

Press Release

LAKE CITY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT



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Chief of Police Gerald Butler

For Immediate Release

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Volunteers & Youth Manage Parking at Florida Gateway Fair for 11th Year

The Police Explorers, Scout Troop 85, and Citizens Police Academy Alumni will once again assist with parking at the Florida Gateway Fair. For their efforts in managing parking and traffic, the three groups request a \$2 donation upon entry to the parking lot. This donation supports the maintenance of parking safety equipment and helps fund their programs and activities. Donations are tax-deductible.

This year marks the eleventh year directing traffic and parking cars at the Columbia County Fair. The youth and volunteers dedicate about 60 hours each during the 10-day event, working in the sun and dust to ensure all attendees can park quickly and safely, allowing them to enjoy the Fair.

Their presence helps make the parking process faster, smoother, and safer for Fair visitors and their vehicles. All traffic should enter the primary parking lot from the eastern entrance on SW Mary Ethel Lane. The western entrance on Mary Ethel Lane will be closed with cones and marked "Do Not Enter." The entrance from SW Bascom Norris Drive will also be closed, marked as "Right Turn Only / Do Not Enter" for exiting traffic only.

Cones and barricade fencing will be placed along Mary Ethel Lane to prevent vehicles from driving through the ditch. Vehicles that bypass this restriction often park improperly, creating traffic flow issues and posing a safety risk if they drive against traffic.

The parking lot on the east side of the fairground, parallel to Branford Highway, will remain free. It operates on a first-come, first-served basis and may fill up quickly.

Thank you for your understanding and for supporting this important cause!



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