

"I WILL LIFT UP MINE EYES UNTO THE HILLS, FROM WHENCE COMETH MY HELP. MY HELP COMETH FROM THE LORD, WHICH MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH." - PSALM 121:1-2

## Journey Callahan Site Plan Approved

*Dawn S. West*

The Callahan Town Council met Monday night for their first meeting of December. The first order of business was Public Hearings on two ordinances. Ordinance 2018-004 was approved on first reading concerning the annexation of 2.39 acres of land at the corner of US Highway 1 and Old Dixie Highway. Ordinance 2018-005 was also approved which concerned re-zoning the 2.39 acres from Nassau County's Residential Mixed Medium Density Zoning to the Town's Commercial Highway future land use.

The next agenda item was to review the site plan for Journey Callahan. The council received rendition drawings of what Journey Callahan will be: a gas station/truck stop. Only 5.83 acres of the 32 acres were purchased by Richard M. Davis of Macclenny. The location is scheduled to house a store, 10 gas pumps on the US 1 side and six (6) diesel pumps in the rear of the building. There will also be 23 overnight parking spaces for semi drivers to sleep. Entry to the location will be off of Old Dixie and also off of US 1. The council approved the site plan.

The next item discussed was appointing President Pro Tem. The council agreed to select Councilwoman



Janet Shaw to fill the position when needed.

Mayor Marty Fontes reminded the council and clerk that at the last meeting he had handed out a calendar of the entire year and asked them (council) to look it over and have changes for this meeting. "The only change I see is that we will have a second meeting this December because of the public hearing," said Fontes. "Please feel free to let me know if you see anything that might need to be changed."

Mayor Fontes continued with the next item, "We also discussed Code Chapter 162-8 at the last meeting. The ordinance is correct we just need to apply the money correctly to the Water & Sewer Department. I just want to make sure everyone understands this."

The council agreed to leave the ordinance as is.

The council approved adding Council President Ken Bass to be the fourth signer, if needed, for specific town accounts.

Mayor Fontes also updated the council on the Out with a Boom Fireworks Spectacular sponsored in part by the Town of Callahan. "The fireworks event is going to be a great thing. Myself and Paul Schwend met with the fireworks people recently," said Fontes. "Everything looks great. We are still looking for businesses and people to donate money for the event. The band and football boosters will have their concessions open and the gates will open at 4 p.m. The event will be held Sunday, December 30 at West Nassau High School football field."

In closing comments, the Mayor again added a few more thoughts, "I met with the staff and we went over

the personnel rules. I have made a few changes and would like you all (council) to look over them. Secondly, we are in need of having some of our roads paved and need to get some paving contractors' names and bids. Third, I want you (council) to be thinking about advertising for an entry level person for the water & sewer department. Mike Williams is considering retiring at some point and we need to have someone ready to fill that position."

Councilwoman Kathy Smith advised the council that she had been to the park and looked over the new equipment and it sure looks good. "Right now, it's a little wet down there but it's looking great," said Smith.

Town Clerk Stephanie Knagge advised the council that they needed to be thinking about dates for ethics training in January. She also advised the council that the Santa Run, when the Callahan Volunteer Fire Department rides through the town and gives out presents and candy to children, will be held Saturday, December 15 beginning at 9 a.m.

The next meeting of the council will be Monday, December 17 at 7 p.m.

## Callahan Depot Christmas Tree Lighting Held



The 2018 Callahan Christmas Tree Lighting was held Friday night at the Depot. The Callahan Middle School Chorus, under the direction of Teresa Pinkstaff, sang some beautiful Christmas and Patriotic songs and did a great job. The tree lighting followed with a visit from Engineer Santa with gifts for the little ones. Light refreshments were

served in the Annex. The Smithsonian Exhibit was open to all too. The Depot is all decorated for Christmas and looks beautiful. This 1881 Callahan Depot, local history museum and Red Caboose are special treasures to our community!

Make sure to check out the last week of the Smithsonian Exhibit!



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## A Word From the Publisher

I know I'm a little late, but what a wonderful Thanksgiving we had! We are so blessed beyond measure. For several years now, Thanksgiving is traditionally at our home. Thanksgiving always has such a special meaning to me however this year it was over and above.

My mom has suffered with trigeminal neuralgia for about 14 years. The condition was in the right side of her face. When the pain hit, it was like an electrical charge through her face. The condition made her very aware of the pain and constantly waiting on guard for it to hit. For years, she maintained it with a strong medication. She had three different surgeries to try to combat the pain and hopefully stop it. Each of these procedures was challenging, as mom wasn't getting any younger. The last procedure she had barely lasted one year and then she started her medication regimen again. The medication cushioned the pain but also made her unsteady as she had to constantly increase the dosage as the pain increased. It was unbearable to watch her wrench in pain.

Finally, a new surgeon (because hers retired) gave her yet another option for surgery. After six weeks of testing this and that, we finally came to the pre-op testing. After a full day of going from place to place, now mom at 86 years old, the doctor cancelled her surgery late that night due to low sodium. We were all devastated and so discouraged. I felt so bad, after all Mom had been through. Come to find out, one of the medicines she was using caused the low sodium. The trooper my mother is, quit taking the medicine and tried to increase the other one. She and Daddy decided to get another opinion. Through God's grace, my daughter and a good friend's help, we had appointments with a Baptist Neurosurgeon and Mayo Clinic on the same day! What are the chances?

Our consultation with Baptist Neurosurgeon and Dr. Eric Sauvageau



went extremely well. Dr. Sauvageau talked to my mom like she was his mother. By talking with her, he saw the woman she was and knew there was only one thing that could help her. Two weeks after our appointment, Mom was scheduled for surgery to do a microvascular decompression, a type of brain surgery. When Dr. Sauvageau came out and talked to us, he said he had never seen one that was so matted together. "I padded that nerve on three sides. I don't know how you have dealt with this pain for so long. That pain is never going to hurt you again. I can't promise something else won't hurt but that won't."

Thanksgiving Day was one week after the surgery. Mom made her famous dressing and amazing gravy. She wouldn't let me even help! Her recovery has been the best. Best of all... NO PAIN! She has her life back again. She's not afraid to talk, smile, laugh or go to church! She's Mama again and what a blessing that is! She and Daddy have their lives back and can begin to enjoy life again.

Yes, Thanksgiving Day this year had a totally different spin. Every time I looked at my Mama, I just teared up! God is so good and I'm so thankful! Thank you Jesus!

Have a blessed week!

*Dawn S. West*

## Letters to the Editor



### Aliens in Hilliard

Dear Editor,

The Aliens have landed! Right here in Hilliard. In the cemetery, of all places! While walking my dog, some weeks ago, as we passed the cemetery, we noticed these bright, colorful lights that kept changing colors. These lights were way in the back where you would ordinarily hardly notice. In addition we kept hearing the faint strains of some kind of "mood music." It reminded me of the old movie, Close Encounters of the Third Kind.

The next night, about dusk, my dog and I decided to walk down by the cemetery again to see if something was happening. Maybe it was our imagination, or maybe a dream. Sure enough, the Aliens were back! The colored lights were flashing and changing and the sounds of Mood Music could be heard coming through the trees and over the graves. This was scary!

Before I went "weird" and called the FBI, the CIA, the Department of Homeland Security, Defense Intelligence Agency or some other alphabet group, I decided to check it out during the daytime. Two guys I worked with had sons about the same age as my son. Both these young men had died in tragic auto accidents and were buried in the Hilliard Cemetery. From time to time, I visited their graves to pull weeds, place, or plant flowers or vines and straighten things up.

My dog Baron and I drove my pick-up near these two graves. I noticed that ruts had been worn in the ground near the back fence where the Alien worshippers, or admirers, had been regularly driving to meet these Aliens? Were they feeding these Aliens? What was it that kept bringing these Aliens back night after night? What was the attraction that brought these feeders, observers, worshippers or whatever, back to this cemetery, in the dark, night after night?

As I began weeding, spraying a little Roundup, raking and moving rock around, Baron wandered close by looking for "critters," a favorite pastime of his. Before we knew it, it was getting dusk and time for the Aliens and the worshippers, or whatever, to arrive. I threw everything in the truck; Baron and I jumped in and started to leave but it was too late! The first two couples had arrived! They sat in their cars on the road watching for a few minutes, blocking our exit! Were Baron and I going to be tonight's sacrifices to the Aliens? Were they trying to intimidate us? If so, it was working! Quickly they drove down the ruts out of sight. Then we heard gunfire! Maybe gunshots were to warn the

Aliens and give us a chance to escape! Those young couples may have saved our lives! In fact, maybe they don't go to the cemetery to "snuggle" or "shake hands" in friendship with Aliens; What if these young couples really work for the FBI or the CIA and are actually protecting the citizens of Hilliard from the ALIENS!

Marvin Perkins

### Camper Requested

Dear Editor,

My name is Hazel George and I'm from Bryceville. I lost my home and all my possessions in a house fire back in 2015. I have been so blessed to be taken in by family and friends in the area for all these years. I'm so thankful to them however I am ready to be out on my own again.

