



**Playoff Game
Friday Night
7:30 p.m.
West Nassau
vs
South Walton**

VOLUME XV ISSUE 20

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018

"LET THEM GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HIS UNFAILING LOVE AND HIS WONDERFUL DEEDS FOR MANKIND, FOR HE SATISFIES THE THIRSTY AND FILLS THE HUNGRY WITH GOOD THINGS." - PSALM 107:8-9

Hilliard Veterans Appreciation Ceremony Held



Dawn S. West

The Town of Hilliard held their Annual Veterans Appreciation Ceremony Saturday at the American Legion Post 401 in Hilliard. The event was held outside under the cover of two large tents and there were not too many empty seats. It was a great turnout for the annual event. Veterans were asked to sign in as they arrived with their branch of service and years served. A total of 88 veterans signed in at the ceremony. The Hilliard Middle-Senior High School band was on hand playing many patriotic songs. They kicked off the event with the National Anthem while the American Flag was raised.

The American Legion Auxiliary encouraged Hilliard Middle School students to participate in an American Flag Essay Contest consisting of 200

words. Students were to include: What the flag means to them; Why a flag is flown at half-mast; Why we honor our soldiers with a flag at their funerals, etc. Patsy York, President of the Auxiliary, announced the winners. The Winner was Ana Rodriguez, who received a \$50 gift card and plaque; 1st Runner-up was Lorraine Thompson, who received a \$25 gift card; 2nd Runner-up was Aliya Works, who received a \$15 gift card; and 3rd Runner-up was Jenna Anderson who received a \$10 gift card.

Hilliard Mayor Cris McConnell announced the speaker Major General Joseph Balskus. Major General Balskus

Thanksgiving Dinners Saturday

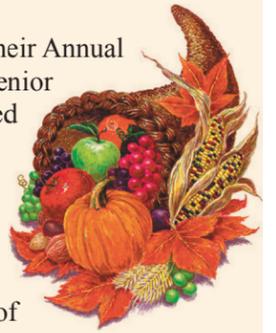
Hilliard:

The Concerned Citizens of Hilliard are excited to host their Annual Thanksgiving Dinner this Saturday at the Westside Senior Center at 11 a.m. All local senior citizens are encouraged to attend the special dinner prepared and served just for you! The early Thanksgiving feast will include a complete dinner complimented with delicious desserts! Come and fellowship with friends!

Callahan:

The congregation of the First United Methodist Church of Callahan invites all area senior citizens to the 38th Annual Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Dinner and fellowship. This early Thanksgiving feast will be held Saturday, November 17 at noon in the Fellowship Hall of the church, which is located across the street from Callahan Elementary School on US Highway 301 and Booth Street.

This event, has spanned a generation, with the first year's cooks now reaching their own senior citizen years and the 1980 members of the Methodist Youth Fellowship becoming the most recent kitchen co-workers!



Guest Speaker & Most Years Served

is currently the Military Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Plans and Requirements. He assists with the development and integration



Oldest Veteran in Attendance

of the Air Force strategy, long-range plans and operational capabilities-based requirements as well as the

See 'Hilliard Veterans' on page 5



Youngest Veteran in Attendance



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A Word From the Publisher



I want to send a special thank you to the Churches of the Westside for the great and amazing job they did in beginning IMPACT Leaving a Mark! As a business owner, church member and greater...a parent and grandparent, the IMPACT event at the Rodeo Arena last Wednesday night was powerful. It was powerful for many students and adults but for myself eye opening. IMPACT Leaving a Mark is a very powerful statement. Impact: What kind of impact am I, as a Christian, making in this world and in my town? Leaving a Mark: WOW! What kind of mark am I leaving as I go through each day? It certainly made me search my heart and see if I am the kind of follower that God has called me to be and the leader that I should be to all those I come in contact with. I was truly challenged and will strive to follow God in all that I do with Him as my guide.

It's such an encouragement to see so many churches join together for the good of the people. As I have heard many of the church leaders say, "It's not about our denomination, it's all about our God!" The main goal is to get these



students plugged in to a church and learn more about Jesus. They aren't making decisions for Christ, they want the students to make their own decisions. These pastors and youth pastors are only reaching out to be a listening ear. They aren't making them come to their church, they just want them to go to a church and learn more. Thumbs up to all the churches involved and I pray there will be more that join in! This was truly an uplifting event and I plan to be much more involved in as many as I can. I'm so thankful that we have so many church leaders that have a heart for our students to reach out to them and be an encouragement. They have ALL been a great encouragement

to me. I'm thankful that God is being so welcomed in our towns and schools. It's past time for Him to return where He belongs. What an awesome God we serve!

Have a blessed week!

Dawn S. West

Letters to the Editor



Rezoning

Dear Editor,

To the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County: This letter is in reference to the November 26, 2018, meeting for Application No: CPA18-002. I myself, will not be able to make the meeting because of the holidays, but I do want my opinions to be included in the discussion and decision on what will be done with this piece of property. Changing the zoning to recreational will begin a slow downhill change in our neighborhood lifestyle. We live in a rural area because of the advantages of having our woods and leisurely lifestyle. Many of us left the Jacksonville area because of all the building, traffic and environmental destruction.

The main reason for buying out here was the fact it was rural if I had known they were going to change, I would not have settled here. I love my home and where it is located, I have neighbors that raise flowers, own horses and those that raise chickens. The kids can ride their bikes without worrying about traffic or strangers hanging around. We don't want a recreational zoning in our area, our rural zoning is what is best for this area. Thomas Creek is close and the wet lands there have more than enough to do, trying to drain the waters when it rains. Every time we have a

very hard rain or hurricane the creek rises and goes up into the yards and roads. We don't complain we deal with it but you add a change to the zoning there is no telling what will happen then. There is still an evaluation from the US Army Corps of Engineers that needs to be completed that will give long term recommendations for the residents in watershed areas. Considering this fact in itself should be enough to stop this change. It is hard to understand how someone from Jacksonville can come into our area and decide they want to change the zoning knowing at the time it was rural. The previous meeting was very clear by those there that it was not wanted. It was also obvious that some of those on the board were not voting the will of the people and I do thank those that did vote against it.

We need to preserve small time America, the rural areas are being dissolved in the name of progress. I invite all of you to come out and look at the area and see our peaceful part of paradise. Please make a stand to do what is best for our area, our way of life and remember how you would feel if this was going to be in your backyard. Leave this area Rural not Recreational.

Thank You,
Faye Shute

In the Kitchen... Yummy Sweet Potato Casserole

- 4 cups sweet potato, cubed
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 4 tablespoons butter, softened
- 1/2 cup milk

- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 3 tablespoons butter, softened
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 325°. Put sweet potatoes in a medium saucepan with water to cover. Cook over medium high heat until tender; drain and mash. In a large bowl, mix together the sweet potatoes, white sugar, eggs, salt, butter, milk and vanilla extract. Mix until smooth. Transfer to a 9x13 inch baking dish. In medium bowl, mix the brown sugar and flour. Cut in the butter until the mixture is coarse. Stir in the pecans. Sprinkle the mixture over the sweet potato mixture. Bake in the preheated oven 30 minutes, or until the topping is lightly brown.

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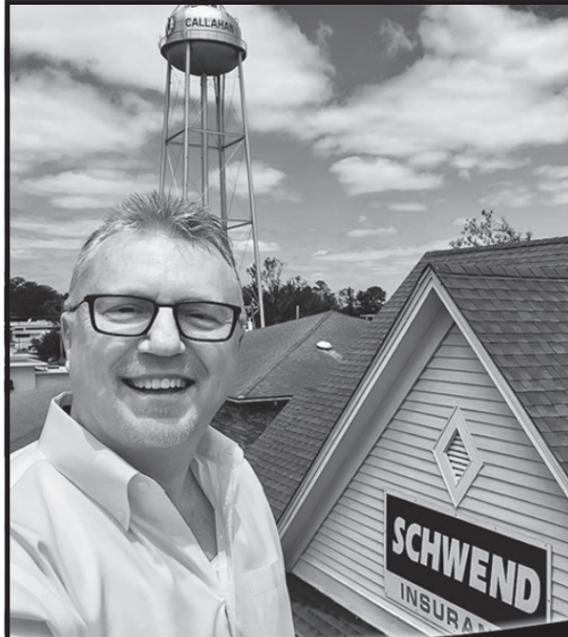
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Fish Talk

Early morning lows with a side of Sunshine?

Chris Cockerham, Reel Habit

Yes, this weekend you will see early morning low tides with an incoming flow the majority of the day. If we can ever get past the nasty fronts, we can look forward to seeing that beautiful Florida sunshine again. Earlier last week, our region had a cool down then extreme warm up, that actually stalled the bite. You can bet that when our water temps actually stabilize, the bites are going to be the best it's been in a while. With bait migrating, larger predatory fish are triggered into feeding constantly throughout the day.

So, where does that put us in this mix? Well, if you can handle the cool morning temps, you will surely be able to load the live wells. This is the time of year that you can catch fish all throughout the day consistently. Plastics, hard baits, and a variety of live baits can do no wrong. Focus on oyster beds during the low tide for reds. Then fish those same beds at high tide because trout will acquaint the same structure that red fish stage on. Docks and trees are another good focus point. Our mullet haven't completely made their fall run. With that said, there are still some flounder in our inlets. Look for them around the docks of Mayport and Nassau Sounds on the incoming tide.

