

The Florida Times-Union

Friday
AUGUST 12, 2016
\$2

Rio 2016




MURPHY WINS GOLD IN 200M
Sports, C-1

REPUBLICAN WOMEN FETE MEMBER, 103



North Florida leads state in a real estate rebound
Money, D-1

Study: Gay students more likely to be raped

CDC's first study of its kind also says lesbian and bisexual students suffer same fate

By Mike Stobbe
Associated Press

NEW YORK | Gay, lesbian and bisexual high school students are far more likely than their classmates to be raped or assaulted in a dating situation, according to the first national survey of its kind.

The research also found gay teens were far more likely to have attempted suicide, taken illegal drugs and engaged in other risky behaviors.

The finding echoes results of smaller surveys and findings from advocacy groups, but it is the first government survey to look at the issues across the entire country.

For years, advocacy groups have been saying gay and lesbian kids are more often bullied, ostracized and at high risk for many other problems. But earlier research by the government was limited to a small number of states and cities. The new survey includes students in rural areas and other parts of the U.S.

"This is the first time we can say that nationwide these are consistent challenges faced by lesbian, gay and bi-youth," said David W. Bond of The Trevor Project, a national suicide-prevention organization focused on gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth.

ASSAULTS continues on A-4

Curry defends pension-tax plan

Says Joost, Bishop 'were part of the problem'

By Nate Monroe
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Mayor Lenny Curry on Thursday defended his pension-tax plan from criticism lodged by two former City Council presidents, saying the two past public officials failed to solve the

problem when they were in office and arguing their suggestions showed a lack of understanding.

"Where were they when this issue was getting out of control," Curry asked of Stephen Joost and Bill Bishop, who served on the council for eight years and

offered up a number of criticisms this week about the mayor's pension plan. "They were part of the problem."

"They are entitled to their opinion. They are wrong," Curry said.

Yes for Jacksonville, the political committee chaired



Mayor Lenny Curry is responding to criticism from two ex-council presidents.

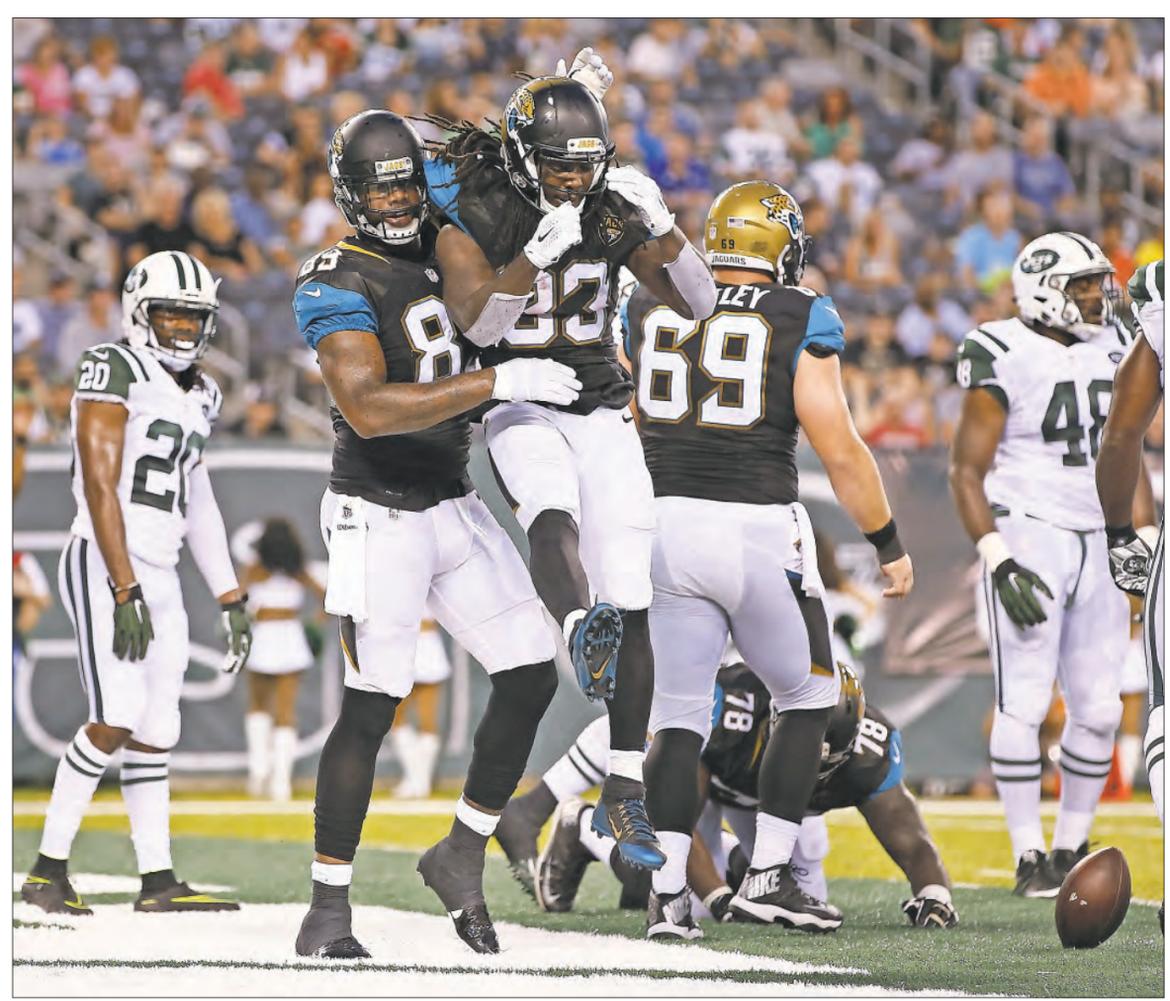
INSIDE METRO
City Council Members face an apparent \$4.6 million gut check on redeveloping downtown.
B-1

