





VOLUME XIX ISSUE 15

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2022

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, HE WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT; APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING." - JOHN 15:5

Newsperson of the Year for the Florida Farm Bureau Federation

Dawn S. West

Last Thursday, I was presented an award for being selected as the Florida Farm Bureau Federation Newsperson of the Year. It was quite a humbling

experience to say the least. The Florida Farm Bureau Federation held its annual meeting in Orlando. I was nominated by Tim Stokes of the Nassau County Farm Thank Bureau. you, Tim, for the nomination and thinking so much of us and our newspaper

for this great award. It was so special to represent our county and state for this award and a little overwhelming! I'm thankful for the opportunity to do what we do with our newspaper and certainly give all the glory to God for his provision each week!

The theme for this year for the Florida Farm Bureau Federation was Rooted in Resilience. As I waited

patiently for my time to go on stage, I was reflecting on that phrase. What a great expression of how I feel about our publication through these years. If you had told me I would still be publishing

> a paper after 19 years, I would not have believed it. When we started this paper, first of all, I had deep roots within this community and was strong willed. However, to publish a paper and direct mail it to all our residents wasn't heard of, and most places still

isn't. The math didn't work for it to be profitable. But with resilience we continued week after week to publish a paper that was filled with hard work and love for our community. Through our faith in God and His guidance, we have succeeded thus far and for that I am truly thankful and grateful.

Several months ago, I was contacted by Janessa Reed of the Nassau County

Farm Bureau to submit any articles that we have concerning published farming, agriculture, 4H, etc. Jessie, our designer, searched through issues to find the articles and we submitted them. I was notified about a month ago about being chosen for the award.

I certainly take my job very seriously and was truly humbled by this. I couldn't do what I do without the help of the many submissions of articles that we receive. Our motto, "Home Town

People...Home Town News" is the quintessential reason of this award. Yes, I have done many articles but I wouldn't know about these things without people emailing or calling us. We have some great people in our county that are super interesting and have many of stories about farm life, animals and growing

erson Florida Farm Bureau | 2022 Annual Meeting

> food. Of course, I couldn't do anything without my staff: Jessie Pickett, Brenda Hunter and of course, my husband Roger. We all make a great team and call each other family. Thank you again for our great advertisers and our west side community that continues to support us! I appreciate you all beyond words.

Veterans Appreciation Ceremony this Saturday



As Veterans Day (November 11) draws near, it is a special time to remember and honor our Veterans. Any Veteran is encouraged to attend and be recognized for your service to our country. Our country is going through some tough times and now is a great time lift those up who serve our country in such an unselfish way. We appreciate the sacrifice of our Veterans and the vows they take and hold strong to. Please tell any Veteran you know to attend or perhaps go by and pick them up for this special occasion.

This Saturday, the Town of Hilliard will host the Veterans Appreciation Ceremony at Hilliard Town Hall. The event will be held outside in the lot beside town hall. The event will begin at 9 a.m. for registration and coffee for Veterans and their families.

The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. which will include presentations of Congressional Flags to the oldest Veteran, the youngest Veteran and the Veteran with most time served. There will also be speakers followed by a delicious barbecue lunch at 11 a.m. The Bloodmobile will also be onsite from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. for voluntary donations. The event is free to attend.

Hobos, Hot Rods & Heroes Festival this Saturday!

The 6th Annual Hobos, Hot Rods and Heroes Festival, hosted by the West Nassau Historical Society, will be held this Saturday at the Callahan Depot. This is the Historical Society's Autumn Fundraiser. The day will be full of entertainment, history, food, vendors and a Classic Car Show. The event will be held from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the historic Callahan Train Depot grounds and adjacent Florida Railroad rail bed in downtown Callahan. Live entertainment, food and arts/crafts vendors, exhibits and displays. There will also be a silent auction held for many items and other fundraising events.

The Classic Car Show, hosted by Callahan Cruisers, will be held from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Cochrane's Collision

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Center, directly across from the Depot. There will be a 'Kids Area' hosted by Joel Pace Piano and Music throughout the day. A Veterans Appreciation ceremony will be held around 10:45 a.m., recognizing any Veterans present. The entertainment lineup for this year's festival will include: Buck Lucontra, Megan Stanford, Benjie Anos, Liz & Randall Smith, Michael Ward Band, Amelia Blues Band, Benny Alford & the Bluegrass Edition and the Nassau Community Jazz Band.

West Nassau Historical Society is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization. For more information on the West Nassau Historical Society and how to volunteer or join, visit: www. wnhsfl.org or visit our Facebook page.

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God is good...All the time! I know that's a pretty different way to start my column but it is the truth. He is always there just waiting for me to enjoy His presence. I'm like everyone else. Life is busy and when circumstances change we still try to do our normal. That's usually when things crash. We have had some challenges recently and now looking back, wow, God has really shown up. He has provided strength, courage, mercy and oh so much grace. I'm so thankful that He is my Lord and Savior!



A Word on From the Publisher

Monday night was Halloween and in our neighborhood, it's a busy place. Other than being extremely hot, it was a great night. It's so neat to see so many people out with their family. So many are regulars each year and seeing how their children have grown is really crazy. We had lots of very respectful children coming through. They were all

laughing and having such a good time together. Halloween is one of Roger's favorite nights as he loves to 'go all out' with his décor! He was a little under the weather but he was able to still make a hit with his display. It's funny that many of the children remember what we had the previous year and are looking for those same things. Yes, I said the children remember! The parents are also excited to see what Roger has come up with each year!

This weekend, Roger and I had



our youngest granddaughters, Brystol and Harper, for the weekend. I just wanted to share what a special time we had with them. From the time we got home Friday, they immediately went to 'their room' and started pulling out all of the items they play with. They set up their 'offices' and began to play. All we heard from them was giggling, which we love! It got a little quiet around 10 p.m. and I went to check on them and they were out! However, I heard giggling again around 7:30 a.m. Saturday morning. They let me sleep until 8 a.m. I made Brystol some coffee and Harper some hot chocolate. Out on the porch they went with all their 'office' stuff. And yes, they love to come to our office and play. Guess that might be where the office atmosphere comes from! Love it! It was quite the

Visit us anytime at:

set up. The nice thing was Brystol had her phone but didn't use it and that was great. They just played together making up the rules as they went. We went to Brystol's volleyball game and came back home. After eating, they headed to the woods to play which is a favorite. I had to snap a picture as they put black marks under their eyes and looked like warriors on a hunt. It was so great to see them playing together like children enjoying the outdoors. So thankful for times together with our grands!

I'm so thankful for our children and grandchildren and thankful they still enjoy coming to our house. Even though they are getting older, they still enjoy coming. I'm reminded that life is so short and each and every day is so important. We are certainly not promised tomorrow which makes today even more special. I'm thankful to have God's mercy and grace for each day, as many are challenging. God never fails and continues to provide. In all things, my greatest gift is the gift of salvation. I do have comfort in knowing that no matter how many difficulties come my way, I can rest peacefully in the care of my Savior and all I have to do is ask. I'm still learning to turn it over to Jesus! You also can have His grace and mercy. It's the best decision you can make. Ask Him to be your Savior today...

Have a blessed week!

Dawy S. West

In the Kitchen Broccoli Chicken Divan

1 pound chopped fresh broccoli 1 ½ cups cubed, cooked chicken meat

1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese 2 tablespoons dried bread crumbs 1 (10.5 oz.) can condensed cream of broccoli soup 1 tablespoon butter, melted 1/3 cup milk

Preheat the oven to 450°. Place broccoli in a saucepan with enough water to cover. Bring to a boil and cook until tender, about 5 minutes. Drain. Transfer cooked broccoli to a 9-inch pie plate. Scatter chicken over top. Mix condensed soup and milk together in a bowl. Mix bread crumbs and melted butter together in another bowl. Pour soup mixture over the chicken, then sprinkle with Cheddar cheese. Sprinkle buttered bread crumbs over top. Bake in the preheated oven until casserole is bubbly and the top is golden brown, about 15 minutes.

