

# WESTSIDE JOURNAL



VOLUME XVII ISSUE 22

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2020

"EVERY GOOD GIFT AND EVERY PERFECT GIFT IS FROM ABOVE, AND COMETH DOWN FROM THE FATHER OF LIGHTS, WITH WHOM IS NO VARIABleness, NEITHER SHADOW OF TURNING." - JAMES 1:17

## Awesome Callahan Christmas Parade Held!



Dawn S. West

Saturday, the streets were lined with young and old to enjoy the Annual Callahan Christmas Parade. The weather was perfect for the annual event! I must admit it was so nice to actually see some normalcy! People were all laughing, smiling, cheering and having fun together. The parade was full of floats, Monster Trucks, West Nassau Warrior Band, WN JROTC cadets marching, horses and of course the best Santa and Mrs. Claus ever! Serving as Grand Marshall was Max Lucovsky. Parade

winning entries were: Best Themed Float: Costumers With A Cause; Best in Step: Legacy Twirlers; Best Motorized Entry: Callahan Speedway; Best Show Horses: Nassau County 4-H Young Riders; Best Holiday Theme: First Baptist Church Gray Gables; and Judges Choice: Dot's Hair Salon.

The craft and vendor event was held at Thompson Mall and was full! Vendors enjoyed several hours with many customers coming through to visit their booths. It was a great day for Callahan!



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# A Word From the Publisher

As the cool weather moves in it is starting to feel like Christmas! So many people in our neighborhood have decorated so beautifully. It's great to see a little normalcy in our crazy world. There's just something about all the lights and decorations that bring a smile to my face.

As Christmas draws near I can't help but reflect on Christmases past. Growing up in a family of five children was always fun. We were so blessed to have such a big house that was warm, for the most part, and full of activity. When I talk with my parents now about how much I loved that house, they tell me a different part of the story. They remember always having to call J.L. Reeves or Mr. Lee to come over to deal with plumbing issues. The house was (is) an old two story structure that had no insulation with plumbing pipes under the house or up the side. They also remember having to have it tented for termites. We (children) remember the big tent on it but didn't realize the money it cost to do it. My parents remember a continuous flow of money going into the big structure.

There were four bedrooms upstairs and one bathroom. Downstairs we had the kitchen, a small bathroom, my parents bedroom and a large living room area. We did not have air conditioning and the heat was done with one gas heater upstairs in the hall and a large gas heater downstairs and a small one in the kitchen. We slept amazingly with lots of blankets. Daddy would wake us up on school mornings, light our heater upstairs and close all our doors to keep it warm. Now that was quite the entertainment area with five of us meeting in the hall to get dressed huddled around that heater. We (siblings) thought everyone did that and it wasn't a big deal to us.

We always had a Christmas tree that mom decorated beautifully and she still

does. She can take a few gold ribbons, a few ornaments and make the most beautiful of trees. I'm blessed! Christmas mornings were always exciting. Gus & I would always wake each other up and try to sneak downstairs first to see what was under the tree. About halfway down, we would hear daddy yell, "Get back in bed! It's too early to be up!" That was one downfall to that house... the creaky stairs! Ha ha! Mornings were filled with a present or two for each of us and stockings filled with fruit, nuts and a little candy. Contentment and love filled our house as we spent the day eating from the big box of chocolates, that was also part of our Christmas, and putting together a new jigsaw puzzle.

Life back then was wonderful and non-stressful for us children. My parents carried all the burdens but made such a special and wonderful home for us all. We, as a nation, are so blessed. God has provided for us over and above. As you continue to fill in under your Christmas tree with loads of presents, take a step back and just remember the real reason for Christmas. Christmas is about the birth of Jesus Christ, the Savior of our souls. Most of our children have over and above what they need. Make this Christmas a time of spending 'time' enjoying each other. Each day is precious as we don't know what tomorrow may bring. Christmas is a wonderful time of the year! Make special memories but make sure not to leave Christ out of your CHRISTmas!

Have a blessed week!