I am a cancer survivor and am on a fixed income so I'm challenged with what I can afford to get my life back to normalcy. I am reaching out to possibly find a camper in livable condition that I could purchase at an affordable price. The Lord has blessed me and gotten me this far and I am confident that there is a 'home' out there for me.

If you have a camper that you could deal with me on (or donate), please call me at (904) 805-2651. Thank you in advance for considering this, I really appreciate it.

God bless you all,  
Hazel George

### Thank you!

Dear Editor,

The Callahan Lions Club says thank you to everyone that participated in our 2018 Turkey Shoots. One hundred percent of your donations will go to help change lives for the better in our communities. We focus on free eyeglasses and hearing aids for those whose qualify and volunteering in the community to help where we see a need. Your donations will be life changing for those that cannot see to drive, work, and see the blackboard at school.

We help those that cannot hear, blocking their communication with others. Our volunteers hand out food to the hungry, adopt a family for Christmas, volunteer at the Teachers Appreciation Breakfast, donate to the Soup Kitchen, work with other organizations where needed and so much more. We have guest speakers at our meetings who teach us about our communities. Your donations help us follow our motto, "Feel Good About Yourself," join a Lions Club today.

We hope you had fun and "Feel Good About Yourself" for donating to the 2018 Callahan Lions Club Turkey Shoot. Our 2018 Turkey Shoots are now over for the year but will be back in the Spring of 2019.

We hope to see you then,  
Bill Quaille, President  
Callahan Lions Club

Letters to the Editor may be emailed to [news@westsidejournal.net](mailto:news@westsidejournal.net) but must include a name.

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## Barnabas 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Empty Bowls Luncheon a Success

Barnabas Center's recent 5th Annual Empty Bowls luncheon was a success thanks to the generous sponsors and donors, more than 400 attendees, event committee, volunteers and bowl painters. What is Empty Bowls? An empty bowl is the symbol of hunger. In support of our neighbors coping with hunger and food insecurity, each year Barnabas hosts a simple meal of soup, bread and dessert donated by the Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island and the Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort. The event raised much-needed funds to support Barnabas programs including food pantry, medical and dental care and crisis assistance.

Barnabas is especially appreciative of the support of the Endowed \$10,000 Event Grant Fund est. 2015 by Delores Barr Weaver, along with presenting sponsors, The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island and Baptist Medical Center Nassau. Platinum Sponsors included



Omni Resorts Amelia Island Plantation, WestRock, Jack and Charlotte Roberts, David and Judy Easterly and the Berghoef/Boyle Foundation. Gold Sponsors included Martex Landscape Management, Lisa Presnell Productions, Donna Lynne Custom Homes, Castleton Homes and Breakwater Hotel at the Beach.

Barnabas is deeply grateful for the volunteers from the Rotary Club of Amelia Island Sunrise, as well as numerous individuals who donated their time and talents during the event. These individuals include event emcee Lewis Turner, news anchor with First Coast News, the featured speaker, Matthew Dicks and the dedicated committee volunteer members who tirelessly worked to ensure the success of the luncheon including: Chair Pat Hayden and members Anne Apt, Kathi Donegan, Pam Fox, Andrea Hoffman, Robin Jones, Lisa Presnell, Lisa Rozier, Mary Anne Sharer and Annie Sparkle.

To learn more about Barnabas Center visit [www.BarnabasNassau.org](http://www.BarnabasNassau.org).



## JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

Just imagine a place in the west side of Nassau County where you could take your children and enjoy a day floating around a lazy river and the children having a blast splashing and playing in a large splash pad. No longer would you have to travel to St. Marys, Georgia or Jacksonville or even further to relish in this type of family time. In a sensible world, this type of family fun would be greatly accepted and appreciated. Or the land could be developed into a sprawling neighborhood of approximately 250 homes or more.

A local developer, who has purchased over 200 acres off Lem Turner Road that currently serves as an 18-hole golf course, had a vision to transform the property into a family oriented fun zone. His plans were to maintain a 9-hole golf course, construct a lazy river, a large kid friendly splash pad, a general store for guests' needs, all the while maintaining a wooded barrier between the park and nearby existing residential property. His vision also included camper spots for approximately 40 RVs with limited time of stays.

All five of our illustrious County Commissioners decided a recreation area for the west side was not a good

idea and unanimously voted it down. What's even sadder is Justin Taylor, the District 5 Commissioner that represents the area, is the one who made the motion to deny the request.

Perhaps they do not want the people of the west side to have a place to go so that we will have to continue going to the east side for recreation, perhaps they think this adventure will take away from their planned \$2 million tax dollar funded park they want to construct between Callahan and Hilliard, who knows what they think? If what they're thinking is 250-500 new homes are going to booster their tax rolls, then they are only fooling themselves and us. Anyone with any knowledge of taxes knows that residential rooftops due not cover the expenses of services required. One more critical component of building out the land with residential homes or even the possibility of apartments is the increased vehicle traffic on Lem Turner Road. This will be a nightmare of its own.

This is just another example of poor decision making by our Commissioners once again.

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

## EVENTS AROUND TOWN

**Breakfast with Santa** at American Legion Post 401 Saturday, December 8th from 8 - 11 a.m. \$5.00 per person. Hard copy pictures on-site for \$2. Every child will leave with a gift while they last. The post is located at 37405 Henry Smith Rd., Hilliard. Majority of proceeds will go to Ronald McDonald House.

**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.

Visit us anytime at: [www.mywestsidejournal.com](http://www.mywestsidejournal.com)

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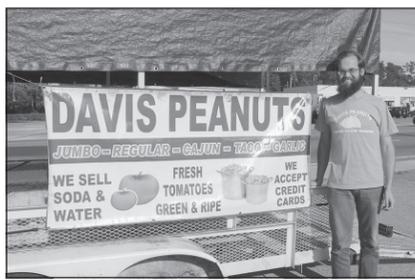
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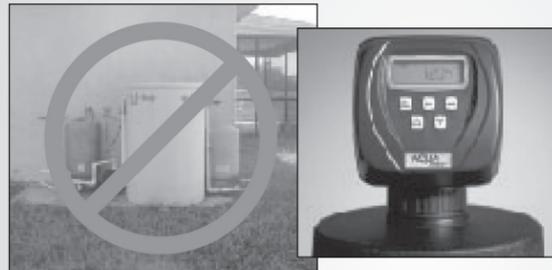
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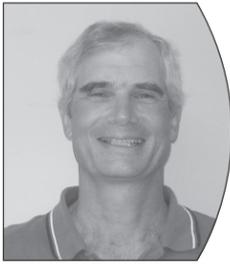
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# Thank you to the Westside!

*Pastor Tim Carpenter, Friendship Alliance Church, Callahan*



Twenty-six and half years ago, my family and I followed the Lord from Broward County to this good land of Callahan and the west side of Nassau County. My children were in high school and middle school and we were excited to see what the Lord would have for us and our new church.

We have met a lot of people and grown to love so many of you. We have watched God at work in the lives of young people who are now parents. We have cried over some and laughed with many. We have sent missionaries out to serve the Lord. We have had people from out of town join us and then leave to another area. We have grown close to many and watched as they have left to be with the Lord. Everyone has become a friend and we pray we have helped many to love the Lord better. I am sure I have hurt some folks but pray that they will forgive me in my weaknesses as I have forgiven them.

Our children have grown and have families of their own. One serves the Lord in Uruguay helping to plant a church. The other plants seeds of love for godly art as a professor. You had a great impact on their lives and I know that they touched you when they lived here as many have asked about their well-being. But Kate and I have also grown up here in many ways. You have helped me to love the Lord better and I have learned so much as well.

Friendship Alliance has been around since 1973 and has blessed many people. I believe with Marty Paparo as the new pastor, this church will continue to bear good fruit and touch many lives in the Kingdom of God and this community. We are praying for God's guidance and direction in this next year as we take time away from official ministry. We have never lived in one place for so long as we have here. Our hearts will always be rooted here.

If I were asked what one golden nugget would I impart to you as I finish my participation in this column, I would quote the Lord Jesus in Matthew 22:37-40, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend on the Law and the Prophets." (ESV)

After all, life is all about God and He is about relationships. While we cannot do that rightly on our own, God so loved us that He gave us Jesus, His Son, that whoever will believe in Him will have eternal life and be able to love Him and others rightly.

## CHURCH NEWS

The First United Methodist Church of Callahan will present "Joy To The World" Sat., Dec. 8 at 6 p.m. Come and celebrate the Joy of Christmas through this special musical presentation. Refreshments will follow along with activities, crafts and treats for children with a special visit from Santa!

Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church Annual Chili Cook-Off competition will be held Fri., Dec. 14 in the Parish Hall. The competition is open to the community. The Chili Cook-Off entry fee is \$5 (set-up starts at 5:30 p.m.); the tasting/voting fee, \$7 (starts at 6:30 p.m.). For information call 879-3662.