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NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
灣		1 Exchange Club 11:30 a.m. Fernandina Golf Club NAMI Family Support 6:30 - 8 p.m. Alachus Club, Fern. Bch. Callahan Town 7 p.m.	2 PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library Callahan Garden Club 10 a.m. Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church NAMI Support 12-1:30 p.m. Hilliard Journey Church	3 Hilliard Town Meeting 7 p.m. Food Giveaway @Callahan First Baptist 10 a.m 12:30 p.m.	NAMI Support 11 a.m 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging	Hobos, Hot Rods & Heroes Veterans Appreciation 9 a.m 4 p.m. Callahan Depot Veterans Appreciation Geremony Hilliard Town Hall
Daylight Saving	7 Callahan Town 7 p.m.	8 Election Day Callahan Lions Club 7 p.m.	Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	10	Veterans Day NAMI Support 11 a.m 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging American Legion & Auxiliary Post of Hillard 7 p.m.	Farmers Market 9 a.m 1 p.m. Callahan Depot
13	Food Giveaway FBC Gray Gables 9:30 am - 2:30 pm Country Star Quilt Guild 6:30 pm @ The Anchor	NARFE 11 a.m. The Pig NAMI Farnily 6:30 - 8 p.m. Alachua Club, Fern. Bch. NC Young Republicans 7 p.m. Gator's Dockside, Yulee	16 Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Collahan Methodus Church PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	17 Hilliard Town Meeting 7 p.m. Food Giveaway @Callahan First Baptist 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.	NAMI Support 11 a.m 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging Festival of Wreaths Life Care Center Hilliard 5-7 p.m.	19
20	21 Westside Optimists 7 p.m. Lions Club Barnabas Food Fairgrounds 12:30 - 2 p.m. Sons of Confederate Veterans 7 p.m. The Pig Callahan Town 7 p.m.	Callahan Lions Club 7 p.m.	Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	24 Thanksgiving Day	25 NAMI Support 11 a.m 12-30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging	26
27	28 NC Beekeepers Association 7 p.m. Multipurpose Building	29	30 Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callaban Methodist Church PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library		G	Thanks

EVENTS AROUND TOWN

Pine Forest Alumni holds monthly meetings the first Monday (Nov. 7) of each month at 5 p.m. at Bethel A.M.E. Church on Page Street, Callahan. For information call 904-707-9399.

ARMS (Abuse Recovery Ministry Services) offers classes in your area where women will learn how to recognize, understand, and heal from issues of domestic abuse. We use biblical principles to encourage beliefs and behaviors that heal. Call 503-846-9284 or 866-262-9284 for specific locations and time.

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JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

There are two Americas. One is obsessed with masks, vaccines, homosexuality, abortion, pronouns, BLM, feminism, soy lattes, mental illness, censorship, ending whiteness, government control, gun confiscation, etc. The other is about family, community, freedom, God and minding your own business. (portions copied) It's very easy to know which America I desire.

According to a survey this past weekend, Biden has a 40% approval rating. That means 40% of Americans accept the crashing economy, the lunacy of the national transgender movement, sexualizing our children, high fuel prices, the likelihood of a major shortage of diesel fuel and heating fuel, the purely stupid assumption that all vehicles should be battery powered, their imposter president has already visited 54 states this election cycle, there was absolutely no voter fraud in the 2020 election, that losing your retirement accounts is okay, and on and on. That is extremely scary to comprehend that there are so many indoctrinated, brainwashed citizens agreeing to totally dismantle our Republic. They have to be delusional.

According to reports, the United States of America, as of October 31, has less than a 24-day supply of diesel fuel. I ask how we can be so close to having no diesel fuel? Our entire economy is based upon fuel and diesel is at the very top of priorities. Everything, and I mean everything, is dependent upon diesel. How do farmers cultivate and harvest our food, how is the food transported to

our stores, how does clothing, building materials get to our retail outlets? Tractors and farm equipment, trains, semi-trucks, ships are our life-line along with the heating of most residents in the north and all require diesel fuel.

In less than two years under the Democrat control we have gone from total energy independence to now depleting our strategic oil supply and begging our enemies for oil. This type of situation doesn't just suddenly happen, this is a well thought out and planned attack on our liberty and freedom. The entire Democrat party is nothing less than a domestic terrorist group determined to undermine our Constitution and take full control with a socialist government. We are in the middle of a civil war that most people don't even have a clue we are in. Sadly we (True Americans) are losing the war. Let me be very clear, when I say "True Americans", that comes with no reference to skin color, religious beliefs, original national origin, it comes with a love and passion for our Constitutional Republic that men and women have given their lives to protect and honor for over two hundred years!

It is so imperative for every "True American" to go to the polls and vote! We have to make this mid-term election a strong message to the enemy that we will not give up our country. I want to see a red wave in the likes of never before seen across America. Every vote is important and needed if we are to win the war.

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



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Reformation Day

Pastor Marty Paparo, Friendship Alliance Church, Callahan



On Monday, while many were dressing up in costumes and collecting candy, the Christian Church celebrated Reformation Day. You may not know much about the Protestant Reformation, but it may surprise you to know that it has had a huge effect on how you currently live. The Reformation started in 1517, when Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses on the door of the church in Wittenberg, Germany. His intention that day was not to cause a division or a new branch of the

Christian church, but to get his superiors and colleagues to examine 95 things he thought needed to be discussed or debated.

Little did Martin Luther know that this movement would continue in various forms for over 100 years. It would affect more than just the church. All aspects of culture in Europe would be affected. And because of the coming centuries of influence Europe would have, the reformation would affect the whole world. Tom Rassieur, Curator at the Minneapolis Institute of Art said, "One man, Martin Luther, took a stand that literally shredded the fabric of Europe. It changed theology, it changed politics, it changed society and it changed political boundaries. It gave us a revolution in education, in literacy. There are many, many manifestations of the Reformation." My favorite result of the Reformation is one we take for granted. Before the Reformation, the Bible was only available in Latin and only clergy were able to read it. During the Reformation, Luther translated the Bible to German and William Tyndale translated it to English.

Today, you and I can pick up a Bible whenever we like and read it in our own language. The question is: Do we? Do we ever just pick up a Bible (print or digital)? God has given us a great gift: His word. He even describes it as profitable. "All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17, ESV

The best way we can celebrate the Reformation is to take advantage of its benefits, especially when it comes to God's word. J. I. Packer put it this way: "The words and lives of Christian men must be in continual process of reformation by the written Word of their God."

Citizenship Sunday Celebration at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 5401 Dunn Ave., Jacksonville, Sunday, Nov. 13, 10:30 p.m. -3 p.m. Pray for our Nation and give a salute to Veterans!

North Hilliard Baptist Church, 552823 US HWY1,

Attend the church of your choice this Sunday.

Early Beginnings

Frank Kearns, Sr.

In July 1972, First Assembly of God of Callahan was established as the Peninsular Florida District of the Assemblies of God. A portable chapel was erected on the grounds directly adjacent to the Earl Schwend family home. Prior to that day however, there had been many prayer meetings and church services graciously provided by the Schwend family in their living room. Needless to say, without accommodation and in addition Bro. Schwend's hard work and persuasive

abilities there would be no church here today. We praise the Lord for the Schwend family and their valiant achievements.

There were families involved all who were attending Bethel Temple Assembly of God in Jacksonville. The Carter, Pastor Earl Schwend Self. Voss and Kearns

families to name a few. Fortunately, gas was only a robust .23 cents a gallon back then but having to attend almost every night as revivals were the vogue back then (no regrets), many souls were saved



The original First Assembly of God building in Callahan.

as a result of those meetings. Bro. Schwend, Bro. Self and myself along with Pastor Clyde Wasdin came together one evening at the church and decided that with God's help we would start a work in Callahan where we all lived. A lot of things have transpired since then and the original founding fathers

and mothers of our church have gone on to their heavenly award but I know they are looking down over the portals above with great big smiles of approval.



CHURCH NEWS

would like to invite all men to our Men's Prayer meeting held the first Monday of each month, Nov.

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Living Financially Free

Renting Versus Buying

Home ownerships is not for everyone. If the thought of plumbing repairs, cleaning the gutters, or doing random other maintenance turns you off then you may be better off renting. There is a host of responsibilities that come with home buying. Once you sign on the dotted line, the mortgage is yours and so is ALL the upkeep of the home along with the piece of property that it sits on.



Yvette Outler

If you can afford it then fiscally, it is better to buy than rent. When you make a purchase, you immediately start building equity in your home and property. You have something to show for your money, not to mention a home you can call yours, that you can do with what you chose.

There are times in our lives that renting for a short amount of time may be the wisest choice for you. For instance, if you know for sure you are going to be moving in 6 to 12 months and do not want the hassle of home ownership/buying/selling, then rent. If you know that you are going to be changing jobs and are unsure of what your take home pay will be it may be wise to wait and make sure that you can afford the commitment of a mortgage.

The choice is harder today than it was just a few years ago. Rent is expensive and mortgage rates are higher than they have been in decades, so you honestly must weigh the costs. Not just financially, but all the costs.

Let us look at the numbers:

Renting: Monthly payment \$1,615.00 (3/2 apartment in Callahan)

Buying: Monthly payment \$2,330.00 (Principal, Interest, Taxes, and Insurance on 3/2 house on 1.1 acre in Callahan) Bankrate.com national average of 7.20%, 30 years fixed with 20% down

Pros for Renting:

- 1. No maintenance or yard work.
- 2. Utilities, trash, water may be included.
- 3. Both equate to more time with family.

Cons for Renting:

- 1. Not building financial equity.
- 2. Less privacy.
- 3. Limited outdoor space and storage.

