

Friends Group Assists in Many Ways

Nancy Lee Bethea

Walter Cronkite, the famous newsman, once said, "Whatever the cost of our libraries, the price is cheap compared to that of an ignorant nation."

There is a group of people here in Callahan committed to supporting the Callahan Library with their time and resources. The group is the Friends of the Callahan Library, led by President William Piel.

"Our Friends group is one of our most valuable assets," said Elizabeth McKibben-Nee, Librarian of the Callahan Library. "Not only do they provide resources, like magazines and programs, such as balloon artists, through their fundraising efforts, but they also donate their time and energy in volunteer hours, manning tables at events and assisting with Library projects," she added.

Currently, the group's goals include continuing to provide monies for magazine and newspaper subscriptions, purchasing attractive storage for

the Library's periodical collection, and funding children's programs, especially during the summer months and holidays.

This holiday season, for example, the Friends of the Callahan Library will help host the annual Family Holiday Festival. With local school choirs, holiday crafts, a balloon artist, face painting, and visits with Santa and Frosty the Snowman and more! The Festival is scheduled for Saturday, December 16, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. inside the multipurpose building at the Fairgrounds. Last year, the Festival drew more than 300 people into the Library. Because of the high turn-out, the Festival has moved to the larger location.



Over the summer, the Friends group held a Book Bonanza Book Fair inside the Callahan Library. People were able to purchase children's books for their home libraries. With the proceeds from the Book Fair, the Friends group donated 127 hardcover books to the Library's juvenile collection, according to McKibben-Nee.

To continue serving our community, the Friends group needs more members. If you're interested in serving as a Friend of the Callahan Library, you can

pick up and complete an application at the Callahan Library, located at 450077 SR 200, Suite 15, in Callahan. The group meets the first Tuesday of every month at 5 p.m., inside the Library's conference room, unless otherwise noted.

"The Friends of the Callahan Library make a valuable contribution to the citizens of Callahan and all of Nassau County via their service to the public library. Our Library is better because of our 'Friends,'" said McKibben-Nee.

Florida Power & Light Purchases Land in Crawford Diamond

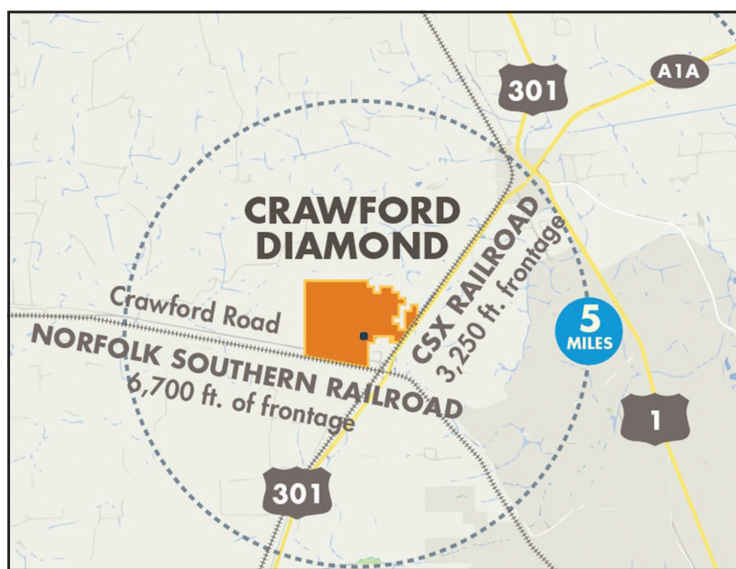
According to reports, Florida Power & Light has purchased 1,310 acres of land from the Rayonier Corporation

at the Crawford Diamond location off of US 301. Florida Power & Light paid \$13.1 million for the land. As of yet, FP&L has not announced any development plans for the site. A spokesperson for FP&L stated, "The company is always planning ahead to ensure we are prepared to meet the needs of our customers in the future."

The Crawford Diamond Industrial Park which is located on US 301,

south of Callahan consisted of 1,814 acres which is owned by Rayonier Incorporated. This location is unique, in that two Class 1 railroad tracks intersect, Norfolk Southern tracks and CSX tracks cross one another creating a diamond shape at their intersection point, thus the name Crawford Diamond. It is extremely rare for two Class 1 railroad systems to cross one another. This combined with the short distance to two major interstate highways (I-95 and I-10), and within 30 miles of Fernandina and Jacksonville ports add to the uniqueness of this site.

The site received a megasite certification by McCallum Sweeney Consulting of Greenville, South Carolina which is considered a huge step in marketing the land.



CES to Perform 'Frosty' Friday!



This Friday, December 15, second grade students at Callahan Elementary School will perform 'Frosty' at 1 p.m. for the student body and at 6 p.m. for family, friends and the community. Tickets are not required for admission however, donations will be accepted! Please come out and support the arts and the students at Callahan Elementary School!

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Mailbox Decorating Class Held

Nassau County homeowner Nancy Carpenter came to the Holiday Mailbox workshop along with four of her friends so they could all have decorated mailboxes! Marshal Phelps got into the holiday spirit by creating her holiday decorated mailbox. The workshop allowed her to create the live greenery décor, under the watchful eyes of Nassau Extension Master Gardener Carol Ann Atwood and friend Sylvie Baxter.



