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Sports



Lauren "Rosie" Rose Wilsford has spent 14 years documenting live music and events on Amelia Island through her website FernandinaEvents.com.

From dancing tambourine to island guide: Rosie's 14-year journey

By Tracy McCormick-Dishman
tdishman@nassauonline.net

When Lauren Rose Wilsford moved to Amelia Island in 2008, she was seeking a fresh start away from Indiana winters. What she found was a calling that would connect her to the island's music scene for the next 14 years.

Now known simply as "Rosie" to locals, the former IT consultant has become the unofficial guide to live music and events across Nassau County through her website FernandinaEvents.com, which reaches 19,000 visitors monthly and boasts 25,000 Facebook followers.

The journey began in 2010 when Rose discovered guitarist Dan Voll performing around the island. Voll, who caught that "Rosie" was her family nickname, matched her with Paul Simon song that mentions 'Rosie, the Queen of Corona' and invited her to be his "dancing tambourine" and comedic partner during performances.

"I'd be his person that he could play all his jokes off of," Rose recalled. "We had tourists telling us we were the best act in Florida."

Their partnership lasted eight years until Voll's death in 2018. What started as Rose hand-drawing maps of who was playing where during Shrimp Festival evolved into a comprehensive database tracking more than 40 venues with live music across the island.

"I started it at Shrimp Fest one year back in 2011 so we could find everybody, in particular Dan," Rose said. "That became a weekly post of who was playing where, and then that evolved into a website and a database and a newsletter."

Rose continues the work in Voll's honor, spending about 10 hours each week gathering schedules, reaching out to venues, and updating her platforms. The operation has expanded beyond music to include all community events, from markets to social gatherings.

"I'm nothing without the venues providing me information," she said, noting that she visits each location personally, often bringing small gifts during holidays

Rosie cont. on pg. 5

Home Court Hero

Former Pirate returns as new girls basketball coach

By Beth Jones
bjones@nassauonline.net

India Santana is back on her home court. The former Fernandina Beach High School girls basketball standout is now coaching her old team, and she couldn't be more pleased.

"I came back to fulfill a legacy that I left behind, and it's just an honor, and it's a blessing to be here," said Santana, 35. "Now is the time, and I'm just ready to pour into the program."

She was India Johnson when she was setting school records at FBHS. The 5-foot-4 point guard was a four-year starter for the Pirates. She scored a career 1,357 points and had 311 assists, 267 rebounds and 376 steals while at FBHS. She scored 33 points in one game.

Her senior season (2007-8), Santana averaged 15.3 points, 4.6 rebounds, 2 assists and 4.6 steals per game and helped steer FBHS to its first regional playoff appearance since the 1980s. The Pirates went 20-8 and were district runners-up to powerhouse Ribault.

"It was a tough one," Santana remembers. "A couple of bad calls down the stretch caused us to get behind. It was a period where we were down one or two, and those calls jeopardized the outcome."

"Had they gone in favor or called correctly, we probably would have come out with a district championship that year. It was huge to be a part of it."

Santana said the Ribault head coach didn't realize she was a senior and tried to woo her from FBHS.

"This is my last year. I'm done," Santana responded.

But, she wasn't done. Santana went on to play two years at Santa Fe Community College, where she was a two-time conference academic selection and conference second-team player her sophomore season. She then transferred to Division I Texas State.

"I liked it there," Santana said. "The conference was good, and we did play some bigger Division



Photo by Beth Jones/Nassau NewsLine
India Santana, the new girls basketball coach at FBHS.

I schools."

Santana still wasn't finished.

"I ended up getting certified in sports training and did some sports performance training with a guy out of Texas who did sports performance training with the NBA, overseas players," Santana said. "I ended switching agents and getting a deal

in Germany."

Santana was playing pro ball in Germany until 2020.

"My next deal was in Italy, but I didn't go because of the pandemic hit," Santana said. "My visa

Pirate cont. on pg. 2

Nassau County's Vision 2050 charts a path to manage growth

By Kate Kimmel
kkimmel@nassauonline.net



Photo courtesy Nassau County Board of County Commissioners
Residents provide input on the county's future during a Vision 2050 community engagement event. The resulting plan incorporates feedback from thousands of citizens regarding growth management and conservation.

Nassau County officials have spent the past 18 months asking a single, far-reaching question: What should the county look like in 2050?

The answer, shaped by thousands of residents and compiled into a sweeping long-range plan known as Vision 2050, aims to preserve the community's character, natural environment and financial stability as population growth accelerates.

Since 2011, the county has added roughly 30,000 residents. By mid-century, projections show Nassau approaching a population of 200,000—growth that officials say will strain schools, wastewater systems, emergency response capacity and the county road network if not carefully managed.

Vision 2050, developed between fall 2023 and summer 2025, has become the framework for how Nassau intends to absorb that growth without sacrificing the qualities residents say they value. The plan outlines a set of objectives that now guide policy decisions by the Board of County Commissioners and its advisory committees.

Vision cont. on pg. 2

Vision cont. from pg. 1

Controlling the pace

Commissioner A.M. “Hupp” Huppmann, who frequently hears concerns about growth from residents, said the plan is designed to strike a balance between inevitable development and the community’s desire to maintain what makes Nassau unique.

“You can’t stop growth, but you can control the pace at which it happens and shape it where you want to see that growth go,” Huppmann said. “The balance for us is maintaining the existing high quality of life while allowing for controlled growth”.

One major component of that balance is preserving the rural character of Callahan and Hilliard — an effort intertwined with conservation. Vision 2050 identifies conservation as essential not only for quality of life but also for protecting sensitive environmental areas such as the St. Marys River shoreline.

The role of entitlements

Conservation work can be complicated by property rights. Huppmann noted that landowners have “entitlements,” or the ability to pursue the most profitable use of their property.

“If you own land, you’re entitled to the best use of the land,” Huppmann said. He explained that a landowner with 50 acres isn’t just going to build 50 houses because the cost of infrastructure—roads, sidewalks, water and sewer—requires higher density to be financially viable.

Clarifying the vision

To counter that, the county’s Conservation Land Acquisition and Management Committee has identified the top 25 conservation priorities across Nassau and has been working directly with landowners who might otherwise choose development.

Throughout the 18-month development of Vision 2050, Huppmann said thousands of residents voiced worry that development would outpace infrastructure and erode the county’s character. The plan’s gradual, intentional approach was built partly in response to those concerns.

Huppmann stresses that the county does not intend for growth to feel sudden or overwhelming.

He also clarified a term found on county planning maps: “Think Big.”

“Let’s take the words ‘Think Big’ off of this,

Vision 2050 Growth Plan

The Vision 2050 Growth Plan represents the preferred growth scenario for Nassau County. Development is focused in areas with planned or existing public infrastructure, incorporates additional conservation areas, and includes small commercial centers around Nassau County to improve access to services.