*Dawn S. West*



## Callahan Swears in Mellecker



Dawn S. West

The Callahan Town Council met Monday night for their final meeting of December and 2020. Councilman David Mellecker was sworn into office, as he ran in the election however wasn't present at the last meeting. Mellecker was sworn in by Mayor Matt Davis.

L.J. Walters approached the podium wishing to address the council on some concerns about Ewing Park. My wife and I homeschool our children and for the past, I'd say 5 years, we have used Ewing Park on Wednesdays for our homeschool group to have PE," said Walters. "While at the park I have noticed the new pavilions and they are great. However I was noticing around some of the flashing that the water is seeping in and causing the lumber to rot. Also there are several drainage issues at the park. Some of the equipment is not even accessible due to the mud. We would love to help in any way that we can but I thought these items needed to be addressed with the council before this is unreparable."

The council approved Resolution 2020-R13 which concerned approving the maintenance agreement with FDOT concerning replacing the school lights. This process is being done throughout the state to make all the school zone lights and signs uniform.

Councilman and Planning & Zoning Commissioner Mellecker advised the council that the town had received three applications for the vacant P/Z seat: Paul Schwend, Sonja Ebron and Ivan Mok. Mr. Mok was disqualified as he does not live within the city limits.

Mellecker recommended appointing Schwend for the position.

Councilwoman Ashton Vargas requested to look at the applications. "Did Mr. Schwend not provide a resume?" questioned Vargas.

"No he did not but I know him and what he does," replied Mellecker.

Council President Ken Bass called for the vote: 3-1 with Mellecker, Fleming and Bass voting yes; and Vargas voting no (Councilwoman Shaw was absent).

Town Manager Mike Williams advised the council that Callahan Little League Association had contacted Town Hall concerning approval to use the railroad bed for a non-profit fundraiser. The council approved the request as long as the proper paperwork and insurance information is turned in.

In closing comments, Mayor Davis advised the council that he was very pleased with the Christmas parade and the crowd and all those that helped make this a great success!

Council President Bass reminded the council that the Volunteer Fire Department would be doing the Santa Run Saturday through the Callahan streets. The Santa Run is where the department rides through the Callahan neighborhoods with the sirens blowing allowing children to come out and see Santa on the firetruck and receive a gift! "We are short on gifts so those who wish to donate may drop off unwrapped toys at Town Hall by Friday," said Bass.

The next council meeting will be Monday, January 4, 2021 at 7 p.m.

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# Secret Santa Needs Your Help!

Dayspring Village in Hilliard is asking the community to participate in its Secret Santa program to help provide Christmas to its mentally ill residents. The holidays are a tough time of year for the mentally ill. Each year, gifts from Secret Santas makes a life changing impact on the lives of these individuals.

To get involved, contact Ashley at 845-7501 or Ashleyt@dayspringvillage.org. You will be assigned a resident and their wishes. Many requests are simple, such as socks, sodas, or a shirt. Have your gift (s) wrapped and back to the facility by Wednesday, December 23. If you like to bake, we would love for you to sponsor the evening snack for the residents. If you have a musical talent, and would like to share, we invite you to come and perform. Please call Ashley Turner at 904-845-7501 to request a resident's wish list. The deadline is December 23.



## FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

**Barnabas @ Mt. Olive Baptist Church • Tues., Dec. 15 • 9 - 11 am**

**Barnabas @ Bryceville Baptist • Wed., Dec. 16 • 10:30 am - 12:30 pm**

**Barnabas @ River Road Baptist • Thurs., Dec. 17 • 10:30 am - 12:30 pm**

**Callahan First Baptist • Thurs., Dec. 17 • 4:30 - 6:30 pm**

**Barnabas @ Greater Mt. Pleasant • Sat., Dec. 19 • 9 - 11 pm**

### In the Kitchen...

#### Chocolate Caramel Nut Bars

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 (14 oz.) pkg. Kraft caramels                     | 1/2 cup margarine, melted                  |
| 2/3 cup evaporated milk                            | 1 (6 oz.) pkg. semi-sweet chocolate pieces |
| 1 (2 layer) German chocolate cake mix with pudding | 1 1/2 cup chopped walnuts                  |

Melt caramels with 1/3 cup milk over low heat, stirring until smooth. Set aside. Combine remaining milk, cake mix and margarine. Mix well. Press half of cake mixture into bottom of ungreased 13"x9" pan. Bake at 350° for 8 minutes. Sprinkle chocolate pieces and 1 cup walnuts over crust. Top with caramel mixture, spread to edges of pan. Top with teaspoons of remaining cake mixture. Press gently into caramel mixture. Sprinkle with remaining walnuts. Bake at 350° for 18 - 20 minutes. Cool. Refrigerate. Makes 2 dozen.

## JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

We've all heard the jokes that start out as: "A funny thing happened on the way to (wherever). Well, mine is a funny thing happened while waiting on the Christmas Parade to begin Saturday. Dawn and I picked a place to stand and watch the parade and take some photographs. There was a couple next to us that I didn't know, but Dawn did (go figure). A couple of people came up to me to say hello and comment on "Just My Opinion" and then it happened! The lady next to me turned in my direction and said, "Hi, I'm your radical left." At first I thought she was joking, and then I realized she really was my "radical left!" So there I was, anticipating a joyful time watching the parade standing right beside one of the ones I so drastically oppose.

We talked about some of our differences of opinions, with her most feverish passion of the liberal left being Pro-Choice and a huge Kamala Harris follower. I must admit that what I thought was going to be a long exasperating time watching the parade was just the opposite. We chatted off and on during the parade and I found she was a very pleasant leftist (lol). At the end of the parade, I told her I would like to talk to her again in a couple of years if Harris/Biden takes office, just to see how that Socialism thing is working out for her. In parting ways she told me that being a leftist don't mean they are crazy, and I jokingly replied that liberalism is a mental disorder. We laughed and took selfies together with my arm around her and hers around me. Ain't America Great!

Nothing to see here folks! There is no evidence of widespread voter fraud in the Presidential election, nope none

what so ever. I also have some ocean front property in Arizona for sale if you believe that. Here is a short breakdown presented by Pearson Sharp of OAN: 1.) Nevada: Biden ahead by 33,000 votes, over 1500 votes from people who are dead, 2500 voters who had changed addresses to another state or country, 6000 votes from vacant addresses, 8000 votes from addresses that don't even exist, 15,000 votes from commercial addresses, 20,000 votes from out of state addresses, 42,000 people who voted twice, for a total of 95,000 fraudulent votes. 2.) Pennsylvania: Biden leads by 81,000 votes however there are 121,000 fraudulent votes. 3.) Wisconsin: Biden leads by 20,000 votes but there have been 200,000 fraudulent votes found. 4.) Arizona: Biden leads by 10,000 votes however there have been 300,000 fraudulent votes found. 5.) Michigan: Biden leads by 154,000 votes, insanely 548,000 ballots have arrived since Election Day. 6.) Georgia: Biden leads by 12,000 votes with an estimated 200,000 fraudulent ballots counted. Not to mention the damning video of vote counters pulling hidden suitcases of ballots from under a covered table after they had sent the Republican poll watchers home. Nope nothing here to see!

How can this be happening? I have two separate theories: one being that our Justice System is so corrupt that they refuse to challenge these states because they want Biden to win; or they are scared to death of the destruction Democrats will cause across the country when it is proved that President Donald J. Trump won this election in a landslide. Trump 2020!

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

*Just in time for Christmas!*

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## 31st Annual Dayspring Village SECRET SANTA

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Dayspring Village is seeking volunteers to help share the gift of Christmas with the mentally ill residents. Often the holidays are the toughest time of the year for the mentally ill and each year the gift of the giver makes a life changing impact on the lives of these individuals.

**How to get Involved:**

1. Contact 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!  
**Call today! 845-7501**

www.dayspringvillage.org

AL #5766

# Christmas and Evangelism

Pastor Arlie Johns, Hilliard First Assembly of God



As we approach the Christmas Season, let me encourage you to try and focus on the true reason for Christmas, "Jesus." He is the Reason for the Season.

