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TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2016 | YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1874 | \$1.00

Lake City Reporter

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ATV crash claims two lives

Lake City women, 32 and 30, were soon to be sisters-in-law.

By **KAYLA LOKEINSKY**
klokeinsky@lakecityreporter.com

took the lives of two Lake City women who were soon to be sisters-in-law, one an engaged mother of three, the other a pharmacist celebrating her birthday.

Kristina Durham, 32, and Ashley Nicole Terrell, 30, lost their lives shortly before 3 a.m. in Wellborn, the Florida Highway Patrol said.

Durham was engaged to Terrell's brother, accord-

ing to friends. Durham had three children, including an 11-month-old girl.

Terrell, a pharmacist, marked her 30th birthday Monday.

Shortly before 3 a.m., Durham was headed south on 45th Road with

Terrell and 26-year-old Katherine Caslin as passengers when she lost control of the 2015 Polaris Ranger on a curve.

When the vehicle



ACCIDENT cont. on 3A Durham Terrell



SHOW OF SUPPORT

OFFICER MICHAEL LEE/LCPD

Lake City Police Department officers observe a moment of silence in honor of law enforcement officers slain in Baton Rouge, La. Sunday morning. Three were killed, two from the Baton Rouge Police Department and one from the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office. The LCPD officers wore black bands over their badges in a show of solidarity with the victims. From left are Officer Joseph Wilkerson, Investigator Ivan Useche, Officer Chauncey May and Officer Stuart Robinson. See related story, 3A.

Mystery company seeking \$1.2M

Unidentified suitor wants cash incentives, no questions asked.

By **CARL MCKINNEY**
cmckinney@lakecityreporter.com

A mystery company is asking for over a million dollars in cash from the county, but won't reveal itself to the public until after a contract is approved.

The county commission will mull an economic development agreement on Thursday that would give the anonymous business \$125,000 per year over a 10-year period.

County Commission Chair Bucky Nash said the board knows who the company is, even though the public doesn't.

"Is it exactly right for the public?" Nash asked. "Probably not, but that's the way it is when you're dealing with big companies."

There are some clues in the agreement, though, which states it's a commercial fuel business and travel center.

Columbia County Economic Development Director Glenn Hunter said

the company's secrecy while asking for public money is an issue for the commission, not him to consider.

"I would love to be able to say that publicly, but I can't," he said. "I'm required by law when a company asks me to keep their information quiet."

County Commissioner Ron Williams said the board can't base its decision on the company's insistence on anonymity.

"I don't have any problem with it," he said. "We know who they are."

The Economic Development Advisory Board is recommending the commission approve the request due to the taxes it will generate.

"It will generate significant revenue," Hunter said. "They will basically pay for the investment."

He couldn't give precise figures, however.

According to the contract, the business has to maintain at least 60 full-time employees from 30 days after it finishes construction to the end of the 10-year period. If it ever falls below that, it will be charged back for a portion of its incentives.

The business hasn't tied itself down to Columbia County yet, Hunter said, and has an out in the contract in case it chooses to back down.

"The company hasn't made a decision yet," he said.

GOP convention opens amid tumult

Officials seek to blunt anti-Trump efforts at the start.

By **JULIE PACE & ALAN FRAM**
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Republicans cast Donald Trump as the right man for turbulent times as they opened their presidential con-

vention Monday against a backdrop of unsettling summer violence and deep discontent within their own party.

Tumult broke out on the convention floor after party officials adopted rules by a shouted voice vote, a move aimed at blunting anti-Trump forces seeking to derail the presumptive nominee. Delegates erupted in competing chants in a televised dispute

Republican leaders had hoped to avoid.

"I have no idea what's going on right now. This is surreal," said Utah Sen. Mike Lee, who had helped lead the efforts to force a state-by-state roll call vote on the rules.

Republican leaders hope the convention centers instead on the glue that does unite the party's factions: disdain for Hillary

Clinton. Convention speakers planned to relentlessly paint the presumptive Democratic nominee as entrenched in a system that fails to keep Americans safe.

"Hillary Clinton cannot be trusted. Her judgment and character are not suited to be sitting in the most powerful office in the world," said Sen. Joni Ernst,

GOP cont. on 2A

Roadwork on U.S. 441

Al Mitchell, an FDOT crew supervisor, oversees the removal of the sidewalk on U.S. Highway 441 near State Road 47 Thursday afternoon. The sidewalk, which was already falling apart, will be replaced with sod, Mitchell said.



CARL MCKINNEY/Lake City Reporter



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Slain Baton Rouge officers all hailed from same small town

The Associated Press

DENHAM SPRINGS, La. — Fresh out of the police academy, Matthew Gerald was so proud to bring his cruiser home that he stood in the driveway, wiping it down under the hot Louisiana sun. His neighbor Ashley Poe watched as he flicked the blue lights on and off, on and off.

Poe and her husband shared a laugh. The 41-year-old former soldier and Marine looked like an excited kid.

