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NEWS LEADER

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2018 / 16 PAGES, 2 SECTIONS • fbnewsleader.com

Will county property owners pay yet another tax?

JULIA ROBERTS
News-Leader

In an effort to find a way to pay for ongoing maintenance of the beach in Fernandina Beach without charging for beachside parking, one city commissioner suggested Tuesday that the city should explore a new tax on the properties in Nassau County that are not in the city limits.

The original plan for paid beach parking was presented in September and required everyone, including city residents, to pay for beach parking. That plan applied to only two city-owned lots, and would not have been enforced year-round.

However, after considerable pushback from the public, City Manager Dale Martin recommended in October an alternate plan that eliminated fees for city residents, included all city-owned parking spaces at the

beach, and required people to pay to park at the beach year-round. The City Commission voted 3-2 to move ahead and hear a detailed plan with those changes.

The commission voted to move back the due date for Martin to present his revised plan for implementing paid beach parking.

Martin's revised plan will now be heard in January, giving a new City Commission that will include either Bradley Bean or Mike Lednovich, who meet in a runoff election on Dec. 11, an opportunity to weigh in.

However, on Tuesday Commissioner Chip Ross presented yet another alternative idea: a Municipal Services Taxing Unit – an additional tax on all Nassau County properties with the exception of those in Fernandina Beach.

"In my view, and from talking to a lot of residents, there is a need to spread cost out over others," Ross said. "City residents are

paying for this. We need to spread it out. I have been approached – and emails come in – from county residents saying, 'We'd love to help you, but we don't live in the city.' So, an MSTU tax that would be against the entire county, with the exception of the city, to add to this might be an alternative to paid beach parking."

A new MSTU would have to be created by the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners.

Vice Mayor Len Kreger explained Nassau County already has an MSTU – a "sand tax" levied on almost all of the property owners on Amelia Island – to raise funds for beach renourishment.

Fernandina Beach city commissioners, at a final public hearing on New Year's Eve 2015, adopted an ordinance to include the



JULIA ROBERTS/NEWS-LEADER

Fernandina Beach City Commissioner Chip Ross presented on Tuesday his idea for a Municipal Services Taxing Unit – an additional tax on all Nassau County property with the exception of those in Fernandina Beach – that would raise money to pay for beach maintenance in the city.

TAX Continued on 3A

DOWNTOWN PAJAMA PARTY TODAY



MICHAEL MILLER/NEWS-LEADER

Black Friday shoppers can participate in the annual Pajama Party today from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in downtown Fernandina Beach, while children can take part in a block party and visit with Santa on South Second Street. Prizes will be awarded in various categories, and merchants will have special offers, treats and live music.



CDC warns against eating romaine lettuce

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are advising that U.S. consumers not eat any romaine lettuce, and retailers and restaurants not serve or sell any, until they learn more about an outbreak of *E. coli* bacteria, according to the CDC website. Consumers who have any type of romaine lettuce in their home should not eat it and should throw it away, even if some of it was eaten and no one has gotten sick.

The CDC's advice includes all types or uses of romaine lettuce, such as whole heads of romaine, hearts of romaine, and bags and boxes of precut lettuce and salad mixes that contain romaine, including baby romaine, spring mix, and Caesar salad.

If you do not know if the lettuce is romaine or whether a salad mix contains romaine, do not eat it and throw it away.

Wash and sanitize drawers or shelves in refrigerators where romaine was stored.

Restaurants and retailers should not serve or sell any romaine lettuce, including salads and salad mixes containing romaine.

Thirty-two people infected with the outbreak strain of Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* O157:H7 have been reported from 11 states. Illnesses started on dates ranging from Oct. 8 to Oct. 31. Thirteen people were hospitalized, including one person who developed hemolytic uremic syndrome, a type of kidney failure. No

deaths have been reported. The Public Health Agency of Canada has identified 18 ill people infected with the same DNA fingerprint of *E. coli* O157:H7 bacteria in two Canadian provinces: Ontario and Quebec.

Epidemiologic evidence from the United States and Canada indicates that romaine lettuce is a likely source of the outbreak.

Take action if you have symptoms of an *E. coli* infection:

- Talk to your healthcare provider;
- Write down what you ate in the week before you started to get sick;
- Report your illness to the health department;
- Assist public health investigators by answering questions about your illness.

Antibiotics are not recommended for patients with *E. coli* O157 infections. Antibiotics are also not recommended for patients in whom *E. coli* O157 infection is suspected, until diagnostic testing rules out this infection. Some studies have shown that administering antibiotics to patients with *E. coli* O157 infections might increase their risk of developing hemolytic uremic syndrome (a type of kidney failure), and the benefit of antibiotic treatment has not been clearly demonstrated, according to the CDC.

All people in this outbreak were infected.

LETTUCE Continued on 5A

Trails on, to, and from Amelia Island are evolving

MICHAEL MILLER
News-Leader

Friends of Amelia Island Trails CEO Phil Scanlan isn't sure that several multi-use trails on the island will be completely integrated into the East Coast Greenway during his lifetime, but it certainly isn't because of a lack of effort – or progress.

An avid bicyclist, Scanlan's personal mission the past few years has been to create several multi-use, paved trails on Amelia Island and connect them to the ECG, a 3,000-mile bike and walking path that stretches from the Canadian border to Key West and includes almost 600 miles in Florida alone.

The trails on the island are a lynchpin in that trail system, and Scanlan has been pursuing funding from federal, state and other sources to build them. The cost to build trails that can be used for pedestrians and bicyclists costs about the same as constructing sidewalks, Scanlan said.

There are currently three multi-use trails on the island that are being – or have been – funded through federal grants, according to Scanlan.

The first is a six-mile stretch of A1A that connects Peters Point Beachfront Park to the Nassau River. Scanlan said \$2.2 million was spent on construction that was completed in 2013.

The second trail, known as the

Sea-to-River Trail (or alternatively the Amelia River-to-Sea Trail), will reach from the Atlantic Ocean at beach access 30 on the east to the Amelia River on the west. The Nassau County Board of County Commissioners held a groundbreaking ceremony earlier this month on the eastern half of the trail, which runs between the beach and the Fernandina Beach athletic complex at Bailey Road. The western half of the trail was built by Crane Island Development as part of the deal to build luxury homes on Crane Island. The county expects to complete construction on the Sea-to-River Trail by

TRAILS Continued on 3A



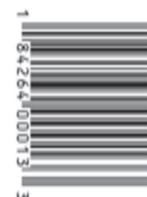
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LOOKING BACK 50 YEARS

County commissioners faced deep community concern over what to do about saving the steeple atop the historic court house in downtown Fernandina Beach.

Nov. 28, 1968

WEEKLY UPDATE

Interim county manager meeting with public

Interim County Manager Mike Mullin will be holding regularly scheduled meetings from 3 to 4 p.m. on the second Tuesday and fourth Thursday of each month to make himself available for anyone to ask county-related questions and/or address county issues. The meetings will take place in the Commission Chambers, located in the James S. Page Governmental Complex at 96135 Nassau Place in Yulee.

Rotary blood drive set for Nov. 28

The Rotary Club of Fernandina Beach's quarterly blood drive has changed location this year. The next drive, in cooperation with OneBlood and Nassau Health Foods, will be held Wednesday, Nov. 28, in the Nassau Health Foods parking lot at 833 T. J. Courson Road in Fernandina Beach. The drive will start at 10 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. Come by and roll up your sleeve, and then join the Rotary Club for lunch at its new meeting location, the Story & Song Bookstore Bistro, located just two blocks east on Park Avenue.

Help identify priority health issues

Through the Florida Age-Friendly Public Health Network, the Florida Department of Health-Nassau County will be working with the Florida Department of Elder Affairs and community partners to identify priority health issues among older adults, according to a news release. The department and Trust for America's Health aim to identify and enhance the role of public health in improving the health and wellbeing of the older adults in the community. DOH-Nassau will receive tools, training resources, and technical assistance based on the county's unique needs, according to the release.

To participate, contact Mary von Mohr at (904) 557-9133 or mary.vonmohr@flhealth.gov.

DOH holding free flu shot event

The Florida Department of Health in Nassau is reminding all Floridians to get their flu shot before the height of the upcoming flu season and will be offering free flu vaccinations to the first 300 people who visit a drive thru point-of-dispensing event planned for 9:30-11:30 a.m. Nov. 30 at the Journey Church, located at 95707 Amelia Concourse in Fernandina Beach. Participants will be able to remain in their vehicles while receiving immunizations. Anyone receiving the vaccine must be over the age of 13. For more information about influenza and influenza-like illness in Florida, visit floridahealth.gov/floridaflu or FluFreeFlorida.com.

Road cleanup crew needs volunteers

Wild Amelia is sponsoring a road cleanup on Sunday, Dec. 2, along South Fletcher Avenue. Anyone interested in a brisk morning walk while picking up litter on a 2.6-mile stretch of roadway should meet in the Peters Point parking lot at 8 a.m. It will take up to two hours to complete the task, depending on the number of volunteers participating. Disposable gloves, orange safety vests and litter bags will be provided. You may want to bring medium-weight garden gloves, hat, sunglasses, water and closed-toed shoes. It is a requirement that participants in the event view the safety video on the following website: dot.state.fl.us. Follow the site to Offices, Maintenance, Adopt-A-Highway, Safety Video. For more information, email stevecowart52@gmail.com.

Foundation to hold silent auction

The Katie Caples Foundation will hold

its third annual Keep Giving Silent Auction 6-9 p.m. Dec. 4 at Slider's Seaside Grill in Fernandina Beach. The event is free and open to the public. One hundred percent of the proceeds assist the Foundation, which has delivered the message of organ donation to individuals in the northeast Florida area since 2005. Items include vacations, area restaurant gift cards and certificates, fishing excursions and sailing, massages and sporting goods, along with jewelry and wine. Golf outings will also be available, in addition to a five-night stay at Pinehurst, N.C. For information, or to donate, call 982-6510 or 994-3068.

Pink Ribbon Ladies meeting Dec. 10

The Pink Ribbon Ladies, a Nassau County support group for survivors of breast and other female cancers, will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10, at the Ackerman Cancer Center, Suite 103 at 1340 S. 18th St.. The Pink Ribbon Ladies offers support and education for women with breast, ovarian, cervical, and other female cancers in Nassau County. For information, contact Anne Showalter at 321-5465 or Isobel Lyle at 321-2057.

4-H Club collects for Michael victims

The Next Generation 4-H Club is collecting hurricane relief supplies for Florida Panhandle residents affected by Hurricane Michael. Items needed include bottled water, diapers, baby formula, heavy duty garbage bags, cleaning supplies, flashlights, batteries, ready-to-eat food (cans with pop-top lids, peanut butter, individually packaged snacks), hygiene products, insect repellent, work gloves, and sunscreen. Pet food and general care items for animals are also needed.

Drop-off locations are Hagan Ace Hardware in Hilliard, Brandies Ace Hardware in Callahan, the Westside Journal in Callahan and Turner Ace Hardware in Fernandina Beach. For information call (904) 424-5261.

Trees for Troops seeks addresses

If your friend or loved one is serving in the military overseas, call or e-mail Trees for America's Troops so that volunteers can send them a box filled with some of the joys of Christmas.

The focus is on troops serving in Afghanistan and Iraq but volunteers will try to send boxes to others serving overseas. E-mail complete mailing address to info@treesforamericastroops.org or call 904-206-3938.

Citizens Corps seeks new members

Seventy-two hours. Could you survive that long in an emergency? Could your friends, neighbors, and relatives? For the past two years, area residents have survived hurricanes and fires that left people without services for this long or longer. How would you do? The Citizens Corps is a new group that works in conjunction with Nassau County Emergency Management to gather agencies, corporations, and individuals for training and education to help everyone survive those first 72 hours. Visit ccncfl.com and sign up.

AMERICAN BEACH HOLIDAY GALA



FILE PHOTO

The Friends of American Beach will host an annual Holiday Gala at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, at the American Beach Community Center, located at 1600 Julia St. in Fernandina Beach. The event will include dinner, dancing and fellowship. Tickets are \$25 in advance and RSVPs are requested by Saturday, Nov. 24. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Deloris Gilyard at 716-5081 or mail a check or money order to Friends of American Beach, P.O. Box 16552, Fernandina Beach, FL 32035.

Arthritis exercise program

The Northeast Florida Area Health Education Center is offering the Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program at no charge 10-11 a.m. Wednesdays and Fridays through Sept. 21 at 37002 Ingram Road in Hilliard. The program offers low-impact physical activity proven to reduce pain and decrease stiffness. To pre-register, contact Northeast Florida AHEC at 482 0189.

Nassau Habitat needs volunteers

Nassau Habitat for Humanity will begin its 25th building season in October. The local Habitat nonprofit affiliate constructs quality affordable homes and has completed construction of 42 homes. In the 2018-2019 building season Nassau Habitat will complete House No. 43 on South 10th Street in Fernandina Beach. The organization is looking for volunteers to help build homes. For details call 277-0600 or email nhfvvolunteers@gmail.com. Learn more at nassauhabitatforhumanity.org.

Unbiased help with Medicare

Medicare can be a complex subject but it doesn't have to be. If you will be enrolling in Medicare or are already enrolled, then this is the time to learn about your choices or re-evaluate your coverage. During Medicare's annual Open Enrollment period, Oct. 15 to Dec. 7, you can make changes to your drug and health plan for 2019. The University of Florida is offering unbiased, individualized consultations 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Fernandina Beach every Wednesday at the Fernandina Beach Branch Library and Friday at Barnabas Center. Contact Meg McAlpine at 530-6359 for an appointment.

Healing Hearts

Healing Hearts is a local support group for those who have lost a spouse. The group meets twice a month on the second Monday at 11:30 a.m. for lunch at the Marina Restaurant and again on the fourth Monday at 6 p.m. for dinner at the Marina Restaurant. For information, contact Mary Mercer at 415-1881 or Joni Reid at 556-6767.

School satellite offices

The Nassau County School District now has two satellite offices. The westside location is at 45021 Third Ave. in Callahan and the Yulee location is at 86207 Felmore Road. The offices will provide a place for parent meetings, employee meetings, staff meetings, and support. If you have questions or would like to schedule a meeting, call 491-9900.

Volunteering for NHS

NHS Second Chance Resale Store and its sister clothing store, NHS Second Chance Closet, are looking to grow their team of volunteers in all areas. If you have a few

hours a week to spare and enjoy meeting and working with other animal lovers in a fun atmosphere, pick up a volunteer application at Second Chance, in the Eight Flags Shopping Center on South 14th Street or go online to Nassauhumanesociety.com and click on Volunteer. For information, call 321-0022.

Be a zookeeper

Amelia Residents in Action for the Symphony sponsors a program each January and February that visits all fourth grade classes in Nassau County with 40 orchestral instruments. The goal of the program is to acquaint students with how to hold and play each instrument. To be able to reach all Nassau County students, ARIAS needs volunteer "zookeepers." No experience is required. To volunteer, contact Susan Kosciulek at 548-0227 or Barbara Zacheis at 321-5639.

Gun courses

Gary W. Belson Associates holds basic with defensive tactics courses, concealed-weapon license courses and close-quarter defensive tactics courses. For information, contact Belson at 491-8358 or 476-2037, or gbelson@bellsouth.net, or visit www.thebelsongroup.com

Gun classes for everyone

Pistol and revolver gun classes for beginners to advanced shooters are given by NRA-certified instructor and retired state and federal law enforcement officer Frank P. Covie and held at the convenience of each person starting any weekday except Wednesday. Both basic and personal protection classes are available and including classroom, range shooting and no-cost use of a .22 pistol and rifle including ammo. Contact 277-4144, 603-491-7017, or fpc99@comcast.net for complete info.

Overeaters Anonymous

Overeaters Anonymous meets in the parlor at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 801 Atlantic Ave., Fernandina Beach, at 1 p.m. Thursdays. There is also a meeting at the Alachua Club, 32 N. Third St. at 6 p.m. Mondays. For more information, contact Lorrie at 343-4771.

Lions Club bingo

Lions Club bingo, every Thursday and Sunday, Yulee Lions Club Bingo Hall. Doors open at 4 p.m., warm-ups at 5:15 p.m. Early birds play at 5:45 p.m. with the regular program at 6:30 p.m. Participants must be 18 years old; minimum purchase \$15. Information, 708-2591.

ACBL duplicate bridge

ACBL Duplicate Bridge, 1901 Island Walkway, Fernandina Beach. Amelia Island Duplicate Bridge Club hosts games. Monday, 1 p.m.; Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.; Thursday, 1 p.m. Contact fredstokes50@gmail.com or (770) 616-7664.

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ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2018 - 5:00 P.M.
Victorian Evensong
Sung service featuring Christmas carols with clergy and ushers dressed in Victorian garb.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2018 - 6:00 P.M.
Celtic Christmas Service
A popular and growing St. Peter's tradition, the Christmas Celtic candlelight service combines the monthly Celtic service with special Christmas Lessons and Carols.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2018 - THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY
4:00 p.m. - Family Christmas Eve Service with Holy Eucharist in Burns Hall
This service is tailored to our children and includes the telling of the Christmas story and pageant.
Children's prelude before the service.
6:00 p.m. - Festival Eucharist
This service is a celebration of the birth of Christ with Holy Eucharist and Christmas hymns. (No choir)
8:00 and 11:00 p.m. - Festival Eucharist
Join us for one or both of these services celebrating the birth of Christ. Special music is provided at both services and begins 30 minutes before. (Incense is used and the Eucharist is chanted at the 11:00 p.m. service).

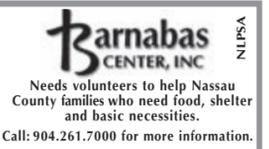
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2018 - THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY - 10:00 A.M.
Christmas Day
Celebrate the birth of Jesus with this traditional service, with Christmas music.