Key Parameters:

- » Focused growth within the identified growth areas
- » Additional conservation land established
- » More urban development patterns with a mixture of uses to encourage live, work, play, and stay options

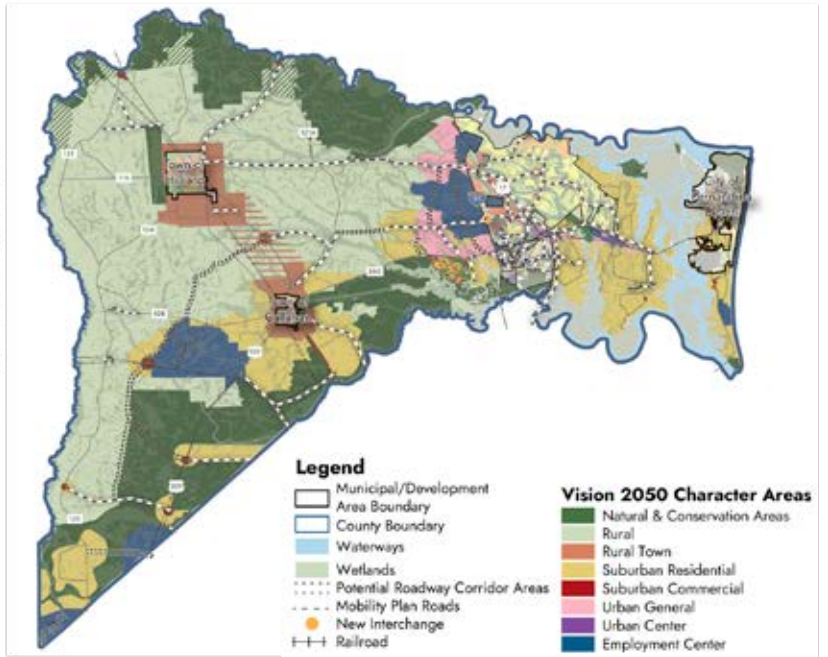


FIGURE 4.7 Preferred Growth Scenario

The “Vision 2050 Growth Plan” map illustrates Nassau County’s preferred growth scenario for the next 25 years. The plan focuses development in areas with existing infrastructure to preserve rural character while establishing new conservation lands. The full plan is available at www.nassaufl2050.com.

because what that meant was the county needs to think big—outside the box... It doesn’t mean think big like let everything grow,” Huppmann said. “That’s a term that we would change now if we could”.

Jobs closer to home

Another key priority is strengthening the local job market. Many Nassau residents currently commute elsewhere for work, a pattern Vision 2050 seeks to change.

“We don’t want people leaving Nassau to go to work, we want to bring jobs to Nassau,” Huppmann said.

To support that goal, the plan incorporates an employment center on the south end of the county—a project expected to bring hundreds of jobs closer to home.

As Vision 2050 begins guiding decisions large and small, county officials say its purpose is simple: to protect the place residents love while preparing for the people who will soon call Nassau home.

Pirate cont. from pg. 1

would have run out, and I would have been stuck.” Santana kept adding to her résumé.

“I didn’t let it die down,” she said. “I ended up getting my masters in sports management, and I felt like I connected every piece together, as a player, coach then training.

“And then went to play professional ball and now giving back to the program is just major. As a head coach, it’s just phenomenal.”

Santana said when she returned home, she taught in Jacksonville for a year.

“That’s not home,” she said.

Santana then landed a job at Fernandina Beach Middle School, where she teaches seventh-grade accelerated math. She’s been an assistant coach at both Yulee High School and FBHS, but this is her first head coaching position.

She has a game plan, too.

“Growth and development is the key,” Santana said. “I feel like there has been a lack for girls basketball for quite some time, and with me teaching at the middle school, I plan to bridge the programs. So, I’m actually able to grow that program and it transfers to me here at the high school as the head coach.”

She’s also planning a mentor program.

“My girls are the mentors for mentees at the

middle school and kind of bridge that gap that I’m noticing,” Santana said. “With that progression and development, I think we will be able to run, in the years to come, a dynasty.”

Santana said the community she grew up in has welcomed her back with open arms.

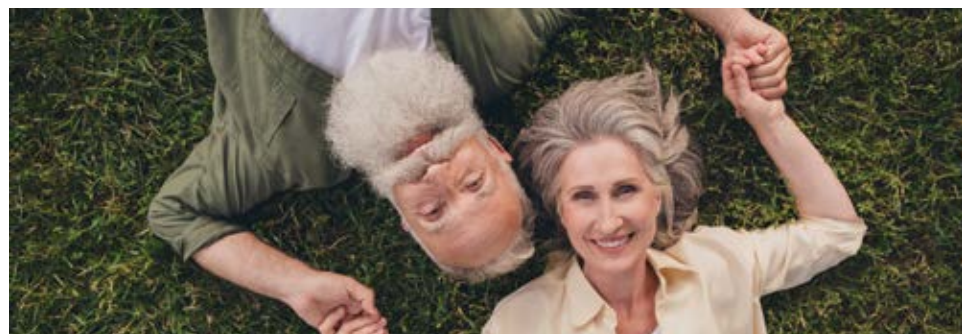
“The support and the love and the congratulations, it really is a blessing,” she said. “And, I’m just grateful and thankful that it started at the middle school.”

Santana’s former coach is excited for her.

“India was a strong leader on the court, both on the offensive and defensive ends,” said Mike Landtroop, who coached Santana her junior and senior seasons at FBHS. “She led us past districts and into the playoffs her senior year. India always showed great leadership on and off the court and will use those same skills when coaching to get the wins.”

And the administration at FBHS is pleased with its new hire.

“I am extremely excited for our basketball program and Coach Santana,” said Mike Woodard, athletic director at FBHS. “What a great opportunity to have an alumna lead our program - someone who already knows the pulse of the school, community and program and brings a ton of enthusiasm and Pirate pride. She truly bleeds blue.”



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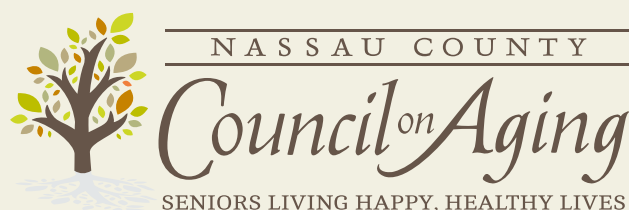
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Photo by Penny Glackin/Special to Nassau NewsLine

India Santana is the new head coach of the girls basketball team at Fernandina Beach High School, her alma mater.



City searches for space amid youth sports growth

By Kate Kimmel
kkimmel@nassaunewsline.net

As youth sports participation grows in Fernandina Beach, city leaders are grappling with how to expand playing space despite limited land, rising costs and competing community needs.

Over the past several years, programs — especially youth soccer — have grown faster than the city’s recreation infrastructure can accommodate. Amelia Island Youth Soccer, now the largest youth sport in the city, has topped 1,100 players in recent seasons, according to president Scott Lomond. Without additional fields, the program will soon have to cap registration, Recreation Director Toby Lentz warned.

That pressure has put a spotlight on two facilities central to the city’s athletic landscape: the Ybor Alvarez sports fields east of the airport, used for soccer and softball, and the Elm Street fields, home to Little League softball.

