

VOLUME XVI ISSUE 25

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2020

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; DO YOU NOT PERCEIVE IT? I AM MAKING A WAY IN THE WILDERNESS AND STREAMS IN THE WASTELAND." - ISAIAH 43:18-19

Reflecting on 2019

Hilliard Swears in New Mayor and Councilwoman **Callahan Awarded \$5 Million Grant**

> **Hagan Ace Hardware Achieves Highest Recognition West Nassau Cheerleaders Bring Home a World Title and National Championship!**

NCSO Trains New School Guardians Callahan Garden Club Celebrates 78th Birthday **Hilliard Pharmacy Celebrates 35 Years**

Canady Selected as Command Chief Master Sergeant

Gold Medal Congressional Award Winner Katie Gates Simmons Named Nassau County Volunteer of the Year

Callahan Soccer Club Petitioning for Lights County Mourns the Loss of 4-H Agent Kristen Poppell Alcohol Consumption License Passed in Callahan Residents Await Construction on CR 115 (Old Dixie Hwy) Fire Ravages Hilliard Building

> Locals Win World Weightlifting Championship Hagan Named 2019 Young Retailer of the Year

Callahan First Baptist Celebrates Pastor Hyatt's 40 Years of Service Nassau County Schools Ranked 3rd in State!

Callahan Mourns the Passing of Patriarch William Cook Northeast Florida Fair Association Receives \$990,000

Team Fusion Soccer National Champions! Suspicious Person Arrested After Chase from Hilliard Elementary Hilliard Quarterback Injured

Murder and Arrest in Hilliard Nassau County Extension Receives State Recognition FPL Donates \$10,000 to Town of Callahan

Callahan Native, Howie Kendrick, is a World Series Champion! **WNHS Holds Induction Ceremony for Hall of Fame**

Tywuan Lee Named 1A Player of the Year Beloved Educator and Coach, Rose Way, Passes Away Armed Robbery at Yulee Game Room

Nassau County Sheriff's Office Receives DEA Check

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MA Word From the Publisher

...He receives the

glory for each day

and each paper.

Thank you Jesus!

Happy New Year! By the time everyone gets their paper, it will be the New Year! Time continues to fly by as we wrap up another Christmas season and 2019! Where did the year go? What special Christmas celebrations we enjoyed. We spent special time with our parents, siblings, children and grandchildren! What more can we ask for? God has truly blessed us!

As we move into yet another year I just want to thank you, our readers, for your faithfulness to support our paper. Your kind comments are so special

and I appreciate each one. Thank you for your support of our advertisers. If not for them, we could not have a paper. We have been blessed by the

best advertisers. Because we support them, they continue to support us.

I'm thankful for the many submitted articles and stories. I, myself, have learned so much from many of them. My goal is to provide a mixed group of articles that are interesting to the many different people who receive the paper. I think we've done a pretty good job with interests for students, adults and seniors. I've been thinking of a few new ideas for stories but I always welcome your thoughts too!

I couldn't do what I do without the help of Jessie, our graphic designer (not my daughter as many think)! Jessie is very creative and can come up with some beautiful ideas. She is the one who makes things look good. I tell her what I think but she makes it 100 times better than I was thinking. We are together so much...we can pretty much finish each other's sentences. I'm so thankful for her talent and friendship. I couldn't do it without her!

Jenny, who is my daughter, has been with us on a part-time basis for a few years. She is very helpful with anything I ask her to do. She keeps the office uncluttered, as she hates stuff sitting around! She takes calls and assists customers in any way she can! She handles our billing and enjoys visiting with our guests when they drop by! It's a joy to have her on our team!

Roger, of course, is my right hand (actually all hands) man. He is my strength and gives me encouragement. He is, by far, my biggest cheerleader! He provides his 'Just My Opinion' and I'm thankful he does. Most of the topics he writes about, I didn't even know

> was happening. He researches and studies for hours to make sure his information is correct before he submits anything. He has such a passion and

love for the United States of America, and you can tell it in his writing! No, everyone may not agree with it however...it is just his opinion, as we all have one.

Pray for us as we begin another year of publication. What a joy it is to continue to do something I truly enjoy. Thank you for reading and putting up with my many stories of my growing up years, my family, our vacations, whatever it may be. I'm thankful that God put me in this position. It is only because of the Lord that we own this paper. Just know, without the Lord Jesus, there is no way I could even type another word. I just pray that in some way, someone my see that they also need Jesus in their lives. Every day is not a bed of roses, but because of His grace and mercy, He receives the glory for each day and each paper. Thank you

Happy New Year!

Dawy S. West

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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor may be emailed to news@westsidejournal.net but must include a complete name. Letters should be no longer than 300 words.

Keep on!

Dear Editor,

Roger, keep up your good work by even printing opinions that you don't agree with! I find it odd that a write-in can express three lengthy opinions that he states as facts and then lists some of his own insults without realizing he is guilty of the same thing.

It is a fact from earliest time, that hate, left unchecked, will cause blindness and blindness hardens the heart to their own will.

This time of the year remembers the birth of Christ and forgets that blind hatred crucified Him.

> Let God be true, Darin Hawkin

Hilliard Post Office

Dear Editor,

In regards to the US Post Office in Hilliard, I have excellent service there whether it is the first of the month when really busy or if it is a not so busy day. They treat everyone with respect and are very knowledgeable. I live in Jacksonville but I always do my business at Hilliard on my way to work because of the great customer service I receive here at this office. I wouldn't change a thing about the service or personnel. Also, I would like to thank the Postmaster for helping me with my mailing questions and for being so patient with me and understanding. Keep it up and many thanks!

Bonita Currington

In Response

Dear Editor,

In response to last week's letter to the editor about postal problems in Hilliard, I would like to say ditto! We in Bryceville have also had the same problems. I, too, will be contacting Tammy L. Whitcomb, Inspector General, of United States Postal Service.

> Sincerely, C.F. Book

Post Office

Dear Editor,

I would like to educate some of the Hilliard citizens who may have read the comments about the post office services in your column over the last few weeks. First, let me start by asking, have you ever ridden with a rural route delivery person? Do you know some of the ridiculous rules they have to follow to keep their jobs? Based on your comments, I don't think so. Look down the side of their car next time you get close. They can thank all the residents they deliver to for their poorly maintained mailboxes with doors

that will not stay and fall open as they are pulling off or hanging on by one rusted nail. Do you know they have to keep a maintained vehicle in order to keep their jobs? If you only knew how often their vehicles have to go to the shop for front end repairs because of the driveways and private roads that people refuse to maintain, try driving your personal car on rural route one day. Do you know they are only allowed so many feet of backing space in a day? So when you wonder why they just can't back up and go around, well they are not allowed.

Do you know they have the right to refuse to deliver to some of these mailboxes that do not meet the post office standards? Why don't you get a copy of it (post office standards) and read it one day, you will probably find they could refuse your very own box. Would you believe they get complaints from people that their mail is wet when they don't even have a front door on their mailbox? For those of you who read comments last week, do you know that the rural carrier also offered to have her husband come move that box for her? I think that demonstrates that they genuinely needed that mailbox moved and was not just looking for something to complain about. Do you also know that if that rural carrier got stuck in your ditch and was delayed with delivery of their route that they could get wrote up for poor performance? They would also have to pay out of their pocket for someone to come and get them out.