Lane Closures

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) now posts its weekly lane closure report online at www.NFLRoads.com/TrafficReport.

With major work underway on A1A and other projects in Nassau County you can stay up-to-date on which roads will have lane closures. Commuters traveling into Duval County can also get the latest on Jacksonville lane closures. The report is updated every Friday.



Needs volunteers to help Nassau County families who need food, shelter and basic necessities.
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Legal Notices: Friday, noon N/A
Retail Advertising: Friday, 3 p.m. Tuesday, 3 p.m.
* Monday holidays the Classified deadline will be Friday at 5 p.m.

NEWS DEADLINES
Community News: Wednesday, Noon
Letters to the Editor: Monday, 5 p.m.,
Wednesday, 5 p.m.
Church Notes: Tuesday, 5 p.m.,
People and Places: Wednesday, 3 p.m.



PHOTOS BY PHIL SCANLAN/SPECIAL

Phil Scanlan's nephew, Richard Redfern, stands next to washed out roadway on Sawpit Island that was caused during Hurricane Matthew. Because of the damage, the pedestrian bridge and fishing pier that connected Amelia Island trails to Jacksonville can no longer be used. The Florida Department of Transportation has painted new bike lanes on the existing vehicular bridge that crosses the Nassau River on the south end of Amelia Island, but Scanlan has proposed changes that he says will make the bridge safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

TRAILS *Continued from 1A*

July 2019.

The island's third proposed trail, which runs along Amelia Island Parkway, actually contains four segments, the first of which has an estimated price tag of \$2.6 million and projected completion date of 2022. It will connect Peters Point Beachfront Park to Via Del Rey Road.

Scanlan also recently had a significant win when he convinced Fernandina Beach and St. Marys, Ga. to provide funds to relaunch a water taxi service that will ferry visitors, including bicyclists, between the two cities.

The service had a trial run in October when trail advocates of the East Coast Greenway completed the Savannah, Ga. to St. Augustine portion of a multi-year ride. Amelia River Cruises is providing the taxi service, which is slated to begin officially in April. However, Scanlan's quest has

not been without hiccups, the most recent caused by Mother Nature.

The old vehicular bridge across the Nassau Sound was turned into the George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier when the Florida Department of Transportation built the new bridge parallel to it. At the time, FDOT warned that it would not maintain the bridge-turned-pier, resulting in a finite life, according to Scanlan.

For many years, the fishing bridge, with one section connecting Amelia Island to Sawpit Island and another section connecting Sawpit Island to Big Talbot Island, linked the trails on Amelia Island to Jacksonville, but Hurricane Matthew changed that in 2017 when the storm washed out portions of the roadway on Sawpit Island. The area of the initial destruction has become even larger over time.

FDOT, which estimates that

the now pedestrian-only bridge requires as much as \$12 million in repairs, according to Scanlan, blocked access at both ends so that only a portion of it can be used for fishing.

As an alternative, Scanlan said he has been meeting with state Sen. Aaron Bean, R-Fernandina Beach, FDOT and others to have barriers installed on the vehicular bridge so that it can be used as the new connective trail between Amelia Island and Jacksonville.

Currently, the bridge has walkways on both sides, but Scanlan has suggested having only one, larger walkway to ensure pedestrian and biker safety.

Resolving the issue is important since the island's trail system relies on federal funding as part of the East Coast Greenway, said Scanlan, who hopes to find a way forward on the issue in the next few months.

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TAX *Continued from 1A*

entire municipal boundaries of the city within an Amelia Island Beach Renourishment Municipal Service Taxing Unit. That action followed adoption of the ordinance on Dec. 28, 2015 by Nassau County commissioners.

That MSTU encompasses all properties on Amelia Island except those already in the South Amelia Island Shore Stabilization Municipal Service Benefit Unit, administered by SAISSA, Inc. That MSTU "sand tax" money was declared to be for "funding beach renourishment, restoration, erosion control and storm protection associated with these functions provided by or through Nassau County for the benefit of the property and/or residents within the boundaries of the Amelia Island Beach Renourishment MSTU."

Last year the Amelia Island Tourist Development Council paid the county and city's local match toward the cost of that renourishment, so the MSTU funds collected so far, more than \$600,000, have not been spent, Kreger said.

Kreger said the conditions for receiving federal funds to pay for beach renourishment might prevent the city from charging for beach parking because an agreement with the government requires the city to provide access to its beaches. However, he said he is not averse to meeting with the county to discuss the idea, along with other issues he did not name. The commission agreed to have Martin schedule a meeting with the BOCC.

The City Commission also approved by resolution two contracts with Applied Technology and Management for what the Tuesday agenda referred to as "construction services" at the Fernandina Harbor Marina. The city will pay ATM \$86,350 to oversee the project that will replace the attenuator in the southern basin and \$61,450 to manage dredging of the southern basin and realignment of the docks there.

In other business, the commission:

- Approved an agreement for professional tennis services with Vishnu and Michele Maharaj;
- Approved a facilities use agreement with Driving Dynamics, Inc. for use of the airport for defensive driver training;
- Authorized a Florida Department of Transportation grant for \$40,000 for the remarking of Runway 13-31 at the Fernandina Beach Municipal Airport;
- Approved the pay classification plan for the 2018-19 fiscal year; and
- Appointed Theresa Duncan and Chris Occhuizzo to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee.

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Ross suggests raising Fernandina's impact fees

JULIA ROBERTS
News Leader

A Fernandina Beach city commissioner wants to increase impact fees to the maximum allowed by law in order to increase a revenue fund that, he says, could have brought in millions of dollars for the city's conservation efforts if they had been raised in the past.

Commissioner Chip Ross said the city has data that show the difference between what has been collected in impact fees and what could have been collected. According to a document known as the "Nicholas Study" conducted in 2015, the fees were at the maximum for all the departments that receive impact fees (fire, 0.360; police, 0.264; Parks & Recreation, 2.885; administration and public facilities, 0.443), but are currently lower (police, 0.291; fire, 0.145; Parks & Recreation; 1.950, administration and public facilities, 0.395).

If the fees had been set at the higher rate, according to data compiled by comptroller Pauline Testagrose, the city could have collected \$2,049,103 since 2015.

"The current Parks and Rec impact fee can be increased an additional 35.8 percent before reaching the maximum level as determined by the 2013 Nicholas Study," Ross said. "I would like to direct the city manager, if the commission agrees, to report back in a short amount of time about the feasibility procedures for increasing the Parks and Rec impact fee 35.8 percent and make that change, which the comptroller has showed is significant. The money will generate (funds) to buy environmentally sensitive land and passive parks. We aren't taking money that is already in the Parks and Rec impact fee funds for recreation, but we're taking this additional money and using it to buy (land that) can be used either as a passive park or to expand the Greenway."

Ross said that, if development on the island continues at the current rate, increasing the fee would bring in \$400,000 to \$500,000 annually.

Increasing impact fees is one of the ways the commission has discussed that could increase the funding needed to purchase land for conservation. Other revenue streams under consideration include a Municipal Services Taxing Unit or floating a bond.

Vice Mayor Len Kreger cautioned that the first step of purchasing land for conservation should be identifying what property is available, not creating revenue.

"We are at the critical point," Kreger said. "What we lack is a plan, and what's the purpose? I think we need to move ahead and determine what meets the requirements of our ordinance we passed in June, put it on the list. Establish a cost to purchase that, and then we can move



Ross

to determine the method of purchase, whether it be a conservation impact fund, which will take some time."

Kreger said that, while the city could raise impact fees, there needs to be a clear plan of how to spend the revenue created by the increase, as the money must be spent on inadequacies already identified by the parks and recreation department.

"We need to look at those impact fees. If we are going to increase it, fine," Kreger said. "But let's sit down and identify what we're going to do with that money. If that money's sitting there, and we still have these inadequacies, and they're not in the capital improvement plan, something's wrong. I don't have any objection to raising the impact fee to the maximum, but before we do that, we need to have a plan for the expenditure of the impact fees, for infrastructure due to growth is what the purpose of it is."

However, Ross said a lot of money could be lost by waiting.

"What concerns me is that I don't think we need to wait to come up with that plan, which we can do in the next 30 or 60 days before we raise these fees. There's development going on (and) fees are not being collected. Crane Island is going through," he said. "Let's maximize, not just the recreational impact fee, but all the impact fees - on commercial, it's already maximized, this is on residential development - to the maximum allowed by law. Let's collect the money."

Ross said the city could come up with a five-year plan regarding conservation at its visioning session, which takes place each January.

Kreger said the city is currently in an evaluation and appraisal process for property that could be purchased by the city. He said he has nominated two pieces of property, known as the Dodd and the Bonner properties, both of which are located near Fernandina Beach High School.

Ross said the city should consider changes to its Land Development Code and its Comprehensive Plan that could help more accurately define what is environmentally sensitive land, and focus on development plans under review by the city's Technical Review Committee and Planning Advisory Board to ensure no net loss of those properties.

City Attorney Tammi Bach said she would put together a plan of what would be entailed to raise the impact fees and bring that plan back to the City Commission.

jroberts@fbnewsleader.com

Building our vocabularies

We can blame this column on a friend of mine. She knows who she is. She characterized someone the other day as having the mind of a gerbil. After I stopped laughing at her witticism, I thought of my dad. That thought led to another, and then another.

But first, my dad. He was an engineer. He drew the steel that's the innards of the buildings and bridges around us. He would point out "his" buildings and bridges as we drove about town. While he was excellent at geometry and the arithmetic it requires, his knowledge of the English language was unusual, at times. He pronounced gerbil with a hard g, like garage or gauge. No amount of correcting him ever worked. Mom finally got him to stop saying crick for creek and pie-annah for piano. Both of them had to work on calling a peony by its right name instead of piney.

That little trip down memory lane made me wonder if all of us, no matter how well-traveled we are or how sophisticated we judge ourselves, own words and phrases that are grammatically and politically incorrect. I am confident that a linguist could place our geographical origin by the way we mangle common words.

But hold on, not all words come from geography or familial influences. Like a lot of little kids, I had trouble with several words. My mispronunciations must have been amusing to my parents - they adopted them into their lexicon.

We lived in a typical post-World War II bungalow on an unpaved road. It was probably pastureland six months before we moved in. I remember that it had two bedrooms, living room,



CITY
SIDEBAR

Cara Curtin

dining room, and kitchen. One bath. Oh, and a utility room, not that my parents could afford the washing machine that was supposed to sit in it, but that's a different story. I couldn't pronounce utility, so it became,

forever and a day, the tilty room. I still call it that, and I have trained my Adult Supervision to recognize it for what it is. Yes, we have a tilty room in our home in Paradise, and yes, we can afford to put a washer in it. And a dryer! That second appliance was my mom's fondest wish for several years.

My mother was a nervous driver. I will not regale you with the perils involved in teaching her to pilot the family car. Suffice it to say that the driving instructor my father hired was guaranteed a place in Heaven, even if he became an axe murderer later in life.

Mother would take the three of us on "practice drives" so she could practice what the instructor had tired to teach her. She invariably did something, um, unorthodox, which resulted in blaring horns. My father's response was to tell her to just ignore them. She was doing fine, and the other driver was an unmentionable body part.

Well, I had to clean that up. I can assure you that my father called He of the Blaring Horn something appropriate to the occasion. As for my mother's language ... let's just say her

swearing was an unorthodox as her driving.

Helpful child that I was, I would reinforce my father's advice from the back seat. (They had convinced me that this was the most coveted seat in the car, much better than hanging over the backs of their seats. But I digress, as family stories are wont to do.) It was from that much coveted realm that I loudly proclaimed that my mom should ee-nore those other drivers, just like Dad said. To this day, when someone far beyond my control irritates me into irrationality, I say to myself, "Just ee-nore them. They're rude and stupid."

There's a third factor that builds our vocabulary besides colloquialisms and physique, such as my being unable to hear the "ig" in ignore. Some of us have been transplanted from one area of the country to another, while others have traveled or lived in foreign countries. We all know that English is an amalgam of all sorts of languages, from the American Indian "picnic" to the Persian "paradise." That's why we have friends who use loo instead of bathroom or gyro when they mean hoagie (or submarine, for that matter). And then there's the wonderful Italian, "Ciao, Bella!" I picked it up in my travels and use it as my highest praise.

Amelia Island is a wonderful collection of people from all over the world, including a healthy dollop of Nassau County natives. Our language differences entertain us and provide wonderful conversation starters. Those differences also remind us that life in our island Paradise is Ciao, Bella!

AAA offering Tow to Go this weekend

AAA, its Auto Club Group Traffic Safety Foundation and Budweiser are offering their free Tow to Go service throughout the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, according to a news release.

Tow to Go is available Wednesday, Nov. 21, through 6 a.m. Sunday morning, Nov. 25 by calling (855) 2-TOW-2-GO or (855) 286-9246.

"We expect the roads this Thanksgiving to be

as busy as we've seen since 2005, and we want to make sure everyone gets to their destination safely," said John Pecchio, spokesperson, AAA - The Auto Club Group, in the release. "For those who are out celebrating and need a safe way home, Tow to Go is a great option."

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This store is more than just hardware. The Turner Ace gift shop has something for everyone, including Simply Southern clothing, Mojo clothing, Oakley & Maui Jim sunglasses, Woodwick, Capri, Kringle candles, Lampe Berger fragrance lamps and oils, Willow Tree angels and much more.

The Turner family has been in the hardware business in Jacksonville for 4 generations. Steve Turner leads a devoted and knowledgeable staff who is dedicated to helping customers with all of their hardware needs.

The staff also is available to help get your home and business to-do lists DONE! The greenhouse, offers a plethora of lawn and garden accessories, such as a huge selection of ceramic pots, fountains, wind chimes, birdbaths, decorative benches, stepping-stones and plants galore, including shrubs, trees, roses, annuals, perennials, orchids, palms, tropicals, vegetables, herbs and much more.

Inside, customers will find the latest products such as the new Benjamin Moore-Aura paint with no VOCs and no odor. Other top-of-the-line brands include Stihl power equipment, Toro Mowers, Myers pumps, Weber and the Big Green Egg Smoker and Grill, Egg accessories. Traeger, Green Mountain and Delta Heat grills (assembly & delivery available). Yeti coolers and Yeti cups in decorative colors, Hunter and Rainbird irrigation accessories, Kingsley Bate, casual furniture, CRP Poly Furniture. Large Birding dept! Whole corn, layer, scratch, and Taste of the Wild dogfood. Case & Benchmark knives. Turner Ace now features the Ace Rewards program, in which customers receive money-saving coupons and additional discounts on many items each month.

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- Fasteners - including bolts, nuts, screws, anchors, stainless, Grade 8 and metric, chrome screws and bolts for motorcycles - sold separately or by the box, in stock!
- Small engine repair.

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Deputies nab suspect in Nassauville shooting

Nassau County Sheriff's Office deputies responded Tuesday afternoon to a report of a shooting in the Mobley Heights area of Nassauville, according to an email from Nassau County Sheriff Bill Leeper.

"Deputies found the victim, Merry Ledene Millwood, 51, who lived at 95190 Catalina Drive, Fernandina Beach, with a gunshot wound to the abdomen. Millwood was airlifted to UF Health with serious injuries," according to Leeper.

Leeper wrote that the victim and a suspect, William "Billy" Michael Johnson, 61, who lived nearby on Catalina Drive, were seen "arguing in the street in front of an abandoned house located at 95240 Catalina Drive. The suspect pulled out a



Johnson

handgun and shot the victim one time in the stomach area and then fled the scene," according to Leeper.

NCSO deputies searched the area, but could not immediately locate Johnson.

An arrest warrant was issued for Johnson for attempted homicide and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, and he was captured Wednesday. Leeper said Johnson was found "in a wooded area off of Catalina Drive. He was arrested and is being booked into the Nassau County Jail."

Link between Type 2 diabetes and liver disease being studied

University of Florida

Too often, the wisps of smoke go unnoticed long before the raging conflagration erupts.

The story of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, or NAFLD, is often filled with missed opportunities to catch the disease before it grows into life-threatening cirrhosis, especially for patients with Type 2 diabetes, said University of Florida Health endocrinologist Kenneth Cusi.

"You can't diagnose a disease if you aren't thinking about it," said Cusi, M.D., a professor and chief of the UF College of Medicine's division of endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism.

Too few physician and patients, he said, have NAFLD on their radar.

Cusi is leading a recently launched UF Health study that could heighten awareness of fatty liver disease among physicians and those patients who are often the most susceptible — those with Type 2 diabetes. During the next year, Cusi and his collaborators will test 1,000 people with Type 2 diabetes for NAFLD, liver inflammation, scarring and cirrhosis at UF Health clinics.

They are using a specialized ultrasound called FibroScan, manufactured by a French company, that can detect the condition more reliably than traditional methods, Cusi said.

Early detection opens the door for interventions such as lifestyle changes, weight loss and medications that can stem or reverse the progression of the disease. For example, a 7 percent reduction in weight can significantly lower liver fat content and inflammation in most patients, Cusi said.

"This is a big public health issue," he said. "NAFLD is a major epidemic. And the saddest thing is that it's preventable. If I would have gotten to that person with nonalcoholic fatty liver disease 10 years earlier and treated them, they might not have cirrhosis today. Our mission is to increase awareness among health care providers to start thinking about this, which will lead to earlier diagnoses."

NAFLD, which swells the liver with fat, is most often, though not always, tied to obesity. Scientists believe a metabolic breakdown in the body, such as that seen in Type 2 diabetes, results in fatty acids being released into the blood, ultimately accumulating in a ready receptacle — the liver.

While some non-U.S. studies have shown a correlation between NAFLD and Type 2 diabetes, the American Diabetes Association has been reluctant to recommend Type 2 patients be tested given the uncertainties about the magnitude of the problem, the challenge of diagnosing NAFLD, and a paucity of treatment options, among other issues, said Cusi.

