

VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 19

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2021



# Pigeon Creek Primitive Baptist Church Celebrates 200 Years

Dawn S. West

As I stepped out of my car on the grounds of Pigeon Creek Primitive Baptist Church Saturday morning, I felt as if I had stepped into a piece of heaven. The property is beautiful with a white church on one side and a church cemetery on the other. The Lord provided a slight breeze for this special occasion making the day even better. After months and months of research and preparation by members of The Florida Baptist Historical Society and the Baptist History Preservation Society, a beautiful marker was unveiled celebrating that Pigeon Creek Baptist Church was the first Baptist Church in the state of Florida and has been so for 200 years. There have been many hours of work digging through historical documents and church minutes.

The actual anniversary was January 7, 1821. However, due to the ongoing pandemic, the church leaders chose to postpone the event until things were better. Saturday, November 20 a

beautiful 5 ½ feet wide by 8 feet tall blue granite memorial marker was unveiled. The marker, with a summary of the Pigeon Creek Church history, was a gift of the Baptist History Preservation Society. The Preservation Society has placed 24 monuments in 13 states.

In a rural area, just across the boundary line between the Territory



tradition, observed their 200th anniversary last Saturday.

Liberty Baptist Church Pastor Adam Pierce is a member of the Baptist History Preservation Society and was instrumental in helping to gather people and the history of the church. Mrs. Myra

Shuman, Pigeon Creek Church Clerk, shared that the founding documents of the church have remained unchanged. This was truly a joint effort of many people and what a great job they did.

Brother Lester Nelson accepted a certificate on behalf of the Historical Society. Several members of the church were on hand and Brother Lester led them in the singing of two songs, sang from original books. The final song was 'The Parting Hand' sharing God's provision and protection until we meet again.

Congratulations on the many achievements of this special church. May God continue to bless them and their service to Him.





and the State of Georgia, in Nassau County, the church was established on that first Sunday of 1821. Charter members included five men and seven women. The church is located in Boulogne off Road on Pigeon Creek Church Road. Now, two centuries later, the church now Primitive Baptist faith and practice

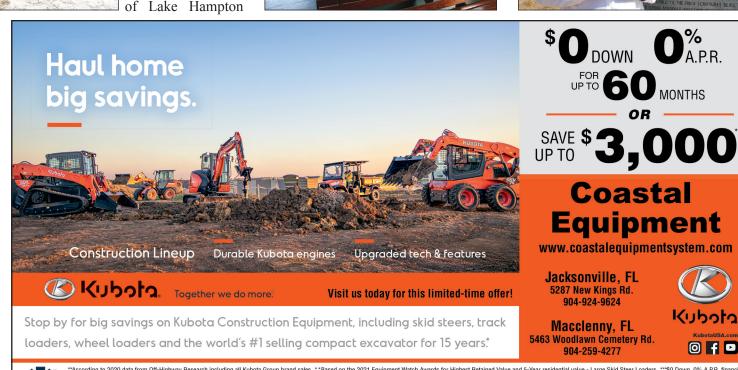








POSTAL PATRON





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M Word w From the Publisher

Happy Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving just makes me smile. I love the colors of fall and I love pumpkins. Not jacko-lanterns, pumpkins. It's a beautiful time of the year and a special time to make memories. I can well remember Thanksgiving in my younger days. Most years, we spent Thanksgiving in South Carolina with my grandparents

and cousins. My mom's parents and sister lived there. I guess we would Wednesday leave once school was out. yes...students used to go to school on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. We'd load up in whatever

vehicle dad had and off we would go. Back then, there was no I-95, so we would travel US 17. Now that dates me! I remember always watching the railroad track and once we lost it, we were getting close. We had a blast with our cousins playing the entire time. Once a little older, I do remember grandma always fixing chicken and dumplings with Thanksgiving dinner. It was so good and so are the memories.

I have so much to be thankful for: my husband, a loving family and friends, precious memories, but most of all, I am so thankful to have Jesus as my Lord and Savior. For without Jesus...I am nothing. He directs my path, as long as I don't interfere. Without Him there would be no paper. I am beyond thankful for such faithful advertisers that continue to support our

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paper. I'm thankful for our readers who are so kind to send letters and emails of encouraging words; or those I see around town to take time to let me know how they appreciate our paper.

There can never be enough 'thankfulness' in the world. I know our world, as we know it, is completely crazy at times. However, we

must take our focus off of the world and place it back into God's hands. After all, He is in control. Why we continue to take these worries to bed with us is beyond me, however, I also do it. As a wise pastor once said, "Each night, give your worries to the Lord. He's

up all night and He's in control." We are to lay our burdens down. Many times I've said, when stress and worries come, look up! Keep your focus on God and your troubles will fade. Worry has never solved anything.

I pray that this Thanksgiving, you will truly take time to be thankful. It's really not hard to think about what you're thankful for? Did you wake up this morning? Did you have food to eat today? Remember, each breath we take is from God. Do I have heartache and problems? Sure I do but I don't dwell on them. That won't help anything.

I pray that we all will have a special Thanksgiving. Make some special memories and take time to enjoy the day. You'll be thankful that you did! Happy Thanksgiving!

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Jawn S. West

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.

#### Fair Elections

Dear Editor,

Though the 2020 election did not go the way many wanted, Trump lost. It has been a year so please get back to your lives of less coronavirus risk and an economy that will stabilize once the shock and disruptions subside. There are many issues that Americans disagree on but these discourses should be addressed with reasonable debate and actions.

Should Trump run for president in 2024 please don't back this unqualified, corrupt, lying sociopath driven by greed and power to create an autocracy. This should not be debatable as his performance in and out of office confirms this. He should remain at his

Mar-a-Lago Home for "Very Stable Geniuses".

I also observe, unlike the cruel way that you express in your opinion pieces that President Joe Biden has very good acuity and an expansive vocabulary. Much more than Donald Trump displays. Oh, and Biden got an infrastructure package passed!

Consider supporting intelligent, qualified candidates of good character for this top office and all elected positions to keep our democratic republic.

U.S. elections are and have been fair and accurate. Please don't subscribe to conspiracy theories that say that they are not.

MAGA - Make Autocrats Go Away! Debra Wilcox

Leftover Turkey Casserole

3 cups cornbread, cut into 1" chunks

3 cups chopped turkey meat, cooked

1 cup chopped frozen green beans

1/2 cup frozen peas

1 cup chopped carrots

## VETERANS ASSISTANCE **Disability • Healthcare Pension • Aid & Attendance** 904-548-4670

# FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

Gray Gables Baptist Church 54031 Church Rd. • Callahan Mondays 9:30 am - 2:30 p.m.

Callahan First Baptist Church 45090 Green Ave. • Callahan Thursday, December 2 • 10:30 am - 12 pm

In the Kitchen... 4 tablespoons butter, unsalted

- 1/4 cup flour salt & pepper
- 1 cup turkey gravy

1 cup whole milk

1 cup mozzarella cheese, shredded

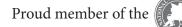
Preheat the oven to 350° and add the butter to a medium sized saucepan melting it on medium heat. Add the flour to the pan and whisk well together for 1 minute before adding in the gravy, milk and mozzarella, whisking until smooth. Add the cornbread, turkey, peas, carrots and green beans to a 9x13 pan and cover with the gravy before cooking for 20-25 minutes covered, followed by 10 minutes uncovered.





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# WESTSIDE



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## Cook Off/Blood Drive Wreaths Across America Event Held



The Blank Check Society recently held their 6th Annual Boston Butt Cook Off, Blood Drive and Wreaths Across America event. This fundraising event was a great success due in part with BCS Nassau County Florida Chapter, Brantley County Georgia Chapter and especially to the local community. The VFW Post 10095 in Hilliard proudly hosted this year's event.

There were 5 delicious entries in the Pork Butt Cook Off that served over 100 dinners. Many thanks to our three celebrity judges: Nassau County Commissioner District 4 and Chair Thomas R. Ford, Nassau County Sheriff Bill Leeper and Culinary Chef Karen Arnold. Taking First Place in the Cook-Off was Wesley "Cowboy" Watson; Second Place went to Mike Mekara; and Third Place went to Jimmy Legare. The Peoples Choice Award went to Wesley "Cowboy" Watson. Special Thanks to our contestants, AA Bottled Gas Company Callahan for the generous Award Gifts and Callahan Barbecue for the delicious coleslaw.

The ongoing Blood Drive was also successful with 26 blood donors (1 double red donor). Especially now, there continues to be a critical need for blood. Please donate when you can and help your community.

Once every dollar had been tallied,

we were able to write a check to Wreaths Across America Jacksonville National Cemetery for \$6,200! Thank you to everyone that came out! BCS ROCKS!

