

“MY CHILD, DON’T LOSE SIGHT OF COMMON SENSE AND DISCERNMENT. HANG ON TO THEM, FOR THEY WILL REFRESH YOUR SOUL. THEY ARE LIKE JEWELS ON A NECKLACE.” - PROVERBS 3:21-22

CES Students Say Farewell to Teachers and Principal



Dawn S. West

Last Friday, a huge parade of students and parents, was held at the Callahan Elementary School bus lot! Last week, parents received a notice from CES Assistant Principal Melissa Johnson about the parade and for students to make signs, posters and participate. “This will give your students a chance to say goodbye to their teachers and most of all to their principal Sabrina Faircloth,” said Johnson. “She wanted to give Mrs. Faircloth a sweet send off and it worked! Mrs. Faircloth was surprised to see members of her family at the event to join her!”

Cars were decorated and huge smiles on the faces of all the students that came through. There was even a visit from the



NCFR firetruck and rescue unit! Probably the sweetest of all was the bus from Kidz Island, an after-school and summer daycare program, came to the parade full of children! Those children were so happy to see so many of their teachers, faculty, and cafeteria ladies and of course custodians! It was a super cool way to end the crazy school year for both the students and the teachers!



Memorial Day Services Held



Dawn S. West

Many thanks to the VFW Post 10095, for conducting the special Memorial Day Services Monday; first at Jones Cemetery in Callahan; followed by Oakwood Cemetery in Hilliard. VFW Post Commander David Lewis opened the service by welcoming Veterans and guests and asking if there were any family members of fallen service members present. Senior Vice-President of the VFW Auxiliary Mike Mekara led the opening prayer. A list of the names of fallen soldiers from Nassau County was read aloud with a bell ring following each name.

The VFW ritual includes: placing a wreath as a symbol of our love of our fallen comrade; placing a white flower as a symbol of pure unselfish devotion; a red flower as a symbol of the blood of our fallen soldiers; and a blue flower as a symbol of

faith and love.

At the conclusion of the service, VFW members provided American flags to anyone wishing to place a flag on the gravesite of their loved one. God bless America and all the families of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.



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The Westside Journal is published every Thursday by Westside Journal, LLC, owned by Roger and Dawn West. Printed by Florida Sun Printing in Callahan, Florida. Mailed free of charge to all residents in postal zip codes 32011, 32046 and 32009.

Advertisement Deadline: Monday at 5 p.m.
Classified Deadline: Tuesday at 12 p.m.

WESTSIDE JOURNAL STAFF

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Corona and Christianity

Pastor Benjie Loyd, River Road Baptist Church, Hilliard



Corona has not dethroned Jesus. Jesus is still King! God could have a million purposes behind every action that he governs. If God had wanted to stop the virus in its tracks, He could have. This is obviously not the course of action that God chose to take because we are still dealing with the virus in some capacity. What is God up to in allowing the virus to continue to persist? In the interest of full disclosure, I don't know specifically. One of my favorite passages in Scripture is Deuteronomy 29:29, "The things that are revealed belong to us, but the secret things belong to God." God's purposes in the virus are hidden to us, but this does not mean that we cannot look at the Scriptures and see what God could be doing during the church at this time.

The Apostle Peter would remind us that judgment must begin at the house of God (4:17). In Peter's second letter, he would remind us that we should be diligent to make our calling sure (1:10). So I would like to ask some questions that I think are relevant at a time like this. Why did God create the church in the first place? Answer: to put His wisdom on display and in order to bring Himself glory through discipling of the people of God in order to fulfill the Great Commission. There is nothing in the purpose of God and the existence of the church that is designed to entertain or amuse us. We are not in an amusement park we are in a spiritual war. We are not on playground, we are on Holy Ground.

I genuinely believe that the Corona Virus is going to accelerate the death of cultural Christianity in America. I also genuinely believe that this is a good thing. Cultural Christianity has never brought God glory and has obscured the glory of God to the world. God and the Gospel are our attraction. In God's mysterious providence, it appears that God is purifying His church. What other time in history has the corporate gathering of the people of God been prohibited all over the world simultaneously? Maybe we should hear the prophets cry out as they declared that their worship was nauseating to God. The prophet Amos would even declare that God hated the worship of the people (Amos 5:21-23). Maybe God wanted us to realize that worship was never about us, but it was always about God. Maybe God would want us to think about how worship made Him feel, instead of how worship makes us feel. Maybe, God is trying to get his church to stop worshipping worship and start worshipping God. Maybe it is time for the church to simplify and declutter. After all, isn't this what we have been forced to do?