My hot spots for this weekend will include Clapboard and Simpsons Creeks. This is the time of year those areas really turn on. Those little feeder creeks are where I'd focus on first, then the bends in the river where you find structure is second.

Keep an eye out for the next report as we will be discussing Sheepshead. The bites heating up and you don't want to miss out. As always, be safe out there and I hope to see you on the water!

EVENTS AROUND TOWN

The Sons of Confederate Veterans monthly meeting will be held Mon., Nov. 19 at the Pig BBQ restaurant in Callahan at 7 p.m. This month's speaker will be Peter Mullen, Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels on Correcting Thanksgiving Myths, Let The Truth Be Known To All.

The Bryceville Community Club will meet Tues., Nov. 20 at 11 a.m. at the Bryceville Community building on Motes Rd. The speaker will be Sara Pleasants of FDOT. Members are asked to bring food articles for Thanksgiving baskets provided by the Bryceville Elementary School.

Soup & Scripture, MCCI Activity Center, Callahan, Thursdays - Dec. 27 from 1-3 p.m. Come join us as we nourish body and soul! Hosted by MCCI and the First United Methodist Church Callahan.

Callahan resident and Pastor Ken Barney will hold a Book Signing for his new book *Not in Vain* Saturday, December 1 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Callahan Barbecue. Make sure to stop by and see him and pick up your copy of his book!

Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) meets every Wednesday at 6-7:30 p.m. at the Hilliard Library Conference Room. PAL provides hope through education and support to parents of addicted loved ones. Visit: www.palgroup.org to learn more. Free educational support group for parents and families.

The Westside Democrats will meet at 7 p.m. Tues., Nov. 20 at the Mickler St. County Building in Callahan. Report on the 2018 Election will be followed by dinner and a brief business meeting. Open to the public.

JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

What the heck happened last week? One thing for sure, the 'Red Tide' turned out to be a much smaller wave than I would have preferred. Thankfully, the blue tide wasn't much better on the other side. Republicans gained a little cushion in the Senate but lost the majority in the House. This doesn't bother me too much. Yes I would have preferred the Republicans maintain the majority in both sides of Congress, but it is what it is. A couple of reasons this doesn't bother me a lot is because history shows that the current President's party often loses one side of Congress during mid-term elections. This is not earth shattering like the media is trying to portray it. The second reason I'm not shaken by this as I can see where this could be a true blessing in disguise. We now have two years of whacked-out Nancy Pelosi as the likely House Speaker. Two years for Nancy and company to prove their lack of concern for America's best interest; two years of them not being focused on we the people, but totally focused upon ruining President Donald Trump; two years to of attempting to take away from the people the wonderful tax cuts implemented by President Trump; and two years of attempting to reverse the positive economic boom. People will see firsthand how the Democrat party is attempting to ruin our country! I cannot say it enough, wake up people, this is NOT your old Democrat Party. They are leading you all down the primrose path of full socialism!

Then we have Broward County and good ole' Brenda Snipes up to her

crooked elections office once again making Florida look like fools. This woman is totally incompetent and says a lot about the electorates of the entire county. Just today she admitted to accidentally counting the votes of 22 non-citizens votes that accidentally was placed in a group of 225 ballots. However she stated, "It weren't enough 'illegal' ballots for her to dismiss."

Makes you wonder how many other illegal votes she has pushed through. "Over the course of the last two and half days, the Broward supervisor has continued to magically find boxes of ballots that have potentially altered the course of the race," Matt Caldwell said in an interview Friday. "And after all that time, we still cannot get a straight answer as to where they came from, when they were cast. We just heard there is another magical box of 2,100 ballots they supposedly found here (Friday)."

Any reasonable person would have to admit that something is not right. Even in the hurricane battered panhandle there were no problems with voting and counting the votes.

I am totally in favor that every vote should be counted, every LEGAL vote that is. I thank our Supervisor of Elections Vicki Cannon for her professionalism in conducting our elections. She should be the standard that all Supervisor of Elections follow.

So we (Florida), along with Georgia, wait to see if we will be led by Socialists or true Americans.

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



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Annual Town of Hilliard
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The Town of Hilliard will hold their annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Saturday, November 24 at 6 p.m. on the lawn of the Hilliard Life Care Center located on the corner of US Hwy. 1 and Third Street.

Please come join us for refreshments and Christmas caroling around the tree. Santa will be visiting and will be available for a photo so bring your camera!

For more information please contact Town Hall:
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Little Foxes

Pastor Ted Heglund, First Alliance Church, Hilliard



"Catch the foxes for us, the little foxes that spoil the vineyards, for our vineyards are in blossom." Song of Solomon 2:15

For most of us, this verse from the Bible seems like a strange statement because we have not had a vineyard or foxes in our yards. The picture is that of a beautiful vineyard and the delicate blossoms were in full bloom. However, there are little foxes that are slipping into the vineyard and are destroying the vineyard. Often these little foxes are hard to catch as they ran through as a destructive force.

It is no secret that many times the problems in someone's life begin with a few little issues, compromising a moral or bending a law for personal gain or perceived pleasure. These little things, for which we are not paying attention to and watching for, are the little foxes of life. The little foxes in our lives can be those subtle actions that we allow or we justify in our minds with "it's ok" or "just this one time."

In America each year millions of dollars worth of supplies are stolen from offices, factories, construction sites, schools, etc. yet the culprits are never exposed. That is because they are the employees. It starts out with taking home something that is seemingly small like office pens or paper, or not paying for personal photocopying. It might be the things like not reporting correctly on your income tax or report form. Over time these "little foxes" go running through our life without us giving them a second thought. These are the little foxes of stealing and dishonesty.

Friendships are often destroyed because one person gets upset with the action of another. It could be because they got a promotion, said something out of line, or did something against you of which they are not even aware. Then the little foxes of anger, pride, bitterness, or hatred begin destroying the vineyard of friendship.

The little foxes of our life sneak in when we are not looking or paying attention. The little foxes, if not caught, will one-day ruin the vineyard of your life. Have you ever found yourself thinking "just this one time" or "who cares if it is not going to hurt anyone?" Is it true a one-time action means nothing? Ask the drug addict or the one who just lost their job for stealing. Ask yourself "what will this do to me?" Will it or could it hurt or affect you or a relationship in the future?

God's Word says, "...be sure that your sin will find you out." (Numbers 32:23b) Why do we allow sinful desires and passions to control our thoughts and actions? Why do the temptations of life suddenly overwhelm moral standards, ethics, principles, and reason? These things just do not happen suddenly. They are the "little foxes." These are sins that seem little but prove very dangerous. Whatever you find as a sin or hindrance to your relationship with Jesus or another person, even if it appears to be a good thing at this moment, must be put away.

So how do you handle the little foxes that you find in the vineyard of your life? First, you recognize them for what they are – sin. Second, you confess them to the Lord as sin. Remember the verse that says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9 NIV)

Third, would be restitution. Pay back what you have taken, go to the friend and ask forgiveness for your actions and attitude, etc. Fourth ask the Holy Spirit to give you the daily strength to resist the temptation in the future. Let's keep the little foxes out of the vineyards of our lives.

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong." (1 Corinthians 16:13 NIV)

Attend the church of your choice this Sunday.

Rayonier Inc. Awards Grants

Rayonier announced the award of more than \$189,000 to area organizations serving Nassau County. Recipients of the company's Community Fund grants were recently recognized at a special awards breakfast hosted by Rayonier on Friday, November 2.

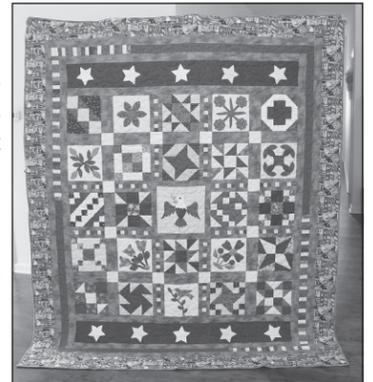
The Rayonier Community Fund supports a variety of educational, civic, cultural, health and natural resources programs. "Rayonier is proud to call Nassau County home for our 160-based employees for over 80 years," said Doug Long, Sr. Vice President Forest Resources, speaking to the Rayonier 2018 grant recipients. "Our community involvement has always been a source of great pride for our employees. We look forward to this gathering each year when we get to thank your organization by helping support your important work. It is your work that helps make Nassau County such a great place to live and work."

Rayonier representatives, along with Nassau County Sheriff Bill Leeper, Dr. Kathy Burns, Superintendent Nassau County School District, Donna Martin, District 1, and Gail Gook District 2 representing Nassau County School Board Officials, United Ways Mark Mitchell, and Jenn Hart, Florida Forest Service were present to congratulate and thank those receiving grants.