# JUST MY OPINION

#### Roger R. West

This week I was going to voice my opinion on the verdict in the Kyle Rittenhouse trial. However, it's Thanksgiving week and the Good Lord knows we all have had our fill of lunacy so I decided that this is the time for something uplifting. By the way, I am totally elated that Kyle was found innocent of all charges!

Last week, Fox Nation hosted its 3rd Annual Patriot Awards here in Florida where everyday heroes across the United States who have shown dedication to our nation and the values we hold dear were honored. An eighth grader from Sonoma, California was invited to read her award winning essay answering the question "What does patriotism mean to you?" The essay contest was sponsored by the local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) in California.

Charlotte Bevan walked out on stage and recited her essay to the attendees with great poise and confidence and received a standing ovation. That's when Tucker Carlson walked on stage and surprised her by awarding her Fox Nation's Young Patriot Award.

This is her essay titled, "Flying our Flag High".

Patriotism is a word often used to describe a person who is proud and loves their country. Many people are patriotic including me. I'm proud to be living in America because we have freedom. We stand proud that the founders of our country have created a strong foundation for the generations to come. I have always been proud to be American and continue the legacy that was left behind by those that created our Declaration of Independence.

Ralph Waldo Emerson states, "America is another name for opportunity." America gives many people the chance to succeed for their family. I have a chance in America to change the world and to make a footprint in my country. An example of this is that Alexander Hamilton was an immigrant from a Caribbean Island. He made a change by fighting for our freedom with George Washington. This shows that no matter who you are, America gives you a chance to change the world around you for the better and to make a lasting impact on generations to come. Patriotism is often demonstrated by displaying the American flag which was created by Bob Heft. It was originally created by Betsy Ross, but later Bob Heft changed it slightly adding the forty-ninth and fiftieth stars to the flag. He also moved the stars into the neat rows that we know today. Other ways that you will see patriotism displayed is when people celebrate the 4th of July holiday or they will stand when the National Anthem is played at sporting events. I see it locally at our hometown 4th of July parade and festival every year. Most people dress in red, white and blue and celebrate with all American cuisine.

In conclusion, America is a strong country and inspires patriotism in me. It is a place of faith, hope and happiness for me and my family. From the time of the American Revolution, people have held different perspectives of what patriotism looks like. Some see it as hanging a flag, wearing red, white and blue and some just hold it in their hearts and show their pride in their daily actions. However, my definition of patriotism is loving others and doing what is right for my country.

I agree with Charlotte 100%. Enjoy and Happy Thanksgiving to all.

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









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# Annual Town of Hilliard Christmas Tree Lighting Saturday, November 27 • 6 p.m.

The Town of Hilliard will hold their annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Saturday, November 27 at 6 p.m. on the lawn of the Hilliard Life Care Center located on the corner of US Hwy. 1 and Third Street.

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

If you are interested in being part of our community Christmas caroling, please contact Charlie Hahn at 904-845-7286.

> For more information please contact Town Hall. 845-3555 • 15859 West CR 108 • Hilliard

# Thank You

Pastor Benjie Loyd, River Road Baptist Church, Hilliard



Thanksgiving is here again. If you are alive, you have much to be thankful for. If you are a Christian, your thanksgiving list could and should go on for days. I am not oblivious to horrors of many of the bad things that have transpired in our world this year. In many ways, this has been a year like no other. Many have experienced, untimely and out of turn deaths this year because of the virus and other tragedies. Personally, I do not know of many families that have not experienced some

hardship in the past year. With all of that being said, there is still so much to be thankful for. This article will be a little different. The remainder of the article will be me thanking God for the salvation that He has given through Christ.

Father, I thank you for Who you are and what You have done. I thank you for sending your Son to rescue me and pay the price for my sin through His perfect sacrifice. Jesus, I thank you for coming and laying down your life in my place. Holy Spirit, I thank you for opening my eyes to see the wonder and the truth of the gospel and giving me new life.

Thank you for new life and a new and living hope. Thank you for your sustaining grace in my life. Thank you for your continued provision for me, my family, the church, the community, and the world. Thank you for your work in my life as you are slowly, but surely, transforming me into the image of Jesus. Thank you for your Word that is lamp unto my feet and light unto my path. Thank you for a hope that is greater than life and death. Thank you for the hope of the resurrection. Thank you for taking the fear of death away. Thank you for the promised hope of a better tomorrow. Thank you for accepting a sinful wretch into your family. Thank you for making me an heir of God and a co-heir with Christ. Thank you for your mercies that are new every morning. Thank you for being the source of every good and perfect gift in my life. Thank you for the people that you have put into my life. Thank you for continued health. Thank you for the wisdom that is given to me from the truths of your word. Thank you for always having my steps planned out before me, before I ever make the first move. Thank you for numbering the hairs of my head. Thank you for knowing me better than I know myself. Thank you for all the ways that you have guided me and guarded me in ways that I am completely unaware. Thank you for sustaining through all of life's hardships. Thank you for never abandoning me. Thank you for never giving up on me.

Thank you Father for being the best Dad I could ever have. Thank you Jesus for being the best Brother I could ever. Thank you Holy Spirit for being the best Comfort and Companion that I could ever have. Forgive me when all of this is lost on me and I am ungrateful.

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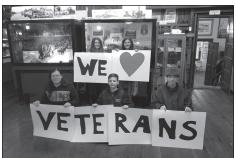
### Thank You from the Historical Society!

Emily Baumgartner and John Hendricks, Co-Chairs

On behalf of the West Nassau Historical Society, we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that helped us plan and prepare for our Hobos, Hotrods and Heroes Festival, Car Show and Veterans Appreciation. The weather did not cooperate and even though we had to cancel the outdoor activities, the Joel Pace kids' area, history museum and Student Art Works exhibit continued indoors. We are an all-volunteer nonprofit and our main purposes are to highlight our county's rich history and culture and to maintain the 1881 Callahan Train Depot. We rely heavily on donations and monies raised from events such as Hobo Day to achieve these goals. Even though our fundraising on November 6th was dampened by the weather, we are extremely grateful for everyone who helped us prepare for this, our 5th autumn fundraising celebration.



First, we would like to thank all of our veterans who continue to protect our freedoms and to those who braved the weather and came out to Hobo Day. Without our vets we would not have a past to preserve. Thanks to Mayor Davis and the Town of Callahan for allowing us to use the historic rail bed for Hobo Day. Kudos goes to Callahan Cruisers and Cochrane's Collision Center for their continuing support and preparation for the car show. Thanks to Brandies Ace, Meridian Waste, Nassau County Record and Westside Journal for their help and support prior to the event. A big shout out, to Joel Pace Piano and Music, for bringing his instruments and games inside and for 501st Squad 7 for providing the Star War characters.



Thanks goes to the six Nassau County art teachers and their students who provided 138 pieces of art works for us to display inside the depot. It was great to see all the children checking out the art and having pure and simple fun inside the Callahan Train Depot. Our children are the future caretakers of our history and culture.

Special thanks to entertainment chair Jerry Peterson for putting together a great entertainment lineup. Thank you to Jerry Ganey and Patti Peterson Eason for their help in the days leading up to Hobo Day and Tom Peterson for his work in getting the Kyle Ellis bell ready to mount.

Lastly, we would like to thank each and every member of the West Nassau Historical Society who went above and beyond what was asked of them to ensure that we have the Callahan Depot, caboose and grounds ready for a safe and enjoyable event. You all continue to show that by working together, all things are possible. The Historical Society is always looking for new members to join us in planning future projects. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm at the historic Callahan train depot. Please come on out and join us.

# CHURCH NEWS

Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church, 541668 US Hwy. 1, Callahan invites families to a FREE Breakfast With Santa, Saturday, December 11 from 9-11 a.m. Children's Christmas crafts and a visit with Santa. For more information call 904-879-3662.

Attend the church of your choice this Sunday.





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"I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds." Psalm 9:1

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Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm Sunday School @ 9:30 am Pastor Walter C. Cooper, Jr.

Thursdays @ Noon



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# Christmas Cards for Veterans in Hospice Care



It's Veterans Last Patrol's 3rd

Annual Operation Holiday Salute!

Teachers, managers, families, coaches,

associations, companies, etc. This is

a great group project. There are many

veterans in hospice care who could use

extra love this holiday season. Please

take an hour or so out of your day to

write to them! Here's how: Create your

own cards; buy a batch of cards, send

postcards, they will love it all! Send as

many as you would like. The more the

Last Patrol: Last year we obtained

Here is the message from Veteran's

merrier.

Please mail your cards no later than <u>December 3</u> to: Veteran Last Patrol 140B Venture Blvd. Spartanburg, SC 29306

> and delivered over 30,000 Christmas cards. Americans across the nation participated in this amazing operation to bring a little joy to veterans on their Last Patrol.