Pros for Buying:

- 1. Immediate financial equity.
- 2. Privacy.
- 3. You are in control of how far or close your neighbors are from your home. Cons for Buying:
- 1. Home maintenance can be expensive: Roof, driveway, yard work, HVAC, appliances, sewer system and/or water treatment (if not on city hookup).
 - 2. Property Taxes due every year in perpetuity.
 - 3. Less flexibility for moving.





Wings & Watts: OREMC Hosting a "Get to Know Your Co-op" Event

You flip the switch and the lights come on. For most people, electricity and their power provider, are fleeting thoughts. But as a not-for-profit, consumer-owned, electric membership cooperative, Okefenoke REMC wants to better connect with its consumermembers about its commitment to powering their lives, as well as supporting community, educational and economic development.

Wings & Watts: Get to Know Your Co-op will be held Thursday, November 10 from 5 - 8 p.m. at Bogey's Bar & Grill, Laurel Island Links in Kingsland, Georgia. There is no cost to attend,

but you must be an OREMC member, age 21+, and advance registration is required for planning and space requirements. Registration is online at: https://oremc.eventbrite.com.

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"Meeting our members where they are, addressing key issues and providing a framework for what it means to be a consumer-member of OREMC is the purpose behind our Wings & Watts event," explains



OREMC Communications/Marketing Coordinator Michele Hutchins, CCC. "Many of our members are not familiar with electric membership cooperatives and our history of by the community, for the community. While we hold an annual meeting every year in September, the day/time isn't always convenient, so we wanted to offer a more informal type of outreach event to engage with our members."

The evening will include a light supper of wings and things, a door prize for each attendee, cash bar and brief presentations by OREMC leadership: Co-op 101 at 5:30 p.m., Straight Talk About Solar at 6:15 p.m., and

OREMC Community Engagement at 7 p.m. In-between, consumer-members can mingle and chat with OREMC managers and board directors.

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Improved Classification Reduces Flood Insurance Premiums

The Board is excited to announce that the County has once again received an improvement in its Classification in the Community Rating System (CRS). CRS is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management practices that exceed the minimum requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Nassau County joined the program in May 2017 and since that time has worked hard to improve its rating to allow for a reduction in flood insurance premiums for property owners within the unincorporated areas of the County.

Flood insurance premiums are set nationally based on the age of structure, building materials and level of risk. However, communities that volunteer to adopt and enforce stricter ordinances, known as "Higher Standards," to reduce flood risk can enroll in the CRS Program to earn insurance premium discounts for their residents.

In order to maintain and/or improve CRS Ratings, the County earns "credits" for its efforts in providing information to the public, maintaining current flood maps, improving flood regulations to reduce the possibility of flood damage, and ensuring flood preparedness. Based on total credits earned, communities are assigned a CRS Classification which determines the percentage of discounts given to property owners.

Nassau County's previous CRS Rating was a Class 8 which allowed County residents to enjoy a 10% premium reduction for flood insurance with an overall cost Page 2 of 2 savings of \$176,000 for the residents. However, during the most recent cycle verification, the County was notified that its efforts have now achieved enough points to move them to a Class 7 CRS Rating, allowing residents to benefit from a 15% premium reduction with an overall cost savings of \$232,000 to property owners with a flood insurance policy.

County Manager, Taco Pope, stated, "With the threat of increase to property insurance premiums throughout the country, the Board is happy to do what it can to provide relief to property owners within Nassau County. Special acknowledgment is given to our floodplain experts in the County's Building and Planning Departments who work year-round to provide flood information to the public through community outreach events and to conduct other initiatives to increase its credits. We also appreciate the guidance provided by our consultants of Oceania Flood Services. Thanks to all their hard work, our residents will continue to enjoy reduced flood insurance premiums. We will continue these efforts in hopes to improve our rating again during the next cycle verification."

Just My Opinion: Correction on Justice Grosshans

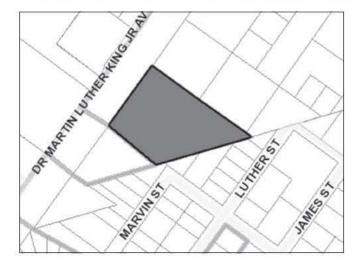
Vote Yes to retain Justice Jamie Grosshans as Supreme Court Justice. She was appointed by Gov. Ron DeSantis.



TOWN OF CALLAHAN, FL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

THE TOWN OF CALLAHAN PLANNING & ZONING BOARD WILL HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR A SITE PLAN REVIEW FOR PARCEL #51-2N-25-0000-0060-0000



Monday, November 14th at 7 p.m. Callahan Town Hall

542300 U.S. Hwy. 1 • Callahan, FL 32011
Interested Persons may appear and be heard at the Hearing.
Site plan will be available for review at Town Hall.

Individuals with disabilities needing a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the program or activity should contact the office of the Town Clerk at (904) 879-3801 or clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov at least seventy-two hours in advance to request such accommodation.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

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.

Fire Prevention Month?

Dear Editor,

As a Nassau County resident and passionate fire and life safety educator, I was very disappointed that the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners failed to pass a resolution about Fire Prevention Week this year. The last meeting in September they made October "Nassau Habitat for Humanity" month but no mention about Fire Prevention Month for October. Fire Prevention Week is historically celebrated the week that includes October 9 to commemorate the devasting Chicago fire from 1871. This year was the 100th anniversary of the celebration of Fire Prevention Week and it was sad that there was barely a whisper about it in Nassau County. The only mention from the County was in a Facebook post on the County's page on October 8 discussing why flags would be at half-mast. Do the leadership in Nassau County just believe that devasting fires cannot and will not happen here? Why were there no public safety events planned for the community for October? Is it because October is also fair season and the County cannot find time for other activities? There are three open (not fair) Saturdays in October this year, yet none were utilized for community safety. I am disappointed in the leadership from Nassau County Fire Rescue who have not been putting the community first. Perhaps one day they will wake up to the realization that fire prevention is important and the community needs the information to be able

to make the most informed decisions for their families. Responding to 911 calls is not the only responsibility of the fire department, especially in a community like Nassau County where they have a fire prevention division with a mission statement. Fire does not give a warning and can have devasting consequences as our community has felt in the past.

Did you know that fire deaths are rising again in the United States? Does your family have a fire escape plan? This will look different for every family. Having working smoke alarms inside and outside of all sleeping rooms and in all living spaces of the home is vitally important to your safety should a fire start. You may only have three minutes to get out of your home when a fire starts because of the toxic smoke. This time is even less if you live in a mobile home or RV. Can you get out of your home in 3 minutes or less? Can you get all of your family members out? Know two ways out of every room in your home. Make sure to have a family meeting spot so you can account for everyone when calling 911. If you cannot get out of your home make sure your bedroom door is closed and call 911 to tell them where you are in the home. A closed bedroom door can keep the temperatures up to 900°F less than outside of the room and will also significantly decrease the level of carbon monoxide in the room. This is huge if you cannot escape. For more information, visit www.fpw.org and www.closeyourdoor.org.

Rachel Roberts

FREE WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY DINNER

5 p.m. • Callahan Methodist Church • Walk up Located beside Callahan Elementary School



Across from the Northeast Florida Fairgrounds • US 1

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NCSD Announces Administrative Appointments

Trevor Kennedy, Director of Food and Nutrition Services

Trevor Kennedy is proud to accept the position of Director of Food and Nutrition Services for the Nassau County School District. Trevor is a graduate of the University of North Florida with a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics. Since graduating, he has become Manager ServSafe certified and a member of the School Nutrition Association at the national and state level. Before joining the Nassau County School District, he worked as a Dietetic Intern for Sarasota District Schools Food and Nutrition Services.

Michelle Chambers



Trevor Kennedy

During Trevor's time with Nassau County School District Food and Nutrition Services, he served as an Area Supervisor before being promoted to Coordinator. He has excelled while implementing new protocols, overseeing day-to-day operations in most of our school kitchens, and working to grow our menus while maintaining USDA compliance.

Michelle Chambers Assistant Principal Wildlight Elementary School

Michelle Chambers is excited to accept the position of Assistant Principal at Wildlight Elementary School. As an educator of 13 years, she served as a Teacher, Instructional Coach, and Assistant Principal with Duval County Public Schools.

Mrs. Chambers attended Florida State University, earning her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Special Education. She served as a professional development facilitator working with teachers to develop

best practices and mentoring new teachers. Mrs. Chambers coordinated district and state assessments and analyzed the data to improve instruction. As a content reviewer, she met virtually with other team members from across the country in professional learning communities to review materials and create reports for EdReports.

She is a servant leader, always striving to cultivate a culture of learning to promote student success. Mrs. Chambers has recently moved to Nassau with her husband, Joe, and their two sons, Chase and Chad. In her leisure time, she enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, and cheering on the Florida State Seminoles – Go Noles! She is looking forward to serving the Nassau County community!

Look for us on Facebook!