Come on guys, don't be so quick to judge when you don't even understand what is expected of these rural carriers. For those of you who appreciate what your rural carrier does for you, please let them know.

Jack Holton

ATV Ban

Dear Editor,

Just thought it might be a good idea to remind readers of the ATV ban on roadways in Nassau County. With this being the holiday and many adults and young children probably getting them for presents it is likely they will be out there on the roadways. Deputies under Sheriff Seagraves administration passed handouts of the ordinance banning them from all unpaved roadways in Nassau County. Checking with Sheriff Leeper, I found that ordinance to be still in effect: Florida Statues Sec.316-2123 Ordinance No. 2006-85.2.12-11-06. A lot of the signs the county put up with the ordinance has been torn down by disgruntled riders. This is just a reminder to everyone of this Ordinance.

> Thank You, Tom Whitley

In the Kitchen...

6 oranges, peeled and diced

2 bananas, sliced

2 apples, peeled and diced 2/3 cup pecans

1 pt. strawberries, fresh or frozen

Fruit Salad

1 cup sugar

1/2 cup coconut

Add all ingredients in large bowl. Refrigerate until chilled.

WESTSIDE

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Dawn West Publisher Roger WestOwner/Reporter Jessie Pickett.....Graphic Designer

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JANUARY

JA II VOA II CI						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	02	0	AA Meeting 8 p.m. PAL Meetings 6 p.m. FBC Boulougne Callahan Garden Club	AA Meeting 8 p.m. BINGO American Legion Post 401 6 p.m. Hilliard Town 7 p.m.	Reformers Unanimous Addiction 7 p.m. Grace Baptist, Baldwin	Callahan Farmers Market 9 a.m 1 p.m.
AA Meeting 904-399-8535 7 p.m. Hilliard VFW 10095 Auxillary Officer Installation	AA Meeting 8 p.m. Hilliard Hookers Knit/Crochet - 6 p.m. Callahan Town 7 p.m.	AA Meeting 8 p.m. Callahan Town 7 p.m. Westside Replubican Club 7 p.m. Hilliard Community Bldg	AA Meeting 8 p.m. PAL Meetings 6 p.m. FBC Boulougne Hilliard VFW 10095 7 p.m. Callahan Garden Club 10 a.m.	9 AA Meeting 8 p.m. BINGO American Legion Post 401 6 p.m.	American Legion Post 401, Hilliard 7 p.m. Reformers Unanimous Addiction 7 p.m. Grace Baptist, Baldwin	United Daughters of the Confederacy 11 a.m. Hilliard Library
AA Meeting 7 p.m.	13 AA Meeting Callahan Eastern Star - 7:30 p.m. Masonic Lodge WN Genealogical Society 10:30 a.m. Country Star Quilt Guild 7 p.m. FBC Hilliard Hilliard Hookers Knit/Crochet - 6 p.m.	AA Meeting 8 p.m. Gardening Club of Hilliard - 11 a.m. Lions Club 7 p.m.	AA Meeting 8 p.m. PAL Meetings 6 p.m. FBC Boulougne	AA Meeting 8 p.m. Hilliard Town 7 p.m. BINGO American Legion Post 401 6 p.m. WNHS SAC Meeting 4 p.m.	Reformers Unanimous Addiction 7 p.m. Grace Baptist, Baldwin	18 Food Giveaway Gateway to Life Ministries Hilliard 10 a.m noon
AA Meeting 7 p.m.	20 AA Meeting 8 p.m. Callahan Town 7 p.m. Hilliard Hookers Knit/Crochet - 6 p.m. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	AA Meeting 8 p.m. Bryceville Club 11 a.m. Callahan Town 7 p.m.	AA Meeting 8 p.m. PAL Meetings 6 p.m. FBC Boulougne	AA Meeting 8 p.m. BINGO American Legion Post 401 6 p.m. Historical Society 6:30 p.m. @ Depot	Reformers Unanimous Addiction 7 p.m. Grace Baptist, Baldwin	25
26 AA Meeting 7 p.m.	AA Meeting 8 p.m. Callahan Eastern Star - 7:30 p.m. Masonic Lodge Friends of the Hilliard Library 7 p.m.	AA Meeting 8 p.m. Lions Club 7 p.m. NC Library Advisory Board 3-5 pm. Yulee Library FSCJ/ Nassau Center	AA Meeting 8 p.m. PAL Meetings 6 p.m. FBC Boulougne	AA Meeting 8 p.m. BINGO American Legion Post 401 6 p.m.	Reformers Unanimous Addiction 7 p.m. Grace Baptist, Baldwin	

EVENTS AROUND TOWN

By opening your heart and home to a youth in Foster Care, you can help forge a lifetime of success and happiness for a child right here in Nassau. Are you ready to learn more? Contact recruiter@fssnf.org or 904-421-5864 for information.

Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Boulougne. 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.

Painting Pottery at HES

Doing Dishes Pottery came to Hilliard Elementary for a fifth grade in school field trip on November 19. Students were able to choose between a cup, bowl or plate to paint. Some of the students were very creative with their painting!









JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

Here we are in a new year, how we got here so fast is beyond me. Some say you should never look back, just focus on what is ahead. I say we should all look back at times in order to appreciate where we were as compared to where we are presently, or perhaps look back to see where we went wrong that has us where we are presently. If we ignore the past we are more apt to repeat mistakes and that goes for our country as well as our personal lives.

With that being said, we received an email that intrigued me and I want to share it. It is titled Salty Sailor and the Fireman. Following is the email: (These are some positive thoughts about President Trump, from the mother of a deceased Navy Seal.)

Salty Sailor and the Fireman

"Read this once, pause for a minute or two to think honestly about it and then read it again. I can find no fault with it. The views this mother has about Donald Trump are much like many other people. Her characterization of Trump as the "Salty Sailor" or as "The Fireman" paints an excellent picture! She has written many great books about her son and family. This is a comment from Karen Vaughn, mother of Aaron Vaughn, Navy Seal. Sometimes God uses the no-nonsense, salty sailor to get the job done. Appreciating what the man is doing doesn't mean we worship the salty sailor or even desire to be like the salty sailor. It doesn't even mean God admires the salty sailor. Maybe He just knows he's necessary for such a time as this. I believe with all my heart that God placed that salty sailor in the White House to give this nation one more chance in November 2016. Donald Trump is what he is - and he is still the man he was before the election - and without guilt. I very much admire what that salty sailor is accomplishing. He's not like me. That's okay with me. I don't want to be like him. I will never behave

like him. I know we've NEVER had a man like him lead our nation before. It's crazy and a little mind-blowing at times. But I can't help admire the stamina and ability he has – acting with his heart rather than a calculated, PC, think tank-screened, carefully edited script. I still believe that is WHY he became our President and WHY he's been able to handle a landslide of adversity and STILL pass unprecedented amounts of good legislation for our country and do great works for MANY other nations, including Israel.