This year our goal is 50,000. Please send cards addressed to: Dear Hero or Dear Veteran. Our packaging and postage expenses are significant to get these cards to dying Veterans. Would you consider making a small donation?

To learn more about Veteran's Last Patrol's year-round efforts by visiting www.veteranslastpatrol.org.

### 4-H'er of the Month Hope Downing



Hope only joined 4-H this year but has fully committed to embodying all it means to be a 4-H member. Hope wanted to participate in the dairy goat project and participate in the Northeast Florida Fair. Hope then picked up the adorable "Spanky" for her project and joined Barnyard and Beyond. She's attended all her club meetings, participated in the sheep/goat showmanship clinic, attended the livestock judging workshop and competed in the contest (winning 2nd place intermediate team and 5th overall individual!). Hope was dedicated to helping her club throughout the

fair, exhibited wonderful kindness and sportsmanship, and isn't going to disappear just because the fair is over. She was nominated by her club leaders and other parents who witnessed her dedication and enthusiasm as a new 4-H'er.

Great job, Hope!

The Nest, A Women's Center, is in dire need of new or gently used Baby Items, Baby Clothes, Diapers, Maternity Clothes, etc. Donations may be dropped off at the Westside Journal office, 450034 SR 200, Callahan.





The Callahan Fire Department will host a Movie at the Park event Saturday, December 4 on the evening of the Callahan Christmas parade. The event will be held at Ewing Park in Callahan and activities begin at 6 p.m. with the movie at 7:45 p.m. The event is called Remember the Magic and the movie will be The Polar Express. Families are encouraged to bring their blankets, chairs and friends to enjoy the show. There will be eats, treats and fun things to do and the event is all free. There will be a collection of non-perishable food

items to deliver to local food banks. Please help them Stuff the Big Red Truck with food! There will be a food truck to pick up a hot dog and also sugar cookies and hot chocolate. There will be a bounce house for the children to play on until movie time. Children, don't forget to make time to visit Santa's table and write your special letter to Santa! What a great time for families to come out and enjoy a special night together without any cost! Make your plans to attend now!

## CMS Students Chosen for Honor Band

On Thursday, November 18, over 200 students from Duval and Nassau Counties auditioned for the Duval/ Nassau Honor Band. Chosen to represent Callahan Middle School in this prestigious ensemble are shown (l-r), Kyle Caranza, Jocelyn Smith and Cohlton Moore. These students will rehearse and perform under the direction of Dr. David Plack, Director of Athletic bands at Florida State University January 27-29, 2022 at Atlantic Coast High School.

Great job to these talented musicians!





Callahan

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ountry

Stroll through a Live Nativity and pet the animals. Tour a Gingerbread House, Ride the Christmas Express Train and walk through our Winter Wonderland complete with snow!

## Commemorating the Life of Abdu-l-Baha

#### Stan Liteborn

Baha-u-llah, prophet founder of the Bahai Faith, bequeathed to his son, Abdu-l-Baha, the momentous task to carry forward the teachings and promotion of the faith by word and example. Thus, in the early 1900's, learning of his release from over 50 years imprisonment, the few Bahais in North America implored Abdu-l-Baha to come from the Holy Land and share the Bahai Faith's teachings with their fellow countrymen.

In his book, 239 Days, Allan Ward wrote that from his arrival in April, until his departure on December 5, 1912, Abdu-l-Baha "...amazed and captivated the American public and press alike. Reporters were amazed by his zeal, enthusiasm, animation, hope and faith all which seemed to run over and inundate everything..." During those 239 days, Abdu-l-Baha traveled from north to south, from New York to California, and back again. He met with thousands of people from all religious and occupational backgrounds. They sought his wisdom, benefitted from his council and heard his message. It is the

message of religion renewed: God is One; Religion is one; Mankind is one.

He further clarified, NOW, for all people and nations, God calls all humanity to embrace this oneness in our hearts and behavior. The commitment to oneness supports such firm spiritual principles as: elimination of all prejudices; equality of women and men; universal education; and spiritual solutions to economic problems. It requires absolute justice, truthfulness, trustworthiness, honesty, love, kindness and compassion in all affairs of life. It means that the earth is but one country and mankind its citizens. It will ultimately usher in The Kingdom of God on Earth...the well-being of all mankind, its peace and security.

And so it is that Bahais the world over will observe the centenary of the passing of this spiritual luminary Saturday, November 27 from 2-4 p.m. at the Martin Luther King Center on Elm Street in Fernandina Beach. There will be a film, refreshments and opportunity for discussion. For more information, call Stan 904-704-0568, Christine 703-609-7523 or Sharon 904-321- 6936.



### NASSAU COUNTY IS ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS OF PROPERTIES FOR POTENTIAL ACQUISITION THROUGH THE **CONSERVATION LAND ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (CLAM)**

NOMINATION DEADLINE APPROACHING

## Hilliard Town News

H//

#### Dawn S. West

The Hilliard Town Council met Thursday night for their final meeting of November. The first order of business concerned a septic tank exception for Carey and Dawn Carter for their property located off of CR 108. "All the proper paperwork has been turned in

and the Carters fit the 'except' ordinance," said Town Clerk Lisa Purvis. "They will be using town water but there is no sewer hookup in that area." The council approved

the exception.

The council discussed the next item briefly, which concerned Ordinance 2021-10

permitting the use of golf carts on roads within the town limits. Council President John Beasley and Attorney Christian Waugh still have to add a few more details before the ordinance is ready for a vote.

The following item concerned approval of a budgeted item, the Capital Belt Press repair project. "We have been having problems with the belt press since August, so it's time to be repaired," said Public Works Director Ritchie Rowe. The council approved the repair up to \$15,000.

The following two items concerned approval of projects on going at the Hilliard Airpark. All funding is paid 100% by the FAA and FDOT. The items include: AECOM payable of

\$4,125.80 for the new Box Hangar & Hangar Repair; and AECOM payable of \$8,373.20 for the Equipment Storage Building.

The next agenda item was also a payable to Mittauer & Associates in the amount of \$9,575 for the CDBG 20 NR Water Main Replacement. This is

part of the DEO CDBG Grant funded project and Capital funded project match lump sum contract of

\$105,700. The final agenda item was for council approval to Quadient Inc. in the amount of \$9,475 for a Folder, Inserter, Application

Envelope stuffing machine. This will replace the old machine.

**A D A** 

In closing comments, everyone was reminded of the Hilliard Christmas Tree Lighting on Saturday, November 27 at 6 p.m. on the lawn of the Life Care Center of Hilliard. There will be singing, hot apple cider, cookies and Santa Claus & his sleigh!

Purvis advised the council that three of the six projects submitted to the legislature were selected. The projects are: Oxford Street Lift Station to Main Lift Station; Community Center/ Hurricane Shelter; and Oxford Street Park Phase IV.

The next meeting of the council will be Thursday, December 2 at 7 p.m.

### **NCCOA Virtual Silent Auction**

Have you registered? NCCOA "Glimpse of Tuscany" Virtual Silent Auction is Right Around the Corner! Here's what you need to know about Nassau County Council on Aging's "Glimpse of Tuscany" Silent Auction, Dec. 4-11 (all proceeds will help feed seniors in Nassau County):

 Register today! Text FeedSeniors to 72727 or visit nccoa.home.qtego. net. It's super-easy and will only take a minute or two.

• The auction is 100% virtual...you can even participate from home in your PJs!

• We have close to 120 donations from local businesses and individuals... vacation home, cruise, Tuscan picnic for two, Megalodon shark tooth, freshwater pearls, handmade charcuterie boards, fine wine, gift baskets galore...even a s'mores fire pit!

• You may also donate online...it's a wonderful way to end the year on a high note!

• Auction closes on Sat., Dec. 11 at 12 midnight. (If you have a winning bid, you will receive pick-up instructions.)

Florida Blue is our generous partner for this year's silent auction, and sponsors include Baptist Health-Nassau, Millennium Physicians Group, First Federal Bank, Walmart, Rick Davis Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram, Osprey Village, Bill Gingrich & Penney Burnett, and Geoff & Marjorie Clear.



#### Nomination Period Ends: December 31, 2021

The Nassau County Conservation Land Acquisition and Management (CLAM) program was created to preserve and conserve the county's natural, historic, and working lands resources by identifying, ranking, and assessing conservation lands for acquisition and management.

