

# NASSAU COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



## BEHIND THE BADGE NEWSLETTER



April–June  
2016

### SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

It has been busy around the office with our law enforcement memorial service and the ribbon-cutting ceremony for our new 911 call center. I would like to thank all who were a part of helping set up the memorial service and ribbon-cutting ceremony. I know it was a lot of work, but the smooth transition of the events showed your efforts were worthwhile. I also want to thank those who took the time out of your day to attend these events.

I talked to several people at the ribbon-cutting, including all of our county commissioners, and everyone was impressed with our new facility, as well as the professional manner our employees conducted themselves as they interacted with the public.

The new admin building is moving along and soon we will begin to schedule our transition over there. This may take some time, since there's a lot of stuff we have to move. Once we get the certificate of occupancy, we will begin our much anticipated move. We will probably be moving in stages, so we are not sure yet which division or units will be moved first and in what order. More than likely our IT department will be moved in ahead of everybody else so they can assist everyone as they get

set up to make sure the computers and technology are working properly. Due to a couple of minor changes, the new completion date is now scheduled to be around the end of October. Of course we all know this is fluid, but our hopes are still to be operating there before the end of the year. But just like the 911 Call Center, we want everything to be just right before we move.

I would also like to thank the community and local businesses for their show of support for our Law Enforcement personnel.

Please stay safe!

*Bin*



# OPERATION LIQUIDATION

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office announced the results of "Operation Liquidation," which was an operation to reduce illegal drug activity within Nassau County.

Over the past few months the Nassau County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Division has conducted numerous undercover drug operations throughout Nassau County. Based on these operations warrants were obtained on several individuals.

"The people who were arrested in this operation are not your casual drug user," said Sheriff Bill Leeper. "These are drug dealers and repeat offenders. If we successfully remove the drug dealers and repeat offenders crime goes down."

A total of 29 people were arrested for various drug-related charges during Operation Liquidation. Items seized were 4 guns, 647 grams of marijuana, 12 grams of cocaine, 167 pills, and 78.5 grams of methamphetamine. All subjects arrested were booked into the Nassau County Detention Facility on their respective charges.

"We see the destruction that these illegal narcotics reek on the homes, individuals and families within our communities," said Leeper. "If you have knowledge of someone dealing illegal drugs within Nassau County please let us know."



## PASTOR OVERTON RETIREMENT

Sheriff Bill Leeper presented Fernandina Beach First Baptist Church Pastor Jeff Overton with a retirement certificate



recognizing more than ten years as a volunteer with NCSO's Chaplain Program. Pastor Overton is leaving Nassau County and going to Douglas, Georgia. "We thank him for his loyal and dedicated service to our agency and the citizens of Nassau County and wish him well in his new adventures," said Sheriff Leeper.

# LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL SERVICE

---

Three local law enforcement agencies honored the men and women who died in the line of duty while protecting the public in services on Tuesday, May 17, 2016, at the Nassau County Sheriff's Office.

A memorial service was held in a combined service for the Nassau County Sheriff's Office, Fernandina Beach Police Department and Florida Highway Patrol.

"Every day, public safety officers work tirelessly to protect our citizens, enforce our laws, and keep our neighborhoods safe. We owe a profound debt to all those who have worn the badge, and to the families whose care enables them to serve with courage and pride" said Sheriff Bill Leeper. "When the unthinkable happens and officers give their lives or are seriously injured in the line of duty, we have an obligation to give their loved ones the support they deserve" continued Leeper.



The memorial service was also a reminder to keep safety at the top of their minds at all times.

"It's also important for officers to know the job is dangerous and we don't want you to be recognized like this every year," Leeper said.

Continued on Page 5.



# HONORED FALLEN OFFICERS

## Nassau County Sheriff's Office

Deputy Joseph W. Robinson (May 16, 1891): Deputy Robinson was the first NCSO Deputy killed in the line of duty. He was fatally shot while apprehending a violent fugitive in the Fernandina Beach area.

