

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS HERALD

PRSTR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Orange Park, FL
Permit #650

WWW.CLAYTODAYONLINE.COM

VOL. 9 NO. 8 THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023

Class 1A Weightlifting Championships Indians power to third state championship

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

LAKELAND - Keystone Heights High boys weightlifting coach Lantz Lowery knew his regional glimpse at defending 2A champion Suwannee High, now in Class 1A, was going to be the same look a week later in Lakeland.

"Going against Suwannee the week before was a big help," said Lowery, noting Keystone Heights beat Suwannee in Tradition at regions by a 56-53 score with Suwannee dominating the field in the Olympic scoring. "All the way around, the state meet was not our best day."

Lowery noted that the competition in general, in the big arena with the best in the state hovering around the platforms, made for some uncomfortable lifts throughout the field.

"Everyone there is still a high school kid," said Lowery. "Being on that stage is a very daunting experience whether you are there for the first time or there for the third time."

In the final tally, Keystone Heights got Lowery a third straight state, albeit in just



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Keystone Heights weightlifter Bryar Schenk will take a Class 1A weightlifting title with him when he continues his football playing days at River City Prep next fall.

one discipline, Traditional and a tie for second in the Olympic scoring behind Suwannee with the Indians tying with South Sumter with 29 points with Suwannee the

SEE CHAMPION, 20



Keystone Heights High's boys weightlifting team shows off plenty of championship hardware after winning a third straight state title in Lakeland. Keystone Heights was Class 1A champion in Traditional and had two individual champions; Larry "Trey" Jeffries and Brian "Bo" Overton.



**Florida Homes
Realty & Mortgage**

MeLissa Pellerito
(352) 494-1829 Call or Text
mpelleritorealtor@gmail.com



**MeLissa
Pellerito**
REALTOR®



**Community Involvement • First Time Home Buyers • Veterans • Investment
Residential • Commercial Property • Land & Building • Retirement Homes**

PUZZLE FUN

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

lautesratuonsagcointargd

Answer: congratulations graduates

Sponsored by



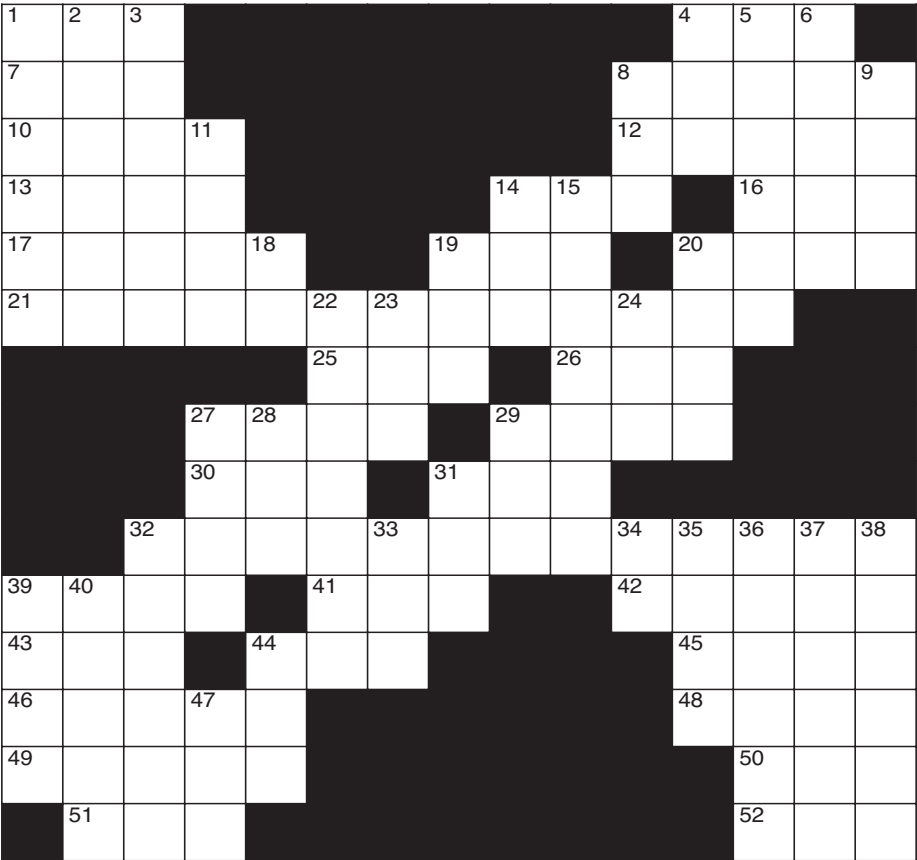
Welcome to North Florida Pharmacy! Serving Lake City and the surrounding areas since 1993. Our simple formula of courteous customer service and our quick prescription turn-around time has enabled us to grow and reach out to the North Florida region with eight total pharmacies.

North Florida Pharmacy offers drive-through service, a trained Dr. Comfort shoe specialist, and in-pharmacy vaccines for the flu, shingles, and more!



**North Florida Pharmacy
of Keystone Heights**

405 S. Lawrence Blvd • Keystone Heights, FL 32656
(352) 478-2057 • northflpharmacy.com
Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am-6:00pm • Saturday 9:00am-1:00pm



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Relative biological effective-ness (abbr.)
- 4. Chinese philosophical principle
- 7. Branch
- 8. Jewish spiritual leader
- 10. Slang for requests
- 12. "So Human An Animal" author
- 13. Rocker Billy
- 14. British Air Aces
- 16. Type of tree
- 17. "Tough Little Boys" singer Gary
- 19. State attorneys
- 20. Goddess of fertility
- 21. Localities
- 25. Beloved singer Charles
- 26. Clue
- 27. Ridge of jagged rock below sea surface
- 29. Helsinki neighborhood
- 30. Farm resident
- 31. Ocean
- 32. Where ballplayers work

- 39. Unable to hear
- 41. Cool!
- 42. Cape Verde capital
- 43. One point north of due east
- 44. Kilo yard (abbr.)
- 45. Middle Eastern nation
- 46. It yields Manila hemp
- 48. People operate it (abbr.)
- 49. Regenerate
- 50. Not healthy
- 51. Chinese sword
- 52. Mild expression of surprise

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Unit of angle
- 2. Headgear to control a horse
- 3. Clots
- 4. Follows sigma
- 5. A woman who is the superior of a group of nuns
- 6. Greek units of weight
- 8. Radio direction finder (abbr.)
- 9. Systems, doctrines, theories
- 11. Stony waste matter
- 14. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- 15. Hostile to others

- 18. U.S. State
- 19. Not wet
- 20. Something one thinks up
- 22. Where beer is made
- 23. Clumsy person
- 24. Belonging to us
- 27. Canadian flyers
- 28. Greek goddess of the dawn
- 29. Snakelike fish
- 31. Unhappy
- 32. Fruit
- 33. Not good
- 34. Zero degrees Celsius
- 35. Goo Goo Dolls' hit
- 36. Crawls into the head (folklore)
- 37. Legally responsible
- 38. Move in a playful way
- 39. Regarded with deep affection
- 40. Partner to flowed
- 44. Native American tribe
- 47. Head honcho

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS
HERALD

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Clay Today, 3513 U.S. Hwy 17, Fleming Island, FL U.S.P.S. (063-800)
Periodical Postage Paid at Orange Park, Florida
NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS This newspaper assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements, but when notified promptly will reprint correctly the part of the advertisement in which the typographical error appears. All advertising in this publication is subject to approval of the publisher. This newspaper will not knowingly accept or publish illegal material of any kind. Advertising which expresses preference based on legally protected personal characteristics is not accepted. PHONE ALL DEPARTMENTS 264-3200. MEMBER, FLORIDA PRESS ASSOCIATION & SOUTHERN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION.

Co-Owner, COO/VP: Hugh Osteen
Publisher: Farris Robinson
Business Manager: Christie Wayne
Managing Editor: Don Coble
Staff Reporter: Lee Wardlaw, Natalie Gilstap, Kylie Cordell
Sports Editor: Randy Lefko

Classified/Obituaries/Legals/Admin: Shelli Shealy
Business Manager: Christie Wayne
Sales Manager: Sheri Lhotak
Sales & Marketing: Leesa Tillman
Creative Services: Sheila Holcombe, Michele McNeill, Lisa Murphy, Kathy Roy



Reinhold selects Waste Not Want Not as its top nonprofit

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK – Sandra L. Staudt-Killea realized her nonprofit was about to be honored as the Paul E. Reinhold Community Service Award winner shortly after Olivia Myers started talking about the winner during Tuesday morning’s “Celebrate Clay” breakfast.

Her suspicions were confirmed when Myers said:

“It is our civic responsibility to be good stewards of the Earth’s resources and to feed the most vulnerable. The agency we honor today is a clear champion on both fronts, bridging the gap between waste and want.

“We’re so proud to present this year’s Paul E. Reinhold Community Service Award to Waste Not Want Not.”