I'm THRILLED with what he's doing for my nation, for the cause of Christ (whether intentional or unintentional, doesn't matter to me), and for the concept of rebuilding America and putting her FIRST. I will not be ashamed of my position because others don't see him through the same lens. Should it matter to me if a fireman drops an f-bomb while he's pulling me from a burning building? Would I really care about what came out of his mouth in those moments? Heck no! I'd CARE about what he was DOING. He wasn't sent there to save my soul and I'm not looking to him for spiritual guidance. All I'm thinking in those moments is, "Thank you, GOD, for sending the fireman." And Donald Trump is our fireman. I'll soon post this article again for those who still might not understand me. This man is crass. Okay. He's not careful with what he says. Okay. You feel offended that he's not a typical statesman. Okay. But he is DOING THE JOB of rebuilding the nation my son (a Navy Seal) died for... the nation I feared was on a fast track to becoming a hopeless cause. Forgive me if I'm smiling, written by Karen."

Well Karen, I agree with you 100%! Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and I wish you all a very Happy New Year!

And yes it's still...just my opinion!

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New Year

Pastor Marty Paparo, Friendship Alliance Church, Callahan



Well, it's the second day of the year. Can you believe 2019 is gone? Many will make resolutions, great intentions, plans for working out, quitting old habits, starting new habits. But, will any of it stick? Come February, will all the gyms be empty again?

In Romans Chapter 8, Paul talks about living in the Spirit versus walking in the flesh. He just spent previous chapters talking about how we cannot achieve righteousness by simply trying harder. Many of us will spend much of our lives trying, by our own power, to

please God. And although this is an admirable attempt, it will fall short. The reason it won't work is because, it's not what God wanted or planned. He doesn't want us trying to do the right thing. He wants us to lean on Him for the ability to do what is right. He is not looking for us to do more, but to be more. We are to be His followers, to abide (live in) in Him.

This New Year as you look to do what pleases God, pursue Him as He pursues you. Everything we need to do will flow out of being with Him.

"But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness." Romans 8:10.

Ask the County Manager Meetings

Since August 2018, County Manager, Mike Mullin has been holding monthly meetings to make himself available to anyone wishing to ask County related questions and/or address County related issues. Below is a tentative meeting schedule for the next quarter:

Thursday, January 9 at 5:30 p.m.
Bryceville Community Center, 7280 Motes Road, Bryceville

Thursday, February 20 at 5:30 p.m. Hilliard Community Center, 37203 Pecan Street, Hilliard

Monday, March 16 at 5:30 p.m. Walter Boatright County Building, 45401 Mickler Street, Callahan

Please note that dates can change due to unforeseen circumstances. Residents are urged to check our website at www.nassaucountyfl.com for current meeting information. You may also contact the County Manager's Office at (904) 530-6010 to confirm meeting dates, times and locations.

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BOCC Tackles Gaming Room Issues

Dawn S. West

The Nassau County Board of County Commissioners held a 'Special Meeting' Monday night to discuss the gaming room issues in the county. A large presence of residents and game room employers, for and against the issue, were on hand to voice their opinions. In May 2019, the City of Jacksonville shut the doors on all the gaming rooms in Jacksonville. At that time, there were approximately 14 gaming rooms in Nassau County. Since the Jacksonville closing, Nassau County now has 29 gaming rooms.

"Jacksonville closed these businesses for a reason and now the reason is in Nassau County," said Sheriff Bill Leeper. Leeper advised the commissioners that the Nassau County Sheriff's Office had conducted an 11-day undercover operation at 28 of the locations within the county. From those operations, successful purchases of narcotics were made in the establishments; methamphetamine was offered; crack cocaine and heroin

pills on two occasions; sexual services for money offered; and cash inserted in machines as well as cash awards being provided. Leeper also added his concerns the lack of regulation or control of these establishments; hours of operation; inaccurate parking; onsite security (no cameras); fire hazard (exceeding the amount of people per building); poor lighting outside; and the crimes they attract.

After hearing all that wished to speak on the matter, the board drafted an Ordinance to consider closing the establishments down. The first public hearing on the Ordinance will be held Monday, January 27 at 6 p.m. at the County Commission meeting in Yulee.

Persons wishing to view the ordinance or the meeting from Monday night can visit the county website at: www.nassaucountyfl.com, and search for live County Commission meetings. If you have questions or need assistance finding the ordinance concerning this issue, contact the Clerk's Administrative Department at (904) 548-4600.

NCSO Jail Employee Outreach



On Friday, December 20, 2019, Nassau County Sheriff's Office Jail/Detention Facility employees, organized by Lieutenant Jeff Stull, II, provided gifts to ARC of Nassau for Christmas. Everyone received a gift and the facility was also provided a \$100 gift card to AMC Theatre for a field trip to watch a movie.

The Arc Nassau, a non-profit organization, helps meet the needs of Nassau County adults with disabilities by providing programs and services that support their active participation in all aspects of life.

RED DOT PROJECT COLLECTION

Harley Miller, of Callahan, is collecting small cosmetic bags with teen feminine products. The Red Dot Project solely depends on donations of teen feminine products such as pads, panty liners, tampons, panties, individually wrapped feminine wipes and small cosmetic bags (Ipsy bags). Donations may be brought to the Westside Journal office, 450034 SR 200 (across from Dollar General) Callahan, 879-4180. The care packages are distributed to our middle schools and are available as needed in the nurse's office.

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Historical Society Announces Classes for Senior Citizens

The West Nassau Historical Society will offer of a series of art classes for seniors ages 55 and over to be held this winter. Each class will be held inside the historic Callahan Train Depot, 45383 Dixie Avenue, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on Tuesdays, February 4, 11 and 18. The climax of the art sessions will be a public reception and exhibit of the seniors' art work on Saturday, February 22 at 6 p.m. A nominal fee of \$10 per class or \$25 for all three will be charged to defray the cost of the art supplies.

Classes will be taught by Historical Society Director Elizabeth Karoly, a retired instructor of art from the New York state school system. Ms. Karoly earned her Master of Fine Arts degree from Long Island University in NY. She also served on the faculty of Long Island University, Stony Brook University and Nassau Community College, Long Island. Her art has been exhibited extensively in the New York area.

Class sizes are limited preregistration is required. A registration form is available from the West Nassau Historical Society website www.wnhsfl. org or by calling 879-3406.

The West Nassau Historical Society is an all-volunteer nonprofit dedicated to the promotion of history and culture in Nassau County. The 501c3 group is an active member of Arts and Culture Nassau, an advocacy for art and culture throughout Nassau County.

Auditions for West Side Story

Calling all Youth: There's a Place for You, a Time and Stage for You

"Life can be free in America, okay by me in America..." come audition in America! Saltwater Performing Arts (SPA) Mainstage auditions for West Side Story will be Saturday, January 4, 2020. This multiple Academy Award winning musical is for dancers, singers, and actors and will be co-directed by SPA's Megan Friese-Kaufman and Lisa Allen.

