

ORIGINAL

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of)
)
Amendment of Section 73.202(b),)
Table of Allotments,)
FM Broadcast Stations)
(Screven, Georgia))

MM Docket No. 01-177
RM - 10196

To: Chief, Allocations Branch
Policy and Rules Division
Mass Media Bureau

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

COUNTERPROPOSAL

Renda Broadcasting Corp. of Nevada ("Renda"), licensee of Station WGNE-FM, Palatka, Florida, by its counsel, hereby submits a Counterproposal to the Notice of Proposed Rule Making, ("NPRM"), DA 01-1861, released August 31, 2001, in response to a petition filed by International Systems Corp. to allot Channel 260A at Screven, Georgia as its first local service. Renda proposes instead to change its community of license to Middleburg, Florida to provide a first local service. In support hereof, Renda states as follows:

1. Station WGNE-FM operates on Channel 260C at Palatka, Florida at an antenna height above average terrain (371 meters) which falls within the Class C0 parameters. Renda proposes to reallocate the channel as Class C0 and provide Middleburg, Florida with its first local service. As indicated in the attached channel study, Channel 260C0 can be allotted to Middleburg consistent with the Commission's spacing rules except for the proposed allotment of Channel 260A to Screven, Georgia.¹

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1. The channel study lists a proposal to allot Channel 260C3 to Nicholls, Georgia. However that petition was dismissed by FCC letter of January 18, 2001.

2. Middleburg is listed in the 2000 U.S. Census with a population of 10,338. As will be shown, Middleburg has all of the indicia necessary to qualify as a community and has a need for its own local radio service. Screven (1990 U.S. Census population 819 and 2000 U.S. Census population 702) is not as deserving of a first local service under the Commission's allotment priorities. See Revision of FM Assignment Policies and Procedures, 90 FCC 2d 88 (1982). Generally, the larger community is favored under Priority 3. See e.g. Anniston, Alabama, et al. Report and Order, 15 FCC Rcd 9971 (2000), Memorandum Opinion and Order, 16 FCC Rcd 3411 (2001) (application for review pending).

3. In addition, from the proposed transmitter site reference point, the Middleburg Class C0 proposal will provide a net gain in service to 492,482 persons within its proposed 60 dBu contour. See attached Engineering Statement. The engineering exhibit also demonstrates that the loss area will continue to be served by at least 5 aural services.

4. Renda's proposal complies with the Commission's policies and rules under Modification of FM and TV Authorization to Specify a New Community of License, 4 FCC Rcd 3870 (1989), recons. granted in part, 5 FCC Rcd 7094 (1990). First, the proposed use of Channel 260C0 at Middleburg conflicts with the current use of Channel 260C at Palatka, Florida. Second, Palatka (1990 U.S. Census population 10, 201) will remain well served by Stations WIYD(AM) 1260 kHz, WPLK(AM), 800 kHz and WHIF(FM), 91.3 MHz. Thus, the proposal will result in a preferential arrangements of allotments under the Commission's priorities by providing a first local service to Middleburg and by retaining three local services at Palatka.

5. Middleburg is not located in an Urbanized Area. However, the proposed Class C0 70 dBu signal will cover more than 50% of the Jacksonville Urbanized Area. See, Chattahoochee

and Headland, Alabama, 10 FCC Rcd 10352 (1995). Thus, a Tuck showing is provided herein. See Faye and Richard Tuck 3 FCC Rcd 5374, 5378 (1988).

6. As will be shown, Middleburg is not dependent on Jacksonville for its existence. Middleburg is located in Clay County while Jacksonville and its Urbanized Area is located in Duval County. As to relative size and proximity, Middleburg is located 35 km from Jacksonville. Middleburg's population is 1.4% of that of Jacksonville. These factors are similar to those previously approved in Anniston, Alabama, supra and cases cited therein.

7. The Commission will consider eight factors in assessing the independence of a specified community: (1) the extent to which the community residents work in the larger metropolitan area, rather than the specified community; (2) whether the smaller community has its own newspaper or other media that covers the community's local needs and interests; (3) whether community leaders and residents perceive the specified community as being an integral part of, or separate from, the larger metropolitan area; (4) whether the specified community has its own local government and elected officials; (5) whether the smaller community has its own telephone book provided by the local telephone company or zip code; (6) whether the community has its own commercial establishments, health facilities, and transportation systems; (7) the extent to which the specified community and the central city are part of the same advertising market; and (8) the extent to which the specified community relies on the larger metropolitan area for various municipal services such as police, fire protection, schools, and libraries. Faye and Richard Tuck, 3 FCC Rcd 5374, 5378 (1988). All eight factors need not favor the applicant; however, if a majority of the factors demonstrate that the specified community is distinct from the urbanized area, the Commission will treat it as an independent community. Id.; Parker and Port St. Joe, Florida, 11 FCC Rcd 1095, ¶¶ 9-11 (1996) (finding that the proposed community was independent, although it

lacked its own telephone directory and local newspaper, and was included in the urbanized area's market by Arbitron); accord Jupiter and Hobe Sound, Florida, 12 FCC Rcd 3570, ¶ 3 (1997) (citing Parker and Port St. Joe, Florida).

8. In this case, the evidence presented, evaluated in light of Commission precedent in other change of community allocation proceedings, supports a finding that Middleburg is independent from Jacksonville, Florida.

(1) *Extent to Which the Residents of Middleburg Work in the Town of Middleburg.* According to the 1990 U.S. Census, the population of Middleburg was 4,742, of which 249 persons or a little over 5% of its residents work in Middleburg. See e.g. Coolidge and Gilbert, Arizona, 11 FCC Rcd 3610 (1996). Based on the 2000 U.S. Census, the current population for the Town has more than doubled to 10,338. No updated workforce figures could be found for the 2000 U.S. Census.