## Callahan Garden Club Celebrates



The Callahan Garden Clubs November meeting also served as their Thanksgiving gathering. The program was conducted by Garden Club member and Historian Peter Mullins. Mullins gave a presentation on the History of Thanksgiving. Mullins informed the club of historical facts and foods that was present at the feast.

The Callahan Garden Club meets the first Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. at their clubhouse on Fourth Avenue. For information, call 904-583-2123.

## Mailbox Photos Needed!

Is your mailbox or door decorated with evergreens for the holidays? We'd like to see it and share with our community. The Westside Journal will be publishing selected photos in an upcoming issue to help us celebrate the season. Photos can be of your mailbox, front door, or a potted evergreen tree.



Please email your high resolution photo, at least a 4 x 6, to Bea Walker, UF/IFAS Nassau at: beawalker105@gmail.com. Photos must be submitted by December 17. Include your name and

subdivision name or area. No addresses to ensure privacy. Questions? Contact Bea Walker at email noted above or call 904-310-5628.

## Last Chance to 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.



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# Callahan Library...Not Such a Quiet Place Anymore!

Nancy Lee Bethea

You won't be shushed by the librarians if you talk to your friends or have a meeting in the Callahan Library these days. Why? Because the Callahan Library is changing to reflect modern life in many ways.

Located at 450077 SR 200, Suite 15, our hometown library still offers a large collection of books and a quiet place for study or reading, but it is changing.

"We're being called upon more and more to help people find accurate information. In the world of fake news, the library is a place where people can go to find reliable sources of information," said Beth McKibben-Nee, the Branch Librarian at the Callahan Branch Library.

Patrons can find all kinds of relevant and accurate information through online databases provided by our library. All you need is a valid Nassau County library card, a personal identification number (PIN), and a computer. Databases save patrons valuable research time because they provide instant access to numerous journals and articles on a multitude of topics, including legal information,



hobbies, the arts, and local, state, and federal government resources.

Library users have numerous technology resources at our hometown library. McKibben-Nee has offered computer classes since 2016 when she started her job as Branch Manager. Soon, she will offer free classes on using Excel, PowerPoint, and the library's electronic resources. "A trend in libraries right now is to do more educational training, and I love that because I'm a former teacher," said the Branch Librarian.

McKibben-Nee is a former elementary and middle school media specialist and science teacher. She also

worked at The Book Loft, a book store in Fernandina Beach. Her experience working in education and with the public is evident as she continues to transform the library into a creative community hub. "I want people to come to the library to spend time, not just use it for the resources, but

also to connect with other people in the community," said McKibben-Nee.

One easy way for people to connect is by attending programs the library offers. McKibben-Nee has organized programming on genealogy, board games for kids, Internet safety, and much more. In early 2019, she plans to offer a new program called "Around the World in 80 Days," after the novel by Jules Verne. "We're looking for international travelers who have been to the far corners of the Earth to share their experiences, some of their photographs, some video footage, and talk to other people who may not have the opportunity to go to those places," said McKibben-Nee.

Another way people are connecting at our library is through ongoing writing, painting, and crafting classes. "Libraries have become much more creative places and creative spaces, and I love that. People come not only for books and information, but also to get creative ideas, and a lot of times, when we connect with other people, those creative ideas happen," said McKibben-Nee.

Our hometown library is a place to connect and find resources, but it needs our support as it prepares for the future. "There's a lot of growth coming here, so we need people who are interested in libraries and who want



to help. We need volunteers interested in partnering with the library to help us meet the needs of the public as all these changes are happening," said the Branch Librarian.

Finally, McKibben-Nee wants to continue to lead the Callahan Branch Library in meeting the changing needs of the community. "We are here to help area businesses, job seekers, students, teachers, home school families, and everyone else in any stage of life. Please come in and let us show you the many resources we have, and how we can help you," said McKibben-Nee.

For more information on the Callahan Branch Library, please visit [www.nassaureads.com](http://www.nassaureads.com) or call 904-530-6500.



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## DOH-Nassau to Address Needs of Elderly

The Florida Department of Health in Nassau is pleased to announce its participation in the Florida Age-Friendly Public Health Collaborative and Action Network, facilitated by Trust for America's Health (TFAH) with generous funding from The John A. Hartford Foundation. The department and TFAH aim to identify and enhance the role of public health in improving the health and well-being of the older adults in our community.



"This is a timely issue and we are excited about the opportunity to learn with other public health partners how to make Nassau County more Age-Friendly through the life-course," stated Dr. Eugenia Ngo-Seidel, Health Department Director, "Whether we, ourselves, are an older adult or have older adults in our families, looking at our strengths and our gaps will help to plan for a healthier future for all."

Nassau County is a growing community with older residents who bring vitality and wisdom to our daily lives. Over the past thirty years, the population of older Floridians in Nassau County has grown and now exceeds the rate of youth (under 18 years). Data reveal that twenty eight percent (28%) of all Nassau citizens are over the age of 60 years. Of this older population, 93% are white, 5.5% black, 1.3% Hispanic and 1.1% other; 47% are male and 52% are female. It is projected that the over 60 population will grow by more than 10,000 residents over the next 10 years. Many have relocated for the warm weather, while others have been Floridians all their lives. This fact is true Nassau County is an ideal place to live,

work and retire. Between the sunshine which supports general health and the warm weather for outdoor activities year-round, Nassau County truly is the ideal place to live for all years of your life. The Florida Department of Health in Nassau County Age-Friendly Public Health Collaborative will work to support optimal health and services for all persons as we age together.

In October 2017, TFAH brought together 30 experts in public health, aging, research and policy in Florida to explore how public health could contribute to the health and well-being of older adults. Convening participants developed a Framework for Creating an Age-Friendly Public Health System to advance public health's role in addressing the challenges and opportunities of an aging society at the local, state and national levels.

Through the Florida Age-Friendly Public Health Network, the department will be working with the Florida Department of Elder Affairs and community partners to identify priority health issues among our older adults. DOH-Nassau will receive tools, training resources and technical assistance based on our unique needs. TFAH will be sharing the results of this initiative with public health stakeholders and policymakers across the country. This collaborative effort will help Florida meet the unique public health needs of older adults. To participate in the Nassau County Age-Friendly Public Health Collaborative contact Mary von Mohr at 904-557-9133 or mary.vonmohr@flhealth.gov.

## Genealogy Tidbits

Claude Arpen

According to The Guinness Book of World Records, the Christmas song 'White Christmas' recorded by Bing Crosby in 1942 is still to this day the number one selling single of all time! The website famouskin.com reveals one of Crosby's distant cousins is Clement Clarke Moore who wrote the poem, 'Twas the Night Before Christmas.'

Crosby has an amazing pedigree. He has northern and southern ancestry. He is distantly related to northern General George B. McClellan and Presidents Roosevelt and Coolidge. He is a distant cousin to southern General Robert E. Lee and Presidents Washington and Jefferson. He is also a direct descendant of Mayflower passenger William Brewster.

To learn more, come join us at the West Nassau Genealogical Society meetings, the second Monday (November 10) of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Callahan Lions Club, located on US 1 north of the fairgrounds. Visitors are always welcome.

Have a Merry Christmas from the members of the West Nassau Genealogical Society!

## The Littlest Angel Premier

St. Marys Little Theatre's 6th Annual Christmas production, *The Littlest Angel* will be presented December 14-16 at Theatre by the Trax in St. Marys. According to director Barbara

Ryan, "*The Littlest Angel* is a classic Christmas story about a little angel who is transformed from a celestial pest to the toast of the Heavenly Host. The show is humorous, it's touching, but above all it's inspirational," Ryan said. "Original and classical music



come together to tell how the Littlest Angel's gift to Baby Jesus miraculously becomes the shining Star of Bethlehem."

Audiences will be entertained by colorful angels that include the irascible, yet loveable, Gatekeeper, the sympathetic Understanding Angel, the harried Heavenly Messenger and an entire Celestial Choir.

L. J. Williams, Vice Chair of SMLT,

said, "We are so blessed to have so much amazing talent in Camden County to construct such an inspiring show. Watching *The Littlest Angel* is sure to get everyone into the holiday spirit because of its uplifting, timeless message."

*The Littlest Angel* is produced by St. Marys resident Chuck Lanham.

Performances of *The Littlest Angel* will be held Friday, December 14 and Saturday, December 15 at 7 p.m. and

on Sunday, December 16 at 2 p.m. at Theatre by the Trax, 1000 Osborne Street, St. Marys. Tickets should be purchased ahead of time at Once Upon a Bookseller in St. Marys (cash or check please) and online at www.stmaryslittletheatre.com. Tickets are: \$15 for adults; and \$10 for kids 12 and under. Call 912-729-1103 for more information.

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# A Callahan Christmas

Next Saturday, December 15 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., West Nassau High School cafertorium will be all set and ready for the Annual A Callahan Christmas event! Students have worked very hard to make this one of the biggest and fun events around! There is truly something for everyone to enjoy!