"The association is accepted, but no prospective study — as we plan to do — is available to bring this to the attention of physicians as a real, everyday problem affecting millions of people," Cusi said.

LETTUCE *Continued from 1A*

ed with *E. coli* bacteria with the same DNA fingerprint as the *E. coli* strain isolated from ill people in a 2017 outbreak linked to leafy greens in the United States and to romaine lettuce in Canada.

CDC is advising that consumers do not eat any romaine

lettuce because no common grower, supplier, distributor, or brand of romaine lettuce has been identified.

Symptoms of *E. coli* infection: People usually get sick from Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* (STEC) two to eight days (average of three to four days) after swallowing the germ. Some

people with a STEC infection may get a type of kidney failure called hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS). *E. coli* infection is usually diagnosed by testing a stool sample.

This investigation is ongoing, and the CDC says it will provide more information as it becomes available.

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

N. HARTS ROAD

JEA Project Name:

William Burgess Blvd. Force & Reclaim Water Main Installation

Contractor: T.G. Utility Company, Inc.

Scope of Construction: Construction and installation of new Force, Reclaim & Water Main along William Burgess Blvd from SR 200 to Harts Road in Nassau County. The reclaim water main is to provide future reclaim water to the new development North of SR 200. The sewer force main will provide additional conveyance capacity and reliability for anticipated growth.

Scope of Detour: Closure of North Harts Road at intersection of William Burgess Blvd. Detour required for excavation, installation and backfill of approximately 40' wide section of North Harts Road beginning at the intersection of William Burgess for new Utility Mains.

Affected Roadways:

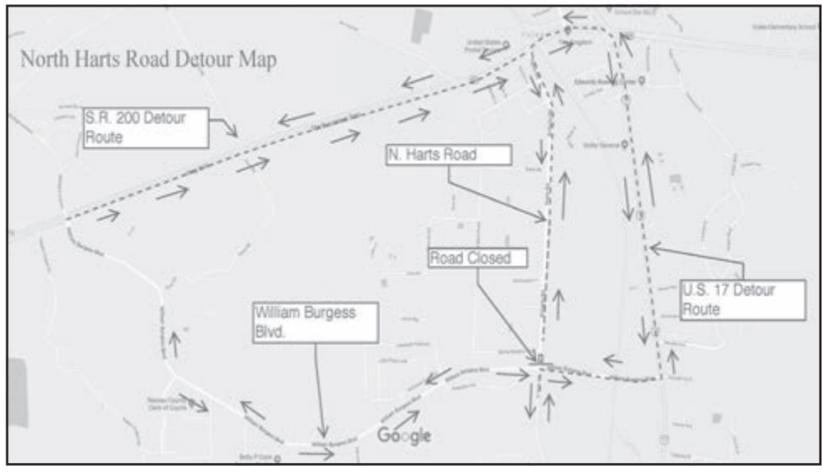
North Harts Rd, William Burgess Blvd, SR 200 & US 17

Official Detour Routes: Eastbound and Westbound traffic on William Burgess Blvd. will detour to S.R. 200 or U.S. 17. Southbound Motorists traveling From SR 200 along North Harts Road are advised to take an alternative route that includes using U.S. 17.

Duration of Closure: From 7:00 AM,

December 5, 2018 to 5:00 PM, December 14, 2018.

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City runoff election

The elections for Fernandina Beach City residents are not yet over! A very important runoff election for City Commissioner Group 4 takes place on Dec. 11 between Bradley Bean and Mike Lednovich. Please vote; this deserves your attention and participation!

Characteristics of an outstanding commissioner would include experience and time commitment. Mike Lednovich has a wealth of relevant experience in business and charity management, as well as having taught courses in leadership and strategy. While Bradley Bean's accomplishments are also significant, he has not yet had an opportunity to develop this same level of experience.

City Commissioner is a time-consuming and complex job, involving interactions with many committees and boards, as well as project management. A full-time commissioner would be an asset to the city, as he would have the time to meet with constituents, attend numerous meetings, and research the best solutions to problems. Mike Lednovich intends to be a full-time commissioner. Being retired, he is not constrained to share time with a job.

Please vote on Dec. 11 and carefully consider the qualifications of the candidates. Every vote is critical in a runoff election, and will help determine the future of our island paradise.

John Findlay
Fernandina Beach

Crane Island

Kudos to Jack Healan for getting free advertising on the front page of the *News-Leader*. The “Idea House” for Crane Island is certainly an idea, but a questionable one. The concept of “low country lifestyle,” however, rings true: Crane Island's height above sea level averages only 4 feet.

Mr. Strickland of “Historical Concepts” is quoted as having visited Amelia Island as a young man. He no doubt envisions the “Idea House” as the crown jewel for the unadorned Crane Island he remembers.

“Historical Concepts” has an odd idea of history. The only

buildings historically present were built by the Broadbent family, who obtained their land on Crane Island from the Prince family, who had been granted the property by the Freedman's Bureau after the Civil War. Legend has it that the reclusive Sarah Alice Broadbent guarded her home's privacy with a gun, and was known to shoot at intruders. She mysteriously disappeared the same night her home was burned to the ground. Long before the Princes or the Broadbents, at least two Native American Timucuan villages existed on Crane Island, taking advantage of the local oysters and fish. They also disappeared, but not too many years ago were replaced by boy scouts who used to camp in the same area.

Crane Island's history does not include large plantation style houses selling for up to three million dollars. Evidently the construction of the “Idea House” will go ahead; however, it has nothing to do with the history of Crane Island. Hopefully, those interested in purchasing should know there is more to the story. It is worth the time to read up on it.

Eric L. Titcomb
Fernandina Beach

Disappointed

The Nov. 16 *News-Leader* editorial page offered a sorry model for the coming Season of Hope. Undisguised biases regarding the nation's hyper-charged public issues were disappointing and untimely, hardly in keeping with a normally balanced standard. Rather than conveying subtle humor, the two cartoons were darkly cynical, one equating 17th century New England Pilgrims with people currently assaulting our southern border; the other snidely echoed a recent demand to equate legal votes of Florida citizens with the questionable votes of those whose status cannot be documented. Add to that a disjointed viewpoint with no apparent purpose but rambling random ranting about the Commander-in-Chief. Floridians have been subjected to still another disturbing and embarrassing election time. Let's hope for cooler heads and less of this unhinged discourse.

T. J. Robertson
Amelia Island

A popular destination

Unless you have been lost at sea or hiding in an underground bunker, you probably realize that people are moving here as well as visiting.

Not only did the hotels on Amelia Island register one of the highest occupancy rates in the state last year, more are on the way. A lot more.

Five new hotels with 500 rooms are under construction or are planned for Amelia Island. And we already have an impressive collection of hotels – from the glitz of the Ritz to the laid-back comfort of beach motels.

The latest additions will not rival the Ritz or the Omni hotels in quality or price or splendor, but they will fill a niche in strategic locations. It's all positive news for our local merchants.

Several of the properties have been cleared, and work has begun. The first to be completed is on Atlantic Avenue near downtown, where the old schoolhouse has been retrofitted into a spiffy boutique hotel. The fittingly named Amelia Schoolhouse Inn will consist of 17 rooms in a bed-and-breakfast motif.

Just down Atlantic Avenue, a hotel will replace an old health care facility across from Fort Clinch State Park. It will be the largest of the new projects. In fact, this hotel will offer two brands under one roof.

Both Courtyard by Marriott and SpringHill Suites will share the four-story, 37,000-square-foot hotel building. There will be 239 rooms in all. This will bolster the activities and businesses at Main Beach, like The Sandbar and the newly opened Salt Life Food Shack.

Along the busy corridor on State Highway 200/A1A, a long-awaited Holiday Inn Express is targeted for the Gateway to Amelia office complex. The



**STEVE'S
MARKET
PLACE**

Steve Nicklas

Home2 Suites by Hilton hotel will have 103 rooms.

Not to be outdone, the Ritz-Carlton hotel here will be renovated and refreshed soon. It is part of Marriott's efforts to improve its stellar hotel chain.

It's funny, maybe ironic, but many of the people who visit here eventually move here to live. So 500 more hotel rooms will fuel the population growth.

Come to think of it, we had 700,000 overnight visitors this past year, with more on the horizon. Like a blazing, morning sun.

Steve Nicklas is a financial adviser and a Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor for a regional U.S. firm who lives on Amelia Island. He is also an award-winning columnist. His business columns regularly appear in several newspapers in North Florida and in South Georgia and on his website SteveNicklasMarketplace.com. He has published a book of his favorite columns from the last 20 years. All About Money. The book is available in local stores and on Amazon. He can be reached at (904) 753-0236. thenicklasteam2@msn.com

COMMUNITY THANKS

We simply could not have done it without you!

As the Nassau Humane Society looks back on last month's 14th annual Pasta for Paws dinner and silent auction, we would like to express our tremendous gratitude to everyone who helped make it a phenomenal success.

Special thanks to:

- David's Restaurant & Lounge for providing and catering the delicious food;

- The Patio Place and Amelia Island Wine Co. for donating the perfect refreshments;

- Hupp & Ray for the fantastic tunes throughout the evening;

- The Atlantic Recreation Center team for the perfect venue;

- Our sponsors – First Federal Bank, VyStar, Amelia Eye Associates, K Pro K9, Morrow Insurance, The Salty Pelican, Fernandina Beach Sears Hometown Store and Dick Gore's RV World;

- All of the incredible staff and volunteers who helped us promote around town, secure silent auction items, pre-

pare decorations, set-up/break-down, serve food, showcase our animals and host the event;

- Everyone who generously donated a silent auction item;

- And all of YOU, for joining us and supporting our lifesaving work.

Pasta for Paws allows us to continue our mission of caring for homeless pets and providing solutions to the most urgent animal welfare needs in our community. Thank you for joining in our efforts to create a community where all animals are treated with respect and compassion, and every pet has a loving, permanent home. On behalf of all of the animals here at Nassau Humane Society, THANK YOU!

We invite you to stay up to date with us by visiting NassauHumane.org or dropping by our Adoption Center at 639 Airport Road in Fernandina Beach to meet our wonderful adoptable pets.

Jacki McDonald,
executive director
Nassau Humane Society

SERVING YOU

Nassau County Commissioners:

Danny Leeper, District 1-Fernandina Beach, 261-8029 (h), 430-3868 (cell), email: dleeper@nassaucountyfl.com

Steve Kelley, District 2-Amelia Island, Nassauville, O'Neil, 277-3948 (h), 556-0241 (cell), email: skelley@nassaucountyfl.com

Pat Edwards, District 3-Yulee, 335-0260 (cell), email: pedwards@nassaucountyfl.com

George V. Spicer, District 4-Hilliard, Bryceville, Boulogne, Kings Ferry, 568-3409 (cell), email: gspicer@nassaucountyfl.com

Justin M. Taylor, District 5-Callahan, West Yulee, 625-5624 (cell), email: jtaylor@nassaucountyfl.com



AND THEN BLACK FRIDAY AND CYBER MONDAY MERGED INTO ONE LONG WEEKEND...

JEFF KOTERBA-OMAHA WORLD HERALD-CAGLE CARTOONS

Are you washing your hands correctly?

When I was a tyke, I always freaked out over the possible presence of “cat hairs and goims.” (Why a Tennessee farm boy pronounced “germs” like a hooligan in a 1930s movie set in Brooklyn, I'll never know.)

As time passed and life's more pressing issues accumulated, I became complacent about cats shedding, cats leaving their muddy paw prints on the car hood, cats using my credit card to order pizza delivery, etc.

And, like most people, I became lackadaisical about bacteria.

National Public Radio reports that the Democratic Republic of the Congo has released a new video in its fight to end an Ebola outbreak.

Chillingly, the six-step hand washing routine (eight steps, if you count abundantly wetting your hands with water and lathering up) advocated by the video is pretty much the same regimen the World Health Organization has been recommending for ALL of us numbskulls to use in everyday life!

According to NPR, about 30 percent of the world's population NEVER bothers with hand washing. Even in America, only half of us wash our hands after using the restroom. And we absent-mindedly touch our faces (eyes, nose, mouth) about 200 times a day!

Yes, we Americans are quite good with TWO steps (“Darlin’, grab some extra beers and we'll two-step on out to the back of my pickup truck and push the deer carcass aside ...”) and TWELVE steps (“Hi, my name is Bill and I am ... a person who gives you a hearty handshake immediately after cleaning out the septic tank”),



TYRADES!

Danny Tyree

but the SIX steps are seen as an unreasonable burden. Partly, it's a matter of ignorance. No one has EVER in a million years mentioned to us attentive Americans complicated concepts such as “Wash your hands,” “The turn signal is not just for decoration” and “Research the issues first, THEN protest.” On the other hand, we've memorized a minute-by-minute timeline of Natalie Wood's last night alive.

Our poor hygiene is also a rebellion against parental over-protectiveness, the old “Don't touch that! You don't know where it has been!” mantra. Some enterprising techie could make a billion dollars developing an app that can trace the history of Where An Object Has Been. (“Ma, here's a detailed report of where that cow patty came from. I pretty much had it nailed.”)

Pride and overconfidence play a role. (“Lye soap? My family couldn't even afford RAINWATER when I was growing up. And the 30 percent of us who made it to adulthood turned out – *cough cough* – pretty doggone well.”)

Science says that a minimum of 20 seconds of handwashing is required, but among the folks who do bother to wash, we are more likely to scrub for a mere eight to 10 seconds – just long enough to get the microbes riled up. It has the makings of a good horror movie: “The germs never even LEFT – and this time it's personal!”

Perhaps we'll wake up to the fact that good hygiene can greatly reduce zits, colds and far



JEFF KOTERBA-OMAHA WORLD HERALD-CAGLE CARTOONS

worse ailments. I mean, people are already wary of STDs, and those at least offer a modicum more fun than EHTDs (Escalator Handrail Transmitted Diseases).

I did see an encouraging sign posted in a diner window. (“Corn muffins so good they'll make you slap your mamma – but be sure to use an

alcohol-based gel sanitizer both before and after the transaction.”)

Copyright 2018 Danny Tyree. Danny welcomes email responses at tyreetyrades@aol.com and visits to his Facebook fan page, “Tyree's Tyrades.” Danny's weekly column is distributed exclusively by Cagle Cartoons Inc. newspaper syndicate.