The County is accepting nominations of properties for potential acquisition by the County through the CLAM Program from any person or organization, including the County, nonprofit organizations, and local, regional, state, or federal governmental entities. To nominate a property for potential acquisition, the nominator shall submit an application to the Nassau County Planning Department. Nominators may nominate an entire parcel for acquisition in fee simple or only a specific portion thereof or interest therein. In nominating properties, nominators should consider, at a minimum, the information contained in the Conservation Plan, the CLAM Resource Rankings Map, and the CLAM Manual.

Nominations must be received by the Nassau County Planning Department no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 31, 2021. Nominations received after the nomination period will not be considered. CLAM documents and nomination forms can be found at the following website or can be picked up and dropped off in person at the address listed below:

https://www.nassaucountyfl.com/933/Conservation-Land-Acquisition-Management Nassau County Planning Department 96161 Nassau Place • Yulee, Florida 32097

Remember...NCCOA's Silent Auction is virtual so you can bid and donate from anywhere! Contact Liz Dunn, NCCOA Marketing & Communications Director, ldunn@nassaucountycoa.org, for additional information.



# **Flashes Mangled by Tigers**



Holden McMillen

Under the light of the neon moon and the glow of stadium lights, both grandstands packed to the gills with 1,181 hopeful fans and alumni, and the eyes of Northeast Florida garnering attention courtesy of the local news taking residence in Hilliard. All these things combined with game time temperatures being in the high 40s and the stage is set for a battle with high stakes as the Hilliard Flashes returned home rested from their bye week to welcome the undefeated Union County Tigers in the FHSAA Class 1A Regional Semifinal game.

After winning the coin toss, the Flashes elected to defer the opening kickoff to the second half. With the atmosphere electric, the contest began and the Tigers set up shop at their own 42 yard line. They wasted no time marching down the field using their strong run game to punch it into the end



zone from a yard out. With the extra point doinked off the right crossbar, the Tigers jumped out to an early 6-0 lead. After the Flashes punted the ball, the defense stood tall and got a nice break when Walker Avera recovered a fumble after the handoff was botched. But, the offense couldn't capitalize on the turnover and the Tigers made the Flashes pay when they relied on the run game to get them into the end zone, this time from 13 yards out. With the 2-point conversion good, the Tigers extended the lead to 14-0. But, the Flashes punched back and used a big return on the kickoff, some complimentary penalties, and the stretch run game as DJ Coston took the toss sweep on the left side and torched the Tigers for a 19-yard score. With the extra point good, the Flashes cut the deficit in half, finding themselves down 14-7 at the end of the 1st quarter. With the Flashes having good field position, the offense went to work and took advantage of it when Lyle Bennett found Dylan Coston wide open down the near sideline and snatched a Tiger defender's ankles away for a 56 yard score. With the extra point good, the Flashes evened the score at 14. Following, it was a defensive struggle

for both teams. The Flashes defense forced another turnover and was similar to the first one, this time it was Damon Kibler who emerged with the pigskin. After that, the Flashes couldn't capitalize off of that turnover. Following a punt, the Tigers marched down the field and scored from 10 yards out. With the extra point good, the Tigers went into halftime with a slim 21-14 lead.

The second half, however, things began to look bleak for the Flashes. After stumbling out of the gate on offense, the Tigers started to turn the heat up a little as they marched down the field and was knocking on the doorstep to stretch the lead. But, the Flashes' defense rose up and limited the Tigers to a field goal attempt. With the 24 yard field goal good, the Tigers stretched the lead to 24-14. That's when the floodgates began to open. On the ensuing possession, the Flashes offense was driving: but an errant throw ended

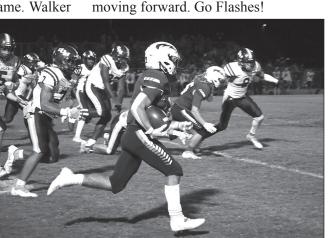
> up in the waiting arms of a Tigers defender. With this, the offense went right to work and capitalized on the turnover with a 1-yard touchdown run on a quarterback sneak. With the extra point good, the Tigers extended the lead 31-14. To make matters worse for the Flashes, the Tigers defense started to get involved in the scoring fun as they intercepted Bennett's pass on

the right side for a 51-yard score. With the extra point good, the Tigers left the quarter feeling good, leading 38-14.

The 4th quarter, it was more of the same. The Tigers continued rolling, scoring 14 more points. The offense continued to roll against the Flashes defense, once again using the run game to do so. Slowly, methodically, and churning out big plays and the drive was capped off with a 2-yard touchdown run. With the extra point good, the Tigers strengthened their lead to 45-14. And to drive the final nail on the Flashes coffin, the defense got back to scoring again with a 75 yard pick six. With the extra point good, the Tigers were sitting pretty with a healthy lead. As the final sound of the bell was heard, the Hilliard Flashes' once promising season ended in a whimper as they were mangled by the Tigers 52-14 to end the Flashes' season with a final record of 9-2. Offensively, it was a struggle for the Flashes as they were able to generate 249 yards of total offense and 89 of those yards came on the ground. Lyle Bennett had a tough night in the office, going 12/31 for 175 yards, a touchdown and 3 interceptions. In his final game as a Flash, DJ Coston had 17 carries for 111 yards and had 3 catches for 14 yards. His brother Dylan had 4 catches for 89 yards and a score and Bradyn Matto had 5 catches for 72 yards.

Defensively, the Flashes forced 2 turnovers in the first half but struggled to contain the Tigers run game. Walker

Avera and Dylan Coston were active on defense for the Flashes, Avera tallying 10 tackles and Coston 9 tackles and a pass breakup on the night; Damon Kibler had 8 tackles and a fumble recovery; Angelo Benjamin, had 5 tackles; Brogan Johns, Carson Newkirk and Tucker Pickett each had 4 tackles; Colton Conner had 4





tackles and a quarterback pressure.

While the final result isn't what we wanted, the Hilliard Flashes had another solid season. Thank you to all the supporters of this team as they continue to build on their success moving forward. Go Flashes!



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# OREMC Foundation Makes Inaugural Grant Awards

The Okefenoke REMC Foundation has awarded its first round of grants following its establishment earlier this year. A total of \$61,050.79 was awarded to 19 organizations, including six in Nassau County:



The Storehouse of Northeast Florida, Inc., \$2,500. OREMC Foundation Trustee Ramona Jones presented Carrie Mizell, Director of The Storehouse, with a \$2,500 grant to support their food distribution efforts.



Barnabas Center, Inc., \$2,500. Tania Yount, Chief Development Officer for the Barnabas Center, gratefully accepted a grant award from OREMC Foundation Trustee Ramona Jones.



West Nassau Historical Society, Inc. \$1,000. Members of the West Nassau Historical Society were pleased to receive a grant award from OREMC Foundation Trustee Ramona Jones.

Pictured (l to r) are: Jerry Peterson, Vice President; John Hendricks, President; Emily Baumgartner, Treasurer and front office; and Marge Powell, Chair of the Art Committee.

Pinky Promise Foundation, Inc., \$3,000. Pinky Promise Board Member Dawn West and Founder Sybil Purvis were award from OREMC Foundation Trustee Ramona Jones.

The Nest, A Women's Center, Inc., \$3,000. Co-Founders of The Nest were beyond joyful to accept a grant from OREMC Foundation Trustee Ramona Jones to support their Diaper Drive. Pictured (l to r) are: Ramona Jones, Lisa Miller, Executive Director; Rhonda Hall, Financial Manager; and Megan Hammond, Medical Manager/ Sonographer.



Micah's Place will be receiving their grant award on Monday, November 22.

"I feel honored and privileged to be part of the OREMC Foundation and to be able to present these grant awards to several community organizations that provide critical support and help meet the needs to our Nassau County residents," reflected OREMC Foundation Trustee Ramona Jones. "It is so nice to do something positive that will help so many people."

The OREMC Foundation is a community development initiative supporting education, community health and economic development in the six Georgia and two Florida counties OREMC serves. Currently, OREMC unclaimed capital credits are the primary funding source. The Foundation Trustees meet quarterly to review applications and make grant awards based on funds available.

The next grant application deadline is January 6, 2022. Applications and information are available online at oremc.com/foundation. #OREMCFoundation



**Dayspring Village** 

excited to receive their grant

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\*Primary Care Research, conducted on behalf of Conviva by Burke, Inc. 2020/2021

### 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:

I. Contact Ashley Turner, Secret Santa Coordinator at 904-845-7501 or ashleyt@ 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.