City commissioners have repeatedly said their preferred long-term solution would be to purchase the 15 acres that include the Ybor Alvarez fields, develop three full-size soccer fields there and build three new softball fields at Elm Park. But acquiring the airport property carries a steep price: about \$3.5 million for the land and another \$2 million for development.

Vice Mayor Darron Ayscue said Nassau County has offered \$1.7 million to help fund the purchase, but he warned that if the city declines, the site is likely to become additional airport hangars.

“If we abandon Ybor Alvarez, that whole area will become hangars. It will all be concrete,” Ayscue said.

Because that option may be financially out of reach, commissioners have been weighing several alternatives.

One option is to partner with Nassau County to build three soccer fields at the Yulee sports complex, where the county already intends to build three of its own. Commissioner Joyce Tuten said a six-field cluster would create “an amazing complex,” but many Fernandina families would face a 20-minute drive off the island for practices and games.

Commissioner Tim Poynter signaled that, given costs, the off-island option may be the most realistic. “Having a sports complex on this island doesn’t seem viable right now,” he said. “I don’t know where we’d come up with money for that.”

Tuten suggested a hybrid approach: using the Hickory Street site for the youngest players while shifting older teams to Yulee.

Another possibility is developing a 20-acre, heavily wooded tract the city already owns just north of the airport. While it would avoid a land purchase, development would be costly, and roughly a quarter of the parcel lies within an airport runway protection zone, making it unusable.

A third option, discussed as a stopgap measure, would relocate soccer usage to the 9.5-acre Hickory Street site leased from the Nassau County School District. The three fields there are undersized, lack lighting and netting, have limited parking and border residential neighborhoods, meaning it cannot serve as a permanent home for the program.

The complexity does not end with soccer. Whether the city buys the Ybor Alvarez property or not, the softball fields currently there — used by Elm Street Little League — will be lost.

Participation in the Little League program has grown as well, with 87 players last season, league president Miranda Ivey said. To absorb that growth, the city has explored reconfiguring the Elm Park layout to accommodate three fields

instead of the current two.

Adding a third field on the existing footprint, however, has drawn pushback from residents who use Elm Park as a community gathering space beyond softball.

Commissioner Genece Minschew suggested relocating the third field to Atlantic Park — formerly Joe Velardi Field — which she described as a historically significant site that “needs to be restored and protected.” Moving one field there, she said, would preserve more green space, parking and pavilion areas at Elm Park.

Residents and stakeholders emphasized that the decisions carry long-term consequences for local families. Wally Borrero, who is active in the local skate community, urged commissioners to maintain a focus on youth.

Without dedicated spaces, he said, future athletes could be held back — just as Olympic skateboarder Poe Pinson might have been without a skatepark. “The kids need to be the focal point,” Borrero said.

Pete Stevenson, a member of the city’s Planning Advisory Board, warned that timing is also becoming critical. “There’s not much time left to make a decision,” he told commissioners. “You can’t build a field in 30 days.”

City officials acknowledge the urgency but say they must thoroughly assess costs, land constraints and public feedback before committing to a plan. Commissioners say the city faces finite space and funding, making each potential solution a trade-off.

To gather more input, commissioners plan to hold town halls and follow-up workshops in January, with hopes of narrowing down options in the new year.

450 State Road 13 North
Suite 106 PMB 101
St. Johns, FL 32259
(904) 886-4919

www.FloridaNewsLine.com

Publisher

Mark Pettus

Publisher@FloridaNewsLine.com

Editor

Tracy Dishman

Editor@FloridaNewsLine.com

Reporter

Beth Jones

bjones@nassaunewsline.net

Reporter

Kate Kimmel

kkimmel@nassaunewsline.net

Bookkeeper

Emily Whitehead

Accounting@FloridaNewsLine.com

Haley Cook

Advertising Sales

haley.cook@newslinedigital.com

Community Calendar

editor@FloridaNewsLine.com

Call Our Office

(904) 886-4919

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Stopping the spin, teacups not included

The concept of truth is, of course, nothing new to anyone over the age of say, three. Thanks to Disney’s “Pinocchio,” even as itty-bitty kiddos, most of us understood truth-telling to be virtuous, and dishonesty to be fraught with peril. (Heck the visage of Pinocchio’s ever-expanding schnoz haunted me for at least a decade, and I’m still traumatized by those Donkeys.)

As children, we were expressly told to tell others the truth. However, the value of being honest with oneself was seldom elucidated. Thus, at some point along our journey toward maturity, we learned to spin the narrative of our life events a la the teacup ride at Disney World. You know, the popular attraction in which a fleet of teacups the size of Volkswagen Bugs whirl and twirl unsuspecting tots to the peak of nausea. (Apparently, I’m on a Disney kick.)

From teacup age on, we likewise spin our truths in anticipation of being judged. Rather than owning up to reality or taking accountability, we tend to tweak the tales we tell to keep the unflattering tidbits under wraps. As time goes on, we can’t seem to escape the spin ... or perhaps the collateral nausea — but why?

Well, we may spin our lack of gainful employment on a resume to get a gig. We may spin our breakup story to sidestep appearing rejected. We may spin failures to evade embarrassment.

Those resume gaps may be the direct result of getting canned, but we don’t dare utter the words, “I was fired,” aloud. Getting let go is a phenomenon with which many of us can relate. And being brave enough to tell that truth amongst friends can be empowering. So why do we remain inhibited?

On the breakup front, maybe the truth was that our former partner instigated the split. Very few folks openly cop to that extent of rejection. But why should we feel pressured to lie? Often, when we reveal whatever painful truth we’ve been holding on to, we realize that oodles of others have successfully come out on the other side. We remember that we’re not alone. Plus, once the parting of ways is in the rearview mirror, does it really matter who made the first move?

And embarrassment is a universal, often daily inevitability. We’ve all been there. When I encounter someone who authentically tells their truth sans spin, I typically feel almost instantly at ease in their presence, because they’re genuine.

If lying is tantamount to betraying others, isn’t it also a betrayal of self? Sometimes we spin to protect ourselves. Sometimes we spin



Jennifer Silverman
The Curious Columnist

to shield someone else. Sometimes we spin simply because painting a pretty picture has become second nature. Plus, we have come to believe that no one wants to face the ugly truth — most of all, ourselves.

Here’s the thing — personal truths are not always ugly. Often, they are a detour in the right direction, or a necessary rung on life’s ladder of lessons, or a specter which must be confronted in order to move forward. Even when truths are painful and undeniably unpretty, hiding from our emotions only weighs us down.

When things don’t go our way, more times than not, we succumb to shame. But should we? At the end of the day, the judgement we attempt to avoid serves as a distraction from truly feeling our feelings. And honoring those feelings is precisely how to heal. Spinning may seem like a means of saving face. Here’s the truth — spinning, especially to oneself, guarantees nothing more than a daze of dizziness ... which is best reserved for a whirl in a massive teacup.

Jennifer Silverman has served as a celebrity wardrobe stylist for hundreds of TV personalities and professional athletes. A couple of her favorite projects include the Olympic Games and the Oscars. Silverman and her Westie, Petunia, relocated from Manhattan to Amelia Island in 2019. She launched her popular newspaper column, The Curious Columnist in 2022. Additional quirky commentary penned by Silverman is available by visiting www.CuriousColumnist.com. Email her at Jennifer@CuriousColumnist.com

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Thank You!