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Hilliard Town News

Dawn S. West

The Hilliard Town Council met Thursday night, in person, in Town Hall. It was probably a good thing as the council had a full agenda to cover. The first item was a presentation from Mr. Milton Locklear via phone, representing the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (TPO). Locklear visits the council prior to each public yearly meeting of the TPO, which was held Wednesday, May 27 at 4 p.m. in Jacksonville. He went through any projects that are scheduled now until the next 3 years for the Hilliard area. Only one item concerned a roadway, the remainder was work at the Hilliard Airpark. Projects included: CR 121 from SR 2 to US Highway 1, Signing/pavement markings, 2020/21, Cost: \$394,368; the remainder of the items concerned Hilliard Airpark, land purchase along Eastwood Road, 2020/21, Cost: \$175,000; Master Plan/ALP update, 2023/24, Cost: \$400,000; Acquire tractor and attachments, 2020/21, Cost: \$86,000; Design & construct new maintenance building, 2023/24, Cost: \$125,000; Hangar development, 2024/25, \$1,000,000; Relocate displaced threshold, 2023/24, Cost \$110,000; Design & construct hangars, 2022/23, Cost: \$340,000; Install security fencing, 2020/21, Cost: \$360,000; Realign Pea Farm Road on north end, 2020/21, Cost \$504,000; Security fencing for newly acquired land, 2021/22, Cost: \$600,000; and Construction realigned Pea Farm Road; 2020/21, Cost \$870,000.

The next two agenda items were to set workshops for the restructuring of the Mayor's duties; and the other to discuss a complaint from the town clerk and response. Both workshops will be done the same night, Monday, June 1 at 6 p.m. at Town Hall.

Town Clerk Lisa Purvis covered the next item which concerned a malfunction with the time clock system throughout all the town departments (town hall, recreation center, WWTP, etc.). "I feel like we (council) need to adopt by resolution some timekeeping procedures," said Purvis. "Forms will be provided at each time clock when problems occur. The forms must be signed and turned in immediately."

Several council persons had questions and concerns about changing procedures until the problem is fixed. Purvis assured the council that she has been in touch with the company, Tyler Execu Time, numerous times each week to address the issues. The council approved the 401 timekeeping procedure but will be revisited once the problems are fixed.

Public Works Director Richie Rowe requested approval to sign and submit the grant application form for the Trash Trap Grit removal at the WWTP. The town will be allowed to piggyback off of a City of Orlando contract for the FDEP Grant. The

council approved the request.

Parks & Recreation Director Kyle Malucci requested approval to sign the Nassau County School Board bus rental agreement for the Summer Camp fieldtrips. "We (the town) will still provide the driver and this year, the bus will be coming from the Yulee bus yard," said Malucci.

The council approved the request.

Malucci also advised the council that he has the agreements for Hilliard Middle-Senior High School and West Nassau High School swim teams to use the pool facility for summer 2020. The contracts will begin in August.

Clerk Lisa Purvis advised Malucci that the contracts must be signed by the schools first and then by the town.

Town Attorney Christian Waugh addressed the council concerning rules and procedures for anything that comes before the council. "In the next few weeks, you (council) will have a Zoning Board Appeal," said Waugh. "The previous Zoning Board meeting turned out to be a free-for-all, instead of a meeting. This type of action is not a good procedure to follow. I just have a few guidelines and rules to consider. The council will be presented information from the P/Z Board to make a decision."

Waugh went on to explain six guidelines to keep the meeting in order.

"I don't think we should amend the ordinance at this time, not when we have an acting appeal going on," said Councilwoman Callie Bishop. "If we're not changing anything, why do we have to vote on it?"

After much conversation, the council agreed to table this item until after the pending appeal.

Council President John Beasley questioned the council concerning the upcoming July 4th Hilliard Fireworks. "Should we (council) cancel or postpone the fireworks..." said Beasley.

Before he could finish, Councilman Kenny Sims said, "NO!"

The council unanimously agreed to continue plans for the fireworks display on Sunday, July 4, 2020.

The final item was from Town Clerk Lisa Purvis who explained, "Mr. Bobby Franklin's property, at the corner of West Eighth Street and US Highway 1 that was rezoned to R-3 Multi-Family, should have been rezoned PUD in order to accommodate the eight apartments facing West Eighth," said Purvis. "I am requesting that the fees associated with rezoning PUD be waived since he has already incurred rezoning and engineering costs based on his original proposal."