2018-19 SCHEDULES

FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL			YULEE HIGH SCHOOL		
Nov. 27	at Ribault	5:30	Nov. 30	BOLLES	6:00
Nov. 29	at Providence	5:30	Dec. 4	FERNANDINA BEACH	5:30
Dec. 11	RIBAULT	5:30	Dec. 7	at Bishop Snyder	7:00
Dec. 13	WEST NASSAU	7:20	Dec. 10	at Episcopal	7:00
Jan. 8	at Raines	5:30	Dec. 11	WEST NASSAU	7:20
Jan. 10	YULEE	5:30	Dec. 14	RIBAULT	5:20
Jan. 11	BISHOP KENNY	6:00	Dec. 21	RAINES	6:00
Jan. 15	PROVIDENCE	7:20	Jan. 7	at West Nassau	5:20
Jan. 16	at Westside	5:30	Jan. 8	PROVIDENCE	6:00
Jan. 17	EPISCOPAL	5:30	Jan. 10	at Fernandina Beach	7:20
Jan. 22	at Nease	5:30	Jan. 12	at Palm Coast	11:00
Jan. 24, 28, 31	District at Providence	5:30	Jan. 14	at Raines	6:00
Jan. 18	BISHOP SNYDER	6:00	Jan. 18	BISHOP SNYDER	7:00
Jan. 21-25	District at Providence	6:00	Jan. 21-25	District at Providence	6:00
FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL			YULEE HIGH SCHOOL		
Nov. 23	at UC Shootout (DeLand)	6:00	Nov. 27	at Mandarin	4:00
Nov. 24	at UC Shootout (N. Marion)	2:30	Nov. 29	ORANGE PARK	6:00
Nov. 27	LEE	6:30	Dec. 11	RIDGEVIEW, FBHS	5:00
Nov. 30	WEST NASSAU	6:30	Dec. 14	at Baker County	3:30
Dec. 7	at Episcopal	6:30	Dec. 18	at Fernandina, Stanton	4:30
Dec. 10	at Raines	6:30	Dec. 20	CREEKSIDE	4:30
Dec. 13	TERRY PARKER	6:00	Jan. 19	District	6:00
Dec. 14	at Baldwin	6:00	Jan. 26	Region	6:00
Dec. 17	at Hilliard (JV)	5:30	Nov. 29	at Paxon*	5:30/7
Dec. 18	at Hilliard	6:00	Nov. 30	ENGLEWOOD	6:00
Dec. 20	at Paxon	6:30	Dec. 1	HILLIARD	6:00
Dec. 27-29	Holiday tourney at Father Lopez	6:30/30	Dec. 3	BISHOP SNYDER	5:30/7
Jan. 3	FIRST COAST	6:30/30	Dec. 5	EPISCOPAL (JV)	6:00
Jan. 8	ANDREW JACKSON	6:00	Dec. 10	TERRY PARKER*	5:30/7
Jan. 10	at West Nassau	6:30/30	Dec. 12	at Stanton*	5:30/7
Jan. 14	YULEE	6:30/30	Dec. 18	at West Nassau	5:30/7
Jan. 16	UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN	6:00	Dec. 19	at Mandarin	5:30/7
Jan. 18	MIDDLEBURG	6:00	Dec. 21	at Andrew Jackson	6:00
Jan. 21	BISHOP SNYDER	6:00	Jan. 5	at Hilliard	6:00
Jan. 28	HILLIARD (JV)	5:30	Jan. 8	RIDGEVIEW	6:00
Jan. 28	PAXON (varsity)	7:00	Jan. 10	ANDREW JACKSON	6:00
Jan. 29	HILLIARD (seniors)	6:00	Jan. 11	at Bishop Snyder	5:30/7
Jan. 31	at Terry Parker	6:30/30	Jan. 12	BISHOP KENNY*	5:30/7
Feb. 4, 6, 8	District at Bolles	6:00	Jan. 17	BALDWIN	6:00
Nov. 27	at Brantley County	4:00	Jan. 25	at Ridgeview	6:00
Nov. 29	Camden JV round robin	4:00	Jan. 29	at Episcopal	6:00
Dec. 6	Camden JV round robin	4:00	Jan. 25	RCSA	6:00
Dec. 7-8	Cam Brown Seminole Classic	3:30	Jan. 30	WEST NASSAU	5:30/7
Dec. 11	at Glynn Academy	3:30	Jan. 31	at Ed White	7:00
Dec. 12	BAKER, RAINES	3:30	Feb. 4, 6, 8	District	7:00
Dec. 13	Camden JV round robin	4:00	* District		
Dec. 14-15	Ridgeview Duals	8:00			
Dec. 15	Commander Brawl (JV)	8:00			
Dec. 19	COUNTY	3:30			
Dec. 21-22	YULEE DUALS				
Jan. 3	District duals				
Jan. 5	at Devil Dog ITB	9:00			
Jan. 10	Camden JV round robin	4:00			
Jan. 11-12	BATTLE OF THE BORDER	1:00			
Jan. 16	FSDB, WEST NASSAU	3:30			
Jan. 18-19	regional duals				
Jan. 25-26	at North Metro	5:30			
Feb. 1-2	at Wakulla ITB	5:30			
Feb. 2	at Westside round robin	8:30			
Feb. 8-9	at Sandalwood IBT	1:00			
Feb. 15-16	at JV state invitational				
Feb. 23	IBT District at Baker County				
March 1-2	Regional at Wewahatchka				
March 8-9	Sate at Kissimmee				
FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL			YULEE HIGH SCHOOL		
Nov. 29	CORNERSTONE	6:30/30	Nov. 27	at RCSA	4:30/7:30
Nov. 30	at West Nassau	6:30/30	Nov. 30	ENGLEWOOD	4:30/7:30
Dec. 4	at Yulee	6:30/30	Dec. 1	HILLIARD	4:30/7:30
Dec. 6	EPISCOPAL	6:30/30	Dec. 4	FERNANDINA BEACH	6:30/30
Dec. 13	at Baldwin	5:30/7	Dec. 6	at Ribault	4:30/7:30
Dec. 14	RIDGEVIEW	6:30/30	Dec. 12	WEST NASSAU	6:30/30
Dec. 18	at Hilliard	4:30/7:30	Dec. 14	PAXON*	6:30/30
Dec. 20	CAMDEN (JV)	4:15	Dec. 15	at Lee	5:30/7
Dec. 20-21	JOHNNY T. SMITH		Dec. 20-21	at JT Smith at FBHS	6:30/30
Dec. 27-29	at Bronson Holiday Tournament		Jan. 5	at Hilliard	4:30/7:30
Jan. 8	at Raines	5:30/7	Jan. 7	CORNERSTONE	6:30/30
Jan. 10	at Jackson	5:30/7	Jan. 9	STANTON*	6:30/30
Jan. 11	WEST NASSAU	6:30/30	Jan. 11	CRESCENT CITY	6:30/30
Jan. 15	at Baker County	6:30/30	Jan. 12	ST. JOSEPH	6:30/30
Jan. 18	MIDDLEBURG homecoming	7:30	Jan. 15	at Terry Parker*	5:30/7:30
Jan. 22	BOLLES	6:30/30	Jan. 15	at West Nassau	6:30/30
Jan. 24	at Ridgeview	6:30/30	Jan. 22	at Bishop Kenny*	5:30/7:30
Jan. 25	BALDWIN	6:30/30	Jan. 23	MENENDEZ	6:30/30
Jan. 29	HILLIARD	4:30/7:30	Jan. 25	at Episcopal	4:30/7:30
Jan. 31	JV at Camden	5:00	Jan. 29	RCSA	4:30/7:30
Feb. 1	YULEE	6:30/30	Feb. 1	at Fernandina Beach	6:30/30
Feb. 4	UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN	6:30/30	Feb. 4	RIDGEVIEW (seniors)	6:30/30
Feb. 7	at Bishop Snyder	5:30/7	Feb. 5	at Menendez	6:30/30
Feb. 8	at St. Joseph	5:30/7	Feb. 9	at Crescent City	6:30/30
Feb. 11, 13, 15	District at Jackson		* District		
FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL			YULEE HIGH SCHOOL		
Nov. 29	CORNERSTONE	6:30/30	Nov. 30	at Providence	5:30
Nov. 30	at West Nassau	6:30/30	Dec. 4	FERNANDINA BEACH	7:20
Dec. 4	at Yulee	6:30/30	Dec. 6	at Sandalwood	5:30
Dec. 6	EPISCOPAL	6:30/30	Dec. 7	PALATKA	5:30
Dec. 13	at Baldwin	5:30/7	Dec. 11	WEST NASSAU	5:30
Dec. 14	RIDGEVIEW	6:30/30	Dec. 14	RIBAULT	7:20
Dec. 18	at Hilliard	4:30/7:30	Dec. 19	ED WHITE	6:00
Dec. 20	CAMDEN (JV)	4:15	Dec. 21	RAINES	7:20
Dec. 20-21	JOHNNY T. SMITH		Jan. 7	at West Nassau	7:20
Dec. 27-29	at Bronson Holiday Tournament		Jan. 10	at Fernandina Beach	5:30
Jan. 8	at Raines	5:30/7	Jan. 11	at Suwannee	6:30
Jan. 10	at Jackson	5:30/7	Jan. 15	at Bishop Kenny	6:00
Jan. 11	WEST NASSAU	6:30/30	Jan. 16	at Baker County	4:00
Jan. 15	at Baker County	6:30/30			
Jan. 18	MIDDLEBURG homecoming	7:30			
Jan. 22	BOLLES	6:30/30			
Jan. 24	at Ridgeview	6:30/30			
Jan. 25	BALDWIN	6:30/30			
Jan. 29	HILLIARD	4:30/7:30			
Jan. 31	JV at Camden	5:00			
Feb. 1	YULEE	6:30/30			
Feb. 4	UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN	6:30/30			
Feb. 7	at Bishop Snyder	5:30/7			
Feb. 8	at St. Joseph	5:30/7			
Feb. 11, 13, 15	District at Jackson				



These big redfish were taken on Tuesday by Lou Griffin, right, and Frank Quigley of Fernandina Beach. Bill Guenther, also of Fernandina, hosted the trip and took the photo. Both fish hit at the same time over KBY reef offshore Cumberland Island.

Boaters asked to slow down for manatees

Look out and slow down for manatees in November to help them as they begin migrating to warmer waters. November is Manatee Awareness Month. Florida has more than 6,600 manatees swimming in rivers, bays and coastal waters. These large aquatic mammals can weigh over 1,000 pounds.

As the weather cools, manatees are on the move, searching for warmer waters to survive the winter. Remember: Disturbing manatees at warm-water sites may cause them to leave those areas at a time when it is critical for them to remain there.

"Boaters who look out for migrating manatees and follow posted manatee protection zones contribute to the conservation of this threatened species," said Carol Knox, who leads the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Imperiled Species Management Section. "They are reducing the chance of manatee injuries and disturbance, while enjoying

their time on the water."

Seasonal manatee protection zones also go into effect in the fall, depending on the county. The zones are marked by waterway signs, and maps of local manatee protection zones are available online at MyFWC.com/Manatee by clicking on "Data and Maps."

How can you help manatees?

- Wear polarized sunglasses to spot them moving, grazing and resting in the water. Keep a lookout for the circular "footprints" or ripples they leave on the surface of the water.
- Follow posted manatee zones.
- Observe manatees from a distance to limit disturbance. Disturbing manatees at their warm-water sites may cause them to leave these areas during the winter.
- Report injured, entangled, orphaned or dead manatees to the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline: 888-404-FWCC (3922), #FWC or *FWC on your cellphone or

text Tip@MyFWC.com.

- Access and share A boater's guide to living with Florida manatees and Guidelines for successful manatee watching in Florida that focuses on paddlers.
- Purchase the manatee decal and license plate, and tell everyone how the decal and license plate support the FWC's manatee conservation efforts.
- Contribute to the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida's Marine Mammal Fund by visiting WildlifeFlorida.org and clicking on "Support Us," "Funding Priorities" and "Marine Mammal Fund."

Florida invests more than \$2 million annually in manatee conservation, with FWC biologists, managers and law enforcement working with partners to research, rescue and manage manatees.

Want to see a manatee? Go to MyFWC.com/Manatee and click on "Where Can I See Manatees?"

RECREATION ROUNDUP

FERNANDINA BEACH PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT RECREATION ROUNDUP

Visit www.fbfl.us for information on the following programs or activities.

SPORTS/FITNESS

ADULT 3-ON-3 BASKETBALL LEAGUE. Register through Nov. 30 at the MLK Jr. Center on Elm Street. Team registration fee is \$50. Four players maximum per team. Games on Monday and Thursday evenings at Peck Gym. Season begins Dec. 6. For information, including league rules, contact John Coverdell (jcoverdell@fbfl.org or 310-3351).

OPEN ADULT VOLLEYBALL at Peck Gym 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays. Informal games on two courts. Teams selected each night. Ages 16 and up (ages 16 and 17 must have parental consent form signed by parents and notarized). Fees are \$2/day city resident, \$5 non-city.

YOUTH TEAM VOLLEYBALL at Peck Gym Tuesdays and Fridays 3-6 p.m. for school and club teams. Players must have adult coach or adult supervision. Call at 24 hours in advance to reserve courts, 310-3353. Fee is \$2/day city resident, \$5 non-city.

OPEN ADULT INDOOR SOCCER at Peck Gym Wednesdays 5:30-8 p.m. Informal team games. Ages 16 and up (ages 16 and 17 must have parental consent form signed by parents and notarized before participating). Fees are \$2 city residents, \$5 non-city residents.

OPEN BASKETBALL at Peck Gym Monday and Thursday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. (court closes at 5:30 p.m. for adult leagues in winter and summer); Wednesday 11 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.; and Tuesday and Friday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., based on court availability. Persons under the age of 16 must be accompanied by adults age 18 or older. Photo identification required.

PICKLEBALL at the Central Park multipurpose court with intermediate/advanced play at 3 p.m. Sundays and Wednesdays and 8 a.m. Tuesdays and Fridays; women's open play at 3 p.m. Mondays; men's open play at 8 a.m. Thursdays; social play at 1 p.m. Sundays and 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Fridays; and beginner play and lessons at 1 p.m. Sundays and 11 a.m. Tuesdays and Fridays. Email dcultice@yahoo.com.

OPEN ROLLER HOCKEY

at the Main Beach. Adult skate Tuesdays and Saturdays 6-8 p.m. and family skate Tuesdays from 5-6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9-10 a.m. Call Ray Matz at (215) 852-7038.

AQUATICS

TRY DIVING EXPERIENCE: A one- to two-hour introductory experience that consists of a short classroom session and trying scuba in our pool with a certified scuba diving instructor or divemaster. Ages 8 and up, \$50/person city residents, \$62 non-city; \$80/couple city residents, \$100 non-city; \$150/group city residents (up to six people), \$188 non-city. Scheduled at your convenience.

PADI SCUBA OPEN WATER CERTIFICATION: Private and group instruction available. Standard course: \$275 (additional check-out dive fee). eLearner course: \$205. Participants must provide their own masks, snorkels, fins, booties, and weight belts. Ages 10 and up. Information and training schedule for available at the Atlantic Avenue Recreation Center.

AQUA 1 and DEEP WATER AEROBICS at Atlantic pool. Aqua 1 (shallow water) classes are Monday-Friday from 10-10:55 a.m. Aqua Gym (combination of shallow and deep water) classes are at the MLK Jr. pool on Elm Street Monday and Wednesday from 4-4:55 p.m. and 5:15-6:10 p.m. Deep Water classes (aqua fitness belts required) are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11-11:55 a.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 9-9:55 a.m.

Monthly, one class/day, \$50 city residents, \$63 non-city residents; monthly, two classes/day, \$65 city residents, \$81 non-city; \$5/day for one class, city residents, \$6 non-city; \$10/day for two classes, city resident, \$12 non-city. Aqua Gym monthly fees are \$30 city residents, \$38 non-city. Water Aerobics/Fitness combination passes available (includes use of Atlantic Fitness Room). Inquire at the Atlantic Avenue Recreation Center.

BEACH WHEELCHAIRS can be reserved at the Atlantic Center by paying a refundable \$50 deposit. Call 310-3350 for availability.

MAHARAJ TENNIS at Central Park courts

- Red Ball 1 (Monday/Wednesday from 10:30-11:15 a.m.) and Red Ball 2 (Monday/Wednesday from

11:15 a.m.-noon). Cost is \$14/week city residents, \$16.80 non-city; Orange Ball (Tuesday/Thursday from 3:30-4:30 p.m.) and Green Ball (Monday/Wednesday from 3:45-4:45 p.m.). Cost is \$18/week city residents, \$21.60 non-city; Junior Intermediate (Tuesday/Thursday from 4:30-6 p.m.) and Junior Advanced (Monday/Wednesday from 4:45-6:15 p.m.). Cost is \$26 city residents, \$31.20 non-city.

- Junior clinics' schedule: Red Ball 1 (Tuesday/Thursday from 2:45-3:30 p.m., ages 4-8), \$56 city residents, \$67.20 non-city. Red Ball 2 (Monday/Wednesday from 3:30-4:30 p.m., ages 6-10), \$49 city residents, \$58.80 non-city. Orange Ball (Tuesday/Thursday from 3:30-4:30 p.m., ages 8-12), \$72 city residents, \$86.40 non-city. Green Ball (Monday/Wednesday from 3:45-4:45 p.m.), \$63 city residents, \$75.60 non-city. Junior intermediate (Tuesday/Thursday 4:30-6 p.m., ages 11 and up), \$104 city residents, \$124.80 non-city. Junior advanced (Monday/Wednesday 4:45-6:15 p.m., ages 14 and up, high school and USTA tournament players), \$91 city residents, \$109.20 non-city.
- Adult clinics (Tuesday-Thursday): Women's clinic (3.0-3.5) Tuesdays 6:15-7:45 p.m. Strokes clinics Wednesdays from 8-9 a.m. (2.5-3.0) and 9-10:30 a.m. (3.0-3.5). Intermediate drills clinics (3.0-3.5) Thursdays from 9-10:30 a.m. Intermediate/advanced drills clinics (3.5-4.0) Thursdays from 6-7:30 p.m. \$10/person/hour for one-hour clinics, \$12 non-city; and \$15/person for 1 1/2-hour clinics, \$18 non-city. Pre-registration required (minimum of three per clinic).
- Schedule private lessons with Head Professional Vishnu Maharaj or an assistant professional, \$60/hour with head professional, \$50/hour with an assistant pro.
- Semi-private and group lessons are also available. \$60/hour city residents, \$70 non-city. Call 548-1472 or email michelema@msn.com to schedule. To register or for information, email rdgibsonstennis@gmail.com or call 891-6927.
- Central Park tennis court gate keys can be purchased at the Atlantic Center for a \$5 fee. Keys may be purchased during normal business hours, Monday-Friday from 7 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

INSTRUCTED PROGRAMS

CO-ED EXERCISE CLASS at the MLK, Jr. Center Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. and Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. Fee is \$3/class. Classes follow the Hip Hop Abs video series. All fitness levels welcomed. Contact John Coverdell at 904-310-3351 or

jcoverdell@fbfl.org.

Take part in instructor Charity Ross's 28-day BOOT CAMP at Main Beach (some classes at Egans Creek Park). These outdoor workouts will challenge your aerobic and anaerobic capacities and core strength with sprint drills, plyometric exercises and conditioning circuits. Nutritional

coaching and meal plans included. Cost is \$150/participant. Weekly class schedule: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-7 a.m., 7-8 a.m. and 5:30-6:30 p.m.; Saturdays from 7-8 a.m. (three classes per week recommended). Visit www.rosspersonaltraining.com/Plans-and-Schedule. Call Charity at 729-7965.

The News Leader Weather Summary

Fernandina Beach's Seven Day Forecast

Day	Weather	High/Low
Friday	Few Showers	68 / 62
Saturday	Scattered T-storms	74 / 60
Sunday	Partly Cloudy	75 / 59
Monday	Few Showers	72 / 48
Tuesday	Mostly Cloudy	67 / 43
Wednesday	Sunny	60 / 36
Thursday	Mostly Cloudy	63 / 39

Local UV Index

0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure

Weather Trivia

What is the path of destruction caused by a hailstorm called?
Answer: A hail streak.

Weather History

Nov. 23, 1943 - Northern New Hampshire was in the grips of a record snowstorm that left a total of 55 inches at Berlin and 56 inches at Randolph. The Randolph total was a 24-hour snowfall record for the state.

Tides This Week

Fernandina Beach				St. Mary's Entrance					
Date	High	Low	Time	Date	High	Low	Time		
Fri	8:29 am	1:56 am	8:52 pm	2:35 pm	Sat	7:53 am	1:53 am	8:16 pm	2:32 pm
Sat	9:17 am	2:40 am	9:39 pm	3:20 pm	Sat	8:41 am	2:37 am	9:03 pm	3:17 pm
Sun	10:05 am	3:26 am	10:29 pm	4:08 pm	Sun	9:29 am			



SOLHEIM CUP



PBR back in Jax on Feb. 16

Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena will host the Professional Bull Riders Velocity Tour for the first time since 2015 on Feb. 16.