by the mayor and campaigning for his pension plan, also released a list of other former council presi-

CURRY continues on A-4

Jets 17, Jaguars 13

Strong effort in opener



Kathy Willens Associated Press

Jacksonville Jaguars running back Chris Ivory (33) celebrates with tight end Marcedes Lewis (89) after scoring a touchdown in the first quarter Thursday night in their first preseason game against the New York Jets. Blake Bortles led the Jaguars on two scoring drives – the second capped by Ivory's 1-yard run against his former team – in a 17-13 loss to the Jets in the preseason opener for both teams. For more, see the full game story on **Page C-1** and the **Notebook, C-7**.

Restaurant to open at site of default to city

Company received \$590,000 in support for barbecue sauce plant

By David Bauerlein
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A barbecue sauce manufacturing plant that received about \$590,000 in city support to buy and renovate a Commonwealth Avenue building has yet to show it created a single job, but that isn't stopping the family behind the business from opening a Jerome

Brown BBQ restaurant at that same location.

Jerome Brown BBQ Westside is to have its grand opening Friday at 5638 Commonwealth Ave. with an all-you-can eat lunch special.

City officials say any jobs created by the restaurant will not count toward the job-creation requirements in a 2011 agreement between the city and Cowealth, a business linked to City Council member Katrina Brown.

BBQ continues on A-4



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Jerome Brown BBQ Westside is scheduled to open Friday at 5638 Commonwealth Ave. The city previously gave about \$590,000 in support to a company linked to council member Katrina Brown for a barbecue sauce plant.

Weather
Seabreeze storm
Forecast on A-2

92 Today's high

75 Saturday morning's low

DAILY DEAL! \$20 for in-home pet-sitting service from Bad to the Bone **Details, A-2**

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Clinton: Trump's economic plans are handouts for rich

Republicans call on party to put its resources toward keeping Senate

By Catherine Lucey & Lisa Lerer
Associated Press

WARREN, MICH. | Her political fortunes flourishing, Hillary Clinton attempted to undercut Donald Trump's claim to working-class voters Thursday, portraying her Republican rival as untrustworthy on economic issues and pushing policies that would only benefit the super-wealthy — himself included.

The Democratic presidential nominee sought to seize momentum as Republicans — including Trump — struck an almost defeatist note about their Election Day chances. As Republican leaders sounded alarms about Trump's unconventional approach, Clinton attacked what she dubbed “outlandish Trumpian ideas” that have been rejected by both parties.

“Based on what we know from the Trump campaign, he wants America to work for him and his friends, at the expense of everyone else,” she said after touring a Michigan manufacturing facility.

Appearing in a county known for so-called Reagan Democrats — working-class Democrats who voted Republican in the 1980s — Clinton tried to win back some of the blue-collar voters who have formed the base of her rival's support, making the case that she offers a steadier road map for economic growth and prosperity.

“I can provide serious, steady leadership that can find common ground and build on it based on hard but respectful bargaining,” she said. “I just don't think insults and bullying is how we're going to get things done.”

