A Word a From the Publisher

The events of last week are still very fresh in everyone's mind. We have seen incidents all over the country but how could this have happened in our small town? Never have we ever felt so much fear for our safety and pain for the people involved. I just want to say 'Thank You' to the Nassau County Sheriff's Office for their quick action to get the shooter. As NCSO jumped into action involving all the reinforcements they could; citizens also started reacting to the needs of law enforcement.

Callahan First Baptist Church offered and provided the staging area, parking, facilities, volunteers, etc. Volunteers were at the church Friday afternoon with food and supplies. Quickly the Facebook posts went into action. Whatever was needed for the officers was sent out and received immediately. I am not a Facebook person but I certainly saw how well and quickly it can work in an emergency. Thank you to all the people who willingly brought water, snacks, dog treats, food, fruit, energy drinks, beef jerky, meals, paper goods and so much more during that time. You are greatly appreciated.

As Monday rolled around, the manhunt continued. People received word that Deputy Joshua Moyers' body was to be escorted in a procession Monday evening through Callahan all the way to Fernandina Beach. Once again, people rose to the occasion. The streets were lined all down US 1 south and down SR 200 (A1A) as far as you could see. Again, word spread through Facebook and the crowds continued

all the way to the funeral home in Fernandina Beach. It was an emotional and respectful procession by all that watched. Tears filled the eyes everyone, young and old.

On Tuesday afternoon, cheers filled the air as the suspect was captured. It was a fearful, heart-wrenching week. My thoughts continue to Deputy Moyers' family, however the deputy that backed him up was heavy on my mind as well as the entire NCSO family. Then you have the Fire-Rescue personnel on scene that early morning. All of these departments are like family because they are together so much. Just continue to pray for each of them through these coming days.

Deputy Moyers' funeral service was held Saturday and once again, many stood on the side of the road to pay their respect. As things settle back to 'normal' many of these lives will never be the same again. Your continued prayers and support will still be welcomed.

As we all know, we live in a broken world with broken people. We had a real taste of that last week. We don't know the day or the hour that our time will be. Each and every day is a blessing and should be lived to the fullest. I have the comfort and peace to know that I will be spending eternity in Heaven with my Heavenly Father. Wouldn't you want to have comfort and peace? Ask Jesus to save you, He is the only way to Heaven.

Have a blessed week!

Dawn S. West