A bright future for arts and culture in Nassau County

For the past 15 years, the artistic and cultural landscape on Amelia Island has exploded while driving economic growth. This success has been bolstered by the support of Arts and Culture Nassau and the outstanding programs presented by local arts organizations.

In October 2024, the county commissioners acknowledged the evolving needs of Nassau County and its significant development in the west of the county and designated the former Arts and Culture Nassau, now a new nonprofit, as the official county local arts agency. With this transition, Arts and Culture Nassau becomes the Nassau Council of Arts and Culture, placing a renewed focus on promoting the arts throughout the county.

This transition reflects direct community feedback from the Vision 2050 survey, and Nassau Council of Arts and Culture will bring forward new arts and culture initiatives for residents, businesses and visitors across the county. Key goals include enhancing grant funding to increase support for existing arts and culture organizations in Nassau County, while exploring partnerships with public and private entities, including the greater county and the Wildlight community, to develop new theaters, performance spaces, galleries, studios and museums.

The council has established Westside Arts Alliance to connect the west communities artists with Amelia Island's creative forces and the rest of Nassau County. In collaboration with the Yulee Historic Council and Wildlight, they plan to help create a living history museum in Yulee as part of their historical preservation efforts. Additionally, the council aims to support after-school arts programs for all elementary schools in Nassau County and arts and music scholarships for middle and high school students. Finally, public art



Richard Restiano

initiatives will enhance community spaces with art that enriches community life, instilling pride and a sense of place throughout Nassau County.

Art is a powerful vehicle for connection, understanding and fellowship. The arts not only enhance our quality of life and bridge cultural divides but also play a vital role in generating economic development, boosting tourism and supporting local businesses. Art within the community attracts visitors, creates vibrant public spaces and fosters an

environment where businesses can thrive. By investing in arts and culture, we're investing in a stronger, more dynamic local economy that benefits everyone. Art is the ultimate expression of truth, and it is the purest and highest form of human happiness. Nassau Council of Arts and Culture will work to strengthen, support, grow and promote arts and culture for all residents of Nassau County, now and for the younger generation. The cure for a stressful life? More art! Our lives will continue to be colored brightly thanks to the arts. This monthly column will provide insights, updates and opportunities for the arts and culture in Nassau throughout the year.

Richard A. Restiano, Sr. is the founder and CEO of Nassau Council of Arts and Culture, Inc., a nonprofit 501(c)(3) established in 2024 and designated as the local arts agency for Nassau County. The organization creates, promotes and sustains positive art experiences and cultural opportunities while supporting cultural tourism to enhance quality of life for all residents. Richard can be reached by email to president@ncacl.org or by phone, 815-579-1677. Learn more by visiting www.ncacl.org.

Unplug and savor moments: Who is at the wheel?

The scene has been all too familiar. Recently, my husband, Mark, and I were dining at a fast-casual restaurant, seated near a mother with a young son who appeared about 3 years old. Both were eating. Mom was on her phone.

Until the very end of their meal, Mom continued on her phone while the son looked at his food, munching on french fries and looking around the dining area. We thought, "Who is at the wheel, making sure they were sharing the moment?"

In her most recent book, "Strong Ground," social worker and bestselling author Brené Brown describes her deep dive into phone apps. With attention scattered across app platforms throughout the day, she faced her truth: she was not feeling properly grounded. She repeated the words "strong ground, Brené, strong ground," to bring mindfulness to her choices.

Research is now plentiful on how technology is rewiring our brains. Overuse of digital tools can impact the brain's ability to focus and sustain attention. It's no wonder that "monkey mind" has become a common phrase. "The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness" by Jonathan Haidt has been on the bestseller list for months with startling data that shows "play-based childhood" began its decline in the 1980s and "was finally wiped out by the arrival of the 'phone-based childhood' in the early 2010s." Haidt explains that "the rates of depression, anxiety, self-harm and suicide rose sharply, more than doubling on most measures."

Whether we are feeling the effects ourselves, see our children distracted, or witness our grandchildren struggling, it's time to ask: Who has the wheel driving your life?

When social media is so much more prevalent and influential, it makes me wonder about the heightened level of concern about the books in our school libraries. Early October marked Banned Books Week, one week during the year that booksellers and librarians have chosen to make a statement about the removal of books



Donna Kaufman

from classrooms and schools. We featured a large display of challenged books along with two years of Florida lists of books challenged and removed. In many counties throughout our state, school boards and school administrators have spent time and energy addressing the concerns of mostly a well-organized group of people who are convinced teachers and librarians are forcing inappropriate literature on our children. A woman came into Story & Song and asked to speak with the manager. I dropped everything to meet with her and listen to her concerns.

We could easily agree that pornography had no place in schools, but a conversation about what constitutes objectionable material might not have been so easy to resolve. When we see teachers spend hours selecting books for their students, often spending their own money, we're inclined to believe that they should be the ones to educate our kids to think critically and make wise choices, calling into question much misinformation and disinformation so prevalent in social media.

Technology is a relatively new malady to add to the list of addictions. While there are many benefits, there is also the harm of losing control. To maintain our ability to focus beyond the length of a social media post, we must be able to unhook from the screen without fear of missing out. Reclaiming our time, our human connection to one another, and our brain health is what there is to gain. Like Brené Brown, we can claim strong ground, steer our lives in positive directions, and savor the moments with others at the table.

Donna Paz Kaufman is the co-founder of Story & Song Center for Arts & Culture on Amelia Island. Since 1992, she and her husband Mark have helped train new owners of bookstore start-ups across the country. Donna has served as the national president of the other WNBA, the Women's National Book Association.



with Dr. Kathy Burns Superintendent of Nassau County School District

Q: The Nassau County School District recently received its performance grade from the state. How did the district perform?

A: It cannot be said enough that Nassau County is an A-rated school district. Not only is the district rated "A," but every single one of our schools is also A-rated based on the criteria set by the state of Florida. Along with that, we are the number one ranked district in the state.

We also recently recognized over 124 students who achieved a perfect score on their progress monitoring assessments last year. Having that many in Nassau County is a testimony to the success of our students and teachers.

Q: What steps is the district taking to expand Career and Technical Education (CTE)?

A: We are continuing to expand CTE because not everyone is going to college. We are working to stand up a grant-funded welding program and hope to have that operational in the next year.

For those pursuing higher education, we have an early college program. By next year, every one of our high schools will have the opportunity to participate. Students spend their final two years as college students but graduate high school with two years of college completed, free of charge.

Q: Voters approved a 1-mill property tax increase in 2022. With that referendum set to expire in 2026, how have those funds been utilized?

A: The millage was voted on for four years, so that term will be up in 2026. The board will soon

determine if we will go back to the voters to ask for continued support.

The funds have primarily provided additional funds for teacher salaries, making our beginning teacher salary the highest among all our neighboring counties.