(2) *Newspapers and Other Media.* Middleburg is served by three (3) local newspapers. The *Clay County Leader* is published weekly, and receives its largest circulation from Middleburg residents. *The County Line* is published twice a week (on Wednesdays and Saturdays) and covers Middleburg events. *Clay Today* is published weekly and covers local news in Middleburg with a circulation of 10,000. Each paper contains advertisements from local Middleburg businesses. None of these papers serve Jacksonville. Middleburg also has its own cable company, Galaxy Cable Company. See Exhibit 2.

(3) *Community Leaders and Residents Perceive Themselves as Separate From Jacksonville.* According to the Glenn Lassiter, the Commissioner representing Middleburg for the Clay County Board of Commissioners, residents of Middleburg perceive their community as being separate from the Jacksonville urbanized area. The Town of Middleburg has its own unique identity

and history that is separate from that of Jacksonville, and the residents take great pride in their town. Established in 1850, Middleburg was already a thriving community before its county, Clay County, was created. See Exhibit 2.

(4) *Middleburg Relies on Clay County for Local Government, Not Jacksonville.*

Middleburg has its own Volunteer Fire Department. The Clay County Commission manages the daily government of Middleburg, and the residents of Middleburg are considered as part of District 4 within the county, and represented by Glenn Lassiter. This district commissioner serves a four-year term. Other Middleburg residents serve in the county government in numerous capacities, such as the Board of Elections, Clay County Sheriff's Office Community Council, Zoning Board and Economic Development. Clay County government maintains a branch office in Middleburg. Middleburg residents also serve on various other boards that govern the affairs of Clay County and its member communities, including Middleburg. See Exhibit 2. Middleburg does not look to Jacksonville or Duval County for its municipal services.

(5) *The Town of Middleburg Has Its Own Zip Code and Separate Residential and*

Business Listings in the Telephone Directory. The Town of Middleburg has its own zip code, 32068. The U.S. Postal Service maintains a branch office in Middleburg to serve its residents. BellSouth publishes a local telephone directory and yellow pages for Middleburg, Orange Park, Green Cove Springs and Maxwell that provides a separate business and residential listing for Middleburg.

(6) *Middleburg Has Numerous Commercial Establishments and Several Health*

Care Providers. There are many small businesses located within the Town of Middleburg, some of which identify with the community by using "Middleburg" in their name (such as The Middleburg Agency, an insurance company, Cedar River Seafood of Middleburg, Inc., Middleburg Truck and Car Sales, Inc., and Middleburg Historical Museum). There are other small businesses in

Middleburg including, Tape Technologies, Inc., Florida A1 Sales Services and Salvage, All Pro Automotive Inc., Armco Builders, Inc., Azalea Gardens, Natural Health and Energy, Farm Bureau Insurance Agency, Eckerd Drugs, Buckland CH Construction Company, Buddy's Cabinet, Country Cabin Barbeque, Walgreen's Pharmacy and Watson Realty Corporation to name a few. See Exhibit 2.

There are several health care providers located in Middleburg. The majority of doctors in Middleburg are general and family practitioners. However, there are a number of other specialists such as dentists, chiropractors, physical therapists and veterinarians. Middleburg also has its own rehabilitation center and senior citizens center which care for the elder residents of Middleburg. See Exhibit 2.

Residents enjoy excellent recreation facilities and a broad range of programs. The Town of Middleburg has a local park, Omega Park, complete with a playground, picnic areas and a little league baseball field. Middleburg also has a golf course, Ravines Golf Course and a frisbee course, Middleburg Disc Golf Course. The Middleburg Civic Association hosts activities and annual events for its residents such as a community block party, a 4th of July parade and a Nighttime Christmas parade. Middleburg also has its own civic center which hosts a variety of events, meetings, shows and expeditions for its residents. Middleburg has two (2) museums, the Middleburg Historical Museum and the Black Heritage Museum. See Exhibit 2.

Middleburg is also home to many churches and religious organizations, such as First Baptist Church of God of Middleburg, First Baptist Church of Middleburg, Middleburg Church of Christ, Middleburg Church of God-Church, Lakeside Community Church, Faith Wesleyan Church, Living Waters of Middleburg and Light Soldiers Ministries to name a few. See Exhibit 2 for more listings. There are some civic and service organizations in Middleburg, including the

Middleburg Civic Association, the Middleburg Businessmen's Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Moose Lodge. See Exhibit 2.

(7) *Extent to which the community and the central city are part of the same advertising market.* Local businesses in Middleburg advertise in the local newspapers which enable them to reach the residents of Middleburg as well as residents in other Clay County communities. The Middleburg Business Directory is a publication of local businesses made available for its residents. See Exhibit 2. Thus, the residents of Middleburg do not need to travel to Jacksonville to seek out other media sources in order to find out what is happening in their community.

(8) *Middleburg's Police and Fire Protection as well as Library are Governed by itself or by Clay County, not Jacksonville.* Reading materials and public reference materials are made available to the community at the Middleburg Public Library. The Clay County Public Library has a branch in Middleburg, and offers many activities and special programs for the entire family including, weekly story hours for children, a summer reading program and adult programs throughout the year.

The Town's education system is provided through the Clay County Public Schools. Middleburg has five (5) elementary schools (one is named Middleburg Elementary), a junior high school (Wilkinson Junior High) and a high school (Middleburg High School). Middleburg also has a number of private schools. See Exhibit 2.

Middleburg has its own volunteer fire department with approximately 10 volunteer firefighters. However, Middleburg is also served by the Clay County Fire Department. Clay County Utility Authority provides water and sanitation services, including a trash collection and recycling for Middleburg residents. This department also handles road maintenance, drainage, litter control, and building maintenance for county facilities located in Middleburg. The Clay Electric Cooperative

provides electric utility services to the residents of Middleburg. Middleburg is not dependent on Jacksonville for its municipal services.