After much discussion, the council approved the request to waive the fees.

The next council meeting will be held Thursday, June 4 at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.



JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

Some have obviously never read these, others have read and forgot. We all need to hold these words dear to our hearts. The Bill of Rights are not time sensitive, they are relevant today just as they were in 1791. Here are the first six:

Amendment I: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II: A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III: No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV: The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V: No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI: In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

I will share the remaining "Rights" in the near future because each and every one is indeed important to all of us.

As always...that's just my opinion.

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Gifted Students Share Distance Learning Projects

Tracy Cruce, Gifted Teacher

Each school year, during the second semester, the Elementary Gifted students of Nassau County partner with White Oak Conservation to learn about a particular animal species. Students learn about the animal, the dangers and threats facing this species as well as the habitat and environment the animal lives in. While studying the animal they also take part in a project-based learning activity.

This January, students kicked off a study of the Cassowary. They had started learning about the Cassowary and their natural habitat when school shifted to distance learning due to Covid-19. While the actual field experience that was planned for March had to be cancelled, it didn't stop these students from learning more about these endangered creatures from home. Through a series of research activities, students learned about the population of the Cassowary in Australia and New Guinea. They learned what type of environment is best suited for its survival. They also focused research on what threats the Cassowary currently have with emphasis on solutions to these problems. Students were challenged to create a public awareness campaign for the Australian government

to educate people of the threats facing the Cassowary and providing solutions to these common problems. Students created everything from short commercial videos, brochures, newspaper articles and google slide shows. They displayed great creativity and projects were shared with the White Oak staff.



Daphne Finney, Wildlight Elementary, was busy working on her Cassowary threat newsletter.



Cooper Dugger, Bryceville Elementary, editing his commercial video about Cassowary threats.



Caleb Sloan, Callahan Intermediate School, with his informative brochure about preventing Cassowary car strikes.

Faircloth Retires After 35 Years

Dawn S. West

Friday morning, for about an hour, Callahan Elementary School was full of smiles, students, faculty and parents, as a vehicle parade was held in the bus parking lot. CES Principal Sabrina Faircloth was excited to join her faculty and enjoy the opportunity to wave at the many students passing by! Little did she know, faculty and parents were 'tipped off' that this was also to be a farewell to Mrs. Faircloth, to help celebrate her retirement. When she walked out to the CES bus loop, Assistant Principal Melissa Johnson announced on the speaker, "Welcome Mrs. Faircloth! This is all about you! Congratulations!" Sabrina was overcome with emotion as she spotted members of her family and signs about her! It was a sweet sight to behold.

Sabrina officially retires from the Nassau County School Board in late June, after 35 years of dedicated service to her students and school. She worked two years at Callahan Middle School; 1 year at Bryceville Elementary; and 32 years at Callahan Elementary. "It's hard to believe I'm at this point in my life. This has been a crazy year to say the least," said Sabrina.



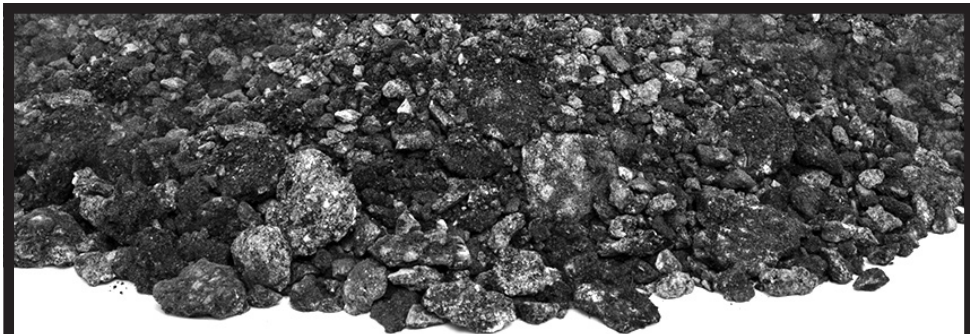
"It's been a struggle for the students and also for the teachers and faculty. We've all leaned heavily on each other."

Teaching has been her way of life for many years. "There is no way you can learn what you have to do in college or some kind of class. You learn from the ground up," said Sabrina. "Every child is not the same and there is no book. I've always loved children and

always will."