For one night, some of the best bull riders in the world will battle the sport's fiercest bovine athletes. The thrilling eight-second rides and heart-stopping wrecks make the PBR's VT Tour one of the most exciting live sporting events to witness.

The bull riding action begins at 7 p.m. Feb. 16. Tickets start at \$15 and are available at the Tom Bush Family of Dealerships Box Office at Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena Box Office, online at tickmaster.com, and by phone at (800) 745-3000.

Each rider will face one bull in round one before the 10 riders with the highest score advance to the championship round. At the end of the competition, the rider with the highest combined score in the two rounds will be crowned the champion.

Jacksonville will be the 10th stop on the 2019 VT Tour, which spans the country in cities including Salinas, Calif.; Colorado Springs, Colo.; Rapid City, S.D.; Rochester, N.Y.; and Ontario, Calif.

The 2019 tour culminates with the finals at South Point Arena in Las Vegas in November, leading into the world finals. The winner, the second- and third-place finishers and the top international performer, along with the 2019 tour champion, each qualify to compete at the PBR world finals.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The Amelia Island Club at Long Point Women's Golf Association held its annual Solheim Cup Nov. 15 and 16. With 44 participants and some unseasonably cold weather, it was competitive. The Blue Team, top, took a three-point lead after day one, and it made the difference. The Red Team rallied on day two, leaving the Blue Team in the lead by just two points at the end of the competition, 30 1/2-28 1/2. Formats included two-person teams for best ball net, shamble best ball net and alternate shot. There were also single matches best ball net. Captains Maureen Nussman for the Red Team and Debbie Baechle for Blue, above left, challenged all participants to decorate their golf carts in team colors. The field of carts in reds and blues looked festive, and the winning cart was decorated by Baechle and Georgia Murray, above right.

McGrath captures another win in GCAI handicap event

The Ladies Golf Association at the Golf Club of Amelia Island completed its two-round 2018-19 Handicap Championship on Nov 15, with excellent play by Melinda McGrath, who repeated as the champion with a net 140.

The first flight winners were Janet Woodward, first, 145; and Sue Lansdell, second, 146.

DeeDee Higgins was first in the second flight with a 154; and Marty Evans was second with a 161.

Closest-to-the-pin proxies for the day were Pat Haley (hole nine) and Sue Lansdell (hole 16).

The St. Michael Knights of Columbus' ninth annual charity golf tournament will be held Nov. 30 at Oak Marsh course at the Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort. This year's event will include team and individual awards along with a silent auction and raffle for various prizes.

Registration and pre-tournament warm-up begin at 10:30 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at noon. Play is a captain's choice using a four-person team scramble format.

The entry fee is \$150 and includes post-tournament hors d'oeuvres. For those attending just the awards ceremony, the cost is \$35 per person. All tour-

GOLF NEWS

name golfers are also entitled to play a pre-tournament and post-tournament round of golf on the Oak Marsh course at the reduced rate of \$50.

The proceeds from this tournament benefit numerous charities in Nassau County.

For information and to register for the tournament, call Tom Smeeton at 321-4139 or Bob Gerth at 491-0368 or email bob@thegerths.net.

The Fernandina Beach Kiwanis Club will hold the 33rd annual Charity Golf Tournament on Dec. 12 at the Golf Club of Amelia Island. The field is limited to the first 80 players.

Shotgun start is at noon. Cost is \$100 per person and includes golf cart, greens fees, prizes for all players and a buffet dinner after play. Hole sponsorships are available for \$100.

Entry deadline is Dec. 10. For information, contact Rich Billings at 699-4026 or rrbmsb@comcast.net.

Mail entries to Steve Heller, 2061 Oak Marsh Drive, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034. Make checks payable to Fernandina Beach Kiwanis Club.



SUBMITTED

Winners in the GCAI ladies handicap tournament included, from left, Sue Lansdell, Janet Woodward, Melinda McGrath, DeeDee Higgins and Marty Evans.

SPORTS SHORTS

High school baseball showcase

Next Level Baseball is hosting a high school baseball showcase at the College of Central Florida at 9 a.m. Dec. 8 for grades 9-12. College and pro scouts will be in attendance. Cost is \$139. Pre-registration is required. The showcase is limited to 80 participants. Call Ryan Robinson at (850) 2281594.

Umpire clinic

Anyone at least 13 years old may learn to umpire games. A clinic will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jan. 19 at Elm Street Little League, 1200 Elm St. There is no registration fee.

Email elmstreetleague@gmail.com or call 910-0893 for information. The clinic is sponsored by Little League Florida District 11.

Sheriff's Shootout

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office will host the NCSO Charities, Inc. Sheriff's Shootout to benefit Shop with Cops on Dec. 7 at Jacksonville Clay Target Sports.

Registration is at 9 a.m.; and lunch and awards ceremony are at noon. Cost is \$600 for four-person teams and \$350 for two-person teams. Deadline to enter is Nov. 27. Cost is \$605 for four-man

teams after the deadline. Send entries and payments to NCSO Charities, Inc., attn: Larry Boatwright, 77151 Citizens Circle, Yulee, FL 32097.

Poinsettia baseball benefit

The Fernandina Beach High School baseball team is holding its annual poinsettia fundraiser, with pick-up or delivery scheduled for Nov. 28. Standard red, white, pink and marble plants are \$15 each; hanging red baskets are \$20; and hanging fern baskets are \$14. To place an order, call Raquel at 753-0602.

Youth lacrosse

Amelia Island Nassau County Youth Lacrosse is a developmental youth lacrosse program for boys and girls ages 8-15. Registration is open for the 2019 spring season. No prior experience or knowledge of the sport is necessary. The club is a non-profit member of U.S. Lacrosse and volunteer driven.

Visit www.ameliaislandlacrosse.org or the Facebook site, www.facebook.com/groups/AIYC for additional information and updates or contact Head Coach Carl J. Bazarian at carljbaz@gmail.com (703) 981-7703 or President Robby Allen at aincyouthlacrosse@gmail.com or (843) 263-0761.

City ping pong

The city of Fernandina Beach ping pong recreation schedule, through Dec. 19, includes Mondays from 5-7 p.m. and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to noon, with the exception of Dec. 12. Beginning to advanced players are welcome.

Four tables, ping pong balls and loaner paddles for those who do not own a paddle are provided. Player donations maintain the tables/nets, loaner paddles and the supply of balls. Call the recreation department at 310-3350 or Don Hughes at 415-0667.

Tennis doubles boot camp

Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort will host doubles tennis boot camps Jan. 25-27, Feb. 8-10 and Feb. 22-24. The camps are co-ed and open to solo travelers, couples, groups or teams. Guests can come with or without a partner. Camps are designed for players at all levels who play doubles regularly. Learn techniques such as smart shot selection and how to be a relentless attacker.

The weekend includes 10 hours of professional instruction and supervised match play, welcome gift bag, pro exhibition, courtside beverages and lunch on Saturday with the pro team. The non-lodging price is \$350 and includes lunch.

AAU youth wrestling

The AAU youth wrestling club at Fernandina Beach High School registration and practice are being held afternoons in the wrestling room in Building 22 near the football field. Participants will need AAU Individual Athlete Extended Coverage Membership, which can be purchased online for \$16 and is valid for one year. Club membership dues are \$50 and can be paid at registration. The club code is WY7A7T.

Sailing club meets

The Amelia Island Sailing Club meets the first Tuesday of the month at the Kraft Athletic Club at Ten Acres, located off Buccaneer Trail. Social hour starts at 6:30 p.m., followed by a potluck dinner, business meeting and guest speaker presentation. Guests are welcome.

Current boat ownership or sailing skills are not prerequisites to joining.

Club activities throughout the year may include day/overnight excursions by water and/or land, sailboat racing, social activities such as tubing, swimming with manatees, picnics and parties; as well as assisting with local conservation and environmental efforts in surrounding waters. Contact Commodore Tom Maguire at (703) 298-1714.

Pulitzer Prize winning author Robert Butler at Story and Song Bistro

To celebrate Small Business Saturday tomorrow, Story & Song Bookstore Bistro will welcome Robert Olen Butler, author of 17 novels, including *A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain*, awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1993, according to a news release.

Butler's first novel, *The Alleys of Eden*, was published in 1981 by Horizon Press after being rejected by 21 publishers. Its protagonist is an American deserter who decides to stay in Vietnam. Prior to its publication, Butler had written, by his estimation,



Butler

“five ghastly novels, about forty dreadful short stories, and twelve truly awful full-length plays, all of which have never seen the light of day and never will.”

Initially, Butler followed in his father's footsteps by majoring in theater at Northwestern University and becoming an actor. However, he switched to playwriting and earned his master's degree from the University of Iowa before serving in Vietnam from 1969 to 1971, first as a counter-intelligence special agent for the Army and later as a translator. Following his tour of duty, he worked as a steel mill laborer, taxi driver, and high school substitute teacher.

His experience in Vietnam affected his writing, as evidenced by the collection of short stories in *A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain*, about the aftermath of the Vietnam War and its

impact on the Vietnamese people. In 1987, Butler received the Tu Do Chinh Kien Award from the Vietnam Veterans of America for outstanding contributions to American culture by a veteran.

Throughout his literary career, Butler has found ways to reinvent himself. The stories in *Tabloid Dreams* were spun from the titles of outlandish articles in supermarket tabloids. Another collection, *Had a Good Time*, draws upon images on vintage American picture postcards, which Butler has collected for more than a

decade. In 2009, he published *Hell*, a roaring satire of a novel set entirely in the underworld. Two years later, he wrote a sexy novel of psychological suspense, *A Small Hotel*.

In still another act of reinvention, Butler penned his first literary historical espionage thriller, *The Hot Country*, in 2012, introducing Christopher Marlowe “Kit” Cobb, a Chicago newspaper war correspondent who doubles as an American spy, as he travels to Mexico in 1914 to report on the

BUTLER Continued on 6B

‘HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS’



SUBMITTED

Live Ink Theatre will present *Hope for the Holidays*, featuring stories told by Arlene Filkoff, Buffy Wells, Cynthia Riegler, Doug McDowell, Jennifer Webber, Mandy Haynes, Rachel Tyler, and Wilma Allen, at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at Story & Song Bookstore Bistro at 1430 Park Ave. in Fernandina Beach. The show is directed by Sinda Nichols and Ron Kurtz will be the MC. For tickets or more information, call 601-2118 or visit liveinktheatre.com.

AMP set to debut ‘Other Desert Cities’

Amelia Musical Playhouse will present the 2012 Pulitzer Prize-winning drama *Other Desert Cities* beginning next Thursday, according to a news release, which states, “There is Palm Springs, and then there are other desert cities.

“It’s Christmas Eve, and fragile Brooke Wyeth has come home to visit her family for the first time in six years. She has a surprise in store for her wealthy celebrity parents, who are retired from glamorous Hollywood careers, members of the Republican elite – a former movie star and a successful screenwriter. Brooke is a troubled author who has, after much struggle and delay, written a memoir that reveals painful secrets about her family and the story of her war-protesting lost brother Henry (but) these are secrets her parents Polly and Lyman Wyeth would rather keep to themselves.

“Wanting their approval to publish, Brooke enlists the aid of her TV producer younger brother, Tripp, and her acerbic recovering alcoholic aunt, Silda, in obtaining that approval. What starts as witty banter at a fun holiday gathering of a loving family takes surprising turns as the truth comes out, transforming everyone’s version of reality and altering the bonds and longstanding relationships which exist between them all.”

Other Desert Cities was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 2012. It had a triumphant run on Broadway, garnering five Tony nominations and one win, with kudos for Stacy Keach, Stockard Channing, Judith Light, Rachel Griffiths, Tom Sadowski, and playwright Jon Robin Baitz.

Don Maley, best known for his one-man performance as Mark Twain and his portrayal of Henry Higgins in *My Fair Lady*, plays Lyman Wyeth, the patriarch. Real life mother-and-daughter team Diana Herman and Samantha Hilliker, who acted together in *Rabbit Hole*, perform together as Polly and Brooke, with Zach Williams as Tripp and Karen Harper King as Silda.

Geoffrey King provides direction and set design, and set



SUBMITTED

From left to right, Zach Williams, Diana Herman, Don Maley, Samantha Hilliker, and Karen Harper King will star in AMP’s upcoming production of *Other Desert Cities*, which begins Thursday, Nov. 29.

artwork was rendered by local artist Arthur Herman, who just appeared as Luther Billis in *South Pacific*.

The play opens Thursday, Nov. 29, with performances at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 29-30, Dec. 1, and Dec. 7-8. Tickets are \$15 and available online from Brown Paper Tickets or the Amelia Musical Playhouse website, by phone at 277-3455, or at the box office at 1955 Island Walkway.

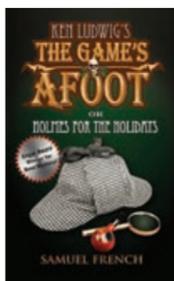
‘Funny, larger than life play’ starts next Thursday

Sherlock Holmes, holidays, and hilarity are key ingredients in Ken Ludwig’s comedy-mystery *The Game’s Afoot or Holmes for the Holidays*, opening Thursday, Nov. 29, on the Main Stage at Amelia Community Theatre, according to a news release.

This comic whodunit is set in 1936 at the Connecticut mansion of actor William Gillette, a real person famous for portraying Sherlock Holmes on the stage in New York and London for over 32 years. He appeared as the famous consulting detective in nearly 1,300 performances from 1899 to 1932.

Through his writing and staging of Doyle’s stories, Gillette introduced three elements that are now part of the popular visual image of Holmes – the deerstalker cap, the long cloak, and the curved pipe. He also wrote the phrase, “Oh, this is elementary, my dear fellow,” which later was edited by a film actor to “Elementary, my dear Watson.”

In Ludwig’s fictionalized story, it’s Christmas Eve, and Gillette has invited his cast to spend the holidays with him and his mother, even though just two weeks earlier he was wounded onstage by a gunshot as he took his bows. Gillette has surprises in store for his guests, but those plans backfire when there is actual foul play. A cryptic note referencing a passage from the work of



Shakespeare, a barking dog, and a disappearing dagger all are clues that “the game is afoot.” The houseguests become suspects, and Gillette can’t help slipping into his famous persona, Sherlock Holmes, as he matches wits with a local police inspector.

Directed by Linda McClane, the cast

includes Mike Roberts as William Gillette and Jayne Jeney as his mother Martha. The houseguests are played by Olivia Ballard, Bruce Gruber, Lisa Howard-Welch, Brianna Noel, and Chris Twigg, with Gina Roberts as the inspector.

“This is a funny, larger than life play, and very theatrical, because the characters are all in the world of theater, and each one has a secret,” said McClane. “Elegant clothes and dramatic entrances and exits are as much a part of their real life as their professional life, and Shakespearean quotes are easily sprinkled into their conversations.”

The real William Gillette loved inventions and gadgets, and the set of *The Game’s Afoot* has

ACT Continued on 6B



SUBMITTED

The curtain will go up Thursday, Nov. 29, for a run of *The Game’s Afoot or Holmes for the Holidays* at Amelia Community Theatre.

ON & OFF THE ISLAND

PAJAMA PARTY

The annual Black Friday Pajama Party will be held 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. today in downtown Fernandina Beach. Downtown merchants will have special offers, free services, treats, activities for children, live music, and Santa. A pajama contest, holiday music, and block party will take place on South Second Street.



SANTA EXPRESS

The Santa Express departs Theatre by the Trax in St. Marys on Nov. 24 and Dec. 1, 8 and 15 at 10 a.m., noon, 2 and 4 p.m. Each ride lasts about an hour and 15 minutes and takes guests through scenic woodlands and marshlands to Santa Village, where it makes a turnaround.

Children will meet Santa, his elves, Frosty and more along the way. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$14 for children. Children two and under ride free on laps.

Get Santa Express tickets at stmarysrailroad.com or call 912-200-5235.

CITY TREE LIGHTING

The city of Fernandina Beach will hold its annual tree lighting ceremony 2 to 6 p.m. at the west end of Centre Street downtown. The Nassau Community Band will play along with performances by the Royal Amelia Dancers. Take photos with Santa and the Fernandina Beach pirates. Food, drinks, and gifts will be on sale. Activities will begin at 2 p.m. and the lights will be turned on at 6 p.m.



Local Solutions to Local Issues
Vote Bradley Bean in the Runoff, December 11th

Paid by Bradley M. Bean for Fernandina Beach City Commission

OUT AND ABOUT

THIS WEEK

The Nassau County Public Library System will be closed Thursday, Nov. 22, and Friday, Nov. 23, in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. The book drops will remain open for the convenience of the public.

Are you a tween? Are your dreams bigger than you? Los Angeles-based author Kirstin Leigh will be at The Book Loft 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 23, to debut her book, *Believe*, for middle school students. It's the first in the Kristi Kate series and revolves around an abandoned church, a bunch of bored kids, a town full of lost dreamers, and two 12-year-old girls who are going to stir things up. Kirstin Leigh will also have her best-selling book for adults, *Change Your Story*, available.

NEXT WEEK

Captain John Ansett of the Nassau County Sheriff's Department will present a program on crime scene investigation procedures at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, at the Fernandina Beach Branch Library. Ansett is an accomplished law enforcement management professional with an extensive background in the criminal investigations division, with 19 years of law enforcement experience with the Nassau County Sheriff's Office. This is a One Book, One Community program based on the book, *The Bishop's Pawn*, by bestselling author Steve Berry.

Magician Greg Phillips will perform a family magic show and special guest Santa Claus will appear at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Hilliard Branch Library. This is a free program sponsored by the Friends of the Hilliard Library. For more information, visit the library web page at nassaureads.com or contact Michelle Forde, youth librarian, at mforde@nassaucountyfl.com or 530-6506.