9. Renda hereby states that it will file an application to serve Middleburg should the Commission approve this proposal and will build the facility as authorized. Accordingly, the Commission should prefer a first local service at Middleburg, an independent community, over Screven, Georgia and find that the relocation from Palatka will result in a preferential arrangement of allotments.

Respectfully submitted,

RENDA BROADCASTING CORP. OF NEVADA

By:



Mark N. Lipp
Shook, Hardy & Bacon, LLP
600 14th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-2004
(202) 783-8400

September 24, 2001

Its Counsel



ENGINEERING STATEMENT

September 2001

We have been asked by Renda Broadcasting Corp. of Nevada to provide engineering exhibits in support of its petition to move the city of license of FM station WGNEFM, Channel 260, Palatka, Florida to Middleburg, Florida. The petitioner also proposes to moves its antenna site and downgrade to a Class C0.

The map in Attachment A depicts the existing and proposed 1 mV/m contours and the change area. The land area within each 1 mV/m contour was calculated with the use of a compensating polar-planimeter. The gain land area was determined to be 5,677.0 sq. km., while the loss area was 6,148.9 sq. km. The current land area is 12,386.3 sq. km., resulting in a 95.5% change area. The population within the gain area is 936,233, and 443,751 within the loss area, based on 2000 census block data (PL-94-171). The present population is 790,354, resulting in a 174.6% population change.

Contained within Attachment B are a list of licensed commercial FM stations that will provide 1 mV/m service within the loss area and a map depicting those contours. At least five of the services are present over the entire loss area¹. Therefore, the relocation of WGNEFM will not result in a loss of service to any part of its current coverage area.

Attachment C consists of a map depicting the proposed 3.16 mV/m contour of WGNEFM from its new location and height. Middleburg, the city of license, is shown to be entirely encompassed by this contour.

Page #2 of this engineering statement is a declaration of the qualifications of the preparer.

Kate Michler

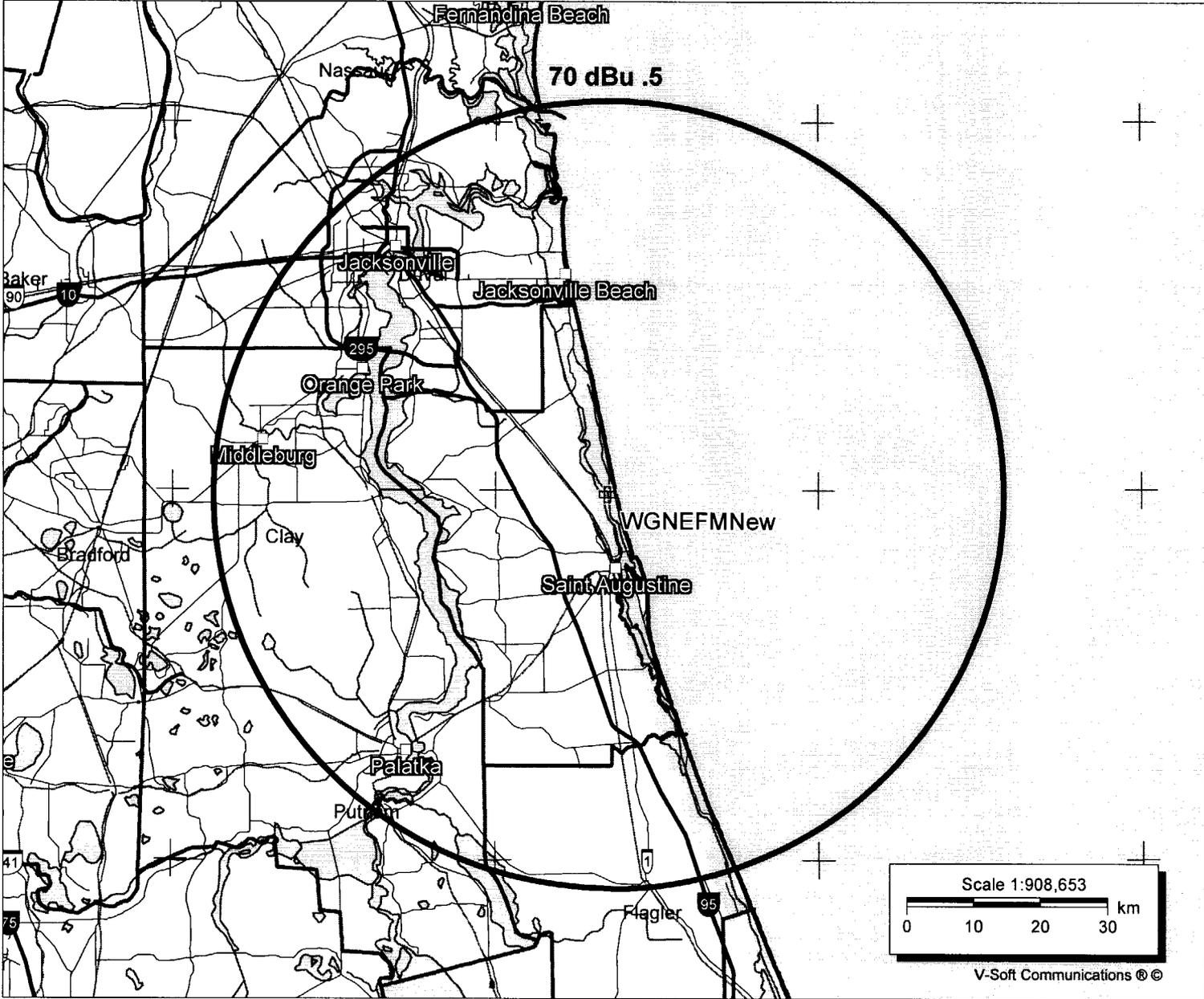
¹ Am stations were not considered in this analysis, as there are five or more aural services present within the loss area when FM stations alone were studied.