Clinton, who frequently boasts about her numerous policy plans, didn't offer any new, major ideas to improve the country's economy in her afternoon address. She reiterated her strong opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership

trade deal, leaving herself little room for backtracking should she win the White House.

“I oppose it now, I'll oppose it after the election, and I'll oppose it as president,” she said, while also noting that the U.S. should not cut itself off from the rest of the world.

Clinton once called the TPP the “gold standard” of trade deals when she served as Obama's secretary of state, but she announced her opposition to the deal last year, saying it did not meet her standard for creating jobs, raising wages and protecting national security.

TAX RETURNS TO BE RELEASED

Hoping to keep the pressure on Trump, Clinton is also planning to release her 2015 tax returns in the coming days. Trump has said he won't release his until an IRS audit is complete, breaking tradition with every presidential candidate in recent history.

A source close to Clinton said she would soon release her return, supplementing the decades of filings she and her husband have already made public. Her running mate, Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine, and his wife will also release the last 10 years of their taxes. The source spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the plans in advance.

Clinton's appearance followed Trump's own speech on the economy, which he delivered in Michigan on Monday. But his scripted remarks were quickly eclipsed by the latest in a series of blunders and controversial statements that appear to have handed Clinton's campaign a boost in the polls, particularly with Republican women and college-educated voters who make up a key piece of the GOP base.

Just hours before her address, Trump unleashed another round of attacks on Democrats, calling Obama the “founder” of the Islam-

ic State militant group — and Clinton its co-founder.

The Republican presidential nominee brushed off conservative radio commentator Hugh Hewitt's attempt to reframe Trump's observation as one that said Obama's foreign policy created the conditions in Iraq and Syria that allowed IS to thrive.

“No, I meant he's the founder of ISIS. I do,” Trump said, using another acronym for the extremist group that has wreaked havoc from the Middle East to European cities.

REPUBLICANS PLEAD FOR FOCUS ON HOUSE, SENATE

The latest bit of controversy shook Republicans, already rattled by polling showing Trump losing support among women and other segments of their party's base.

Dozens of frustrated Republicans gathered signatures Thursday for a letter to Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus that urges the party chief to stop helping Trump and instead focus GOP resources on protecting vulnerable Senate and House candidates. Speaking to reporters in Kentucky on Thursday, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell described Republicans' chances of keeping control of the Senate after the November elections as “very dicey.”

A draft of the letter, which operatives say has at least 70 signatories, warns that Trump's “divisiveness, recklessness, incompetence, and record-breaking unpopularity risk turning this election into a Democratic landslide.”

Trump said he had no intention of changing his inflammatory approach to presidential politics, pledging in a CNBC interview to “just keep doing the same thing I'm doing right now.”

But he seemed to acknowledge the risk his campaign — and party — was taking. “At the end, it's either going to work or I'm going to, you know, I'm going to have a very, very nice long vacation,” he said.

ASSAULTS

Continued from A-1

Shontay Richardson says the survey reflects her experience in high school. “There's of course the physical bullying, but also the emotional bullying that takes place,” she said.

Now 24 and a graduate student at Purchase College in suburban New York, she says she was lesbian but tried to hide it from her classmates. Still, she was seen as different. She was ostracized by her classmates and sexually assaulted by a boy she knew, she said.

The research results are based on responses from about 15,600 students to an anonymous survey conducted last year by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC released the report Thursday.

Of the survey participants, about 2 percent said

HEALTH AND SAFETY RESOURCES

- **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:** www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org
- **The Trevor Project:** www.thetrevorproject.org
- **National Sexual Assault Hotline:** (800) 656-4673

they were gay or lesbian, 6 percent said they were bisexual and 3 percent said they weren't sure of their sexual identity.

That suggests that of the 16 million students who attended public and private high schools last year, roughly 321,000 were gay or lesbian and 964,000 were bisexual, CDC officials said.

OTHER OUTCOMES

- Among the findings: Nearly 1 in 5 of the gay, lesbian and bisexual students said they'd been raped at some point in their lives, compared to 1 in 20 heterosexual students.
- Nearly 1 in 5 who had gone out with some-

one in the past year said their date had hit them, slammed them against a wall, or committed some other form of physical violence. That was more than twice what straight kids reported.

- About 1 in 3 said they had been bullied at school, while 1 in 5 straight kids had.