32<sup>nd</sup> Annual

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 dadkins777@bellsouth.net – 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! www.dayspringvillage.org Call today! 845-7501

AL #5766

WESTSIDE JOURNAL ~ Thursday, November 25, 2021 ~ Page 9

New Beginnings and Milestones

## Teachers of the Year & School Related Employees of the Year

**Callahan Elementary School** 



**Teacher of Year Lindsey Pittman** 



**Support Staff** April Dingman

**Callahan Intermediate School** 



**Teacher of Year** Support Staff Mackenzie Trujillo

Susan Carter **Callahan Middle School** 



**Teacher of Year Teresa Pinkstaff** 



**Support Staff Gay Williams** 



**Teacher of Year** Jessica White

**Hilliard Elementary School** 

**Bryceville Elementary School** 



Support Staff Ansleigh McCannell



**Support Staff Teacher of Year** Lisa Redmond

West Nassau High School



**Teacher of Year Richard Knott** 



Support Staff Lori McKendree

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**Hunter Williams** 

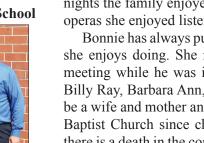


Teacher of Year Latasha Carter Hilliard Middle-Senior High School

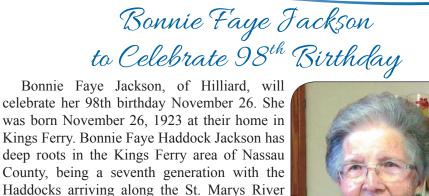




**Alyson McCullough** 



loving parents and strict grandparents. Like most everyone in the area during the 1920's, times were hard and they ate what was grown on the farm. She went to school in Kings Ferry through the 8th grade attending the Eagle Academy, and 9th through 12th grades in Hiliiard. A neighbor





nights the family enjoyed listening to the Grand Ole Opry and one of the first soap operas she enjoyed listening to was When A Girl Marries.

Bonnie has always put her family, home and church at the forefront of everything she enjoys doing. She married Freddie Jackson of Shepherdsville, KY, in 1943, meeting while he was in the U.S. Army. Together they had five children: Larry, Billy Ray, Barbara Ann, Fred and David. Her desire as she was growing up was to be a wife and mother and to keep a neat and clean house. She has attended Ephesus Baptist Church since childhood and brought up her family in the church. When there is a death in the community she cooks food, bakes dessert and delivers it to the home of the grieving family. She's not as active in attending as she once was but still has a concern for the church community and is a faithful prayer warrior.



She still drives, cooks a table full of food along with desserts every Sunday, always has some kind of vegetables growing, enjoys canning, making jellies and preserves, enjoys sewing, quilting and crafts. Most of all she enjoys doing for others and loves when family and friends stop in for a visit.

Happy Birthday Mrs. Bonnie!





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### EMPLOYMENT

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Life Care Center of Hilliard now hiring **RNs and LPNs**, must have FL License. Please apply in person to: 3756 West 3rd Street, Hilliard or fax resume to 904-845-9487, or email to: Loren\_Reddish@lcca. com<mailto:Loren\_Reddish@lcca.com.tfn

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LOOKING FOR DIRECT CARE STAFF for individuals who are developmentally challenged. Must have HS Diploma or GED and pass background screening. Yulee/Fernandina area, call or text 904-507-9976 for more information. tfn

Amelia Hair and Therapy Spa is now hiring talented and established **SYLISTS** (booth renters) to join our team. Please call 904-310-9282 or email: BrendaAmeliaHair@Gmail.com. 112521

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## Common Sense – 101

#### Douglas C. Pearson, Sr.

Recently, we had to replace a window shade. Not that the one installed was broken or inoperative, but it was worn and had some cracks that prevented it from doing what it was designed to do. Did we remove it immediately? No! We searched for the proper replacement and then, and only then, was the purchase made and the process of removal and replacement accomplished.

This tends to go hand in hand with our overall philosophy of living. When desiring to look for other employment an avenue must first be established before submitting any letter of resignation. Before putting a new roof on a house, one must first establish contact with a contractor to do the job, before ripping off the old shingles. When evaluating whether or not we need gas in a vehicle we don't wait until it runs out of gas, before refueling. So on and so forth!

But apparently the current officials in Washington did not complete this required course for life. We have no replacement for our current energy requirements. Yet they have begun cancelling, in earnest, the lifelines to this needed commodity. Now they are surprised that the impact has been felt across the board and that OPEC has rejected their multiple requests to increase production. Uncle Joe has even made that same request to Mexico, which has been laughing at him, along with the rest of the world.

Then there was the Afghanistan disaster. Without regard to national security, and in alleged claims for just that, we have withdrawn completely from a country that we "invested" 20 years of blood, sweat and toil, to establish that security. Now it is run by an archaic "Tribe" that is committed to destroying us. In doing so it appears that nearly 1000 people have been left behind, after the administration assured us that the number was less than 100.

In an effort to guarantee "Good paying Union Jobs", the ports in California only operate a limited number of hours. When finally recognizing the bottle neck, and announcing steps to

resolve the concern, there were about 60 container ships at anchor awaiting a port time to off load their cargos. Now there are over 85 ships at anchor, and Truck Drivers are standing in line. Current estimates are that they wait, at idle, in excess of 17 hours per truck. How many deliveries could be performed in that time frame, which are not being done?

In an effort to get immigration under control/re-imagined Uncle Joe, and his learned folks, have drawn down the security walls and procedures to such a point where the illegal trafficking of aliens is now close to 300% above the worst levels during the previous administration.

To put this into perspective, within days of the Afghanistan exodus, the State Department issued notices to all 50 states on just which could expect refugees and how many each would receive. To this day, the administration cannot tell how many illegal aliens have been deported, granted residence, have been sick with COVID, where they have been relocated or how many have lied about their true identities. Locally, it has been uncovered that over 78 clandestine flights of illegal immigrants have arrived in Jacksonville and no one seems to know just who or where they are.

Finally, recognized as a prime cause of a dwindling job force, more money is being printed to further support those who don't want to work. The month of October did show a slight decline in unemployment. That same report acknowledged that in excess of 4.4 million people elected to completely withdraw from the work force. When it is easier to stay home, and too much of a hassle to go to work, more and more are going to take the easy way out and give up completely. Then we will truly have a socialistic state. To paraphrase a former world leader; There is nothing wrong with Socialism, but eventually you run out of other people's money to pay for it.

It has been said; "You just can't fix stupid!" No, but we can remove ignorance.



# 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.

#### Friday, November 12

Arturo Fernandez Jackson, Jr., 41, 54534 Marsh Road, Callahan: DUI 4th or Subsequent Offense Felony

#### Saturday, November 13

Kevin Wayne Stone, 34, 37068 Shady Lane, Hilliard: Possession Schedule 1-5 Substance; Battery Domestic Violence

#### Friday, November 19

William Cleve Hash, 54, Hilliard: Possession of Methamphetamine; Failure to Appear (x 2)

#### Saturday, November 20

Janice Resseau Spann, 57, Hilliard: Battery Domestic Violence

#### Sunday, November 21

Willis Lee Langdon, 34, Callahan: Sexual Battery; Battery Domestic Violence JoAnn Thorpe, 56, Hilliard: Trespassing Structure Conveyance; Battery on Law Enforcement Officer (x 2)

# Keep Nassau Beautiful 30th Anniversary Celebration

On Saturday, December 4 from 1 - 4 p.m., Keep Nassau Beautiful will celebrate its 30th Anniversary of serving Nassau County residents, visitors and wildlife. The event, held at Mocama Beer Company, Fernandina Beach, is free and open to the public; and will feature live music, a food truck on site, an awards presentation and raffle prizes. Raffle participants will have the opportunity to win the grand prize – a private tour for eight at White Oak Conservation, among other incredible prizes. A portion of every beverage sold at Mocama will benefit Keep Nassau Beautiful. "This is a major milestone for our organization and a lot worth celebrating has happened over the last 30 years," said Lynda Bell, Keep Nassau Beautiful Executive Director, "We're looking forward to acknowledging our volunteers, partners, sponsors, and the KNB community during our anniversary

celebration."

Keep Nassau Beautiful is local organization with a focus on beautification, environmentalism, and sustainability. For thirty years, it has educated and engaged Nassau County residents to protect the environment, reduce litter and waste, and improve the appearance of their communities. Some of its initiatives include Adopt-A-Road, Adopt-A-Spot, and Household Hazardous Waste Collection; annual community cleanup events such as Town of Hilliard Community Cleanup, Saint Mary's River Cleanup, and International Coastal Cleanup; and its newest program, Planting Nassau's Future, a program that has helped Nassau County residents plant more than 1,550 trees since January 2020.

Free event tickets and raffle tickets are available at: https://bit.ly/KNBevent.

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Hilliard

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#### **STANFORD E. BAUGHAM**



Stanford "Stan" E. Baugham, 71, a longtime resident of Hilliard, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, November 9, 2021, doing

what he enjoyed, fishing on the St. Mary's River. He was born in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, to Evelvn Jenkins, he was especially close to his grandparents, Walter Filmore and Ruby Baugham, and had step siblings Ray Jordan and Helen. He married the love of his life, Wendy White Baugham in the summer of '69 and the couple settled in Hilliard soon afterwards. They have been married for 52 years, having celebrated their 50th anniversary with a reception hosted by close family and friends.