The following organizations received support from Rayonier as part of its 2018 Community Fund program: ALL Pro Dads; Amelia Island Book Festival; Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival; Ark of Nassau; Baptist Health Foundation; Barnabas Center, Inc.; Barnabas West Nassau; Big Brothers Big Sisters NEFL; Boys & Girls Club of Nassau County; Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Florida; Communities in Schools of Nassau; Community Hospice & Palliative Care; Family Support Services; Family Support Services - Tour de Trails; First Coast Healing Hands, Inc.; Florida Project Learning Tree; Institute for Enterprise, Inc.; Les DeMerle Amelia Island Jazz Festival; McArthur Family YMCA; Nassau Alcohol Crime Drug Abatement Coalition; Nassau County 4-H; Nassau County Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Inc.; Nassau County Council on Aging, Inc.; Nassau County School District Career Education; Nassau County Sheriff's Office Charities, Inc.; Nassau Education Foundation; Salvation Army NC Hope House; Take Stock in Children of Nassau County; The US Constitution Scholarship Foundation, Inc.; Trinity Love Hoblit Foundation; UF/IFAS Nassau County Extension; and West Nassau Historical Society.

Win This Quilt!

The Country Star Quilt Guild is offering you an opportunity to own this beautiful Patriotic themed quilt. Proceeds from the sale of tickets benefit the Guild supported charities. Tickets can be purchased at the Westside Journal office (450034 SR 200, Callahan) or from any Guild member. The suggested donation price per ticket is \$1. The drawing will be held Monday, December 10 at the Southeastern Bank in Hilliard. You do not need to be present to win.



CHURCH NEWS

First Alliance Church Hilliard will be celebrating Thanksgiving /Homecoming on Sun., Nov. 18 at 11 a.m. Rev. Sam Thompson will be our guest speaker. We invite all our friends and those acquainted with FAC to come on the special Sunday. For more information call 845-3404.

Gateway to Life Ministries will have a Food Giveaway the third Saturday of each month for families in need from 10 a.m. - noon. The church is located at 37837 Eastwood Rd., Hilliard.



Fernandina Beach Realty

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Seagull Drive, Hilliard - This well-kept 3/2 DWMH on an acre lot in Hilliard has a large kitchen with center island, deck with generator outlet, fenced yard with two gates. Outbuilding has a 50 amp line & wired for 220. MLS #82209 **\$135,000**



Sundberg Road, Hilliard - Large 2,356 sf, 4BR/2.5BA DWMH in Hilliard on a 1.5 acre, high and dry lot. New well and pump in 2018 and a new A/C unit in 2017. Needs some TLC. Home Warranty offered by owners MLS #82178 **\$115,000**



Oxford Street, Hilliard - Investor Special! This is an older 3/1 home in need of remodeling. It is livable as it is and on a paved street with city water & sewer. Lot is 1.03 acres and is in a good location in Hilliard. MLS #81937 **\$110,000**



Kings Ferry, Hilliard - Rustic Hilliard all-brick 4/2.5 on a little under 1.5 acres has hardwood floors throughout. The covered front porch is perfect place to enjoy your morning cup of coffee and enjoy the sounds of nature. Feels like Home Sweet Home. MLS #81542 **\$226,000**



Willie Hodges Road, Hilliard - This custom-built 5/3.5 country estate in Hilliard is breathtaking! Tons of upgrades and special touches with quality workmanship. Detached 1900-sf 3-car garage with finished bonus room above. MLS #81967 **\$550,000**



Brandies Avenue, Callahan - The best piece of commercial property available in downtown Callahan. 2.2 acres of prime land on Brandies Avenue close to US Hwy 1. City water & sewer available. MLS #79879 **\$164,900**

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activities ensuring the Air Force builds and employs effective air, space and cyber forces to achieve national defense objectives. He began his military career by joining the US Air Force in 1979. He has served in South Korea, Saudi Arabia along with many places in the United States. He has received many major awards, decorations, achievements and promotions during his service.

"First of all, let me take a moment to take in this moment of current and retired Veterans. What an honor it is for me to be here in their presence," said Major Balskus. "They are a picture of what freedom represents...those who have served and are serving. I love small towns, as I'm from one. There's nothing like love of God and country in a small town!"

Major Balskus recalled when he was sworn into the military he raised his hand to support the Constitution of the United States of America and he always will. He continued, "The Constitution is a document that made this country great. I made this obligation freely! What a moment of commitment and honor! I love to study history and General Washington is one of my favorites. He was a mountain of a man that loved our country," added Major Balskus. "I once asked a WWII Veteran how did you make it through that war? He responded, I kept one eye on the Captain and one eye on the Flag. The Constitution will last on and on as long as we defend it."

Flags were given to the Youngest Veteran; Oldest Veteran; and Veteran with Most Years Served. The

Hilliard Veterans



Essay Contest Winners

Youngest Veteran was Elisabeth Swain, 28, US Army. The Oldest Veteran was Horace Whitehead, 93, US Navy. The Veteran with Most Years Served was Major General Joseph Balskus US Air Force, 35 years. Each Veteran received a Flag that was given by Senator Aaron Bean, Representative Cord Byrd and Congressman John Rutherford.



Franklin Brothers



Continued from page 1

The Franklin brothers, Bobby, Carrol and Billy Joe, invited the audience to walk through and tour their military tent filled with military photos of local Veterans. "If you have not given me your picture to use, please do. It is my honor to have your picture along with these others," said Bobby. "It is our tribute to you. Just call my office and I'll come and get your picture and bring it back."

American Legion CW Hilliard Post 401 Commander Hugh Harris presented a plaque to Abigail Pickett, a 4th grader at Hilliard Elementary School, for being 2018 Young Person of the Year for the Post. Abigail collected snacks

and personal hygiene items during the summer to donate to the Five Star Veterans Center in Jacksonville.

Everyone was invited to enjoy dinner following the ceremony.

At dusk, the night skies were lit up with fireworks! Thanks to Aerial POV for the great shot of the fireworks! The town was unable to have a fireworks display July 4th so they moved the date for Veterans Day. It was a beautiful show, as always!



Young Person of the Year



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Sheriff Presents 'Great Kids Award'



Shown (l to r) are: Sheriff Bill Leeper, Scott Cothren (father), Elisabeth Cothren, Donna Cothren (mother), WNHS Principal Curtis Gaus, WNHS SRO Deputy Daniel Jones.

The 'Great Kids' Program was started by Sheriff Bill Leeper to recognize outstanding kids in our community who constantly show respect for their peers, help others in a time of need, maintain a strong academic standard, and represent themselves, their family and their school with great character and pride. The program is facilitated in partnership with NCSO's School Resource Officers and Nassau County Public Schools.

"All too often in today's society we focus our resources and time on those that don't do it right, while kids who go above and beyond tend to go unrecognized," said Sheriff Leeper. "The Great Kids Award will allow us to recognize students who make a positive impact in our community."

Elisabeth Cothren, 9th grader at West Nassau High School, was nominated for the "Great Kids" Award by School

Resource Officer, Deputy Daniel Jones.

According to Deputy Jones, Elisabeth displays concern and compassion for her fellow classmates and is willing to make sure those who need help get access to the resources they need. She does the right thing when no one is looking even when it may be unpopular and is known to be patient, kind and a good friend to her fellow students. Elisabeth's future goals are to attend college, possibly at NYU and major in psychology.

"These qualities not only make Elisabeth a great kid but will one day ensure that she is a great young woman who respects and helps others in order to make our community a better place," said Leeper.

Elisabeth received a framed certificate and a challenge coin from Sheriff Leeper for being a "Great Kid."

Outstanding 4-H Members Awarded

Each year the Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair recognizes two outstanding 4-H youth from each county in the area. These youth must have been in 4-H for at least three years, be over the age of 14 and have met several project requirements. This year Nassau County was proud to nominate Katie Gates and Kinley Hall as our outstanding 4-H members!

Katie Gates is a wonderful 4-H member who consistently embodies the spirit of our organization. Katie has participated in numerous, varied projects over the last 10 years in 4-H, however she specializes in animal science, leadership, and emergency preparedness. Katie has served in several leadership positions within her clubs including: President of County Council, has been at the forefront of the majority of our events, and serves as a youth member of our Nassau County 4-H Association. She recently spoke at a Chamber of Commerce meeting promoting the Northeast Florida Fair, specifically encouraging youth market project support. She has helped lead several summer camps, an animal preparedness workshop at the Southern Region Teen Leadership Conference and a massive peer educational workshop at 4-H University reaching almost

400 teens. She has also participated in County and District Events and ridden in the State Horse Show.

Kinley Hall is an active member of both the Nassau County 4-H Council and the Barnyard N Beyond 4-H Club. She has held multiple leadership roles in each of these clubs including president and secretary of County Council and president of Barnyard N Beyond. Kinley has been showing animals and competing in livestock judging at the Northeast Florida Fair for many years. She has shown steers, hogs, poultry, rabbits, goats, sheep, and dairy cattle. She has volunteered as a summer day camp counselor and participated in numerous community service projects. As a leader within the county, Kinley has served a role model for numerous youth. She has demonstrated her own confidence and willingness to push herself, which has inspired those around her. In her free time, Kinley competes in various local rodeos. She is currently involved in both a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and on-the-job training program at her high school.

Katie and Kinley were presented with plaques for their success at the Jacksonville Fair last week.

Congratulations! We are so proud of your many accomplishments!