- More than 1 in 10 said they'd missed school the past month because of safety concerns. Less than 1 in 20 heterosexual kids reported that.

- More than 1 in 4 said they had attempted suicide in the previous 12 months. In contrast, about 1 in 16 straight kids reported recent suicide attempts.

wants to close all three.

Voters will decide the issue Aug. 30. It will appear on the ballot as “County Referendum No. 1.”

“County Referendum Number 1 provides further reform, closes the funds that got us in to this mess and provides a dedicated revenue source to pay down the unfunded liabilities,” the group of five former council presidents said in a statement.

“We have evaluated other options for a ‘fix’ and we are convinced that this plan, ‘Yes for Jacksonville’ is the most equitable and predictable solution We urge residents of Duval County to vote yes on August 30th and put this issue in our rearview mirror.”

Curry's comments Thursday came after he participated in a news conference with the local American Federation

of State, County and Municipal Employees, which formally announced its expected endorsement of Curry's plan, flanked by other local unions.

Bishop and Joost said this week that a tax beginning 15 years in the future is effectively kicking the can down the road, and they called for Curry and council members to enact a tax or fee increase now to help address the problem immediately.

Curry has never reported that idea and reiterated that Thursday. He also said he is connecting with voters.

“When I get in a town hall or one on one and explain this to people ... undecided voters, they get it,” Curry said. “That's how we're going to win.”

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The city demanded in June that Cowealth repay a \$210,550 grant because it failed to create any jobs at 5638 Commonwealth Ave. Any jobs created by the opening of a restaurant at the site will not count toward the agreement, the city said.

BBQ

Continued from A-1

The 2011 agreement was aimed at helping the Brown family mass-produce Jerome Brown Original BBQ Sauce using recipes he developed while running a barbecue restaurant bearing his name on Edgewood Avenue. Katrina Brown is his daughter, and she is a manager of Cowealth. She could not be reached Thursday, though her mother did respond to an emailed question and confirmed the restaurant is opening.

On Thursday afternoon, two women were bleaching a sidewalk outside the building. They declined to allow a visitor inside.

In June, the city declared Cowealth in default on that agreement because Cowealth did not meet an April deadline for showing it created at least 56 permanent jobs at the sauce-manufacturing operation. Cowealth also fell behind on repaying a city loan and was delinquent in paying property taxes.

Cowealth has told the city's Office of Economic

Development it wants to clear up the default, allowing more time to make good on the financial obligations. Meanwhile, the Brown family has been moving forward with plans to establish a second Jerome Brown barbecue restaurant at the building. City officials say the 2011 economic development agreement would not prevent the opening of a restaurant at the 34,000-square-foot building. It still would have space left over even with a restaurant in it.

The city previously gave a \$380,000 loan and a \$210,550 grant so Cowealth could purchase and renovate the building for a food-manufacturing operation.

In June, the city demanded immediate repayment of the grant because Cowealth failed to create the required jobs.

Cowealth manager JoAnn Brown, who is Katrina Brown's mother, gave the city a proposal on July 11 to convert the grant into a loan that Cowealth would pay off at a 3 percent interest rate, the same rate in effect for the

city's \$380,000 loan.

Cowealth also asked the city to give the business until Nov. 1 to pay about \$22,500 in delinquent property taxes on the Commonwealth Avenue building.

The city's Office of Economic Development responded on July 12 that in order to consider modifying the agreement, the city would need the company's tax returns for the past two years as well as financial statements from 2014, 2015 and any interim financial statements for 2016.

The city also said it would need tax returns for the guarantors of the loan. Those guarantors are Katrina Brown, KJB Specialties, and Basic Products LLC. KJB and Basic Products are affiliated with the Brown family.

JoAnn Brown said in her email that Cowealth will send that financial information to the city this week.

The zoning for the area where the building is “light industrial,” which allows restaurants.

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CURRY

Continued from A-1

dents Thursday who have endorsed his idea: Richard Clark, Daniel Davis, Bill Gulliford, Kevin Hyde and Jack Webb.

Indeed, most of the city's business, civic and political establishment has lined up firmly behind his pension plan.

Joost and Bishop are so far the most prominent citizens to air any concerns.

Curry wants to enact a half-cent sales tax to begin after the Better Jacksonville half-cent sales tax expires in 2030. The new tax, by state law, could only be dedicated to paying off the city's \$2.85 billion pension debt. State law also would require the city to close at least one of its three pension plans to be able to use the tax; Curry has said he



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