N. Lat. 29 59 40 371 M COR Current Tables Palatka FL wgne.vsf
 W. Lng. 81 19 39 100.0 kW CH 260 C0 366.0 M HAAT 08-21-01

Call	Type	Ch	Location		Dist	Azi	FCC	Margin
WGNEFM	LIC	260C	Palatka	FL	52.72	178.9	281.0	-228.28
RADD	ADD	260A	Screven	GA	178.03	338.5	215.0	-36.97
RADD	ADD	260C3	Nicholls	GA	207.06	323.4	226.0	-18.94
ALLO	ADD	259A	Live Oak	FL	153.60	279.8	152.0	1.60
WBXY	LIC	258A	La Crosse	FL	106.08	254.7	86.0	20.08
WYZR	LIC	260C2	Lafayette	FL	260.22	279.4	239.0	21.22
ALLO	VAC	261A	Cedar Key	FL	190.83	240.4	152.0	38.83
ALLO	ADD	261A	Cedar Key	FL	190.83	240.4	152.0	38.83
WHHZ	LIC	263C3	Newberry	FL	134.96	261.7	87.0	47.96
WSHE	LIC	262C	Orlando	FL	155.97	171.6	105.0	50.97
WSHE.C	CP	262C	Orlando	FL	158.58	171.1	105.0	53.58
WJZX	LIC	259C	Port Royal	SC	280.87	16.5	220.0	60.87
WUFTFM	LIC	206C1	Gainesville	FL	107.82	253.1	37.0	70.82
RADD	ADD	262A	Darien	GA	160.57	358.4	86.0	74.57
ALLO	ADD	257A	Inglis	FL	163.00	234.2	86.0	77.00
RADD	ADD	257A	Gulf Hammock	FL	167.93	236.4	86.0	81.93
WGNX.C	CP	259C2	Vero Beach	FL	264.38	161.1	176.0	88.38
WGNX	LIC	259C2	Vero Beach	FL	264.41	161.2	176.0	88.41
More...								

WGNEFM Community Coverage

WGNEFMNew
BLHRB1104MG
Latitude: 29-59-40 N
Longitude: 081-19-39 W
Power: 100.00 kW
Channel: 260
Frequency: 99.9 MHz
AMSL Height: 453.3 m
Elevation: 0.0 m
Horiz. Pattern: Omni



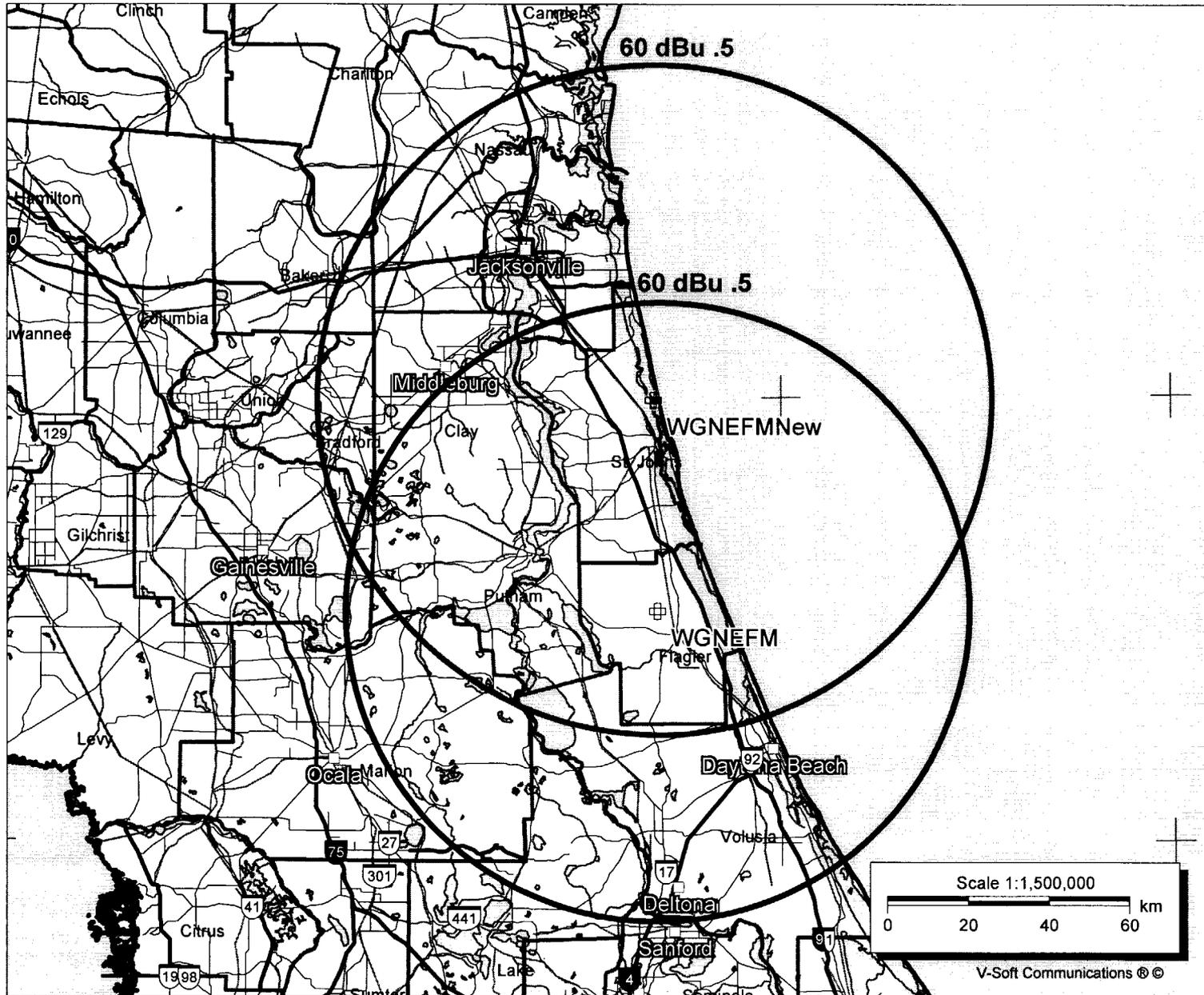
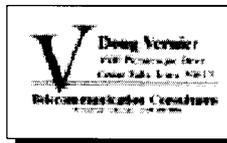
WGNE Change Area Map