Mainstage is open to middle school and high school students. Auditions will be held at the Friese Studio of Music, 204 Arnow Drive in St. Marys, Georgia. Auditionee must prepare a 45 second a cappella song (preferably musical theatre) and a 30 second monologue from a show other than West Side Story. Come dressed to impress and bring your best headline worthy performance. Auditionee should also bring dance shoes and comfortable clothes for a brief dance assessment after the audition. More audition information can be found at www.saltwaterpac.org.

Saturday, January 4th Audition Times:

Students audition by alphabetical order of last name.

Last names A-E 12-1 p.m. Last names F-J 1-2 p.m

Last names K-N 2-3 p.m. Last names O-Z 3-4 p.m.

Join SPA's TECH Crew: Area youth wishing to join the technical crew for the production should also plan on attending this audition and complete the application found on our website. West Side Story rehearsals will begin Monday, January 27, and will take place every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday until performances. Performances are set for Friday and Saturday April 24, 25, May 1, and 2 at 7pm, with 2pm matinees on Sunday, April 26 and May 3. All shows will be performed at "The Warehouse" in Kingsland, Georgia.

West Side Story is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

SPA is a nonprofit organization that provides performing arts education to inspire and enhance the cultural life of the Coastal Georgia and North Florida communities. For more information visit us online at saltwaterpac.org or call (912) 510-9700.

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First Federal Bank Donates to Barnabas Center

Jim Weaver, Senior Commercial Lending Officer and Avis Miller of First Federal Bank presented a donation of \$5,000 to Michele VandenBossche, Health Services Manager at Barnabas Center.

The check represents support for Barnabas programs and services. Barnabas thanks First Federal Bank for its continued support and their good work in the

For more information about Barnabas' programs, please visit www. BarnabasNassau.org.



Shown (1 to r) are: Michele VandenBossche, Health Services Manager at Barnabas Center, Jim Weaver, Senior Commercial Lending Officer at First Federal Bank and Avis Miller, First Federal Bank.

4-H Seeking Help with In-School Program

Every year Nassau County 4-H conducts numerous embryology programs throughout the county reaching over 1,000 youth. The embryology program allows students to witness chicks hatching in their classrooms while instilling life skills in youth, such as responsibility and science literacy. Due to the



increase in classrooms requesting this vital program, we need your help!

Volunteers would help during the school day for a few hours and teach classrooms about the hatching and incubation process as well as chick care and other topics. Previous experience is not required! We will have a training session Tuesday, January 7 at noon at the Yulee Extension Office.

If you are interested in donating some time to helping this wonderful program, please call Kelsey Irvine at 904-530-6353 to learn more.



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Tim Carpenter

As many of you know, my wife Kate and I left Callahan in our RV on March 3rd to take a trip around the shores and borders of our great country. The author, John Steinbeck, in Travels with Charlie, inspired me to discover the real USA and see firsthand what makes our nation so great. With Pete Seeger's song, "This Land is Your Land" ringing in our hearts, we headed out with anticipation. Every day has been a Christmas gift wrapped in the hope of the unknown and tied off with the ribbon of trust in the Lord.

We have now traveled over 11,000 miles in the RV, 11,000 miles in our Prius, and over 300 miles on foot, bike or boat. We have seen the promise of spring in buds and baby creatures. We have been wowed by mountains, lakes,





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What Is Your Favorite?



waterfalls, flowers, birds and sunsets. We have been surprised at turns in the road that have led us to spectacular vistas of oceans, wooded mountains in blue lakes, azure water set in desert canyons, trees bigger than the Statue of Liberty, rocky shores battered by rolling oceans, deep blue lakes draped with rainbowcolored sandstone cliffs and much more than that.

So with all we have seen and experienced, I was at a loss for words when my nephew asked, "What has been your favorite place?" How can I compare a giant sequoia in California to loons chasing each other on the blue waters of a New Hampshire lake? How can I choose the sun setting over a bay on the Pacific Ocean to the wonder of a North Dakota prairie wind through the grasses?

As I looked into the eyes of my enthusiastic nephew, it dawned on me. Our favorite part of this trip has not been in the land, the trees, flowers, birds, elk,

> bison, loons, or pyrrhuloxia (a bird of the southwest). The best part of this trip has been the eyes and hearts of the many people we have met. We humans are made lower than the angels, but crowned with the glory of God's image. Looking into the eyes of a family member, old friend, or a new acquaintance, I see the greatest miracle of all. I see

what God looks like. I see life, intellect, creativity, pleasure, emotion, passion and patience. I see hope and the disappointment of hope lost. I see wounds healed with time and hurt still wanting comfort and understanding.

Unlike animals, we humans do comprehend history and the purpose of our experiences. We can



reason out the choice of our tomorrows and do something about that. We do this because we are made in the image of God. No one on this trip has asked me if I'm a Republican or Democrat. They have not been concerned about my social policy standings. The media makes it sound like we are all about ready to destroy each other. But that is only for those who want power and prestige. The normal everyday American only wants to live every day, provide for their family, care for those they meet, and live a happy life. No one has voiced an opinion about what those folks are doing in Washington. Life is not about D.C. or TV. It is about God and the relationships He brings to us.

On this journey, we have reconnected with friends from old times and caught up with family members we haven't seen in quite a while. We have extended

our network of new friends that we may never see again, but who, in the brief time we had with them, have enriched our lives in so many ways. One young man picked me up from the ground under my wooden ramps when I fell down. Another resolved our RV's starter issues. Another opened her heart about the suicide of her husband. We



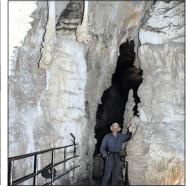


prayed for her and others who shared a burden. The time we shared with these people is what God is all about, relationships.

Therefore, life is not about the beauty of this world and its creatures, as pleasurable as that may be. After all, Jesus did tell us that the greatest commandment is to love God with all our heart and our neighbors as ourselves. The favorite part of our trip has been the people God has blessed us with along the way, and we hope we have blessed them.









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Westside Seniors Celebrate Christmas!

The Westside Senior Center in Hilliard was filled with singing, dancing, poinsettias and lots of food Friday, December 20 as the seniors celebrated Christmas! What a special way to begin Christmas week by having a celebration with friends! The room lit up with smiles as sweet Santa Claus made his way around to each table visiting with each person. Santa also gave out candy canes and hugs! Ms. Cindy handled the music and before we knew it, Ms. Frances and Missy had the group up dancing in a congo line through the room! Special gift bags





were given out and even homemade Christmas pillowcases were given in memory of a former resident by her daughter. The day was complete as smiles were abundant throughout the room. What a blessing to share such a special day with special people!











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Out With A Boom, Beautiful!

The weather cooperated and cleared up about two hours prior to the Out With a Boom Fireworks held Sunday night in Callahan. Large groups of spectators gathered at West Nassau High School Warrior Field and also at Callahan First Baptist Church to watch the display of fireworks light up the sky. The event was attended by State Representative John Rutherford who took time to walk through the crowds and visit with people. He also handled the countdown for the fireworks display!