For the children there will be an entire candy land for them to enjoy! Don't let your children miss out on CandyLand, Whoville, Frosty, Charlie Brown, Mickey Mouse, Rudolph, Muppets, Frozen, Polar Express and of course Santa's Workshop! There will also be photo props in every land! Tow Mater, from Seldomridge's Body Shop in Hilliard, will be on hand to have your photo made; along with Santa and Mrs. Claus from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. for photos. Also, don't miss out on the Elf Bootcamp, Cookie Decorating, Letters to Santa, Christmas movies, Face Painting, Train Ride, Reindeer Food



and a Happy Birthday Jesus Party and much more!

One of the biggest Craft Fairs will also begin at 10 a.m. for the parents shopping pleasure. The West Nassau VyStar Branch will also be open to serve you. The Nassau County Sheriff's Office, Nassau County Fire Rescue, Florida Forest Service, the Big Red Bus and the US Army will all be on hand. The WNHS Theatre and Band will have performances throughout the event.

Make sure to make this one event you don't want to miss out on!

## Garden Club Drawing Winner



Callahan Garden Club members recently sold tickets for a chance to win a grill with accessories. The monies raised will go toward their building fund to help maintain and improve their club house on Fourth Avenue in Callahan. Mr. Keith Hailey was the winner of the grill as well as a gift certificate from Hilliard Meats. The Callahan Garden Club members would like to thank everybody who participated in purchasing a ticket!

# A Letter from Former Commissioner George V. Spicer

First, I'd like to express my heartfelt and most sincere thanks to everyone who cast a ballot for me. My beautiful bride Marilyn and I have truly been humbled by the outpouring of love and support we have seen. If being commissioner in Nassau County has reminded me of one thing, it is how blessed my family and I are to live amongst the people we do, where we do.

From my first day in the chair to my last I made the commitment that I was there to represent the hardworking taxpayers – to improve the quality of life for them and not create undue burdens. I believed then and do now that it is the government's job to provide you with what you need to be successful and not interfere in your everyday life. When I sat in that chair I always kept that in mind and kept my promise to hold the line on new taxes.

I'm very proud of the achievement my group of commissioners and myself had in the time you put me in that seat. I was able to get restriping done on the west side. We built a new state of the art Sheriff's Administration Building without taking on any new debt! Also, this spring, though I'll be out of office – they will begin widening and paving Old Dixie Highway without any cost-share to the taxpayers of Nassau County. This road was funded by the Florida Department of Transportation to the tune of \$9 million dollars. We held the line on the gas tax and created legislation protecting customary beach use rights. I fought against the Sector Plan Amendment that would have put



\$50 million dollars in new taxes on the residents of Nassau County. We also created incentive for the Lignotech venture on Amelia Island – creating real, permanent jobs and economic growth for our residents.

The new commissioner faces incredible challenges. We must make sure we do our best to shoulder the growth that is happening making sure it is being done at the correct pace and ensure that existing residents aren't paying for the cost of private development.

I have always believed it is important to fight for the public interests – not the special interests. With the election over and a new commissioner seated, I wish him the very best success. His success as a commissioner is our success as a county.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the taxpayers of Nassau County. Marilyn and I are thankful to the Lord above and to each of you for having given us that special opportunity.

Sincerely,  
George Spicer

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and  
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Larry Davis & Angel Timmons

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# New Beginnings and Milestones



## Asher Nate Cribb

Ashley and Derek Cribb, of Callahan, are proud to announce the birth of their son Asher Nate Cribb. Asher was born October 18 at 1:16 p.m. at St Vincent's Medical Center Riverside in Jacksonville. He weighed 7 pounds 13 ounces and measured 20 inches.

Asher was welcomed home by his big brother Bentley!

## Did You Know?

**55%** of Nassau County children who are removed from their homes come from Callahan and Hilliard but there are only five foster homes in these areas?

Help keep kids in need in their local community! Interested in learning more? Join us in this informative meeting about fostering by Family Support Services (FSS) of North Florida.



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RSVP to Lisa Rozier at (904) 614-0569 or Lisa.Rozier@fssnf.org. Please bring a friend!

# Fish Talk

## The Trip of a Lifetime

Chris Cockerham, Reel Habit

It was just like any other fishing trip...we check the trolling motor, started the engine, loaded the rods and grabbed our gear. Ryan and I left early that morning just like we do every trip. A Nor'easter had just blown through the night before so our expectations weren't very high. The brisk wind was blowing out of the north and it wasn't long before we took a wave to the face from over the bow. If the cold air hadn't made us circle back at this point, the 65 degree saltwater to the eyes surely would, right? Instead, just like two hard headed men, we pushed on to our first drop. The tide was a little lower than expected but, we knew it would shape up in a just matter of time.



As bait began to run with the tide, we noticed the sign of predatory fish feeding. Mullet were leaping out of the water trying to escape something big down below. I made a cast just up current and worked my bait towards the area we last seen movement. As soon as I picked the rod tip up, bam, that all so familiar thump jarred my Cajun custom rod. I gave it just a few seconds and rared back with a firm hook set. It felt like I set the hook in a tank. The fight ensued and it was total chaos for what felt like an eternity! It wasn't pretty but we landed what would be the largest flounder I've ever boated.

We moved down river a few miles, this time Ryan tried his hand. Just like the area before we found the same signs of fleeing bait. It wasn't long before Ryan felt that same heavy thump. He set the hook and rod bent over double. After a hard fought battle the fish emerged. It looked like the hood of a mini Volkswagen. Now neither one of us expected to catch fish much less boat two of the largest flounder of our lives. We left the water that day with two fish over 10 pounds.

This just goes to show that even in unfavorable conditions, successful trips can still happen. If you take nothing else from this story, may it be to never give up. Always look for signs of feeding fish. You never know what may be lurking below.

Have a safe weekend and be safe on the water!

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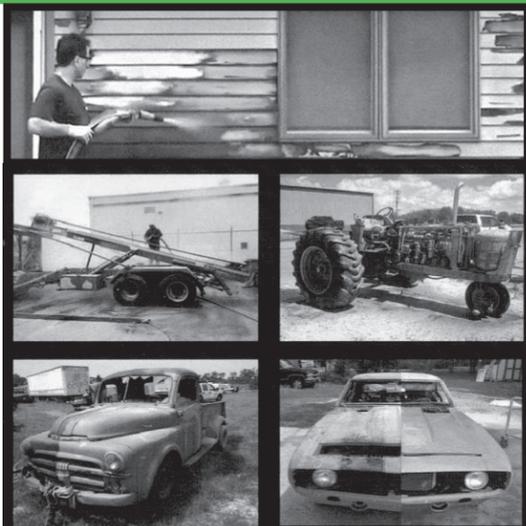
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# Callahan Christmas Parade



Saturday, the annual Callahan Christmas parade was held amidst a lot of rain. Parade goers wrapped up in raincoats, umbrellas and garbage bags toughed the weather to watch the annual event. It wasn't much better for parade floats and riders. It was a good parade despite the weather. Grand Marshall was Mr. Buford Howard, longtime Callahan resident. Mr. Howard emceed the event for many, many years and handled all of the sound equipment. He also was responsible for the sound equipment at the NE FL Fair for years and has decided this year's fair was his last. Thankfully, Mr. Howard rode in an enclosed truck! Emceeding the event this year was Dr. Malachi Clowers, Pastor of Second Baptist Church in Callahan. Unfortunately, the sound equipment was not prepared for the rainy



day but we were happy to have him. Santa and Mrs. Claus (under umbrellas) made their entrance on their sleigh driven by none other than a good elf (former County Commissioner George Spicer). Vendors set up their goods at the Historical Society Depot and railroad bed. Unfortunately the rain caused many of them to leave early.

This year the parade had 90 entries. The winners of the 2018 Callahan Christmas Parade were: Best in Step: Building Blocks Academy/Kids Island; Best Motorized: SRM Concrete; Best Show Horse: Nassau County 4H; Best Holiday Theme: Sunshine Christian Academy; Judges Choice: Country Star Quilt Guild; and Best Theme Decorated Entry (Piney Woods Christmas): MCCI - Covina Care.



