

The desk in the front office of the new headquarters building is made from an old Griffin Fire-Rescue truck. The lights still work.

the final axiom. "We do not have

a culture of fear or intimidation," Jones said. "We are not a place that crucifies people for doing little things wrong." The newly

constructed Griffin Fire-Rescue Station No. 2 and headquarters was a dream Jones said he had for years. The \$3.1 million building on Ellis Road was funded by monies from the 2015 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax.

The new fire station features a separate classroom and storage building as well as a separate administrative building. It also contains a room for firemen's turnout gear, a fitness center with state-ofthe-art cardiovascular equipment and an outside recreation area. A new training center is located on Industrial Drive.

"The (city's) Public Works Department has been amazing helping with this," Jones said about the training center.

Jones said GFR has received \$1 million in

"I'm proud of that. We



Griffin Fire-Rescue Chief Tommy Jones has the first article he ever wrote framed in his office. He said he wrote the article on the first day he became the city's fire marshal in 1994.

have been able to buy equipment that we know saves lives," Jones said.

The department has also purchased \$3.5 million in trucks, with most of those funds coming from grants and SPLOST monies.

"I am thankful we have been able to enhance our fleet so it is dependable and compliant," Jones said.

Jones is also proud of the city's Class 1 Insurance Services Organization fire rating, which he says is a rare

honor to have. There are 48,000 cities receiving fire ratings in the United States, Less than 600 cities have a 1 rating. A low rating results in lower fire insurance premiums for residents.

Having the belief that community leaders need to invest in the community in which they serve, Jones is active in community service. He is past president of Griffin Daybreak Rotary and the United Way.

Jones and his wife Kristen have three children, Max, Ragan and Grayson.

Outside of work. Jones said he enjoys riding bikes, reading and boats. He and other firemen have recently been introduced to pickleball, and Jones said

he enjoys playing. He loves to write and has published several articles and a book. He also loves speaking to groups and has spoken at over 20 conferences.

"I've been very lucky. Many opportunities have been given to me from the city. I am eternally grateful for every opportunity. It has been amazing," Jones said.



RAY LIGHTNER/DAILY NEWS

Toppan USA President and CEO Masa Tatewaki visited the Griffin plant earlier this month. He's pictured with Human Resources/Administration Manager Mike Morgan.

Toppan USA doing well, adding shifts

President and CEO Masa Fatewaki said business is

doing very good. In two years, business has almost doubled." Tatewaki

was named president and CEO effective April 1 and had been a vice president since the company was established in 2014 in Griffin and when the plant opened he visited the Griffin facility earlier this month and said

Executive

President

Harry Suzuki

responsible

everything

at the Griffin

square-foot

Vice

will be

for

plant.

The

103,771

plant is

at 603

"Business is doing very good. In two years, business has almost doubled."

> — Masa Tatewaki Toppan USA President and CEO

> > Rehoboth Road on two lots in the Lakes at Green Valley industrial park. The plant produces

barrier film used in packaging for food, drink, medical care, pharmaceuticals and

industrial materials. The plant is expanding, with Phase 2 of the development under way and a new production machine arriving in May.

It is at full capacity now, he said. "We will add more

shifts to add more capacity," he said. What this means

is hiring of more employees at the plant, which currently employs 80.

"We're going to add more," Tatewaki said. "I'm pushing to hire

Sassy Flamingos Boutique & Gifts

GL film, a transparent





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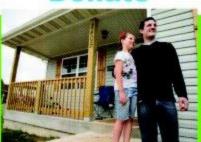
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