Deputy Jasper N. Higginbotham (July 21, 1895): Deputy Higginbotham was shot in the Callahan area while attempting to arrest an individual on a warrant.

Deputy Everett E. Johns (December 6, 1905): Deputy Johns was shot on the south end of Amelia Island attempting to apprehend an individual for an outstanding warrant for theft.

Deputy Jeremiah Mattox (March 13, 1954): Deputy Mattox was shot and killed after responding to a domestic dispute in Fernandina Beach.

Chief Bailiff Lewis Hailey (September 15, 1992): Chief Hailey was killed in a automobile crash on State Road 200, between Yulee and Callahan.



## Fernandina Beach Police Department

Chief James Surrency (December 8, 1930): Chief Surrency was shot while responding to a murder call in Fernandina Beach.

## Florida Highway Patrol

Trooper Charles Parks (February 6, 1973): Trooper Parks was shot during the apprehension of two armed robbery suspects on I-95.

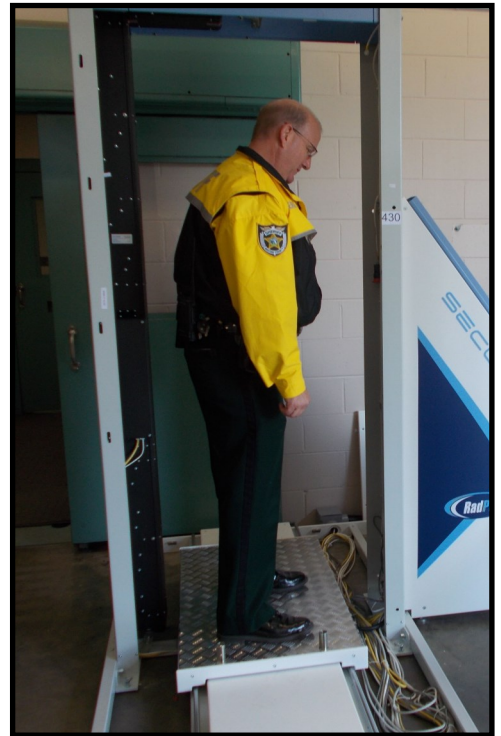
## Hilliard Police Constable

Constable Alfred H. Crews (November 1, 1952): Constable Crews was killed in an automobile crash on US-1 north of Hilliard.

# SECURE PASS X-RAY MACHINE

In April, 2016, the Nassau County Sheriff's Office Jail & Detention Center installed a Secure Pass X-Ray machine in the Sally Port where inmates are brought in to the facility. This low dose X-ray scanning system detects all types of dangerous or illegal substances such as weapons, liquids, drugs, wires, plastics, etc. Utilizing the Secure Pass will reduce the incidences where inmates try to sneak banned items into the jail thereby increasing the safety and security of not only the inmates, but the corrections officers as well.

Pictured: Captain Greg Foster demonstrates how the Secure Pass System works.



## TEEN DRIVER CHALLENGE

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office concluded its third Teen Driver Challenge class on Saturday April 11, 2016. Nine Nassau County teens attended the free class which consisted of classroom training covering topics like vehicle dynamics, human factors, responsibility, liability, drug & alcohol use, night driving, aggressive driving and road rage. Deputies from NCSO taught the class, which also included the students driving their own vehicle on a driving track at Yulee Middle School.

The Teen Driver Challenge program is not an advanced driving course, but is a defensive driving program designed to help teens boost their driving skills and lessen the chances of being involved in a crash. Students are awarded a certificate of completion, which can be presented to their automobile insurance carrier for a possi-

ble reduction in insurance rates.

"We try to take young drivers and help them with their driver skills in crisis and everyday traffic," Sheriff Bill Leeper said. "It's all about awareness. There's defensive driving and you need to be aware of what you're doing, but also be aware of other motorists."

The Teen Driver Challenge is sponsored by the Florida Sheriff's Association, which partners with State Farm Insurance as a corporate sponsor. Additional classes will be held throughout the year.