The Fernandina Beach Branch Library will hold a free Family Holiday Festival from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1. Activities for all ages will take place outside on North Fourth Street between Centre and Alachua streets. The Festival will kick off with lively music from the Fernandina Beach High School Band directed by Christopher Odom. Family activities will include multiple craft and game booths, balloon art, face painting, cookie decorating, and holiday music with The Island Chamber Singers and Violin Composition Company. Activity themes will include Hanukkah, Christmas and the winter season. Holiday stories will be told by Joel Milligan and his special friend,

"Hercules." Be sure to stop by and see Santa. Visit with local heroes who keep the community safe: the Fernandina Beach Fire Department and fire trucks along with "Sparky" the Firedog, Fernandina Beach Police Department with Captain David Bishop, and the Nassau County Sheriff's Department.

UPCOMING

A meet and greet to discuss the formation of a Friends of the Yulee Branch Library will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, at the James S. Page Governmental Complex, located at 96135 Nassau Place in Yulee. Participants will also discuss the future of the library in light of the rapid growth happening in the area. For more information call 530-6560.

St. Michael Academy will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the founding of the school on Friday, Dec. 7, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The evening will include a silent auction, hors d'oeuvres, an open bar, a sit-down dinner by Omni AIP chef Daven Wardynski, live entertainment and a live auction. To RSVP, call 321-2102 by Nov. 28.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit Wildlight at 2 p.m. Dec. 8 for Wildlight Winterfest at 123 Tinker St. The event will feature photos with the couple, holiday crafting, a 40-foot ice slide, snow, hot chocolate, milk and cookies. This event is free and open to the public. Please bring an unwrapped gift for the children at Micah's Place, Nassau County's domestic violence shelter.

A Commercial Advanced Training session will be conducted 8 a.m. to noon Dec. 13 at the Yulee county building. Registrations received by 5 p.m. Dec. 7 will receive the early bird price of \$30 per person. Price at the door is \$40. The instructors are Duval Extension Agent Erin Harlow and Nassau County Extension Director Rebecca Jordi. Topics include pesticide spill with on-site activity, reading a pesticide label, and advanced weed identification with hands-on activities. Seating is limited to 30 people. The class is eligible for earning four CEUs after attending the entire session. Registration for the session is at <http://bit.ly/2T7T70L>.

A holiday celebration with with music, stories, and balloon art will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, in the Callahan county building at 45401 Mickler St. Activities will include music with Sonshine Christian Academy and stories with Pete the Cat and a visit with Santa. This is a free program sponsored by the Friends of the Callahan Branch Library. For more information, visit the library web

page at nassaureads.com or contact Michelle Forde, youth librarian, at mforde@nassaucountyfl.com or 530-6506.

The Bryceville Branch Library will host a holiday celebration at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, with stories, music and special guests Pete the Cat, Frosty the Snowman and Santa. Activities include balloon art, seasonal crafts and treats. This is a free program sponsored by the Friends of the Bryceville Library. For more information, visit the library web page at nassaureads.com or contact Michelle Forde, youth librarian, at mforde@nassaucountyfl.com or 530-6506.

The Fernandina Beach Branch Library will host a family holiday "jammies" party at 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 17. The event will include seasonal stories and music featuring Pete the Cat, Frosty the Snowman and Santa. For more information, visit the library website at nassaureads.com or contact Michelle Forde, youth librarian, at mforde@nassaucountyfl.com or 530-6506. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Fernandina Beach Library.

The Amelia Island Genealogical Society will hold its annual Beginner Genealogy Course five consecutive Saturdays beginning Jan. 5. Classes will be held 9:30 a.m. to noon in the Community Room at the Fernandina Beach Branch Library, 25 N. Fourth St. The cost of \$40 per individual and \$65 per couple includes a one-year AIGS membership. The cost to existing members is \$15. Class size is limited. To register, contact Larry Conte at (305) 926-2978 or aigsmembership@gmail.com.

ONGOING

The Nassau County Council on Aging and Pogo's Kitchen have partnered for "Coffee and Giving," a weekly event every Wednesday from 8 to 10 a.m. at the restaurant, 1408 Lewis St. in Fernandina Beach. Regular coffee is free, and any donations and specialty coffee proceeds are donated to COA to benefit local seniors. Coffee and Giving will continue through the end of the year.

The Nassau Community Band has announced the start of the group's 15th season. The band's updated fall 2018 schedule includes the following dates:

- Nov. 24, Fernandina Beach Christmas tree lighting
- Dec. 6, Savannah Grand Christmas concert
- Dec. 9, Dickens on Centre Christmas concert

Led by Dr. Marc Dickman, the band meets 6:30-7:30 p.m. every Thursday in the Yulee Middle School, located at 85439 Miner Road in Yulee and is currently auditioning for woodwind, brass, and percussion members. For more information, email nassaucommunityband.fl@gmail.com or visit nassaucommunityband.wixsite.com/ncbsite.

The latest Nouveau Art Show, themed "Patterns," will run through November at the Island Art Association Gallery. The Gallery is located at 18 N. Second St. in Fernandina Beach. For more information, visit islandart.org.

Local artist Lisa Inglis will host painting parties at The Green Turtle Tavern and PJD's Beer & Wine Garden. Cost is \$20 per canvas with several designs from which to choose. Supplies are provided.

- The Green Turtle Tavern, 14 S. Third St., 5-7 p.m. Dec. 4 and 18.
- PJD'S Beer & Wine Garden, 12 S. Second St., 1-4:30 p.m. Dec. 6 and 20.

Ballroom On Amelia offers two for Tuesday group classes with Rumba at 7 p.m. followed by Salsa at 8 p.m. Tuesday classes are \$10 per person or both for \$15. A dance workshop is offered 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays for \$10 per person. Ballroom On Amelia is at 1897 Island Walkway at RAD Studios.



SUBMITTED

The Rolling Stones will perform in Jacksonville as part of a 13-city U.S. tour in 2019. Tickets go on sale next week.

Stones rolling into Jax in April for first time in almost 30 years

The Jacksonville Jaguars, city of Jacksonville and SMG Jacksonville announced this week that The Rolling Stones will bring their hugely successful No Filter tour to TIAA Bank Field in Jacksonville on April 24.

This will be the first time The Stones play in Jacksonville in nearly 30 years and the stadium is one of only 13 cities across America the band will visit in 2019, according to the news release.

The tour follows No Filter dates this past year that have taken band members Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Charlie Watts and Ronnie Wood back out on the road, amassing rave reviews as they played to sold out stadiums throughout the U.K. and Europe.

"It's a thrill when we play stadiums in the states - the energy is always amazing!" Jagger said in the release.

"I've always loved playing the states. It's a great crowd," Richards agreed.

The Rolling Stones No Filter set list has the legendary band treating generations of fans to classic Stones hits such as "Sympathy For The



Devil," "Paint It Black," "Brown Sugar," and "Miss You," as well as special gems from their celebrated catalog.

Tickets will go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 30. For ticketing information, visit rollingstones.com.

American Express card members can purchase tickets before the general public, beginning Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 10 a.m. and continuing through Thursday, Nov. 29, at 10 p.m.

AEG Presents' Concerts West is the promoter of The Rolling Stones No Filter U.S. tour.

Neither a partner nor a reservation is required.

Call 624-0886 or visit ballroomonamelia.com or the Ballroom on Amelia Facebook page.

Resin epoxy, dirty pour art classes are being held 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays and 1-3 p.m. Tuesdays in the Artisan Village, 2188 Sadler Road. All materials are provided. Cost is \$45. To register, contact Julie at 518-322-7937.

Overeaters Anonymous meets in the parlor at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 801 Atlantic Ave., Fernandina Beach, at 1 p.m. Thursdays. Contact Ilona at 261-9361.

Contract bridge, Monday and Thursday, except the first Monday of each month, 12:30-3:30 p.m., Peck Community Center, 516 S. 10th St., Fernandina Beach.

More than 40 classes are available at the Nassau County Council on Aging's new location at 1901 Island Walkway in Fernandina Beach. Go to nassaucounty-councilonaging.org to register and find out more. For questions call 261-0701.

Here's a sneak peek of the classes being offered: **Wellness, Health & Fitness** - Beginning Guitar, A Matter of Balance - Managing Concerns About Falls, Tai Chi for Arthritis, Gentle Yoga, Mindful Meditation; **Music & Dancing** - Beginning Guitar, Line Dancing, Beginning Belly Dancing, Happy Tappy Tap Dancing; **Arts & Crafts** - Continental Knitting, Intro to Needlepoint, Jewelry Basics for Beginners, Handcrafted Greeting Cards; **Technology** - Making Social Media Work for You - Getting Started/ Kick it Up a Notch!/ Keeping Your Social Media Current & Safe/ Promoting Your Business, Clubs & Events, How to Use an iPhone and/ or iPad, Simplified Basic Excel; **Community, Security & Safety** - Heeeeere's Johnny! Chat with the Mayor, Protect Yourself in this Ever-Changing World, Protect Your Money \$\$\$, Options to Maximize Senior Living, AARP Driver Improvement.

You can also join NCCOA to learn and save at the same time. Discount memberships are available until Dec. 31. Contact Melody Dawkins, at mdawkins@nassaucountycoo.org or 261-0701, ext. 117.

The newest exhibition at the Cummer Museum of

Art & Gardens - "Urban Spaces, Open Skies: 20th-Century American Landscape" - will be on view through Feb. 3, 2019.

This presentation will feature more than 30 prints celebrating modern cities and the timeless charms of the country. Visitors can admire how artists have aptly captured the changing landscape of burgeoning cities like Chicago and New York, with its iconic Brooklyn Bridge, busy streets, workers, and harbors. In contrast to such images, the stillness and serenity of the countryside - with its wide open spaces, fields, and lakes - offer a welcome respite from the often chaotic urban life.

Kings Bay RC Modelers, established in 1989, is located at the intersection of Clark's Bluff Road and Oakwell Road in Kingsland, Ga. We are a small club with excellent facilities, consisting of friendly people passionate about our hobby. We welcome pilots of all levels.

To learn more please visit bit.ly/2xDeFBd.

Bingo is played every Thursday at American Legion Post 54, 626 S. Third St. The public is invited to play. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and early bird games begin at 6:05 p.m. Regular session, nine games for \$20, begins at 6:30 p.m. Cash prizes, and proceeds are donated to help veterans and the community. You must be 18 to be in the hall during play. Call 261-7900.

Lions Club bingo, every Thursday and Sunday, Yulee Lions Club Bingo Hall. Doors open at 4 p.m., warm-ups at 5:15 p.m. Early birds play at 5:45 p.m. with the regular program at 6:30 p.m. Participants must be 18 years old; minimum purchase \$15. Information, 708-2591.

ACBL Duplicate Bridge, 1901 Island Walkway, Fernandina Beach. Amelia Island Duplicate Bridge Club hosts the only sanctioned ACBL duplicate bridge games on the island. Monday, 1 p.m.; Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.; Thursday, 1 p.m. For information, contact fredstokes50@gmail.com or (770) 616-7664.

Living With Loss is a support group organized by the Nassau Alcohol Crime Drug Abatement Coalition for anyone who has lost a loved one and needs a safe place for comfort and support. Meetings

are Mondays from 4-5 p.m. at the Peck Center, 516 S. 10th St., Fernandina Beach. Cost is \$10 per meeting.

Call 277-3699 or email supportgroups@nacdac.com for information.

Dust off your drumsticks, oil your valves or wet your reed to join the Nassau Community Band! The ensemble meets weekly at 6 p.m. Thursdays in the Yulee Middle School band room, 85439 Miner Road.

For more information, visit www.nassaucommunityband.com.

Located at Barnabas Center, 1303 Jasmine St., Fernandina Beach, Gerri's Corner is a nonprofit resource center for women with cancer, answers questions in a confidential setting, provides support group information and more. For an appointment, call 261-7000.

Guests on the Ghost Tour will learn Amelia Island ghost stories while they tiptoe through dark streets and walk in the footsteps of a bygone era as the past comes alive through the storytelling of your guide. This tour begins at 6 p.m. every Friday. Meet your guide in the cemetery behind St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 801 Atlantic Ave. Tickets may be purchased at the Amelia Island Museum of History for \$10/adults and \$5/students, or before the tour with check or cash only.

Living in Recovery is a support group organized by the Nassau Alcohol Crime Drug Abatement Coalition for anyone who recovering from any type of addiction. The goal of this group is to harbor a safe, confidential environment where one can gain support and skills to be successful in recovery.

Meetings are Tuesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Peck Center, 516 S. 10th St., Fernandina Beach. Cost is \$10 per meeting. Call 277-3699 or email supportgroups@nacdac.com for information.

Overeaters Anonymous meets in the parlor at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 801 Atlantic Ave., Fernandina Beach, at 1 p.m. Thursdays. Contact Ilona at 261-9361.

Submit event announcements/briefs to Calendar Listing c/o News-Leader, 511 Ash St., Fernandina Beach, FL 32034; editor2@fbnews-leader.com; or 261-3696.

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Wednesday, November 21 Solution

DON'T LITTER SPAY ~ NEUTER

A Public Service Announcement by The News-Leader

Around SCHOOL

Drama teacher rebuilding program in Fernandina schools

JULIA ROBERTS
News-Leader

On a semi-darkened stage in an empty auditorium save for students working the lights, Matthew Eldridge-Bratsch coaches a Fernandina Beach High School student, explaining the motivation of her character when she sings a song from the musical *Ragtime*.

He asks the student what her plans are, and relates those post-high school goals to how her character feels, giving the student the reason to bring passion to her performance. The results of the time spent are obvious when she sings, with feeling behind every note.



JULIA ROBERTS/NEWS-LEADER

Matthew Eldridge-Bratsch works with Fernandina Beach High School senior Maya Shay to help her channel her emotions for a performance of "Back to Before" from the musical Ragtime. She performed the song Nov. 17 in the solo musical category of the International Thespian Competition in St. Augustine. Eldridge designed the logo, left, for the Fernandina Players, which he is branding the performing arts programs at both the middle and high schools.

by decades, from the 1920s to the 2000s.

She was also a member of Madrigals, a group that performed in full costume at Renaissance festivals.

"Fernandina Beach High was an amazing school," she said. "They have so many outlets for students – sports, arts, drama and music. It certainly helped me find my passion," Staples said.

Charles Haney was a member from 1966 until 1970, acting as its treasurer in his junior and senior years. He said he sang and acted at FBHS, performing in *Arsenic and Old Lace* and in *Julius Caesar*, directed by Bill Mason. He continued performing after high school, appearing in plays in college and with local theater groups.

"I really enjoyed it," he said. "It absolutely helped me with confidence and speaking ability."

Marjorie Mason's husband, Bill, headed the Thespian Society at FBHS. Although Bill has passed away, the *News-Leader* spoke to Marjorie, who said she couldn't remember what years she and her husband were involved in theater at the high school, but that the couple moved to Fernandina Beach in the 1970s.



The Fernandina Beach High School Thespian Society appears in the school's 1955 and 1956 yearbooks.



She said her husband taught at the high school while she was at the middle school, but eventually they both taught at the high school and produced several plays together.

"We did almost every musical you can think of," Marjorie said. "We did *Oklahoma* and several others. We also did the *Diary of Anne Frank*. It was a wonderful time. It was a great thing to have in a little town."

Bratsch said he contacted the ITS, whose records before 2000 have not been digitized. The records for the FBHS chapter will have to be located in the group's archives; Bratsch is awaiting those records.

Twenty-four students from Fernandina Beach middle and high schools participated Saturday, Nov. 17, in an ITS district competition in St. Augustine, and several received Superior rankings and qualified for the state festival in March in Tampa. They are:

- Kallie Johns and Korey Kristensen for Duet Musical Theater;
- Tom Gray and A. J. West for Duet Musical Theater;
- Harley Chestnut and Morgan Bengie for Duet Acting; and
- Karina Jimenez for Solo Monologue (with a score of a 29.66 out of 30).

The students competed in solo musical theater, duet musical theater, monologue, duo acting, small group musical theater, large group musical theater and playwriting.

Going to competition costs money – hundreds of dollars for room and board and transportation expenses. The Pirate Players, as Bratsch has branded his students, staged a talent show to raise money for the St. Augustine competition and will work on fundraising efforts to send those

who advanced to Tampa.

However, students don't just work on fundraising. They are, along with their teacher, working to build the program.

"My students all work on a committee," he explained. "We have committees for social media, fundraising, parent volunteers, advertisement and partnering with local businesses."

Bratsch, who is originally from New Jersey, said he came to Fernandina Beach two years ago after working in AmeriCorps and a year in Jacksonville. When he landed in Nassau County, he quickly learned that students wanting to pursue an education in performing arts after leaving Fernandina Beach Middle School had to go to other high schools, such as Douglas Anderson School of the Arts in Jacksonville, since the high school offers no program.

He splits his time between the middle and high schools. Some of his students from last year at the middle school are his students this year at FBHS, the beginning of what he hopes will be a "feeder school" situation between the two schools. Bratsch uses the auditorium at the middle school, and students rehearse and practice at the middle school before classes start at the high school.

In addition to hours spent both before and after school with students, Bratsch works as a tenor section leader at the Amelia Plantation Chapel and gives voice lessons. But, his dedica-

THE SPIANS Continued on 6B

SCHOOL PICTURES



SUBMITTED

FBHS band students going to Tri-State

Fernandina Beach High School band students John Brown (saxophone), Allison Cornelius (flute) and Victoria Maltagliati (clarinet) have been chosen to attend the Florida State University Tri-State Band Festival at the end of November. This annual event is designed to provide rewarding musical experiences for high school juniors and seniors by engaging them in an intensive schedule of rehearsals, master classes, professional clinics, and concerts. The festival features national and internationally renowned guest conductors and FSU music faculty.