Whitney Jones Assistant Principal Hilliard Elementary School

Whitney Jones has proudly accepted the position of Assistant Principal at Hilliard Elementary School. She has served as an elementary Teacher and Reading Coach in Nassau County for the past 11 years. Ms. Jones graduated from Florida State College of Jacksonville with a bachelor's degree in early childhood education. She began her teaching career at Yulee Primary School and later transitioned to Wildlight Elementary, where she served as the gradelevel team leader to promote instructional leadership and



Whitney Jones

improve student learning. Ms. Jones was Nassau County's 2020 Teacher of the Year. She continued her leadership path by joining the Florida Teachers Lead Network and participating in state level conferences. In 2022, Ms. Jones graduated from the American College of Education with a master's degree in educational leadership and transitioned into a Reading Coach position at Southside Elementary School. During her time there, she provided support to students and staff by improving instructional needs, developing professional learning opportunities, facilitating the tutoring program, and creating targeted plans to increase student achievement.

Ms. Jones strives to promote a growth mindset by encouraging others to improve and develop to their fullest potential. She looks forward to serving Hilliard's students, staff, parents, and community members while leading alongside Mrs. Loudermilk.

BGC Nassau Youth of the Month

Christy Wright

Christy Wright is an 8-year-old young lady in the 2nd grade at Hilliard Elementary School. Coming to the Boys & Girls Club in Hilliard is her first after-school experience and she loves being a member. Her favorite program is Health & Life Skills, because she enjoys learning about safety and character development. Her favorite sport is baseball, especially her local Hilliard team, "Black Flashes," and Coach Chris. In school, her favorite subject is math and she says it is both



Workmans' Comp

cool and fun! She loves the color blue and playing with her dolls. At the club, she encourages the younger club members to read aloud to her and she helps them with their pronunciation. She is always thoughtful and willing to help with any task. Congratulations Christy!



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The Elephant in the Room

Douglas C. Pearson, Sr.

Is there any subject that you don't want to talk about, for fear of reprisals or of being ostracized from "Polite" society? Yes, and for the sake of being forthright and upfront, it is time to address "The Elephant in the Room"! We pretend we don't see it, or for the want of not desiring to present ourselves as "Anti-Whatever" we've avoided those conversations as we know we have opinions that will mistakenly identify us as being more radical than we really are.

The subject is about a group of people, who originally (in the 1970s) desired to just be accepted and respected. No one, of a reasonable mind, would deny them that category of human decency. To further put forth their desire for recognition, and to calm the fears, this group professed that they were not out to recruit anyone to their lifestyles and situations. All the group wanted was to dismiss the idea that they did not have a set of values, and or ethics, which would prevent them from fitting into society.

Time went forward and this group began having organized parades (in the 1980s & 90s), to put on display their bombastic demonstrations, allegedly to show their pride. Most every one of these demonstrations displayed perverse lives on public display that, to the masses, was ignored. After all, this was just a very small part of the populace and, if their motivations were accurate, purely by the basis of their society (As defined by the science of Biology) they would and could not grow in numbers.

Then, around the turn of the century,

they ceased to keep their private lives to themselves and began to force those lives upon all aspects of the population. In the workplace, the suburbs, in government, in businesses and most recently in the churches and the military. Since the founding of this nation, and for that fact since the founding of time, societies dictated the rules of decorum and behavior and those who failed to act responsibly were held accountable. This methodology evolved into laws and rules for the establishment of a stable environment, where everyone knew what was expected and the knowledge that failure to conform had consequences.

Now they have the power, and have exercised that power, to destroy churches, the continuity of the military, the laws and rules of society. By now you have likely figured out that I'm speaking of the "LGBTQ+" community. This once quiet, private, group of people that advocated no desire to draw attention upon themselves and vowed not to recruit people into their society, now demands and controls the identity of people's lives, as young as in pre-school and elementary school, by working with teacher unions, medical professionals and facilities to help identify lives as to what they are best suited for with regards to their sexual identity. This process excludes the parents, with much of it being done behind their backs.

Churches, that refuse to drift away from the lessons of God and the Bible, are being destroyed as they profess to provide prayer and love to everyone, without sanctioning the lifestyle. This is something that is understandable and completely compatible with the teachings of Christ. The Military, where we cannot even begin to meet recruitment goals, are now mandated to make accommodations to this sector of society, even though it completely destroys the structure of the Uniform Code of Military Justice and moral.

We must remember that the downfall of the Roman Empire was primarily due to their "If it feels good" attitude. The city of Sodom was destroyed by God, because of their "If it feels good" attitude. Now we're are on the precipice of our own societies being destroyed, by the divine intervention that is inevitable, as our institutions continue down this road to "Hxxx" that is paved with good intentions.

But to understand, just go back to the identity of this group. "LGBTQ+" Ever wonder why the 'plus' sign? That definitely means more to come, and that will include YOU! "The Elephant in the Room" can no longer be ignored!

Local Artists Needed for NACD Art Show

The West Nassau Historical Society is actively seeking artists from Nassau County to participate in their 11th Annual Nassau Art at the Callahan Depot (NACD) Art Show. The judged event is designed to showcase the many talented adult artists aged 18+ who reside in Nassau County. The art exhibit will be held inside the historic Callahan Train Depot Saturday, January 28, 2023. The quaint ambiance of the 142 year-old station and museum offers the perfect venue for artists living countywide to display their works while giving the public a chance to check out many historic photos and artifacts on display inside the depot. Artists will be judged on 3 art works each but may have more art works for sale in our designated art shop. The all-volunteer nonprofit organization hopes all Nassau County artists will visit their web site www.wnhsfl.org for entry applications

and art show information. Deadline for entering is noon on Friday, January 20.

Prizes will be awarded to the artists with the best art work in three categories: Painting, Photography and 3-D art. The public attending the NACD event will also be given a chance to vote for their favorite art work with that artist receiving a People's Choice award. Gift cards and other prizes will be awarded to the top winners of each category. The NACD art show is open to the public from 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

The West Nassau Historical Society is active in and receive support from Arts and Culture Nassau, a county-wide

organization dedicated to promoting the arts in Nassau County. To become a sponsor or for more details on entering the NACD Art Show or becoming a volunteer visit our web site www.wnhsfl.org, call 904-879-3406, or like us on Facebook.

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New Beginnings and Milestones

Mr. and Mrs. Ethan Thompson

Ethan Thompson and Rachel McDaniel were united in marriage Saturday, October 8, 2022 at 5 p.m. at Evangel Temple in Jacksonville.

The bride is the daughter of Lonnie and Kimberly McDaniel of Hilliard. She is employed with the Anchor Church of God in Callahan.

The groom is the son of Phillip and Teresa Thompson of Hilliard. He is also employed with the Anchor Church of God in Callahan.

Serving as bridesmaids were: Rebekah Fisher, Hannah McDaniel, Alison Merrit, Lydia McDaniel, Juliann Jones and Ashly Harwell.

Serving as groomsmen were: Cody Callahan, Keith Diotte, Ryan Kornegay, Travis Holton, Brady Holton and Drew Lawson.

Following a honeymoon trip to Sandals Resort in Grenada, the couple is residing in Hilliard.





Arlon Cree Cabal

Kacie Nicole Cabal is proud to announce the birth of her son Arlon Cree Cabal. Arlon was born October 19, 2022 at 12:59 p.m. at Baptist Hospital Jacksonville. He weighed 5 pounds 5 ounces and measured 19 ½ inches.

Proud grandparents are Terri Lynn Gordon of Callahan and the late Glenn Russell Gordon.

Arlon was welcomed home by his siblings Tristan, Karizma and Zayden!



Hilliard Town Hall

15859 West County Road 108 • Hilliard, FL 32046

9 a.m. Meet & Greet with Coffee 10 a.m. Appreciation Ceremony Special Veteran Speakers 11 a.m. Barbecue Lunch Served













Congressional Flags will be presented to the oldest Veteran, the youngest Veteran and the Veteran with the most time in service.

The Bloodmobile will be on-site from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. for voluntary donations.

You owe this beautiful Saturday morning to these Veterans. Bring your family out and honor them.

For more information, contact Hilliard Town Hall at 904-845-3555.