For further information or to sign up for a future class

please contact NCSO's Training Division at 904-548-4031 or visit the Sheriff's Office website at [www.nassauso.com](http://www.nassauso.com) and click on the programs tab.



# LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

Nassau County Sheriff's Office employees participated in the 2016 Law Enforcement Torch Run to benefit Special Olympics on April 7th, which began at West Nassau High School in Callahan and finished at Callahan Bar-b-q parking lot on SR-200. West Nassau High School JROTC also joined in, along with the Special Olympic athletes.

The run started out at the high school track and then travelled through the Callahan Elementary School bus driveway where the West Nassau High School Marching Band played as hundreds of students applauded for everyone. At the finish line, WNHS National Champion cheerleaders were there to encourage the runners to finish strong as they cheered everyone on. Afterwards, Callahan Bar-b-q gave each runner a bottle of water, a bag of chips and cookies.

The mission of Special Olympics Florida is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for all children and adults with intellectual disabilities. The Nassau County Sheriff's office has been a long-time supporter for Special Olympics Florida through the Law Enforcement Torch Run.



Participants in the Law Enforcement Torch Run benefiting Special Olympics Florida

The Torch Run is a way for law enforcement agencies to show they care. The "Flame of Hope" torch is carried by law enforcement officers in a 1,500-mile relay around the state. This year more than 3,000 law enforcement officers representing



Sheriff Bill Leeper passes the torch to Special Olympic Athlete Max Lucovsky

300 Florida agencies will participate as the torch makes its way through 60 counties before it is delivered to the opening ceremonies of the State Summer Games. The 2016 State Summer Games will be held at ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. Over 1,500 athletes are competing in bocce, cycling, soccer, tennis, track & field, and volleyball.

# 911 CALL CENTER OPENING

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on Wednesday May 18, 2016, to open the Nassau County Sheriff's Office new unified 911 Call Center, which will house 911 dispatch operations for all law enforcement and fire/rescue within Nassau County. The new 5,000 square foot addition to the existing Nassau County Emergency Operations Building will also house NCSO's Civil Division and the 911 Coordinator. The new center has the latest technology and equipment that will allow communications officers to provide the best services possible to Nassau citizens. The new facility will also serve the sheriff's office and Nassau County for many decades to come. Nassau County Commission Chair Jr. Boatright, Communications Officer Linda Ottinger and Sheriff Bill Leeper cut the ribbon to open the call center for business.



# COFFEE WITH A COP

Sheriff Bill Leeper announced that the Nassau County Sheriff's Office and McDonalds restaurant in Fernandina Beach will partner together to host "Coffee with a Cop" on Thursday, May 26, 2016, between the hours of 8 AM and 10 AM. "Chatting with law enforcement officers in a relaxed and informal setting to discuss public safety issues over a hot beverage is what Coffee with a Cop is all about," said Sheriff Leeper.



For law enforcement, it's a way to connect with the community, answer questions and hear first-hand from residents about public safety issues and concerns. And for the public, it's an opportunity to meet face-to-face with law enforcement officers and discuss ways to work together to help keep the community safe. Local resi-

dents were invited to pull up a chair and grab a cup of coffee with the command staff and deputies with the Nassau County Sheriff's Office's law enforcement patrol operations.

The Coffee with a Cop concept is a national initiative that has been instituted in more than 30 states across the country. "Coffee With A Cop" -- the first event of its kind for the Nassau County Sheriff's Office -- was not only a time for residents to ask questions, discuss con-

cerns and learn about the Sheriff's Office's wide range of program and services, but it also was an opportunity for the public to meet the Sheriff's Office's command staff and deputies who work in their area. "We value the public's feedback and want to hear what's on their mind," said Leeper.