Stan worked as an electrician at Union Camp in Folkston: at Whitehouse Paper in Jacksonville: and worked for Johnson Controls in St Marys, Georgia on the submarine base. Stan spent several years traveling to different paper mills across the southeast to teach electrical engineering and vibration analysis. His last job was as an electrician on ships at the dry docks in Mayport. Stan held certifications in electrical engineering and instruction and had medical training as an EMT.

Stan was a true Renaissance man. Most of his hobbies were self-taught including: computer programming, game design, engineering, construction, astronomy, Astro photography, family photography, playing bluegrass music on the guitar, animation, and painting. He loved to fish, travel in his camper, listen to Johnny Cash, and had a fascination for the movie and characters of The Wizard of Oz. Stan was a known animal-lover. He will be missed by his precious family pets.

In addition to his beautiful wife, Stan leaves behind three children Phil (Lisa) Baugham of Atlanta, Renee (Matt) Keniston of Kentucky and Tanya (Michael) Miller of North Carolina; seven grandchildren Britta, Arilyn, Gareth and Sawyer Baugham and Kelly, Mark and Alaina Keniston. A family man. Stan is mourned by a plethora of inlaws and nieces and nephews.

The family received friends prior to the graveside service Saturday, November 20 at Oakwood Cemetery in Hilliard.

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

Condolences may be expressed at www. callahanfh.com.

Since 1996

# **OBITUARIES**

#### NATHAN C. BLACKMAN, SR.

Nathan Clark Blackman Sr., 71, of Jacksonville, passed away on November 17, 2021. He was born February 18, 1950. He proudly served his country in the military. He worked at Manning Electric and the Coca Cola Company for many years. He loved playing solitaire and enjoyed fishing. He

was a beloved father, son, brother, uncle and Papa. He was predeceased by his wife Nancy Blackman; his father Darwin Blackman; and his sister Mary Blackman.

He is survived by his mother Mary M. Blackman; his daughters Heather (Donald) Alford, Cynthia (Tony) Ivey, Susan (Dale) Coulter, Melissa (Scott) Johnson and Chanda McCullough; his sons Nathan Blackman, Jr. and Thomas (Rebecca) Coon; his brother George Blackman; and his sister Carolyn Peterson; as well as many grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and friends

The family received friends Monday, November 22 at Corey-Kerlin Funeral Home. The funeral service was held Tuesday, November 23 also at the funeral home. Burial followed at Edgewood Cemetery.

Arrangements by Corey-Kerlin Funeral Home, Jacksonville, 768-2596.

Condolences may be expressed at www. corey-kerlin.com.

#### **RONNIE ELBERT GROOMS**

Ronnie Elbert Grooms, 79, of Jacksonville, passed away peacefully on November 16, 2021. He was born on December 29, 1941 to Ralph Waldo Grooms, Sr. and Louise Bernice Hinson. Ronnie retired from Anheuser Busch in 2004 after 30 years of service. He strongly believed in supporting his Anheuser Busch Union Teamsters 947. Ronnie was an avid NASCAR fan and in his earlier days loved to travel to various tracks to watch the races. His biggest love was dirt track racing and would watch them religiously on TV. Ronnie also loved watching his Georgia Bulldogs play...Go Dawgs! He was happiest spending time with his family especially his grandchildren, who were the light in his eyes.

Ronnie was a loving husband, father, brother, uncle, grandfather and friend to many. He was preceded in death by his parents Ralph, Sr. and Louise Grooms; brothers Junior Grooms, Donald Grooms, Ross Grooms, Claude Grooms and Billy Grooms; sister Hazel Alliffi; brother-inlaw Emery Stokes; sister-in-law Barbara Grooms.

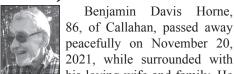
Ronnie is survived by his wife of 58 years, Susie "Ann" Musgrove Grooms; children Brenda (Gabriel) Ferreira, Denise Grooms, Ronnie Grooms and Lori (Damon) Foskey; brother Larry (Barbara) Grooms; sister Joann (Emery) Stokes; grandchildren Brian Grooms, Michael Ferreira and Reagan Ferreira; along with many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Ronnie's life was held Sunday, November 21 at Nassau Funeral Home. The family received friends prior to the service. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to your charity of choice. Arrangements by Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 904-879-1770.

Visit www.nassaufh.com to sign the family's guest book.

#### **BENJAMIN DAVIS HORNE**

Benjamin Davis Horne,



2021, while surrounded with his loving wife and family. He was born on July 23, 1935, in Live Oak, Florida to Eldis Trice and Gertrude R. Horne. He proudly served his country in the US Air Force. Davis and the love of his life, Shirley M. Horne, wed on October 25, 1956, and just celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. They showed the exact description of what true love between a husband and wife should be. In Davis's spare time, before his illness, he enjoyed spending time with family, friends, working in the yard, golfing, watching the Atlanta Braves and Florida Gators. He was preceded in death by his parents, Eldis and Gertrude Horne.

Davis leaves behind his beloved wife, Shirley M. Horne; sons Gary (Deneen) Horne and Craig (Lydia) Horne, all of Callahan; grandchildren Heather (Sean) Page, Dana (Ernie) Cole, Kristin (William) Spencer and Justin Horne (Amber Forster); great-grandchildren Dayton Page, Drake



Cole, Brylei Ann Page, Madison Cole and Brinlee Cole.

The family received friends Tuesday, November 23, at Nassau Funeral Home. A celebration of Davis's life was held Wednesday, November 24 at Nassau Funeral Home with Brother Randy Ray officiating. Burial followed at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family humbly requests donations to Alzheimer's Association at https://act.alz.org/donate.

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

Condolences may be expressed at www. nassaufh.com.

#### JOHN JOSEPH KRULISH



John Joseph Krulish, 52, of Callahan, went to be with the Lord on November 17, 2021. He graduated from Edward H. White High School, Class

of 1988. He was a member of the Lannie Road Baptist Church, and was previously a member of Gray Gables Baptist Church. He was a preacher for the youth and loved sharing his testimony with all who would listen. John was preceded in death by his ex-wife Sheri Ann Krulish; and his brother Kenneth Joseph Krulish, Jr.

Left behind to cherish his memories are his daughter Michelle Ann Krulish; his parents Kenneth Joseph Krulish, Sr. and Marcia Wilder Krulish; sister Kim Krulish (P.J) Chaney; sister-in-law Amy Krulish Stern; and many nieces and nephews Karaline Krulish Hernandez (Andrew, Elizabeth and, Natalie), Jeffrey Joseph Krulish, Tyler Joseph Chaney and Joshua Joseph Chaney. His memory is also held by all of the church members and friends who celebrate his memorial.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, December 4 at Lannie Road Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family is accepting donations for costs due to the passing of our beloved at: PO Box 1343, Callahan, FL 32011.

#### LEO DANIEL MCINTOSH

Leo Daniel McIntosh, 76, passed away November 20, 2021 at his residence. Mr. McIntosh was born in Brantley County, Georgia. Leo proudly served his country in the US Army. He was retired school teacher. He was preceded in death by his parents Thomas and Lucy Lee McIntosh; sister Glenda McIntosh and brother-in-law Eugene Kwapnoski.

He is survived by his sister Melba

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Several plans and payment options are available to fit every need. If you would like to discuss arrangements or have any questions, we encourage you to contact us. Dana Forbes, Preneed Agent/Office Manager

105 US Hwy. 90 West • Baldwin • 904-266-0072 Please visit our webside for valuable resources and information: www.warrenfuneralservices.com Powers of Hilliard; brothers Grady (Nancy) McIntosh of Hilliard and Thomas McIntosh of Lutz, Florida.

The family received friends Wednesday, November 24 prior to the funeral service in the chapel of Callahan Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Live Oak Church Cemetery.

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

Condolences may be expressed at www. callahanfh.com.

#### JEREMIAH DANE MILLIGAN



Jeremiah "JD" Dane Milligan, 42, of Jacksonville, was a hardworking and caring husband, father, son, brother and friend. He left this world too soon, on November 11, 2021, to join a

galaxy far, far away. He was born to Gerald E. "Gembo" and Wanda D. Milligan on December 8, 1978. He met his wife, Jeana M. Milligan, 22 years ago and they married on May 5, 2005. Jeremiah had a passionate love affair with all things Star Wars, the Georgia Bulldogs and the Cincinnati Bengals. He enjoyed rock shows and vintage toy collecting with

by all the lives he touched. He is survived by his wife Jeana; proud daddy to his amazing children Jada M. and Justin D. Milligan, whom he loved with every fiber of his soul; and his siblings Tabatha, Eric, Holley and Kayleigh Milligan.

amazing friends. He will be missed dearly

A celebration of life for Jeremiah was held Friday, November 19 at Hardage-Giddens Riverside Memorial Funeral Home. Jacksonville.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in his name to a charity of your choice.

