, and he said he nervously texted Earnhardt several times during the race.

"I was on the edge of my couch the entire race," he said after arriving to the track on Sunday. "This is a huge deal for me."

Skipper said Allgaier didn't eat Thursday before the qualifying race but made up for it on Friday.

"He ate three plates of barbecue on Friday," he said. "And he requested ribs for

Saturday. He loves my barbecue."

Marketing Director Rod Riech said BRANDT doesn't give Skipper a menu for race weekend.

"We tell him how many people we're bringing, and he goes from there," he said. "He's never done us wrong. We met through a mutual friend (Blues Hog owner Tim Scheer), and he's cooked for us the last four or five Daytona races. Last year, he was brought out to COA (Austin, Texas). This year, we're trying to get him to Talladega (Alabama), Homestead and Austin."

Sunday's menu included smoked prime rib, brisket, pork, ribs and jalapeno sausage links, Skipper said.

Sunday's all-night cook included a sweep by the U.S. Secret Service ahead of President Donald Trump's visit. The VIP area where Forbess and Skipper worked was cleared at 10 p.m. Saturday, but

**SEE FORBESS, 5**



STAFF PHOTOS BY DON COBLE

From left: Dale Earnhardt Jr., Kelley Earnhardt-Miller and Chris Stapleton before the Daytona 500.



## United Way NE Florida opens healthy literacy microgrant requests

**For Clay Today**  
**CLAY COUNTY**

United Way of Northeast Florida launched a microgrant request for proposals (RFP) to fund health literacy programs focused on improving health outcomes in the region's most high-need zip codes.

The microgrant pool is made possible by generous funding from Miller Electric Company. Selected organizations will receive up to \$10,000 to support programming for a period of six to eight months.

Submissions are open to any grassroots, faith-based or community-based organization or nonprofit that has operated for at least two years and serves residents in Clay, Baker, Duval, Nassau or St. Johns counties. More eligibility information can be found in the RFP.

Submissions will be accepted now through 11:59 p.m., Friday, March 7. Learn more and apply at [unitedwaynefl.org/community-partners](https://unitedwaynefl.org/community-partners).



STAFF PHOTOS BY DON COBLE

Fleming Island's Josh Skipper flips a rack of ribs on Sunday as his team gets ready to feed 120 people for BRANDT.

## FORBESS

from page 4

agents allowed them to put meat on the grills and let them check them for 10 minutes at 2 a.m.

"Normally, we try to pack up and leave midway in the race," Forbes said, "but we couldn't because the Secret Service still had their security stuff set up, like their X-ray machine."


There also were two rain delays during

the race, totaling about four hours.


"It was a long, hard day, but it was all worth it," Forbes said. "It was fun just to watch them eat. The satisfaction was the people coming up asking what you're cooking next. We cooked the whole day and had to have a contingency plan for the rain. We signed up to cook lunch but ended up cooking dinner."

Just like a trial, nothing goes as planned. Which is the way Judge Ray Forbess Jr. likes it.

# HEALTH LITERACY MICROGRANTS



**UNITED WAY**  
Northeast Florida



APPLY TODAY

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNITED WAY NORTHEAST FLORIDA

## JACKSONVILLE MEMORY GARDENS

### FUNERAL HOME AND CEMETERY

One convenient location, because it's important for family to be together at a difficult time.  
Pre-Planning - Peace of mind, Locking in at today's prices - 0% financing for 60 months



Discounted Funeral Packages (Pre-Need Only) | Pre-Planned Veteran Discounts

Visit us at [JacksonvilleMemoryGardens.com](https://JacksonvilleMemoryGardens.com)

**111 Blanding Boulevard (Next to Orange Park Mall) | 904-272-2435**



# Play Town now open on Royal Pines in Oakleaf

New indoor play gym brings refreshing experience for local youth



STAFF PHOTOS BY KYLA WOODARD

Owner Ashley Burnsed said she wanted to open the indoor playground to give parents in the area convenient play options for their children.

By Kyla Woodard  
kyla@claytodayonline.com

OAKLEAF - The community came together to celebrate the opening of Clay County's newest indoor playground last Saturday.

Located on Royal Pines Drive, Play Town is "a little kid's play gym," providing a spot for children to arrive and be immersed in a fun experience.

Owner Ashley Burnsed said a community need sparked the idea for Play Town.

Burnsed said she often found it challenging to find an indoor playground that met her and her child's needs. Wanting to take her toddler somewhere to socialize, Burnsed said most playgrounds were on the other side of town.