Beyond salaries, the millage has funded extensive safety measures, such as strategic badges for every employee to initiate lockdowns, and expanded camera systems. We also now have art teachers in every elementary school, athletic trainers for every high school, and turf fields.

Q: How does the district ensure transparency regarding these tax dollars?

A: We have a Millage Oversight Committee made up of citizens from throughout Nassau



Dr. Kathy Burns

County. They meet throughout the year to review exactly what we have received and how those funds are being spent. This committee provides oversight so the public knows we are not just throwing money here and there.

Q: How has the recent change in the board meeting schedule impacted public engagement?

A: The board voted to move to one regular board meeting a month, but we now hold a workshop prior to the meeting. This workshop allows us to dig deeper into topics publicly and provides a space for question-and-answer sessions on agenda items.

Dr. Kathy Burns is the Superintendent of the Nassau County School District. She can be reached at burnska@nassau.k12.fl.us or 904-491-9900.



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January

Community Calendar What's Happening in Nassau County

What's Happening in Nassau County

Jan. 3
2nd Annual Cannon Ball Run

Kick off the new year with a race through scenic Amelia Island. The event features both a 5K and a Half Marathon course. Saturday, Jan. 3, at Main Beach Park, Fernandina Beach. Visit runsignup.com for registration information.

Jan. 3
Open Mic Jam

Enjoy live local talent or take the stage yourself at this open mic night. Saturday, Jan. 3, from 6:30 p.m. – 10 p.m. at The Green Turtle Tavern, 14 S. 3rd St., Fernandina Beach.

Jan. 5, 12, 19
Mocama Movie Night

Join the community for seasonal, family-friendly favorites in the tap-room. Popcorn and a snack bar will be available. Mondays, Jan. 5, 12 and 19, from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. at Mocama Beer Company, 629 S. 8th St., Fernandina Beach.

Jan. 7, 14, 21
Live Music: Sam McDonald

Enjoy a live music performance by local artist Sam McDonald. Wednesdays, Jan. 7, 14 and 21, from 6:30 p.m. – 10 p.m. at The Green Turtle Tavern, 14 S. 3rd St., Fernandina Beach.

Jan. 10
Colors of the Wild at Jacksonville Zoo

The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens hosts a large-scale Asian lantern festival featuring stunning illuminated displays. Saturday, Jan. 10, from 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. at Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens. Visit jacksonvillezoo.org for tickets and information.

Jan. 16 – 25
Amelia Island Restaurant Week

Enjoy a 10-day culinary celebration featuring prix-fixe menus and specials from the island's award-winning dining establishments. Friday, Jan. 16 through Sunday, Jan. 25 at various locations. Visit ameliaisland.com for a list of participating restaurants.

Jan. 17, 18, 27
Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival

The festival kicks off with "Meet the Musician" (Jan. 17) and a concert (Jan. 18) featuring Anne Akiko Meyers and Jason Vieaux. On Jan. 27, the festival presents the Imani Winds quintet. Visit aicmf.org for specific times, locations and tickets.

Jan. 27 – 31
Right Whales of Amelia Island Exhibit

Learn about the North Atlantic right whales that calve off our local coast

at this educational exhibit. Recurring daily at the Amelia Island Museum of History. Visit ameliamuseum.org for museum hours and admission details.

Jan. 29 – 31
14th Annual Nassau Art at the Callahan Depot

Organized by the West Nassau Historical Society, this annual art show and sale features works by local artists. Thursday, Jan. 29 through Saturday, Jan. 31 at the historic Callahan Depot. Visit wnhsfl.org for more information.

Jan. 29 – Feb. 1
Amelia Island Festival of Stories & Songs

A celebration of storytelling through music and spoken word. Highlights include the "Rough Romance" concert (Jan. 29), workshops, tea parties and comedy shows. Thursday, Jan. 29 through Sunday, Feb. 1 at Story & Song Center for Arts & Culture and other venues. Visit storyand-songarts.org for a full schedule.

Get Involved Government & Civic Meetings

Jan. 5, 8
Nassau County School Board

The Board will hold a workshop for agenda review on Monday, Jan. 5, at 5 p.m. The regular monthly meeting will follow on Thursday, Jan. 8, at 6 p.m. Both meetings are held at the

District Office, 1201 Atlantic Ave., Fernandina Beach.

Jan. 6
Fernandina Beach City Commission

Regular meeting. The agenda is expected to include the second reading of the paid parking ordinance. Tuesday, Jan. 6, at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 204 Ash St.

Jan. 12, 15, 26
Nassau County Board of County Commissioners

The Board will hold regular meetings on Monday, Jan. 12 and Monday, Jan. 26 at 5 p.m. A special workshop regarding the Flood Adaptation Plan will be held Thursday, Jan. 15, from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. All meetings take place at the James S. Page Governmental Complex, 96135 Nassau Place, Yulee.

Ongoing Activities

Nassau County Council on Aging

Check out the monthly class schedule for seniors, featuring activities ranging from fitness and yoga to arts and technology workshops. Visit www.nassau-countycouncilonaging.org/event-calendar or call (904) 261-0701 for details.

Find More: For additional events throughout the week, visit fernandinaevents.com.

Rosie cont. from pg. 1

to maintain relationships with managers who supply her with schedules.

The effort remains largely volunteer-driven. Rose doesn't charge musicians or venues for listings. Her dedication has made her a fixture in the local music community, where she's witnessed careers evolve from newcomers to established performers with regular schedules and residencies.

The personal connection extends beyond

professional networking. Rose, who moved to Florida from Terre Haute, Ind., found community through the music scene after being a single woman for the first time in her life.

"I went right from my mom and dad's house to my husband," she explained. Following Voll around to different venues became her exercise routine and social outlet, providing both physical activity through dancing and emotional connection through music.

Since Voll's passing, Rose acknowledges the work has become more challenging emotionally,

but she remains committed to serving the community that embraced her.

Rose operates with help from her business partner Johnny Funch, who handles website development, while she manages content and social media from her home base.

Rose is partnering with Nassau NewsLine to bring her comprehensive event listings to print readers. Readers can find Rose's list of events in the printed edition and online at NassauNewsLine.net.

"I get a lot of tourists who plan their vacations and feel like they know me because my newsletter is kind of personal," Rose said. "People email me saying they're moving down and would love to meet me."

Rose continues to seek new events to share with the community. "I'm always looking for more events," she said, encouraging event organizers and community members to reach out.

For someone who arrived on the island seeking solitude, Rose has found her purpose in bringing people together through the universal language of music.

For more information about Fernandina events and to sign up for Rose's weekly newsletter, visit fernandinaevents.com. To share upcoming events with Rose, email rosie@fernandinaevents.com. Readers can also find Rose's list of events in Nassau NewsLine's printed edition and online at NassauNewsLine.net.



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with Nassau County Commissioner
Alyson R. McCullough

Q: There has been discussion at the state level regarding the potential elimination of property taxes. How would this impact Nassau County?

A: There is a disconnect often where people think that because I am an elected official, I am no longer a taxpayer, but this is my home, too. It is imperative to educate residents on what the ad valorem tax dollar actually funds.