Albert J. Olivery J. Olivery

NASSAU COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, DISTRICT 3

- 18 Years of Education Experience in Instruction and Administration Combined (Served two years in NCSD)
- Will bring a FRESH PERSPECTIVE to our school board to address our Budget, Teacher Retention and Expansion of our Technical Education Program
- Resides in Yulee with his wife of 16 years, Kendra and their two amazing daughters who are in 8th and 5th grades at Yulee Middle School and Yulee Elementary.
- Endorsed by Florida News Report as the Most Constitutional Conservative Candidate for District 3 in Nassau County



I STAND WITH GOVENOR RON DESANTIS AND PLEDGE TO:

- · Ensure Parental Rights in Education and Keep Woke Gender Ideology OUT OF SCHOOLS
- · Reject the use of Critical Race Theory (CRT) in the Curriculum
- Guarantee the Right of Parents to Curriculum Transparency

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE

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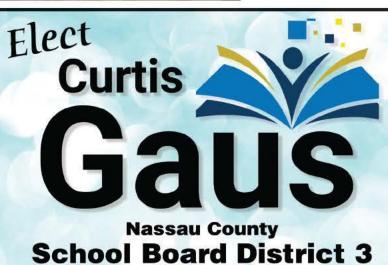












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- US Navy 1988-1991
- Gulf War Veteran

Servant for Students of all ages

- Counselor for Adjudicated Youth 1994-1996
- Middle and High School Science Teacher 1997-2005
- Assistant Principal 2005-2009
- Adult Education and Dropout Prevention 2009-2012
- Career and Technical Education 2010-2012
- Middle and High School Principal 2012-2022

Servant for the Community

- Habitat for Humanity volunteer
- Callahan Community Christmas events organizer and volunteer
- MS Band and AFJROTC fundraising volunteer
- Hurricane Shelter Leader
- Westside Business Leaders Prayer Breakfast Member
- Nassau Economic Development Committee Member
- Chamber of Commerce Member



Veterans Appreciation Dinner Next Thursday



birthday, and we will have the oldest and youngest marine in attendance cut the cake. We really hope you and your family can join us this year.

The cadets from West Nassau High School's Air Force JROTC program have been extremely active the last six weeks. Over 20 cadets volunteered their time when school was canceled in preparation for Hurricane Ian and filled sandbags for residents at Callahan Town Hall. They competed in two physical fitness competitions and are competing in the National Championship competition in Georgia. They have performed multiple color guards and flag folding ceremonies throughout Nassau County.

On October 18, the unit held a



Veterans, it's time again for the annual West Nassau Veteran's Appreciation Dinner sponsored by the American Legion Post 401, Callahan Masonic Lodge and the West Nassau Air Force JROTC program. The dinner will be held in the West Nassau High School cafeteria Thursday, November 10 at 6 p.m. The dinner will give Veterans a time to enjoy each other's company and interact with tomorrow's future from the JROTC program. Entertainment will be provided during dinner from the Liberty Express band. The evening will conclude with all Veterans being honored for and by their service. This year also lands on the US Marine Corps



Change of command Ceremony and welcomed cadet Alexandria Decker as the new Group Commander. This is the second year the JROTC program has participated in a Private Pilot program. The unit has 13 students taking a college level FAA ground school class in conjunction with taking flight lessons to earn their Private Pilot's License. Several of our local business have been approached by these students and have sponsored them for a couple flight lessons. On behalf of the students and the unit, Col. Kline thanks the community for their continued support of the West Nassau cadets.











553027 US HWY 1 HILLIARD, FL 32046

WNHS Golf Teams

The West Nassau High School boys and girls golf teams recently finished up their season. Both teams were led by Coach Ryan Haugh.



Playing on the boys team were: Brock Boatright (SO), Bradyn Walsky (JR), Hunter Freeman (SR), Triston Summerlin (SR) and Grayson Sims (SO).



MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC



Playing on the girls team were: Lillie Urbina (SR), Jayden Massengill (SO), Hailey Dilmuth (SO) and Hattie Young (SR). Not shown Tru Armstrong (JR).

Tips to Navigate the Holidays with Ease

Lisa Jones, president of LR, Holistic Life and Leadership Coaching, LLC, is the featured presenter at the American Business Women's Association's (ABWA) Eight Flags Chapter November 8 meeting. The meeting starts

at 5:30 p.m. at the Fernandina Beach Golf Club. "The holiday season almost always brings increased activity and stress--parties, family and business gatherings, shopping—in addition to keeping our businesses and careers going," says Lillie Marie Rogers, ABWA professional development Cochair. "Join us as Lisa shares tips for natural ways to reduce stress while running our businesses and growing our careers during the coming holiday season."

Lisa is a passionate and dedicated holistic life and leadership coach. As an entrepreneur, wife and mother of three, she has vast experience and a demonstrated history of working in the Business, Wellness, and Fitness arena. She is the founder of LR Coaching and has worked in Life Development Leadership and Wellness for 25 years. "Putting in more 'hours' is not the answer to your growth goals. Your

path to exponential success means infusing your hours with more quality," says Lisa.

Lisa supports clients by helping them clarify their vision, pushing through self-doubt, and creating more self-confidence to live

the life they want. Her motto is "Starve your fears; Feed your dreams."

The Eight Flags Chapter of ABWA meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. to offer Professional Development via interactive speakers who can impart the motivation and skills we all need to create success in today's business world. Each meeting also offers ample time to network with women from various businesses, skills, and experiences. Please visit www. abwaeightflags.org to learn more and to register for the meeting. ABWA reminds all women to VOTE on November 8.

Thought of the week...

God uses our difficulties to make us better, not bitter.



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YARD SALES

Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church, 541668 US Hwy. 1, FALL OUTDOOR GARAGE & BAKE SALE Saturday, November 5, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the back Church parking lot. There will be baked goods for sale along with the garage sale items. For more information call 879-3662. 110322

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 8 a.m. until? 27027 W. 7th Avenue & Georgia Street, Hilliard. Everything must go! Too much to list!

ESTATE SALE! SATURDAY, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., 44702 Pinebreeze Circle, Callahan. Furniture, figurines, lots of miscellaneous items. Everything must go!

MULTI-FAMILY, Friday & Saturday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., 55299 Shug Road, Callahan. Look for signs! Household items, tools, exercise equipment, nicknacks, fishing poles, horse tack, garden items, clothes & miscellaneous.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 9 a.m. until? 22488 CR 121, 10 miles from Hilliard & Callahan. Take River Road to CR 121 turn left, white brick house, chain link fence. Rain cancels to next weekend.

6 FAMILY YARD SALE! Friday & Saturday, 8 a.m. -2 p.m., 35075 Nancy Road, off River Road, Callahan. Items priced to sell!

CUB SCOUT PACK 351, MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE FUNDRAISER, Saturday, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., Callahan United Methodist Church. The Cub Scouts will be selling everything from furniture to toys so come on out for some affordable shopping. Your support is greatly appreciated!

HUGE MISSION PROJECT SALE! FRIDAY ONLY, 7 a.m. - 4 p.m., 18011 Lem Turner Road, Jacksonville. Tools! Tools! Electrical & Plumbing supplies, toolboxes, commercial ladders, lawn equipment, appliances, Antique furniture, dinette set, ceramic dolls. Home Health items and much more!

SATURDAY, VFW YARD SALE, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. VFW Post 10095 across from the Hilliard Airpark. Everything \$5 Bag Day! Rain or shine. New donations. Help support our Veterans.

FALL BAZAAR at the First United Methodist Church of Callahan (449648 US Hwy. 301, next to CES). Saturday, November 12, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Crafts, vendors, plants, raffles, kids corner, bake sale & more! See you there! 111022

Bethany Episcopal Church Bazaar will be held Sat., Nov. 12 from 9 a.m. -1 p.m. VENDORS NEEDED! Parking lot spaces for \$20 each or 2 spaces for Contact: windthruthetrees@gmail.com; nmager32046@gmail.com; joyce.gardenour@juno. com

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JERRY'S PRODUCE! Fresh vegetables and produce. Vidalia onion, cabbage and strawberry plants now available. US 1 north of Callahan. Call 904-715-0060, 112422

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E-Z REPAIRS! Home repairs: Full remodels, decks, plumbing, roofing, flooring, siding, interior/exterior painting, etc. 25 years experience. FREE estimates! Call Tom at (904) 586-5078. 112422

MOBILE HOME bathroom remodeling or repairs including vinyl soffit and siding. All types of mobile home and deck repairs. Call 879-9631. tfn

LIVESTOCK

CATS' ACRE FARM, purebred Nubian Goats for sale; yearlings, weanlings, does and bucks, some horned, some disbudded with or without moon spots; prices vary. Call 904-655-4460. 111022

RENT

ROOM FOR RENT: No smoking, drugs or alcohol. Interview required. Working fulltime, single, mature professional looking or the same in my furnished home on 2 acre lot near downtown Callahan; \$300/ deposit; \$150/weekly, includes utilities, smart TV and internet. Call 904-418-1664, 110322

The Great Outdoors



Raelynn Smith, 9, of Hilliard, recently took her first deer, a 4-point buck, while hunting with her dad Raymond Smith!

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· Reclaim Overgrown Property

· Dump Trailer Service

Mondays Tuesdays...... Call ahead Wednesday..... Call ahead Thursdays..... Call ahead

Fridays..... 10 - 3 Saturdays..... 9 - 3 After hours by appointment (call ahead)

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Nursery and Gardens, staffed by gardeners

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believe you have been discriminated against or would like further information about your rights or obligations under the Fair Housing Act call Jacksonville Area Legal Aid at 904-356-8371

A 2 1/2 acre nursery in a park-like garden Trees, shrubs, and flowers for sale Delivery and planting available

"Trees give peace to the souls of men." Nora Waln

Meet Lis from Lithe Landscape Design! Lis is currently on hand at Nantonio's every Saturday from 11:00-2:00, offering professional tips in landscape design.

