

Levy County holds lowest unemployment rate in area

LAURA BYRNES
Career Source

According to the preliminary jobs data for November, released today by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Levy County continues to hold the lowest jobless rate in the tri-county region of Levy, Citrus and Marion, at 5.3 percent, up 0.5 percentage point over the month; Marion County followed at 6.0 percent, an increase of 0.6 percentage point; and Citrus County's rate was 6.9 percent, 0.6 percentage point higher than the October rate.

The unemployment rate in the CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion region was 6.2 percent in November, up 0.6 percentage point over the month and 2.6 percent higher than the same time last year.

The region's labor force was 205,444, up 1,619 over the month and 2,745 more than in November 2019. The number of those with jobs last month edged up by 340 across the region to 192,799 but fell by 2,564 over the year. There were 12,645 unemployed, an increase of 1,279 compared to October and 5,309 more than the previous November.

Florida's not seasonally adjusted jobless rate – a measure that matches the way local rates are calculated – was 6.3 percent, the same as the previous month and an increase of 3.6 percent over the year.

Rusty Skinner, CareerSource CLM's CEO, said Levy County shows a very slight increase in job seekers looking for opportunities but little expansion in employment, indicating an employment environment that is in a "holding pattern" as it enters the holiday season.

In November, Levy County's labor force ticked up by 39 to 16,662, the number of those with jobs fell by 62 to 15,774 and the number of jobless increased by 101 to 888. Those numbers represent 164 fewer in the labor force, a drop of 512 in the number of employed and an increase of 348 unemployed over the year when the unemployment rate was 3.2 percent.

Cedar Key School news



Cedar Key School Facebook page

Cedar Key School Resource Officer, Deputy Julie Gironda, is leaving CKS. She is being promoted to a new position in the Levy County Sheriff's office. Deputy Julie's last day was Friday. When the Sharks return to campus on Jan. 5, 2021, they should expect to see Deputy Carl Rogers as the temporary School Resource Officer.

Obituary

Vickie McQuay Davis, 71

FANNING SPRINGS

Vickie McQuay Davis, 71, of Fanning Springs, passed away on Dec. 11, 2020 in Gainesville. Vickie was born in Michigan in March 1949 but grew up in Central Florida. She is survived by 3 daughters, Tonya McQuay of Oklahoma, Lucinda Harper of Florida and Felicity Davis of Tennessee; 3 grandsons, Wayne Davis and Trever Hall of Tennessee and Michael Harper of Florida. Sisters Audry McQuay, Norma Reeser, Sandra Stewart and Tammy Sode



of Florida and one brother Eddie McQuay of California. She was preceded in death by her parents Barney and Leda Lenora McQuay, a brother Jerry McQuay and a grandson Brett Gatlin. Those who knew her knew of her passion for animals, cats in particular and may honor her memory through support to various rescue organizations with Rapsallion To The Rescue being of special importance. No formal services.

Birthday MEMORIAM



Happy 91st birthday Buddy Crews, born Dec. 23, 1929. He is gone, but never forgotten. We love you and miss you. Earlene, Shelton, Steven and families.

Pet of the WEEK



Jai is the Christmas pet of the week. He came to the shelter Dec. 5 when his owners were moving and could not take him with them. He is a smoky orange tabby, 2 and 1/2 years and is a "great cat and has such a handsome face," that needs a loving rehoming. Jai is very much oriented to a home and he doesn't want the love he has to give to a new family to waste away. Take him home so he has a second chance to love a family again. He deserves a forever home for being the good boy he is.

For more info on Jai, contact:

- animalservices@levycounty.org
- 352-486-5138
- Search Petfinder Levy County

Duke customers will see lower bills starting in January

MIKE BATES
Special to the Citizen/
Pioneer

Duke Energy's customers will see lower electric bills starting January 2021 because the company experienced lower-than-expected storm cost recovery and fuel charges.

Residential bills will be reduced by \$3.63 a month (2.8%) based on 1,000 kilowatts-per-hour usage.

However, that decrease could be offset because Duke plans to adjust rates to include investments in two solar plants when they come online in 2021. Those plants are located in Hamilton and Columbia counties.

Duke said commercial and industrial customers will see bill impacts ranging from a 6.6% decrease to a 1.1% increase.

The company also plans to make grid

improvements expected to improve "reliability, security and resilience" in 2021 and beyond, according to a company news release.

The Florida Public Service Commission on Dec. 15 approved Duke Energy Florida's 2021 proposed fuel and capacity clause rates.