In Nassau County, for every one dollar collected, almost 50 percent goes to local constitutional offices, such as the Sheriff's Office and the Supervisor of Elections. Another 24.4 percent goes to Fire Rescue. That means nearly 75 percent of that dollar goes directly to constitutional offices and public safety.

If the state eliminates local property taxes, they take away home rule. I do not want Tallahassee dictating pay raises for my fire and police or managing our local budget. Public safety is the number one indicator of quality of life, and it must be at the forefront of the community.

Q: Growth is a frequent topic of concern for residents. How does the commission manage development versus preservation?

A: We have a Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan) that all 67 counties are required to transmit to the state. This designs our corridors for mixed-use residential, preservation, and conservation easements.

Currently, we are in the middle of visioning the «Vision 2050» plan. We have had year-long workshops with hundreds of stakeholders and surveys to ensure this plan reflects the residents of Nassau County for the next 25 years.



Alyson R. McCullough

Q: Specifically for District 4 and the area west of I-95, what protections are in place to maintain the rural atmosphere?

A: We have a document called the Western Nassau Heritage Preservation. This is a subsidy of the Comp Plan that was transmitted to the state.

It serves as a legal document to ensure that, in perpetuity, the West Side remains rural with true rural designation areas, regardless of how elected officials change in the future. I have hard copies of this book, and it has been live and legal for five

years now.

Q: You are active on social media, but you do not reply to comments there. What is the best way for constituents to reach you?

A: Social media is very delicate because of Florida's Sunshine Laws. As soon as a post goes into a discussion format, it becomes part of the public record. I use my page to put out information, but I do not engage back to comments to ensure we do not violate those laws.

However, I want to hear from residents. My county phone is a direct line. Residents can call or text me photos of issues they see. Even if it is a text, it is captured on a county device and remains part of the public record.

Alyson R. McCullough represents District 4 on the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners. Questions or comments can be directed to her at amccullough@nassaucountyfl.com or (904) 319-0689.



with Nassau County Commissioner
Klynt Farmer

Q: What is the plan to ensure roadway infrastructure is efficiently maintained for citizens and motorists?

A: Nassau County maintains more than 500 miles of paved roadways and approximately 170 miles of unpaved roadways. For paved roads, our Pavement Management Plan uses data collected from driving every road every three years. Algorithms then assign scores to prioritize repairs based on data rather than bias. Our goal is a 22-year recurring cycle where all 500 miles are resurfaced.

For unpaved roadways, we utilize the Chip Seal Program. This serves as a cost-effective interim step between dirt and asphalt, lasting about 12 years. As more roads are chip sealed, grader routes become shorter, reducing fuel consumption and wear on equipment.

Q: Investments are being made across the county's park system. What is the goal for the new Westside Regional Park?

A: In 2021, the commission adopted a plan designating parks as essential infrastructure, similar to roads and utilities. Westside Regional Park is a direct result of this. We are striving to create something one-of-a-kind with a true "wow factor."

Amenities will include an amphitheater, an "airnasium" (covered open-air gymnasium), three FIFA-regulation soccer fields, a stargazing courtyard with power for telescopes, a fishing pond and a dog park. It will also feature a playground accessible to all ability types that boasts the tallest playground slide north of Orlando.

Q: Residents in Thomas Creek have dealt with flooding for decades. What is being done



Klynt Farmer

to address this?

A: A study with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers revealed that sea walls or dredging would not solve the flooding issues, which occur even during minor storm events. The only viable solution found was to work with willing residents to relocate and allow the area to return to its natural state as a flood basin. We began this voluntary buyout program in 2023 and have acquired four properties so far.

Q: What is the county doing to maintain and expand public safety services?

A: We continue to invest in modern facilities. We recently opened Station 70 on State Road 200 and Station 10 in the

Tributary community, which added a ladder truck and 18 personnel. We are also preparing to bid for a new Station 30 near Pages Dairy Road and a new Station 90 in Hilliard. Additionally, we completed Phase Two of the Public Safety Training Center in June 2025, adding classrooms and a dedicated training space for 911 operators.

Q: How can residents stay informed and involved in Nassau County government?

A: Residents can sign up for website alerts and weekly email blasts to stay updated on meetings and hearings. You can also follow our blog at thecountyinsider.com and connect with us on social media platforms like X, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn. Being informed is the first step to being involved, and your involvement truly makes a difference.

Klynt Farmer represents District 5 on the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners. Questions or comments can be directed to him at kfarmer@nassaucountyfl.com or (904) 570-1357.



with Nassau County Board of County
Commissioners Vice Chairman,
Jeff Gray

Q: Taxpayers frequently contact the commission regarding the school portion of their tax bill. Does the commission control this?

A: As a county commissioner, we have no jurisdictional authority over the school taxes levied. The Nassau County School District is its own taxing district and is not under the authority of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC).

Q: Do you anticipate the county's economic growth to continue?

A: Nassau County is the sixth-fastest growing county in Florida, with a population of 105,000. We anticipate nearly doubling our population by 2050. We have completed our Vision Plan, which sets the stage for growth over the next 25 years. The plan identifies where growth is anticipated to occur so we can ensure the necessary public facilities are there to serve it. It also contemplates more than 22,000 acres of employment center uses. This will help diversify our tax base and provide jobs for our citizens and their children.

Q: What are the primary duties of a Nassau County Commissioner?

A: A commissioner takes a sworn oath to provide for the health and safety of the county's citizenry and to levy the appropriate taxes to accomplish this responsibility. Examples include adequately funding Nassau County Fire & Rescue and the Nassau County Sheriff's Office.

Q: How does the county determine when



Jeff Gray

roads receive improvements or paving?

A: In 2021, the BOCC adopted its first Pavement Management Plan, which includes a system for ranking and prioritizing roads. Prior to its adoption, funding levels only allowed every paved road in Nassau County to be resurfaced once every 86 years. Now, with the plan and designated annual funding, the county is able to resurface an estimated 18 to 20 miles annually.

The plan includes funding for the Chip Seal Program—a cost-effective alternative to paving—and Level & Overlay projects to repair existing

roads. Importantly, roads are ranked utilizing RoadBotics, an enterprise firm specializing in infrastructure assessments. They conduct unbiased surveys to provide feedback on current conditions. This data-driven evaluation removes human error and ensures the roads needing the most attention are prioritized.

Q: The board has lowered the ad valorem property tax millage rate for five consecutive years. How was this achieved?

A: We have worked hard each year to increase efficiencies and deliver savings back to the citizens. Also, new parks and transportation improvements have been funded with impact and mobility fees, ensuring that new growth pays its fair share for its impacts.

Jeff Gray represents District 3 on the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners. Questions or comments can be directed to him at jgray@nassaucountyfl.com or (904) 570-1946.



with Nassau County Board of County
Commissioners Chairman,
A.M. "Hupp" Huppmann

Q: Residents frequently ask about the county's rapid growth. How does the new "Vision 2050" plan address this?

A: One thing people talk about over and over is the Vision 2050 process. We went around the county for nearly 18 months collecting public input to figure out our priorities for the next 25 years. This plan, completed in 2025, directly ties into our new comprehensive plan, which is the actual roadmap for the future.