"You know me, I think there ought to be a big old tree right there, and let's give him a friend. Everybody needs a friend." Bob Ross 🖔 Thank you for supporting a veteran-owned small business! It is illegal to discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale, rental, financing, appraisal of housing or in the provision of real estate brokerage services. If you

ROSEMARY E. COSTESCU



Rosemary Elizabeth Costescu, 62, of Callahan, passed away peacefully on October 26, 2022, following long battle with cancer. She

was born on May 2, 1960, in Jacksonville to Walter Martin Forster, II and Neva Ketchum Forster. She was a 1978 graduate of West Nassau High School. Rosemary's passion was nursing and was nominated as one of Florida's top 100 nurses. Not only did she love her profession as a nurse, but she also loved people. Rosemary had a very compassionate and nurturing heart. She had a friendly personality and never met a stranger that didn't end up becoming a friend.

In her spare time, Rosemary enjoyed going to the beach. It was her happy place and she even claimed that a seashell was her birth stone. Rosemary also loved to spend time with her family, especially with her mother, Neva. She was a loving daughter, wife, mother, sister, grandmother and friend that will be missed dearly. Rosemary was preceded in death by her father; brothers Anthony J. Forster and Paul L. Forster.

Rosemary leaves behind her loving husband of 31 years, Antonie Costescu; children Antone D. Costescu, Ronald E. (Shannon) Mabrey and Rosemary E. (Rick) Carter; brother Walter M. (Jean) Forster, III; sister Neva (Ron) Bond; grandchildren Aubrey Costescu, Isabella Mabrey, Madison (Carrie) Wheeler, Michael McSwain and Megan McSwain; great-grandchildren Olivia Wheeler and Mattix Wheeler.

Pallbearers will be Michael McSwain, Antone Costescu, Rick Carter, Madison Wheeler, Ronald Mabrey, and Teddie Guillory

A celebration of Rosemary's life was held Tuesday, November 1 at Nassau Funeral Home with Pastor Ken Barney officiating. Interment followed at Jones Cemetery. The family received friends prior to the service.

OBITUARIES

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

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

ASHLEY BROOKE HOUSTON



Ashley Brooke Houston, 22, of Hilliard, passed away on Sunday, October 23, 2022. She was born August 1, 2000 in Brunswick, Georgia to the

late Michael Anthony Houston and Alycia Catrine Goda Houston.

She is survived by her brother Christian Blake (Chanaria) Mills; her sister Samantha (Derek) Woolard; Nana Brenda Gale (Penny) Smith; her great-grandmother Hattie Nell Reagin; and a nephew Braylen Oliver.

A celebration of life service was held Friday, October 28 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home.

Condolences may be expressed at www. shepardrobersonfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

RONALD EDWIN PAGE



Ronald "Ron" Edwin Page, 88, departed from this world October 2, 2022. Ronald was born in Callahan on September 7, 1934, the son of James Peyton

Page and Etna Louranah (Ogilvie)
Page. James and Louranah had a
full house of eight children and Ron was
their sixth. He grew up east of town, in a
house with a big porch, pecan trees and
sulfur water. He was a stubborn Page, not
an open book, but he loved a good laugh and

to the amusement of all (including himself) developed a sappy Hallmark movie habit in his older age.

Ron served in the Florida National Guard and in the US Air Force early on, but he made his career as a Special Agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. That's where he met Carol Mae Trostle, his wife of 60 years. They were married in September 1962 and had two daughters, Louranah and Winona. To Louranah, he passed down his love of math and Hee Haw. To Winona, he passed down the Page head and the love of a good beer. To Carol, he was a rock of strength and comfort.

Ron was a Mason and a Shriner. He was a Master Mason at the Callahan Masonic Lodge No. 32, where he first joined as a young man. He served as a Shriner at the Sandia Mountain Lodge #72 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he and Carol lived from 1981 to 2021, and was a member of the Royal Order of Jesters.

He leaves behind his wife Carol; daughters Louranah and Winona (Tony); three grandchildren Kove, Jonah and Miranda; his youngest brother John (Sheila) Page of Callahan; and many nieces and nephews.

Always the dedicated Shriner, Ron loved himself a good parade. A memorial service will be held for Ron on Sunday, December 4 (the day after the Callahan Christmas Parade!) at 2 p.m. at the Callahan Masonic Lodge No. 32, 45085 Frank Brookins Drive, Callahan.

The family asks, in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Shriners Hospitals for Children, https://www.shrinerschildrens.org/. Blessed is the servant who loves his brother.

PATRICIA ANN PICKETT



Patricia Ann Pickett, 84, also affectionately known as "Nana Pickett" to all, passed away October 25, 2022. She was born March 25, 1938 to

John Reddy and Pearl Bland Reddy in Manhattan, New York.

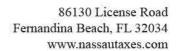
Patricia met the love of her life Bill Pickett while he was in US Army stationed at Miller Field in New York. They were married on December 15, 1956. They were blessed with five beautiful children while living in New York and eventually moved to Bill's hometown of Pickettville in Jacksonville in the early 1970's where they continued to raise their children.

Patricia's whole world revolved around her family. She welcomed everyone into her home and became known as mom or nana to all. As everyone would agree, she was the world's best hugger. She enjoyed watching game shows and playing Yahtzee with her family.

Patricia is survived by her five children, Patti (Bobby) Powell, William "Billy" (Lois) Pickett, Steven (Lorrie) Pickett, Susan (Steve) Harvey and Jacqueline "Jackie" (Buck) Emanuel and honorary son Mark Rhoden; numerous grandchildren; and great-grandchildren; along with the many other children that fondly referred to her as mom or nana; her sisters-in-law Doris Reddy, Evelena Pickett and Shirley Pickett Leuders; her brothers-in-law Earl "Bubba" Pickett, John Thomas "JT" Pickett and Harold Pickett; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her husband of 60 years, William "Bill" Pickett; parents John and Pearl Reddy; in-laws Earl and Crystal Pickett, Sr.; brothers Billy Reddy, John "Jack" Reddy, Donald Reddy, Philip Reddy and Robert Reddy; and sisters-in-law Marion Reddy, Geraldine Pickett Walker, Betty Pickett Gilmer, Joyce Pickett, Lena Pickett and Marie Pickett along with brother-in-laws Howard Leuders, Dan

John M. Drew Tax Collector



Public Notice 2022 Tax Roll Open for Payment

John M. Drew, Tax Collector, received the 2022 Nassau County Tax Roll as certified by A. Michael Hickox, Property Appraiser. The Tax Roll is now open for payment of 2022 taxes via the internet at www.nassautaxes.com by E-check (no service charge) or by PayPal, Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express (service charges apply). Payments are also accepted via U.S. Mail and at the office locations listed below.

The tax roll includes real estate taxes, tangible personal property taxes, centrally assessed items and special assessments listed as ad valorem taxes and non-ad valorem assessments. These taxes are collected on behalf of the following taxing authorities: Nassau County Board of County Commission (including MSF - Municipal Service Fund), Nassau County School District, City of Callahan, City of Fernandina Beach, Town of Hilliard, Amelia Island Mosquito Control, St. Johns River Water Management District and Florida Inland Navigation District.

According to Florida Statute 197.122 Lien of taxes; application.—All owners of property are held to know that taxes are due and payable annually and are responsible for ascertaining the amount of current and delinquent taxes and paying them before April 1 of the year following the year in which taxes are assessed.

Therefore, if you do not receive your tax bill at your current billing address or if you are a new property owner and do not receive a tax bill, <u>you must contact the Tax Collector's Office to confirm the amount of taxes due.</u>

Discounts for early payment shall be: **four percent** in November; **three percent** in December; **two percent** in January; **one percent** in February; and **zero percent** during the month of March. If payment is made by U.S. Mail, discount amounts will be determined by postmark date. If a discount period ends on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the discount period extends to the next working day.

This notice is pursuant to, and in compliance of, one or more subsections of the Florida Statutes as found in Title XIV Chapter 197.

 Tax Collector's Office
 Historic Courthouse
 Callahan Office
 Hilliard Office

 86130 License Rd.
 416 Centre Street
 450077 SR 200, Ste. 13
 15885 CR 108

 Fernandina Bch., FL 32034
 Fernandina Bch., FL 32034
 Callahan, FL 32011
 Hilliard, FL 32046

 (904) 491-7400 and (866) 815-4690
 Fax: (904) 432-0222

www.nassautaxes.com

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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

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542104 US Hwy. 1 • Callahan • 628-0871 Mon. - Fri. 5:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. • Sat. 5:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. • Closed Sundays Gilmer, Ken Walker, Laverne Pickett, Marion Pickett and Merle Pickett.