Duke also acknowledged in a news release its commitment to help customers struggling financially during the pandemic by offering assistance and extended payment plans.

Customers can download the company's mobile app or visit duke-energy.com for more information. They can also call 800-700-8744. Customer service specialists are available from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday to assist customers with customized payment plans that meet their specific situations, Duke said.

Williston Pioneer phone number changes

The new phone number for Williston customers is 352-493-0763.

Williston single copy price change

Beginning Jan. 7, 2021, the single copy price for the Williston Pioneer will be 75 cents. This change only impacts newspapers sold in stores or in newspaper racks. There will be no price change for subscribers. For subscription prices or to subscribe, call 352-493-4796.



General Information: The Chiefland Citizen (USPS 561420) is published weekly, each Thursday, by Florida Newspapers LLC., 624 West Park Ave., Chiefland, FL 32696
Phone: 352-493-4796
Periodicals postage paid at Chiefland, Florida.

The Williston Pioneer Sun News (USPS 530200) is published weekly, each Thursday, by Florida Newspapers LLC., 50 NW Main St., Williston, FL 32696.
Phone: 352-493-0763
Periodicals postage paid at Williston, Florida.
Annual subscription rates are:

	Yearly	EZ Pay
In County	\$34.99	\$29.99
In State	\$49.99	\$44.99
Out of State	\$59.99	\$54.99
Online Only	\$34.99	\$29.99

Postmaster: Send all address changes to 624 West Park Ave., Chiefland, FL 32696

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CONCERNING AMENDMENTS TO THE LEVY COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, SERVING ALSO AS THE LOCAL PLANNING AGENCY OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Section 163.3161 through 163.3248, Florida Statutes, as amended, objections, recommendations and comments concerning the amendments, as described below, will be heard by the Planning Commission of Levy County, Florida, serving also as the Local Planning Agency of Levy County, Florida, at public hearings on January 4, 2021 at 5:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matters can be heard, in the Levy County Annex Building, 310 School Street, Bronson, Florida and via communications media technology.

LSA 20-01, an application by the R & R Landholdings LLC, to amend the Future Land Use Plan Map of the Comprehensive Plan by changing the future land use classification from FORESTRY/RURAL RESIDENTIAL (1 unit per 20 acres except as otherwise provided by Policy 3.4) to AGRICULTURAL/RURAL RESIDENTIAL (1 unit per 10 acres, except as otherwise provided by Policy 3.3) for the property described, as follows:

Parcel No. 14365-016-00

A parcel of land lying in Section 7, Township 16 South, Range 17 East and Section 12, Township 16 South, Range 16 East, Levy County, Florida, being more particularly described, as follows: All of the North 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 7, and that part of the North 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of said Section 12, lying East of the East right-of-way line of State Road 55.

Containing 72.39 acres, more or less.

LESS AND EXCEPT

Parcel No. 14365-016-0A

A parcel of land lying in Section 7, Township 16 South, Range 17 East, Levy County, Florida, being more particularly described, as follows: Commence at the Southwest corner of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 7; thence North 00°24'44" West 200.00 feet, along the West line of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 7 to the Point of Beginning; thence South 89°29'17" West 91.35 feet; thence North 00°20'48" West 493.97 feet to the South right-of-way line of Southeast Goethe Road; thence South 86°27'06" East 91.00 feet, along the South right-of-way line of said Southeast Goethe Road; thence South 85°53'48" East 859.65 feet, along the South right-of-way line of said Southeast Goethe Road; thence South 00°21'40" East 422.40 feet; thence South 89°29'17" West 857.03 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Containing 10.00 acres, more or less.

All said lands containing 62.39 acres, more or less.

Members of the public may also participate in the public hearings via communications media technology by calling 1.312.757.3121, Access Code: 442-460-677.

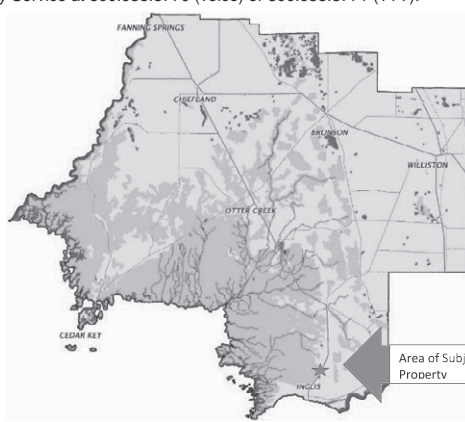
The public hearings may be continued to one or more future date. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearings shall be announced during the public hearings and that no further notice concerning the matters will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearings.