WGNEFMNew
 BLHRB1104MG
 Latitude: 29-59-40 N
 Longitude: 081-19-39 W
 Power: 100.00 kW
 Channel: 260
 Frequency: 99.9 MHz
 AMSL Height: 453.3 m
 Elevation: 0.0 m
 Horiz. Pattern: Omni

WGNEFM
 BLHRB1104MG
 Latitude: 29-31-08 N
 Longitude: 081-19-02 W
 Power: 100.00 kW
 Channel: 260
 Frequency: 99.9 MHz
 AMSL Height: 371.0 m
 Elevation: 7.0 m
 Horiz. Pattern: Omni

Land Area in Sq. Km.
 Gain Area: 5,677.0
 Loss Area: 6,148.9
 Present Area: 12,386.3
 Change: 95.5%

2000 Census Block
 Gain Pop: 936,233
 Loss Pop: 443,751
 Present Pop: 790,354
 Change: 174.6%



Duopoly Study

Center = 29 31 08 N, 81 19 02 W

09-21-2001

Call	Coordinates	Dist.	Bear.	Chan.	Pwr.	City	State	File #
WGNEFM	293108 811902	0	0	260C	100	Palatka	FL	BLHRB1104MG
WCFB	285855 812718	61	192.7	233C	100	Daytona Beach	FL	BLH19910319
WHKR	283503 805056	113.2	156.2	274C2	50	Rockledge	FL	BLH19950712
WHOGFM	291410 810423	39.3	143	239C3	25	Ormond-by-the	FL	BLH19951109
WHTQ	283451 810432	106.6	167.2	243C	100	Orlando	FL	BLH19850513
WJHM	285516 811909	66.3	180.2	270C	61	Daytona Beach	FL	BLH19970407
WJRR	283451 810432	106.6	167.2	266C	100	Cocoa Beach	FL	BLH19850528
WKROFM	285340 805308	80.9	148.8	226C3	15	Edgewater	FL	BLH19981210
WKTK	291534 823405	124.8	256.9	253C1	100	Crystal River	FL	BLH19990122
WLOQ	283222 812646	109.3	186.6	276C3	14	Winter Park	FL	BLH19950405
WMFQ	290445 820535	89.8	237.2	225C2	50	Ocala	FL	BLH19880725
WMGF	285516 811909	66.3	180.2	299C	100	Mount Dora	FL	BLH19870526
WMMO	283427 812746	105.7	187.7	255C2	44	Orlando	FL	BLH19991008
WNDD	291655 820250	75.6	249.7	238A	6	Silver Spring	FL	BLH19950501
WNUEFM	285054 805144	86.5	149.2	251C1	100	Titusville	FL	BLH19950407
WOCL	285516 811909	66.3	180.2	290C	100	Deland	FL	BMLH1997041
WOGK	291606 820451	79.2	249.6	229C	100	Ocala	FL	BLH19870915
WOMXFM	283451 810432	106.6	167.2	286C	100	Orlando	FL	BLH19950308
WRUFFM	294234 822340	106.5	281.8	279C1	100	Gainesville	FL	BLH19850820
WSHE	283608 810537	103.9	167.9	262C	100	Orlando	FL	BMLH1990011
WSKYFM	293746 823425	122.4	276.1	247C2	13.5	Micanopy	FL	BLH19981109
WTKS	283451 810432	106.6	167.2	281C	100	Cocoa Beach	FL	BLH19850508
WTRSFM	291116 822339	110.8	250.8	272C2	50	Dunnellon	FL	BLH19890705
WVYB	291410 810423	39.3	143	277A	3	Holly Hill	FL	BLH19960502
WWKA	283608 810537	103.9	167.9	222C	100	Orlando	FL	BLH19840405
WXXL	283331 813538	109.8	194.2	294C1	100	Tavares	FL	BMLH1993080
WYGC	293803 821850	97.4	277.8	265A	6	Gainesville	FL	BMLH1998050

Number in list= 27

Declaration:

I, Katherine A. Michler, have received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Northern Iowa, and;

That, I declare that I have received training as a technical consultant as a member of the staff of Doug Vernier Telecommunications Consultants, and;

That, I have apprenticed under Douglas Vernier for over three years, and;

That, he has been active in broadcast consulting for over 25 years, and;

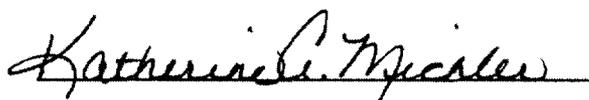
That, his qualifications are a matter of record with the Federal Communications Commission, and;

That, I am an Associate Member (#20792) of the Society of Broadcast Engineers, Indianapolis, Indiana, and;

That, the consulting firm of Doug Vernier Telecommunications Consultants has been retained by Renda Broadcasting Corp. of Nevada, and as such has prepared the engineering showings appended hereto, and;

That, I have prepared these engineering showings, the technical information contained in same and the facts stated within are true to my knowledge, and;

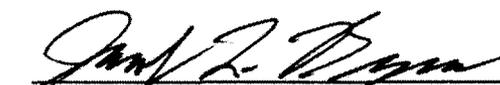
That, under penalty of perjury, I declare that the foregoing is correct.