SUBMITTED

FBHS recognizes students

Fernandina Beach High School recently recognized several teens as October's Students of the Month for displaying "exemplary citizenship, leadership, and satisfactory academic progress." Pictured from left to right with Principal Dr. John Mazzella, back, are sophomore Jacob White, junior Penny Carr, freshman Ella Eliason, and senior Katie Slaughter.

Dining Out at your favorite local spots

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MONDAY Savanna & Vagabonds
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Mark Oquin 6-10

WEDNESDAY Pili Pili Reggae
Night 6-10PM

THURSDAY Italian Night 5-9PM
Tad Jennings 6-10PM

FRIDAY Live Music 1-10PM
Prime Rib Night

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COMMUNITY

ANNIVERSARY



68th Wedding Anniversary

Herman and Lavada Aldridge of Yulee, Fla. celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary this month. The couple was married Nov. 18, 1950 in Folkston, Ga. They have five children – Yvonne and Ray Draper, Sheila and Frank Miller, Sherry and Charles Meadows, Faith Sayers, and Keith Aldridge – as well as five grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Take a pause, make a choice

Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry, for anger resteth in the bosom of fools. In all things, give thanks. Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, press down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete with all, it shall be measured to you again. When the Lord said that men would give into your bosom, anger was not one of the things He was talking about people giving you in return for your giving.



NOW AND THEN

Maybelle Kirkland

Refuse to act stupidly and allow it to cause us grief or pain. This way, we stay in control of our lives.

Therefore, instead, choose to keep our bosom open to the kind of return

that Jesus had in mind for His followers. Protecting our bosom is our responsibility. Promises for godly provision are God's job. He can't let His blessings into our bosom if we have allowed anger to occupy the space. We thank God that He has not given us a spirit of stupidity. Therefore, we elect to keep anger out of our bosom.

Birthday wishes to Derika Benson, Lillie Ford, Zanovia Johnson, Laura Jones, Aja Evans, Neisha Smith, Oscar Jones, Ernest White, Lawrence Albertie, Brandon Jones, Wayne Albertie, and mother Maggie Wingard.

Markets celebrating Small Business Saturday

JUDIE MACKIE
For the News-Leader

Thanksgiving is over so let the holiday shopping begin! Saturday is Small Business Saturday and what better way to show your support for local business than to shop the booths at the farmers market, the arts market, and the quaint shops of historic Fernandina Beach? Mom and Pop shops, small farmers, and local artists struggle for sales against big box stores, online shopping outlets, and large grocery chains. In 2010, American Express stepped up the effort to support these local businesses that build strong communities. This promotion is always held the Saturday after Thanksgiving, and we encourage you to do more to shop small for the holidays.

The farmers market will have over 40 booths of seasonal produce, freshly baked breads, savory and sweet canned goods, coffee, tea, and plenty of sweet treats. You will find honey, dips, and dog treats. There will be Alaskan salmon, local shrimp, fresh beef, and scallops. For mind, body and spirit, sample the lotions, candles, and ointments, and if you are tired of cooking, you will find tasty prepared meals from Catering by Liz and Oizeo's Asian tapas. Maybe you want to spruce up your patios, porches and landscaping? Then be sure to check out the plants from Seven Trees



JUDIE MACKIE/FOR THE NEWS-LEADER
Bite Sized Confections will be at this week's farmers market, which will be celebrating Small Business Saturday.

Nursery and Ever Blooming Gardens. These long time vendors have succulents, blooming baskets, unique species, and conversation starters that are perfect for your home or to give as a gift.

This Saturday our spotlights will be on Joy of Garlic and their garlic spreads, pasta sauces, Mediterranean specialties, salad dressings and olive oils. These vegan delights are gluten-free and have no cholesterol, dairy or sugar. They are also made with no preservatives and are low

sodium and low in carbohydrates. From Waycross, Ga., we have Ganas Pecans. They bring roasted and salted pecans and gourmet pecan halves like pralines and glazed pecans. In addition to boiled peanuts, they have pecan brittle and pecan oil. You can also get a bag of cracked and blown pecans for cooking or snacking, and their milk and dark chocolate-covered pecans are absolutely delicious. Vicky and EPIC ice cream will be back this Saturday, too, with not just her fabulous ice cream cups and sandwiches, but she will also have cranberry and pumpkin macaroons.

What better way to walk off those extra Thanksgiving calories than to shop in the outdoors with family and friends while browsing the amazing array of unique products you will see at the Fernandina Beach Arts Market. With 30 booths of handmade arts and crafts, there is fine and whimsical jewelry, woodworking, paintings, handbags, apparel, stained glass, and so much more. There is something for everyone on your list. Shop small and show your support for local businesses.

This week's musician will be Alain Lelait, and our Booth With a Cause will be Community Hospice. Located on North Seventh Street, both markets are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday through the end of the year, rain or shine. Well-behaved, leashed pets are welcome.

Frenette opines on local sports teams

R. M. WEINTRAUB
Special to the News-Leader

"In 23 years, I've never seen a team fall off the cliff as fast as the Jaguars have," Gene Frenette, sports columnist at the *Florida Times-Union*, told the Men's Newcomers Club at its luncheon last week. Frenette gave a review of the Jacksonville professional football team as well as his observations on other sports he has covered for the newspaper since 1981.

"Bortles needs a lot of support around him which he doesn't have," Frenette said, referring to Jaguars quarterback Blake Bortles.

Frenette also called for an expansion of the NCAA college football championship playoffs from four teams to eight with one of the eight playoff spots reserved for a team not in one of the Power Five conferences. This would give a team such as Central Florida, which is undefeated this year and has 23 straight victories, an opportunity to compete for the national championship, Frenette said.

The Men's Newcomers Club, in its 22nd year, helps newcomers to the Amelia Island area become acclimated to the community and make new friends. Many members have stayed on to enjoy the benefits the club offers and to provide guidance to newcomers. More information can be found online at mensnewcomersclub.org.

The club's next luncheon will be Wednesday, Dec. 12, and will feature a presentation by Amelia Research & Recovery, a local company involved with commercial salvage of shipwrecks.



Gene Frenette, a sports columnist, made a presentation at the November luncheon of the Men's Newcomers Club.

Local officials break ground on Bailey-Simmons trail

The Nassau County Board of County Commissioners hosted a groundbreaking ceremony earlier this month to kick off the upcoming construction of the new Bailey-Simmons multi-use trail, a planned 10-foot wide, 1.8-mile path that will be the eastern half of the Amelia River-to-Sea Trail, according to a news release.

The trail will provide residents and visitors with an east-west recreational pedestrian and cycling path from Beach Access 30 to the Fernandina Beach athletic complex at Bailey Road. From there, it will extend west along a public multi-use trail constructed by Crane Island Development.

The county is building the trail with funding from the Florida Department of Transportation and the Local Agency Program. The Bailey-Simmons multi-use trail project is the result of successful collaborative efforts by Nassau County, the city of Fernandina Beach, the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization, FDOT, Crane Island Development, Friends of the Amelia Island Trail, and supportive local citizens.



Left to right, Nassau County Planning and Economic Opportunity Director Taco Pope, County commissioners Joshua Taylor and Danny Leeper, Amelia Island Trails President Mike Pikuli, Nassau Public Works Engineer Robert Companion, Becky Bray, county commissioner-elect Aaron Bell, IIsman and Russon Consultants CIO Cody Granger, Amy Roberson with the Florida Department of Transportation and Amelia Island Trails CEO Phil Scanlan attended the groundbreaking for the Bailey-Simmons multi-use trail earlier this month.

JULIA ROBERTS/NEWS-LEADER

DUCK!

It seems obvious enough, yet we need to be told over and over when to duck the spiritual head bumps. Maybe our eyes are closed, maybe we don't read the signs, or maybe we just ignore them.

God cautions, but the choice is ultimately ours. Remember, the consequence will also ours. Watch for the warning signs.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday
Judges	Judges	Judges	Judges	Judges	Judges	Judges
2:1-5	2:6-10	2:11-14	2:15-18	2:19-23	3:1-4	3:5-11



Weekly Bible Trivia
After Joshua's death, God raised up special men to lead His people. What were they called?
(answer found in this week's scripture reading)



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RELIGION

Amelia Baptist celebrates 22nd edition of An Evening in December

The 22nd edition of An Evening in December will be presented Friday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. and twice on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 4 and 7 p.m. at Amelia Baptist Church, according to a news release. The community is invited to this annual celebration of the Christmas story, presented each year in a blend of choral music and drama.

"A third presentation on Sunday afternoon, December 9th, at 4 p.m. has been included again this year because of the popularity of this program and to allow those who would be best served by a matinee to attend," said Pam Helton, minister of music at Amelia Baptist Church.

Helton has assembled a community choir of nearly 100 singers, including vocalists from numerous area churches.

Accompanying the choir this year will be instrumentalists from the Northeast Florida region, including the Jacksonville Symphony, the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, and the University of North Florida.

The theme of this year's presentation is "Let There Be Light." Complementing the music will be an original drama developed by Drama Director Peggy Strickland. According to Strickland, "This drama requires two stages to depict the traditional story of the shepherds seeing the Light of Christ for the first time and how that message resonates in modern times." The drama is combined with musical selections from several genres including traditional carols in new settings, recent compositions, and



SUBMITTED

The 22nd edition of Amelia Baptist Church's An Evening in December will have three presentations this year.

Celtic style music. There will also be opportunities for the audience to sing cherished tunes.

Each year Amelia Baptist Church offers an evening of music and drama as a gift to the community. For the past 21 years, An

Evening in December has grown in popularity as the message has been presented in various creative ways including a dessert dinner theater, a Christmas variety show with audience participation, and a formal Messiah concert.

No admission is charged. People are encouraged to carpool and arrive early for best seating. Parking attendants and ushers will provide guidance and assistance. Childcare through age four is available with reservations. To

inquire about childcare, call the church office at 261-9527.

The church is at 961167 Buccaneer Trail.

For more information, contact Helton at 261-9527 or Allen Lennon at 261-8799.

With today's leftovers, let's taste and see that the Lord is good

Yesterday, most of us talked about the things we're grateful for. Some families took turns going around the table, each one telling family and friends about the people, places, or experiences they've valued most.

We should do it more often, even daily. As we do, we might also think more broadly — about how God made your world and how he made us to live full, fun, and satisfying lives in it. Such thoughts would magnify our sense of wonder, arouse a keener sense of purpose, and make us more grateful.

Look at Genesis 2:15-17: "The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, 'You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.'"

Now think about how extravagantly God cares for our physical needs. "Every tree of the garden" — with one temporary exception — was made for us. What must that have been like for Adam — witnessing for the first time the splendor of the world — seeing, touching, tasting, and smelling the oranges, apples, and lemons; blueberries and strawberries; peaches, plums, and pears?

Try to imagine God resting a hand on Adam's shoulder as he gave him the grand tour of the world's first garden. "Wait until you bite into the fruit of that orange," he might have said. "I can't wait to see the look on your face when you taste that fig. And in the years to come, be sure to sample all of them; I've made 700 varieties of fig trees. You see that



PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

Richard Doster

red thing? That's an apple. It doesn't taste anything like a fig, but you're going to love it. And Adam, there are more than 7,500 varieties. I want you to cultivate and enjoy all of them. Over

there, those are peaches. In the next hundred years or so, you'll discover more than 2,000 variations. And one day, your descendants (I'll explain that later) will figure out how turn them into pancakes, pies, and cobbler. Those greenish-yellow things? Bananas. In time you're going to come across 1,600 types. Can you believe it?"

"All this is for you," God might have said, "and I expect you to come up with new recipes and figure out how to make jams, juices, and puddings. I expect you to eat, smell, touch, and enjoy every bit of what I've made. I created it for you and created you for it."

We see it each Thanksgiving, how our mothers and grandmothers have discovered new ways to share God's extravagant goodness with our gathered families.

Theologian Joe Rigney takes this further, making the point that "the creation of food, tongues, and the human digestive system is the product of infinite wisdom knitting the world together in a harmonious whole." The glory of God, he explains, is communicated in a million diverse ways, including biscuits slathered in melted butter, sweet potato casseroles, and pecan pies

topped with whipped cream.

But all this, as good and gracious as it is, points to even more. These tastes and sensations — our physical hunger and thirst — have a spiritual flipside. Consider, for example, that because we've all run, played tennis, and worked in the yard, we know what it means to be thirsty. And because we have (thank God, rarely) missed a meal, we know the mild ache of a hunger pang.

We can see then how, by God's design and purpose, those physical sensations allow us to grasp Jesus' great promise: "Whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst" (John 6:35).

We can understand that it is by God's wisdom and according to his grand scheme for us and the world that, because we've savored the sweetness of pecan pie, we can also, "Taste and see that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8).

Our physical needs provide spiritual insight. Without those 750 kinds of figs and 7,500 varieties of apples — and the fact that they're beautiful, delicious, and satisfying — we'd be fumbling for language and metaphors to help us grasp this invisible but very real realm of human life.

God created us to be hungry and thirsty so that we might see how abundantly He satisfies every need. So, today and through the weekend, with Thanksgiving leftovers, let's taste and see how good He really is.

Richard Doster lives in Fernandina Beach with his wife Sally. He's the editor of Faith, the magazine of the Presbyterian Church in America, and attends Grace Community Church in Yulee. Reach him at ddoster@icloud.com.

RELIGION NOTES

Hope House worship

The King is Coming! The King is Coming! Join us at noon Tuesday, Nov. 27, as we worship Him, and anticipate and prepare for his arrival this Christmas season. The Salvation Army Hope House is located at 410 S. Ninth St., Fernandina Beach.

Advent Bible Study

Yulee United Methodist Church, located at 86003 Christian Way in Yulee, will begin a four-week Advent Bible Study. The study will be based on bestselling author and minister Carol Howard Merritt's book, *I Am Mary*. Participants can choose from the following sessions:

- Thursdays at 9:30 a.m., Nov. 29 to Dec. 20;
- Thursdays at 6:30 p.m., Nov. 29 to Dec. 20;
- Sundays at 9:30 a.m., Dec. 2 to Dec. 23.

For more information, call 225-5381.

Gathering of Women

All women of the community are invited to attend the seventh annual Gathering of Women at First Presbyterian Church, located at 9 N Sixth St. in downtown Fernandina Beach. The Advent service will begin at 7 p.m. Dec. 4. Julie Jensen, associate pastor at First Presbyterian Church, will lead the worship service of candles, carols and communion.

Christmas church services

Yulee United Methodist Church, located at 86003 Christian Way in Yulee, has announced the

following services to celebrate Christmas:

- Christmas Cantata, Dec. 16th at 11 a.m.
- Christmas Eve candlelight service, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m.

Hope House needs

Giving thanks to each of you who ensure week after week that the Salvation Army Hope Houses' Emergency Food Pantry and Free Clothes Closet never run completely dry! This week, we are in need of the following.

- Personal hygiene: toilet paper, paper towels, toothbrushes, deodorant, shaving cream and razors, shampoo (especially travel size) and bath soap, laundry detergent, diapers sizes 3, 4 and 5 and feminine products.
- Food: boxed prepared meals, canned fruit, jelly and pasta sauce.

Please bring your donations to 410 S. Ninth St. at the corner of South Ninth and Date streets between 10 a.m. and noon or 1 and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Hopoe House will be closed Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Franklinton meal

Franklinton Community Church of Amelia Island Bible Study has changed to 2 p.m. every Wednesday. A meal will be served every second Wednesday of the month in its Gabriel Means Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

The Church is located at 1415 Lewis St. in American Beach. For more information, call 277-2726 or 261-5354.

NO ROOM AT THE INN



FILE PHOTO

Once again the United Methodist Women will be displaying hundreds of Nativity scenes from around the world Friday, Nov. 30, and Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Memorial United Methodist Church at 601 Centre St. in Fernandina Beach. This is a free event but a donation box will be available for anyone who would like to contribute to Gracie's Kitchen, a part of the Interfaith Dinner Network in Yulee.

Worship this week

at the place of your choice...

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Pastor Bill Yeldell

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6:00PM 2nd Sunday
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2019 'Farmer's Almanac' fun, but short on details

PAMELA BUSHNELL
News-Leader

The latest edition of *The Old Farmer's Almanac* predicts Floridians will experience thunderstorms followed by sunny, cool weather on Thanksgiving. For Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, Floridians can expect scattered showers. As for the rest of the Florida winter, the forecast is for unusually warm, dry and sunny conditions. The publication claims an 80-percent accuracy rate based on a secret weather prediction formula devised by the almanac's founder in 1792.

Plan on dieting to lose weight as your New Year's resolution—again? The almanac's zodiac chart recommends you will be more likely to succeed if you start your diet Jan. 24. If you are looking at a June wedding in 2019, the chart recommends you consider the lucky dates June 11 or 12. And here's a warning: avoid signing contracts during March, July or November of the coming year because Mercury will be in retrograde, a phenomenon pur-

ported to cause plans to go awry. If you want to know what a planet in retrograde means, the almanac offers a brief explanation and a history of astrology.

According to the publication's website, "An almanac, by definition, records and predicts astronomical events (the rising and setting of the sun, for instance), tides, weather and other phenomena with respect to time."

The Old Farmer's Almanac includes both astronomical and astrological charts. According to Webster's dictionary, astronomy is the science of the celestial bodies while astrology is the "divination of the supposed influences of the stars and planets on human affairs."

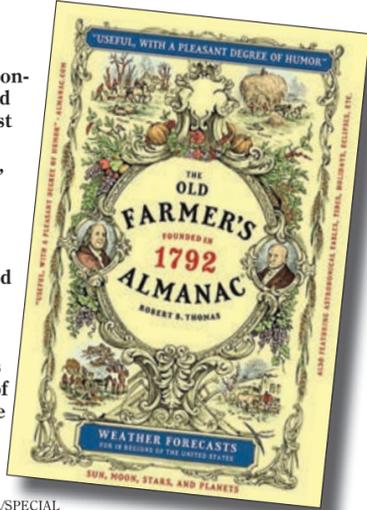
Generations of farmers have used the almanac to plant and harvest crops and to breed and wean livestock by the phases of the moon. Fishermen consult it for the optimum conditions to catch fish. Backyard astronomers use it to schedule gazing at stars, planets, meteor showers and other celestial events. Backyard gardeners use it for growing tips.