Staudt-Killea’s agency was one of more than 100 local nonprofits hoping to earn a

portion of the \$100,000 that was awarded. “It was so exciting waiting to hear the words,” the executive director said. “It’s like a beauty pageant. You don’t want to hear your name too soon. At the same time, the longer you don’t hear your name, you start to worry about it being too late.”

Staudt-Killea operates a group that collects unused food and redistributes it to 47 food banks that feed 7,000 people a week.

“The unique community outreach agency we celebrate this morning connects the dots between surplus food and hungry people,” Myers said. “Fortunately, in 2022, 47 charities in Clay County that feed hungry people received the equivalent of 11,000 meals every week thanks to this agency. This food feeds more than 7,000 people in Clay County every week.

“Eighty-three percent of the charities served by this agency said it would be extremely difficult or very difficult to continue

providing their current level of service without this food service agency. Nearly three-quarters said they would have had to reduce the amount of food they provided to each client, and one-third stated that they would have to reduce the number of times they serve altogether.”

Waste Not Want Not earned the top award of \$15,000 from the Paul and Klare Reinhold Foundation. The organization was one of 47 county nonprofits that were selected for a variety of prizes.

The Way Free Medical Clinic and Clay Behavioral Health Center earned \$7,000 after winning the Judge’s Choice Program Awards. Penney Retirement Community President and CEO Teresa Scott earned the Jack Myers Executive Director Award and Saved 2 Serve’s William Darnell won the Peggy Bryan Volunteer of the Year Award. Both earned \$7,000 checks.

The spotlight during the annual break-



STAFF PHOTO BY DON COBLE
Reinhold Foundation CEO George Egan congratulates Waste No Want Not Executive Director Sandra L. Staudt-Killea after her agency won the top honor at Celebrate Clay.

fast at the Thrasher-Horne Center clearly focused on Waste Not Want Not.

“Ever resilient, this team rescued and distributed two million pounds of food last year within the value of \$3.2 million.”

First-time winners included Saved 2

SEE REINHOLD, 8

Bryan's ACE

Keystone Heights
251 East Walker Drive • 352-473-4006

Melrose
871 N SR 21 • 352-475-2400

Interlachen
1114 FL-20 • 386-684-2811

Starke
1101 S Walnut Street • 904-964-4642

High Springs
18482 High Springs Main St. • 386-454-0622

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED WITH 5 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

www.bryansace.com

Services

WE TEST POOL WATER
CUT AND PROGRAM KEYS • REKEY LOCKS
CUSTOM MATCH PAINT
NEW SCREEN AND SCREEN REPAIR

Great Gifts for Dad

KEYSTONE

Gifts & Guns

155 S Lawrence Blvd.
(352) 473-8684

OPINIONS & VIEWPOINTS

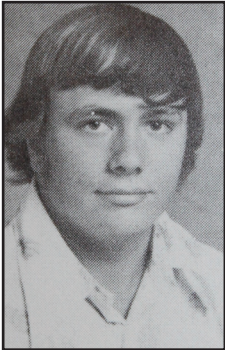
Even an old guy like me believes this year’s graduating seniors are impressive

By Don Coble
Managing Editor

When I graduated from high school, nobody had tattoos or earrings on their noses. Boys had to wear their pants above their hips – with a belt – and girls couldn’t wear blue jeans with so many holes they looked like they were on fire and put out by a machete.

Unless you count “In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida” by Iron Butterfly, we didn’t listen to music with suggestive lyrics. (Actually, the song was supposed to be called “In the Garden of Eden,” but the band members were so intoxicated when they recorded it, it came out garbled.)

We all had weekend and summer jobs. Mine was emptying garbage cans at Walt



Don Coble Class of 1975

Disney World. It was the best \$68-a-week job I ever had.

Now that I’m two years away from my 50th class reunion, it’s easy to be pessimistic about the current graduating classes. With age comes aches and pains. In high school, I never used the word “ointment” – much less used it.

Today’s youth are eager to show off their Chuck Taylor All-Stars as if they discovered them. I wore them 50 years ago, but we called them Converse All-Stars. You could tell they were made from cloth because every three months, the fabric would tear from the sole. We wore them to play, not for fashion. And that was cool.

This generation has Xbox. We had clackers. This generation has man buns. We had sideburns.

I guess with time, older people lose faith in our future. Being grumpy and pessimistic goes with turning gray and losing your hearing. That’s what older people often do. We complain.

I spent the last three weeks interviewing seniors from our county’s high schools who fought a difficult challenge and suc-

ceeded. What I found was our future is in good hands. Today’s young people have a different way of getting things done, but we have to have faith they will make a difference.

After all, my parents said my generation was rudderless, too. The only thing my parents and I had in common was they wore Converse All-Stars, too.

The students’ stories were compelling and enlightening. They face different – and indeed more societal-sensitive topics – than my generation. The students I met have learned to deal – and flourish – despite 24-hour news cycles, outside noise and challenges.

Middleburg senior Asypn Martin made a lasting impression. She has been through unspeakable struggles, only to come through them with boundless energy and optimism. Her classmates, teachers, school officials and foster parents loved her without asking any questions. I consider myself lucky to meet her. Her incredibly encouraging words also impressed me: “There’s a

SENIORS, 5

Four misconceptions homeowners have about flooding

By StatePoint Media
For Clay Today

Many people look forward to spring when the weather warms up, and flowers start to bloom, but it also marks the start of the peak time of year for flash flooding in the United States.

According to NOAA, 75% of flash floods happen between late April and mid-September, particularly during hurricane season. And while you may not want to think about it when water backs up and overflows, it generally goes where it doesn’t belong and can cause severe damage to your home. Those who lived here in 2017 have vivid memories of the damage caused by Hurricane Irma.

Unfortunately, many homeowners have misconceptions about floods, leaving them unprepared. Here are four of the biggest myths:

1. Homeowners’ insurance policies cover flood damage. A typical homeowners policy covers water damage from a sink or bathtub overflowing but won’t help with flood damage caused by storms – something many homeowners only discover after it’s too late. However, some insurance companies offer coverage to help fill the gaps so you don’t have to pay out of pocket for repairs and replacements. For example, Erie Insurance now offers Extended Water coverage, which covers damage caused by natural disasters and sewer and drain backups.

2. Only people who live in flood plains need flood insurance. A national survey commissioned by Erie Insurance found that 53% of homeowners think only people who live in high-risk flood zones should buy flood insurance. However, 25% of flood claims are filed by people who live outside those areas. Additionally, FEMA says floodwater only needs to get a mere three inches high to make it likely that you’d need to replace drywall and baseboards.

3. There’s nothing you can do to prevent flood damage. Nothing is foolproof, but there are ways to protect your home from water

SEE FLOODS, 5



Word OF THE MONTH

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

Vexillology: (vek-sa-LAH-la-jee) a noun that means the study of flags.

“Sheldon Cooper had a strong interest in vexillology on ‘Big Bang Theory.’”

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. We look forward to hearing from you!

Opinions ...

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

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

Five years ago, 2018

- The Green Cove Springs City Council and Orange Park Town Council discuss using their police department to serve as school resource officers.
- Blue By U blueberry farm opens in Maxville.
- The Fourth Annual Leaders Build leads to a home for Habitat for Humanity being completed in Middleburg.

10 years ago, 2013

- Cornelius Walston, of Jacksonville, is convicted of murdering an Orange Park man and a Middleburg man during a fight in the parking lot at Club Myth on Fleming Island.
- The 39-ton external fuel tank from the

20 years ago, 2003

- Clay County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Kenneth E. Hayes, who died of a heart attack while on duty, was honored at the annual Police Memorial Ceremony.
- To help promote a drug-free life, Kirk Bailey and Matt Bennett perform their "Perfection on Wheels" bicycle show to Wilkinson Elementary.
- S.B. Jennings sixth-grade teacher Dawn Olivia keeps her promise to shave her head if the school's girl's club, Metamorphosis, raises \$3,500 in pledges and 200 inches of hair to

30 years ago, 1993

- A police chase that started when a man tried to run over a sailor ended when Clay County Sheriff's Office caught him in the parking lot of the county jail.
- The Orange Park High baseball team advances to the Sectionals to face Ed White after beating Middleburg, 6-1.
- County commissioners decide to tie two measures into one by demanding any new business to obtain an occupational license and demand each licensee submit the amount of toxic waste their company will produce.

40 years ago, 1983

- The U.S. Navy reports 14 were killed when a portion of the left wing fell off transport plane before it crashed into the St. Johns River.

Space Shuttle fleet is offloaded to the shore in Reynolds Industrial Park in Green Cove Springs.

- The Clay County Chamber of Commerce tells both Superintendent Charlie Van Zant and the school board to stop their bickering after a survey revealed 76.6% of residents said the feuding was harmful to county business.