Katie Gates



Kinley Hall

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SCA Adds University-Level Classes

Nancy Lee Bethea

Today's families have options when it comes to educating their children. From traditional public and private schools to virtual or home schools, parents can choose what works best for their students.

Sonshine Christian Academy (SCA), a private school in Callahan, has offered dual enrollment course options through Florida Community College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) to its advanced high school students for several years. Last year, however, SCA began a dual enrollment partnership with Southeastern University (SEU) in Lakeland, Florida, offering two university-level English composition classes taught at Sonshine. Students who successfully completed the courses gained university and high school credit simultaneously.

This year, SCA added classes in College Success and Career Development in partnership with SEU. Both courses are taught on SCA's campus by Sherry Kriete, SCA's Dean of Students and an adjunct SEU professor. The College Success class prepares students for the pace and work load required in university-level classes. In a recent class session, Kriete asked her students to discuss skills important in 21st century learning, such as adaptability, networking, computer literacy, motivation, and time management. Three out of five students prefer to turn in their work to a teacher in person rather than online, Kriete told her students. They agreed, saying online classes are harder because they require students to stay on top of their schedule, access online content, and not get behind.

"That's why we've implemented a lot of Google programs here at Sonshine. We want to prepare students for college and help them organize their research and their assignments. The Google programs allow them to access their work wherever they are," said



Kriete.

The focus of the Career Development class is on preparing students for their futures. They learn networking skills, tips for choosing a college and a career, guidance in preparing print and video resumes, and strategies for applying for jobs online, among other things.

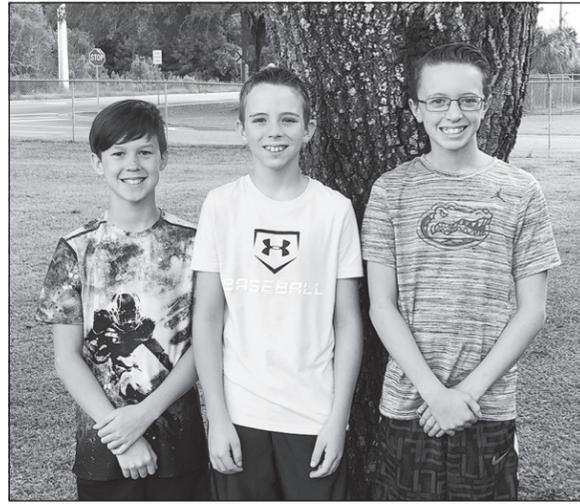
Josh Cicero, 17, is a junior enrolled in both of Kriete's dual enrollment classes. He said the classes are enabling him to earn college credit while helping him manage his time better. "A lot of it is just learning to balance your lifestyle, so I have to balance my social life with things I have to do, and with work. I feel like the class has given me a lot of helpful tips, although I already did some of them, like keeping a planner," said Cicero.

At the end of the semester in December, Kriete's students will have earned six hours of university and high school credits, as well as practical skills they can use in college or in the work force.

Lorie Johnson, SCA's principal, sees the SEU partnership as an opportunity to continually offer more academic rigor to her students. "The partnership with Southeastern University adds depth to our program for advanced students. I believe our students are receiving the best possible advantage by taking university level courses on our Sonshine campus," said Johnson.

For more information on programs offered at Sonshine Christian Academy, please call 904-879-1260 or visit www.sonshinechristian.com.

CMS Tropicana Speech Winners



Callahan Middle School is happy to announce their Tropicana Speech winners and runners up. They are (shown l to r): 3rd Place Tyler Revels; 2nd Place Walker Mizell; and 1st Place Brody Singley. Congratulations!

4-H Receives Donation

Nassau County 4-H is proud to announce that it was among the organizations selected for financial support from Rayonier's community grant program this year. The funding provided will be used to support 4-H's Summer Camp Program at Camp Cherry Lake. Through this program, youth from Nassau County are given the chance to get away from technology at a week of overnight camp. The week includes kayaking, archery, swimming, and much more. It is an opportunity for adventure and creating lasting memories and friendships.



Thank you to Rayonier for their continued support of the Nassau County 4-H program! For more information about getting involved with 4-H, call 904-530-6353.

CVFD Disney Ticket Raffle

The Callahan Volunteer Fire Department is raffling off a family 4-pack of Walt Disney World 3-day 3-park passes (2 adults and 2 children). The raffle will be held through December 8. Prices are: 1 ticket for \$3; or 2 tickets for \$5. Tickets can be purchased from CVFD members Mondays from 7-8 p.m. behind the Callahan Fire Station and at the Westside Journal office. Visit their Facebook page for additional sale dates and times.



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New Beginnings and Milestones

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mooneyhan to Celebrate 72nd Anniversary



Walter and Thelma Mooneyhan, of Callahan, will celebrate their 72nd wedding anniversary November 15. They met when she was 16 and he was 18. They were married November 15, 1946 at Franklin Street Baptist Church in Jacksonville. Mrs. Thelma retired after 32 years of service from the IRS. Mr. Walter, a US Army Veteran, retired from his own CB Shop that was located on US 1 south of Callahan. His entrepreneurial charisma was passed on to his two sons! They get around like 60 or 70 year olds and enjoy their lives. They are still very independent and so inspiring to be around. They are longtime members of North Jacksonville Baptist Church, over 60 years. They still reside in their home on Ratliff Road for 28 years. They enjoy spending time with their family and friends! They will celebrate their special milestone with a get together with family and close friends.

They have two sons Mark and Karen Mooneyhan and Jeff Mooneyhan. They also have six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Cody Hadden

Destiny Cheyenne Lee and Cody James Hadden, of Hilliard, were united in marriage October 6 at 3 p.m. at Latyns Landing in Yulee.

The bride is the daughter of Melissa Kea; and Donald and Tiffany Lee; and stepdaughter of Robert Weinberg, all of Hilliard. She is currently enrolled in FSCJ/Nursing Program.

The groom is the son of James and Tammi Hadden of Hilliard. He is employed with AEC Electric.

Serving as bridesmaids were: Katy Nichols, Autumn Hobbs, Ashley Ivey, Kinsey Drury, Taylor Lee, Amber Nicole, Carleigh Somers and flower girl was Boo Hobbs.

Serving as groomsmen were: James Hadden, Austin Kalbfleisch, Brent Register, Michael Catt, Clayton Woods and ring bearer was Dylan Ivey.

Following a honeymoon trip to Sandals in Negril, Jamaica, the couple is residing in Hilliard.



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Sue Hutto to Celebrate 85th Birthday

Sue 'Nanny' Hutto, of Callahan, will celebrate her 85th birthday November 16. She was born November 16, 1933 in Zephyrhills, Florida. Her family later moved to Jacksonville where she attended school and met and married her late husband Grady D. Hutto. The couple lived in Jacksonville a few years then made Callahan their home. She was the owner of Nanny's Little People



Daycare for years. She loves going to church and spending time with her family and friends. She will celebrate her special day with a family dinner.

She has four children, Christy Amos, Danny and Terri Hutto, Tammy Schub and Donnie and Rhonda Hutto. She also has nine grandchildren and several great-grandchildren!

Fire Displaces Family Fundraiser Saturday



Recently, Brenda Powell returned home from work to this devastating fire. Her entire home was destroyed along with all their belongings. She continues to be thankful as no one was hurt in the fire. Brenda has a son and small daughter. They don't live in Callahan but just up Lem Turner on Lannie Road. They are still our neighbors and need help!

BJ's Seafood & Wings in Callahan will hold a Car Wash Fundraiser (for donations) this Saturday, November 17 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. on the back side of his restaurant, located at 542415 US Hwy. 1, Callahan. He will also donate 10% of his sales on Saturday

to Brenda and her family. Maybe another restaurant might want to do the same! They will also be accepting donations of clothes for the children (men size 34 pants, M/L shirts; little girl size 2T); household items (towels, dishes, small appliances, etc.) and/or gift cards (Winn Dixie, Walmart, etc.). Let's join together and help out this sweet family.

BJ's will also be collecting non-perishable food items to be placed in a basket along with a turkey, for families for Thanksgiving. When you come in to eat, make sure to also bring a non-perishable food item to go towards Thanksgiving for a family in need!



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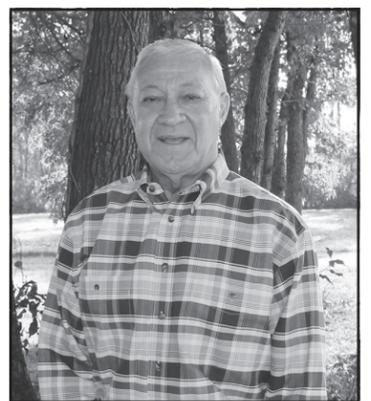
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WN JROTC Honors Veterans



Dawn S. West

Last Thursday night, the West Nassau JROTC honored local Veterans with an appreciation dinner. The event was held in the West Nassau High School cafeteria. Veterans were met in the parking lot by cadets of the JROTC wearing their dress blues, who directed them to the cafeteria. Once inside, Veterans were encouraged to sign in with their names, branch of service and years served.