Why did God send His Son down to this World? The Answer is simple: It's because God Loves You and Me. In John 3:16 the Bible tells us, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." Evangelism has been a part of Christmas from

the beginning. The Bible tells us in Luke 19:10, "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost." When you think of Christmas remember that Evangelism is the heartbeat of God.

Look with me at the story of Jesus' birth for a minute, in Luke 2:8-18, "And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord...When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them." It was the shepherds who were the first to evangelize the world about Jesus.

Next it was Jesus Himself that taught on Evangelism. The Bible tells us that as Jesus was walking along the Sea of Galilee, He called some fisherman to come and follow Him and that He would make them fishers of men. As Christians we have been called to Evangelize. In Matthew 28:19, Jesus gave us the great commandment telling us that we are to go in to all the world and preach the Gospel. Sometimes it seems hard to share our faith in the Lord with others, but it shouldn't be that way. Evangelism was never meant to be difficult, but many have struggled to do their part in spreading the good news. Witnessing or Evangelism should be as simple as telling your story of how God saved you and changed your life. We just need to let others know what the Lord has done for us. In Matthew 5:14-15, Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house."

One of the best ways to celebrate Christmas is to tell others what Christ has done for you. Don't be ashamed of the gospel. Take time to share your story. Let others know what the Lord has done for you! Proverbs 11:30, "He who wins souls is wise."

I pray you have a wonderful Christmas this year!

# Local Nonprofit Organizations Receive Support from Rayonier

Rayonier awarded \$105,000 to more than 38 local nonprofit organizations to help address key community needs across Nassau County. Recipients of the award were recognized individually this year. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the annual special awards breakfast was canceled.

The recipients will use the funds to help meet a range of needs in the Nassau County community, including civic and cultural, educational, environmental, natural resources and health and human services programs. From promoting active involvement of fathers in the lives of their children, to establishing new apprenticeship programs or helping students develop the skills they will need to prosper, the Rayonier Community Fund grants help give families the opportunity to thrive. "I'm extremely proud to support the tireless work of these organizations to help the most vulnerable people in the County" said Mike Bell, Vice President, Public Affairs and Communications. Altogether, in 2020 Rayonier, through the Rayonier Community Fund, plans to grant close to \$310,000 across the United States.

Approximately, one third of those funds will be distributed in Nassau County to the following organizations: ALL Pro Dads, Amelia Island Book

Festival, Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival, Arts Alive Nassau, Baptist Health Foundation, Barnabas Center, Boys & Girls Clubs of Nassau County, Community Hospice & Palliative Care, Elm Street Sportsman Association, Family Support Services of North Florida, Fernandina Beach High School Foundation, First Readers of Nassau County, First Coast Healing Hands, Institute for Enterprise, Keep Nassau Beautiful, Nassau County Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Nassau County Council on Aging, Nassau County Extension - 4H, Nassau County School District - Career Education Nassau County Sheriff's Office Charities, Nassau Education Foundation, Nassau Habitat for Humanity, School Board of Nassau County, St. Marys Riverkeeper, Take Stock in Children of Nassau County, THATS Foundation, The Arc Nassau, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society NE, Florida Chapter The Salvation Army - Hope House, The US Constitution Scholarship Foundation, The Westside Optimist Club, Traders Hill Farm, Trinity Love Hoblit Foundation, UF/IFAS School of Forest Resources, The US Constitution Scholarship Foundation, Veterans Council of Nassau County, and the West Nassau Historical Society.

## CHURCH NEWS

Enjoy a contactless drive-thru Bethlehem at St. George Church of God, 11912 Johnson Street, 912-253-2386, December 12 & 13 from 5:30-7 p.m. Complimentary hot chocolate, candies and more!

Knights of Columbus is holding Turkey Shoots at Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church in Callahan Friday nights at 6:30 p.m. through December 18.

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# Barnabas Empty Bowls Drive-Through Event Successful

This year's 7th Annual Barnabas Center Empty Bowls drive-through extravaganza was a tremendous success, thanks to the hundreds of generous event sponsors, donors, attendees, volunteers and participants. Barnabas was focused on keeping its Empty Bowls attendees safe along the driving route as they enjoyed entertainment, a delicious meal of soup from presenting sponsor, The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island, and a unique hand-painted bowl to take home.