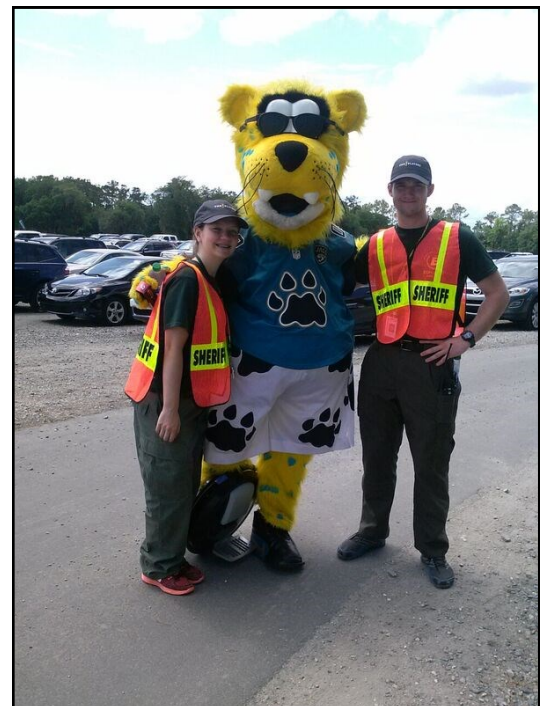
# NCSO EXPLORERS AT TOURNAMENT PLAYERS CLUB

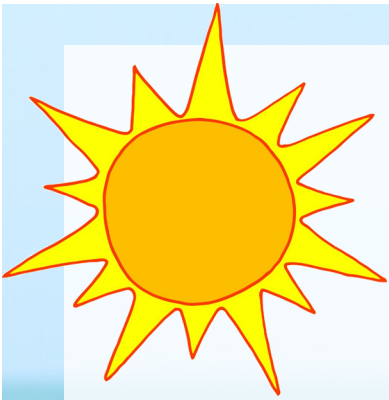
The Explorers of the Nassau County Sheriff's Office jumped for joy at the opportunity to assist with the parking detail at the Tournament Players Championship 2016 in Sawgrass!

As one Explorer stated, "We increased our proficiency directing high volume traffic, communicating on police radio, interacting with people from all over the world, and working as a team with Explorers from surrounding agencies as we honorably represented Nassau County Sheriff's Office. We also had the opportunity to see Toby Keith in concert and walk the beautiful greens at the TPC. We look forward to participating in this event again as well as others like it!"

Law Enforcement Exploring of NCSO provides educational training for teens and young adults on the purposes, mission, and objectives of law enforcement. The program provides career orientation experiences, leadership opportunities, and community service activities. Much of our Explorer training includes CPR, First Aid, Physical Training, Firearm Safety & Training, Ride-Along Safety, Criminal Law, Crime Scene Investigations, Traffic Stops, Report Writing, Communications, Fundamentals of Patrol, Corrections, Due Process, And So Much More!

**"Building tomorrow's leaders from today's youth."**





# SUMMER SAFETY TIPS

- ◆ Only **broad-spectrum** sunscreens of **SPF 15+** can protect skin from UVA & UVB rays.
- ◆ The sun's rays are their strongest from **10AM—4PM**

## Limit your time in the sun during these hours.

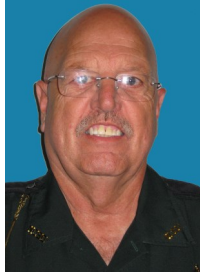
- ◆ Sunscreen expires within **2-3 Years** but **your bottle shouldn't last for that long**. A family of four should use an entire bottle of sunscreen during a long weekend.
- ◆ **30 mins** is the **average time it takes for sunscreen to soak into skin** and work effectively.
- ◆ **You still need sunscreen on a cloudy day. 80%** of the sun's rays can pass through clouds and fog.
- ◆ There is no SPF with 100% protection. SPF blocks out 93% of UVB rays, while **SPF 30 blocks out 97%**.
- ◆ Sunscreen is only **1 level** of defense. **Add wide-brimmed hats, protective clothing and sunglasses for more coverage.**
- ◆ The risk of melanoma is **95% higher** for those **who used tanning beds before the age of 35.**
- ◆ Water-resistant sunscreen isn't 't water-resistant forever. **You need to reapply after only 80 mins in the water.**