VVA Chapter 1088 Receives Donation



The Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival gives back to our communities by donating profits from each year's festival to many non-profit groups supporting our citizens in many positive ways. Chairman Harry Harrison is shown presenting a check to our Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1088, who proudly serves the needs of many Veterans and their families of all eras in Nassau and Camden Counties.

Letters to the Editor

Thank You!

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank Eric Waters, Manager, and Lem Johnson of O'Reilly Auto Parts in Callahan for their kind generosity to let me hold my fundraiser in their parking lot.

I am preparing to compete in the national competition of Miss Collegiate America June 18-24, 2018 in Little Rock, Arkansas. I am responsible for raising all the money needed for the trip, flight, hotel, food and pageant dresses. I will have yard sales as many Saturdays as possible to help raise money for my trip. We will also take donations of items to sell.

Thank you again for your support of my endeavor!

Brooke Toy,
2018 Miss Florida Collegiate

Clothing Giveaway

Joel Pace Piano and Music will hold a yard sale and free clothing giveaway on Saturday, December 16 from 12-5 p.m. at 14244 Pace Road, Jacksonville. The studio will also be open for those interested in learning more about music lessons. For more information visit: facebook.com/joelpacepiano or email: joelpace@juno.com. Clothing donations are also accepted to be redistributed to those in need!



Callahan Library Holiday Celebration!



It's holiday fun for everyone at the Callahan Library Holiday Festival! The free event will be held Saturday, December 16 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the multipurpose building at the fairgrounds. Schools, groups, and businesses will offer an extravaganza to celebrate the season. Activities will include a balloon artist, face painting, live entertainment, cookie decorating, holiday crafts and visits from Pete the Cat, Frosty the Snowman, Sparky the Fire Dog, and another very special guest! This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Callahan Library.

In the Kitchen...

Sugar Coated Pecans

- 1 egg white
- 1 tablespoon water
- 1 pound pecan halves

- 1 cup white sugar
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Preheat oven to 250°. Grease one baking sheet. In a mixing bowl, whip together the egg white and water until frothy. In a separate bowl, mix together sugar, salt, and cinnamon. Add pecans to egg whites, stir to coat the nuts evenly. Remove the nuts, and toss them in the sugar mixture until coated. Spread the nuts out on the prepared baking sheet. Bake at 250° for 1 hour. Stir every 15 minutes.

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Fatal Accident Last Thursday

A fatal accident occurred last Thursday morning around 7:15 a.m. on US Highway 1 and Zidell Road just north of Callahan. According to Florida Highway Patrol reports, a 2013 Ford Transit, driven by Sean Easterling, 32, of Hilliard, was traveling south on US Highway 1 in the inside lane north of Zidell Road. Two other vehicles, a 2017 Buick Enclave, driven by Stephanie Crawford, 34, of Folkston; and a 2017 Hyundai Accent, driven by Kim Ford, 61, of Hilliard; were stopped for traffic

facing south on US Highway 1 in the inside lane. Traffic was stopped due to a school bus picking up kids from US 1 and Zidell Road.

The driver of the Ford (Easterling) failed to stop for traffic and rear ended the Buick (Crawford). The Buick was then pushed forward where the front right struck the rear left of the Hyundai (Ford). Easterling was pronounced deceased at the scene. The roadway was blocked for three and a half hours.

Hilliard Town News

The Hilliard Town Council met Thursday night for their first meeting of December. The first order of business was a recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Board. The board recommended to reappoint Etta Faye Burnham and Wendy Prather for another 3-year term. The council approved the

recommendation. In other business, the council approved the run reimbursement request from the Volunteer Fire Department. The total amount was \$4,236.45. The next council meeting will be Thursday, December 21 at 7 p.m.

Donations for Animals Needed!



The WNHS 9th Grade AVID class is collecting donations for the Nassau Human Society now through December 20. Drop off locations are WNHS, Callahan Middle School, Callahan Town Hall and Callahan Animal Hospital. Please bring donations for animals in need. We are accepting dry dog and cat food, unused pet toys and/or other pet items. Visit: www.nassauhumanesociety.com/wishlist.html for a full list of needed items!

EVENTS AROUND TOWN

Nassau Ferst Foundation will hold a Fundraiser Monday, Dec. 18 at Townies Pizzeria, 819 TJ Courson Rd., Fernandina. Mention Nassau Ferst and 10% of your order will be donated.

West Nassau Single Senior Citizens will meet for their next luncheon Wed., Dec. 20 at 1 p.m. at The Pig in Callahan. Come and meet new friends. For more information call Marlene at 879-9845.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans will hold their monthly meeting on Monday, December 18 at 7 p.m. at the Pig Barbeque Restaurant in Callahan.

The American Legion Post 401 will play BINGO every Thursday at 6 p.m. at their post, 554084 US Hwy. 1, Hilliard. Everyone welcome! For more information call 845-7300.

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JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

I didn't think Obama could disgust me more than I already was with him, but he has! He spent his entire first term blaming George W. Bush for everything imaginable, taking no blame for his own ineptness. He had perhaps the worst record of any prior President as far as job growth, unemployment and the U.S. GDP. Last week, Obama spoke at the North American Climate Summit. As usual he poured out more of his delusional rhetoric by stating that the economy's success comes down to environmental policies put in place during his administration. He went on to point out that after his administration took steps to cut carbon emissions and signed on to the Paris climate accord "we saw the U.S. economy grow consistently." Wow, I missed that part of his administration! He didn't stop there though, he went on with his grand delusion by stating, "We saw the longest streak of job creation in American history by far. A streak that still continues by the way! Thanks Obama!"