The Empty Bowls fundraiser is a symbolic reminder of the many "bowls" in our community that still need to be filled for people who struggle with hunger or food insecurity. Barnabas is especially appreciative of the support of legacy sponsor, Baptist Medical Center Nassau, presenting sponsor, The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island; and by a grant from the Delores Barr Weaver Forever Event Fund, est. 2015. More than 140 additional sponsors also made generous contributions to this event.

Barnabas supporters Jack and Charlotte Roberts created an event Challenge Fund grant, which gave event attendees the opportunity to match their \$10,000 gift. Thanks to generous local



To learn more about Barnabas Center and its services in Nassau County, and/or to make a donation,

please visit [www.BarnabasNassau.org](http://www.BarnabasNassau.org) or call (904) 261-7000. Find out why Nassau County needs Empty Bowls by watching a special video highlighting Barnabas' services during the COVID-19 pandemic at <https://youtu.be/9zVsSyM-HEQ>.



donors, the challenge raised more than the match sponsorship.

"We are so grateful to our generous sponsors and awesome community members who participated in our Empty Bowls event," said Liza Cotter, Empty Bowls Committee Chair. "We all had a great day outdoors enjoying delicious soup, entertaining musicians and a parade of happy Barnabas volunteers! Everyone felt so good supporting the dynamic work of Barnabas in Nassau County."

## Shoe Boxes of Love Project

Carol Weldon and Carlene McDuffie, president of the Nassau Coalition for the Homeless, are planning to distribute 30 to 50 boxes of clothing, shoes, a blanket and personal items to homeless persons in our community. We will determine sizes and preferences and purchase, box, wrap and distribute the items. We plan to place a card on each box listing the first name of each donor to make the gift box a bit more personal.



items that you have made or purchased that are suitable, please coordinate with Carol. If you have good sources for bulk purchasing, also coordinate with Carol.

If you elect to participate in this project, please send \$30 to \$50 per sponsored box to Carol and she will see that the "Shoe Boxes of Love" project is completed. Carlene will see that the boxes reach the homeless.

Carlene will identify the recipients, organize the wrapping work force, and help with purchasing tasks. Carol will collect funds from donors and help with purchasing and wrapping. If you have

If you can help with the wrapping and boxing tasks, also call Carol at 904-491-8696 or at 904-557-5194. Her home address is 6 Ocean Club Drive, Amelia Island, FL 32034. Thanks in advance for helping.

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## America Is Under Siege

Dear Editor,

This is war, both psychological and informational. The enemy is the main stream media, China, Big Tech and everyone that buys into the communist propaganda. It is as destructive as bombs and bullets. It is tearing our country apart. As of December 7, 2020, these are the illegal Presidential votes that have so far been discovered, not including the Dominion Voting Systems fraud: Pennsylvania 121,000; Wisconsin 200,000; Georgia 204,000; and Nevada 95,000. On December 6, 2020, the FBI raided a private home in Arizona and confiscated bags of USB sticks, three computers and eight hard drives with a search warrant for possible "computer intrusion" into the Maricopa County Records website.

Rand Paul, our Senator from Kentucky, on November 30, 2020, said, "There were four data dumps between 1:34 a.m. and 6:31 a.m. that changed the results of our Presidential election. These dumps are Michigan: 141,258 Biden and 5,698 Trump; Wisconsin 143,379 Biden and 25,163 Trump; Georgia 136,155 and 29,115 Trump; second Michigan dump 54,497 and 4,718 Trump.

The damning videos of the Fulton County voter center shown to the Georgia legislators is just one prime example of what transpired during this election fraud. The folks in these videos that ushered out poll watchers and other employees so they could roll out their suitcases full of Biden ballots and run them through the machines have all lawyered up now.

This current fraud update is only the first peeling of the onion. The findings from the Dominion Voting Systems forensic exams will make these numbers I have posted look small. China's involvement in the creation of these machines, the modems, the big money contracts with Republican governors, continues the siege of our great nation.