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**4 CHER TICKETS,** January 23, 7:30 p.m. Section 312 Row G Seats 3, 4, 5 & 6. \$100 each or all for \$300. Call (904) 845-1390. 121318

**GREENS: TURNIPS, MUSTARDS & COLLARDS,** 9 miles out River Road on Windy Lane. Call 879-0490 or (904) 874-0650. 120618

**HAY,** square bales, \$4 each; also 5-wheel **HAY RAKE** for sale. Call 879-1220 or 866-8113. 120618

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**\$75,000!** 7.76 acres of beautiful land; a wonderful place to build a nice home and play! Two (2) buildings on land with concrete slabs and wired electricity; one is a 2 car garage and the other a shed. Please call Mary at 904-624-6672. 120618

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**90 ACRES +-** fronting US Highway 1 and Swearinger Road; \$6,700 per Acre for ALL, will split one (1) time. Serious inquires only, (904) 813-3510, Bobby Franklin. tfn

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**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES** now available at LIFE CARE CENTER OF HILLIARD- Now Hiring FL Licensed CNAs-Great starting pay rate! We offer a team-oriented environment along with a great benefit package. Please apply in person at 3756 West 3rd Street, Hilliard, (904)845-3988 or fax resume to (904) 845-4456. tfn

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

**SALES HELP NEEDED.** Normandy Homes. Ask for John K. 386-466-9671. 120618

**FLORIDA SUN PRINTING** is looking for a Full-time/Part-time mailing machine operator in a Production environment. Must be able to learn to run various equipment in the mail and bindery areas. Able to lift 35 lbs. Hours will vary from week to week. Please apply in person 54024 Cravey Rd. Callahan, FL. Drug-free workplace, EOE. No phone calls please. 120618

**EXPERIENCED HELP NEEDED!** Metal stud framing and sheetrock work. Must have own tools and transportation. Pay based on experience. Call (904) 405-0400. 122018

**CDL 'A' DRIVER** to drive to Stone Mountain, Georgia and return; \$1,000-\$1,500/week. Call 955-4899. tfn

**HILLIARD POST OFFICE** is hiring part time rural carrier associates. Apply at usps.com/careers. 120618

**SPINNERS PIZZA** is now hiring Drivers, \$12-\$15 per hour, part time. Also hiring inside help: Pizza Maker, Cashier, Dishwasher and Cook. Apply in person: Spinners Pizza, 37605 W 1st St, Hilliard. 122018

**BUILDING INSPECTOR SUPERVISOR.** Nassau County has an opening for a Building Inspector Supervisor in the Building Department at \$55,832.78 - \$84,956.10 annually plus benefits. 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. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 120618

**ROAD & BRIDGE SUPERVISOR.** Nassau County has an opening for a Road & Bridge Supervisor in the Road & Bridge Department at \$50,756.98 - \$63,389.08 annually plus benefits. 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. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 120618

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**3BR/2BA NEW BRICK HOME** with garage in Hilliard. 1,600 sq. ft., \$1,300/month, \$1,000/deposit. Call 904-813-8898. tfn

**SMALL CABIN,** quiet, private, electric, water & garbage included, single person preferred, first week, last week and deposit (\$500) to move in. References required. \$125/week. Call (904) 635-0737. 120618

**DWMH 2BR/2BA,** CH/A, equipped kitchen, nice country lot, \$750/month; \$750/deposit. Call (904) 879-1968. 122018

## YARD SALES

**GET YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING DONE!** Toys, small kitchen appliances, home décor, baby items, heaters, and more! Howard & Son across from BP. 121318

**HUGE YARD SALE!** 44072 Apache Trail, Callahan, Pickett St. to Commanchee Rd. to Apache Trail Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Lots of new items, 904-962-9777.

**MOVING SALE!** Friday & Saturday, 8 a.m. until? 377181 Kings Ferry Road, 7 miles down Kings Ferry Rd. Rain or Shine (inside)! 2 bedroom sets, computer table, sewing machine, TV and stand, kitchen table and chairs, Christmas décor, dishes and more!

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY,** 10 a.m. until? 615331 River Road, Callahan, 2 miles out from Callahan. Rain cancels!

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY,** 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. 27271 W. 3rd Avenue, Hilliard. Christmas trees & décor, clothes, books, housewares & much more! Make a deal!

**FRIDAY,** 8 a.m. until? 55384 Little Brook Drive, Callahan, Spring Lake Estates. Christmas décor, toys, clothes and household items.

## SANTA PICTURES

**FREE PICTURES** with Santa at Bennett Chrysler, 1491 Highway 40 East, Kingsland, GA, Friday, December 14 and Thursday, December 20 from 5-7 p.m. 121318

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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.*

### Monday, November 19

Lisa Michele Young, 38, 39125 Kolars Ferry Road, Hilliard: Failure to Appear Driving While License Suspended or Revoked

### Tuesday, November 20

Julie Ann Minchuk, 44, 241614 CR 121, Hilliard: Violation of Condition of Release Domestic Violence/Violation of Probation

### Monday, November 26

Christopher Mauricio Lee Yorkyy, 25, 37039 W. Fourth Street, Hilliard: Duval County Warrant Failure to Appear Criminal Mischief

Ranie Shaw Rewis, 47, 27017 Kristie Circle, Hilliard: Violation of Probation Carrying a Concealed Firearm

### Tuesday, November 27

Angela Mae Hogan, 35, 54273 Roy Booth Road, Callahan: Duval Warrant Possession of Controlled Substance & Paraphernalia

Michael Shawn McClinton, 48, 10250 Mulberry Landing Annex, Hilliard: Misuse 911 or E911 System (2 counts)

## The Great Outdoors



Morgan Smith, 11, took this 10-point buck on Thanksgiving Day while hunting with her grandpa Stevie Sikes in Alabama.

During the same visit, Morgan's mom, Erica Smith, took this 8-point buck.

# 2018 OUT WITH A BOOM Fireworks Spectacular

At dusk on Sunday, December 30 the Town of Callahan, Westside Business Leaders and West Nassau High School will host a family event of a fireworks spectacular at West Nassau High School. The gates will open at 4 p.m. with free parking in the WNHS parking lots provided by the WN JRAFROTC. Special tailgate parking will also be available on the baseball fields behind the stadium hosted by the WNHS Softball Team with a donation admission to the team. Concessions will be available for purchase by the Football and Band Boosters who will

be selling their cuisine at their stands inside the stadium. The fireworks show will be staged by Fireworks by Santore. The WNHS Warrior Band will be on hand to provide entertainment and other local talent will also be performing.

This event is made possible by the generous donations of many sponsors. Any business, organization, church, family or individual who wishes to help sponsor this great family event may make a check payable to the Town of Callahan and drop it off at Callahan Town Hall or mail it to: PO Box 5016, Callahan, FL 32011.

## Extension Receives Rayonier Grant



Recently, Rayonier Inc. hosted a breakfast for organizations selected for grants from Rayonier. County Extension Director Rebecca Jordi attended the event and accepted a grant for Nassau County Extension. Celebrating the grant award were Shelby Pyatt and Dan Roach of Rayonier.

## VETERANS ASSISTANCE

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**JOSEPH CARMEL CAMPBELL**



Joseph Carmel Campbell came into this world on September 2, 1942 to Harry Francis Campbell and Myrtle Louise Hagans Campbell in Panama City, Florida. He peacefully left this world on November 28.

After Joe graduated from high school he went to Gulf Coast Community College to play baseball. He enlisted into the US Army on October 1966 and received an honorary discharge in 1972 as an Armor Crewman. He stayed in the Reserves with a rank of Sgt. Spec 5. He moved to Hilliard and worked at the FAA Center until his retirement in 1981. He was a jack of all trades and used his trades at each and every job; the last one, which was with Nassau County until he retired.

Some would say Joe was an avid hunter and fisherman but Joe was an extraordinary hunter and fisherman. He was a joke teller that could make anyone laugh and loved it. Spending time with his family and friends was one of his favorite things to do. Joe had many loved ones and close friends that will miss him dearly.

He leaves with us his most precious gift, Kortney Campbell James with her husband Rylee; friend and ex-wife Tami Higginbotham; his sister Marcia (Bill) Drew; his brother Fred (Judy) Campbell; sister-in-law Sue Campbell; stepchildren Jaymie McCourt, A. J. Lee and Ceceilia Brown.

Those that went before him are his parents; a brother Gary Campbell; a sister Charlotte Kent and husband James Kent; and his son Jeff Ziegler.

Family and friends will gather Friday, December 7 at 2 p.m. at Gene Higginbotham's (Kings Ferry Boat Ramp), 4997 Bill Johnson Rd, Hilliard for Joe's journey through our lives with a meal to follow.

**RICHARD WAYNE CARUTHERS**



Richard Wayne Caruthers, 70, of Callahan, went home to be with the Lord on December 3. He was born on November 28, 1948 in Jacksonville to William Lee and Helen Mae Caruthers. He was a 1966 graduate of Ribault High School. Following graduation he joined and proudly served his country in the US Coast Guard. He devoted more than 40 years of service

# OBITUARIES

to CSX Railroad before retiring. Wayne was a member of the Two Gate Hunting Lodge since 1978. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and golfing but his greatest love was his family and being Pepa to his grandkids.

Wayne is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Sandra Caruthers; sister Debbie Caruthers; children Shelley Carroll, Christy (Daniel) Lee and Shannon (Dennis) Kapparis; eight grandchildren Cody, Destiny, Dakota, Josh, Dalton, Will, Riley and Nick; one great-grandchild Aydin; Uncle Tommy Williams; nieces Lindsay and Angie; nephews Rocky and Raymond. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Graveside services will be held Friday, December 7 at Jones Cemetery at 1 p.m.

Condolences may be expressed at [www.nassauffh.com](http://www.nassauffh.com).

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

**GROVER C. CHESHIRE**



Grover C. Cheshire, Jr., 80, of Satsuma, Florida passed away on Wednesday, November 21 in St. Augustine.

Grover was born in Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, to the late Grover and Lurlene Cheshire. He loved to work, dance, fish and hunt. He was great with children and was a big fan of Elvis Presley. He was a Veteran of the United States Army. Besides his parents; he is preceded in death by his son Chris Cheshire.