Yep, he thanked himself for our growing economy. Of course, the truth is that job creation under Ronald

Reagan and even Bill Clinton was by far much larger than any gains by Obama. Of course if you are a liberal, facts don't mean anything, just say what you want because the sheeple will believe you and the main stream media will not call you out on your lies.

In contrast, President Trump's record, which is still young, shows that between July and September, the U.S. GDP which is an indicator of economic output grew at 3% which was also done in the previous quarter. Under Obama's regime the United States economy grew only an average of 2.1%. These positive growths are a direct result of President Trump's policies, which have created thousands and thousands of new jobs and has boosted industrial, commercial and consumer confidence. Trust me: Obama has had nothing to do with our economic growth. But beware...Barack Hussein Obama is not satisfied with being a past President of the United States. He did and still does want to be America's dictator. Keep a close eye on his activities and you will find that he is still working on that goal.

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

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The Journey

Pastor Arlie Johns, Hilliard First Assembly of God



The other day as I began to think about the Christmas Story, my thoughts began to think on the journey that Joseph and Mary would have to make from Nazareth in Galilee back to Bethlehem in Judea. You see Joseph was from the house and line of David. According to Luke's Gospel, because of the Roman census that the government was requiring, Joseph had to travel with his family back to his home town of Bethlehem, the town of David.

But the real journey for Mary and Joseph started before they ever left Nazareth. When Joseph discovered that Mary was with child, he felt that Mary had been unfaithful to him and that was no way to start a marriage. At that point, Joseph planned to divorce Mary. But God sent an Angel to visit Joseph and convinced him that the child that was in Mary's womb was to be the savior of the world.

By this time both Mary and Joseph had received a visit from an angel of the Lord telling them of the miracle that was about to take place. Mary was soon to give birth to the Son of God. They were instructed to give Him the name Immanuel, which means "God with Us." This all took place to fulfil the scripture in Isaiah 7:14; "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel." (NIV84)

So, the journey continued as they left Nazareth and headed down towards the town of Bethlehem. Nazareth is located in the hills just to the southwest of the Sea of Galilee. And the city of Bethlehem is located just south of the city of Jerusalem. The journey between the two is just under 100 miles, but would have taken Mary and Joseph about 7 to 10 days to travel. The Bible doesn't go into any detail about the journey, but I'm sure that it must have been physically hard on Mary being she was so close to giving birth to Jesus.

As we read the rest of the story, we see that God helped Mary complete this part of her journey and she gave birth to the Son of God, the Savior and Light of the World.

If you're having trouble along your journey today, I want you to know that God is there to help you if you will just call out to Him.

God told Joshua in Deuteronomy 31:6; "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." (NIV84)

Put your trust in God, and He will guide you along your journey.

I pray that you have a Blessed and Merry Christmas this year!

HHS FFA Receives Donation

The Hilliard High School FFA Club is proud to announce the receipt of a \$250 grant from Florida Farm Bureau. The money will be used to feed their new chickens and purchase supplies to build a larger coop!



Christmas in the Country Successful

The first annual Christmas in the Country was held last Saturday at the Canaday Barn off of CR 108 and Jessie Road outside of Hilliard. The vendor event was a time for local people to display their items for many to see. Visitors enjoyed a variety of items to look at and purchase and also had



some great food.

"We were very pleased with the turnout of people to the event. It was also a great time to showcase our barn which is also available for rental for holiday parties, weddings, reunions, etc." said Connie Canaday, owner and organizer. "We look forward to having the event every year at this time!"

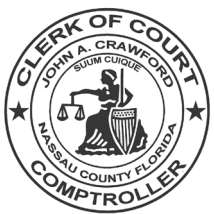


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HHS Amy Lee Signs with Seminole State College



Holden McMillen

With softball season around the corner, one lucky player has been given the opportunity to play collegiate softball at the next level. Hilliard Flashes senior Amy Lee has signed her letter of intent to attend Seminole State College in Sanford, Florida and play college softball for the Raiders. The Raiders are a Division I team and a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) and the Florida College System Activities Association's (FCSAA) Mid-Florida Conference (MFC).

"It's all my dreams coming true," Lee emotionally opens up on signing with the Raiders. "It feels like I'm finally crossing the finish line, holding back tears."

For Lee, the journey started sooner than expected. During her 8th grade year, the coaches saw potential in her talents on the diamond and decided to promote her to the varsity team. Since the move was made, Lee continued to impress her coaches, her teammates and college scouts, including Seminole State College. After taking a visit to the school, it was love at first sight.

"The coaching staff is great," said Amy. "It's a great college. But it's all about academics."

Lee could not have gotten to this stage in her life without the love and support from her parents, Jeffrey and Angela Lee, and her coaches. "She did a lot of showcase tournaments with her travel ball team. Seminole State followed her for about a year and invited her for a visit. She was given an offer there and it was a perfect fit," said Angela Lee.

In addition to playing softball at Hilliard, she also took part in a travel ball team, the Jacksonville Storm. There, her dad helped coach. "I helped coach the team,"

said Jeffrey. "Me and her would play and practice. We built a batting cage. We spent a lot of time throwing and catching."

In addition to her parents, she had the support from her softball Coach Lisa Blanton. "I was impacted by Amy, both as a coach and as a person," said Blanton. "Just knowing that she's going to a really good team and I'm confident that she will make an impact both at school and on the field."