Warrior field had entertainment from the Warrior Band and delicious food from the Warrior Band Booster concession stand. First Baptist had bounce houses for the children and food trucks providing some great choices to eat. Each place had a welcoming environment with people walking around visiting with each other. Shortly after the presentation, the fog began to move in! Thankfully, the Lord allowed good weather for the special treat for our community!













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SYSTEM OPERATOR I: Okefenoke REMC has an opening in our dispatch center for a System Operator I. The role of the System Operator I has a high degree of emphasis on: compiling, classifying and disseminating information; transcribing and analyzing information and data: decision making and problem solving, at times under pressure and during high stress situations. This position requires proficiency in computer programs such as MS Word and Excel, as well as, strong interpersonal skills dealing with consumer-members, line crews, management and fellow employees. The position is based on shifts and subject to irregular hours. Overtime is required. Interested candidates should visit oremc.com for application and instructions for completion. Applications will be accepted online or at one of our office locations through January 3, 2020. Okefenoke REMC is an Equal Opportunity Employer/ Drug Free Workplace. 10220

PARKS AND RECREATION KID ATTENDANT: The Town of Hilliard is seeking a qualified candidate to fill the part time position of Parks and Recreation Kid Attendant for Child Watch, After School Program and Summer Camp Program. The successful candidate will monitor and maintain the area for cleanliness and safety. Assist with the development and adherence of kid's program policies and procedures. CPR certification and background finger printing required. The Town of Hilliard is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug Free Workplace. Post-offer physical required. Applications may be picked up at Town Hall located at 15859 West County Road 108, Hilliard, Florida from 9am until 5pm Monday through Friday, or printed from our web page www. townofhilliard.com. Application will be accepted until the position is filled. 10220

MAINTENANCE HELPER: Nassau County has seven openings for Maintenance Helper in the Road Department at \$12.5252 hourly plus benefits. Applications will be accepted thru January 7, 2020. To apply please visit www.nassaucountyfl.com or for additional information contact the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place. Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 10220

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Hilliard VFW Pays Off Lunch Debt



Thursday, December 12, both Hilliard Elementary and Hilliard Middle-Senior High School received an early Christmas present... PAID lunch debt at both schools! "We

wanted to do something in our community for our students," said VFW Post 10095 Commander David Lewis. "We had heard about businesses in Camden County paying off lunch debt so we (Post members) checked into it. We found out the amount, voted on it and it was unanimous with the members to pay off Photo Submitted Hilliard schools lunch debt!"

check for \$200 was delivered to Hilliard Elementary School Principal Lee Ann Jackson, who was thrilled to accept it!

Later, a check for \$350 was delivered to Hilliard Middle-Senior High School Principal Tammy Johnson, who took the men directly to the lunchroom to deliver it to the lunch manager! The

entire lunch staff was thrilled with such a wonderful donation!

Thank you to VFW Post 10095 for the good deeds you do in our community!



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, December 16

Timothy Michael Pruitte, 30, 4653 CR 108, Hilliard: Possession Schedule 1-5

Ronald Dustin Crawford, 35, 551359 Burns Road, Callahan: Possession of Methamphetamine

Tuesday, December 17

Lea Nicole Kirkpatrick, 30, 54027 Marlee Road, Callahan: Possession of Cocaine; Introducing Contraband into Jail Facility

Wednesday, December 18

Sarah Fay Hart, 27, 56104 Coopers Neck Road, Hilliard: Theft Under Retail Destiny Lee Roberts, 24, 54391 Heron Road, Callahan: Possession of Methamphetamine; Possession Schedule 1-5 Substance

Thursday, December 19

Destiny Lee Roberts, 24, 54391 Heron Road, Callahan: Theft Under Retail Sarah Fay Hart, 27, 56104 Coopers Neck Road, Hilliard: Theft Under Retail

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10 lb. Pkg. Sunset Farm Mild

Smoked Sausage

Expires 1-7-20 WJ

Expires 1-7-20 WJ

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Limit 2

1 Pkg. Pork Chops



esh Sausage

1 lb. Roll 2/\$/195

Fresh, Clean Texas

1 lb. Can Claw Crab Meat

Expires 1-7-20 WJ

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Cut & Trimmed

the way you like them!

Fresh Lean Ground Beef

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Ribeyes or NY Strips

10 lb. Bag JUMBO Chicken Wings

Expires 1-7-20 WJ

2 Delmonico Steaks 2 New York Strip Steaks

5 Chopped Sirloin Steaks 1 Package Sliced Bacon

1 2 lb. Pack Ground Beef Expires 1-7-20 WJ

3 lb. Fryer Drumsticks 1 Pkg. Short Rib Stew

100 lb. SU

10 lb. Spare Ribs

20 lb. Leg Quarters

10 lb. Corn Dogs

10 lb. Fryer Drumsticks 10 lb. Pork Chops

10 lb. Boneless Chicken Breasts

With this Coupon

10 lb. Ground Beef

10 lb. Beef Patties

10 lb. French Fries

Expires 1-7-20 WJ

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LADONNA FAYE BARBER



Ladonna Faye Barber unexpectedly passed away on December 27, 2019 at her home in Callahan. She was born on November 21, 1971

in Jacksonville. Donna dearly loved her nieces as if they were her own children. She lived her life for her family and loved all of them. She was her "Daddy's Girl." In 1989, Donna graduated from Sonshine Christian Academy in Callahan. In January 1992, she began her career with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office as a 911 Dispatcher. Donna took pride in doing her job keeping the Officers and First Responders safe on Jacksonville streets. Her closest friends and co-workers, especially Alicia and Glenn Warkentien, Karen, Lisa and Melissa, share many fond memories of their time spent working with Donna. They described her as a "one of a kind, loving, and caring person who was honest, trustworthy, and always concerned for others." She was known for her fashionable taste and her love for shopping, Starbucks and a good laugh. Donna loved and cared for her two dogs, Belle and Fletch for many years. In the end, they were by her side watching over her, as they had always done. Donna loved her family and took many vacations with them to Hawaii, Alaska and frequent trips to Disney World where Donna never missed a chance to see her niece perform as a singer at Disney. She and her sister Lisa shared a special bond that surrounded them each time they were together. She loved Christmas and all the holidays which became a memorable occasion for Donna. her family, and her dear friends Alicia and Glenn as they celebrated. They shared their last days together all too soon. Loving memories of her will always be with her family, friends and co-workers. She will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing and loving her.

She is survived by her loving parents, James Donald Barber and Ladonna Kaye Barber; her sister Lisa Michele Dennis; nieces Kalen Michele Dennis and Kyndle Shae Dennis; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Her life was celebrated in a visitation on Wednesday, January 1, 2020 at Nassau Funeral Home in Callahan. The funeral service was held Thursday, January 2 at the funeral Home with Brother James Conner officiating. Interment followed at Bethel Primitive Cemetery, Hilliard.

Pallbearers were close friends and family of Donna.

OBITUARIES

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations made to the Nassau Humane Society, 641 Airport Road, Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034.

Condolences may be expressed at www. nassaufh.com.