At the aforementioned public hearings, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the amendments.

Copies of the amendments are available for public inspection at the Planning Department located at 7911 NE 90th Street, Bronson, Florida, or by calling the Planning Department at 352.486.5405 during regular business hours.

All persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decision made at the above referenced public hearings, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Persons with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in these proceedings should contact the Board Administration Office, at 352.486.5218. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 800.955.8770 (voice) or 800.955.8771 (TTY).



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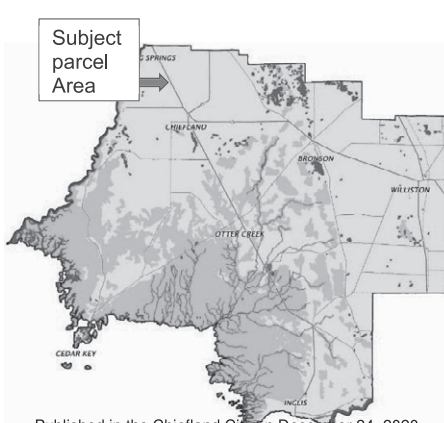
NOTICE OF ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE 2021-02

THE BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the proposed Ordinance adopting amendments to the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan for Levy County, the title for which here after appears, will be considered for enactment by the Levy County Board of County Commissioners, at a public hearing on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the same may be heard, at the Board of County Commissioners, Annex Building, 310 School Street, Bronson, Florida. Copies of said Ordinance may be inspected by any member of the public at the Office of the Board of County Commissioners located at 310 School Street, Bronson, Florida, during regular business hours or contact by phone at (352) 486-5218. On the date, time and place first above-mentioned, all interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to the proposed Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2021-02

AN ORDINANCE OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 163, FLORIDA STATUTES, ADOPTING A SMALL SCALE FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT TO THE LEVY COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FROM COMMERCIAL (C) TO RURAL RESIDENTIAL (RR), FOR PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CHIEFLAND MUNICIPAL SERVICE DISTRICT, SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 14 EAST, LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, CONTAINING 3.66 ACRES MORE OR LESS; APPLICATION SSA 20-03, APPLICANT BRODY LATHROP AND SARAH LATHROP; PROVIDING FOR EXCLUSION FROM CODIFICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

All persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decisions made at this public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Any person requiring reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact the County Commissioners Administration Office at (352) 486-5218. Matt Brooks, Chairman Levy Co. Board of County Commissioners.



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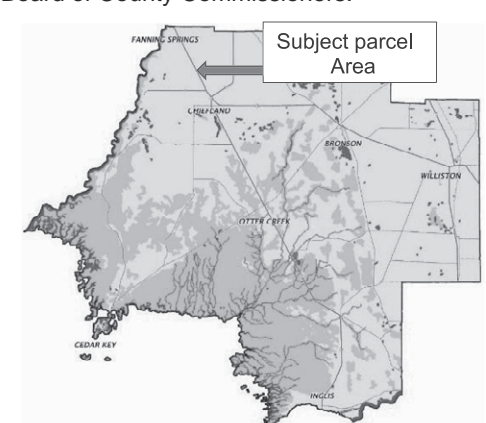
NOTICE OF ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE 2021-01

THE BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the proposed Ordinance adopting amendments to the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan for Levy County, the title for which here after appears, will be considered for enactment by the Levy County Board of County Commissioners, at a public hearing on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the same may be heard, at the Board of County Commissioners, Annex Building, 310 School Street, Bronson, Florida. Copies of said Ordinance may be inspected by any member of the public at the Office of the Board of County Commissioners located at 310 School Street, Bronson, Florida, during regular business hours or contact by phone at (352) 486-5218. On the date, time and place first above-mentioned, all interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to the proposed Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2021-01

AN ORDINANCE OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 163, FLORIDA STATUTES, ADOPTING A SMALL SCALE FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT TO THE LEVY COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FROM COMMERCIAL (C) TO URBAN LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (ULDR), FOR PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CHIEFLAND MUNICIPAL SERVICE DISTRICT, SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 14 EAST, LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, CONTAINING 2.67 ACRES MORE OR LESS; APPLICATION SSA 20-02, APPLICANT JUDITH A. HYDE AND JERRY W. HYDE; PROVIDING FOR EXCLUSION FROM CODIFICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

All persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decisions made at this public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Any person requiring reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact the County Commissioners Administration Office at (352) 486-5218. Matt Brooks, Chairman Levy Co. Board of County Commissioners.



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