

# Peacock: 'The community has been amazing'

**LIGHTNING**  
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destroy everything Peacock and her significant other, John Moore, owned.

"If the fire didn't get to it, the smoke ruined it — that thick, black smoke. Everything is gone," Peacock said.

The house, which was

built in the 1930s and was "built out of nothing but old wood," caught fire in the kitchen area near the appliances after a reported lightning bolt struck the rear of the house, possibly causing a short in the wiring that ignited the home.

"A neighbor witnessed a lightning bolt near the rear

of the house. In conjunction with the location of the origin of the fire and the eye-witness account, we determined that the likely cause was lightning strike," Cassel said.

Peacock, who also lost her beloved dog Mercedes in the blaze, says she has "a new-found respect for Mother Nature."

"It is merciless. It is kind of sickening to see what it took from you," Peacock said.

"My dog, that has really been the hardest thing for me. I had her for eight years. She was the best thing in my life. She was my child. If I could go back in time, I would have saved just her," Peacock said tearfully.

According to Cassel, Mercedes was not burned and likely died from smoke inhalation.

While Peacock and Moore are still "mind blown" that this tragedy happened to them, they are grateful for the outpouring of support from the community.

"The community has been amazing. We couldn't do this without all the support and love we have received throughout this tragedy. The community has stepped up and surrounded us with love, support and prayer," Peacock said.

"Austin McCracken has been my saving grace. She took charge in making sure we had what we needed," Peacock said.

According to Peacock, community members have donated clothing, furniture and a washer, but they are still in need of household items and kitchen appliances.

"It is still so hard for me to think of everything we need. And it is not easy thinking of the future. You never prepare for something like this. You never think something like this will happen to you," Peacock

said.

For now, Peacock and Moore are rebuilding their lives and remembering the love they had for Mercedes. They plan to demolish the remains of their home and start fresh, keeping the bright side in mind.

"It could have been worse. The house was paid off, and we didn't have any debt," Peacock said.

"This is an opportunity for us to have a fresh start. I am looking forward to the end of 2020. This has been a year. I hope this is the last curve I am thrown this year," Peacock said.



Mercedes, shown above, died in the house fire.

## Along with 6,709 deaths Florida has surpassed 461,000 COVID cases

**TCI INMATES**  
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for coronavirus have died, including: a 78-year-old female, a 71-year-old male and a 91-year-old female.

Taylor's direct neighbors -- Jefferson, Madison, Dixie and Lafayette -- have also reported growing numbers as more tests are administered.

Madison has the highest infection rate of Taylor County's direct neighbors with 583 positive cases. Of the 583 positive cases, Madison has reported seven deaths and 26 hospitalizations.

Test results have been returned on 4,732 people.

To date, Jefferson

has tested 2,171 people with 192 positive tests. Jefferson has reported five subsequent deaths and 21 hospitalizations.

In Dixie, 2,357 people have been tested, yielding 247 positive test results. Four deaths and 25 hospitalizations have occurred as a result.

With 858 tests completed, Lafayette has confirmed 100 positive coronavirus cases, eight hospitalizations and one death.

State-wide, Florida had nearly surpassed 461,000 cases. Of the 461,379, more than 26,017 have been hospitalized (6%) and 6,709 (1%) who previously tested positive for COVID-19 had died.

## Festival drew 34 BBQ teams to 2019's event

**BBQ FEST**  
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"That, combined with the ongoing public health risk posed by the coronavirus, led my office to determine that it is not possible to hold the event this year. We look forward to plans for making next year's event bigger and better!" Perez added.

The annual festival and music event drew hundreds of spectators and dozens of

BBQ teams from all over the Southeast.

Last year more than 34 teams competed in one of the Florida BBQ Association's longest-running events on Saturday, Sept. 21, for a share of \$15,000 in cash prizes, in addition to a new "Steak Cook-Off Association" event held on Friday, Sept. 20, 2019.

In year's past, BBQ festival-goers have enjoyed

live music, a "Kid's Que" competition, "Kid's Fun Zone," a "People's Choice" BBQ tasting contest, s'mores party, vendors and crafts at no charge, as the event was free and open to the public.

"This was not an easy decision to make, but with all the restrictions in place at this time, we had no choice. I will so miss seeing all my BBQ teams this year!" she concluded.

# Booking Desk

**Editor's Note:** It is the policy of this newspaper to run the names of all those arrested and booked at the Taylor County Jail. All those listed below have been charged with a crime, but are considered innocent until proven guilty.

**June 5:**  
**Krista Dawn Hardin**, 49, Perry, Fla., VOP, no bond, Dep. Parker, TCSO.



**Brandon M. Hudson**, 19, Salem, Fla., two counts of VOP, no bond, Dep. Chewing, TCSO.



Hudson

**Michael David Emory**, 39, Lake City, Fla., battery (on first responder), resist LEO (with violence), damage property (criminal mischief (less than \$200)), \$3,000 bond, Ptl. Smith, PPD.



**Emory Zachary Garrett Stephens**, 24, Old Town, Fla., DWLS (first offense), out-of-county warrant, \$5,000 bond, Trp. Smyrnios, FHP.