We know that by 2050, our population is expected to grow from around 106,000 to nearly 180,000. You cannot stop growth—if you own land, you have constitutional rights to develop it—but you can control the pace and shape it.

Q: You mentioned "controlling the pace" versus stopping growth. What does that mean in practice?

A: It comes down to "entitlements." If someone owns 50 acres of agricultural land, they might be entitled to one house per acre. But to build a community with water, sewer, sidewalks and parks, a developer needs more density to make it profitable.

We control that density to shape where growth goes. For example, in our comprehensive plan, we draw specific boxes around municipalities like Callahan and Hilliard. We say, "You can grow in here, inside this boundary, but we don't want the growth to escape out and gobble up the farmland". This keeps housing tucked around municipalities and preserves the rural character of the West Side.

Q: The phrase "Think Big" appears in the county's planning documents. Does that mean the county wants massive development?

A: That is a term we would change now if we could, because it does not mean "let everything grow." It meant the county needs to think big—outside the box—to do things differently than in the past.

If you look at our planning maps, you will see large areas of dark green. That is targeted conservation land that currently does not exist, including the "Atlantic to Okefenokee" conservation corridor along the St. Marys River. In



A.M. "Hupp" Huppmann

2022, voters approved a \$30 million bond referendum to buy conservation land, and we are actively working to protect those areas from development.

Q: The plan also identifies "commerce centers." Why are these a priority?

A: Commerce is just as important as conservation. We need space for business so residents don't have to drive to Kings Bay or Jacksonville for work.

We have designated commerce centers, such as the "Crawford Diamond" in western Nassau County. This is where two Class I railroads—

CSX and Norfolk Southern—cross. That is a huge economic engine that can support high-tech manufacturing or data centers. We also unlocked a new employment center on the south end of the county near the Duval border. These centers bring high-wage jobs right here to Nassau County.

Q: With housing costs rising, how is the commission addressing the need for workforce housing?

A: We are significantly lacking in inventory. Our service industry workers often live in Kingsland or Duval County because they cannot afford to live here. The county doesn't build housing, but we can unlock land for it.

We are working with Habitat for Humanity to identify parcels off-island, and there is a new multi-family project on Pages Dairy Road that will replace an old trailer park. That is the right place for it—close to schools and shopping. We have to plan these projects strategically so we don't end up with affordable housing in places where we wanted economic development.

A.M. "Hupp" Huppmann represents District 2 and serves as Chairman of the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners. Questions or comments can be directed to him at ahuppmann@nassaucountyfl.com or (904) 319-0686.

Send us your community news!
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with Fernandina Beach City Commissioner Joyce Tuten

Q: Why is the city considering paid parking at this specific time?

A: The city faces three critical infrastructure projects needed to protect our historic downtown. First, we need \$20 million to complete the seawall and spend the \$6 million in state grants before they expire. Second, we need \$10 million to \$12 million to update downtown infrastructure that is 50 years old and was only partially updated in the '90s, including electrical, sidewalks, curbs and ADA accessibility. Finally, we need \$4 million to \$5 million to demolish Brett's Waterway Cafe and rebuild the bulkhead.



Joyce Tuten

tax increases down to renters, and 14 percent of city residents live below the poverty line. They cannot absorb a debt burden. I think it is only right to ask the users of our historic downtown to help us protect it.

Q: How would the proposed paid parking system work for residents versus visitors?

A: The proposal designates the «core sector»—Centre Street from Front Street to 8th Street, out to Ash and Alachua streets, and the marina lot—as the paid parking sector. This includes more than 700 spaces, while the remaining 1,000-plus spaces would be free to all.

City residents would get two free parking passes and unlimited additional passes for a \$24 annual fee.

Once registered online, residents can park anywhere for four hours without doing anything more. If you live in the sector, you can park all day.

Non-city residents would have choices: park in a free space, pay an hourly rate (\$2 to \$4), or buy a monthly or annual pass. Everyone parks free for the first 20 minutes, and Sunday mornings would be free to all to accommodate church attendance. There will be no meters, only signs with options to pay via QR code, text or phone.

Q: You have acknowledged that paid parking is not ideal. How do you balance the downsides with the benefits?

A: I know it comes with negative consequences. Signs will not be «pretty,» digital payments can have glitches, and it will change the feel of downtown. There will also be spillover into surrounding neighborhoods. These are issues we will have to mitigate.

But I believe allowing the infrastructure to crumble is more egregious. Private investors pour millions into maintaining historic buildings downtown; it is time for the city to invest in the infrastructure that supports and protects it all.

Joyce Tuten is a City Commissioner for Fernandina Beach. Questions or comments can be directed to her at jtuten@fbfl.city.

Q: How does the city propose to pay for these projects?

A: With \$40 million in projects, the city needs to get a bond—which is a debt, like a mortgage—to ensure we have the money to complete the work. This would have an estimated \$2 million annual debt payment.

The city could obligate the bond debt to a dedicated tax or a dedicated revenue stream. I think paid parking downtown is the best source for this revenue. It would remove some of the cost burden from city residents and spread it across our more than 1 million tourists and visitors. Explosive growth in both the county and tourism has added significant burdens to our city.

Q: Why not find other revenue options or cut the budget instead?

A: The city manager has already cut the budget of all departments and denied filling 17 vacant positions. However, the city faces significant cost increases due to inflation. Public safety is 44 percent of our budget; our police, fire and ocean rescue departments are larger than many small towns because they serve that massive influx of tourists.

Regarding other revenue: The state gives control of the tourist «bed tax» to the county, and impact fees have restricted uses. The city only controls local property tax. Property tax increases hit many of our businesses and renters very hard. Landlords often pass



Fernandina Beach City Commissioner Genece Minshew

Q: The commission recently advanced a paid parking ordinance. How does this fit into the city's broader financial picture?

A: While paid parking has been the big issue on the table for the past six months, it sometimes gets in the way of the real issue: How do we want to fund the things that need to get done in the city, primarily infrastructure?

We need to look for revenue streams and think about a long-term strategic vision. My background in corporate America taught me that while you can get focused on short-term value, that does not help move the business—or the city—along. We need to «raise our headlights» and look out 10 or 15 years to set a path for long-term stability.

Q: You have mentioned that the city is streamlining its internal processes. What changes are being made?

A: We have made it a priority to improve processes. For example, we have moved more items to the consent agenda. These are day-to-day business items that are not controversial. By approving them efficiently, we can spend more time discussing critical, controversial issues in front of the community.

We have also increased the budget approval limits for the city manager. If I approve a half-million-dollar budget, I should not have to be involved in minor transfers and change orders as long as the staff stays within that budget. This cuts weeks out of projects and saves staff time.

Q: City Manager Sarah Campbell has been in her role for one year now. How has that transition impacted city operations?

A: She is the best city manager we have seen in over 20 years. She has made substantive changes in just a year, including creating a coaching and development leadership program



Genece Minshew

for employees.

We did not do a good job of training and career planning for our employees in the past. Now, we are putting development plans in place so employees can see a career path, which helps us retain staff who work here for a long time.