#### MICHAEL COY MORGAN



Michael Coy Morgan, 38, of Jacksonville, passed away November 17, 2021. He was born August 11, 1983 in Jacksonville. Michael worked

hard as a laborer and took pride in his work. He was a jack of all trades and could fix or repair anything. He looked at it as a challenge. He was a hard worker. He loved his children, all of them, with all of his heart. He was a wonderful provider for his



Mikey Santiago; his children Shania and Wyatt Morgan; siblings Cody Morgan and Michelle (David) James; nieces Quinn and Cassidy Morgan; and nephews Jaxon and Kayden James.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, November 23 in the chapel of Callahan Funeral Home.

Condolences may be expressed at www. callahanfh.com.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, 879-2336.

#### THEODORE W. OVIATT, SR.

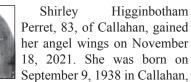
Theodore W. Oviatt, Sr., 78, of Callahan, passed away November 2, 2021. He proudly served his country in the US Army, 57th Engineers. He was preceded in death by his parents Ted C. and Mary Jane Oviatt; two sisters Mary J. (Glen) Rodgers and Betty Rye.

He is survived by his wife Glenda; son Ted (Jackie) Oviatt, Jr.; daughter Angie Carroll; grandchildren Heather, April (living abroad), Sydney "Bear", Jacob, Laree and Chelsey; as well as great-grandchildren D.J., Dalton, Hannah and Jack.

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

Condolences may be expressed at www. callahanfh.com.

#### **SHIRLEY H. PERRET**



to Farris Higginbotham and Helen Keen Higginbotham. Shirley graduated from Callahan High School in 1956. She later in life became a nurse. She served her nursing career at St. Luke's Hospital for 25 years. Shirley married the love of her life, C.A. Perret, in 1968. She became a wife and mother of three C.A. Perret, Pamela Brewster and Nathan Perret and later added their two sons Scott Perret and Gerald Perret. Shirley was preceded in death by her parents; husband C.A. Perret; brother Edsel Higginbotham; grandson Matthew Perret; and great-granddaughter Rilee Burch.



Whitney Wilkinson, Kinsey Perret, Wesley Peacock, Nathan Perret, Rhett Perret, Amanda Burch, Tim Beazley, Ren Beazley, Zack Perret, Autumn Perret and Gerald Perret; nine great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

The family received friends prior to the celebration of life service held Monday, November 22 at Nassau Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation at: www. abreathofhope.org.

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

Visit www.nassaufh.com to sign the family's guest book.

#### **CHAD WILLIAM TYSON** Chad William Tyson, 33,



of Hilliard, passed away from a long battle of Covid on Saturday, November 6, 2021. He was born September 24, 1988 in Jacksonville, to Jack Walter Tyson, Jr. and Jovita Diane Tyson.

Chad went to Hilliard Middle-Senior High School. He was currently employed at Davey Tree Expert Company as a project manager in Plano, TX. Chad enjoyed watching UFC fights, watching the Florida Gator football games but most of all he enjoyed spending time with his family and close friends. He enjoyed spending money on his square body Chevys, his wife Mindy, and taking kids to the movies. Chad's alltime favorite was tormenting people. He was known for sticking his finger in your mouth when you yawned and loved singing with Mindy and the kids. Chad was an amazing person and anyone that got the pleasure of meeting him had a smile on their face. He will forever be in our hearts and will be missed dearly by all that knew and loved him.

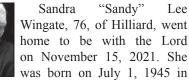
Chad was survived by his parents Jack and Jovita Tyson; wife of 16 years Mindy Tyson; children Bailey Mae Tyson, Brooke Madison Tyson, Becca Morgan Tyson, Chad William Tyson, Jr., Connor Wess Tyson and Bridgette Mindy Tyson; siblings David (Kassey) Tyson, Britt Tyson, Mark Tyson (Sarah Nelson), Jack (Samantha) Tyson, Adam (Chelsea) Tyson, Nick Tyson (Lenzi Maggart), Calvin (Becky) Gordon, Kent (Mackenzie) Tyson, Grant Tyson and his baby sister Becky Tyson; uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, and other extended family members.

A celebration of life service for Chad was held Saturday, November 20 at Nassau Funeral Home.

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

Visit www.nassaufh.com to sign the family's guest book.

#### SANDRA LEE WINGATE



Springfield, Massachusetts to Kenneth Badger and Myrtle French Badger. Sandy loved Jesus with all her heart and often active with church activities at Hilliard First Assembly. Every morning, she would read her Bible and her Sunday school lesson while having a hot cup of tea. Sandy enjoyed being outdoors, especially mowing her yard, her flowers, birds and crafting. Her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren were the center of her world, and she cherished every moment spent with them. Sandy was a loving and devoted wife, just shy of 50 years, mother, sister and Nanny who will be missed dearly. She was preceded in death by her husband Darrell Wingate; brothers Phil and David; sisters Joanie and Nelly; and son-in-law Steve Nelson.

Sandy leaves behind her children Debbie Wingate Nelson, David (Jackie) Wingate, Billy Wingate and Darren (Tammy) Wingate; brothers Wally and Kenneth; sisters Patty and Barbara; grandchildren Nicholas (Stephanie) Nelson, Travis (Eleni) Nelson, Bruce Wingate, Laci Wingate, Priscilla Wingate and Darrell (Macy) Wingate; great-grandchildren Brantley, Havden, Grace, Sawyer, Layla, Tayla, Steva, Natalie, Ty, Maggie, Briggs, Gracie, Stratton, Beckham and Sutton; and fur baby Rastus.

A graveside service for Sandy was held Thursday, November 18 at Nathalene Cemetery with Pastor Arlie Johns officiating.

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

Visit www.nassaufh.com to sign the family's guest book.