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

RUDY CAPPARELLI



Rudy Capparelli, 84, of Callahan, passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 21, 2019 at his home. He was born on March 5, 1935,

in Callahan, and was the son of Baldassarre (Benny) and Mary

Capparelli. He loved painting, photography, music, playing the guitar, traveling and was a competitive runner in his younger years. Rudy was a caring brother, loving uncle, and a dear friend to many in the area. He retired from the Florida Air National Guard, 125th Fighter Wing in Jacksonville as a Senior Master Sergeant, where he worked for more than 30 years in support of the mission to provide air defense for the southeastern United States, from Charleston, South Carolina to the southern tip of Florida and across the Florida panhandle. He was a lifetime member of Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church in Callahan. He enjoyed the friendship of many in Callahan and was an exceptional listener.

He was preceded in death by his parents Benny and Mary Capparelli; his sister Edda Tasso of Callahan; and his brother Nicholas Linardi

Rudy is survived by his brother-in-law Emanuel Tasso; and by many nieces and nephews, Lucy Tonette (Charlie) Carroll, Bernadette (David) Luce, Ben Tasso (Margaret, deceased), Angela (Joe) Hoff and Anthony (Natalie) Tasso; and seven great nieces and nephews Angela Marie Schaefer (Kris) Nightengale, Marissa Carroll, Sophia Hoff, Shafer Tasso, Andrew Tasso, Emily Catherine Tasso and Mitchell Tasso.

Memorial services were held Monday, December 30 at the Jacksonville Memory Gardens. The family received friends prior to the service.

The family requests in lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his name to the Our Lady of Consolation Building

In Loving Memory of Juanita Clemmons Temple

July 29, 1934 - January 8, 2018

It's been 2 long years that you've been gone. You are missed

every day and still loved so much. You're always in our hearts.

Rest in Peace Mama.

Fund, Callahan, Florida, 32011; or to the Wounded Warrior Project (https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org).

Please sign the online guestbook at www.jacksonvillememorygardens.com.

BESSIE V. FOREMAN

Bessie V. Foreman, 80, passed away on December 15, 2019. She was born in Waresboro, Georgia. Bessie was a long time resident of Hilliard. Bessie was preceded in death by her husband David (Danny) Foreman, Sr.

She is survived by five children, Phyllis Deaver, JoAnn (Joel) Kirkland, Danny (Lisa) Foreman, Jr., Sherrie (Danny) Tapia and Robin (Jean-Paul) Babin; 12 grandchildren Megan, Josh (DaKota), Justin (Brandi), Shelby (Chase), Rebecca (Taylor), Cole, Jessica (Robert), Brandon, Ryan, Lauren, Emila and Matthew; seven greatgrandchildren Gimma, Eisley, Raeleigh, Samuel, Conner, Abbigale, Masson and one on the way.

The family received friends prior to the funeral service held Friday, December 20 at Callahan Funeral Home with Pastors Earl and Lynn Horne officiating. Burial followed at Jones Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www. callahanfh.com.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, Inc., 879-2336.

Maderia Gaworski

Maderia Gaworski, 88, of Jacksonville, passed away on December 21, 2019. She was born on October 26, 1931, in Davisboro, Georgia, to Monrow and Mildred May. She enjoyed traveling with her late husband during his military service time and then traveling in their RV after his retirement.

Maderia is survived by her sons Kenneth (Debbie) Gaworski and Michael (Wanda) Gaworski; and a cousin Susan Costello. She was preceded in death by her parents; and her husband of 65 years, Edwin (Ed) Gaworski.

She was laid to rest Friday, December 27 in the Jacksonville National Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www. nassaufh.com.

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

GERALDINE M. GRIFFIN



Geraldine M. Griffin, 93, passed away December 23, 2019. Funeral services and a celebration of her life were held Saturday, December 28 in

the chapel of Heritage Memorial Funeral Home, Warner Robins, Georgia with Reverend Don Feezor officiating. Visitation was held prior to the service.

Mrs. Griffin was born on December 16, 1926 in Caldwell, Georgia to the late Rufus and Della McCullars. She retired from Houston County Board of Education after 20 years as a substitute teacher from Lindsey Elementary. Mrs. Griffin loved to garden and worked in the children's department at Evergreen and Westside Baptist. She was a loving mother, grandmother, sister and friend.

Mrs. Griffin was preceded in death by her first husband of 42 years, Calvin C. Mackey; her second husband of 23 years, Terry Griffin of Callahan; brother Buddy McCullars; and her daughter and son-n-law Ann and Dewell Watson.

Survivors include her son Calvin L. (Bebe) Mackey of Warner Robins; grandchildren Kirk Watson (Sunny Brook), Stacey Watson, Dana Mackey and Sarah (Tyler) Stout; great-grandson Samuel Watson; sister Helen Sikes of Hilliard; stepchildren Carol (Mike) Snow, Frances (Wynn) Winfrey of Callahan and Linda Ottinger of Yulee; several stepgrandchildren; step-great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Please visit: www.heritagemfh.com to sign the online guestbook.

Heritage Memorial Funeral Home and Crematory has charge of arrangements.

DARRELL K. HENDERSON



Darrell K. Henderson, 79, passed away Thursday, December 26, 2019 at his home in Hilliard following a brief illness. He was born in

Hilliard, on December 31, 1939 to Kermit and Anna Henderson. Darrell worked hard and laughed harder. He took pleasure in the time he spent working and developing his land, tending and nourishing his orange grove and taking an occasional fishing trip. He told stories and told them well and he enjoyed an occasional practical joke. His laughter was intense and he genuinely loved life. Darrell was a great friend, brother, father, granddaddy and husband. He will be greatly missed and always loved the most by those he leaves behind.

Darrell leaves behind his wife of 50 years, Pat Henderson; his children Craig, Becki, Steve and Jennifer (Victor); his fierce canine companion Joker; his grandchildren C.J. and Kelsey (and their mother Karen); three great-grandchildren Klayton, Kazmera and Kayleia; his sister Maybell Schultehenrich; his brother Johnnie Johnson; and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his brothers Marvin Henderson, Thomas Johnson and Frederick Johnson.

The family received friends prior to the funeral service held Tuesday December 31at the Nassau Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed in Oakwood Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www. nassaufh.com.

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

BETTY SUSAN HUTTO



Betty Susan (Sue) Hutto, 86, peacefully went to be with the Lord on December 27, 2019. She was born on November 16, 1933 in Zephyr

Hills, Florida to the late Elvery and Ruby Lane as the 10th of 13 children. She was preceded in death by her husband, Grady, after 27 years of marriage.

Sue was widowed at a relatively young age and immediately went to work to support the children still living at home. She opened a daycare in her home called Nanny's Little People in Callahan. She provided a loving, Christian environment to dozens of children over the 20+ years she operated the daycare. Those children are all grown now with children of their own, but they still love and appreciate her. Many people still lovingly refer to Sue as "Nanny."

Sue was a true friend who will always be remembered for her quick wit and sense of humor. She was a very thoughtful and generous person who served as a caregiver for many of her siblings who predeceased her. Sue found great joy in her close-knit extended family, church and friends.