Members of the JROTC opened the event with a prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem. A small table was set in the front of the room placed in remembrance of those Veterans who are Missing in Action. Everyone was directed to the back of the room where a dinner was prepared. Hamburgers and hot dogs (with the fixins'), chicken nuggets and all types of side dishes and desserts brought and prepared by the JROTC families. Cadets sat at each table and visited with the Veterans learning about their military experience. It was such a



breath of fresh air being around those cadets. Each one was so polite and respectful of all the adults at the event.

A portion of the ceremony, the JROTC held a change of command. The command changed from outgoing Commander Cadet Colonel Hannah Holder to new Commander Cadet Colonel Savannah Johnson.

Following the change of command, Veterans were asked to meet at the back of the room and stand with the flag of their branch. Each branch was recognized as the Veterans proudly marched through the crowd while the song of their branch was played by the Freedom Band and the crowd applauded. Veterans were instructed to turn toward the stage where the JROTC re-enacted the flag raising during the battle of Iwo Jima during World War II. The event, as always, was a blessing to everyone.



IMPACT Event... Amazing!



Dawn S. West

Last Wednesday night, the NE FL Fairgrounds Rodeo Arena was all lit up but it wasn't for a rodeo! The Churches of the Westside have banded together to reach our children for Christ! The event, titled 'IMPACT! Leaving a Mark' was fun, high spirited, emotional and challenging. Students from Hilliard High School and West Nassau High School got a little taste of the event during assemblies at school earlier Wednesday.

Wednesday evening, students, friends, parents and grandparents filed into the seats at the arena to find out more! There were so many smiles and hugs as people greeted each other. The band, Kings and Saints, got the event started with some great music that got the audience involved. West Nassau student Tanner LaCross and Hilliard High School senior Bo Hodges each shared their testimonies. The speaker, Alan Griffin, then took over. He played games and laughed a lot! His talk revolved around making choices about everything in our lives. All choices have consequences, some good... some bad. "It's very important to surround yourselves around good people," said Griffin. "Just because you go to church doesn't mean you stop having fun. This is a great example of how much fun you can have!"

The event was very powerful and uplifting even for me. Following Griffin's presentation, everyone joined



in a prayer and asked to come forward to share another prayer. From there small groups joined together and students were praying together. The event was meant to help these students and families to get 'plugged' in with people who care and I think they achieved their goal.

The Churches of the Westside are not through. They want to continue to be a blessing to our community and our students. Another event is being planned for the spring. They are asking for more sponsors and more churches to join them in this great mission...our children and grandchildren. Find out more at their Facebook page: Churches of the Westside and find out how your church or business can get involved!



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EXPERIENCED CAREGIVER for the elderly. References available upon request. Call (904) 879-4067 or (904) 438-9636. 111518

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BUSINESS OWNERS: DO IT NOW! Accurate and timely federal tax knowledge is power...but power is too often lost if one doesn't know about and/or act in a timely manner before year end 2018. Learn from your tax pro now and do consider taking action (not an exhaustive list) on: New 20% deduction from net receipts! Does your business qualify for that new-in-2018 deduction? New 80% limited NOL claims for 2018. New depreciation options and rules. Higher (not lower) net federal income tax rates on some business entity tax types. Lots of new tax reduction options if action is taken before year end. Some avoidable IRS interest and taxes if you act early; higher tax and non-compliance penalties burdens if you act too late. Contact Country Law and Tax Service, Inc., PO Box 0814, 542412 US Hwy. 1, Suite D, Callahan, FL 32011-0814, Call (904) 628-0635. (Free via email Tax Organizer to first 100 callers before Monday December 31, 2018. Happy Thanksgiving to you all from your friends at Country Law and Tax Service, Inc. tfn

SOPHIA'S PARTY BOUNCERS: Local bounce houses starting at \$99; Water Slides starting at \$150 (local). Also available: Party packages, balloons, snow cone and cotton candy machine rentals! Call 507-1345. tfn

PIANO LESSONS! All ages, 4 years to adult. Experienced teacher. www.joelpacepiano.com, joelpace@juno.com. 904-766-9544. \$70 per month. tfn

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Classified Deadline is Tuesdays at Noon
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YARD SALES

HUGE YARD SALE! 44072 Apache Trail, Callahan, Pickett St. to Commanchee Rd. to Apache Trail. Friday & Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Lots of new items! (904) 962-9777.

SATURDAY, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. 241753 CR 121, off Andrews Rd., Hilliard. Look for signs. Crafts, Christmas items, stuffed animals, clothes, Joiner/planed, router & table, band saw.

COFFMAN'S ESTATE SALE! Thursday, Friday & Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Dinsmore, 11644 Old Kings Rd., Jacksonville, 32219. Due to glassware & collectibles, Adults ONLY- no children allowed! Lots of holiday décor and toys. Cash only!

ESTATE/YARD SALE, Saturday ONLY, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., 37225 Alice Street Hilliard. Antique furniture, collectibles, housewares, women's clothing & miscellaneous. CASH only! Rain Cancels!

THURSDAY, noon until? **FRIDAY & SATURDAY**, 9 a.m. until? 617957 River Road, Callahan. Lots of Christmas décor, clothes and lots more!

SATURDAY, MULTI FAMILY, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. 53909 Honeysuckle Lane, Callahan. Household and seasonal items. Just in time for the holidays!

MULTI-FAMILY yard sale! **THE TRAILS SUBDIVISION**, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., 55089 Country Trails Dr., off Bismark Rd., Callahan, Friday ONLY! Furniture, clothes and lots more!

HUGE YARD SALE, Friday & Saturday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., 452665 Old Dixie Hwy., Callahan. Toys, boys and girls clothes, houseware, log bunk bedroom set, wood pull wagon, grill, all kinds miscellaneous items!

COMMUNITY WIDE YARD SALE! Friday, Saturday & Sunday, North Deerwood Estates, 45176 American Dream Drive at the end of Stratton Rd. Lots and lots of stuff! Camo, poker table, slot machines, furniture, kitchen décor and more! Too much to list! Several garage sales on the street!

MULTI-FAMILY yard sale, Saturday, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., 37137 Southern Glen Way, Hilliard. Clothes (men's, women & little girl), household items, toys and much more!

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Classified Deadline for next week will be Monday at noon due to Thanksgiving!

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FILL DIRT, SAND, TOP SOIL, CHEAP! 18-yard load, Callahan/Hilliard area. Call 416-6082. tfn

DIRT CHEAP! Fill dirt, sand, top soil, rock and hard pan, 18-yard bed, land clearing. Call Dirt Pro at 755-1341. tfn

THRIFT STORE for sale! Includes all inventory & fixtures, \$6500, price negotiable. Cheap rent, located in Baldwin. Call (904) 422-1698. 111518

STORAGE BUILDING FOR SALE: 8 x 12 storage building, 10 x 16 storage building and 6 x 10 storage buildings for sale. Call 879-1803. 112218

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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

LOOKING TO HIRE a PAINTER, experience required, must have transportation, good work ethic, part-time to start; good pay! Call (904) 333-3262. tfn

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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY with HVAC/Duct Manufacturing Company off of Lane Ave., Jacksonville. Fast growing, looking for dependable individual! Opportunity for advancement. Call or text John at (904) 962-9164 for more information. tfn

NEEDED TO HIRE someone that likes different work every day, from maintenance to lawn care; good pay, good working conditions, good challenge. Valid driver's license required. Come grow with us. Franklin Properties, 551856 US 1, Suite 111, Hilliard, 904-845-7576. tfn

LOOKING TO HIRE A FARM HAND! Must have good transportation, good work ethics and receive good pay, Hilliard area. Call (904) 838-3989. tfn

FOR RENT

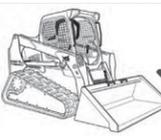
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FOR INFORMATION ABOUT renting the Callahan County Building on Mickler Street for weddings, birthdays, family reunions, etc., call Bonnie at 904-759-2281.

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Santa Express Ushers in Holiday Season

Anything can happen on the Santa Express. Santa Claus could perform magic. Frosty the Snowman could come alive. And it could even snow in South Georgia.



On November 24, December 1, 8 and 15, the Santa Express departs at 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., taking passengers on a journey to Santa Land where the magic begins. Entertainment all along the way gets everyone into the holiday spirit. Then Santa comes aboard with gifts for all the good little boys and girls. Children of all ages (from 2 to 92) will enjoy the storybook ride on the rails through woodlands and over marshlands. "Last year's Santa Express was so successful, we are bringing back some of the same characters and some new ones to bring an enchanting story to life and we have added an additional weekend," said Barbara Ryan, entertainment director for St. Marys Express. "Of course, there's always a happy ending and passengers really enjoy the interactive experience."

"For those who yearn for an old-fashioned family tradition holiday event, this is the ticket," said Doug Vaught, Stationmaster and Narrator on

the train. "Many of our families return each year to usher in their holidays by riding the Santa Express together."

Adding to the excitement of Santa for the young and young at heart is the locomotive At The Throttle experience. The At The Throttle experience gives rail fans an opportunity to actually run a diesel locomotive. Ryan said this is a "once in a lifetime" experience and makes a great Christmas present.