He is survived by his longtime friend and loving companion, Joyce Dean of Satsuma; son Cleve (Janet) Cheshire of Hilliard; brothers Roland of Las Vegas, Nevada, Gene (Georgia) of Callahan and Ivey (Holly) of Metter, Georgia; sisters Cynthia (Piper) and Loretta Gilbert, all of Callahan; four grandchildren Cleve IV (Lauren) of St. Johns, Dustin (Kristin) of Hilliard, Caitlyn Cheshire of Fernandina Beach and Chelsea (Matthew) of San Antonio, Texas; Brandon and Brent Richards and their mother Kim of San Mateo; and numerous great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held Tuesday, December 11 at 2 p.m. at Callahan Funeral Home, 617365 Brandies Ave. The family will receive friends one hour prior to service at 1 p.m.

**JUDITH LOUISE ERRICO**



Judith Louise Errico went home to be with the Lord on November 30. She loved her family, gardening and cooking. She enjoyed sharing her passion for cooking with her husband in the many Italian restaurant businesses they owned which included Ricco's Italian Restaurant in Callahan and Café Calabria in Hendersonville, North Carolina.

She is survived by her loving husband of 51 years, Sam; her children Sharon (Alan) Cravey, Kim (Bill) Reynolds, Samuel (Vernia) Errico, II and Rachel (Phillip) Coffelt; her sister Sandy (Dewitt) Gibbs; her brother Gordon (Wanda) Smith; many grandchildren; great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; and two sisters Jo and Bobbie.

Services were held Tuesday, December 4 in the Jacksonville National Cemetery with Dewitt Gibbs officiating.

Pallbearers were Sam Errico, II, Sam Errico, III, Alan Cravey, Luke Clark, Joshua Clark and Buddy Lovett.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations in her memory be made to the Veterans or St Jude.

Condolences may be expressed at [www.nassauffh.com](http://www.nassauffh.com).

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

**LONNIE D. HALE, SR.**



Lonnie 'Buddy' D. Hale, Sr., 71, passed away November 14, surrounded by loved ones, friends and family. He was a strong man but succumbed to

his battle with liver complications. He had a smile on his face and comforting words on his lips for everyone that would come to visit him up until the last few days. He headed back Home to be in paradise with his Lord.

Lonnie was born in Madison, Florida to Lewis Van and Annie Mozella Hale on April 20, 1947. Lonnie lived most of his life in Jacksonville. He was a great student and excelled at most subjects. He loved building and fixing things with his own hands. His passions growing up included: music, fishing and hunting and eventually

as he got into his teens learning how to build and race cars. He was a great racer and even won a few local trophies. He was a fun guy. In his serious moments, he was dedicated to buckling down and studying to become a dentist. He was on his way to higher education when family and Uncle Sam called. He joined the US Army and served honorably in the 554th Engineering Battalion in 1967-1969 in Vietnam. He saw much conflict but also great positive strives for what Americans were doing to help out the South Vietnamese. Some of the roads he helped engineer and fabricate are still being used today by a proud people and Country. The experience in the military taught Lonnie a lot. He gained maturity beyond his years and a compassion for others and nature that can only come by pushing through the worse things anyone can go through. As they say, no man goes into war and leaves. Lonnie was no exception but he took his scars and built on them a life to be proud of.

Lonnie became a Master Mechanic when he came back from the war. He found a new passion in building and became one of the best at his trade. He also was a fabricator, automotive painter and craftsman. He was known throughout the south for his skill and accomplishments and even traveled for the government to do a few "special" builds for them. Some of these he could not tell you about until he was cleared thru Government channels; our little James Bond of the welding machine. Lonnie loved his job and taught many the craft. He taught his son all he knew in which his son used lovingly in his own path of creation. He was a quiet leader but left all those he taught with a loud message of putting their best foot forward and enjoying what you do because "the results will be better if you do something with Love." Lonnie built, maintained and fixed many of the buildings, highways and machines we see around Jacksonville every day. Lonnie was an integral part of his community.

No more did Lonnie have an impact on his community than with his love, dedication and involvement in the church. Lonnie found the Lord many years after he was married with help of his loving wife and son. He was enlightened by the good news and found a lifetime of inspiration and work in the field of the Lord. Lonnie served in many Churches of Christ in Jacksonville. He helped build and manage the grounds of Chaffee Road Church of Christ. He finally found his forever Home in Callahan Church of Christ. With such loving and kind

**ACCOUNTING TAX SERVICES**  
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The 2018-2019 tax season begins in earnest this month and eventually ends (if you file an extension) on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. There are ALSO other form filing deadlines that you might not yet even know about. Whether you are just filing an individual tax return or small business tax return, things have changed considerably. If you go to someone who is not truly skilled in federal taxation or attempting your own tax chores yourself, either effort may be costly financial folly for too many taxpayers. Don't be one of them.

No more Forms 1040EZ or 1040A; but instead, everyone files a 1040 return this year. At first, this may appear very simple, but isn't. There are six additional pages with lists of the various supplemental calculations and forms this year. The design is simple: It is very easy to use the new 1040 IF you only have one or two W-2 earnings statements, but if you have just one or more "minor or major tax complications" be prepared to read IRS Publication 17 (available at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)) before you tackle that chore yourself this year. If the return is incorrect, you will have to face the consequences and the IRS alone ... and those "complications" can also cost you hundreds, perhaps even thousands, of dollars in penalties and interest.

**DON'T GO IT ALONE!** COUNTRY LAW and TAX SERVICE, INC. stands ready with the skill and education to guide you through the 2018 tax changes. We are scheduling NOW for the 2018 tax season. Schedules fill up quickly, so call ASAP to secure an appointment with one of our tax professionals.

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29<sup>th</sup> Annual Dayspring Village  
**SECRET SANTA**  
 WE NEED YOUR HELP!  
 Dayspring Village is seeking volunteers to help share the gift of Christmas with the mentally ill residents. Often the holidays are the toughest time of the year for the mentally ill and each year the gift of the giver makes a life changing impact on the lives of these individuals.  
 How to get involved:  
 1. Contact Terri Mummery or Megan Standiford, Secret Santa Coordinators: 904-845-7501, [megan@dayspringvillage.org](mailto:megan@dayspringvillage.org) or [terri@dayspringvillage.org](mailto:terri@dayspringvillage.org).  
 2. You will be assigned a resident and their 'wishes'.  
 3. Have your gift wrapped and back to the facility by December 23rd.  
 4. Baking - If you like to bake we would love to have you sponsor the evening snack for the residents!  
 5. Music - If you have a musical talent you would like to share we invite you to come and perform!  
 Dayspring Village is a state licensed limited mental health assisted living facility that is focused on serving the needs of adults with schizophrenia. If you would like to learn more or we can be of any assistance, please contact Douglas D. Adkins, Administrator at 904-583-0134-cell or [doug@dayspringvillage.org](mailto:doug@dayspringvillage.org) - Please consider becoming a volunteer this Christmas season, the gift you make in the life of others will truly change lives around you.  
 God Bless and Merry Christmas!  
 Call today! 845-7501  
[www.dayspringvillage.org](http://www.dayspringvillage.org) AL #5766

members Lonnie thrived and helped out in a lot of capacities for many years to come. He served as a Deacon of Benevolence for many years. He helped resolve and restore many homes and families in financial hardship with the help of the church. He was a true and fervent servant of the Lord. No truer friend could you find.

Lonnie loved many things but nothing more than being with his family, his home and traveling. He always wanted to move to Australia. He still loved restoring cars, motorcycles, and hunting but sitting by the lake with his son and grandkids was his Happy Place. He put all his remaining devotion on his family and friends and tirelessly worked to make a happy home for all he gathered round.

Lonnie was survived by his loving wife of 47 years, Patricia Hale; his son Buddy (Kelly) Hale, Jr.; his grandchildren, Austin, Dallas and Christie; his great-grandchildren, Sophia Rose and Ziva Marie; and too many loved family and friends to name. If you knew Lonnie you knew you were loved. His calming, joyful, warm demeanor was a blessing to anyone in any situation. Lonnie had a way to take the worst thing you thought was going on and turn it into something completely different and absolutely better. Lonnie loved nothing more to be around his family and friends and show them a good time. He cared more for others than himself. He went without many times in his life purposely so those around him could have more. He was a personal hero to all who met him. Jesus said, "Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth." in Matthew 5:5.

A Celebration of Life service was held November 30 at Callahan Church of Christ. Burial followed at the National Cemetery in Jacksonville, 4083 Lannie Rd. with Military Honors.

In lieu of flowers, consider donating to [www.ptsdusa.org](http://www.ptsdusa.org).

Arrangements by Corey-Kerlin Funeral Home, 1426 Rowe Avenue, Jacksonville.

**VIOLA WAY HENRY**



Viola Way Henry, 96, formerly of Callahan, passed away November 26. On July 26, 1922 our beloved mother, tranny, auntie and cousin Viola Way Henry was born to the late Henry and Susan Way. She was the third of five children and reared in Midway, Georgia.