Sue was a member of Springfield Church of God from her childhood until it's closing in 2004 at which time she joined Atlantic Beach Assembly of God as a faithful and devoted member. She served as the president of the Ladies' Willing Worker Band (LWWB) at Springfield for many years and also served with her husband, Grady, leading the Junior High Sunday School Department at Springfield. It was Sue's deep and abiding faith that supported her throughout her life and gave her peace in her final days. In her last months she received great comfort listening and singing



December 22, 1995 🕶 July 10, 2009

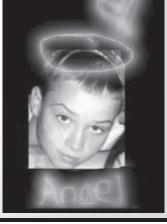
HAPPY BIRTHDAY DALTON ED, OUR SWEET ANGEL!

Life will never be the same. It has been ten birthdays without you here. Ten years of "I love you". Ten years of hugs. Ten years of family events you weren't here to see. Ten years of what if.

We know you're in a better place, but it has left us with broken hearts. We love and miss you terribly. We love you always and forever, Dalton.

Daddy, Mama, Sissy, family and friends

Happy Birthday, Bubba.
I love and miss you so much.
Love,
Heather



to gospel music with songs such as "It Is Well With My Soul" and "I'd Rather Have Jesus"

She is survived by her brother Samuel "Sonny" (Marilyn) Lane; her children Christy (Marty) Amos, Danny (Terri) Hutto, Tammy Schub and Donnie (Rhonda) Hutto; her grandchildren Jamie Johnson, Stacey Pipkin, Marty Amos, Amy Dietzer, Amanda Woodard, Joseph Schub, Gregory Hutto and Garrett Hutto; 22 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews and countless friends and loved ones.

In addition to her grandsons, her pallbearers were her nephew, Wayne Carter and beloved friend Randal Rodriguez.

The family will receive friends Thursday, January 2 from 6-8 p.m. at Atlantic Beach Assembly of God, 680 Mayport Road, Atlantic Beach. The funeral service will be held Friday, January 3, 2020 at 11 a.m. at Atlantic Beach Assembly of God with Reverend Donnie Hutto officiating. The burial will follow Jacksonville Memorial Gardens in Orange Park.

TERESA A. INGRAM



Teresa A. (Mullis) Ingram, 48, went to her heavenly home on December 26, 2019, after a hard fought battle with cancer.

Teresa was born in Gainesville on August 15, 1971. She lived in the Starke area for the majority of her life. Teresa was a very loving and caring mother, grandmother, sister and aunt. She enjoyed nothing more than spending time with her kids and grandbabies, time at the beach, and time with her family, especially during the holidays. She was involved with the AMVET and volunteered for numerous charity events.

She was preceded in death by her father Danny Mullis; paternal grandparents Audrey and Hazel Scaff; and maternal grandparents Jackson Fowler and Myrtice Dale Smith.

Teresa is survived by her husband John Derek Ingram; her mother Peggy Fowler; her children Tricia (Dani) O'Quinn, Traci (Matt) Padgett, Austin (Paige) Lovett and Cody Lovett; her grandchildren Kaiden and Kase Lovett; her sister Kristina (Matt) Webb; nieces Destiny and Cierra; nephew Matthew; and great niece Ensleigh; and lifelong special friend Buddy Lovett.

The immediate family will receive family and friends Thursday, January 2 from 6-8 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan. The funeral service will be held Friday January 3 at 12 p.m. at River of Life Church, Starke. Burial will follow at Santa Fe Cemetery in Hampton.

Condolences may be expressed at www. nassaufh.com.

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

CHARLOTTE A. McAninch



Charlotte A. McAninch, 53, of Callahan, passed away December 19, 2019, with her family at her side, after a courageous 4-year

battle with cancer. Charlotte was born in Jacksonville on January 18, 1966 to James J. and Burnadeen Carver Clark. She was a homemaker who loved arts and crafts, gardening and cooking. She also helped her husband Ellis manage Callahan Funeral Home.

In addition to her parents; Charlotte was predeceased by a brother James Jack Clark, Jr.; a nephew Jonathon Clark; and a great-

OBITUARIES

nephew Mason Clark.

Survivors include her husband of 34 years, Ellis L. McAninch, Jr.; two children Amanda McAninch and Ellis (Macky) McAninch, III; special nephew/son Mark McAninch, Jr.; five grandchildren Arielle McAninch, Ellysiah McAninch, Aaliyah McAninch, Isiah McAninch and Brantley Kingston McAninch; two sisters Linda Gail (Howard) Pearce and Donna (Brian) Swilley; three brothers Darryl Clark, Kevin Clark (Amy Adkins) and Mark (Alicia) Dyal; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

The family received friends prior to the funeral service held Monday, December 23 at Callahan Funeral Home, in the chapel she cared for

Condolences may be expressed at www. oxleyheard.com.

MARTIN D. OWENS



Martin D. Owens, LFD, 77, of Jacksonville, passed away on Sunday, December 22, 2019. He was born on August 29, 1942 in Crescent, Georgia

to the late Edward R. and Jeannette (Baggs) Owens. Martin came to the area in 1961 and was a member of Wayside Assembly of God Church. He was extremely proud of being a Licensed Funeral Director and served in the funeral industry since 1961. He mentored many up and coming funeral directors over many years along with mentoring in the Big Brother Organization. Martin proudly served his country in the United States Army. He enjoyed traveling, loved his animals and had the best sense of humor. Martin was a beloved brother, uncle, companion and Funeral Director who will be missed by all who knew him.

Martin is survived by his sister Edwardine (John) Welty; brother Wayne (Karen) Owens; love-of-his-life Phyllis Lewis; nephews Justin and Ashley; and nieces Laura and Vicki.

The family received prior to the funeral service held Friday, December 27 at Wayside Assembly of God Church with Pastor Wade Mask, Sr. officiating. Burial followed at Gethsemane Memorial Gardens.

TERRY PARSON, SR.



Terry Parson, Sr., 71, earned his heavenly wings on December 10, 2019 in Jacksonville. He was born in Campbellsville, Kentucky on

December 20, 1947 to Ada Leona Parson. Terry proudly served his country in the United States Navy as a Radar Specialist until his honorable discharge. After his Navy service he worked for the United States Postal Service for 36 years.

Terry delighted in taking trips to the Keys where he enjoyed dolphin and snapper fishing. He also liked spending time in Steinhatchee scalloping and fishing. He was always willing to help a friend in need. Terry most enjoyed spending time with his best friend and wife, Betsy and was a loving and proud 'Papa' to his grandchildren.

Terry is survived by his wife Betsy; and children Paul (April) Parson, Terry Allan Parson, Jr., Jason Brooke, Patrick Brooke, Jeff (Angie) Brooke and Brian (Courtney) Brooke; 14 grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and a brother Tim (Kellie) Jones. He was preceded in death by his

mother; and son David Parson.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, January 4, 2020 at Nassau Funeral Home. Visitation will begin at 4 p.m. with services following at 5 p.m.

His ashes will be interred at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www. nassaufh.com.