Floods

from page 4

damage. Install a sump pump along with a battery backup and regularly test it. Improve drainage around your home by clearing leaves and debris from gutters, storm drains and downspouts. You can also install water sensors to alert you of water or leaks within your home. If a storm is on the way, plan by placing valuables and sentimental items into plastic storage bins, moving things off the floor – especially if they are stored in

basements and lower levels of a home – and making a home inventory. A list of all your possessions, along with their estimated values, will help if you need to file an insurance claim.

4. Insurance can only help you after an incident. Many homeowners don't realize they may be able to get reimbursed for taking steps to protect their homes when flooding is imminent. As one example, under certain circumstances, Erie Insurance will reimburse homeowners up to \$10,000 for materials such as sandbags and the sand to fill them, fill for temporary levees, pumps

support the "Locks of Love" program.

30 years ago, 1993

- A police chase that started when a man tried to run over a sailor ended when Clay County Sheriff's Office caught him in the parking lot of the county jail.
- The Orange Park High baseball team advances to the Sectionals to face Ed White after beating Middleburg, 6-1.
- County commissioners decide to tie two measures into one by demanding any new business to obtain an occupational license and demand each licensee submit the amount of toxic waste their company will produce.

40 years ago, 1983

- The U.S. Navy reports 14 were killed when a portion of the left wing fell off transport plane before it crashed into the St. Johns River.

Seniors

from page 4

ton of good people out there if you search for them. Being happy is a decision, and I've decided to be happy."

You also learn our children and grandchildren are in good hands. I saw principals, coaches, staff and teachers who take a personal interest in every student's future. When they talk about their students, you can hear the confidence in their voices and pride in their smiles. Let's hope this generation takes the rancor out of our political process. Let's believe they will help us find a way to discuss our differences, not argue about them. Maybe this generation can cure diseases, solve hunger and homelessness, end crime and curb drug abuse.

I like their chances.

Junk to treasure: Yard sale benefits Keystone Heights' Keystone Heights Junior/Senior High's Trading Post

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – The Keystone Lake Region Business Association (KLRBA) held a yard sale on Saturday, April 15, at Keystone Heights Insurance. It aimed to benefit the Trading Post at Keystone Heights Jr./Sr. High. All proceeds went to the program. The idea came from Barbara Franklin, the secretary of KLRBA. She suggested the business association could raise money with a yard sale where items like kitchenware, home décor, books and toys were all donated by KLBRA members. Residents were able to purchase items by giving a monetary donation.



Flower Petals

Fall wedding dates are booking fast!
Free consults available.

Don't forget your grad bouquets for your graduate!

352.473.9201
370 S.E. Sylvan Way • Keystone Heights, FL
Sandy@FlowerPetalsInc.com
www.FlowerPetalsInc.com

Awards add up for R.M. Paterson during Elementary Math Field Day

By Lee Wardlaw
lee@claytodayonline.com

OAKLEAF – Clay County District School’s Elementary Math Field Day, a high-stakes academic series featuring four teams and one individual event, activates the minds and instills pride during the annual event.

That’s because of the marathon-style, challenging-yet-fun series of team-style arithmetic competitions, including The Quiz, Word Problems, The Huddle, Relay and “Individual Assessment.” A multiple-choice test taken by each school’s competing student before the event has now become a county tradition that “learning is fun.”

Fourth and fifth-grade teams from R.M. Paterson won first-place awards, while Orange Park finished first among sixth-grade teams. The highly-acclaimed awards ceremony at Oakleaf High is a true spectacle within itself.

After 470 students and more than 100 teacher volunteers competed in four forms of mathematical warfare that challenged students’ brains in fields like algebra and geometry. Afterward, more than 600 students and teachers moved to the school’s gymnasium, where “mathletes” picked up their awards.

After hours of tests, educators and learners were joined by hundreds of parents, family members, friends and residents heading

into the Knights’ gym. The reception was so popular, many had to sit on the gym floor.

Broskie hosted the event alongside Chief of Elementary Education Heather Teto and School Board Members Mary Bolla, Beth Clark, Ashley Gilhousen, Michele Hanson and Erin Skipper.

Argyle, Charles E. Bennett, Clay Hill, Doctors Inlet, Discover Oaks, Fleming Island, Grove Park, Keystone Heights, Lake Asbury, Lakeside, McRae, Middleburg, Orange Park, Oakleaf Village, Orange Park, Plantation Oaks, R.M. Patterson, Rideout, Ridgeview, S. Bryan Jennings, Shadowlawn, Swimming Pen, Tynes, W.E. Cherry, Wilkin-son and the Coppergate School of the Arts

were among participating schools.

Fourth grade
First – R.M. Paterson
Second – Orange Park and Thunderbolt
Fourth – Swimming Pen Creek

Fifth grade
First – R.M. Paterson
Second – Lake Asbury
Third – Fleming Island

Sixth grade
First – Orange Park
Second – Thunderbolt
Third – Fleming Island

Wellness from A to Z

MEDICAL • MENTAL HEALTH • PHARMACY



We’ve shortened our name, but not our list of services!

We’re now **Aza Health!** We still have you covered from A to Z with quality primary and preventative healthcare services for the entire family!

Our team of healthcare professionals will tailor your care to meet your needs!

Call Today for an Appointment!

(352) 473-6595

100 Commercial Dr., Keystone Heights

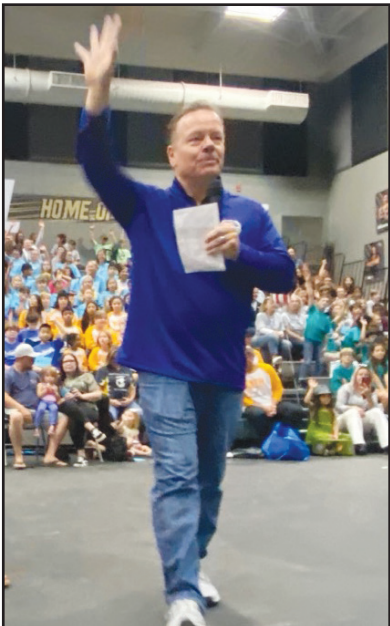
Aza Health

Wellness A to Z

Discounted pricing for Eligible Patients.
Learn more about our “sliding fee scale” at
www.azahealth.org



District 2 school board member Mary Bolla, a Clay County community servant and big believer in education, enlisted her help in passing out awards to students and teachers alongside Broskie and several other board members, including Erin Skipper and Beth Clark.



Superintendent David Broskie led the crowd through the wave and excited students with "drumroll" introductions of the top six teams.



STAFF PHOTOS BY LEE WARDLAW
Lake Asbury's Elementary Math Field Day team is crowded amongst other competitors from throughout the county as winners are announced at Oakleaf High School Saturday.

HOPE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

INFANTS - 12th GRADE VPK DUAL ENROLLMENT

ACCREDITED ILCS/FLCS and COGNIA

HOPE CHRISTIAN IS YOUR SCHOOL VOUCHER CHOICE

Private
Biblical Worldview
*Scholarships linked on website
Lunch Prepared on Campus
College-Prep Curriculum
Title I & Tutoring
Standardized Testing
STARS Readiness Testing

Dual Enrollment
Award-Winning Athletics
Student Government Assn.
National Honor Society
S.T.E.A.M. Fair
Drama, Key Club, Arcade Club
Before- & Aftercare & more!
JOIN OUR CARING STAFF

A ministry of Hope Baptist Church since 2001

ENROLL – TOUR

352-473-4040
Across from KH Airport
myhopechristianacademy.org

Reinhold
from page 3

Serve, Seeds of Love Ministry, The Vineyards Transitional Center and Clay County Rescue Mission.

According to the foundation's executive director Amy Parker, Clay County nonprofits, involving more than 11,000 volunteers, secured \$36.8 million in grants and contributions, raised \$2 million in fundraising, and earned about \$44 million in other income like thrift stores, ticket sales and rentals.



Celebrate Clay winners

Paul E. Reinholds Community Service Award (\$15,000) – Waste Not Want Not

Judge's Choice Program Awards (\$7,000) – Clay Behavioral Health Center, The Way Free Medical Clinic

Jack Myers Executive Director Award (\$7,000) – Teresa Scott, Penney Retirement Center president and CEO

Peggy Bryan Volunteer of the Year Award (\$7,000) – William Darnell, Saved to Serve

Judge's Choice Volunteer Awards (\$3,500) – Deborah Cannarella, Young Life Clay County, and Larry Grosshans, Seamark Ranch

Special Judges' Awards (\$2,000) – Clay County Rescue Mission, The Clothes Closet and Food Pantry, First Coast Women's Services, Food Pantry of Green Cove Springs, The James Boys of Orange Park United Methodist Church, Mercy Support Services, Miriam's Basket, Project REACH Clay County District Schools, Quigley House and Seamark House.