The family received friends October 30 at Hardage-Giddens, Riverside. The funeral service was held October 31 also at the funeral home. A graveside service followed at Westview Cemetery, Jacksonville.

Expressions of sympathy may be shared at: www.hgriversidefuneralhome.com.

FRANK C. QUERO, III



Frank C Quero, III, 80, also known by his family and friends as Skip/Poppy, passed away October 17, 2022, of congestive heart failure, in the

comfort of his home surrounded by family and friends. He was born on January 23, 1942 in Jacksonville. Frank graduated high school and joined the US Navy and enjoyed serving his country with an honorable discharge in 1963. Frank joined Ruby Doris Quero in marriage on June 12,1964 and celebrated 58 beautiful years together. He is predeceased by his father Frank Quero, Jr.; mother Jewel McGinn; brother Danny F. Mackey; and sister-in-law Natalja Gerhart.

He is survived by his wife Ruby (Doris) Quero; Good Boy Rex his loyal companion; two children Laurinda J. Burchfield and Frank (Chip) Quero, IV; grandchildren Ashley (Eric) Cox, Michael S. (Haley) Burchfield and Zacharee J. Burchfield; three great-grandchildren Carsten, Raylen and Peyton; two brothers Richard Michael (Phyllis) Mackey, Sr. and Martin William Gerhart; and sisters-in-law Mary F. Vest and Alice (Jim) Franklin; as well as several nieces and nephews.

A service of remembrance will be held Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

OBITUARIES

ROBERT TERRELL SIMMONS



Mr. Robert Terrell Simmons, 72, of Callahan, passed away October 24, 2022 at his residence following an extended illness. He was born

February 18, 1950 in Homerville, Georgia to the late R. T. Simmons and Matilda Sweat Simmons Burney. Mr. Simmons made Jacksonville and Callahan his home for the majority of his life. He worked as a supervisor for Valero Oil Company in Jacksonville and attended Hilliard Pentecostal Full Gospel Church. Mr. Simmons loved to hunt and fish. More than anything he loved his family and any time he was able to spend with them, especially his children and grandchildren. Along with his parents; he was preceded in death by his step-father Harris Burney; his step-mother Ann Simmons; his son Raymond Lee Simmons, II; four brothers Raymond Lee Simmons, J.J. Simmons, Donny Burney and Wayne Burney; and one sister Janice Burney Pittman.

Mr. Simmons is survived by his wife, Jessie Mae Thompson Simmons of Callahan; three sons Jason Lee (Lisa) Simmons of Callahan, Robert Terrell (Mandy) Simmons, Jr. of Hilliard and Robert Bryan Simmons of Colorado; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; siblings Mary Ann Dell, Aline Johns, Gloria Oliver, Louise Hall, Shirley Ann Wright, James Robert Simmons, Robert Warren Simmons, David Michael Simmons, James Burney and Sonny Burney; and numerous other family members.

The family received friends prior to the funeral service held Wednesday, October 26 at Miles-Odum Funeral Home Chapel in Waycross, Georgia. Burial followed in New Prospect Methodist Church Cemetery in Manor

Sympathy may be expressed at: www. milesodumfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements by Miles Odom Funeral Home, Waycross.

GARY CARTER STARKEY



Gary Carter Starkey, 65, of Hilliard, passed away on October 20, 2022, surrounded by his loving family following a short battle with cancer. Gary

was born August 19, 1957 in Jacksonville. He moved to Hilliard 23 years ago to enjoy his dream of a peaceful, country lifestyle. Gary loved his children and grandson unconditionally. He was a loving husband, son, brother, brother-in-law, uncle and loyal friend. Gary will forever be in our hearts. He will live on in the stories people share of how he touched their lives and through the

love that is visible in the eyes of our family and friends.

Gary graduated from Terry Parker High School in 1975 before beginning his 33-year career at JEA. He was a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 2358. Gary retired in 2010 to spend more time with family and friends, to tend to his animals, gardens, numerous varieties of fruit trees, and to pursue the many hobbies he enjoyed so much.

Gary is survived by his beloved wife of 24 years, Michele; his two sons Gary Jr. (Jessica) and David; grandson Nicholas; parents Richard and Marlene; brother Richard Jr. (Elizabeth); and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

A memorial service was Saturday, October 29 at Arlington Park Funeral Home. The family asks for thoughts and prayers as they grieve Gary's loss.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that those who wish to make a donation in Gary's memory do so for the American Cancer Society: https://www.cancer.org.

Arrangements by Arlington Park Funeral Home, Jacksonville.

Get Help NOW!

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

If you love someone struggling with drug or alcohol use, you may feel alone and unsure where to turn for help. That is where Parents of Addicted Loved

Ones (PAL) can help. PAL weekly meetings provide a structured, evidence-based curriculum to give you the tools you need to encourage your loved one's recovery without enabling their addiction.

Equally important is the opportunity to network with other parents and loved ones struggling with the same issues, for support and fellowship.

The meetings are free and

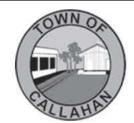
confidential. Meetings will be held on Mondays at 6 p.m. at the Northeast Florida Baptist Association in Yulee; and Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at the

Hilliard Library. While I can't guarantee that your loved one will seek help if you attend the meetings, I can say with confidence that you will learn new

ways to deal with them and gain a better understanding of addiction. I can be reached at (904) 703-7847 or by email at tashiad210@gmail.com for more information. I urge you to reach out for help. There is hope!







TOWN OF CALLAHAN, FL

PARENTS OF ADDICTED

LOVED ONES

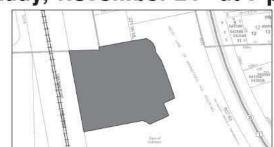
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

THE TOWN OF CALLAHAN PLANNING & ZONING BOARD WILL HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR A SITE PLAN REVIEW FOR TACY MEDICAL

PARCEL #19-2N-25-0000-0144-0020 Monday, November 14th at 7 p.m.

THE TOWN OF CALLAHAN TOWN COUNCIL WILL HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR A SITE PLAN REVIEW FOR TACY MEDICAL

PARCEL #19-2N-25-0000-0144-0020 Monday, November 21st at 7 p.m.



Callahan Town Hall

542300 U.S. Hwy. 1 • Callahan, FL 32011
Interested Persons may appear and be heard at the Hearing.
Site plan will be available for review at Town Hall.

Individuals with disabilities needing a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the program or activity should contact the office of the Town Clerk at (904) 879-3801 or clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov at least seventy-two hours in advance to request such accommodation.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

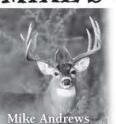
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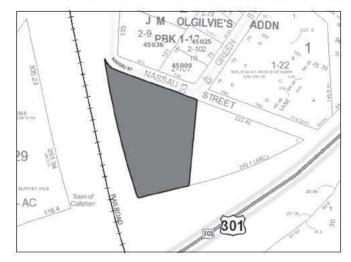
www.24hourlaundryzone.com



TOWN OF CALLAHAN, FL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

THE TOWN OF CALLAHAN PLANNING & ZONING **BOARD WILL HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING** FOR REZONING OF PROPERTY PARCEL #30-2N-25-400A-0001-0031



Monday, November 14th at 7 p.m. **Callahan Town Hall**

542300 U.S. Hwy. 1 • Callahan, FL 32011 Interested Persons may appear and be heard at the Hearing. Site plan will be available for review at Town Hall.

Individuals with disabilities needing a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the program or activity should contact the office of the Town Clerk at (904) 879-3801 or clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov at least seventy-two hours in advance

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which

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, October 24

Nathan Wayne Rodgers, Jr., 35, 44257 Lee Drive, Callahan: Possession of Cocaine; Possession of Methamphetamine; Possession of Schedule 1-5 Substance; Possession Drug Paraphernalia with Residue

Tuesday, October 25

Thomas Watson Hutchinson, 54, 54361 Heron Road, Callahan: Possession of Methamphetamine; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia

Wednesday, October 26

William Kelly Hambrick, 49, 553771 US Highway 1, Hilliard: Habitual Traffic Offender; Possession of Marijuana less than 20 grams; Tag not Assigned on Vehicle

Thursday, October 27

Katisha Ann Mullis, 45, 54081 Vikki Road, Callahan: Possession of Schedule 1-5 Substance; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia with Residue; Possession of Marijuana less than 20 grams

S.O.E. Office Returns Money to BOCC

The 2021/2022 fiscal year ended on September 30, 2022. Supervisor of Elections Janet H. Adkins returned \$294,710.31 of the previous

year's Supervisor of Elections app allows voters to stay office budget to the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners. "We are committed to allocating our resources responsibly to benefit the voters of Nassau County," said Janet H. Adkins, Nassau County Supervisor of Elections.