 Katherine A. Michler

Executed on September 21, 2001

Subscribed and sworn before me this 21st day of September, 2001.




Notary Public in and for the State of Iowa

(URL reload)

1990 US Census Data
Database: C90STF3A
Summary Level: State--Place

Middleburg CDP: FIPS.STATE=12, FIPS.PLACE90=45350**PLACE OF WORK---STATE AND COUNTY LEVEL***Universe: Workers 16 years and over*

Worked in State of residence:

Worked in county of residence.....1101

Worked outside county of residence.....1680

Worked outside State of residence.....88

PLACE OF WORK---PLACE LEVEL*Universe: Workers 16 years and over*

Living in a place:

Worked in place of residence.....249

Worked outside place of residence.....2620

Not living in a place.....0

PLACE OF WORK---MSA/PMSA LEVEL*Universe: Workers 16 years and over*

Living in an MSA/PMSA:

Worked in MSA/PMSA of residence:

Central city.....1549

Remainder of this MSA/PMSA.....1149

Worked outside MSA/PMSA of residence:

Worked in a different MSA/PMSA:

Central city.....17

Remainder of different MSA/PMSA.....126

Worked outside any MSA/PMSA.....28

Not living in an MSA/PMSA:

Worked in an MSA/PMSA:

Central city.....0

Remainder of MSA/PMSA.....0

Worked outside any MSA/PMSA.....0

PLACE OF WORK---MINOR CIVIL DIVISION LEVEL*Universe: Workers 16 years and over*

Living in the 9 Northeastern States:

Worked in the minor civil division of residence.....0

Worked outside minor civil division of residence.....0

Not living in the 9 Northeastern States.....2869



Quick Tables

QT-P3. Race and Hispanic or Latino: 2000
 Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data
 Geographic Area: **Middleburg CDP, Florida**

NOTE: For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/expsf1u.htm>.

Subject	Number	Percent
RACE		
Total population	10,338	100.0
One race	10,176	98.4
White	9,632	93.2
Black or African American	334	3.2
American Indian and Alaska Native	74	0.7
American Indian	56	0.5
Alaska Native	0	0.0
Both American Indian and Alaska Native	0	0.0
American Indian or Alaska Native, not specified	18	0.2
Asian	65	0.6
Asian Indian	2	0.0
Chinese	3	0.0
Filipino	33	0.3
Japanese	6	0.1
Korean	3	0.0
Vietnamese	2	0.0
Other Asian category	13	0.1
Two or more Asian categories	3	0.0
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	5	0.0
Native Hawaiian	2	0.0
Samoan	0	0.0
Guamanian or Chamorro	1	0.0
Other Pacific Islander category	2	0.0
Two or more Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander categories	0	0.0
Some other race	66	0.6
Two or more races	162	1.6
Two races including Some other race	24	0.2
Two races excluding Some other race, and three or more races	138	1.3
Two races excluding Some other race	120	1.2
Three or more races	18	0.2
HISPANIC OR LATINO		
Total population	10,338	100.0
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	266	2.6
Mexican	69	0.7
Puerto Rican	97	0.9
Cuban	19	0.2
Other Hispanic or Latino	81	0.8
Not Hispanic or Latino	10,072	97.4
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO		
Total population	10,338	100.0
One race	10,176	98.4
Hispanic or Latino	243	2.4
Not Hispanic or Latino	9,933	96.1
Two or more races	162	1.6
Hispanic or Latino	23	0.2
Not Hispanic or Latino	139	1.3

(X) Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1, Matrices P3, P4, PCT4, PCT5, PCT8, and PCT11.

Moosehaven and early Orange Park. The Moosehaven Museum houses and eclectic collection of resident donated memorabilia that spans over a century.



Camp Blanding Museum and Memorial Park

State Road 16 at Kingsley Lake

Located in Clay County

(904) 533-3100 Ext. 3196

**Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
and
Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

To find out more about this park [CLICK HERE!](#)

Camp Blanding Museum and Memorial Park offers a comprehensive photographic record and extensive displays of Camp Blanding from construction in 1939. It is a unique depository of military memorabilia spanning all theatres of World War II to the present. Of particular interest is the massive accumulation of heavy equipment used in warfare over the past sixty decades.



Other Related Sites:

**[City of Green Cove Springs, FL](#)
[River Park Inn, Green Cove Springs, FL](#)
[Clay County Chamber of Commerce](#)
[Clay County Clerk of the Courts](#)
[Clay County Genealogy](#)
[Clay County Archives and Research Center](#)
[Archives Newsletter](#)**

1860 and 1870 Census can be found at the above [Clay County Genealogy](#)

**Museum information and pictures provided by:
Claude Bass and Pamela Monroe**



Clay County Chronology History

1728 – The first inhabitants, Timucuan Indians, were nearly wiped out by the British and their allies the Lower Creek and Seminole Indians.

1735-40—The Spanish built a fort, St. Francis de Pupe, eight miles south of the present Green Cove Springs.

1763-83 – British occupation of Florida.

1783 – Spanish made first land grants when they re-occupy Florida.

1790 – Spanish land grant made to Zephaniah Kingsley which included present Orange Park. George Fleming also granted the area where Hibernia is now.

1821 – United States acquires Florida after the Second Seminole War.

1836 – Ft. Heileman was built at the forks of Black Creek as a general supply depot.

1850 – About this time Middleburg was established because it was thriving community when Clay County was created.