Category Awards (\$1,000)

Arts and Culture: CalaVida Arts Festival, Concert on the Green, Island Theater, Oakleaf Elementary Music Program and Soul Food Festival

Civic Programs: Village Improvement Association GFWC Green Cove Springs

Community Programs: Challenge Enterprises of North Florida, Clay County Habitat for Humanity, McRae Elementary School Weekend Food Program, Operation Barnabas, Saved 2 Serve, Seeds of Love Ministry and Vineyard Transitional Center

Education and Literacy: ACE Mentor Program of Northeast Florida, Children's Home Society of Florida, Clay County Education Foundation and Florida Youth ChalleNGe Academy Foundation

Environment and Animal Advocacy: CJ Acres Animal Rescue Farm and Clay County Humane Society

Health and Human Services: BASCA, Community Hospice and Palliative Care and Emmanuel Project of Northeast Florida

Senior Citizen's Programs: Shepherd's Center of Orange Park

Church Service Programs: Food Bridge Middleburg United Methodist Church and Mission of the Dirt Road

Accomplishments by Youth: AMI Kids Clay County, Clay County Sheriff's Explorer Post 987 and Teen Court of Clay County; Service to

Youth and Families: Young Life Clay County.



2023

BEST OF CLAY

CLAY TODAY

claytodayonline.com

GORDON

CHEVROLET • ORANGE PARK

YOUR SUMMER MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

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

JIM BEAUDRY, DIRECTOR

LUBE, OIL & FILTER

\$79⁹⁵

With ACDelco DEXOS1™ 5w30 Synthetic Oil

Excludes diesel engines. More than 6 quarts of oil and tax extra. Includes ACDelco dexos 1™ oil required by 2011 and newer vehicles. See dealer for eligible vehicles and details. Not valid with other offers. Expires 12/28/23.

MOST ACDELCO GOLD 30-MO (ACDelco PROFESSIONAL) BATTERIES INSTALLED

30-MONTH FREE-REPLACEMENT LIMITED WARRANTY*

\$159⁹⁵

*Tax extra. Installation extra on some vehicles. Some ACDelco Gold parts may have formerly appeared as ACDelco Professional. **Please see your Dealer to learn more about exclusions and the warranty part details and qualifications. Expires 12/28/23.

UP TO \$100 OFF ANY SERVICE WORK

If Your Bill Is	You Save
\$50 to \$100	\$5.00
\$101 to \$200	\$10.00
\$201 to \$300	\$20.00
\$301 to \$400	\$30.00
\$401 to \$500	\$40.00
\$501 to \$700	\$50.00
\$701 to \$900	\$75.00
\$901 +	\$100.00

The check value will be based on the final invoice amount for parts and labor. This offer is not valid for use with deductibles or body shop work.

GORDON

CHEVROLET • ORANGE PARK

1166 Blanding Blvd.

Orange Park

272-2200

www.gordonchevy.com



R E A L T Y

RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - VACANT LAND - RENTALS

Holding The Keys To Your Dream



Charnelle Whittemore
Owner/Broker



Taryn Lewis
Broker Associate



Barbie Clemons
Realtor



Brandi Kelemen
Realtor



Brenda Thornton
Realtor



Carrie Crews
Realtor



Candace Bratcher
Realtor



Cassie Cooper
Transaction
Coordinator



Crystal Rosier
Realtor



Dallin Crews
Realtor



Jessica Kelly
Realtor



Jaycea Edwards
Realtor



Karlee Cason
Realtor



Lauren Allen
Realtor



Lindsey Brooks
Realtor



Lindsey Walker
Realtor/
Property Manager



Michael Whittemore
Broker Assistant/
CFO



Minta Bennett
Realtor



Rachael Benton
Realtor



Rachel Brinson
Realtor



Sheila Daugherty
Realtor



Steven Milligan
Realtor



Susan Walker
Realtor



Terra Lazenby
Realtor



Tristen Crews
Public Relations &
Marketer



Vanessa Thompson
Realtor

Starke: 904-964-3948

WWW.CWREALTY.ORG

Keystone: 352-478-8490

Twin Lakes Park commemorates completion of pickleball courts

By Natalie Gilstrap
For The Herald

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – In 2020, the Keystone Heights Pickleball Club asked County Commissioner Betsy Condon for pickleball courts at Twin Lakes Park. Three years later, their request became a reality.

On Thursday, April 27, a ribbon cutting was held to commemorate the completion of six new pickleball courts. “Pickleball is the No. 1 sport in the area. It’s growing rapidly across the state,” said Justin Pierce, Director of Parks and Recreation. “Most of our tennis courts have pickleball lines, but the community spoke and wanted dedicated pickleball courts.”

The recently added courts were once tennis courts before the county had them repaved, restriped and added a net to fit the pickleball guidelines.

At the ceremony, county commissioner Betsy Condon and Jim Renninger and county manager Howard Wanamaker joined the Keystone Heights Pickleball Club to open the new courts. Condon thanked everyone for being patient with the development of the courts. She also told the audience she hoped they would enjoy the new courts.

The ribbon was cut by one of the pickleball players.

The event ended with everyone enjoying a game of pickleball. The event was a success, and the local pickleball club was ecstatic with the completion of the courts. “They’re lovely. They’re awesome,” player Kathi Ivey said. “So well needed in Keystone.”

Though construction of the pickleball courts at Twin Lakes Park is complete, the county plans to upgrade the park’s pickleball area based on suggestions from players.

“This was the initial phase of tearing



down and rebuilding. Nothing is perfect when you roll out,” Pierce said.

At the moment, they are considering making the courts ADA accessible and adding pavement outside the courts. Also, they are considering placing windscreens and an

inner fence between the courts to ensure the balls don’t stray into another court.

“We’ll listen to those concerns, and hopefully, we’ll be bringing those things soon,” Pierce said.

Home Equity Line of Credit from Capital City Bank



**Say Hello to opportunity
when you unlock the equity
in your home.**

Apply for a **Home Equity Line of Credit** line just like a loan, and once you’re approved you can access this cash – up to your full available credit limit – whenever you’d like, for whatever you’d like. Go online or stop by today to apply.*

APR/6 MONTH
INTRODUCTORY
RATE

5.99%*

APR/CURRENT
VARIABLE RATE
AS LOW AS

8.75%*

**Bank Pays Customary
Closing Costs
ON LINES UP TO \$250,000***

Apply now at:
ccbg.com/equity



Member FDIC *All loans subject to credit and property approval. The introductory rate will be in effect for the first six (6) months after account is opened. Upon expiration of the introductory rate, all balances will accrue interest at the variable standard Annual Percentage Rate (APR) that can range from Prime + 0.5% (currently 8.75% APR) to Prime + 6.5% (currently 14.75% APR), using the JP Morgan Chase Prime (JPMCP) rate, not to exceed 18% at any time. Information accurate as of 5/4/2023. After the promotional period, the variable standard APR will be based on the borrower’s line amount, combined loan-to-value ratio, and credit rating. Hazard insurance required and flood insurance, if applicable. Bank will pay customary closing costs on lines up to \$250,000, which may include flood determination fee, credit reporting fees, title search fees, recording fees, tax service fee, and documentary stamp and intangible tax fees. If required, borrower pays appraisal and survey related charges. An annual fee of \$50 is charged on the first year anniversary after closing and each year thereafter. A prepayment penalty of 2% of the original credit line amount, not to exceed \$1,500, will be assessed if the credit line is closed within three (3) years of the origination date. The borrower may pay the credit line down to zero without closing the line of credit or without incurring a prepayment penalty. Consult a tax advisor about possible tax benefits. Minimum line of \$10,000 required. Exclusions, limitations and funding requirements apply. Additional limitations and conditions apply for existing HELOC clients. Refer to product disclosure or ask a banker for complete details. Offer available for limited time.



TEAL TILE

CARPET ONE FLOOR & HOME

Your Flooring Specialists

**Sales • Service • Installation
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL**

- Vinyl • Carpet • Ceramic Tile
- Hardwood & Laminate Floors

904-964-7423

131 N. Cherry St., Starke, FL 32091
Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

**BUYING POWER OF
OVER 1,400 STORES!!**





Spring Special
**2 MONTHS
FREE***

To schedule a tour, call **904-639-4700** or email
Hello@PalagioSeniorLiving.com

**Must sign up by June 30, 2023.*



Live the Good Life®

1525 Kingsley Ave | Orange Park, FL 32073
(904) 955-9488 | www.PalagioSeniorLiving.com



Assisted Living Facility
License #13475

FirePower Coffee still brewing business in Keystone Heights

By Natalie Gilstrap
For The Herald

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – FirePower Coffee Roasters is a family-owned business specializing in roasting coffee beans. As coffee lovers, William and Carol Beck III envisioned owning their coffee roastery for years. It wasn't until they purchased their first home roaster, a Behmor 1600-plus, that their vision became a reality. After becoming certified through the Academy of Coffee Excellence in Virginia, the two purchased a larger coffee roaster and trademarked their name. Five years ago, the couple opened the doors to their long-awaited coffee roastery, and it's continued to grow.