"They always held me to a higher standard and they always believed in me," said Amy.

Along with her athletic talent, Lee continues to push herself and strives for greatness in the classroom as well. She is currently taking dual enrollment classes at the Florida State College at Jacksonville and is making A's and B's in all her classes, including a few honors classes.

With a good supporting cast behind her, Lee is confident in her academic and athletic abilities to carry her through the next step in her journey through life.

Throughout her high school career, Lee has been through the grind, kept her faith and her love for the Lord and has the work ethic that can help propel her to the next level. But before she departs to Seminole State College, she has a special message for the future of the Hilliard Flashes softball program.

"Always keep the end goal in mind and know who you are playing for," said Amy, giving her message for the future of Hilliard Flashes softball. "We play for our town, our coaches and God. Even if you don't believe in yourself, someone else will."

Keep an eye out for this next level Flash as she begins her collegiate career. We wish her nothing but the best and positive things going forward.

A Callahan Christmas this Saturday!

Julie Benton and Destiny Feagle

Join us as West Nassau High School presents A Callahan Christmas Saturday, December 16 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Children can participate in arts, crafts and games as you explore CandyLand, Whoville, Charlie Brown, Polar Express, Nutcracker and the North Pole. Take an exciting train ride on the Polar Express, decorate sugar cookies, make reindeer food for Santa's helpers and pick that special present for Mom or Dad to wrap and put under your tree. Also enjoy a birthday party and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas! Our theatre and band departments will have several performances you can attend to help with your Christmas Spirit. Become Santa's helper in our ROTC Elf Bootcamp.

Our first annual Craft Fair will open at 10 a.m. and our local Fire and Sheriff Departments will be on hand to meet and greet you. The Big Red Bus Blood Mobile will be onsite for you to help save lives through your blood donation. We will have hot dogs, chili dogs, slaw dogs and bowls of chili on sale for \$1 each for you to enjoy lunch with your family!

The thought of giving back to the children of our community and watching them have a phenomenal time while



getting in the Christmas spirit is such a wonderful feeling! We look forward to seeing their faces when they walk in our transformed cafeteria and realize how much there is to do and enjoy. Last year was the first year we hosted this event and we plan to continue for many years to come because this is such a simple pleasure to the children and their parents. The event is FREE to all ages so we hope to see you at A Callahan Christmas this year.

The West Nassau High School Band will present the annual Christmas Concert December 16 at 2 p.m. in the gym, donations will be accepted. Our Theatre Group will present "Dearly Departed" in the BlackBox Theatre December 14-16 at 6:30 p.m., tickets are \$5 with student ID and \$7 regular admission.

CONGRATULATIONS TANNER TYER!



Congratulations to Tanner Jacob Tyer on his graduation, December 15, from the University of Central Florida with his Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences Degree – Pre-Medical, Track, Cum Laude. Tanner was a 2013 graduate of West Nassau High School. He is the son of Tom and Sheri Tyer of Callahan and the grandson of the Tommy and Frances Tyer of Starke and Sherwin and Barbara Carter of Keystone Heights.

*May God Bless
You and Your Family
this Christmas Season!*



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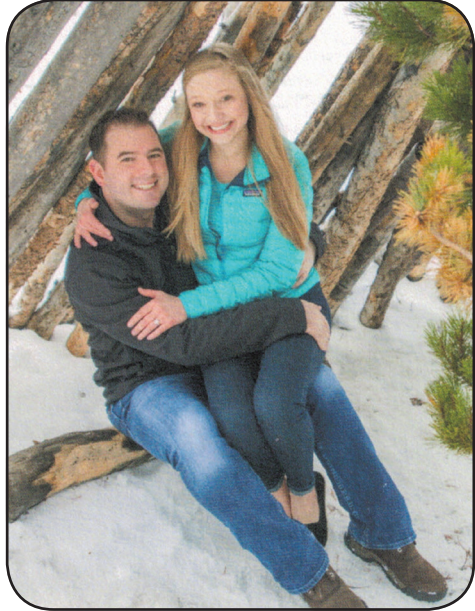
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Hilliard

New Beginnings and Milestones

Ms. Hailey and Mr. Thrush Announce Upcoming Marriage



Keith and Rosemarie Hailey of Callahan are pleased to announce the upcoming marriage of their daughter Megan Hailey to Caleb Thrush, son of Larry and Cindy Thrush of Houston, Texas.

The bride-elect is a 2007 graduate of West Nassau High School and a 2017 graduate of the University of North Florida with a Mechanical Engineering Degree. She is employed with NASA.

The groom-elect is a 2006 graduate of Klein High School in Texas and a 2015 graduate of the University of North Florida with an Information Technology Degree. He is employed with Chevron I.T.

The wedding is planned for Saturday, December 16 in Amelia Island.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeff McGee

Janet Carter and Jeff McGee were united in marriage on October 27 in a private ceremony at their home. The ceremony was attended by a small group of family and friends!

Following a honeymoon trip to the mountains, the couple is residing in Callahan.



CMS Junior Betas Compete



Thirty seven members of the Callahan Middle School Junior Beta Club recently attended the Florida Junior Beta Convention in Orlando. The Convention is a meeting of several thousand Junior Betas from all over the state of Florida. Members compete in various competitions, vote for officers and attend a mixer.

Every student from CMS represented their school and their county well.