She traveled long distances to make it before the early closing times. Not only that but with the unpredictability of Florida weather, Burnsed said outdoor play areas weren't always the right fit either.

Although the need was quiet, to her, it was big.

When thinking of an idea for a second business, she thought about building the indoor playground not just to benefit her but others who may be experiencing the same problem.

"I want to bring this to our community just to make it easier on moms and dads," Burnsed said. "So that they're not having to drive across town. I want them to have a tight circle with other community moms and dads."

Burnsed said her husband owns a construction company, and they started their dream of finding the right location and theme.

From an indoor climbing platform with two slides, a ball pit and a tunnel to mini 'pretend' ice cream shops, grocery stores and stationery toys, Burnsed said the play gym has everything a child could want.

Burnsed said they will also notice the walls lined with familiar fictional characters they may know and love as they immerse themselves in the activities.

Intricate murals, from Disney princess-

es to Star Wars, are painted throughout the building. Burnsed said she was excited to add this to the experience, as not many others have it.

"I want the kids to walk in and completely be in this imaginary, fun, exciting world," Burnsed said. "Whereas they're walking in, there's a storyline on every part of the wall."

The murals were painted by artist Chris King, who has been painting professional murals since 1986.

In addition to daily play admission, Play Town offers monthly subscriptions and party packages, which Burnsed said she is excited to start with.

On opening day, the playground was packed with mingling parents and children. Burnsed said she was happy to see this, especially following parents' feedback that they had been waiting for something like Play Town to make its way to the area.

Now that it's there, Burnsed said she hopes to continue fostering the spirit of connection and fun.



Artist Chris King painted the murals along the walls of the building. King has been painting professional murals since 1986.



Lining the walls of the building are intricate murals highlighting popular fictional characters.



# Former Orange Park resident Capt. Teresa Ferry serves as commanding officer at Navy Reserve Center Houston

By Petty Officer 3rd Class Gracie Lizard  
*Navy Public Affairs Support Elements West*

HOUSTON – U.S. Navy Capt. Teresa Ferry, a native of Orange Park, is the commanding officer of Navy Reserve Center Houston. She advocates for building stronger relationships between staff and Reserve units in her leadership position.

“Our mission is to make sure we have medically and administratively ready Selected Reserve (SELRES) Sailors to deploy, whether for mobilization or in time of war,” Ferry said. “But I found that the way to do that best is to establish a teammate relationship between the staff and the SELRES. I give them three things that are my priorities: professionalism, treating everyone with dignity and respect, and being a teammate.”

Ferry was commissioned into the Navy 25 years ago as an active duty naval aviator, after which she transitioned to the Navy Reserve, where she serves today in the Training and Administration of the Reserve (TAR) program as a full-time Navy Reservist.

“I joined the Navy because I have a heart for service, but also because I’m the youngest of six, and I wanted to go to college,” Ferry said. Taught the importance of independence from her parent,s she earned a scholarship through the Navy ROTC program to pay for her education,

where she graduated from Jacksonville University with a degree in history.

With 90% of global commerce traveling by sea and internet access relying on the security of undersea fiber optic cables, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity of the United States is directly linked to recruiting and retaining talented individuals.

Sailors like Ferry demonstrate the Navy Reserve’s singular focus on warfighting readiness in this era of strategic competition.

“We are here to preserve the peace, respond in crisis, and win decisively in war,” said Adm. Lisa Franchetti, Chief of Naval Operations, in her America’s Warfighting Navy priorities paper.

Ferry represents one of the more than 56,000 drilling reservists and full-time support reservists who work around the globe to support the fleet.

“I am proud of where the Reserve Force is today,” said Vice Adm. Nancy Lacore, Chief of the Naval Reserve and Commander of the Navy Reserve Force. “We have worked hard to build the strategic depth the Total Navy Force needs. But we have more work to do, work we will take on together. Our job is to fight and win our nation’s wars, and we must ensure our sailors and their families are prepared to do this when the call comes.”

While deployed to the Middle East as an



PHOTO BY CMDR. CHERYL COLLINS

Capt. Teresa Ferry, commanding officer of Navy Reserve Center Houston, speaks to high school students in Galveston, Texas, during Galveston Navy Week, on Oct. 22.

individual augmentee, she was a pilot and taught helicopter flight training to U.S. and partner nation students.