1858 – Clay County was created by act of the Florida legislature.

1859 – Whitesville declared the county seat after a county vote taken.

1872 – By this time Green Cove Springs had become the county seat.

1874 – Green Cove Springs received its charter and became the oldest incorporated city in Clay County.

1876 – By this date 20 schools had been established in the county.

1879 – Orange Park received its charter.

1880 – Green Cove Springs and Orange Park were enjoying a profitable tourist trade.

1881 – The green Cove Springs and Melrose Railroad Company was incorporated to build a line across Clay County from Green Cove Springs to Melrose. The Jacksonville and Palatka Railroad was also incorporated.

1894, 95, and 99 – Severe freezes killed the orange groves and the hopes a thriving orange business in Orange Park.

1913 – In Orange Park the council-commission form of government was abolished and a Commission form of government was established. The town boundaries were also redrawn exclusively inside Clay County.

1922 – The first of the Senior Moose Members took up residency in the old Hotel in Orange Park and Moosehaven got its start.

1925 – Keystone Heights was chartered.

1927 – Penney Farms was chartered. This included the Penney Farms

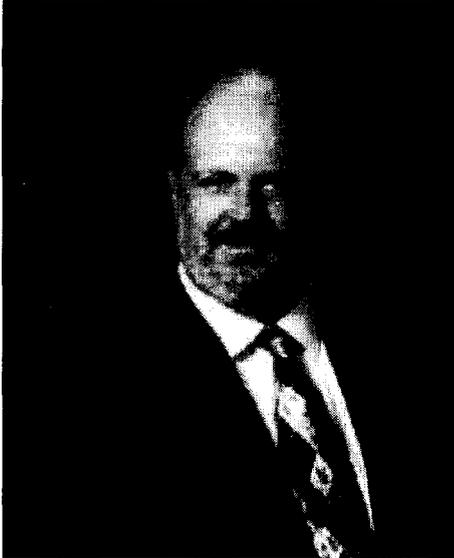
1927 – Penney Farms was chartered. This included the Penney Farms Retirement Community established by J. C. Penney, the founder of the department store chain.

1962 – The docking facility for the mothball fleet of the United States Naval Atlantic Reserve was moved from its Green Cove Springs location to Texas. The Navy facilities there had been in use since World War I. This move created economic hardship for the town.

1975 – A new charter creating a council-manager form of government for Orange Park was approved in a special election held in Town Hall

For general information about this web site e-mail Ann Mitchell at: Ann.Mitchell@co.clay.fl.us
or, send comments to:
Clay County Board of County Commissioners
P.O. Box 1366, 477 Houston Street, Green Cove Springs, FL, 32043
(904) 269-284-6376, Fax: (904) 529/278-4731
Web site and pages developed by: Ann Mitchell

**Meet County Commissioner Glenn R. Lassiter
District 4, Chairman of the Board**



Glenn R. Lassiter

Commissioner Glenn R. Lassiter (Republican since 1976) has served as a member of the Commission since 1998. Glenn is 43 years old, was born in Gainesville, Florida, and grew up in Clay County. Glenn is married to the former Diane Wallace in 1976 and they are the proud parents of six children. Glenn and his family stay busy producing approximately three million pounds of poultry, fifty thousand pounds of beef and one hundred tons of hay annually on their farm. His present term runs from November, 1998 to November, 2002.

Go Gators!

[View District 4 Map](#)

Clay County Home Rule Charter

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Education

- Orange Park High School, 1974
- Liberty University Home Bible Institute
- Business curriculum, FCCJ, 60 credit hours

Leadership

- Operations Supervisor over 20 years at Maxwell House Coffee
- Owner of All-4-One Farms
- Keystone Lake Advisory Committee
- Clay County and Florida Cattlemen's Association
- Board Member of the Clay County 4-H Foundation
- 4-H Leader

Committee Assignments

- Chairman of the Parks & Recreation Committee
- Vice-Chairman of the Budget, Finance & Personnel Committee
- Vice-Chairman of the Transportation Committee
- Clay County liaison to Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council
- Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council Transportation Committee

Community Services

- Music Director at Clay Hill Baptist Church for ten years

BCC Phone List

If you would like to get in touch with Commissioner Lassiter you may call him at his home at (904) 289-9541, or you can e-mail Commissioner Lassiter via Diane.Walker@co.clay.fl.us

CLAY County Leader

"The Leader in Local News"

AABOUT OUR PUBLICATION

The Clay County Leader is a weekly publication serving all of the area communities:

- Orange Park
- Green Cove Springs
- Middleburg
- Keystone Heights
- Penney Farms

The Clay County Leader is the only locally owned and operated Clay County newspaper. As such, we are qualified to report on the distinct character of our county and promote the interests of all the people whose efforts make it an exceptional place to live and work. This enterprise has earned us designation as the Official Legal Publication of the Board of County Commissioners, a recognition, by the leaders in local government, that we're proud to hold. We're a full-service publication offering complete graphic arts service and a dedicated sales team to help you with every facet of your advertising plan. All rates much lower than any other area publication.

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The Clay County Leader is a paid circulation newspaper with a weekly readership reaching 10,000 plus throughout the entire county.

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PRINTING / PUBLISHING / INTERNET SERVICES

A Journal Communications Company

Peggy Hutton Oddy, Account Executive
Direct Phone (904) 264-0846 ext.112

Friday, September 21, 2001

Lewis Blandon
Shook, Hardy & Bacon
600 14th Avenue
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Lewis:

Please accept this Media Kit from the Clay Today covering Orange Park, Florida and all the towns within Clay County.

The Clay Today is Clay County's Award Winning Community Newspaper. It is the only newspaper that comprehensively covers the news and community events in Orange Park, Fleming Island, Green Cove Springs, Middleburg and Keystone Heights. The Clay Today is a two section paper with at least 48 pages of local information. No other media competes at this level.