Each ride lasts about an hour and a half and takes guests through scenic woodlands and marshlands to Santa Village where it makes the turnaround. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$14 for children, children 2 and under ride free on laps. Get Santa Express tickets at www.stmarysrailroad.com or call 912-200-5235. People interested in the At The Throttle experience (which is \$150 per person) and groups of ten or more should call 912-729-1103.

Third Case of West Nile Virus Confirmed

The Florida Department of Health in Nassau County (DOHNassau) today is informing the public of a third human case of West Nile virus (WNV) infection in a Nassau County resident. Nassau County remains under a mosquito-borne illness alert. In the fall when there is cooler weather there is less mosquito activity. However, this is a reminder that in Florida there is a risk of mosquito-borne disease transmission year round. DOH-Nassau continues sentinel chicken surveillance through the end of November. DOH-Nassau continues to advise the public to remain diligent in their personal mosquito protection efforts by remembering to "Drain and Cover."

DRAIN standing water to stop mosquitoes from multiplying. Drain water from garbage cans, house gutters, buckets, pool covers, coolers, toys, flowerpots or any other containers where sprinkler or rain water has collected. Discard old tires, drums, bottles, cans, pots and pans, broken appliances and other items that aren't being used. Empty and clean birdbaths and pet's water bowls at least once or twice a week. Protect boats and vehicles from rain with tarps that don't accumulate water. Maintain swimming pools in good condition and appropriately

chlorinated. Empty plastic swimming pools when not in use.

COVER skin with clothing or repellent. Clothing - Wear shoes, socks, and long pants and long-sleeves. Repellent - Apply mosquito repellent to bare skin and clothing. Always use repellents according to the label. Repellents with DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, para-menthane-diol, and IR3535 are effective. Use



mosquito netting to protect children younger than 2 months old. Tips on Repellent Use: Always read label directions carefully for the approved usage before you apply a repellent. Some repellents are not suitable for children.

COVER doors and windows with screens to keep mosquitoes out of your house. Repair broken screening on windows, doors, porches, and patios.

The Department continues to conduct statewide surveillance for mosquito-borne illnesses, including West Nile virus infections, Eastern equine encephalitis, St. Louis encephalitis, malaria, chikungunya, and dengue. Residents of Florida are encouraged to report dead birds via the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's site - <http://legacy.myfwc.com/bird/default.asp>.

PLANT CLINIC

On Monday, November 19 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Rebecca Jordi, Extension Director/Horticulture Agent will conduct a Plant Clinic. All residents are invited to bring plant samples showing landscape problems to the Yulee Extension office on Pages Dairy Road. Problems will be identified and solutions offered for correction. There is no fee for this service. For information call 904-530-6353. Master Gardeners are on phone duty Fridays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., at 904-530-6350, press '1' for Yulee office.

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JAY Z. FUSSELL, JR.



Jay Z. Fussell Jr., 81, passed away on November 8. He was born on August 25, 1937 in Douglas, Georgia.

Jay was a long time employee of Turner Electric Works managing their small motor division. He loved to fish, garden and woodwork. He loved being at his pond watching the wildlife. He opened his pond to everyone that wanted to come and fish. He could skin a catfish faster than you could say the word. He was a long time member of The Breakfast Club at The Pig in Callahan and will be missed by them all. Saturdays will not be the same as on Saturdays we would bring him home for the day and family and friends came by for fishing, fellowship and dinner. To his grandchildren, he was a genius that could fix anything. They loved riding on the golf cart with him and listening to his funny stories. Jay enjoyed the simple things in life and loved being with his family and friends.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 43 years, Mary Frances; his children Honorable Ronald "Ronnie" (Rebecca) Fussell, Tina (Marty) Ashley, Judy and Terry (Kent); grandchildren Heather, Bri (Robert), Steven, Chandler and Sam; and great-grandchildren Railey and Samuel; siblings Deen (Herb), Katie (Bob), Roy (Martha), Windle (Sheila), Wanda (Buddy) and Janet (Ronnie); sister-in-law Dorothy; and numerous nieces and nephews. Also his beloved finicky cat Fluffy, he loved her and she loved him. He is preceded in death

OBITUARIES

by his parents Jay Z., Sr. and Thelma; his brothers Aubrey, Jarman and Seward; and daughter Debbie.

The family would like to express their sincere heartfelt gratitude to all of his caregivers at Jax Nursing Center where he was in long term care. Thank you for the personal TLC of "Jay Baby", your care did not go unnoticed and was greatly appreciated. God Bless you all.

His pond was his peaceful place where he wanted to be most. His ashes will be scattered there at a later date during a private service and fish fry. To know him was to love him, rest in peace.

CHARLEEN LYNN HARRIS



Charleen Lynn Harris, 55, of Jacksonville, passed away on Saturday, November 10 at Satilla Hospice House in Waycross. She was born in

Pierce County on February 24, 1963 to the late Charles W. Harris, Sr. and Evelyn Godwin Harris. Three brothers, Alvie Harris, Charles E. Harris, Sr. and James Taylor preceded her in death.

Survivors include two daughters Tricia Nicole Brinkley (Sherry) of Perry, Georgia and Makayla Hambrick Harris of Jacksonville; three brothers Charles W. Harris, Jr., Christopher Harris and Carl Harris of Jacksonville; three sisters Cathy

(Robert) Moore of Jacksonville, Brenda (Ricky) Bell of Waycross and Tabitha Rewis of Callahan; two sisters-in-law Sandy Harris and Sharon Allen; and two grandchildren Kennedy and Serenity.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 14 from the chapel of Crosby Funeral Home. The family received friends prior to the funeral.

Crosby Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

RUTH HART



Ruth Ann Hart, 74, passed away Thursday, November 8. She was born in Atlantic City, New Jersey on April 22, 1944 to Margaret and Henry Zimmerman.

Professionally, Ruth was a Computer Specialist for the FAA starting in Atlantic City with the majority of her career working in Hilliard. She retired after 43 years of service in 2011.

Ruth was raised on the Atlantic City Boardwalk. She spent countless days at the beach with her friends, attended Pleasantville High School and being a teenager of the 1950's and 1960's, experienced the birth of Rock N' Roll and even danced on Dick Clark's America Bandstand. Her interest in music and theatre led her to attending numerous concerts and flying off to Broadway over the years.

Ruth is preceded in death by her parents Margaret and Henry Zimmerman; and a sister Dorothy McGehean.

She is survived by her two daughters Dana (Jack) Crist of Blackfoot, Idaho and Kris (Aaron) Light of Jacksonville; two grandchildren; one great-grandchild; two nephews; and countless family and friends throughout the U.S.

The family will receive friends Friday, November 16 from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at 3755 Catherine Street, Hilliard. A memorial service will be held Saturday, November 17 at 11 a.m. at Hardage-Giddens Funeral Home in Mandarin, 11801 San Jose Boulevard, Jacksonville.

The family welcomes flowers or memorial donations to the American Diabetes Association.

JOYCE BENNETT MCQUAIG



Joyce Bennett McQuaig, 85, of Lake City, passed away November 6. She was born in Baldwin.

Survivors include her son Tracy (Karen) McQuaig; two daughters Stacy (Jerry) Bowen and Robin Cushman; four grandchildren Shane, Rachel, Brian and Sarah; great-grandchild Nora; sister Mary Bennett; along with numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, other family and friends.

Funeral services were held Friday, November 9 in the chapel of Giddens-Reed Funeral Home, Baldwin, 904-266-2337 (www.giddensreedfh.com). The family received friends prior to the service.

Interment followed in Brandy Branch Cemetery.

DONALD PHILLIPS

Donald Phillips, of Callahan, passed away unexpectedly November 3.

He is survived by his daughter Alyssa Phillips (Jed Smith); his grandsons Braden Phillips, Lucas Phillips, Caleb Smith, Kaidyn Horton and Kaiden Rea; extended family Laura and Ernie Dailey, Mary Jo and Emily Fortini, Alicia Rea and Matt Schneidewind; his best friend Sandy; his brothers John, Bill (Janet), and Garry (Konni); sister Donna; and numerous nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents Russ and Oma Phillips; a sister

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OBITUARIES

Barbara Jonassen; and his son Jeffery.

A celebration of his life service will be held at his daughter Alyssa's home on Friday, November 16.

Condolences may be expressed at www.nassaufh.com.

Arrangements by Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 904-879-1770.

HERBERT ROYCE ROWE



Herbert Royce Rowe, 78, of Hilliard, went home to be with the Lord on November 11. He was born on May 12, 1940 in Kent, Florida, to William and

Winnie Rowe. Herbert proudly served his country in the US Air Force. He was married to his high school sweetheart, Faye Conner Rowe for 60 loving years. He loved his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and was a member of River Road Baptist Church. Herbert was one of the founding fathers of the South Hilliard Hunting Club. His passions were farming, catfishing and carpentry. He built the family home in 1963 and surrounding out buildings. He also built and maintained several pieces of his farm equipment.

Herbert was preceded in death by his parents William Rowe and Winnie Stokes Rowe; siblings Dan, Columbus, Gordenell, Alva, Donald, Farris, Hollie, Vinnie Bell, Cora Belle, Lila Jean and Frances.