Sabrina is looking forward to this new chapter in her life. She has taken over the children's department at their church, First Baptist Church of Boulougne. She feels like God has opened that door and now she can commit to doing the best she can. She has faced her share of challenges through her life, as we all have, but has leaned heavily on her faith in the Lord to pull her through. "I'm looking forward to not having as many deadlines," added Sabrina. "It's really hard and stressful to be responsible for so many people (faculty, students, parents, etc.). It can be overwhelming at times. I'm thankful I've done my best and I can start this new journey."

She will be handing over her title to her current Assistant Principal Melissa Johnson. The two have not only been leaders of CES but also close friends. They have been a team for five years. The second year they were together, they actually took a Bible study class (a year) together. Together their faith grew stronger, only making their school stronger. "Prayer is the only way to make it through each day," continued Sabrina. "This job is much too big for human hands! My only goal has always been to just make a difference in this world."



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BCS Annual Blood Drive/Fish Fry Great Success

With the support of the Hilliard VFW Post 10095, the Blank Check Society of America held our Annual Blood Drive/Fish Fry on Saturday, May 16. There were 28 units of blood collected and over 100 fish dinners purchased. The BCS also gave out free dinners to those who donated blood and to our community first responders. Money received from dinner purchases and donations will be used to purchase Flags that will be placed upon our Veterans Graves, and to assist with the purchasing of Christmas Wreaths for the Jacksonville National Cemetery.

With the ongoing pandemic, the safety of our community was our first priority. Everyone seemed to enjoy the spacious seating that was carefully planned to ensure social distancing. The members of the VFW were instrumental with the setting up of outside canopies with tables and chairs along with ensuring facilities were available for those needing restrooms.

We are very thankful to the



community for coming together and supporting this event and helping to honor those heroes on the front line. Special thanks to Callahan Barbecue for the gracious donation of coleslaw and to Hilliard Meats for providing the fish at cost.

The need for donations of blood is very high. Please seek for opportunities to help our community.



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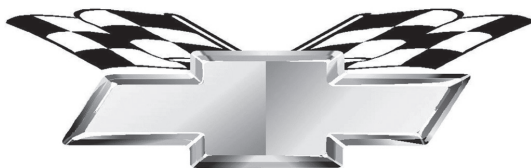
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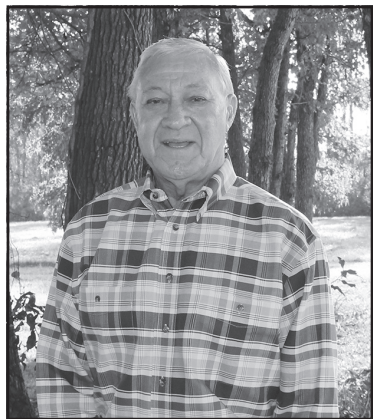
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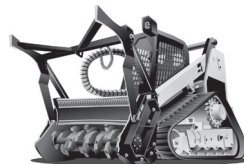
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Life Care Center of Hilliard now hiring **RNs and LPNs,** must have FL License. Please apply in person to: 3756 West 3rd Street, Hilliard or fax resume to 904-845-9487, or email to: Loren_Reddish@lcca.com<mailto:Loren_Reddish@lcca.com. tfn

SEEKING EXPERIENCED LAWN TECHNICIAN, must have clean valid driver's license, transportation and be dependable. Call (904) 879-6709 for an interview. tfn

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FARM HELP NEEDED, Callahan, experience with goats appreciated but not necessary. Call 904-672-6260. 52820

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC: Nassau County has an opening for Firefighter/Paramedic in the Fire Rescue Department at \$12.2597 hourly plus \$1.3736 paramedic pay (in accordance with CBA) plus benefits. Applications will be accepted until filled. To apply please visit: www.nassaucountyfl.com or for additional information contact the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 52820

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OBITUARIES

WILLIAM K. CRAWFORD, SR.



William K. "Bill" Crawford, Sr., 86, passed away Friday, May 22, 2020 at his Callahan residence. Mr. Crawford was born in Jacksonville, and moved to Callahan in 1982. He served with the Florida National Guard and was of the Baptist Faith. He retired from the City of Jacksonville's Waste-Water Division and from Container Corp. Mr. Crawford enjoyed gardening, hunting, fishing and auto racing. He dearly loved his family and friends and was a caretaker to all. He was predeceased by a son Richard Davis; a sister Gloria Dent; and a brother Robert Crawford.