Highlights of the 2021/2022 budget were the updated accessible voting equipment for voters at the polling place and the transition to a new Managed Service Provider (M.S.P.) specializing

in election security to comply with the increased I.T. requirements. Lastly, the implementation of a new election mobile app. This new mobile

information.

Early Voting is available daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. until Saturday, November 5. Election Day is Tuesday, November 8, 2022. To get election ready, download the

"Vote Nassau FL" mobile app to view early voting wait times and find your election day polling place.

For questions or information call the Elections Office at 904-491-7500.



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Dayspring Village

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:

 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.

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



Teachers & support staff of the year



HILLIARD ELEMENTARY



Erin Land - Teacher of the Year



Sharon Blanton - Support Staff

WEST NASSAU HIGH



Rebecca Coefield - Teacher of the Year



David Hart - Support Staff

callahan intermediate



Amanda Sauls Teacher of the Year



Kathy Burch **Support Staff**

BRYCEVILLE ELEMENTARY



Julia Brown - Teacher of the Year



Melinda Morris - Support Staff

Callahan Elementary



Christa Shipper - Teacher of the Year Stephanie Waddell - Support Staff

HILLIARD MIDDLE-SENIOR



Susan Smith



Amy Hodges

Callahan MIDDLE



Michele Harter



Shannon McNeese

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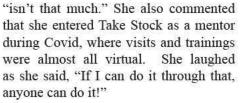
Debbie Harris... Mentoring and Changing Lives

Meet Debbie Harris, a mentor with Take Stock in Children of Nassau County. Debbie supports not one, but two students at Hilliard Middle Senior High School. Debbie has always been interested in becoming a Take Stock mentor but did not take

the plunge until after Debbie and Charity Lueng matches the student with a

her retirement from the postal service. In 2020, she needed to keep busy and decided to become a mentor. Because she has three grown sons, so she was excited to be able to work with a girl. Debbie's mother passed when she was thirteen, so Debbie thought her experiences might allow her to help others with similar stories. Debbie said mentoring provides her a reason to get up and get out of the house and she hopes that her students

get as much out of it as she does. Her favorite moments have been when students excitedly share about their successes. Recently, one of her mentees was hired for her first job and the other was inducted into the prestigious National Honor Society. Debbie says mentoring is "well worth



Take Stock is a non-profit focused on lifting students out of poverty through

mentoring, college success preparation and coaching, and scholarship. Students in need apply to the program in middle Students are school. accepted based on their financial need academic potential. Once in the program, Take Stock

trained volunteer mentor to meet weekly during the school year. Take Stock also provides college preparation coaching, workshops and college campus tours to help prepare the students for high school graduation and post-secondary education. Once students meet the requirements and graduate from high school, they are awarded a four-year college tuition scholarship. Many Take Stock students are the first to attend college in their

family, and some are the first to graduate from high school.

While the scholarship is attractive, it is the mentoring piece of the program that lends itself to success. The mentors' job is to encourage, listen, guide, and support the student in their future it," and the time required Debbie and Kylie Dennis plans. Take Stock needs

> mentors to serve all of Nassau County, but there is a greater need in Hilliard and Callahan. If you are interested in changing a life, like Debbie, reach out to the Take Stock Nassau office via email, program-manager@tsicnassau.org phone, 904-432-8584.



Alpha Delta Kappa Happenings

Alpha Alpha Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa International Honorary Organization for Women Educators is busy with local altruistic projects. First Responders were honored in September with appreciation gifts for their outstanding services. All Nassau County Fire Stations, Fernandina Beach Police Department, Nassau County Sheriff's Department and Baptist Hospital Emergency Room Staff received gifts of numerous special treats.

October activities included preparing gift baskets for area schools where members of the chapter currently teach or taught in their careers. Current women educators were given information about membership in this outstanding international organization. Alpha Alpha chapter members met at Pinky Promise in Callahan and provided





a huge assortment of items that can be provided free of cost to men and women diagnosed with cancer.

Alpha Alpha is proud to be celebrating the 75th birthday of Alpha Delta Kappa, which has chapters in all states and many foreign countries. On the international level, members have donated more than \$2 million to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, more than \$250,000 to Alzheimer's Association, \$250,000 to educational projects around the globe and more than \$2 million in scholarships and grants each biennium. We also celebrate that this Spring, Alpha Delta Kappa will have its 70th year anniversary of having chapters in Florida.

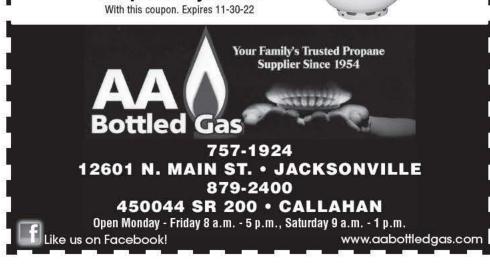






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Champion 10U Callahan Warriors



The 10U Callahan Warriors recently won the North Florida Youth Football Conference (NFYFC) Championship, overcoming a 13-0 halftime deficit to beat the Creeks Outlaws 19-13. Ayden Murphy had a 65-yard and a 63-yard touchdown run and Liam Hice-Jones had a 9-yard touchdown run. The Outlaws were driving with 2:00 left in the game. Jace Simmons had a huge interception to seal it for the Warriors. This was their second consecutive championship and their third for the season.

They have won the title at the 6U, 8U and 10U age levels. The conference is made up of over 100 teams, 26 of those teams are in the 10U Division. Over the last four years their record in conference play is 33-4, and 41-5 overall. The team contributes their success to hard work, dedication, and their love for one another. They are thankful for the support the community gives them and for their cheerleaders who always have their backs.

Team members are: Jensen Blackshear, Jaxson Bryant, Wyatt Carter, Landry Janney, Knox King, Cy Love, Bryson McWhorter, John O'Neal, Gannon Scarbrough, Gage Shott, Beau Wilson, Jackson Williams, Marky Taylor, Karson Henderson, Rhett Fowler, Nolan Faircloth, Bishop Darr, Cohen Gregory, Jace Simmons, SJ DeVane, Frank Rockwell, Liam Hice-Jones, Alex Lee, Braxton Krauss, Hunter Hatfield, Easton Parks, Clayton Jones, DJ Petterway and Ayden Murphy. The coaches for the team are: Jason Love, Todd Carter, Jason Darr, Austin Janney, Scott Jones, Chris King and Marcus Taylor.



Car Show 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

at the Historic Callahan Train Depot Hosted by the West Nassau Historical Society

From the Liz Mobley Main Stage

9 a.m. Buck Lucontro Performs
9:35 a.m. Megan Stanford
10 a.m. Classic Car Show Opens
10:10 a.m. Benije Años

l0:45 a.m. Welcome/Veterans Appreciation Ceremony

11:30 a.m. Liz and Randall Smith
12:20 p.m. Michael Ward Band
1:10 p.m. Amelia Blues Band

2 p.m. Classic Car Show Awards Ceremony
2:35 p.m. Benny Alford & the Bluegrass Edition
3:20 p.m. Nassau Community Jazz Band

4 p.m. All Exhibits Close

Depot Front Platform 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Joel Pace Music Students Hands-on Zoo

Veterans Appreciation Ceremony 10:45 a.m. All Veterans Welcome!

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Classic Car Show at Cochrane's Collision

Entertainment Coordinator/Sound & Production - Jerry Peterson · Emcee - Buck Lucontro Car Show portion presented by Cochrane's Collision and Callahan Cruisers. All proceeds from this event go to the non-profit West Nassau Historical Society. For more information, visit www.wnhsfl.org or like our Facebook page.

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LIGHTHOUSE PRAYER CENTER

Saturday, November 5 from 10 a.m. - Noon @ 43694 Ratliff Rd. • Callahan

Family Fall Jamboree • Games • Ventriloquism • Cake Walk • Snacks and more!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HILLIARD

Saturday, November 5 from 5 - 7 p.m. @ 15850 CR 108 • Hilliard

Fall Festival • Games • Popcorn • Hotdogs • Snow Cones

CALLIE KAY'S GENERAL STORE

Saturday, November 5 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. @ 553027 US Hwy. 1 • Hilliard

Fall Festival • Games • Petting Zoo • Face Painting • Vendors • Prizes

Quilt Fundraiser \$1 Tickets

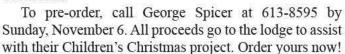


The Country Star Quilt Guild has made this beautiful opportunity quilt as a fundraiser item. The quilt is currently on display at the Westside Journal office. Tickets may be purchased from any Guild member, as well as from the Westside Journal office, 450034 SR 200, Callahan.

The drawing for the guilt winner, will be held Monday, December 12 at their December meeting. You do not have to be present to win!

BOSTON BUTT FUNDRAISER

The Callahan Masonic Lodge #32 is holding a Boston Butt Fundraiser. Pre-order your Boston Butt now for \$35 each. The butt can be picked up Friday, November 11 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the lodge located behind the Callahan Town Hall.







Apply today at www.truficu.org or on the app!

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