## SECOND QUARTER AWARDS



### SUPERVISOR OF THE QUARTER

Sergeant Mike Goodbread



### INVESTIGATOR OF THE QUARTER

Detective Tim Beazley

### PATROL DEPUTY OF THE QUARTER

Deputy Kyle Tholl



### DETENTION DEPUTY OF THE QUARTER

Greg Gordon



### COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER OF THE QUARTER

Victoria Sharkey



### CIVILIAN OF THE QUARTER

Caleb Roy



## SERVICE ANNIVERSARY

### 20 YEARS

SERGEANT MICHELLE CHRISTENSEN  
*PATROL*

### 15 YEARS

JAN HODGES  
*JAIL SECRETARY*

SERGEANT JEFF STULL II  
*SPECIAL OPERATIONS*

DEPUTY JIMMY NETTLES  
*CRIME INTERVENTION UNIT*

### 10 YEARS

DETENTION DEPUTY LEECIE DENARD  
*CORRECTIONS*

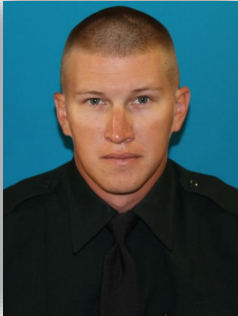
LAWANNA WARE  
*ACCREDITATION MANAGER*

LINDA STARR  
*CIVIL CLERK*

LAURA HERNDON  
*CONTROL ROOM OPERATOR*

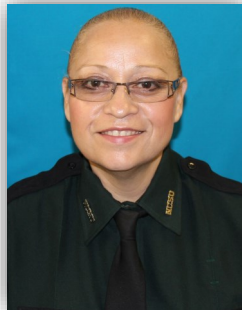
DEPUTY BILL ANNO  
*PATROL*

# Welcome **OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS**



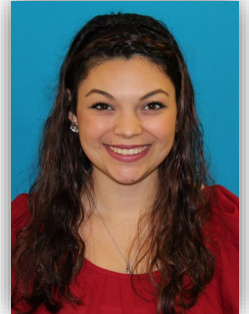
Jonathan McCracken  
*Corrections*

---



Catherine Webb  
*Corrections*

---



Cecilia Flores  
*911 Communications*

---



Winston Herron  
*Control Room Operator*

---



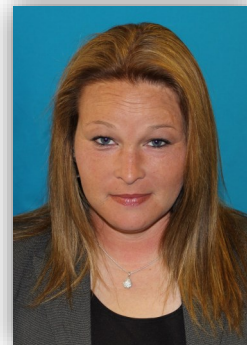
Jason Gray  
*Patrol*

---



John Levers  
*IT Tech*

---



Amanda Nobles  
*Victims Advocate*

---

# MOST WANTED Recipes

## EASY CROCKPOT BAKED ZITI

### INGREDIENTS

- ◇ 2 (25 ounce) jars of pasta sauce
- ◇ 15 oz tomato sauce
- ◇ 1 pound UNCOOKED penne pasta
- ◇ 15 oz ricotta cheese
- ◇ 2 eggs
- ◇ 1/3 cup freshly chopped basil
- ◇ 2 cups of freshly grated parmesan cheese
- ◇ 1 cup grated Asiago cheese (or use shredded mozzarella)

### DIRECTIONS

- ◇ Combine ricotta, eggs, and basil in a bowl and stir well
- ◇ In a large bowl, combine both pasta sauces and tomato sauce together.
- ◇ Grate Parmesan cheese (around 2 cups) and set aside.
- ◇ Grease the inside of a 6 qt slow cooker