Survivors include his wife of 38 years, Peggy Ann Crawford of Callahan; two sons William Kenneth (Cindy) Crawford, Jr. of Yulee and Timothy (Tina) Barnett of Callahan; four daughters Joy Barnett, Kelli (Albert) Broadfoot, Pamela (Randy) Edwards and Nancy Davis, all of Jacksonville; two sisters Diane Bell and Dorothy Hill; 10 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends Thursday, May 28 from 5-7 p.m. at Green Pine Funeral Home, Yulee. Graveside funeral services will be held Friday, May 29 at 11 a.m. at Green Pine Cemetery with Rev.

Joe Finnell officiating. To leave condolences, visit: www.greenpinefuneral.com. Arrangements by Green Pine Funeral Home, Cremations & Cemetery.

STELLA YOUNG RUELING

Stella Erleen Young Rueling, 74, of Hilliard, passed away Monday, May 18, 2020, at her residence. She was born in Camden, South Carolina to the late Neal Young, Sr. and Sylvia Ruth Ogle Young Nelson on April 7, 1946. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Boulougne. Along with her parents; she was preceded in death by her brother Rex Laverne Young.

She is survived by a brother Neal (Doylene) Young, Jr.; three sisters Darlene Madison, Teresa Hendrix and Sheri (Michael) Underwood; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Memorialization will be by cremation. A memorial service will be held Monday, June 1 at 1 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Boulougne with Rev. Paul Lucas officiating.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston, Georgia.

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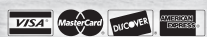


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Callahan Family Eye Center

To Our Patient Family,

We will be reopening our practice to routine eye care as of June 1, 2020. The office will be open during normal business hours.

We have implemented changes to keep our staff and our patients safe and healthy. We will be limiting the number of patients in the office to allow for proper social distancing and will require the use of masks. We ask that you call before entering the office to allow us to maintain distance between patients and to properly sanitize.

If you have glasses or contacts ordered and ready for pick-up, please call the office, 879-2020, and we will arrange to meet outside to dispense to you and make any adjustments necessary. Please call the office with any questions.

We appreciate your cooperation, understanding and patience as we navigate this unprecedented time. Thank you for your trust in us and your support.

Stay safe and healthy!
Thank you!

Farm Bureau Gives Back



Recently, the Nassau County Farm Bureau teamed up with other county farm bureaus to purchase fresh produce from Farmers and Ranchers in Palatka. The teams traveled to Palatka to pick up the produce and then delivered it! Farm Bureau donated nearly 15,000 pounds of fresh produce to the food ministries at Callahan First Baptist Church and Authentic Impact of the Journey Church in Fernandina Beach. Nassau County Farm Bureau is so thankful they were able to do this and give back to their local community.

Arrests Made in Spring Lake Robberies

On May 19, 2020, several vehicle burglaries occurred in the Spring Lake Estates subdivision in Callahan. A resident observed three unidentified suspects wearing dark colored clothing walking by vehicles and pulling on door handles. When Nassau County Sheriff's Office deputies arrived the suspects began to run. Deputies captured two of the suspects. After further investigation it was determined that 11 unlocked vehicles had been burglarized and the suspects admitted to coming to Nassau County from Jacksonville to look in cars and get stuff. The Jeep that was stolen the previous week was also recovered in the neighborhood when



Rae'Jon Armstrong



Daniel Belogub

it was left abandoned. The investigation is continuing to find the third suspect and if there is any connection to the recovered Jeep, as well as committing the previous burglaries.

Arrested were: Rae'Jon El'Mond Armstrong, 19, from Jacksonville, Burglary and Theft; and Daniel S. Belogub, 16, from Jacksonville, Burglary and Theft.

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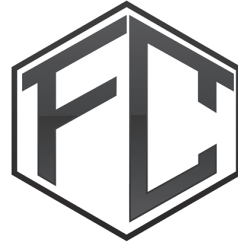
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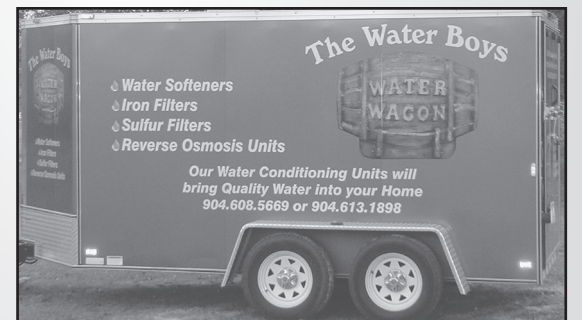
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