



Trump to ban mail ballots; DeSantis defends Florida's

METRO, 1B

The Florida Times-Union

MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2025 | JACKSONVILLE.COM PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Texas detention center location alarms critics

Fort Bliss is at site of WWII internment camp

Eduardo Cuevas and Lauren Villagran
USA TODAY

FORT BLISS, TX – Americans of Japanese heritage say they hear echoes of their families’ forced internment in the Trump administration’s newest immigrant detention site.

Homeland Security officials say President Donald Trump’s sweeping

mass deportation campaign requires a build-up of detention centers to bridge the gap between arrests and removals. They’ve turned to the U.S. military and private contractors to get the job done, including erecting the nation’s largest immigrant detention site on Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas.

But stewards of Japanese American history, including the children and

grandchildren of those who were held in detention, are criticizing the use of Fort Bliss and the plans to expand immigrant detention on American military bases.

Fort Bliss was a “cog” in the United States Japanese internment machine, said Brian Niiya, a historian and content director at Densho, a nonprofit that chronicles Japanese American internment.

See DETENTION, Page 3A

2 guilty pleas in gang war killing

6 charged in shooting that left 7-year-old dead

Scott Butler
Jacksonville Florida Times-Union
USA TODAY NETWORK

The court cases in the January shooting death of 7-year-old Breon Allen Jr. in what Jacksonville police called a gang hit on his cousin are proceeding at an efficient pace with two of the six defendants already pleading guilty.

Breon and 21-year-old Lafayette Mango Jr. were struck in a barrage of gunfire in an ambush drive-by after leaving a home and walking on Commonwealth Avenue, the Sheriff’s Office said. The older target survived critical injuries, but the boy known as “Dusse” did not.

His photos and reward offers were posted by the Sheriff’s Office and the act denounced by Sheriff T.K. Waters.

In March the Sheriff’s Office announced the arrests of Keith Bernard Fields Jr., 18, Dannel Lenoir Larkins, 20, Keith Bernard Johnson, 21, and Zharod Deangelo Sykes, 24, on charges of second-degree murder, conspiracy to commit murder and attempted first-degree murder.

A couple of weeks later the final arrests of Donte Michael McGhee and Tavaris Keon Kelly, both 17, were announced stating they were determined to be the shooters of the bunch.

The warrants say it stemmed from an ongoing dispute between gangs ATK and 6 Block. It particularly referenced a rap song “6 Ways to Die” made by Mango and another ATK member disrespecting slain 6 Block affiliates, including Julio Foolio (real name Charles Jones II).

See PLEAS, Page 6A



Paxton School for Advanced Studies in Jacksonville came in at 18th in U.S. News’ Florida rankings. BRUCE LIPSKY/FLORIDA TIMES-UNION



Jacksonville's Stanton College Preparatory ranked sixth in the state. BRUCE LIPSKY/FLORIDA TIMES-UNION



Ponte Vedra High School in St. Johns County was ranked 35th in Florida. BOB MACK/FLORIDA TIMES-UNION

GOOD GRADES

U.S. News ranks 8 First Coast high schools among FL's best



A student at Darnell-Cookman School of the Medical Arts drills into a cow’s scapula during a 2016 instruction session on neuroanatomy where students handled tools used in surgery. BRUCE LIPSKY/FLORIDA TIMES-UNION

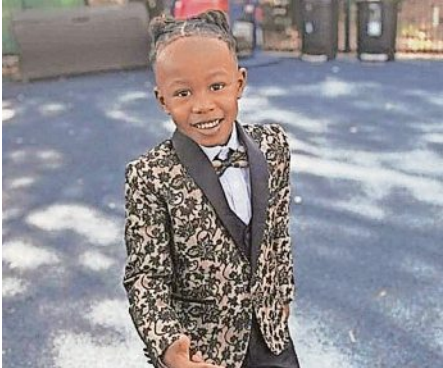
Steve Patterson
Jacksonville Florida Times-Union | USA TODAY NETWORK

Eight Northeast Florida schools ranked among the state’s 50 best public high schools in new U.S. News & World Report ratings released as schools nationally settle into the 2025-26 year.

Duval County’s school district runs five of the top-scoring schools (all magnets) and St. Johns County has three.

U.S. News ranked 654 public schools around the state and almost 18,000 nationally for its annual ratings. Schools were scored based on a series of factors ranging from graduation rates to scores on standardized state tests and college readiness scores, which measured results from either Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exams.

See SCHOOLS, Page 6A



Breon “Dusse” Allen Jr., 7, died in a double shooting outside a home on Commonwealth Avenue on Jan. 24. PROVIDED BY JACKSONVILLE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Kitchen Saver®

\$0 DOWN, \$0 INTEREST IF PAID IN FULL IN 12 MONTHS*

SAVE TIME

SAVE MONEY

CUSTOMIZE

LESS MESS

904-648-0407 | kitchensaver.com/cabinet

*Offer expires: 10/31/25. All offers apply to purchase of Kitchen Saver customer cabinet renewal only, and must be presented and used at time of estimate. Minimum purchase and deposits required. Qualified buyers only. Subject to credit approval. Rates range from 15.85% - 21.99% APR (interest rates range from 17.99% - 24.99%). Loan amount and rate will vary based on your income and creditworthiness. 12 month promotional period ("Promo Period") during which interest is billed but will be waived if the amount financed is paid in full before Promo Period expires. Monthly payments are not required during the Promo Period. Any unpaid balance and amounts owed after Promo Period will be paid over 84 monthly payments. For example, assuming the full credit limit is used on loan approval date and no payments are made during Promo Period, for every \$1,000 financed at a fixed interest rate of 24.99%, 12 monthly payments of \$0 followed by 54 monthly payments of \$28.29. This example is an estimate only. Actual payment amounts based on amount and timing of purchases. Call 866-936-0602 for financing costs and terms. GreenSky® program consumer loans are made by Synovus Bank, Member FDIC, NMLS #408043, without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability, or familial status. GreenSky Servicing, LLC ("GSS", NMLS #1416362, www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org) is a financial technology company that manages the GreenSky® program by supporting originations and servicing the loans on behalf of banks and other financial institutions that make or hold program loans. GreenSky® is a registered trademark of GreenSky, LLC and is licensed to banks and other financial institutions for their use in connection with the GreenSky® program. GreenSky LLC and GSS are not lenders. All credit decisions and loan terms are determined by program lenders. May not be combined with other offers or applied to previous purchases. Valid only at select Kitchen Saver locations. See location for details. Cabinet style and feature availability varies by location and may be different than pictured. PA HIC #PA063180, DE Contractor #2013605887, NJ HIC #13VH08343300, NJ HIC #13VH12694800, SC Gen. Contractor CLG124859, WV Contractor WV063413, and IN BTL 0158230795-002.

Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to jacksonville.com/enewspaper or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!



Volume 160 | No. 234
Subscribe 904-359-4255
©2025 \$2.50