"It's like living out the dream," she said.

Gerald got to live it only for a few months. He was one of three officers gunned down in an ambush Sunday in Baton Rouge, traumatizing a nation already on edge.

In the span of 10 turbulent days, 10 law enforcement officers have been killed by attackers — at a protest march in Dallas, a courthouse in Michigan and now a convenience store in Baton Rouge. Together, the shootings represent the deadliest attack on law enforcement in decades.

The officers who died Sunday all lived just outside Denham Springs, a quiet bedroom community across the Amite River from Baton Rouge, which has been in turmoil for two weeks. Tensions rose sharply after the death of Alton Sterling, a black man killed by white Baton Rouge officers after a scuffle at a convenience store. The killing was captured on cellphone video.

As the nation debates race and policing, this community is mourning three of its sons — all husbands and fathers described by friends as being committed to protecting and serving the public.

"You hear about these things happening across the country to officers just trying to defend us, but this brings it right here, to our home," Livingston Parish President Layton Ricks said. "These are our families. These are good men. They're the only line of defense between good and evil. We say we don't want to let this evil affect how we live our daily lives. But it does."

Gavin Long, a former Marine from Missouri dressed in black and carrying extra ammunition, opened fire on officers around 8:45 a.m. Sunday, police said.

The gunfire also killed 45-year-old Brad Garafola, an East Baton Rouge Parish sheriff's deputy and a father of four, and 32-year-old Montrell Jackson, a 10-year veteran of the Baton Rouge Police Department with a newborn baby at home.

Garafola and Gerald were white. Jackson was black, as was the gunman.

"The world is crazy right now. It is complete chaos," Jackson's sister-in-law said. "And it all needs to stop, everything. We all need peace."

Three other officers were wounded. One of them, Deputy Nicholas Tullier, remained in critical condition Monday. The gunman was killed at the scene.

Poe watched from the window Sunday morning as a line of police cars pulled up in front of Gerald's house. She woke up her husband, a former city police officer.

"He said, 'What's wrong?' and I said, 'There's units everywhere, and you've told me that's never a good sign,'" she said. They turned on the news.

The gunman shot Gerald and Jackson first.

Gerald was a Marine from 1994 to 1998. He later joined the Army and served as a decorated soldier from 2002 to 2009, including three tours in Iraq. Less than a year ago, he joined the Baton Rouge Police Department.

'These are our families. These are good men. They're the only line of defense between good and evil. We say we don't want to let this evil affect how we live our daily lives. But it does.'

He had a wife and two daughters, Poe said, and was devoted to them.

Poe said her 14-year-old son was interested in the military, and Gerald was always ready to answer his questions.

"He'd tell him how he was proud to protect his country," she said. "It seemed like that was his passion to do that."

Denham Springs, population 10,000, is the sort of town where everyone is connected, said Mayor Gerard Landry. There's a palpable sense of anger and despair.

"There's no way to describe what it does to a small city like this," Marilyn Wallace said Monday, standing behind the counter of the store she and her husband, Randy, own on a two-block long stretch of antique shops in the historic district of Denham Springs.

The city is in Livingston Parish, about 13 miles from Baton Rouge, with a history of racial tension. But that history — and the racial divide in nearby Baton Rouge — seem remote here.

Jackson's father-in-law, Lonnie Jordan, called him a "gentle giant" — tall and stout and formidable looking, but with a peaceful disposition.

Jordan said his son-in-law had been working long hours since Sterling was killed.

Jackson posted on Facebook that he was physically and emotionally tired. He wrote that while in uniform he gets nasty looks and out of uniform some consider him a threat.

"I swear to God I love this city," he wrote, "but I wonder if this city loves me."

The police chief described at a news conference how he had gone to the district where Jackson worked just days earlier in an attempt to boost the spirits of the officers. Instead Jackson ended up giving him the pep talk.

He had been on the force 10 years and risen to the rank of corporal, said Kedrick Pitts, his half brother. He worked hard, sometimes seven days a week.

He was funny and good natured, Pitts said. He collected shoes, 500 pairs, including special Kobe Bryant and Michael Jordan lines.

But what he loved most was his wife and 4-month-old son.

"He's going to grow up without a father," said Jackson's sister-in-law, Lauren Rose said. "But we'll be there to give him memories and let him know how his dad was a great man, and how he died with honor ... Hopefully one day, he'll be like his dad."

At the convenience store Sunday, Garafola tried to intervene and help the fallen officers.

Surveillance video showed Garafola firing at the gunman from behind a dumpster as bullets hit the concrete around him, East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff Sid Getreaux said.

"My deputy went down fighting. He returned fire to the very end," the sheriff said.

Garafola's friends described him as a man committed to public service and devoted to his family.

He had a wife and four children: a 21-year-old son, a 15-year-old daughter, a 12-year-old son and a 7-year-old daughter.