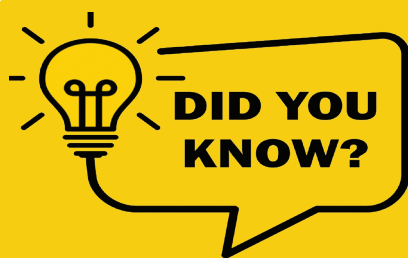
Ferry serves a Navy that operates far forward, worldwide and the clock, promoting the nation’s prosperity and security.

“It’s all a part of being a team, so it’s not a matter of highlighting yourself and being the one with a huge accomplishment,” Ferry said. “It’s that the team succeeded.”

ry said. “It’s that the team succeeded.”

Ferry appreciates her family for instilling values that have guided her Navy career.

“My folks really taught us to serve, and it’s not just a service to the nation, but in little things,” Ferry said. “It’s important to serve in a big way, but it’s also important to serve every day in little ways.”



This week, USAID, which was created to “extend assistance to countries recovering from a disaster, trying to escape poverty and engaging in democratic reforms,” and D.O.G.E. No matter which side of the political aisle

you’re on, you must be surprised by how our tax money has been spent. While there is an argument on how much money was overspent by Social Security – D.O.G.E. said “millions” of people older than 100 are receiving benefits – a Social Security Inspector General argued the agency “only” overpaid \$71.8 billion from 2015 through 2022. A few of D.O.G.E.’s findings of USAID programs that haven’t been disputed: \$849,535 for a transgender job fair in Bangladesh, \$1,999,900 for sex change surgeries in Guatemala, \$20 million to create a “Sesame Street” TV program in Iraq, and \$5.2 million to create a Nigerian “Sesame Street” pilot program.



**OAKLEAF**  
BAPTIST CHURCH



OAKLEAF BAPTIST CHURCH  
800 OAKLEAF PLANTATION PKWY.

**Join Us Sunday!**  
**10:30am**  
**[oakleafbaptist.org](http://oakleafbaptist.org)**

**Iglesia Hispana Oakleaf**  
**@ 10:30am**

800 Oakleaf Plantation Parkway Orange Park, FL 32065  
904-214-9066 info@oakleafbaptist.org



# Superheros run fast for Grace Episcopal School

Gate River Run 15K: Bringing back internationals



Wide eyed and smiling kids were the stars of the morning running festival at the Superhero one mile fun run.

By Randy Lefko  
randy@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK - Nearly 800 runners attended the Grace Episcopal Day School's annual Superhero 5K/8K and one mile fun run on Saturday and the day was filled with colorful costumes and fairly fast times with the likes of Spiderman and Superman, plus the Expendables taking top billing on the road to glory.

In the 8K race, a 4.97 mile jaunt around the school's Kingsley Avenue setting and River Road, it was two high schoolers, Suwannee High's Logan Haley, a state cross country athlete as a freshman last year, and Fleming Island's Ryder Muyres taking an early lead to go first and second; 29:06 and 31:11, as Haley took out from the start to win the race. In third was John Webb, 54, in 31:26.

For the women, Maddie Guevera, 30, won with a ninth overall finish and a 35:13 split ahead of Liv Ade, 27, who was 14th in 37:32. Third went to St. Johns Country Day School runner Kate Staten, 13, in 18th at 38:20.

For the 5K race, 3.1 miles, Richard Sollee, 24, won in 18:22 in front of Porn-

chai Chantha, 27, in 19:55 with David Morales, 36, third in 20:55.

For the women, Varinka Barbina Ensminger, 44, overtook former Fleming Island cross country standout Mei Chiang, 20, with a 21:01 to 21:24 gap. Orange Park's Britta Fortson, 52, was third at 22:47.

Area runners will start to prepare for the 48th annual Gate River Run 15K championship race on Saturday, March 1 starting in downtown Jacksonville. According to River Run race director Doug Alred of 1st Place Sports, the Gate River Run 15K in 2025 will feature an international field as the race is the season opening race for the Professional Road Running Organization (PRRO) Circuit, as one of America's Classic Road Race.

The Gate River Run 15K has been the USATF 15K American championship race since 1994 and now will be part of a world class field open to both U.S. and international athletes.

According to the Gate River Run website, United State runners will still be able to earn prize money in the Open race as well as specific "American Cup" prize mon-



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO  
Expendable Eric Dennis rolls along during Superhero 8k held Saturday at Grace Episcopal Day School.

ey for U.S. athletes.

U.S. athletes that finish in the top 10 of the Open race will also have the opportunity to Double Dip and receive prize money from both the Open race and the American Cup prize pool.