The CMS Club and its members received many awards: 7th Grader Anthony Mikus was voted Secretary of the Florida Junior Beta Club; 8th Grader (and CMS Beta President) Lindsey Evans won 1st Place in the Speech competition; 7th Grader Lexie Decker won 2nd Place in the 7th Grade Language Arts Competition; 6th Grader Baylie Cruce won 2nd



Place in the 6th Grade Social Studies Competition; 6th Grader Evelyn Cohoon won 3rd Place in the Sketching Competition; CMS won 2nd Place in the Spotlight Your Club competition; 3rd Place in the T-Shirt Design Competition; and the G.O.L.D. Key Award for increasing convention attendance.

Congratulations students! Your sponsors, school, and community are proud of you!



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NCSO Explorers: Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office Explorers Post traveled to the Florida Sheriffs Explorers Association Delegates meeting in Palm Beach County, in November 2017. While there the students participated in defensive tactics training, shooting on the range, traffic stop training, shoot don't shoot simulations, low lighting search and rescue, team challenges and individual obstacle course.



quarterly to train, network, and meet other Explorers from different types of agencies and different ways of life.

Law enforcement exploring provides educational training for youth and young adults on the purpose, mission and objectives of law enforcement. The program provides career orientation experiences, leadership opportunities and community service activities.

To be eligible to join NCSO's Explorer Unit, you must be of good moral character, maintain respect for law enforcement, maintain school attendance, be attending or have graduated from high school or college, maintain a 2.0 grade point average, be between 13 and 21 years old, pass a background check and be a current resident of Nassau County.

For further information about the NCSO Explorer program contact the Nassau County Sheriff's Office by calling 904-225-0331. The NCSO Exploring Unit is a non-profit 501(3) (c) charitable organization.

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office Explorer Unit is a member of the Florida Sheriffs Explorer Association. The Florida Sheriff's Explorer Association is made up of 35 Explorer Posts from around the State of Florida. Each Post is comprised of young adults that are exploring the field of law enforcement. These young adults are males and females ages 13 to 21 years old. The association was created to allow Sheriff's Explorer Posts to meet



A Callahan Christmas

Presented by
West Nassau High School

Saturday, December 16th
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the West Nassau High School Cafeteria
FREE Admission!

Visit Candy Land, Polar Express, Whoville, Nutcracker,
Charlie Brown and the North Pole

AND our new addition

A Callahan Christmas Craft Fair (opens at 10 a.m.)

Games & Activities:

- Elf Bootcamp
- Cookie Decorating
- Storytime Area
- Reindeer Games
- NCSO

- Face Painting
- Letters to Santa
- Happy Birthday Jesus
- Treats
- NCFR

- Train Rides
- Santa's Shop
- Crafts
- Music
- and much more!

Judge Fahlgren Accepts Civility Award

Nassau County Circuit Judge Steven Fahlgren was awarded the Jacksonville American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) Civility Award for 2017 at the organization's Holiday Dinner Meeting at the San Jose Country Club in Jacksonville. ABOTA is a national organization made up of equal numbers of civil plaintiff and defense lawyers. Its membership is by invitation only and members are dedicated to the right to a jury trial right provided by the Seventh Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Each member seeks to elevate the standards of integrity, honor, ethics, civility and courtesy in the legal profession.

The "Civility Award" reads, "The lawyer who has done the most in the past year to elevate the standards of integrity, honor and courtesy in the Fourth Judicial Circuit." The Fourth



Judicial Circuit encompasses Nassau, Duval and Clay Counties. Judge Fahlgren is the first judge to win the award since its inception in 2008. Judge Fahlgren and his wife Kimberly and children reside in Hilliard.

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SERVICES

AVAILABLE SERVICES: Bookkeeping using QuickBooks Pro; Business Incorporating; Business/Individual Tax Work; Casualty Loss Tax Return Claims; Florida Commissioned Notary Public; Wealth Retention Consulting; 36-plus years' Experience in Business. Contact Country Law & Tax Service in Callahan at (904) 628-0635 or e-mail Tom@TomBlairEA.com. tfn

ELDERLY HOME CARE! Are you needing elderly care at home? Local CNA seeking new clients on part-time basis. Caring, loving, compassionate care. ADL's, companionship, errands, meal prep, etc. Experience & references available. Call Carolyn at (904) 626-5175. tfn

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FOR INFORMATION ABOUT renting the Callahan County Building on Mickler Street for weddings, birthdays, family reunions, etc., call Bonnie at 904-759-2281.

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YARD SALES

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., 29087 Penny Haddock Rd., Hilliard. Lots of craft supplies, junior and ladies nice clothes, furniture and miscellaneous.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., 55289 Gressman Rd. (beside El Cheapo), Callahan. Vintage glass, board games, workout equipment, vinyl records, watering cans, Marlboro collectibles, kitchen ware, military surplus, MREs, Hess trucks, Christmas decorations, lights, coffee tables, mirror, desks, outdoor chairs, books, tools, tent, camping stuff, boat, two (2) Harley Davidsons, camper & more!

CLOSE-OUT SALE! Saturday, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the traffic light in Hilliard. Everything must go! Flashes gear, specialty & religious shirts, pillows, shirts, hats, flip-flops. Tote bags & purses \$5; all high school jerseys \$5! Everything must go!

MIRROR, MIRROR on the wall or dresser top, we have them, all shapes & sizes, CHEAP! Massage chairs, tools, miscellaneous, furniture, TV cabinets, new Christmas tins, other items and glasswares! 36174 Pine Street, Hilliard, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. **SATURDAY ONLY!**

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 10 a.m. until? 615331 River Road, Callahan. Yard sale! Clothes, appliances & much more!