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

Gabriel Albert (Hawaii), Jacob Ash-Medina (Japan), Jewel Rene Barron (Virginia), Timothy Beasley (Cuba), Cody Beaver (Virginia), Jessica Bell (Hawaii), Chad E. Black (South Carolina), Kevin & Brooke Blanton (Georgia), Sgt. Caleb Bohannon (Oklahoma), Israel Marcos Bonilla (Missouri), Derek Borden, Benjamin Black (Iraq), Hunter Brannon (Africa), Conrad Brauwn (Afghanistan), Ryan Brooks (Connecticut), John Brookshire (North Carolina), Aaron Brown (Japan), Branden Brown (USS Nimitz), Anthony Broekema (Virginia), Ethan Bulford, (Virginia), Calen Burnette (North Carolina), Thomas W. Burnette (North Carolina), Ahmad Butler (Japan), Brayden Lamar Carroll (North Carolina), Allen L. Carter (Alaska), John Coltrane (NAS Jax), Scott Cooper, Dustin Corum (South Korea), Trevor Corum (Nebraska), Charlie I. D. Cox (South Korea), Quinn Coxwell (Georgia), Gavin Crews (Germany), Tison J. Crews (Korea), Charles 'CJ' Cribbs, III (Washington, DC), Dennis L. Davis II (Alabama), Joshua M. Davis (New York), Shannon Davis (Nevada), Johanna Diaz (Nevada), Clif Dixon (Iraq), Devin Michael Dowling (Georgia), Christopher Downs (Arizona), William Clay Dryden (South Korea), James Dale Evans (Baghdad), David Farhat (North Carolina), Christen Fernandez, Clinton Fouraker (Virginia), Medford Foskey (Arizona), Jeremy Francisco (Mayport), Jennifer D. Frederick (Colorado), Kevin J. Gahris (United Arab Emirates), Michael E. Garcia (Afghanistan), Marcus Gee (Iraq), Samantha Gee (Korea), Tabetha Gee (Korea), Chadrick Gibson (Iraq), Charles Gibson, Darrell Goodwyne, Jr. (Iraq), Sgt. Daniel Graves, Jr. (North Carolina), Eric Greene (Georgia), Branden R. Griffis (Florida), Wendy Griffis (Afghanistan), Phaylyn Griffith (California), Kandis Guyton (California), Hunter C. Guzman (Georgia), Micah Hall (Georgia), Michael Hall, Michael Hallman (Key West), Ronnie Hammer (Colorado), Todd W. Hanner, Jr. (Texas), Andy Harper, Harley Henderson (Texas), Nathan Hess (Japan), Jeff Higgs (Spain), SPC Hodge (Iraq), Josh Hoyle (California), Levi Hren (West Point), AT2 Brian Hughes (Bahrain), Bryan K. Jeffers II (Iraq), Jacob Jensen (Middle East), Cade Johns (Virginia Beach), Aaron L. Johnson (Colorado), Carlus Johnson (Texas), Donald Johnson (North Carolina), Jamaal Jones (Hawaii), Bradley Justice, Brian J. Kerns (Virginia), Kayla King (Germany), Scott Kirkland (California), Joshua Knight, PO3 Travis E. Kornacki (North Carolina), Jordan Kriner (Italy), Victoria LaMontagne (Florida), Tyler Landreville (Florida), John C. Larkin (Irag), Thomas Layden (North Carolina), Chase M. Lewis (North Carolina), Katelyn Lewis (Japan), Nicholas Louese (Spain), Jason Lovejoy (Colorado), Patrick Lynagh (Nevada), Gatlin Mackie (Virginia), Kevin Marshall (Germany), Canisha Martin (Georgia), Tony Martin (Georgia), Anthony Mastrogiovanni (Georgia), Stacey McDaniel (Virginia), Caleb McGee (Virginia), Noah E. McKinnon (Iraq), Michael McQuaiz, Matthew McRae (North Carolina), Russell Mellroy (Afghanistan), Ivory Melton, Jr. (Kuwait), Brian Middleton (Afghanistan), Steven Miner (Germany), Chase Allen Mitchell (Colorado), Britt Mizell (South Carolina), Dillon Mock (Florida), Joshua Monds (Virginia), Anthony Moore (Afghanistan), Anthony Moore (South Carolina), Roland Moore (Iraq), Chris Morehead (North Carolina), Sgt. Travis Morris, Climart 'CJ' Moses (Afghanistan), Michael Murphy (Iraq), Aaron Musgrove (Afghanistan), Stephen Myers (Korea), Jonathan Neeve (Texas), Gary Nelson (Kuwait), Michael Nettles (Iraq), Lee Nickola (Iraq), Ryan Norton (North Carolina), Jesse O'Berry (England), Daniel O'Dell, Shannon O'Dell, David Oppfelt (Florida), Steven A. Oxfurth (Connecticut), Walter Oxfurth (New Mexico), Chase Parden (Kansas), Michael Park (South Korea), Danielle Parker (North Carolina), Jeremy Pelkey (Georgia), Christopher Phelan (Virginia), Darren Phelan (Washington State), Kyle Pipkins (South Carolina), Joshua Poirier (Georgia), Austin Potochnik (California), Dusty Price (Iraq), Michael Price (Germany), Kenneth Pullum (Washington, DC), Kyle Pullum (Louisiana), Jeffery Rapadas (Kuwait), Justin Reed (North Carolina), Kasie Richardson (North Carolina), Jeffrey Rigdon (Kentucky), Camilla Roberts (Alaska), Sydney A. 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Vickers (California), Daniel Vroman (North Carolina), Jonathan Vroman (California), Brett Wade (Florida), Reece Wade (Arizona), Jeff Walters (Iraq), Shawn Ward (Texas), Brian Waring (Iraq), Daniel Waters, David Watson (California), Justin Webb (Japan), Jacob Wesson (Japan), James D. Whitman, Carson Williamson (North Carolina), Earl Youman, Jr. (Virginia)

### Repairs to County Road 121

#### Sabrina Robertson, PIO

In recent weeks, the County has received questions related to the repair of County Road 121 from the Duval County Line to State Road 2/Crawford Road. Recognizing the critical nature of County Road 121, the Board, in collaboration with the Nassau County Legislative Delegation, secured \$9 million in State appropriations to resurface the road from the Duval County line to State Road 2.

In preparation for requesting State funding for resurfacing of CR121, in January 2021, the Board of County Commissioners conducted traffic counts along County Road 121 at three locations: north of County Road 108; south of Stokes Road; and south of SR 2 (north of Stokes Road). The traffic counts captured both the number vehicles and types of vehicles that use the roadway. Next, the Board of County Commissioners assessed the structural integrity of the road's subbase, the supporting material under the asphalt surface, by taking a series of core samples from the roadway.

Based on the analysis, it was determined there are some areas of CR121 where the structural integrity of the subbase is sufficient to support heavy traffic and will only require resurfacing at a cost between \$160,000 to \$220,000 per mile. However, there are other areas of CR121 where a full reconstruction of the road, including the subbase, will be required at a cost of \$620,000 per mile. Based the available data, the cost estimate is roughly \$500,000 per mile, or \$9,000,000, to complete the approximately 16 mile segment from the Duval County Line to SR2/Crawford Road, factoring in cost for design and contingency.

Project design is anticipated to begin in the late summer/early fall of 2022. The design portion of this project will include a deeper evaluation of the roadway's structural integrity and identification of the 2 best option for addressing the deficiencies found segment by segment (resurfacing, full reconstruction, etc.). Construction is anticipated to begin early 2023 and will take six to nine months to complete. Based on the anticipated

timeline, the segment from Duval County Line to SR2/Crawford Road, should be complete by the end of 2023.

Given the approximately twoyear process to complete repairing the southern half of the CR121 corridor, Nassau County Public Works and Road Department has an interim plan to address the 16 mile segment of County Road 121. Commencing after Thanksgiving, Road Department staff will work diligently to repair potholes in this segment of the corridor by removing loose asphalt and debris; recompacting the base; filling the holes with tackifier, a compound that increases stickiness; filling the holes with a new asphalt mix; and then tamping it into place, packing it tightly before leveling it to the surrounding road. The Road Department will also use a grader to remove the accumulation of soil along portions of the roadway's shoulders to allow rain water to drain away more quickly from the paved surface.

In addition to the above, on October 20, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners awarded bids to three vendors to provide roadside mowing across the County. With the new mowing contracts in place, there will be an increase in the number of times the roadside will be cut each year which will allow Road Department staff to dedicate the necessary time on drainage and road maintenance matters.

Related to the above, on August 22, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners adopted a 22-year Pavement Management Plan valued at \$85 million dollars which prioritized roadways for treatment, based on current conditions. Segments of County Road 121 were identified as a top priority. In addition to the \$9 million secured in the 2021 for the southern segment of CR121, the Board of County Commissioners is currently working with the Nassau Legislative Delegation to petition the State Legislature for an additional \$9 million to resurface the northern segment of County Road 121 from State Road 2 to US 1.

If you have any questions, please contact the Nassau County Road Department at (904) 530- 6175.





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

**God Bless our Troops!** 

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# Historical Society Holds Callahan Christmas Tree Lighting

The West Nassau Historical Society held their Annual Callahan Depot Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. Several people gathered to enjoy snacks and listen to music provided by the Able Heirs. The event was held Friday night to officially open the Christmas season around Callahan.





# Toy Donations Needed for Santa Run

The Callahan Volunteer Fire Department will be holding their Annual Christmas Santa Run event Saturday, December 18. The Santa Run is a time when the volunteers take their firetrucks and Santa and ride through the neighborhoods of Callahan and give toys to children.



This year, the volunteers are asking for donations of a \$10 (or less) toy, unwrapped. The toys may be brought to Callahan Town Hall or the Westside Journal Office, 450034 SR 200 until December 16.



# Twas the Night Before Christmas in St. Marys

St. Marys Little Theatre has announced its Christmas Spectacular production for 2021. The original musical, "Twas the Night Before Christmas," will be performed at Theatre by the Trax on December 17and 18 at 7 p.m. and on December 19 at 2 p.m., and tickets

are already selling. "The story is of a little girl in St. Marys, Georgia, who no longer believes in Santa," said Barbara Ryan, chair of St. Marys Little Theatre and author of the play. "Of course, in the end magic happens and everyone is reminded of the real meaning of Christmas."

Some of the world's most beloved holiday songs will be used to weave the story in a rich tapestry that, according to Ryan, will inspire audiences while providing some laughs and a heaping helping of Christmas spirit. Gloria Hurley and Debra Parsons, who are directing the show, said that "Twas the Night Before Christmas" is the perfect way to get truly immersed in the spirit of Christmas. "The story is inspiring.



The music is inspiring. The performers are inspiring. And People of all ages will walk away from the theater with a sense of wonder and celebration for the most beautiful season of all."

With only three performances, Hurley and Parsons expect a quick sellout and encourage those who wish to attend to reserve early.

Tickets for "Twas the Night Before Christmas" are now being sold at Once Upon in Downtown St. Marys (cash or check please) and online at www. stmaryslittletheatre.com.

Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. Visit www.stmaryslittletheatre.com for more information or call 954-290-9873.



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