During her young adult years she relocated to Callahan to be with her oldest sister, Nancy. At that time, she gave her life to the Lord and joined the Bethel A.M.E.

**OBITUARIES**

Church family. She always loved and kept God first in her life, always a faithful servant and worked diligently for the building and maintaining of God's Kingdom. At Bethel she served as Stewardess, Choir Member, Missionary and Trustee. After the birth of Viola's first granddaughter Hope, she was called "Granny".

Viola was a diligent and dependable employee with Nassau County School Board, Callahan Elementary School for 16 years. She has always enforced education and higher achievement. Granny mentored and disciplined all students on campus, including her children and relatives. Her legacy lives on through the young adults she encouraged that became nurses, doctors, lawyers, diplomats, teachers, ministers and many strong, faithful individuals.

For the last decade, Granny relocated to Miramar, Florida, living with her daughters, due to medical reasons. There, she attended St. James A.M.E Church of Liberty City, under Rev. J.L. Williams III. At St. James, she was affectionately known as "Mother Henry" and "Granny" as she was the eldest in recent years. Viola was preceded in death by her siblings James Way and Ida Holmes; and her sons Julius, Jr. and Lensey Henry.

She leaves to cherish her memories, her son Donnell Henry of Callahan; her daughters Sue Henry and Jean Henry of Miramar and Linda Henry (Roger) Bennett of Hinesville, Georgia; loving sisters Nancy Bady and Helen Scott; 10 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; and a host of cousins, nieces and nephews and endearing friends.

The family received friends Sunday, December 2 at the northside Chapel of Sarah L. Carter's Funeral Home in Jacksonville. Her homegoing service was held Monday, December 3 at 11 a.m. at Bethel AME Church in Callahan. Burial followed at Callahan Community Cemetery.

Sarah L. Carter's Funeral Home served the family.

**JONATHAN MARK HULING**



Jonathan Mark Huling, 60, of Hortense, Georgia, passed away November 26 in Brunswick. He was born April 26, 1958 in Folkston. He was a graduate of Charlton County High School Class of 1976. He attended Bay Harbor Church of God in Hortense since moving to Brantley County. He was a proud patriot

and retired as an Underground Utilities Contractor.

He is survived by his wife Sarah Huling; his parents Robert and Janice Huling; children Jennifer Rodriguz, Justin Mark Huling, Joshua Mitchell Huling, Joseph Michah Huling, Ryan (Danielle) Bass and Casey Bass; four grandchildren Journey Pippa Ivey Toler, Amelia Crews, Blayde Brewer and Gabe Brewer; a brother Tim (Karen) Huling; and a niece and nephew Mandy (Brad) Westerbeck and Benji (Katy) Huling.

Funeral services will be held Friday, November 30 at 3 p.m. in the Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive friends prior to the funeral at 1 p.m. Burial will follow in Pineview Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at [www.shepardfh.com](http://www.shepardfh.com).

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston.

**DOROTHY JOHNSTON**



Dorothy Johnston, 91, of Hilliard, passed away Monday, November 19.

Funeral services were conducted by Raymer-Kepner Funeral Home with interment in Mimosa Cemetery in Davidson, North Carolina.

**TOMMY EUGENE PRITT, SR.**



Tommy Eugene Pritt, Sr., 71, of Jacksonville, passed away November 30 in Jacksonville, following a lengthy illness. He was born May 12, 1947 in Warm Spring, Virginia to the late Charles Massey Pritt and Ressie Virginia Hodge Pritt. Along with his parents; he was preceded in death by his son David Pritt.

He is survived by his children Sherry Dean, Tommy Pritt, Jr., Jennifer Fisher, Donny Pritt, Susan Bigelow and Kelsey Pritt; four sisters Rebecca Russell, Rose Madill, Nancy Harrison and Anna May Henry; 14 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Memorialization will be by cremation. Condolences may be expressed at [www.shepardfh.com](http://www.shepardfh.com).

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

**VERNIA MAE SMITH**



Mother Vernia Mae Melton Smith, entered into eternal rest on Monday, November 26. She was born on June 12, 1925 in Lessie, Florida to the late Alexander and Missouri Rebecca Melton. She attended the local schools of the Brickyard community.

At a young age, Vernia Mae accepted Christ. She later joined the Second Baptist Church of Callahan under the pastoral ship of the late Rev. D. J. Jones. Vernia Mae was a faithful member and participated in many church functions. She had a special affection for her former Pastor, Rev. Dr. Marion A. Wise, current Pastor, Rev. Dr. Malachi Clowers and her Second Baptist Church family.

"Ma Mae" had a close and loving relationship with her late sister Missouri Melton's children, Joanne Kelly, James Way, Ronnie Way (deceased), Barbara Ann Mitchell, Larry Mitchell and Reginald Mitchell (deceased).

For over 50 years, she was employed by the Scheppe family as a housekeeper. Her employment with the family started in 1955 when Payton Scheppe was only eight years old. She had a special bond with him and in 1975 would become the housekeeper for he and his bride Carol and their family.

Verna Mae was preceded in death by her parents Alexander and Missouri R. Melton; husband Dan Smith; siblings Charity, Joseph, Allen, Alonzo, Susie, Clarence, Ernest, Alexander, Clinton and Missouri; and special friend Viola Henry.

She leaves to cherish all of her memories, dedicated and beloved son, Archie (Beatrice) Mitchell; adopted daughter Chelitta Grace; siblings Juanita Jones and Ivory (Dedra) Melton, Sr.; godsons Shamo Green and Shamo Green, Jr.; grandchildren Tony, Charles and Nakalia Mitchell; devoted great-niece and caregiver Maxine Simmons; favorite niece Barbara Ann Mitchell; special friends Eldredge Simmons, Cathryn Simmons and Robert (Ruby) Walker; adopted family Payton and Carol Scheppe, Leise Scheppe (children-Jack and Duff), Carson and Scott (children-Mackie and Henry) Hobby and William Scheppe; and a host of other relatives and friends.

The family received friends Friday, November 30 at the Northside Chapel of Sarah L. Carter's Funeral Home in Jacksonville.

Her celebration of life service was held Saturday, December 1 at the Second Baptist Church in Callahan. Burial followed at Callahan Community Cemetery.

Sarah L. Carter's Funeral Home Northside served the family.

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**Code Enforcement Officer Needed for The Town of Callahan**

This part time position requires a minimum of two days a week for three hours each day.

- Must have the ability to enforce Ordinances with impartiality and deal with the public on any Code Violation.
- Code Enforcer is responsible to issue warnings, citation letters, and maintain records of all actions taken to be reviewed by a Code Enforcement Hearing Officer.
- Must have a Florida Association of Code Enforcers Certification or the willingness to obtain one within first year of employment.

**Current salary is \$330.00 monthly.**

Interested individuals may obtain Application at Town Hall located at 542300 US Highway 1, Callahan, Florida 32011  
 Or on our website <https://www.townofcallahan-fl.gov/Applications>  
 Email Completed Application to [clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov](mailto:clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov) or drop off at Town Hall addressed to the Town Clerk, Stephanie Knagge.

**Deadline for Applications is December 21, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.**  
 The Town of Callahan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**Q: I saw this unusual insect and wanted to know what it was. I have attached a photo. ER**

**A:** Wow, this is beautiful. I am so jealous you had a chance to spot this pretty moth. It is a native scarlet-bodied wasp moth, *Cosmosoma myrodora*. It is generally found only along the coastline of Georgia, throughout Florida and over to the coastline of Texas. Because of its striking adult coloration, including a bright red thorax and abdomen, and transparent wings patterned with black, this moth immediately stands out in Florida landscapes. Larval feeding is restricted to two native plants in the genus *Mikania*, family Asteraceae. The scarlet-bodied wasp moth completes its life cycle in 50 to 60 days. Development times for larva and pupa are 7 days and 11 days, respectively (Castillo 2012). Locally, the larvae feed on the native climbing hemp vine (*Mikania scandens*). Adult males of the scarlet-bodied wasp moth feed on dog fennel (*Eupatorium capillifolium*). The male eats the dog fennel to obtain an important alkaloid. The alkaloid from the dog fennel is passed on to the female during mating. The female will then pass this same alkaloid to the eggs. The alkaloid helps prevent the eggs from being parasitized by predators. Nature never ceases to amaze me.



## 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](mailto:rjordi@ufl.edu)

ornamental grass called Savannah ruby grass, *Melinis nerviglumis* 'Savannah'. We are getting different pieces of information about it, but we are going to try it in our demo garden anyway. Some say to treat it as an annual, others say a tender perennial. Both of those mean it might not last too long. So, be prepared. First thing to know about the demo garden, we have no irrigation and it will be placed in a very tough area – the parking lot median. The soil is terrible, and the area is hot and miserable. Plus, people back their trucks on top of the plants and walk all over the plant material. This means, if it lasts more than one year, it should do fine in your landscape. Most plant nurseries



say it is fine for USDA cold-hardiness zones 7-11. Supposedly, it is great for full sun to part shade, grows well near walkways, is drought and high heat tolerant.