THE SOUTHERN YANKEE would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a healthy & prosperous New Year! This week 12/14 - 12/22, 20% OFF STOREWIDE. We have a nice selection of small gifts: jewelry, clothing & accessories, home décor and more for your last minute gifting! We will be closed 12/23-12/28 to spend time with our loved ones. The shop is located at 45309 Mickler St., Callahan, hours Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., (904) 320-5156.

GOD'S BRIDGE JOL MINISTRIES invites you to join us for a Happy Birthday Jesus party Saturday, Dec. 23, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Store specials continues with 50% OFF clothes, 20% OFF formals and wedding gowns until Dec. 23. Located behind CVS, Callahan.

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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

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MAINTENANCE HELPER: Nassau County has an opening for a Maintenance Helper in the Road & Bridge Department at \$11.38 hourly plus benefits. Applications will be accepted thru December 20, 2017. Additional information and application can be obtained in the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797, or at www.nassaucountyfl.com. Equal Opportunity Employer. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 121417

BUILDING OFFICIAL: Nassau County has an opening for a Building Official in the Building Department at \$72,501.00 - \$90,544.00 annually plus benefits depending on qualifications. Applications will be accepted until filled. Additional information and application can be obtained in the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797, or at www.nassaucountyfl.com. Equal Opportunity Employer. Drug Free Workplace. 121417

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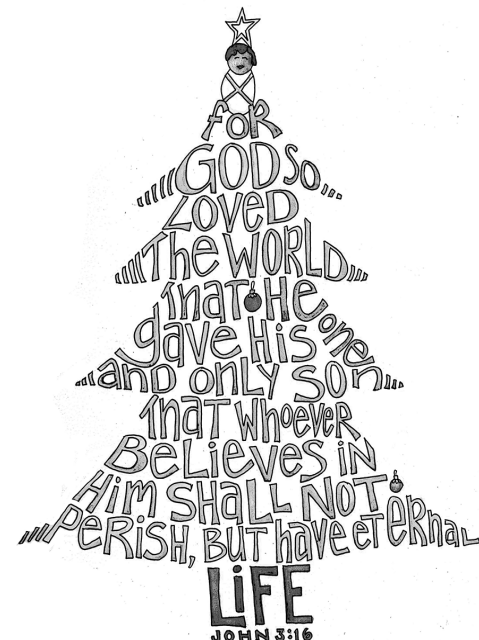
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POLICE REPORTS

Names, Addresses and all information appearing in the Police Reports are taken from the Sheriff's Department files and do not necessarily indicate guilt, only that arrests were made or charges were filed.

Sunday, December 3

John William Dixon, 48, 54057 Dornbush Road, Callahan: Aggravated Battery with Great Bodily Harm

Monday, December 4

Jamie Delaine Williams, 54, 36192 Matt Dylan Lane, Callahan: Sale of Controlled Substance Failure to Appear

Joshua Samuel Ingros, 29, 37123 Marshall Lane, Hilliard: Violation of Probation Possession of Controlled Substance; Possession less than 20 grams Cannabis

Wednesday, December 6

Nick Wiley Tyson, 26, 10132 Mulberry Landing, Hilliard: Contempt of Court

NCSO to Utilize Narcan Spray

Nassau County Sheriff's Office has expanded its use of Narcan, an opiate overdose counteragent. Deputies will carry the lifesaving medication thanks to a grant from the Florida Sheriffs Association.

"Our firefighters have administered Narcan for years, so we recognized the importance of putting this opiate antidote in the hands



of our deputies, who are often the first to arrive on scene," said Sheriff Bill Leeper.

The Florida Sheriffs Association initially provided 12 units of Narcan spray in a nasal pump applicator.

The nasal pump applicator is suitable for law enforcement and first responders who have a basic understanding of medical protocols. "What's good about this pump is if it's not an overdose [the spray] won't hurt anybody," continued Leeper. "It's a stop-gap measure. Narcan

also ensures the safety of deputies and canines in the event that they accidentally come in contact with the synthetic opiates fentanyl and carfentanil. They're often mixed with heroin or used as a substitute. Synthetic fentanyl and particularly carfentanil, in very minute doses, can kill somebody."

NCSO responds to an average of 25 calls per month dealing with opiates, which includes overdoses and possession. "The opiate crisis is very real and very deadly," said Leeper.

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MARTHA LILLIAN BUCHANAN

Martha Lillian Buchanan, lifelong Hilliard resident, passed away Tuesday, December 12 at the Life Care Center of Hilliard.

The family will receive friends prior to the funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday, December 16 at the First Baptist Church of Hilliard. The funeral service will begin at 1 p.m.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com. Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

DENNIS ALLEN BYRD

 Dennis Allen Byrd, 72, of Callahan, passed away December 3. He was born December 8, 1944 to the late James and Florence Drawdy Byrd in Jacksonville. He lived the last 35 years in Callahan with his beloved wife Toby. Dennis was a graduate of Paxon High School (1962) and served in the U.S. Army Reserves. Dennis and Toby shared a passion for travel and visited over 25 countries during their adventures. He enjoyed fishing with his grandson Justin as well as his best buddy and neighbor, Floyd Collins. He imparted his enthusiasm for nature and the outdoors to his children. He shared his love for fish keeping with his daughters that brought many fish-related conversations to the dinner table, to the amusement of the entire family. He will be greatly missed by all who have known him. Dennis was preceded in death by his sister Helen Southerland; half-brothers Lamar Moody and David Buster Brown.