"We just celebrated five years this month," William said.

Guests visiting the roastery can enjoy a nice cup of coffee in the roastery's coffee shop. Importing coffee beans from all over the world, the shop offers more than 30 types of coffee, blends and espressos for visitors to enjoy. They also provide lemonade, smoothies and more than 100 different types of teas.

"We're always looking at new products and new coffees. We're always experimenting." In addition to the coffee shop, the roastery provides coffee beans to businesses such as small coffee shops, stores, and B&Bs throughout the state and the Midwest," William said.

FirePower is heavily involved in the local community. They support local organizations and charities such as AMVETS and Keystone Heights High's baseball team. Also, FirePower aims to improve the world by supporting a non-profit organization called the Café Femenino Foundation. For every Café Femenino product purchased through FirePower, 10% of that profit goes back to the foundation to help support female coffee farmers and their families in coffee-producing communities worldwide.

"We've had really good customer support and good social media," Beck said. "We just want to continue to build our reputation and keep it strong."

To learn more about FirePower Coffee Roasters at 322 SE County Road 100, Suite D, visit www.firepower.coffee, or call (352) 478-8174.



**JUST SOLD LAKEFRONT IN
KEYSTONE HEIGHTS \$525,000.00**



**SOLD
BRICK HOME W/GUEST HOUSE**



Deirdre Murphy, CRS

- Over 17 Years of Real Estate Experience
- Multi-Million Dollar Producer every year
- Integrity
- Respected in the community
- Working in your best interest

**CALL DEIRDRE FOR MORE
INFORMATION (352) 281-3026**



**Florida Homes
Realty & Mortgage**
Keystone Heights, FL



**JUST SOLD DUCK POND STARTER
\$295,000.00**



**NEW ON THE MARKET \$525,000
COMPLETELY UPDATED WITH 11 ACRES**

Cloud Busters hosts night-flying event at Keystone Heights Airport

By Natalie Gilstrap
For The Herald

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – The Keystone Heights Cloud Busters RC Club recently held a night fly event at the Keystone Heights Airport.

Every few months, the group hosts this event for the community to gather together and enjoy the show.

“We’ve been during it for a number of years,” club vice president Antonio Galan said.

The idea to start hosting night fly events began after some club members were experimenting with LED lights on their model aircraft and learned that hobby manufacturers were producing airplane kits with built-in lights. “We thought that it was really nice and that we should do something.”

Families watched from their lawn chairs to watch the members fly their model airplanes. Bombers, airliners, helicopters and gliders were some of the aircraft flown. In addition, the members entertained the guests by performing maneuvers such as flips and twirls in the air. As the sky grew darker, the members brought out their gliders decked with colorful LED lights to fly in the air. They also flew a helicopter with LED Lights attached, making it look like a flying saucer as it flew in the air.



“We enjoy flying and the airport in Keystone was a big part of Keystone’s growth during World War II,” Galen said. “We’re a part of the community, and we just want people to know what we do out there.”

A group of hobbyists founded Cloud Busters RC Club and has been flying at the airport since the 1970s. It was not until the mid-2000s that the group became a sanctioned club, and in 2007 they formed a remote control airplane club. The club is sanctioned through the Academy of Model Aeronautics, and all members have licenses with the Academy of Model Aeronautics and the Federal Aviation Administration.



Keystone Cloud Busters have an eclectic array of radio-controlled and glider aircrafts. The group recently enjoyed a night fly event.

Besides hosting night flies, they also perform at events that the Keystone Heights Airport is hosting. Lastly, they welcome anyone who wants to join and experience the

fun. “We welcome people to join us.” To learn more about the Keystone Heights Cloud Busters visit, www.modelaircraft.org/club/keystone-cloud-busters.



~Purposeful, Active Living~

Our Christian Continuing Care Community offers hundreds of volunteer opportunities. Come share your time and talents exploring more activities than anyone could imagine. Come enjoy retirement!



Independent Living • Assisted Living • Memory Care • Skilled Nursing • Rehabilitation

Call 904-284-5994 today for lunch and a tour.
3495 Hoffman St. | Penney Farms, FL 32079 | VisitPRC.org

Thousands drawn to Thrasher-Horne for annual school art show

By Lee Wardlaw
lee@claytodayonline.com

ORANGE PARK – Creative student works of art were on display at the 34th Clay County District Schools Student Art Show last Friday and Saturday, with the talent and hard work of the elementary, middle school and high school students for public admiration at the Thrasher-Horne Center.

Hundreds headed to the event center to be immersed and the cultural experience of countless works inspired by several art types like self-portraits, ceramics, contemporary, modern art, pop art and other styles.

Students utilized their creative abilities to render their best impressions of self-portraits, animals, nature, food and more.

The submissions were reviewed by guest judges, including the Art Guild of Orange Park, College Drive Initiative, Clay Education Foundation, Orange Park Mall, County Clerk

of Court and Comptroller, Clay County Fire and Rescue, County Public Library and the Clay County Sheriff's Office.

The event attracted thousands who wanted to see the beautiful works.

The art show's community outreach room showcased the unique attributes of the school district and county.

Some of the winners included: Fleming Island High's Kaitlyn Montgomery, Orange Park High's Jasmine Hecht, Orange Park's Trinity Dennison, Lakeside Junior High's Katie Baird and Lake Asbury Junior High's Callie Fenwick for Award of Excellence, Oakleaf High's Yari Lynn Rodriguez, Orange Park's Faith Williams and Lake Asbury Junior High's Alaina Buschle, Wilkinson Junior High's Zick Macxis, Adrian Von Bargen and Haley Hajost for Best in Show, Lake Asbury's Ryleigh Difiore and Buschle, Ridgeview High's Trent Persinger, Clay's Anja Wehner and Audrey Milligan, Fleming Island's Audrey Freehafter, Orange Park's Errica Freeman and Green Cove Springs Junior High's Rorie Kenison for Judge's Recognition and Lake Asbury's Layla Glover, Orange Park's Leylani Rodriguez-Perez, Fleming Island's Sophia Fitzgerald and Ridgeview's Annaleisa Williamson for Honorable Mention.



Keystone Heights Elementary made a splash with animal, nature, and cartoon-based works at the exhibit.

Local artists spoke with students and answered questions as several other vendors, like the UF/IFAS Clay County Extension Office, public library and teacher-ran art stations for students, with watercolor painting, rainbow pencil drawing and books featuring art-based themes available.

Food trucks, vendors, and music also were featured in the parking lot.

The successful ingredients were at the center after the show was held at the Orange Park Mall during the last three years.

"(The event) was 10 times more successful than I thought it would be, and I was impressed with the parents and kids that came," said Karen McMillan, the district's Coordinator for School Choice and Charter and a representative of the art show.

Superintendent David Broskie said the show highlighted the exceptional talent of the county's students but also took on the theme that learning "is fun" – a process not always found in the traditional classroom.

"It's great to see the multitude of talents from the students. Learning isn't just all reading, writing, and arithmetic for the students," he said.

Somers Home Improvement
Call Mike at 904.713.5068



House Painting • Drywall Finish
Discount to Seniors and Veterans
30 Years Experience
Locally Owned and Operated

Local Artisan Wares

Collectibles
Repurposed
Vintage
Antiques
Books
Retro
Housewares
Home Decor

Touch of Grace Galleria

352-478-1764
956 SE State Rd., 100 • Keystone

Expert Cleaners LLC
HOME CLEANING SERVICE
Residential and Commercial Cleaning
Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
Pressure Washing

FREE ESTIMATES!

10% OFF ANY SERVICE
EXPERT CLEANERS LLC
Must present coupon. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 12/31/23. PVR

904.414.2300

Find us on:

Insured, Licensed & Bonded

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

Keystone Heights voters maintain mayor's role on city council

By Don Coble
don@claytodayonline.com

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – Voters overwhelmingly decided to maintain the practice of electing its mayor on Municipal Super Tuesday.

While other municipalities in the county select a mayor from the city and town councils, Keystone Heights will continue to elect four council members and a mayor. The vote to separate elections between councilmembers and the mayor was 107-34.

There were no contested seats on the city council, so the only option voters had was to cast ballots by mail. They were

asked to decide on four charter amendments. They approved two and voted no on the other two.

They agreed a majority of the city council is needed to set the maximum purchasing amount for bids. They also agreed to

create a procedure in the city charter to censure or reprimand a council member for illegal or serious violations of city policy.

In addition to voting down a plan to select the mayor from the city council, vot-

ers also decided against a plan that would prohibit city council members from interfering with routine operations by the city manager.

Daniel Matt Johnson won Seat 4 on the city council because he was unopposed.