It is my prayer, that this paper will have the courage to print my voice of the people submission. I would encourage everyone to call your Congressman in Washington to express your concern for what appears to not be fraud but rampant organized treason. God bless our dumbed down country.

Hal C. Whitley

## Letters to the Editor

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

### Support President Trump

Dear Editor,

The 2020 Presidential Election was arguably the most important election in US history. The stark reality that faces us is that we risk losing our Republic to people who hate America and all that we stand for. It is a battle of good versus evil. We will either fall to communism or stand in freedom. Lockdowns, unstable communities with defunded police, mandatory vaccinations, and skyrocketing taxes are only a few of the abuses we would have to endure should Biden and Harris succeed at stealing the election from President Trump. We, as a people, must make our voices heard that we will not stand for tyranny. The time is now, or we may not have the chance to keep that for which the men and women of this great country fought and died. President Trump has worked tirelessly for us. Now it's our turn to support him.

On Saturday, December 12, there will be another MAGA rally in Washington, DC, to show our support for our President. TrumpMarch.com explains that this event will take place to encourage President Trump in his fight against the election fraud that has been perpetrated and "to demand transparency and protect election integrity." We encourage everyone to keep up with the March for Trump bus tour and Saturday's rally in DC.

If you cannot attend this event, please spread the word about it and watch it live on Right Side Broadcasting Network or on TrumpMarch.com. Being an active part of this historic time is critical. Our votes mattered on November 3rd. Our voices matter now to ensure that we continue to stand as "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The Crane Family

### Our Country

Dear Editor,

I read in the owner's manual that we don't fight against people but against spiritual wickedness in high places (Ephesians 6-12). So my prayer is Psalm 35.

Fight against those who fight against your anointed leader (Trump); contend with those who contend with our constitution, our freedom that you gave us. This nation has given more people, more freedom, more prosperity than any nation in history. Many believe God is the author of our constitution. It was the most important writing in the modern world besides the Bible. Many see this nation as the Promised Land.

Please read Isaiah 28:14-19, six verses and see our democratic so called leaders who have made lies their refuge.

Sincerely,  
Mickey Dupree

P.S. We are on the verge of a real miracle!

### A Christmas Message

Dear Editor,

Something to think about: Israel/Jewish nation was in slavery in Egypt for 400 years and God freed them. America was living in freedom for 400 years and God allowed them to go into slavery...The Liberal Left

Socialist Party. Known as the new USSoA, United Socialist States of America (Should they prevail). During this time of political unrest, it is a good time to take a break and remember the season which we are in. It is the Christmas season. A season that the new liberal left socialist would like very much to do away with. They know that the 'One' that this day represents is the biggest threat they have against their Anti-Christian agenda, Jesus Christ. The name that makes them cringe just hearing it mentioned.

Believer or not, Jesus Christ is the ONLY hope we as human individuals have to get out of this life alive. Believer or not, for whatever reason you celebrate Christmas, take the time to be thankful for the freedoms we have living in the United States of America. Please know that the churches will be one of the first institutions that the socialist left will close down. The Church of Jesus Christ is the glue that has held this nation together. When the churches fail, so will life we as Americans have enjoyed for so many years in spite of our differences as a people of diverse beliefs or political party.

So, Christians, we must have the courage to take a stand against this Satan-led party and be the church that Jesus would have us be and celebrate this Christmas season knowing that Jesus Christ is still in total control no matter what the days ahead bring.

And remember what we, the church, are here for and what the Bible says in Luke 19:10, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." That includes those of the 'United Socialist States of America' also.

Merry CHRISTmas!  
Hank Martinez Sr.

## God Bless America Yard Signs!

The AMVETS of Nassau County are holding a fundraiser selling God Bless America yard signs complete with yard stakes for \$10 each. Signs may be purchased at the Westside Journal office, 450034 SR 200, Callahan.



## The Water Boys

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## CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY!

Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Toys • Housewares • Clothing for Children & Adults

**First Baptist Church of Bryceville**

7732 Highway 301 • Bryceville

## Lunch with Santa



Saturday, December 12

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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Come take a picture with Santa,  
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**FREE Outdoor Event** (Weather Permitting) All are Welcome!

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## Beasley Celebrates 20 Years as Hilliard Councilman

Dawn S. West

The Hilliard Town Council met Thursday night for their final regular meeting of December and 2020. Prior to the meeting, the town hosted a celebration for Council President John Beasley for his 20 years of service to the town. Of those 20 years, Beasley has served as Council President for 19. A video was going during the celebration of several pictures of Beasley from his beginning to current day. Beasley was surrounded by his family and many former council persons also attended.

Once the meeting began, another video was shown provided by the Florida League of Cities announcing Beasley was receiving the Mayor John Land Years of Service Award. He was also presented, by former Hilliard Mayor David Buchanan, a



In other business, the Hilliard Volunteer Fire Department 2020 Run Reimbursement was approved. "We appreciate the support of the town," said Assistant Fire Chief Dallis Hunter. "We do this because we also love this town."

The next item, Ordinance 2020-09, which concerned amending Chapter 2 Administration Code Article 1 General, Division 1 Purchasing and Procurement Procedures, had much discussion.

Several months ago, Hilliard Attorney Christian Waugh noticed that the Town Code and the Town Charter did not match in their meanings. Ordinances are made that change the codes but the charter has remained the same. Waugh realized that one of the abnormalities was that at one time or another one of

the councilpersons made the comment that they had talked to the mayor about something. The Town Charter clearly states that the Mayor has no executive authority. "Councilpersons cannot talk to the mayor about town business alone but they can in a meeting or workshop," said Waugh. "That is part of the Sunshine Law."

Councilwoman Callie Kay Bishop advised the council that she agreed with the changes except the authority of the mayor. "I think this should go to the citizens to decide," said Bishop. "I also agree that the charter and code should be the same."

"What good is a mayor if he can't add anything to a meeting?" said Mayor Floyd Vanzant. "Just act as a mayor with no duties or authority."

"I don't ever remember one mayor ever having authority," said Councilman Kenny Sims. "I take that back. I remember appointing Mackie

(Mayor Cris McConnell) to fill in for the Public Works Director when we didn't have one and that was an emergency situation."

"I don't have any authority other than running a meeting. I'll just sit back and draw my check," said Vanzant. "I don't agree with this but if that's what the council wants that's what you'll get. There may be consequences to follow."

"What consequences could we be facing as a town?" asked Councilman Jared Wollitz.

"I didn't know we couldn't talk to you (Mayor) until our attorney told us," said Councilman Lee Pickett.

"You can speak or bring up anything you want during a meeting or workshop just not to us privately," added Beasley.

After much more discussion, the council voted 4-1 to approve the ordinance on first reading, with Bishop voting no.

In other business, Ordinance 2020-12 was approved on first reading, which concerns amending Chapter 58 Utilities Code, eliminating Section 58-126 Charge for Water Service for Fire Protection Purposes.

Parks and Recreation Director Gabe Whittenburg advised the council that the basketball program has already signed up 192 players. "Currently, we will have 24 teams and 18 coaches," said Whittenburg. "How many of you want to sign up to coach?"

The council will hold a virtual meeting December 17 to take care of payables and any emergency item. The next regular council meeting will be held Thursday, January 7, 2021.



beautiful plaque. As Beasley's family joined him for the presentation he was overwhelmed with emotion for all the accolades he was receiving. "What an honor it has been for me to be here this long," said Beasley. "One thing is for sure...I love this town. That is why I continue to serve."



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# NORTH FLORIDA AFTERMARKET

## Making Their Mark in Callahan

There's a new, local source for vehicle customization right here in Callahan! The grand opening of North Florida Aftermarket was held December 5 and was met with a great turnout! Visitors were greeted with a free gift and a chance to win a grand prize: a CamLocker truck toolbox valued at over \$500. The company also provided complimentary ice cream for all their guests during the latter portion of the event. Salesperson Travis Hadden recalled the excitement and energy of the event, "Everyone seemed to really enjoy learning about the products and services we provide. One man said, 'I can't believe we have this right here in our hometown! We don't have to drive so far now!' It was awesome to see and hear such support from our community!"