Its other purpose is entertainment. "I love it! It's great fun," said Rebecca Jordi, Nassau County Extension director and horticulture agent. A subtitle on the almanac's cover indicates the book is designed to be "useful with a pleasant degree of humor." Beyond weather, astrology, fishing and tide charts, there are short humor pieces. There also are recipes and profiles of small farms as well as articles on subjects ranging from mockingbirds and edible flowers to wildlife artists and test pilots.

Jordi, who has a master's degree in biology and is working on a doctorate in extension education, has been with the county extension office for 17 years. She is also a professor on the faculty of the University of Florida. She finds articles in the almanac useful in providing general gardening tips on topics such as composting and crop rotation but notes that scientific advances mean much more information is now available for local gardeners specific to growing regions.

"We have a couple of mas-

The Old Farmer's Almanac is North America's oldest continuously published periodical. The first issue, created by Robert B. Thomas, came out in 1792 during George Washington's first term as president, and it has appeared every year since. The four-season drawing by artist Henry Nichols has graced the cover of every edition since 1851.



YANKEE PUBLISHING, INC./SPECIAL

ter gardeners who swear by (the almanac)," acknowledged Jordi. "Older farmers used it. Personally, I don't go by phases of the moon for planting. ... It doesn't matter what phase of the moon it is here in July. Nothing is going to do well in our heat," observed Jordi. "We have a publication from the University of Florida called the Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide which I use. We plant by the season and by the month, not the cycle of the moon here."

According to Jordi, fall gardeners in Northeast Florida are typically planting cool season plants or crucifers in August, September and October. The crucifer family includes broccoli, cabbage, kale, collards, brussels sprouts and cauliflower. Every August, Jordi conducts a workshop for fall gardeners.

The university publication includes information about hybrid plants that do better in Florida and trends in gardening like sterilizing soil for nematodes and planting wildflowers around the perimeter to draw pollinators to the garden and lure undesirable insects away. Contact Jordi at 530-6351 to pick up a copy or to receive the entire publication by email.

Weather and tide charts in

the almanac describe conditions in the Boston area as they relate to Eastern Standard Time because that is where the publication originated. However, the almanac now offers calculations for other regions of the country and time zones. For example, there is a page devoted to Florida weather. The almanac states its secret weather formula is based on a combination of solar science, the study of sunspots; climatology, the study of weather patterns; and meteorology, the study of the atmosphere. Forecasts focus on temperature and precipitation deviations from averages. Predictions have a greater likelihood of accuracy when made across regions or seasons rather than as daily or even weekly forecasts for specific locations.

About those weather predictions for Thanksgiving and Christmas days, it's the almanac's forecast for the whole Florida, Georgia and South Carolina region. According to meteorologist Nate McGinnis at the National Weather Service in Jacksonville, you might not want to make your holiday plans accordingly. "The almanac can't tell you if it's going to rain on your wedding day three weeks from now," said McGinnis. However, their prediction for the winter

season is likely to be more accurate. McGinnis once analyzed *The Old Farmer's Almanac* predictions over a one-year period and found that claims of 80-percent accuracy were "relative" given their broad range of predictions.

As a meteorologist, McGinnis focuses on eight-day forecasts of local weather. He uses data from satellites, radar and surface observations to feed into computers for forecasts. "I observe first and forecast second." His mission with the National Weather Service is to save lives and property in severe weather events. His office bases information primarily on global circulations as opposed to the almanac's reliance on weather patterns.

Seasonal forecasting is left to the National Weather Services' Climate Prediction Center established in 1980 and best known for its U.S. weather forecasts based on El Niño and La Niña conditions in the Pacific Ocean. The CPC gives probabilities of temperature and precipitation one to 13 months into the future. Of note, climatology dates back nearly as far as *The Old Farmer's Almanac* in that Thomas Jefferson, third president of the United States, was among the first to study climate. Forecasts by the CPC are available at cpc.noaa.gov.

McGinnis concluded, "Some people live by *The Old Farmer's Almanac*. Everybody can be their own meteorologist by deciding what products (methods) they want to use. Since the almanac's formula is secret, it's hard to make comparisons."

Copies of the almanac come out in September every year. They are available at book, hardware, grocery and discount department stores. Copies can be ordered through Amazon or Almanac.com. *The Old Farmer's Almanac* is now online as well with a digital monthly magazine called *Xtra* available to download on phones and other electronic devices. The hardback edition is annual. The publication also offers calendars, a cookbook and other items on their website.

pbushnell@bnewsleader.com

NAMI Nassau County, FL

(National Alliance on Mental Illness)

Annual Shoe Drive

On December 8th, 2018 NAMI Nassau will be hosting the annual Christmas shoe party for 120 residents of our county with chronic mental illness. In addition to providing a pair of athletic shoes, we also provide socks, undergarments and basic toiletries.

In order to assist with the costs we are urging members of the community to help with the cost of the shoes. Please complete this form if you are willing to fund a pair of shoe(s) for residents in our community that have been diagnosed with a severe mental illness.

- I would like to fund the cost of one pair of shoes for \$20.
- I would like to fund the cost of three pairs of shoes for \$60.
- I would like to fund the cost of five pairs of shoes for \$100.
- I would like to fund the cost of seven pairs of shoes for \$140.
- I would like to fund the cost of ten pair of shoes for \$200.
- I would like to donate another amount.

Please mail your donations to:
NAMI Nassau County, FL, PO Box 16712,
Fernandina Beach, Florida 32035.

For more information please write us at the address listed above or email NassauNAMIFlorida@gmail.com. You may also call for more information at (904) 277-1886. We would also appreciate donations of toiletries for the pantry.

PSA



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f: joytothechildrennassau
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- New books
- Sheets, a blanket and a pillow

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JoytotheChildren.org



BUTLER

Continued from 1B
country's civil war. Cobb next appears in *The Star of Istanbul*, a classic tale of adventure, romance and war involving the German U-boat attack on the Lusitania. The latest escapade for Kit Cobb is *Paris in the Dark*, as he investigates a series of seemingly random

bombings in the fall of 1915.

Recipient of the 2013 F. Scott Fitzgerald Award for Outstanding Achievement in American Literature, Butler currently holds the Michael Shaara Chair in Creative Writing at Florida State University.

During Saturday's appearance, he will reflect on his writ-

ing career, talk about creative writing, and tell more about Kit Cobb's adventures at 5 p.m. at Story & Song, located at the South 14th Street entrance to Amelia Park at 1430 Park Ave. There is no cost to attend, but reservations are necessary as seating will be limited. To RSVP or for more information, call 601-2118.

ACT

Continued from 1B
its own surprise, which adds a layer of farce when events go awry after a séance.

Performances will be at 8 p.m. Nov. 29-30, Dec. 1, Dec. 6-8, and Dec. 13-15 and at 2 p.m. Dec. 9 at 207 Cedar St. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$10 for students through college and are available at AmeliaCommunityTheatre.

org and 261-6749. Box office hours are 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, and 90 minutes before curtain on show dates. The five-play season ticket is also still available for \$100.

Amelia Community Theatre will be collecting canned goods and other non-perishables for the Barnabas Center food pantry during the run of this play, and audience guests are invited

to drop off food on show dates or during box office hours.

The Game's Afoot or Holmes for the Holidays, presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc., is rated PG-13 for mild language and some adult situations. It was the winner of the 2012 Edgar Award for Best Play from the Mystery Writers of America. The show is sponsored by dtw, Research, Inc.

THE SPIANS

Continued from 3B

tion to the program he is building at the schools appears to be what drives him. At the recent

talent show, he went so far as to pull money from his own bank account in order to have opening cash for the box office. He is diligent in maintaining financial records for both the high school

and middle school programs.

Expenses for the program can be formidable. The rights to produce *Seussical*, a musical based on the stories of Dr. Seuss, cost the middle school program \$4,000. The play will be performed Feb. 14-17, with revenue from ticket sales going first to pay back the middle school program, and to finance expenses such as sets and lights and other program expenses. He said the funds raised by performances and fundraising efforts are necessary.

Students in the sixth through 12th grades will perform the play, with live music provided by the FBHS band. With four performances, Bratsch says there will be 1,600 seats, and he feels confident all those performances will be sold out.

Tickets for *Seussical* can be purchased at fbpirates.booktix.com, but in addition to purchasing tickets or contributing financially to the program, people can support by building sets, working on costumes or manning the box office.

"I hate that we need money," Bratsch said. "But, we need to build a program that will help us compete and keep talented students in the county. We are losing not only talent but energy and the idealism in the arts to schools in Duval County."

"We have had kids who had drama in FBMS who then left to go to Douglas Anderson," he said. "That's a 15-hour commute. We need them to stay here in Nassau County."

jroberts@bnewsleader.com

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IF YOU HAVE LOST Your Pet - please check the Nassau Humane Society facility located at 639 Airport Rd. next to the airport (904)321-1647 and the Nassau County Animal Shelter, 86078 License Rd. in Yulee next to the drivers license building (904)491-7440.

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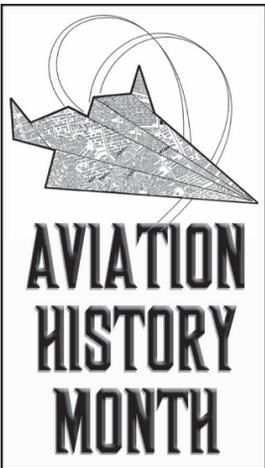
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MERCHANDISE

Garage Sales

ESTATE SALE - Fri. 11/23, Sat. 11/24 & Sun. 11, 9am-3pm.. Furniture, household items, tools, clothing, and more. 2132 Inverness Rd.

GARAGE SALE- fishing kayak, tandem kayak, antiques, kitchen, dining, living, bedroom, custom bar, tools, nail guns, building materials, collectibles, lawn & garden, piano, 300gallon tank 11/23-11/24 9am-2pm 96225 Piney Island Dr.

MOVING, HUGE SALE - Sat. 11/24. Everything goes. Men - lots of tools, file cabinets and garden stuff. Too much to list. Come shop here and save money. 1860 Neighbor St., 8am-2pm. Take Hometown Rd off Citrona & follow signs.

YARD SALE - bicycles, barstools, china, canoe, framed pictures, handmade afghans, stereo, toy box, electric scooter, girls clothing, lots of misc. 11/24, 8am-1pm 1507 Broome St.

Articles For Sale

FOR SALE - 1996 Jeep Wrangler 4 inch lift \$5,000. 20 ft Hysport new trailer \$4,000. '68 VW new motor & parts \$3500. All run excellent. (904)557-8361.

Miscellaneous

FOR SALE - 2 plots at Green Pine Cemetery, Green Pine Rd., Yulee, FL. Will sell both for \$2500. Call Jerry 904-753-0800.

SAWMILLS - from only \$4397. MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill. Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. Free info/DVD: www.Norwood-Sawmills.com. 1-800-567-0404 ext 300N ANF

RENTALS

Apartments

APT FOR RENT - 2nd floor, Ash and 3rd. (704)904-2244

Apartments

1BR FURNISHED GARAGE APT. - with private entrance. Includes electric, water, sewer, garbage, cable. No smoking. \$900/mo. Internet and cable available for additional charge. 904-463-2770

FB - Spacious 2BR apt. near Centre St. Eat-in kitchen, full bath, porch. Immediate occupancy. \$930/mo. + electric. Call (516)983-8670

Condominiums

1BR/1BA CONDO - Upstairs corner unit, unfurnished. Pets considered. 1st & last month + security deposit required. \$1100/mo. Call (904)557-5577.

OCEANFRONT DUPLEX - 2BR/2BA downstairs, \$2200/mo. 2BR/2BA upstairs, \$2500. Both are furnished. AMELIA RENTALS (904)261-9129.

Homes

SUMMER BEACH GOLF SIDE HOME - 4BR/3BA, 2300 sq. ft. \$2500/mo. AMELIA RENTALS (904)261-9129.

VISIT www.chaplinwilliamsrentals.com for the most recent information on Long Term Rentals. Updated Daily. Chaplin Williams Rentals, The Area's Premier Rental Company

Mobile Homes

STATIONARY RV'S - for rent weekly or monthly. Call (904)225-5577.

YULEE - spacious dw home 3br/2ba \$1050. Nice 3BR SW, \$795 rent, water included + \$700 deposit. Also, MH lot available. Call (904)501-5999.

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86523 North Hampton Club Way
\$429,000



North Hampton 86523 No. Hampton Club Way, 5/4. 3,018 sf, Golf Course community. Plantation shutters, fire-place and 3rd car garage. **\$429,000 MLS# 81081**

5010 Summer Beach Blvd.
\$510,000



Sailmaker Condo 5010 Summer Beach Blvd #709. 1,325 2/2.5 ~ Enjoy beautiful views from this oceanfront condo! Updated kitchen, stainless appliances, fireplace. **\$510,000 MLS# 81553**

1556 Ruskin Ln
\$470,000



Amelia Park 1556 Ruskin Ln, 3/2, 2,120 sf, Fantastic end unit townhome! Loaded with upgrades, fresh paint, wrap around balcony, 2 car garage. **\$470,000 MLS# 80478**

2284 Safe Harbor Lane
\$439,000



Safe Harbor 2284 Safe Harbor Lane 3 BR 2.5 bath 2,025 sf home built in 2016. Open floor plan, fenced yard, granite, gourmet kitchen, wood look tile flooring. **\$439,000 #82240**

96017 Sea Breeze Way
\$600,000



Ocean Breeze 96017 Sea Breeze Way Like NEW, former model loaded with upgrades! 4/3 + media room, over 2,700 sf, located on the pond. **\$600,000 MLS# 81699**

13130 Peaceful Rd
\$339,500



REDUCED
Northeast Jax 13130 Peaceful Rd No HOA! Brick home on .5 acre, 3 BR, 2 BA with 2,338 sf, updated kitchen, inground pool Bring your toys! **\$339,500 MLS# 81352**

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Craig Brewis, Karen & Paul Werling, Angie Williams, Sandy Moser, Jordan Gallup, Mary Lavin, Brenda Chandler

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5 You Need to Know
THINGS ABOUT

Betsie Huben
MRP, Realtor® SFRC

- 1 Successful Realtor since 2008.
- 2 Simply Superior Service is my pledge to you.
- 3 Recipient of the Amelia Island Tree Conservancy's Award "Voice of the Island", November 2018.
- 4 A proud member of the dynamic Team Holbrook.
- 5 You can call or text me any time on (919) 333-0836 or email me at Betsie.Huben@gmail.com

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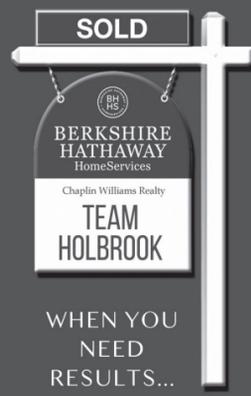
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Beautiful home in the prestigious GOLF COURSE community, Amelia National Golf & Country Club! Live the golf club life-style in this exquisite 24hr GUARD GATED community w/ luxurious amenities! FRESHLY PAINTED INTERIOR and almost 2,400sqft, this home includes an office/den, formal dining room & large family room w/ fireplace. The inviting kitchen offers tons of counter space, lovely 42inch cabinetry w/ crown molding, stainless steel appliances & breakfast bar. The spacious master suite has a large walk-in closet & master bath w/ his/her vanities, garden tub & tiled walk-in shower. Situated on over a quarter acre lot & a cul-de-sac street, you will enjoy the privacy of the fenced backyard while relaxing in the extended lanai overlooking the natural preserve. Amelia National amenities include an 18 hole Tom Fazio designed golf course, clubhouse w/ fine dining, lovely resort style pool, state-of-the-art fitness center & Har-Tru Clay tennis courts. Just minutes to the BEACH!! **\$294,000 MLS#80903**



Angela Garcia
REALTOR®
Direct: 904-335-7822
AGarcia@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



Beautiful 2017 built home in the newer community, Wildlight! 2017 ROOF, 2017 AC & 2017 WATER HEATER!! This nicely maintained home features an open kitchen with center island, all 2017 APPLIANCES included, oversized formal dining room, spacious laundry room and beautiful flooring in all wet areas. The master suite has a large master bath with a shower/tub combo and HUGE walk-in closet!! You will enjoy the covered rear patio while overlooking the preserve view. Situated on almost a quarter acre, you will love the spacious yard size! The stunning community pool and playground are just a short distance away! Just minutes to the beach, 195, Jacksonville and Georgia, this 2017 home will not last long so schedule your viewing today! **\$199,999 MLS#81573**



Angela Garcia
REALTOR®
Direct: 904-335-7822
AGarcia@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



2 ACRES, NO HOA & PRIVACY! The possibilities are endless, w/ the included adjacent lot w/ separate septic system-Add a 2nd dwelling for family OR use as a great income producing property! Open floor/split design, new fireplace, large dining area & kitchen w/ tons of cabinets/counter space! The master bedroom includes a walk-in closet & a master bath w/ a garden tub & his/her vanities. Oversized 2car garage w/attached workshop AND an additional separate workshop-perfect for a man cave, play house or guest suite! The freshly painted deck, extended screen porch with views of the backyard natural setting. Fruit trees included! Bring along your RV, BOAT & any other toys as they are all allowed! Goffinsville Park is right around the corner & has a boat ramp, playground & nature trails! Schedule your viewing today & see everything that this property has to offer! Minutes to the beach & 195! **\$225,000 MLS#82035**



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