Sgt. Gerald Parker, a close friend, described him as a "jack of all trades" who enjoyed helping people in his neighborhood, like mending their fences or mowing their lawns. He worked hard, often picking up extra hours.

"He was a man of strong character," Parker said. "All these officers are heroes. Some people would run. But these gentlemen leave their families knowing something can happen."

His colleague, Deputy Nicholas Tullier, a father of two teenage sons, is surrounded by family at the hospital.

Carol Sue McManus, a relative, said he's a workaholic who serves on two units, one patrol and the other motorcycle. She said he was injured at one point when he was run over while escorting a funeral procession.

"I'm mad," she said with tears in her eyes. "I wish all this madness would stop."

AROUND TOWN

Virtual Vietnam Memorial wall

Vietnam veteran Forest Hope needs help tracking down photos of fallen Columbia County Vietnam veterans so that they can have a visual representation on the Virtual Vietnam Memorial Wall website. Hope is president of the Alachua 1092 Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America. The nationwide effort is being led by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. Interested residents may contact Hope at 352-514-0270. For more information about the Virtual Vietnam Memorial Wall, visit online at atvnmf.org/wall-of-faces.

Elder Options

Elder Options is seeking volunteers to serve in leadership positions in several communities, including Columbia, Suwannee, Gilchrist, Hernando, Sumter, Dixie, Lafayette and Union counties. The agency needs caring and committed members of the community to serve on the board of directors and/or advisory council in each county. Interested residents should have an interest in health and wellness, in-home support and nutrition programs for older persons. For more information, visit www.agingresources.org or contact Kathy Dorminey at 352-692-5214 ordormineyk@agingresources.org.

Adult day care

The Lifestyle Enrichment Center is offering dementia specific adult day care from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays at the center, 628 SE Allison Court in Lake City. The staffers' goal is to remediate or maintain participants' optimal mental functioning and cognition and to reinvigorate the participants' feelings of usefulness and sociability and capacity to celebrate life. For more information, call 438-8621.

LCMC Auxiliary seeks volunteers

The Lake City Medical Center Auxiliary needs volunteers in all positions, especially those who have a heart to serve others through visitation and prayer in the chaplain's program. Pick up an application at the gift shop or at the front desk. For more information, call 719-9371.

Volunteers needed

Shands Lake Shore Regional Medical Center Auxiliary is looking for volunteers, especially golf cart shuttle drivers. Interested residents may pick up an application at the hospital gift shop.

Send photographs and details about your organization's programs, events and volunteer needs to Eleanor Ransburg via email at eransburg@lakecityreporter.com or US mail to Eleanor Ransburg, Lake City Reporter, 180 E. Duval St., Lake City, FL 32055. If you have any questions, call 754-0424.

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A BOIL WATER ADVISORY IS IN EFFECT

A boil water advisory is in effect from McFarlane Avenue to Jaguar Glen in area of Grandview Avenue until otherwise notified by the City of Lake Utilities Division. This is due to a broken fire hydrant.

The water should be boiled for at least two (2) minutes when used for consumption.

Any concerns or questions, please call 386-758-5492.

CRASH

Continued From 1A

traveled onto the right shoulder, Durham overcorrected, FHP said, causing it to spin and overturn.

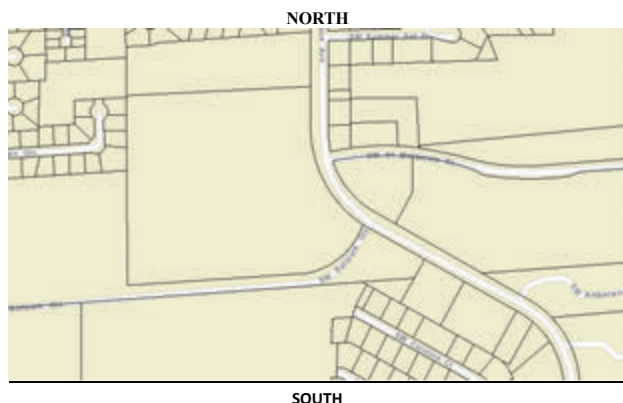
Durham and Terrell were thrown out of the Polaris, which landed on top of them.

They were pronounced dead at the scene.

Caslin was transported to Lake City Medical Center by Suwannee County Fire Rescue with minor injuries.

ROAD CLOSURE NOTICE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

SW Ballpark Glen (aka - Kuhn Road)
will be closed starting
Friday, July 08, 2016 - Until Further Notice



Impact to Residents: Traffic must be detoured due to manhole and main line rehabilitation. SW Ballpark Glen will not be accessible from SW McFarlane Ave. The ball fields will be accessible from Bascom Norris only. Barricades and cones will be used to prevent vehicular traffic from entering from SW McFarlane Ave.

We apologize for this inconvenience, appreciate your cooperation, and will work diligently to open the road as soon possible.

If you have any questions or concerns,
please contact Brian Scott (386) 758-5492.

Sincerely,

The City of Lake City

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