**KEYSTONE
LAKE REGION**
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
Means Business

Join
**KEYSTONE
LAKE REGION**
Business Association
KLRBA.com

State License
#7112



State License
#7361

- Well Drilling
- Annual Service & Maintenance
- Water Testing
- Water Softeners
- Pump Repair

Locally Owned & Operated Since 1989

352.473.0534
969 SE State Rd 100
Keystone Heights, FL
www.broncodrillinginc.com



- Digital X-ray
- Dental X-ray
- Dental Cleanings and Oral Surgery
- Ultrasound
- Therapeutic Laser
- Vaccine Packages
- Microchipping
- Avian and Exotic Care
- Euthanasia and Hospice Services
- Boarding
- Endoscopy
- Spay and Neuter Services
- Emergency/Critical Care
- Orthopedic Surgery



Full Service Hospital
with Boarding

Amber Rea, DVM & Associates

MELROSE: 8762 State Road 21 352-475-2326
Hours: 8:00-5:30 Mon.-Fri. and 8:00am - 2:00pm Saturday

HAWTHORNE 7410 SE US Hwy 301 352-481-4333
•Hawthorne: 8:30-5pm Tues.-Thurs.

Like us on
Facebook!

LakeAreaVets.com

Keystone Heights' "Moon Tree" deeply rooted as city's landmark

By Natalie Gilstrap
For The Herald

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – One of Keystone Heights' notable landmarks is an American Sycamore tree in front of the Keystone

Heights Library. The tree is known as the Moon Tree because of its unique past with the Apollo 14 space mission.

According to NASA, the U.S. Forest Service and NASA had a joint project in which five species of tree seeds were sent on the

Apollo 14 mission. The project was to determine the seed's condition after being in deep space and to bring awareness to the forest service and its firefighters – smokejumpers.

In February 1971, astronaut Stuart Roosa took several hundred Loblolly pine, sycamore, sweet gum, redwood and Douglas fir tree seeds with him while he orbited the "Kitty Hawk" command module around the moon.



more, sweet gum, redwood and Douglas fir tree seeds with him while he orbited the "Kitty Hawk" command module around the moon.

The project was compromised after the seed canister burst during the decontamination process when the seeds returned home. Though the seeds weren't likely to sprout, many of the seeds were sent to forest service offices in Gulfport, Mississippi, and Placerville, California, to germinate.

The outcome was a success.

In 1975 and 1976, most of the tree saplings were given away across the country to celebrate the country's bicentennial celebration. Some of the trees were planted in countries like Brazil, Switzerland, Japan and Keystone Heights.

The city received its Moon Tree from local nursery owner Bob Burns in 1984. Burns acquired the tree from the University of Florida, and he had it planted and dedicated.

In 2015, a re-dedication ceremony was held, and a plaque was installed in front of the tree. The Keystone Heights Moon Tree continues to flourish under the careful care of the Garden Club of the Lakes.

KEYSTONE DENTAL
TODD D SHOCKLEY DMD PA

Todd D. Shockley, DMD

260 S. Lawrence Blvd. Suite 102

Keystone Heights, FL 32656

Phone: 352-473-0707

Fax: 352-473-5187

drshockley@hotmail.com



Lake Region Kiwanis putt-putts to fund scholarship, projects fund

By Natalie Gilstrap
For The Herald

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS – Lake Region Kiwanis hosted the inaugural Mini-Golf Tournament on Saturday, May 6, at the Keystone Heights Mini Golf to raise money for scholarships and community projects.

Based on the success of previous tournaments at the Keystone Heights Country Club, the organization thought it would be fun to host a mini-golf tournament.

“It’s not a dedicated fundraiser for a particular cause, but it goes into our project account, so we can use it for the things that come up during the year,” said Tina Santillo, President of the Lake Region Kiwanis. The entry fee was \$25 for families and \$10 for individuals.

Residents and Kiwanis members from the Gainesville chamber showed their support by participating in the tournament. In addition, the event had a 50/50 raffle and awarded prizes to the top three winners.

“Thank you to the Caddy Shack and the RV Park for allowing us to host a mini-golf tournament for the Lake Region Kiwanis and for giving us a discount and for helping us out with the kids in the community,” said Patricia Hatch, Lieutenant Governor for Division 4 of the Florida Kiwanis.

Lake Region Kiwanis is a civic organization that is a part of Kiwanis International. Its focus is to improve the lives of children and communities through service acts. College scholarships, award programs and parades are some of the many ways the local chapter supports the students and their community.

In addition, the group supports the local food pantry, Lake Area Ministries, and operates the concession stands during football games at Keystone High.

“Our Lake Region Kiwanis is a group of dedicated volunteers that just want to make the lives of the children and families in our community better,” Santillo said.



PHOTOS BY NATALIE GILSTRAP

The Lake Region Kiwanis Club hit the mini-links last week to raise money to support its scholarship and community service programs, like the local food pantry and Lake Area Ministries.

Family Owned & Operated

jonesgallagherfh.com

Helping Families and Friends Honor Their Loved Ones with Affordable Funeral, Cremation Services

Pre-Need Planning Available

On-site Crematory - Your Loved One Never Leaves Our Care

Joe Gallagher - Owner/Licensed Funeral Director

Kelli Parks Moreland - Licensed Funeral Director

Laura Crews - Office Manager, Licensed Pre-Need Counselor

Austin Gaver - Licensed Funeral Director

Melody Kay Abercrombie - Funeral Assistant; Licensed Pre-Need Counselor

P. Steven Futch - Licensed Funeral Director

Jones - Gallagher Funeral Home - Starke

620 E. Nona Street • Starke, FL

904.964.6200

Jones - Gallagher Funeral Home - Keystone Heights

340 East Walker Drive • Keystone Heights, FL

352.473.3176

(352) 473-0555

FAX: (352) 473-0402

CopyCabana255@gmail.com

255 S Lawrence Blvd.

Keystone Heights, FL 32656

SERVICES:

- UPS shipping & drop off • Notary
- Fax • Scan • Copies • Printing
- Email • Office/school supplies
- 2 self service computers & printers

MARGARITA MONDAYS \$4 DOLLAR SPECIAL

SERVING LOCAL MEXICAN FOOD SINCE 1991

904-276-2776 • WWW.LANOPALERAKINGSLEY.COM • 2024 KINGSLEY AVE. • ORANGE PARK

CB Isaac Realty

VIRTUAL PARADE OF HOMES



\$217,777

LAKE FRONT

133 Lake Serena Drive
Melrose, FL



\$275,000

LAKE ACCESS

8157 Merrian Road
Keystone Heights, FL



\$255,000

CANAL FRONT

3051 SE SR 21 #7
Melrose, FL



\$325,000

2.75 ACRES

21754 N US 301
Lawtey, FL



\$747,000

LAKE FRONT

4141 SE SR 21
Keystone Heights, FL



\$460,000

LAKE ACCESS

6311 Baker Road
Keystone Heights, FL



\$399,000

315 SW Garden Street
Keystone Heights, FL



\$215,000

7169 Gas Line Road
Keystone Heights, FL



\$193,700

LAKE ACCESS

6115 Lakefront Lane
Keystone Heights, FL

352-475-2199 | 352-481-4436
www.cbisaacrealty.com

"We Make It Happen"



<https://bit.ly/3eD1k7p>



SPORTS

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS

Florida Homes Realty & Mortgage
Let us help you find your happy place
Facebook.com/teambeals
bealsteamrealtors
CRS
Todd & Debbie Beals
LAKE AREA GROUP
510 S. Lawrence Blvd., KSH
Todd 904.588.2083 • Debbie 316.648.0595



MOTOSURF
CONTINENTAL CUP

Split seconds separate Motosurf's top racers

By Randy Lefko
Sports Editor

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS - With more than double the athletes than last year's event, the Keystone Heights Motosurf stop over the weekend gave watersports fans more thrills, a few crashes and plenty of splashes as the races for the event were all finished with thrilling split second finishes.

"We have racers from all over the world; Canada, Indonesia, Bosnia, Mexico, Chile with American racers coming from other water sports including five time jetski world champion Mark Gross," said Motosurf event spokesman Andrew Prikryl. "Anthony

Squire, from North Carolina, is a current world cup competitor and the American champion. He could win all the races today."

Prikryl noted that the Keystone Heights events has become one of the more sought events on the pro tour due to the hospitality of the local fans.

"The people here are fantastic and we have the athletes housed in many AirBNBs around the area," said Squire, 27, and the pro mens champion for the day in both the Electric challenge and the Motosurf final. "I stayed in an AirBNB off a lake and Friday we had 30 athletes out there for a little barbecue and lakeside party. It was fantastic."

Squire said the youth challenges for the



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO
Motosurf championship races start hard with a flurry of splashing as racers speed to course in Keystone Heights.

weekend provided some of the best races of the weekend with riders from around the country getting a good look at the competition and being part of it.

"For Europe, this sports is like American football here," said Squire. "Over there, it is huge and the kids start very young to get this good. For America, the sport is growing from a hobby to a legit sports to train for."

Squire, who noted that, at last year's Keystone Heights event, he did not do well.