Survivors include his wife of 49 years, Toby; daughters Kelly (Jim) Charles, Sharon (John) Hooks; son Danny Byrd; and his grandchildren Abigael Crouch, Justin Dean, Lane Byrd, Luke Byrd and Tori Litz.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, December 16 at 11 a.m. at Victory Lutheran Church, 4651 Kernan Blvd. S. Jacksonville, with Pastor Phil Hoyer officiating. Interment will be by cremation. Arrangements are under the direction of Cedar Bay Funeral Home, 714-1110.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to USMC Toys for Tots.

OBITUARIES

SEAN JOEL EASTERLING

 Sean Joel Easterling, 32, of Hilliard, passed away December 7. He was born September 11, 1985 in Tampa. He received his GED in 2005 from FCCJ and became a Certified Respiratory Therapist in 2008. He was employed with Life Line Home Health Care and was a member of the Folkston Church of Christ. He was an avid Star Wars fan and loved hanging out with his friends watching movies and game night.


He is survived by his parents Michele and Owen Bevans and Joel Easterling; his brother Ryan (Stephanie) Easterling; a sister Chloe Easterling; grandparents Jeff and Sylvia Easterling; uncle Micheal Musgrove; and a host of friends and other family members. He was preceded in death by his grandparents Floyd and Lois Musgrove.

Funeral services were held Monday, December 11 at the Folkston Church of Christ with Arthur Wilson officiating. Burial followed in Pigeon Creek Cemetery in Hilliard.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements were under the direction of Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston.

LILLIE BELLE HARTLEY

 Lillie Belle Hartley, 92, passed away on December 7. The Hilliard native was born on June 13, 1925 to Josh and Nettie Crews Carroll. In addition to her parents, Mrs. Hartley is predeceased by her husband Lawrence Hartley; sisters Elsie Hodges, Ida Canaday, Nellie Johnson, and Mary Paul; and brothers Andrew Carroll and Dennis Carroll.

Survivors include two daughters Sheila Hartley and Patty Smith; three sons Johnny (Barbara) Hartley, Gary (Deb) Hartley and David (Caraline) Hartley; as well as a brother Noah Carroll; 11 grandchildren; 22

great-grandchildren; and nine great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral Services were held Monday, December 11 at River Road Baptist Church. Interment followed in Mill Creek Cemetery in Hilliard. Visitation was held prior to service.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, Inc.

KELLIE ANN HEINEMANN


Kellie Ann Heinemann, 51, passed away on November 13. Kellie was born in Daytona Beach on March 28, 1966 to Mark Heinemann and Barbara Woods.

Survivors include her parents Mark Heinemann of Bunnell; and Barbara Speal and the late Frank Speal of Hilliard; and a sister Heather Heinemann of Callahan.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

Arrangements were by Callahan Funeral Home, Inc.

MARILYN DONL KITE


 Marilyn Donl Kite, 81, passed away on December 4. She was a lifelong resident of Jacksonville and a graduate of Andrew Jacksonville High School class of 1954. She was also a longtime member of the Bit & Spur Saddle Club, United Daughters of the Confederacy and Duval Station Baptist Church. She was the daughter of the late Jasper and Effie Starling Ogilvie. She is preceded in death by her husband Charles "Sonny" Kite; daughters Diane Thomas, and Jean Bridge; grandson Harry Arthur; and granddaughter Christy Helbig.

Survivors include her daughters Kathy Kite (Don) and Joan Dishmond; son Charles (Cathy) Kite, Jr.; grandchildren

Sandy (Steve) Miller, Tracy Thomas, Justin Martin, Jordan Martin, Carla, Jason, Taja, Mike, Penny and Allen; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 6 in the chapel of Cedar Bay Funeral Home, Jacksonville with Rev Jimmy Flanagan officiating. Interment followed in Ogilvie Cemetery Jacksonville. The visitation was held Tuesday, December 5 at the funeral home.

PAUL LANIER LENTZ

 Paul Lanier Lentz, 58, of St. George, Georgia, passed away at his residence December 10. He was born December 14, 1958 in Folkston to the late

Ezra Paul Lentz and Ida Mae Renshaw Lentz. He was a Union Millwright with Local Union #1263 in Kennesaw, Georgia. He was a member of the Hilliard Pentecostal Full Gospel Church. He was an entertainer in the music industry in and around Atlanta and everywhere he went. He played in the bands, Seminole Jackson and The Dixie Blues. He loved fishing, hunting and just being on the St. Marys River. He loved his family and friends and especially being around his grandkids.

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother Robert Lentz; and his best friend Kenneth Bailey.

He is survived by his wife Patricia Lentz; four daughters Christy (Randy) Taylor, Misty Lentz-Norris, Alana (John) Parlier and Paula Lentz; three sisters Delaine (Tony) Creppel, Glenda Sirmans and Gayle (Ron) Petty; one brother Buddy Johnson; 13 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren

Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 13 in the chapel of Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home with Revs. A.L. Sweat and Ike Mohler officiating. The family received friends prior to the service.

Memorialization was by cremation.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements were under the direction of Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston.