- ◇ Add 2-1/2 cups of pasta sauce to the bottom of the slow cooker
- ◇ Add 1/3 of the uncooked penne.
- ◇ Dot on half of the ricotta mixture and spread out evenly.
- ◇ Add half of the Parmesan cheese (1 cup)
- ◇ Add another 2-1/3 cups of sauce mixture
- ◇ Add an additional 1/3 of the uncooked penne.
- ◇ Dot on the remaining ricotta and spread out.
- ◇ Sprinkle on the remaining parmesan cheese (1 cup)
- ◇ Add the last 1/3 of the uncooked penne.
- ◇ Top with the remaining 2-1/3 cups of sauce mixture
- ◇ Cover and cook on high for 2-3 hours, or until pasta is al dente
- ◇ During the last few minutes, add asiago cheese to the top and allow to melt

## AMBROSIA FRUIT SALAD

### INGREDIENTS

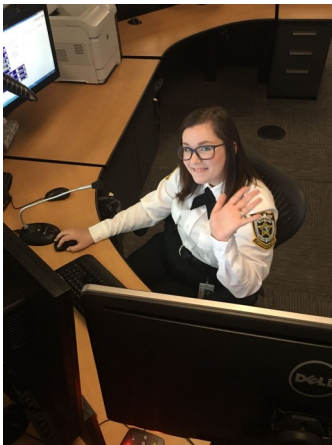
- ◇ Ingredients
- ◇ 1/2 cup heavy cream
- ◇ 1 tablespoon sugar
- ◇ 4 ounces sour cream
- ◇ 6 ounces homemade mini marshmallows, approximately 3 cups
- ◇ 1 cup clementine orange segments, approximately 6 clementines
- ◇ 1 cup chopped fresh pineapple
- ◇ 1 cup freshly grated coconut
- ◇ 1 cup toasted, chopped pecans
- ◇ 1/2 cup drained maraschino cherries

### DIRECTIONS

- ◇ Place the cream and sugar into the bowl of a stand mixer with the whisk attachment and whip until stiff peaks are formed.
- ◇ Add the sour cream and whisk to combine.
- ◇ Add the marshmallows, orange, pineapple, coconut, pecans and cherries and stir to combine.
- ◇ Transfer to a glass serving bowl, cover and place in the refrigerator for 2 hours before serving.







# Guess who?

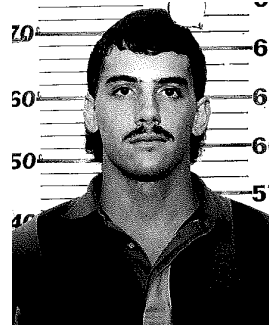
Answers on page 17



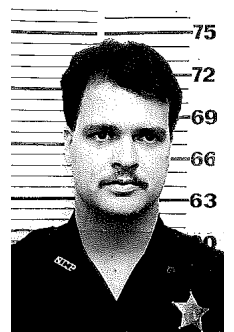
1



2



3



4

# In Memory of

## JOHN ELLIS ALLEN

February 26, 1956—May 17, 2016



Deputy John Ellis Allen, 60 of Jacksonville passed away Tuesday, May 17, 2016. Born in Halifax, North Carolina he was a son of the late Henry and Hattie Jones Allen. John moved to Jacksonville in 1994 from Charleston, South Carolina where he was stationed during his time in the US Navy. John proudly served his country, starting in the US Army and later retiring from the US Navy after more than 20 years collectively. He was a very committed member of East Pointe Church, loved the saxophone and jazz music. At the time of his passing, John was a deputy sheriff with Nassau County Sheriff's Department and enjoyed working closely with his partner, Deputy Adam Bennett.

Answers:

1. Sgt. Tim Cooper 2. Deputy Mark Murphy 3. Deputy Jon Booth 4. Lt. Keith Whaley

---

We hope that you have enjoyed this issue of the Nassau County Sheriff's Office *Behind the Badge* Newsletter! If you have articles or information for the next newsletter, please contact Sheena Hobbs at 904-548-4012 or by email at [sshobbs@nassauso.com](mailto:sshobbs@nassauso.com)

**As always, please stay safe!**