He is survived by his loving wife Faye Rowe; daughter Debra (Tony) Thomas; son John (Melinda) Rowe; grandsons Eric (Renna) Conner, Wesley (Sarah) Rowe, Jonathan Rowe, Trey Thomas and Will Thomas; great-grandchildren Mackenzie, Macy, Pixie, Ivan, Remi and Lane; brother Eddie (Dotty) Rowe; sisters Shirlene (Ron)

Ridenhour and Estelle (Al) Manning; numerous nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends Wednesday, November 14 from 5-7 p.m. at River Road Baptist Church. Funeral services will be held Thursday, November 15 at 11 a.m. with Pastor James Conner, Pastor Hal McIntosh and Pastor Benji Lloyd officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Jimmie Davis, Kevin Johnson, Jeffrey Rowe, Grady Libby, Shon Libby and Ernie Stamps. Honorary pallbearers will be Fred Kriete and Buddy Hodges.

Condolences may be expressed at www.nassaufh.com.

Arrangements by Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 904-879-1770.

CHRISTINA KAY SMITH

Christina Kay Smith, 37, of Callahan, passed away on Sunday, November 4. She was a native and lifelong resident of Jacksonville. She was a loving wife, mother, daughter, sister and friend and will be dearly missed by all. She is preceded in death by her mother Donna Roberts; and brother Ronald Cabler, Jr.

Survivors include her husband of 16 years, Anthony Smith; daughter Ashlynn Dawn Smith; father Ronald Cabler; cousins DJ, Eddie, and Josh Cabler, April McFalls, Stacey and Mike Mace; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Memorial services were held Saturday, November 10 in the chapel of Cedar Bay Funeral Home, Jacksonville with Pastor Gary Poplin officiating. The family received friends prior to the service.

Cedar Bay Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Pinball Alley Tourney Winners



The Pinball Alley, located in the First Coast Shopping Center across from Callahan Dollar General, continues to hold monthly pinball tournaments. It is a great place for teens to hang out and try their art at playing the pinball machines. It is a very safe environment and fun too!

The Pinball Alley's November Top four players were: 4th Place Bill Booth; 3rd Place Lisa Henry; 2nd Place Cody Miller; and 1st Place Chris Henry.

UF Master Naturalist Program

REGISTRATION CLOSES November 20. The University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Florida Master Naturalist Program Coastal Systems Module sponsored by Nassau County Extension and Duval County Extension will be offered November 28, 30, December 5, 7, 12, and 14, 2018 (day classes from 8:30-4:30). Classroom sessions will be held at the American Beach Community Center, 1600 Julia Street, Fernandina Beach, FL, 32034. This program is for adults who want to learn more about Florida's environment. Individuals as well as educators, and those in the eco-tourism business can benefit. Teachers may receive up to 40 hours continuing education credits. Topics include: ecosystems (coastal uplands, estuarine, and marine), key plants and wildlife,

and the role of humans in shaping the environment. Each module includes classroom presentations, videos, field trips, and practical interpretation. Advance registration is required. Course fee starts at \$230 (see web site for full pricing). Course instructors are Justina Dacey, Christina Nelson, Elizabeth Strawbridge, Karen Tobi, and Carol Wyninger. Student requirements include attendance, participation, and enthusiasm! For registration and program information contact the website www.masternaturalist.org. For further questions contact Justina Dacey at jdacey@ufl.edu, (904) 530-6356 or Carol Wyninger at (904) 220-0232, wyninger@comcast.net.

For more information, call the Extension office at 904-530-6353.



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Remember to Pray for Our Troops

The Westside Journal would like to pay tribute to all the brave servicemen and women. Please take time to remember each of these service members in your daily prayers.

Morgan Bartchlett (Louisiana), Chris Barr (Texas), Jewel Rene Barron (Virginia), Johnathon Bates (Florida), Timothy Beasley (Cuba), Cody Beaver (Washington), Danielle Beaver (Spain), Jessica Bell (Hawaii), Chad E. Black (South Carolina), Kevin & Brooke Blanton (Georgia), Spc. Caleb Bohannon (South Korea), Israel Marcos Bonilla (Missouri), Derek Borden, Benjamin Black (Iraq), Hunter Brannon (North Carolina), Conrad Brauwn (Afghanistan), Ryan Brooks (Connecticut), John Brookshire (North Carolina), Aaron Brown (Japan), Branden Brown (USS Nimitz), Anthony Broekema (Virginia), Brandon M. Burnette (Hawaii), Thomas W. Burnette (South Korea), Ahmad Butler (Japan), Brayden Lamar Carroll (North Carolina), Allen L. Carter (Alaska), Kyle F. Christmas (Washington), John Coltrane (NAS Jax), Scott Cooper, Dustin Corum (California), Charlie I. D. Cox (South Korea), Gavin Crews (South Carolina), Tison J. Crews (Georgia) Charles 'CJ' Cribbs, III (Washington, DC), Dennis L. Davis II (Alabama), Shannon Davis (Nevada), Johanna Diaz (Nevada), Clif Dixon (Iraq), Robert Dodson (Arkansas), Devin Michael Dowling (Kansas), Christopher Downs (Arizona), William Clay Dryden (Germany), James Dale Evans (Baghdad), David Farhat (Kuwait), Christen Fernandez, Clinton Fouraker (Virginia), Jeremy Francisco (Mayport), Jennifer D. Frederick (Colorado), Kevin J. Gahriss (United Arab Emirates), Michael E. Garcia (Afghanistan), Marcus Gee (Iraq), Samantha Gee (Korea), Tabettha Gee (Korea), Chadrick Gibson (Iraq), Charles Gibson, Darrell Goodwyne, Jr. (Iraq), Brandon Graham (Georgia), Sgt. Daniel Graves, Jr. (North Carolina), Eric Greene (Georgia), Branden R. Griffis (Florida), Wendy Griffis (Afghanistan), Phaylyn Griffith (California), Hunter C. Guzman (Georgia), Michael Hall, Michael Hallman (Key West), Ronnie Hammer (Virginia), Todd W. Hanner, Jr. (Texas), Andy Harper, Mark Harris (Virginia), Harley Henderson (Texas), Nathan Hess (Japan), Jeff Higgs (Spain), SPC Hodge (Iraq), Josh Hoyle (California), AT2 Brian Hughes (Bahrain), Bryan K. Jeffers II (Iraq), Wyoming Jefferies (Ohio), Jacob Jensen (Middle East), Cameron Johns (North Dakota), Aaron L. Johnson (Colorado), Carlus Johnson (Texas), Donald Johnson (North Carolina), Jamaal Jones (Hawaii), Bradley Justice, Brian J. Kerns (Virginia), Joseph A. Kidd, IV (Iraq), Kayla King (Germany), Scott Kirkland (California), Joshua Knight, PO3 Travis E. Kornacki (Cuba), Jordan Kriner (Italy), Tyler Landreville (Florida), John C. Larkin (Iraq), Chase M. Lewis (North Carolina), Katelyn Lewis (Japan), Jason Lovejoy (Colorado), Gatlin Mackie (Virginia), Kevin Marshall (Missouri), Canisha Martin (Georgia), Tony Martin (Georgia), Anthony Mastrogiovanni (Georgia), Stacey McDaniel (Virginia), Noah E. McKinnon (Iraq), Michael McQuaiz, Matthew McRae (North Carolina), Russell Mellroy (Afghanistan), Ivory Melton, Jr. (Kuwait), Brian Middleton (Afghanistan), Steven Miner (Germany), Britt Mizell (South Carolina), Dillon Mock (Florida), Joshua Monds (Virginia), Anthony Moore (Afghanistan), Anthony Moore (South Carolina), Roland Moore (Iraq), Chris Morehead (North Carolina), Sgt. Travis Morris, Climart 'CJ' Moses (Afghanistan), Michael Murphy (Iraq), Aaron Musgrove (Afghanistan), Stephen Myers (Korea), Jonathan Neeve (Texas), Brian Nelson (North Carolina), Gary Nelson (Kuwait), Michael Nelson (Florida), Michael Nettles (Iraq), Lee Nickola (Iraq), Ryan Norton (North Carolina), Jesse O'Berry (England), Daniel O'Dell, Shannon O'Dell, Steven A. Oxforth (Connecticut), Walter Oxforth (New Mexico), Chase Parden (Kansas), Michael Park (South Korea), Danielle Parker (North Carolina), Jeremy Pelkey (Georgia), Christopher Phelan (Virginia), Darren Phelan (Washington State), Linn Phillips, III (Italy), Kyle Pipkins (South Carolina), Austin Potochnik (Japan), Dusty Price (Iraq), Michael Price (Germany), Kenneth Pullum (Washington, DC), Kyle Pullum (Louisiana), Robert W. Pyles (Kuwait), Jeffery Rapadas (Kuwait), Justin Reed (North Carolina), Kasie Richardson (North Carolina), Jeffrey Rigdon (Kentucky), Camilla Roberts (Alaska), David Roberts (Alaska), Stephen Roberts (Mayport), Michael Robinson (Alabama), Jason Rodgers (Texas), Douglas Raymond Roth, Marc Rowe (Georgia), Brian M. Sartain, Jr. (Pensacola), James Sanders (Germany), Tressie Scott (Afghanistan), James Scully (Germany), Donald Shaw (Iraq), Michael Shearer (Illinois), Jesse D. Silcox (Bahrain), Tayib A. Simmons (San Diego), Daniel Singley, Corey Slayton (California), Christopher E. Smith (Iraq), James A. Smith (North Carolina), Michael J. Smith (North Carolina), David Stallings (Kuwait), Bill Starling (Iraq), Larry V. Starratt, III (Korea), Caleb & Jordan Stoner (North Carolina), James 'Mike' Stringer (Iraq), Joseph R. Taylor (Texas), Luke Thomas (Germany), Michael Thomas (North Carolina), Tim Thomas, Crystal Thompson (Iraq), Terry Thompson (Japan), Tiffany Thompson (Washington), Sarah Tindell (North Carolina), William Varner (California), Shawn W. Vickers (California), Daniel Vroman (Missouri), Jonathan Vroman (Virginia), Brett Wade (Florida), Jeff Walters (Iraq), Shawn Ward (Texas), Brian Waring (Iraq), Daniel Waters, James D. Whitman, Earl Youman, Jr. (Virginia)