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OBITUARIES

INEZ ANNETTE RAULERSON

Inez Annette Thompson Raulerson, 86, was born February 22, 1931 to the late Bruce and Mary Thompson. She was a life-long native of her beloved St. George, Georgia, she was born the second oldest of nine children.

She dearly loved her family, friends, church and community. She was a role-model and respected by many. There could only be one "Nana" and "Miss Inez". She believed in making St. George better and looking better. She was a Master Cosmetologist for nearly 60 years. She was an EMT for 13 years. She was a vital part in building the St. George Community Center and the McKinney Clinic. She loved being involved in the school and church. She chaperoned school trips, homecomings, proms and plays. She played the piano and sang in church, fed and housed preachers and missionaries. She was a member of WOM. She was a member of Eastern Star for 48 years. This "First Lady of St. George" will be missed by many.

She is survived by her daughter Marilyn Hodges; two grand-daughters Shelby (Jesse) Hodges-Green and Dana (Danny) Willinger; three great-grand-daughters Marla Hodges, Chloe and KaCee Willinger; one sister Brunell Lackey; and brothers Dwight and Carlton Thompson; and countless nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, Rudolph; brothers Gerald, Buck, Billy and Junior Thompson; and her sister Vinona Crews.

The family received friends Friday, December 8 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 9 at the First Baptist Church in St. George with Rev. James Conner and Dr. Larry Finley officiating. Burial followed in Boones Creek Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements were under the direction of Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston.

RECREATION MEETING

The Nassau County Recreation Commission Meeting will be held Thursday, December 14 at 7 p.m. at the Nassau County Facilities Maintenance/Parks and Recreation Office, located at 45195 Musselwhite Rd., Callahan. If you have questions, please call (904) 530-6120 or (855) 534-8529. The public is invited.

THE GREAT OUTDOORS



Darci Cockerham caught her first top water red fish, and a big one, while fishing with her dad, Chris! Chris is the writer of Fish Talk for the Westside Journal!

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CRAVEY FAMILY THANK YOU

Words cannot express how thankful we are for the many acts of kindness and love shown to us during the passing of our precious loved one, Jack Cravey. Jack was a wonderful person and will truly be missed by so many. Thank you again.

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Memories of Liberty University

Editor's note: Charles Hardage, who resides in Callahan, attended and graduated from Liberty University years ago. He was a part of one of the first football teams in the school's history. Charles returned to the campus for his 40th reunion. He wanted to share his experience as a young man and as an encouragement to us and students who may be leery of small colleges. Enjoy!

Charles Hardage

In the spring of 1973, my father, Sarge Hardage, took me on a road trip to 11 states and 15 colleges to seek out a college to attend and play football. These colleges had sent letters of intent to play football at their schools. When I arrived in Lynchburg, Virginia at Lynchburg Baptist College (now Liberty University), they had the least facilities of all the colleges I visited. Lynchburg was my last stop. I was so impressed by the players and their attitudes, demeanor and their way of life, I felt very strongly this is where I was supposed to be. These guys, some studying for the ministry, were hitting hard and playing tough, yet circled in prayer to end practice. I was impressed. I signed a letter with Coach Rock Royer and came back in August 1973. My life was changed forever by a little school with a little of nothing in the middle of nowhere. When I say a little of nothing of course I am referring to facilities equipment, etc. Our dorms were houses gutted with 18 bunkbeds, military style, 4-6 commodes,



Shown are (l to r) Kay and Charles Hardage and Jerry and Becki Falwell, Jr.

no stalls, 4-6 shower heads, no stalls, very unique to say the least! But the schooling, teachers and all the staff were awesome! The Holy Spirit and Christian influence was an important drawing card for most of us.

Coach Rock Royer was the head coach of Lynchburg Baptist College. Coach Royer was a "Ball of Fire" 4'11" tall and loved the Lord big time! He was what I envisioned as a modern day Paul. I first met Coach Royer in the Tampa airport. Coach Royer stuck his hand out and said, "I am Rock Royer.

Are you born again and started witnessing." Coach Royer was in a fatal plane crash in November 1973. I was devastated. I grew up in a Christian home and went to Christian schools most of my life. I had head knowledge of how Christianity works but not had a heart experience. September 30, 1973 that all changed as I accepted the Lord as my Savior while at Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg. This is where Liberty University was born by the great vision of the late Dr. Jerry Falwell. I feel

a great indebtedness to Liberty's football program and the church ministry.

I went back to Liberty University for our 40th Year Football Reunion. I was totally blown away by the growth and development of the University. I was blessed and fortunate to have my wife Kay and daughter Miranda Thompson to go with me. We had an awesome time. At the reunion Jerry Falwell, Jr. asked if any of us had some of the original memorabilia from the first team. I still had my helmet my dad bought for me from Charlie Coleman's Sport Shop, as we bought much of our own equipment but I didn't mention it at the time. I eventually sent the helmet to be placed into the Jerry Falwell Museum where hundreds of people could see part of our team history.

Jerry Falwell, Jr. invited Kay and I to be his guests at a home game and sit with him and his wife. We went to Liberty's 44th Homecoming game in October. We had the privilege of meeting the attorney who was instrumental in leading the path for Liberty to receive their FBS status in football as an independent football team. Liberty and only two other schools in NCAA history, BYU and Notre Dame, have ever received this. Liberty had upgraded not only the campus but the athletics all around. Liberty upset Baylor this year, the biggest win in school history! This was the trip of a lifetime. We plan on going back next September for our 45th Reunion!

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