The Gate River Run will also offer the traditional Equalizer Bonus plus bonuses for any 15K course records.



Runners blast from start of Superhero 8K held Saturday at Grace Episcopal Day School.



A well-dressed mini Batman heads out on Superhero one mile kids fun run.

## 4 ways to spend your tax refund

By StatePoint Media  
For Clay Today

Receiving a tax refund this year? While it can be tempting to impulse spend, if you want to really treat yourself, financial professionals recommend using the payout for practical expenses.

According to Certified Financial Planning professionals, here are innovative ways to spend your tax refund that will improve your life:

**1. Build an emergency fund:** Unexpected circumstances like illness or job loss can leave you with more bills and less income. Not having an emergency fund puts you at risk of taking on high-interest debt to meet expenses. Use your tax refund to create peace of mind for yourself and your family. And now that you've started the emergency fund consider using direct deposit to funnel a portion of each paycheck into this account.

**2. Reduce debt:** Paying down debt can be insurmountable. And if it's a challenge you've been avoiding, you can use your tax refund to kick-start your journey. Not sure where to start? A CFP professional can help you identify which debt to prioritize first, as well as help you craft a repayment strategy moving forward.

**3. Save for retirement:** No matter your age or stage in life, a tax refund offers an excellent opportunity to boost your retirement account. Thanks to compounding, the money you set aside today in an investment account, such as a 401(k) or Roth IRA, will exponentially grow between now and when it's time to tap your nest egg.

**4. Set financial goals:** From planning a vacation or wedding to becoming a homeowner, your goals are worth investing in. Put your tax refund toward something that matters to you.

For more tax season tips and to find your CFP professional, visit Lets-MakeAPlan.org.

With an actionable plan and the help of a qualified financial professional, you can ensure your tax refund is put to good use.



# Classifieds

## for Clay County

Serving Keystone Heights, Orange Park, Fleming Island, Green Cove Springs, Oakleaf, Penney Farms & Middleburg

904-579-2154  
3513 U.S. Hwy 17  
Fleming Island, FL 32003

**MESSAGE TO ADVERTISERS**  
All ads are non-refundable. Please check your ad copy the first week of publication. We will only apply credit for the first run and credits are subject to approval of the publisher. If ad is canceled prior to the first insertion cancellation must be made by classified deadline of Monday by noon. Ads must comply with Federal, State a

local laws. We are not responsible for ad content. Ads are subject to approval by the publisher.

**DEADLINE MONDAY NOON**

**LINER ADS**  
All line ads are 4 lines, 20-25 characters per line. Additional lines may be purchased. All rates are NET.

PRIVATE PARTY	COMMERCIAL
1 week \$14.50	1 week \$23
2 week \$24	2 week \$40
3 week \$32	3 week \$56
4 week \$40	4 week \$72

**EMPLOYMENT SPOTLIGHT**  
Ads are \$27 per column inch with a minimum of 2"

**ESTATE & GARAGE SALES**  
\$21

**BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY**  
1.5" x 2" \$80 for 4 weeks  
1.5" x 3" \$160 for 4 weeks

Cost includes online at: claytodayonline.com

### We buy Guitars

We Buy Vintage Guitars! Looking for 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-866-307-5421

### Donate your Vehicle

DONATE YOUR VEHICLE to fund the SEARCH FOR MISSING CHILDREN. FAST FREE PICKUP. 24 hour response. Running or not. Maximum Tax Deduction and No Emission Test Required! Call 24/7: 888-815-4341

### Home Improvements

Finish Carpenter Int/ExtPaint, dry-wall, tile Orange park (904)652 5463

**BATH & SHOWER UPDATES** in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-855-315-1952

**AGING ROOF? NEW HOMEOWNER? STORM DAMAGE?** You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-888-967-1158 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

**PROTECT YOUR HOME** from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for a quote or inspection today 1-877-644-9799 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

**WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION:** A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-866-782-4060. Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

**Don't Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again!** Our home warranty covers ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND

**APPLIANCES.** We stand by our service and if we can't fix it, we'll replace it! Pick the plan that fits your budget! Call: 1-888-521-2793

### Medical Supplies

**ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS!** Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 866-472-8591.

### Announcements

Sod Cutter for Rent, \$100.00 per day. 7 days a week. Please call 904-868-7602

### We buy Watches


CASH PAID FOR HIGH-END MEN'S SPORT WATCHES. Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-888-280-

1115

### Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

Fleming Island Plantation Community Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, March 1st from 9 AM to 4 PM. Fantastic deals on a variety of items can be found at individual homes. Please be sure to stop by!