It is our honor to recognize our local Armed Service members. We would like to update our 'Pray for our Troops' list, adding those who have recently joined our Armed Services or removing those who no longer serve. Please read over the list. If you need to make a correction, addition or deletion, just give us a call, 879-4180. You may also email changes to news@westsidejournal.net. **God Bless our Troops!**



Garden Talk

Rebecca Jordi, UF/IFAS Nassau County Horticultural Extension Agent is a University of Florida faculty member. Mail questions to: Garden Talk, c/o Rebecca Jordi, Nassau County Extension, 543350 US Hwy. 1, Callahan, FL 32011 or email rjordi@ufl.edu

Q: Can you give me a few hints for getting my landscape ready for the fall? JZ

A: Sure. Here are a few off the top of my head: 1. Cut down milkweed (especially the multi-colored Mexican variety - *Asclepias curassavica*) plants in October because we want the monarchs to move south for the winter. You are not doing them a favor to provide food for them. If we have a freeze, they will die. Please, please, please be considerate of these wonderful creatures. 2. Remove the hummingbird feeder. Clean it with hot water and store it for the winter. 3. Clean the seed feeders. You will have winter visitors, but this is the time to remove any mold and debris, so you can start fresh. Start with new, clean seed; your feathered friends will thank you.



4. Fertilizing should be finished for the year; plants will be going into dormancy. 5. Cut back your irrigation soon to once a week in full sun, less in shade. The goal is 1/2 inch every time you irrigate. Remember - that is the law, even if you have a well. 6. Start preparing for potential freezes. Tender perennials and citrus will need to be protected from cold temperatures when possible. 7. We will be slowing down on the number of times we need to mow the lawn, so have the mower blades sharpened. 8. Fall vegetable gardens should be in full swing, but there is still time to plant those cool season vegetables. If you want to know what to plant, please call the Extension office for the best cultivars for our area (904 530-6353). 9. We are still in hurricane season so think about removing lawn grass off the root areas

of your trees - this can cause the tree to be a risk in hurricanes. Do not remove too much of the lower limbs of the tree causing it to be top heavy - this too can cause the tree to be at risk of falling. 10. Fall is a great time to transplant bulbs and rhizomes. This is the best time to plant new trees and shrubs too. Remember, when planting trees or shrubs do NOT amend the soil (NO BLACK KOW), plant just at or slightly above soil level and do not fertilize for 6 weeks or more.

Q: You have a very unusual plant in the demo garden labeled coral bean. What can you tell me about it? SM

A: Coral bean, *Erythrina herbacea*, is a shrub typically growing between 6-8 feet in the northern Florida. It has compound, semi-deciduous leaves. This means they will drop their leaves but generally not all at once. The leaves are light to medium green in color and have prickles on their midribs; the prickles are found on the undersides of the leaflets. The stems of this plant are also armed with short, spines. Scarlet, tubular flowers are borne in 2-foot-long terminal racemes blooming from April to June. These flowers are attractive to hummingbirds and important pollinators. The showy fruits of the coral bean are drooping pods. These pods split in the fall to reveal the beautiful, scarlet seeds. Coral bean is a native plant which tolerates most any type of soil, prefers partial sun/shade and is highly drought tolerant once established. It is also moderately salt tolerant with few disease or insect issues.



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THANK YOU

The election did not turn out the way we had hoped, but I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who cast a vote for me as Mayor in the Town of Hilliard for your support and encouragement over the course of the election. It has been a privilege serving the Town of Hilliard as Mayor for the past two years. I leave with my head held high, knowing I did make a difference for the people of Hilliard.

Cris W. McConnell

Paid for by Cris W. McConnell for Mayor of the Town of Hilliard

Tropicana Speech Winners at CIS



Callahan Intermediate School recently held the annual Tropicana Speech Contest. Congratulations CIS school winners: 1st Place Loreali Bryan; 2nd Place Gage Scaff; and 3rd Place Ava Henderson. The first and second place winners will compete in the county event on November 15.

Miss Rambler 2018



Miss Rambler Gracie Turner, 6th grade Princess Kate Harrison, 7th grade Princess Madison Green, 8th grade Princess Makenzie Pickett

Elegant Ladies of the Old South

'Elegant Ladies of the Old South' will be presented Friday, November 16 at 6 p.m. at the West Nassau Historical Society, 45383 Dixie Ave., Callahan.

Several members of the St. Marys River Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy will present in 19th Century period attire with scenarios about Nassau County, Florida during the War Between the States. This presentation is part of the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit: "Crossroads: Change in Rural America" and is free and open to the public. Join us for an informative evening of living history.



Callahan Christmas Parade

The 45th Annual Callahan Christmas Parade & Crafts Fair will take place on Saturday, December 1. The Arts & Crafts Fair will be held at the West Nassau Historical Society train depot from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. The theme of the parade will be "A Piney Woods Christmas" and will start at 11 a.m. beginning at the Callahan Depot.

Parade and float entry cost is \$45; and vendor entry for the Arts & Crafts Fair is \$55. The entry deadline for the parade is Friday, November 16 and the entry deadline for the Arts & Crafts Fair is November 22. Please visit www.nassaucountyflchamber.com or call (904) 261-3248 for more information.

The Great Outdoors

DJ Jones, of Minnesota, formerly of Hilliard, took this 9-point buck, weighing in at 270 pounds, while hunting in Minnesota!



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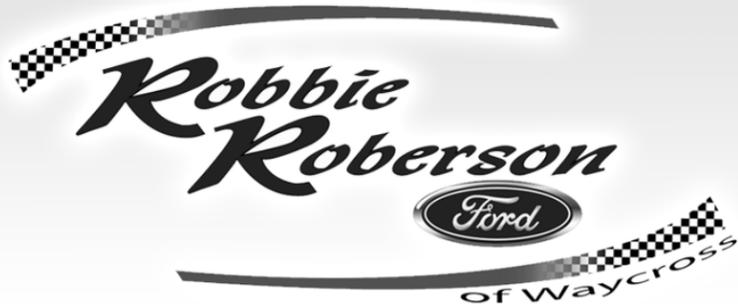
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Veterans Honored at Westside Senior Center



Last Friday, local Veterans were honored at the Westside Senior Center prior to their luncheon. A special wall was made with all the Veterans' names on it along with their branch of service. Each one was called up individually to receive their pin and certificate of service along with having their picture taken.

Recognized were: Sandra Clendenen, US Navy Korean War; Joseph Bottoni, US Army World War II; James Jacobs, US Air Force, Vietnam War; Steven Rosen, US Air Force, Netherlands; Sylvester Ross, US Navy World War II; Howard Power, Jr., US Army Berlin Conflict; and Nello 'Bob' Zortea (not pictured), US Navy, World War II. From all of us...thank you, thank you for your service and sacrifice!

Gifted Classes Enjoy Medieval Times



On Thursday, November 8 the Elementary Gifted classes visited Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament in Orlando as part of their study of the Middle Ages. While at Medieval Times the students toured a Medieval Village, the only permanent Medieval Village existing in the United States. Throughout eight cottages students got a sense of what life was like during the Middle Ages.

After touring the village, students and chaperones made their way into the theater where the king, queen, knights, and squires presented a 30 minute pre-show, Chivalry in Modern Times.



This humorous yet serious anti-bullying show portrayed the importance of treating everyone with kindness and the correct way to respond to certain situations. Immediately following the pre-show, a Medieval Feast was served and the show began.

While on horseback, the knights took part in a traditional jousting tournament. The students cheered their knight on to victory and as a result Lily Faircloth, of Hilliard Elementary, was selected to be crowned the queen of love and beauty. It was a fun-filled day of learning that brought history to life.



MCCI Appreciates Veterans



Monday, Activity Coordinator at MCCI Callahan organized a pinning ceremony for Veterans. The Veterans all received a pin along with a laminated certificate with their name and branch of service. They enjoyed a special breakfast in their honor sponsored by Community Hospice & Palliative Care.

Veterans in attendance were: Tom Higginbotham, J.C. Simms, Richard Egan, Jerry Blythe, Ed Williams, John Sallas, Alan Rognan and Charles Reynolds.

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