"I was fifth, but got a good taste of the

sports," said Squire, a construction manager in North Carolina. "I've been a water sports guy all my life and raced some motorcycles and even fly boarding. Kind of whatever sport we can find that's off the grid."

Squire got his first board four years ago, got hit with the COVID year, then got fifth in Keystone Heights last year. Last year, Squire said he may have been the only American rider on the pro circuit.

SEE MOTOSURF, 21

YOUR REFERRALS
HELP OUR
BUSINESS TO

Bloom!



HAPPY SPRING!

Homegrown ~ Local ~ Trustworthy



Boat



Life



Home



Auto

- Barbara Franklin
- Buddy Saucer
- Robin Brown
- Jake Elliott

Keystone Heights Insurance

Serving the
Lake Area Region
for Over 40 Years!



Two Convenient Locations:

7388 State Rd. 21
Keystone Heights
352-473-4881

300 State Rd. 26
Melrose
352-218-4036

Champion

from page 1

champions at 49 points. In Tradition, Keystone Heights dominated with a 41-35 edge on Suwannee and Bozeman third at 15.

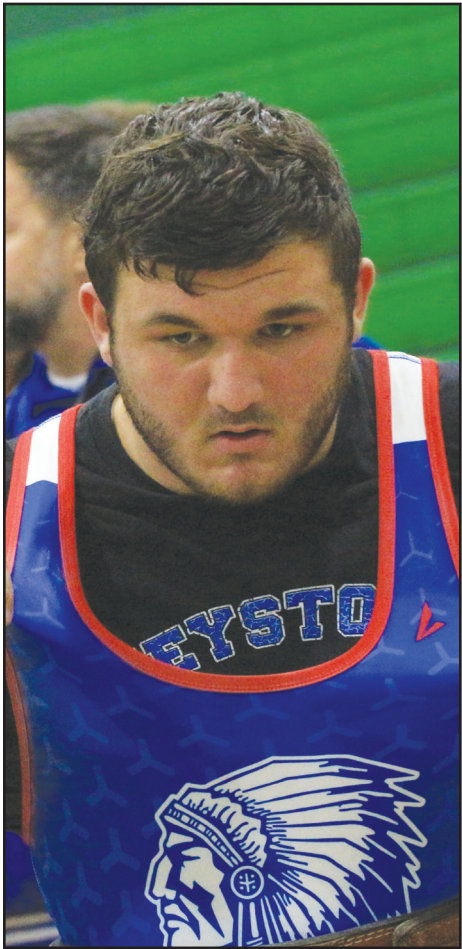
“The Suwannee coach is the best at teaching that Olympic Snatch and that’s how they dominate,” said Lowery, noting Suwannee finishing with four Olympic scoring champions. “Our guys did what was expected pretty much with our Bo Overton winning at 169. He’s a workhorse that just shows up and does his job.”

Overton had the best Olympic Snatch at 215 and the best clean and jerk at 285 to win by 40 pounds with his 500 total. Overton then punched up the best bench press of the field; a 300, to win the Traditional scoring title by 20 pounds.

“Bo is always the same,” said Lowery. “I knew after his first lift that he would win



Keystone Heights senior Bo Overton, who was injured last year, won a state title on his first trip to the Class 1A championships with Larry Jeffries III powering to his title as a junior.



the state title. Say what you want, Bo trusts God all day and that keeps him calm and steady.”

Lowery, with three trips in his pocket to the state meet with a truckload of trophies including a Dairy Farmer Weightlifting coach of the year alongside Fleming Island’s Damenyum Springs, who also won a second round of titles after winning in Class 3A in 2020 to give Clay County a second year of two state championship teams in one sport.

“Three in a row is pretty cool,” said Lowery. “This group was pretty special and kind of handled the pressure of being a two time champion pretty well. I don’t think it will sink in for a while the level at which they competed and trained the last four years.”

Lowery also got an individual title from Larry Jeffries III who won the Tradition title at 219 to outduel Suwannee’s Brandon Robinson from last week’s region. Robinson again beat Jeffries in the Olympic scoring with the pair finishing second and third behind South Sumter’s Jackson Sovercool who totaled 555 to Robinson’s 540 and Jeffries 515. Jeffries missed on both is Snatch and Clean and Jerk second and third lifts to keep his total low.

“Our philosophy is if we hit all of our lifts, we win,” said Lowery.

At 238, where Anthony Rozier-Tyler was the hero of the region meet last week, Coral Shores’ Julian Juvier dominated with a 690 toal with Rozier-Tyler equaling his 370 bench press at regions and finishing third.

Lowery got double points in two weight classes with Landon Hovsepian and Bryant Schenk finishing second and third behind Suwannee’s Sam Wainwright in 183 and Wyatt Van Zant and Reid Begue taking third and fourth in 129 in Olympics for critical Keystone Heights points.

“Both of those pairs of boys work hard together and know where we want them to finish and they just execute the plan,” said Lowery. “Reid missed on two lifts, but Wyatt was perfect on all of his lifts. Bryar missed his first in Snatch then was perfect from there. Landon missed just his last attempt of the day on the bench press. I can’t ask for more.”

NOBODY OFFERS MORE DISCOUNTS THAN FARMERS

- Automobile insurance
- Homeowners insurance
- More options, providing you more discounts



Lyndel M. Hale
Your Local Agent
2751 BLANDING BLVD STE 105
MIDDLEBURG, FL 32068
LHALE1@FARMERSAGENT.COM
<https://agents.farmers.com/lhale1>



Call 352.612.4154 today!
Let me help you get the most value out of your insurance coverage.

Restrictions apply. Discounts may vary. Not available in all states. See your agent for details. Insurance is underwritten by Farmers Insurance Exchange and other affiliated insurance companies. Visit farmers.com for a complete listing of companies. Not all insurers are authorized to provide insurance in all states. Coverage is not available in all states.

WATER WELL CONTRACTING

NORTH FLORIDA WELL DRILLING & PUMP SERVICE LLC

Family Owned & Operated Since 1979
Eddie & Diane Smith
State Lic# 2173 & 7021

We Are Your Local Water Experts

Come by The Office For A Water Quality Analysis And A Free Treatment Estimate

105 Commercial Drive
Keystone Heights, FL
352-473-3204

PARTNERS WITH CAPITAL CITY BANK

PUMP REPAIRS • NEW SITE CONSTRUCTION

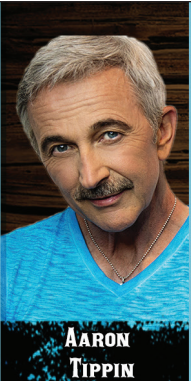
PUMP SERVICE • WATER TREATMENT



SAMMY KERSHAW



COLLIN RAYE



AARON TIPPIN

ROOTS & BOOTS

SEPTEMBER 15

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE
AT THCENTER.ORG



Tiny Faith McKay of Ft. Myers took the youth challenge races with a surge in the final 100 yards.

Motosurf

from page 19

“I just rode and raced as much as I can; Cancun, Italy, Croatia, to race against the best and get better,” said Squire. “The community in the sports are really nice and everyone helps the other guys.”

One of the key rivalries of the day was Squire and Mexico national champion Juan Pable, a 10-time national champion, with both tangling up in prelims and qualifying for races separated by milliseconds with Squire holding the edge into the final.

Pablo, 44, said him and Squire duking it out is a matter of age versus youth.

“One little error on the course is the difference,” said Pablo, racing since 2015 and with his wife ranked 11th in the world. “He’s very exact in his riding. We are going about 35-40 miles per hour out there and with the wind, any air under the board can knock out off course.”

In the mens final on Sunday, Pablo held a slight edge going into the final lap with Squire breathing down his back until the final turn when Squire, with a near disastrous left turn hugging just inside the buoy, uprighted and got a burst past Pable to win the event.

“I messed up three times out there and he was right on me,” said Squire. “He was sneaky and stayed just out of my sight so I had to think about what he was doing. It was a great race to end the weekend.”

In the womens final, won decisively up front from eventual winner, the second place finish came down to a jostle at the finish line to make things spicy.

HANDI-HOUSE OF STARKE

“PROUDLY SERVING YOU FOR 43 GREAT YEARS!”