**"Room For Rent"**



Modern Furnished room in Middleburg, Clay County. NICE, Area, near St. Vincent Hospital-Clay. 10 minutes to Fleming Island. **Rent \$99. mo.** for single occupancy. No Pets. **To schedule viewing: Text 973 298 6147**

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF**



**1-855-417-1306**

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

**Before**



**After**



**Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!**

**LIMITED TIME OFFER! SAVE!**

**UP TO 50% OFF INSTALLATION**

**FREE ESTIMATE 1.833.370.1234**

Expires 12/31/2024 **MADE IN THE U.S.A.**

New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text messages, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies (collectively "Erie") if you are an iDAD. NOT Call list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservices.compliance.com. All rights reserved. License numbers available at eriehome.com/erie-licensed/

## ADS

### ADVERTISING DISTRIBUTION SERVICES

**Donate Your Car to Veterans Today!**  
Help and Support our Veterans. Fast - FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398

**STRUGGLING TO HEAR?** Audien Hearing delivers crystal-clear sound with affordable, invisible hearing aids. Starting at \$189! Call Now: 888-760-1015

**Attention oxygen therapy users!**  
Discover oxygen therapy that moves with you with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. Free information kit. 1-866-477-9045

**We buy houses for cash as is!** No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer & get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-844-877-5833

**Don't let the stairs limit your mobility!**  
Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call Ameri-Glide today! 1-833-399-3595

**Home break-ins take less than 60 seconds.** Don't wait! Protect your family, your home, your as-sets now for as little as 70¢/day! 1-844-591-7951

**Jacuzzi Bath Remodel** can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waving all installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 3/30/25.) 1-844-501-3208

## Reach 6 million homes nationwide

**MobileHelp America's premier mobile medical alert system.** Whether you're home or away. For safety & peace of mind. No long term contracts! Free brochure! Call 1-888-489-3936

**Replace your roof** w/the best looking & longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! 3 styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off install + Additional 10% off install (military, health & 1st responders.) 1-833-370-1234

**DIRECTV Stream** - Carries the most local MLB Games! Choice Package \$89.99/mo for 12 mos Stream on 20 devices at once. HBO Max included for 3 mos (w/Choice Package or higher.) No contract or hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call IVS 1-866-859-0405

**Bath & shower updates in as little as 1 day!** Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Life-time warranty & professional installs. Senior & military discounts available. 1-877-543-9189

**Eliminate gutter cleaning forever!**  
LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule free LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-610-1936

**Dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company.** Coverage for 400+ procedures. Real dental insurance - not just a discount plan. Get your free Information Kit with details! 1-855-526-1060 www.dental50plus.com/ads #6258

**!!OLD GUITARS WANTED!!** GIBSON, FENDER, MARTIN, Etc. 1930's to 1980's. TOP DOLLAR PAID. CALL TOLL FREE 1-866-433-8277

**Consumer Cellular** - same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees free activation. All plans feature unlimited talk & text, starting at just \$20/mo. Call 1-877-751-0866

**Become a published author.** We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Call for free author's guide 1-877-729-4998 or visit dorranceinfo.com/ads

**Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator.**  
Act now to receive a free 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase\* Call 1-855-948-6176 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

**AGING ROOF? NEW HOMEOWNER? STORM DAMAGE?** You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-888-878-9091 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

**Water damage cleanup & restoration:**  
A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-888-872-2809. Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

**acp**  
Association of Community Publishers

To inquire about placing an ad in this section, call 904-264-3200



# Nothing is more important than your heart.



## That's why Baptist Health created an unmatched cardiac care program with the only dedicated heart hospital in our region.

We have board-certified cardiologists and cardiovascular surgeons ready to care for you with the most advanced technologies and treatments and the highest possible rating for quality in heart surgery.

In addition to providing cardiac consultations and pre-operative clearance, our physicians diagnose, treat and manage:

- Blood pressure and cholesterol
- Heart issues related to sleep disorders
- Congestive heart failure
- Heart rhythm disorders such as AFib
- Coumadin/blood thinners
- Peripheral artery disease
- Heart valve problems
- Adult congenital heart defects
- Heart attack and stroke risk

**Thank you for entrusting us with your heart care.**

 **904.720.0799**  
 **BaptistJax.com/Heart**