The leaves have a blue-green color and the seed head starts out dark pink, fades to a pale pink then finally turns white. Such a pretty combination. It has the potential for growing up to 3 feet tall. We shall see. Be sure to visit the demo garden located at 96135 Nassau Place, Yulee Florida 31097 and check out the variety of grasses in the median. Feel free to pull weeds while you are there—we appreciate any help we can get! Oh, and please don't back your truck over our plants—the exhaust burns the plants.

**Q: What can you tell me about Dyckia plants? AK**

**A:** There are many dyckia cultivars and they are all related to the bromeliad family. These plants often have spiked leaves and a variety of colors ranging from silvery to deep bronze to deep purple. Planting them in clusters give then the biggest bang. Remember, it is best to use odd numbers when planting in clusters (3, 5, 7 or 9). Often, they are used as a ground cover or in container gardening. Many of them will put up a bright yellow or orange flower stalk in the spring. These flower stalks can grow upward to 4 feet depending on the specific cultivar. Dyckia plants



generally will grow offshoots called pups, which is why they work well as ground cover. Because dyckia is one of the most cold-hardy types of bromeliads, it is often grown outside in the Northeast part of Florida. However, if a freeze is predicted, it is easy to cover these plants with a sheet or some other type of breathable frost cover. Remember to remove the cloth once temperatures go above freezing. Most bromeliads will die after producing offspring, but dyckia plants continue to survive and produce flowers year after year. Consider a few of the newer cultivars such as: 'Grape Jelly', 'Platinum Star' or 'Cherry Coke'. Plant them in full sun in well-drained soil. Once established, dyckia plants take very little maintenance. They tolerate periods of drought but will do beautifully with some water and fertilizer. However, dyckia plants should never be watered twice a week like lawn grass.

## Jordi Addresses Community Club



County Extension Director Rebecca Jordi was the guest lecturer at the philanthropic educational organization of the Longpoint Community. Her topic was "Right plant - Right place." The homeowners' group had the opportunity to learn which plants will work best in the landscape, proper plant selection and maintenance.

**FREE ESTIMATES!** Call today to schedule an appointment!

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**Knights of Columbus**

**TURKEY SHOOT**

Council #12896  
Father Jerome Hickey  
at Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church  
541688 US Hwy 1 • Callahan  
Across from the CB Shop

Join us for some family fun and a chance to win prizes!

**TURKEY SHOOTS FRIDAY NIGHTS:  
LAST TWO FRIDAYS TO JOIN THE FUN!  
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## Youth Cheerleaders Visit Life Care



resident while spreading Christmas cheer. The residents were excited for the visit and the girls enjoyed telling each one Merry Christmas!

The youth cheerleaders have been working hard lately and will head to Orlando this weekend to compete at Nationals for American Youth Cheer. The Hilliard community has supported them so well, they wanted to give back by visiting with some of Hilliard's finest residents. Good luck girls!



Tuesday night, some of the Hilliard Youth Football Competition Cheerleaders visited residents at Life Care Center in Hilliard. The girls handed out socks and beaded necklaces to each



## Masons Serve Others

On Thanksgiving Day, Callahan Masonic Lodge #32 fed several families. Most meals were cooked and delivered, including deep frying three turkeys. Members prepared the bulk of the food and assisted in the delivery of it. They even took the time to feed one family that had no place else to eat.



Members shown (l to r) are: Robbie Stewart, Brian Jahay and John Wayne Nelson.

## Spotlight on Nassau Gardens



Bertie and her late husband Marshall Tanner moved to Nassau County from Jacksonville 37 years ago and they both were familiar with gardening. When they moved to their new home in Callahan the property needed much work and repair, which they were happy to do. Many lovely trees such as fruit trees, Crepe Myrtle, Holly, Satsuma Oranges and many more were planted.

They also planted a garden with collard greens, mustard greens, corn, squash, cucumber and more. One interesting decision was to plant several short rows of corn every 2 weeks which encouraged fresh corn to be available for them to eat for many, many months. They added an electric fence around the vegetable garden in self-defense, because of the raccoons and deer coming to

the garden to enjoy the vegetables.

Some of the trees and plants that are there are red blood oranges, honey bell oranges, cumquats, fruit trees, figs, pears, concord grapes a Walter chestnut tree, scuppernongs pinecone ginger, camellias, roses and many more.

Now that Bertie lives alone, she has changed many of her plants to nice pots that she can water regularly. There is a lovely pond behind her home and a nice garden with a bird bath and feeder and many plants including copper plant, pine cone plants, crotons and yellow shrimp plant. Also, around the pond are oleander, crepe myrtle, confederate roses, holly tree, fringe tree and a lady banks rose (thornless).

She often feeds the catfish, bass and bream in her pond with floating fish food that she can throw from the dock. There are also pretty azaleas, a pagoda plant and a nice holly tree. Bertie Tanner has a beautiful home and garden area on the pond and enjoys taking care of it, viewing it and living there.



"Spotlight on Nassau Gardens," is a monthly recognition program of the UF/IFAS Nassau County Extension Service, featuring the beautiful gardens and plants grown by Nassau County residents. To be considered, send a digital photo with a description of your "Spotlight," along with your name, address, and phone number to [beawalker105@gmail.com](mailto:beawalker105@gmail.com). For more information, call the Extension office at 904-530-6353."

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Limit 2 With this Coupon

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Expires 12-11-18 WJ

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Expires 12-11-18 WJ

With this Coupon

**10 lb. Box All Beef Dinner Franks \$19.95**

Expires 12-11-18 WJ

Limit 3

**Bone-In Chuck Roast \$2.99 lb.**

With this Coupon

**Oxtails \$4.50 lb.**

With this Coupon

**Cooked Top Round Roast Beef \$2.95 lb.**

With this Coupon

**Filet Mignon Ribeyes or NY Strips \$4.95 ea.**

Expires 12-11-18 WJ

**Fresh Lean Ground Beef Family Pack \$1.99 lb.**

Expires 12-11-18 WJ

With this Coupon

**11.5 oz. Brushy Creek Chili with Beans 2 packs/\$1.00**

Expires 12-11-18 WJ

**USDA Choice Angus Cowboy Steaks - 10 oz. \$3.95 ea.**

Expires 12-11-18 WJ

With this Coupon

**Fresh Oysters Party Bags \$20**

Expires 12-11-18 WJ

With this Coupon

**Chorizo Sausage or Houston's Famous Fresh Link Sausage \$3.50 lb.**

Expires 12-11-18 WJ

With this Coupon

### FREEZER SPECIAL

2 Delmonico Steaks  
2 New York Strip Steaks  
5 Chopped Sirloin Steaks  
1 Package Sliced Bacon  
1 2 lb. Pack Ground Beef  
3 lb. Fryer Drumsticks  
1 Pkg. Short Rib Stew  
1 Pkg. Pork Chops  
**Save \$12.00 \$38.04**

Expires 12-11-18 WJ

### 100 lb. SUPER DEAL!

10 lb. Spare Ribs  
20 lb. Leg Quarters  
10 lb. All Beef Hot Dogs  
10 lb. Fryer Drumsticks  
10 lb. Pork Chops  
10 lb. Boneless Chicken Breasts  
10 lb. Ground Beef  
10 lb. Beef Patties  
10 lb. French Fries  
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## HMSHS Students Certified



*Alyson McCullough, Advisor*

AEST certifications were developed to prepare students for workforce. Whether you're an employer who's looking for competent and educated employees or an individual looking to validate your knowledge and experience, AEST industry certifications can help you achieve your goal. In addition to better preparing students for a successful career in agriculture, industry certifications are the central component of the implementation of the Florida Career and Professional Act, passed by the Florida legislature in 2007. The purpose of the act was to provide a

statewide planning partnership between the business and education communities in order to attract, expand and retain targeted, high-value industries and to sustain a strong, knowledge-based economy.

Hilliard Middle-Senior High School Agriculture Education students worked hard and the program certified 50 students on November 30. This test counts for 3 of the 5 points required for the CAPE Gold Seal Scholarship. I am beyond proud of their hard work and effort as is the administration and Dr. Kathy Burns.



## CES ANNUAL RUN4FUN EVENT

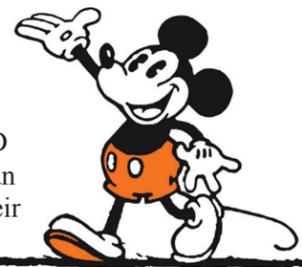
The Annual Callahan Elementary School Run4Fun will be held Saturday, December 8 at 8:45 a.m. at the CES Bus Lot. Registration forms can be picked up at the school office or you can register the day of the event.

Wear your 'Grinch' green and snap a photo with the Grinch at the Family Photo Booth!

Runners must pre-register to receive t-shirt! All registered runners will receive a FREE Grinch ornament.

## Last Chance to Enter the 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 12. 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.



*Callahan First Baptist welcomes you to...*

*Christmas  
in Callahan*

*December 9 • 6:00 PM*