Q: Residents often attend meetings for «hot button» issues. How can the community better engage with the actual business of the city?

A: People will rally around emotional issues, give a speech, and then leave. But the meetings that are really important are our budget workshops. That is where the work gets done.

I wish 100 people would show up at the budget workshops. We need to talk about the different funds—municipal financing is convoluted, with about 35 different funds—and understand what we can and cannot pay for.

Q: Customer service is a frequent topic of concern. What is the goal for how the city handles resident inquiries?

A: We need a better customer service front end. The vision is to be like the Apple Store: you should be able to call or walk in, and the person who answers can handle 90 percent of the issues.

Currently, we get a lot of emails about issues like flooding, stormwater, and recently, the billing issues with Florida Public Utilities (FPU). While FPU is a separate entity, the city has become the escalation point for residents because that is what the community needs right now. We need to figure out how to be a better «one-stop shop» so issues don't get lost in the shuffle.

Genece Minshew is a City Commissioner for Fernandina Beach. Questions or comments can be directed to her at gminshew@fbfl.city or 904-780-4188.



with City of Fernandina Beach Vice Mayor Darron Ayscue

Q: You have described the paid parking debate as a consuming topic for the city. What is your perspective on the issue and the best path forward?

A: It is obviously the biggest issue in Fernandina Beach, probably in a decade. It has completely consumed the community, and I believe it has

almost paralyzed the city government because it is so polarizing.

Personally, I am against paid parking. However, if it is an issue that is so divided, I believe the citizens

should have the opportunity to vote on it. If the majority of citizens want paid parking, that is perfectly fine, and we can work through the process of installing it. But if the overwhelming majority do not want it, then we would have

our answer. To me, the most advantageous path—and the one that gains the most trust out of our community—is just to allow the vote to happen.

Q: Outside of commission meetings, how can residents best reach you to share their thoughts or concerns?

A: I always tell people to never feel shy about coming up to me when I am out at dinner or at an event; connecting with



Darron Ayscue headshot

residents is actually the part of this job that I enjoy the most.

My preferred method of communication is email at dayscue@fbfl.org, but feel free to call me at (904) 780-4480. If a concern or question is bigger than what we can handle in a phone conversation or an email, I have been known to schedule coffee time with community members to really sit down and discuss the issue.

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Michael Kimmel

January sports schedules

FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

Boys Basketball

Jan. 6 at Paxon at 6 p.m. (junior varsity) and 7:30 p.m. (varsity)
 Jan. 12 at Middleburg at 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.
 Jan. 13 home with Baker County at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
 Jan. 16 home with Terry Parker at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
 Jan. 17 and 19 at MLK Classic
 Jan. 20 home with West Nassau at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (winter homecoming)
 Jan. 23 at Yulee at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
 Jan. 26 home with Hilliard at 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

Girls Basketball

Jan. 5 home with Baker County at 6 p.m.
 Jan. 6 at KIPP at 6:30 p.m.
 Jan. 8 home with Covenant at 6:30 p.m.
 Jan. 12 at Charlton County at 6:30 p.m.
 Jan. 15 at Global Charter Academy at 6 p.m.
 Jan. 20 at Palatka at 6:30 p.m.
 Jan. 21 at West Nassau at 6 p.m.
 Jan. 23 home with Yulee at 6 p.m.
 Jan. 26 home with Hilliard at 6 p.m.
 Jan. 29 at Atlantic Coast at 6:30 p.m.

FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

Boys Wrestling

Jan. 6 district duals at home at 3 p.m.
 Jan. 10 Dual at the Dunes at home at 9:15 a.m.
 Jan. 14 at Bishop Kenny at 6:30 p.m.
 Jan. 16 at Brawl at the Beach at Fletcher at 2:30 p.m.
 Jan. 30-31 at Flagler Rotary Tournament

FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

Girls Wrestling

Jan. 3 at Clay Rotary at 9 a.m.
 Jan. 10 Dual at the Dunes at home at 9:15 a.m.
 Jan. 14 at Bishop Kenny at 6:30 p.m.
 Jan. 17 at Girls Brawl in Duval at Fletcher at 9:30 a.m.

FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

Boys Soccer

Jan. 5 home with Hilliard at 7:20 p.m.
 Jan. 6 at Bolles at 6 p.m.
 Jan. 9 at Yulee at 7:20 p.m.
 Jan. 12 home with Seacoast Christian Academy at 6 p.m.
 Jan. 15 home with Toco Creek at 7:20 p.m.
 Jan. 16 at Cornerstone Academy at 6 p.m.

FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

Girls Weightlifting

Jan. 7 home with West Nassau at 4:30 p.m.
 Jan. 19 at district meet at West Nassau at 10 a.m.
 Jan. 27-31 at region meet



Photos by Penny Glackin

The Fernandina Beach High School boys basketball team hosted Middleburg on Nov. 21. The FBHS Pirates play at Yulee on Jan. 23.

Girls Soccer

Jan. 5 home with Hilliard at 5:30 p.m.
 Jan. 6 at Bolles at 7:20 p.m.
 Jan. 9 at Yulee at 5:30 p.m.
 Jan. 13 at Atlantic Coast at 6:30 p.m.
 Jan. 15 home with Toco Creek at 6 p.m.

FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL



Photos by Penny Glackin

The Fernandina Beach High School girls and boys soccer teams hosted Yulee on Nov. 17. The teams meet again Jan. 9 in Yulee.

YULEE HIGH SCHOOL

Girls Basketball

Jan. 6 home with Charlton County at 6 p.m.
 Jan. 8 at West Nassau at 7 p.m.
 Jan. 9 home with Harvest Community at 6 p.m.
 Jan. 13 at Westside at 7:30 p.m.
 Jan. 15 at First Coast at 7 p.m.
 Jan. 20 home with San Jose Prep at 6 p.m.
 Jan. 22 at Riverside at 6 p.m.

Jan. 23 at Fernandina Beach at 5:30 p.m.
 Jan. 26 home with Episcopal at 7:30 p.m. (senior night)
 Jan. 27 at Hilliard at 6 p.m.
 Jan. 29 at Bishop Snyder at 7:30 p.m.

YULEE HIGH SCHOOL

Boys Basketball

Jan. 6 home with Charlton County at 7:30 p.m.
 Jan. 7 home with Ed White at 7:30 p.m.
 Jan. 12 at Stanton at 7:30 p.m.
 Jan. 14 at Ridgeview at 7:30 p.m.
 Jan. 16 home with First Coast at 7:30 p.m.
 Jan. 22 home with Terry Parker at 7:30 p.m.
 Jan. 23 home with Fernandina Beach at 7:30 p.m.
 Jan. 27 at Hilliard at 7:30 p.m.
 Jan. 28 at Baldwin at 7 p.m.

YULEE HIGH SCHOOL

Boys Soccer

Jan. 6 home with Harvest Community at 6 p.m.
 Jan. 7 home with Christ's Church at 7:20 p.m.
 Jan. 9 home with Fernandina Beach at 7:20 p.m.
 Jan. 13 home with Riverside at 6 p.m.
 Jan. 16 at Toco Creek at 6:30 p.m.