Stephens

**June 6:**  
**Sebastian O. Eddings**, 22, Perry, Fla., battery (on person 65 YOA or older), \$5,000 bond, Dep. Whiddon, TCSO.



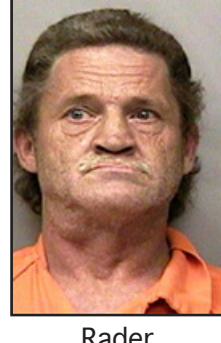
Eddings

**June 8:**  
**Steven Wayne Ray**, 56, Perry, Fla., poss. of meth., drug equipment poss./use, out-of-county warrant, \$9,000 bond, Sgt. McKenzie, TCSO.



Ray

**Bradley Dean Rader**, 52, Perry Fla., out-of-county warrant, Trp. Whritenour, FHP.



Rader

**Edward Shawn Oglesby**, 37, Steinhatchee, Fla., DWLS habitual offender, \$2,500 bond, Dep. Schram, TCSO.



Oglesby

**June 9:**  
**Clarence Keith Bivins**, 56, Keystone Heights, Fla., DUI (alcohol or drugs), refuse to submit to DUI

test after susp. DL., \$4,000 bond, Dep. Quigley, TCSO.



Bivins

**Brandon M. Story**, 31, Trenton, Fla., poss. of weapon/ammunition by convicted felon, drug equipment poss./use, \$7,000 bond, Dep. Wimberley, PPD.



Story

**Jason Luther Davis**, 37, Steinhatchee, Fla., contempt of court (violation of injunction), \$2,000 bond, Dep. Parker, TCSO.



Davis

**Emundo Ramirez**, 25, Perry, Fla., disturbing the peace, Ptl. Smith, PPD.



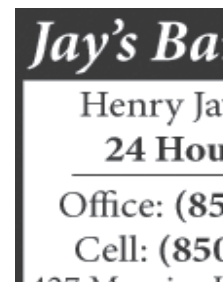
Ramirez

**Justin Joseph McKinnon**, 39, no address given, poss. of cntrl. subs. without prescription, poss. of meth. drug equipment poss./use, poss. of less than 20 grams marijuana, \$14,000 bond, Dep. Schram, TCSO.



McKinnon

**June 10:**  
**Matthew Colby Faircloth**, 25, Perry, Fla., larceny petit theft (first degree), VOP, no



Faircloth

bond, Ptl. Chaffin, PPD.



**Tonya Ann Kinner**, 44, homeless, trespassing, \$2,000 bond, Dep. Harden, TCSO.



Kinner

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**TAYLOR COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**TAYLOR COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT** today announced an amendment to its policy for serving meals to students under the National School Lunch / School Breakfast Programs for the 2020-2021 school year.

All students will be served lunch/ breakfast at no charge at all school sites.

For additional information please contact: TAYLOR COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT FOOD SERVICE OFFICE, 318 NORTH CLARK STREET, PERRY FL 32347- 850-838-2593

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Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 fax: (202) 690-7442; or email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov). This institution is an equal opportunity provider. 7/31, 8/5

**IN THE FAMILY COURT FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT 2020-DR-26-1110 SUMMONS, NOTICE OF PUBLICATION AND NOTICE OF HEARING STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF HORRY** South Carolina Department of Social Services PLAINTIFF, vs. Coletta Denise Graham and Brian Orlando Williams, Sr., In the interests of: Minor Child, DOB: 08/19/2004; A minor child under the age of 18. DEFENDANTS. TO: BRIAN ORLANDO WILLIAMS, SR., THE DEFENDANT ABOVE

NAMED: SUMMONS: **YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to answer the Complaint for termination of your parental rights in and to the Defendant minor child in this action, the original of which has been filed in the Office of the Family Court for Horry County, on the 23RD day of June, 2020, a copy of which will be delivered to you upon request; and to serve a copy of your Answer to the Complaint upon the undersigned attorney for the Plaintiff, Ernest J. Jarrett, 120 West Main Street, Kingstree, South Carolina 29556, within thirty (30) days following the date of service upon you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time stated, the Plaintiff will apply for judgment by default against the Defendants for the relief demanded in the Complaint. **NOTICE OF FILING: YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the action entitled above has been commenced by the Plaintiff against you in the Family Court of Horry County in the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Conway, South

Carolina, by the filing of a Summons and Complaint for Termination of Parental Rights on the 23rd day of June, 2020, and is available for inspection in the Office of the Family Court for Horry County, South Carolina. **NOTICE OF HEARING:** A Termination of Parental Rights Hearing will be held at the Family Court Room of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Horry County Government & Justice Center, 1301 2nd Avenue, Conway, South Carolina, on Monday, October 12, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. July 29, 2020 South Carolina Department of Social Services Kingstree, South Carolina By: Ernest J. Jarrett Ernest J. Jarrett, Esquire JENKINSON, JARRETT & KELLAHAN, P.A. Post Office Drawer 669 Kingstree, SC 29556 Ph:(843) 355-2000 Fax:(843) 355-2010 ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF **AS A RESULT OF THIS HEARING, YOU COULD LOSE YOUR RIGHTS AS A PARENT. 7/31, 8/7, 8/14**

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