As an advertiser you not only have the benefit of being part of the newspaper weekly but an integral part of the community. When readers have a buying decision to make, you are business who is recognized as a community member.

If you have the desire to reach more consumers in our other successful niche markets, we produce many other local newspapers in the greater Jacksonville area. There are the Ponte Vedra Recorder, St. John's Recorder and all the Navy base papers in the Southeast; Jax Air News, Mayport Mirror and King's Bay Periscope.

I look forward to meeting with you to discuss your local advertising. Please call if you need additional information or to schedule an appointment.

Clay Today

Jax Air News

Periscope

Car Connection

Florida Mariner

N.E. Fla. Mariner

Pelican Press

Ponte Vedra Recorder

AddInc Printing of Florida

Sincerely,
Add Inc./ Clay Today

Peggy Hutton Oddy
Account Executive

To find out more info
about middleburg & clay county
log on to
www.clayedo.com

Hope this helps!

Remember
Sept. 11, 2001



Reaction to last week's attack
on America begins on page A-4.

Clay Today

& Clay County Crescent



SEPTEMBER 20 - SEPTEMBER 26, 2001 EDITION

IT PAYS TO KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY 50¢ • SECTION A OF TWO SECTIONS • VOL. 30 NO. 38

AT A GLANCE

"... we don't live in
America; America
lives in US!"

Anonymous

Candlelight vigil scheduled in Spring Park

A candlelight vigil has been planned for Thursday, Sept. 20, in Spring Park in Green Cove Springs. The vigil, planned as a show of sympathy for lives lost in the Sept. 11 attack on America, will begin at 7:30 p.m. There will be singing, and clergy from the area will speak. The public is invited to stand united in a show of support for America.

Republicans to host meeting

Clay County Republicans are invited to attend a social time and meeting Monday, Sept. 24, at the Orange Park Town Hall. The social time will begin at 7 p.m. and Clay County Clerk of the Circuit Court Hon. James B. Jett will speak at 7:30 p.m. All Republicans are invited to attend. For further information please call Vivian Freas at 272-2364 or 631-1123.

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Staff Photo By Kathryn Willis

And who says God isn't watching us...

An accident Saturday afternoon looked more horrific than it really was. A Jeep Cherokee, carrying four people, unexpectedly rolled over onto its top when a Dodge Intrepid reamed it from behind. Miraculously no one was injured in the accident. The accident took place in front of Woodchuck's.

California woman reports kidnapping

By Doug Newton, Staff

Police reports indicate that a 23-year-old California woman was temporarily kidnapped, forced to make ATM withdrawals and give them to her kidnapper and forced to perform oral sex on her kidnapper in an incident which occurred Wednesday, Sept. 12, in Orange Park and on Jacksonville's Westside.

The incident began when the woman, whose name has not been released, withdrew \$40 from the Bank of America on Blanding

Boulevard. Upon returning to her car, a young black male forced her into the passenger's seat and told her he needed \$500 and a ride. The suspect said that he had a gun but that the woman would not get hurt if she cooperated. He then got into the driver's seat and drove them to another Bank of America on Normandy Boulevard.

At the bank, the man obtained the victim's ATM card and PIN number and made two ATM transactions totaling \$460. He then re-entered the car and drove to a nearby location on the Westside

that was unfamiliar to the victim. At that point, the man exited the car, taking the \$500, and gave the woman directions back to where the incident began on Blanding Boulevard. The woman returned to Orange Park and contacted the Clay County Sheriff's Office. It was revealed during questioning that the victim had also been forced to perform oral sex on the man twice while he was driving.

The sheriff's office has no suspects in the case but is in the process of obtaining a photograph of the man from ATM security cameras.

HOW TO HELP

BLOOD DONATIONS - Florida Georgia Blood Alliance, 2153 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park, is the nearest site to donate blood in Clay County. Call 272-3475 for hours of operations. Normal hours are Monday-Thursday, noon

to 8 p.m. but because of the recent tragedy, extended hours may still be in effect.

RED CROSS - Donations may be made to the Red Cross via the Web site at redcross.org or call 1-800-HELPNOW.

Educational Community Credit Union has set up an account and is accepting donations on behalf of the American Red Cross. To donate visit 2177 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park or 1545 CR 220 in Fleming Island.

To bridge or not to bridge?

By Jean Speights, Staff

FLEMING ISLAND - They were civil, but adamant.

More than 190 people turned out in the rain at Paterson Elementary Thursday evening, Sept. 13, to voice their opinions about an FDOT capacity study regarding the need for another bridge across the St. Johns River - a bridge that, if built, would not be ready until 2030.

Although FDOT officials strongly stressed that the \$160,000 study being conducted by The Corradino Group is not a "travel corridor" study, audience questions and comments revolved around rumors that a new bridge would be built on Fleming Island in Clay County and connect on the St. Johns County side near Greenbrier.

Louise Thrower, a resident of Fruit Cove, St. Johns County, said, "We should decide what we really want. The only place is the Shands bridge (an existing two-lane bridge, SR 16). We need to widen it. We need to blitz Tallahassee."

Elaine Whitmore, also of Fruit Cove, said she is against building a new bridge between the Shands and Buckman Bridges. She said that good planning had been lacking and that more jobs were needed in Clay County to decrease the number of people commuting north and south into Duval County.

Jerry Agresti, 22-year resident of Fleming Island, member of the Clay County Transportation Advisory Committee and a developer, said, "We should relax. There is no bridge going through Fleming Island. They missed the boat 10 years ago for that. If Shands works, OK,

BRIDGE cont'd on page 2A

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 5040 SR-218 W.
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