COME SEE DENA... the DEAL MAKER

 TAX TIME SAVINGS 

 <p>3 STALL CARPORT</p>	 <p>ROUNDED STYLE CARPORT</p>	 <p>RED BARN</p>	 <p>UTILITY GARAGE</p>
 <p>CARPORT & GABLE</p>	 <p>ENCLOSED GARAGE</p>	 <p>WOOD STYLE</p>	 <p>UTILITY WITH PORCH</p>

WE PULL PERMITS • FLORIDA CERTIFIED

150 MPH WINDLOADS

WARRANTY PACKAGES • CONCRETE PACKAGES • HIGH QUALITY STEEL

 <p>HORSE BARN</p>	 <p>RED BARN</p>	 <p>SIDE DOOR PORTABLE</p>	 <p>CEDAR PORTABLE</p>
 <p>RV CARPORT</p>	 <p>UTILITY CARPORT</p>	 <p>LOFT BARN</p>	 <p>WOOD WITH END BARN DOORS</p>

\$99⁰⁰ DOWN DELIVERS

FREE DELIVERY

RENT TO OWN

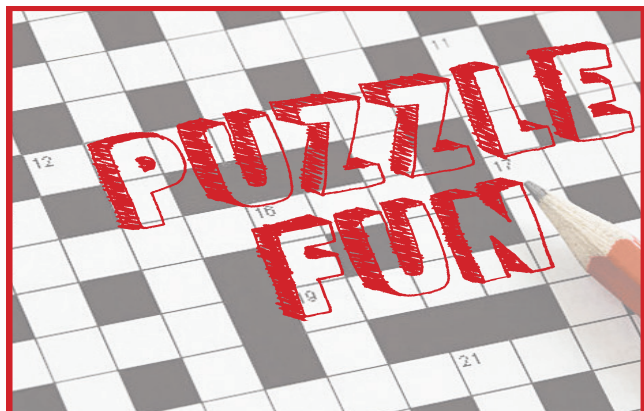
NO CREDIT CHECK

Located in Starke, Florida

15195 US Hwy 301

Call Dena - 904-964-3330

REPOS AVAILABLE



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

Level: Beginner



D. **23 15 14 3 15 4**
Clue: Freed from symptoms

Answers: A. pain B. head C. aura D. relief

ORISSA

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

ANSWER: Serious

Answer: Nicole Scherzinger

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

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

CHRONIC
CLUSTER
CONGESTION
DEHYDRATION
DIAGNOSIS
DOCTOR
GRADUAL
HEADACHE
ILLNESS
INFLAMMATION
LIFESTYLE
MIGRAINE
PAINFUL
PERSISTENT
PRIMARY
SECONDARY
SENSITIVITY
SHARP
SPINE
STRESS
SUDDEN
TENSION
THROBBING
TRIGGERS



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY LEFKO

Keystone Heights softball coach Jessica Marquart toughened up her squad with one of highest strength of schedule ratings and got a district title; as well as Clay who lost in district semifinal to Fleming Island but earned a region berth.



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

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

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

Miscellaneous

DISCOUNT AIR TRAVEL. Call Flight Services for best pricing on domestic & international flights inside and from the US. Serving United, Delta, American & Southwest and many more airlines. Call for free quote now! Have travel dates ready! 866-245-7709

Gun Show

May 20th and 21st
Snyder Armory
9900 Normandy Blvd
Jacksonville 32221
Sat 9-4 Sun 9-3
904-481-8604 or
Cliffhangersgunshows.com

Burial plots for sale

2 side by side burial plots in The Garden of Faith at Holly Hill off Old Jennings Rd. \$3,200 each or best offer
904-813-6708

Medical Supplies

Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drug store prices! 50 Pill Special-Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 866-259-6816

Commercial - Industrial

FREON WANTED: Certified buyer looking to buy R11, R12, R22 & more- Call Clarissa at 312-535-8384.

Auctions

Stone Medical Group, LLC

Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors Case No. 502023CA004713XXXXMB

Auction ends: Tues, May 23, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.

Assets located in: Pompano Beach, FL 33069

Surplus medical supplies, inventory and equipment

Auction will consist of: 2021 Isuzu FTR Cab Over Box Truck, Crown FC electric forklift FC4515-40, forklift chargers, Marathon Hy-press cardboard compactor/bailer, commercial weight scale, pallet wrapping machines, warehouse equipment,

Home Improvements

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: 888-460-2264

PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Pest, rodent, termite and mosquito control. Call for a quote or inspection today 888-498-0446

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. FREE information kit. Call 844-958-2473.

Don't Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! American Residential Warranty covers ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. 30 DAY RISK FREE/ \$100 OFF POPULAR PLANS. 877-351-2364

floor scrubber/cleaners, shrink wrapping machine, Crown PE 4500 electric pallet jack, shipping tables, warehouse supplies, office furniture, office supplies, kitchen appliances, metro racks, TV's, large quantity of assorted surplus medical supplies (60+ assorted pallets) and related equipment. Registration, catalog, photos and terms available at www.moeckerauctions.com

Preview: 05/22 by appointment. Call for details (954) 252-2887 | (800) 840-BIDS

<https://moeckerauctions.com/2023/02/22/florida-spine-and-joint-institute-llc-d-b-a-irise-3/> (No onsite attendance) AB-1098 AU-3219, Eric Rubin

Autos For Sale

DONATE YOUR VEHICLE to fund the SEARCH FOR MISSING CHILDREN. FAST FREE PICK-UP. 24 hour response. Running or not. Maximum Tax Deduction and No Emission Test Required! Call 24/7: 866-471-2576



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

**SAFE STEP
WALK-IN TUB**

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

SPECIAL OFFER



Prepare for power outages today

WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE
CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE
(866) 643-0438

FREE
7-Year Extended Warranty
A \$695 Value!

GENERAC

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

NEED NEW FLOORING? Call Empire Today® to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 855-919-2509

UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. FREE in-home estimates make it convenient to shop from home. Professional installation. Top quality - Made in the USA.

Call for free consultation: 866-636-1910. Ask about our specials!

Pet Supplies / Services

Liquit 2x® is recognized safe & effective by U.S. CVM against hook & round worms. 3 year expiration. Double strength. Russells Feed & Farm (904) 291- 5725 (www.flea-beacon.com)



Health & Fitness

VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! 50 Generic Pills SPECIAL \$99.00. 100% guaranteed. 24/7 CALL NOW! 888-445-5928 Hablamos Español
Dental insurance- Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Covers 350 procedures. Real insurance- not a discount plan. Get your free dental info kit! 1-855-526-1060 [#6258](http://www.dental50plus.com/ads)
Attention oxygen therapy users! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. Free info kit. Call 877-929-9587

Miscellaneous

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator \$0 Down + Low Monthly Pmt Request a free Quote. Call before the next power outage: 1-855-948-6176
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
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: 855-761-1725
Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast- FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398
HughesNet- Finally, super-fast internet no matter where you live. 25 Mbps just \$59.99/mo! Un-limited Data is Here. Stream Video. Bundle TV & Internet. Free Installation. Call 866-499-0141
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
DISH TV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 1/31/24. 1-866-479-1516
The Generac PWRcell solar plus battery storage system. Save money, reduce reliance on grid, prepare for outages & power your home. Full installation services. \$0 down financing option. Re-request free no obligation quote. 1-877-539-0299
Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-in tub. Comprehensive

**To inquire about placing
an ad in this section,
call 579-2154**

lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our free shower package & \$1600 off- limited time! Financing available. 1-855-417-1306
Switch & save up to \$250/yr on talk, text & data. No contract or hidden fees. Unlimited talk & text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based service. Call 1-855-903-3048
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! 1-888-489-3936
Free high speed internet if qualified. Govt. pgm for recipients of select pgms incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet. Android tablet free w/ one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping. Call Maxsip Telecom! 1-833-758-3892
Caring for an aging loved one? Wondering about options like senior-living communities and in-home care? Caring.com's Family Advisors help take the guesswork out of senior care for your family. Free, no-obligation consult: 1-855-759-1407
Inflation is at 40 year highs. Interest rates are way up. Credit Cards. Medical Bills. Car Loans. Do you have \$10k or more in debt? Call National Debt Relief to find out how to pay off your debt for significantly less than what you owe! Free quote: 1-877-592-3616
Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get free info package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. 833-308-1971
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
Are you a pet owner? Do you want to get up to 100% back on vet bills? Physicians Mutual Insurance Company has pet coverage that can help! Call 1-844-774-0206 to get a free quote or visit insurebarkmeow.com/ads
Diagnosed with lung cancer? You may qualify for a substantial cash award- even with smoking history. No obligation! We've recovered millions. Let us help! Call 24/7, 1-877-648-2503
!!OLD GUITARS WANTED!! GIBSON, FENDER, MARTIN, Etc. 1930's to 1980's. TOP DOLLAR PAID. CALL TOLL FREE 1-866-433-8277

**REACH 20 MILLION HOMES
NATIONWIDE WITH ONE BUY!**

**OVER
\$25 Million
SOLD in 2022**

*Multi-Year
Multi-Million Dollar
Producer*

*Turning dreams
into Addresses!*

(352) 478-SOLD
MeLissa Pellerito

mpelleritorealtor@gmail.com

275 S. Lawrence Blvd. Ste 1, Keystone Heights

Call or Text
352-494-1829



**Florida Homes
Realty & Mortgage**

(352) 478-SOLD
MeLissa Pellerito
mpelleritorealtor@gmail.com



New Places... Relaxing Spaces



**Community Involvement • First Time Home Buyers • Veterans • Investment
Residential • Commercial Property • Land & Building • Retirement Homes**