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

DAVID ANTHONY ROMERO



David A. Romero passed away on December 10, 2019 in Jacksonville. He was born in Orange Park, on November 6, 1951. He is the son of Waldo Romero, Sr. and the late Verona

Bacon Romero of Hilliard. David graduated from Forrest High School in 1969. He attended the University Of Florida, where he attained a Bachler's Degree, in Ornamental Horticulture. He retired as a Supervisory Automobile Insurance Adjuster from Mercury Insurance Company. Prior to that, he worked as an estimator for Woolverton Oldsmobile and was the owner/operator of River City Landscape Company. He served his country in the U.S. Naval Air Reserve. He was musically talented, sang, played the guitar and wrote songs. As a teenager, he performed with Sing Out Jacksonville/ Up, Up, With People; where many of the performers became his lifelong friends.

He was a devoted father and is survived by daughter Christina Romero (Doug) Downes; granddaughters Delaney and Molly Downes; his father Waldo Romero, Sr.; a sister Dianne Romero; brother Waldo Romero, Jr.; fiancee Sandra Ward; and many family members. He is predeceased by his mother Verona Bacon Romero; and his grandparents Oscar and Fronita Bacon and Antonio and Manuelita Romero.

A celebration of life memorial service was held December 18 at Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Jacksonville.

Funeral arrangements were by Hardage-Giddens Rivermead Funeral Home in Orange Park.

BOBBY J. SALIS



Bobby J. Salis, 60, of Dayton, Ohio, formerly of Hilliard, passed away December 11, 2019. He was a Merchant Seaman. He was

preceded in death by his father Skeeter Salis; and his mother Nancy (Michael) Sears; two brothers Artie Salis and Erwin Salis; and one sister Jeannie (Allen) Smith.

He is survived by his stepmother Loretha Salis of Hilliard; his daughter Shelby; two brothers Ivan (Mary Ann) Salis of Callahan and James W. (Karen) Salis of Hilliard; one sister Michelle Rose of New York; and a cousin E.C. (Verna) Salis.

Private services will be held later.

THOMAS SCOTT WILLIAMS



Thomas Scott Williams, 84, of Callahan, went to be with the Lord on December 18, 2019. He was born November 29, 1935 in Limestone, Tennessee

and also raised there. Tom had lived in Callahan since 1972.

Tom retired from St. Regis Paper Company. He also served as Port Commissioner of Nassau County Ocean, Highway and Port Authority. He was a member of First United Methodist Church; President of the Greater Nassau County Chamber of Commerce; Callahan Masonic Lodge #32; Scottish Rite-Morocco Temple; and Northeast Florida Fair Association. He was the Chairman of the First Relay for Life Event in Nassau County; and was Nassau County's Volunteer of the Year in 1998.

He is preceded in death by his parents Ted and Pearl Williams; his brother Frank Williams; sister Louise Miracle; and nephew Jerry Light.

He is survived by his wife, Diane; three children Tammy (Jay) Salmon, Kimberly Williams and Randy (Teresa) Williams; seven grandchildren, Robbie (Tina) Williams, Tommy (Taylor) Williams, Dylan Williams, Taylor Salmon, Morgan Salmon, Ashley Williams, Zach (Mary) Williams; and seven great-grandchildren Hunter Williams, Tucker Williams, Vivienne Chunn, Tate Williams, Emily Williams, Austyn Williams and Bradley Williams.

A memorial service was held Saturday, December 21 at Callahan First United Methodist Church officiated by Pastor Daniel Search.

Condolences may be expressed at: www.nassaufh.com.

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

EILEEN S. WOLFORD

Eileen S. Wolford, 69, of Hilliard, formerly of Acadia, Florida, went home to be with the Lord Monday, December 16, 2019. She was born May 27, 1950 in Torrington, Connecticut and was raised in Sarasota, Florida. She was married for 44 years to her late husband, Bruce. She was a homemaker and loving mother of three children.

She is preceded in death by her husband Bruce Wolford; parents Carl, Sr. and Leta Burchard; brothers Carl Burchard, Jr. and Byron Burchard; and a sister Joan Voorhees.

She is survived by her children Gina Bost (Stacy Hall) of Acadia, Andy (Sherry) Wolford of Acadia and Robin (Matt) Toy of Hilliard; grandchildren Kenneth Pelham, Tyler Bost, Tanner Wolford, Hannah Toy, Whitney Toy, Austin Hall and Layton Hall; great-granddaughter Emily Pelham; a sister Lynn Choate of Sarasota; and a number of nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles.

Memorialization will be by cremation.
Condolences may be expressed at www

Condolences may be expressed at www. shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF JAMES DONNIE CREWS, JR.

January 7, 1971 – January 24, 2000

In loving memory of my baby son on his birthday. Twenty years have gone by since you've passed. There's not a day that you're not missed and loved. You're like a star in the sky, we don't have to see you to know you're always with us.

Love, Mama and family



Visit us anytime at: www.mywestsidejournal.com or Look for us on Facebook!

Top 5 County Teachers of the Year Announced



Leigh Ann Brubaker, Hilliard Elementary School



Heather Drury, Callahan Intermediate School



Whitney Jones, Wildlight Elementary School

Each fall, all 16 schools in the county are provided with the criteria that apply to the Florida Department of Education's Teacher of the Year selection program and each school utilizes these guidelines to select a school winner. From the 16 winners, the selection is cut down to five finalists for County Teacher of the Year. The five finalists were announced Friday, December 20. They are: Leigh Ann Brubaker, Hilliard Elementary School

3rd Grade; Heather Drury, Callahan Intermediate School 5th Grade English Language Arts; Whitney Jones, Wildlight Elementary School 2nd Grade; Ashley Murray, Yulee High School 9th, 10th & 11th Grades English, Intensive Reading, and Journalism; and Patrick Schinella, Yulee Middle School 8th Grade Pre-Algebra & Algebra I Honors

The process for selecting the Nassau



Ashley Murray, Yulee High School

County Teacher of the Year involves several steps. Round One: each school winner must submit three essays in response to prompts from the state nomination packet as well as a resume and lesson plan. Each school winner is also video-recorded teaching a 20 to 30-minute lesson of their submitted lesson plan. The Nassau County Teacher of the Year Selection Team then meets to score each school nominee's resume,



Patrick Schinella, Yulee Middle School

essays, lesson plan and video to identify the five finalists for the district.

Round Two: the five finalists must then complete two additional essays from the state packet. The selection team meets a second time to conduct interviews with the five finalists and score their remaining essays. Criteria from both rounds are tallied to select the district winner.

Once the district winner has been

announced at the Nassau Education Foundation Gala, the Nassau County Teacher of the Year's video and packet are submitted for the statewide Florida Teacher of the Year selection process.

The Florida Department of Education selects five state finalists from among 72 district winners, conducts a similar selection process, and announces the Florida Department of Education Teacher of the Year in July of each summer at an awards

ceremony in Orlando.

Since 2006, Nassau County has had four district winners selected as state finalists: Dan Snyder of FBHS in 2006, Belinda Nease of Southside Elementary in 2010 and Kelly Burnette of YHS in 2011. The district's fourth state finalist, Jean Lamar, was selected as the Florida Teacher of the Year in 2009.