North Florida Aftermarket is located on SR 200, just east of Winn-Dixie and is locally owned and operated by Aaron and Emily Bailey, Callahan residents. Specializing in total truck, SUV and Jeep customization, North Florida Aftermarket offers a wide selection of products by nationally recognized brands. When asked what drove them to start this business, Aaron Bailey, who has lived in Callahan since graduating high school, said, "Ever since I had my first truck, I've enjoyed customizing my vehicles. Anything from leveling kits to brush guards...I've just always been into it! Emily and I wanted to share that passion with others."

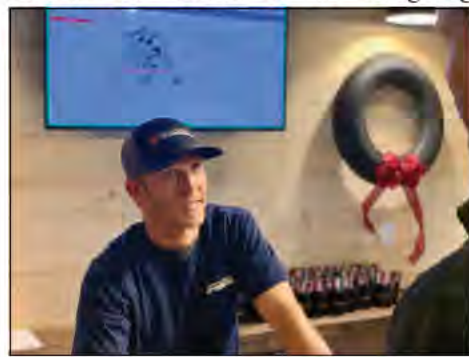
That excitement is evident when you walk into the shop...a recently completed storefront designed to be open and engaging, but still evoke an atmosphere of truck customization with displays, mockups, and product examples. Customers are greeted by friendly staff, among whom are

salesperson Travis Hadden and tire expert and installer Randy Lucero. "I really enjoy helping customers get the most out of their vehicle," says Hadden, "When someone comes in wanting to look at options for things like bed covers, running boards, or anything, really...I walk them through our digital catalog, they make their selection, and we place the order and schedule installation: all right here in the store."

Across the nation, the consumer's shift in thinking toward supporting local businesses is becoming more



widespread. And Callahan is no exception. But this "buy local" wave isn't without risk. When asked about regional and online competition and whether or not they were concerned they could compete, Emily Bailey, a lifelong Callahan resident, stated, "Anytime you start a new business, there's always the concern of whether or not it's going



to work. And sure, Aaron and I had conversations about how we would market the business, who our customer base would be and what, if any, impact



other retailers would have on our business. Ultimately, though after talking with friends, family, and doing some market research, we decided that we needed to go for it! We believe that having a local alternative to driving

a great distance for these products will be appreciated by our customers."

Starting out as a RanchHand dealer, North Florida Aftermarket quickly grew and began to make connections with regional and national brands as well as distributors that offer every type of truck, SUV, and Jeep accessory imaginable. In fact, North Florida aftermarket sells over 84,000 products from 263 top quality brands. "After our team evaluates the vehicle and our



customers make their selections, we can usually have many accessories delivered to our shop within 1 to 2 days," states Emily. "And we offer expert installation on many of the products that we sell."

North Florida Aftermarket also sells and installs tires... and not just off-road or custom tires. "We absolutely sell and install tires for all vehicle makes and models. Not just customized or off-road tires... any tire," said Aaron.

Additionally, North Florida Aftermarket provides fleet customization services for businesses and government entities. "We outfit vehicle fleets with tires, toolboxes,

leveling kits, on-board storage, lighting systems, and more," says Hadden, "We know that brand consistency for our business customers is extremely important. We will work with the customer and pair them with products that will be uniform fleet-wide."

When asked about the upcoming Christmas Season and forecasting product demand, Emily said, "We couldn't be more excited for Christmas this year! People are looking for the perfect gift for their friends and family, and our team is happy to help! We're taking new orders all the time from customers who want to gift items from floor mats all the way to truck bed covers! And since these products are specialized to make, model, and trim level, we offer gift cards if the customer isn't sure what to buy."

"We've already seen such an amazing response from the community," says Aaron, "We believe that more and more people want to buy from local businesses, and we're thankful they're choosing to do business with us!"

North Florida Aftermarket is located at 450124 SR 200 in Callahan. Learn more by calling 904-710-2728 or visit: [www.northfloridaaftermarket.com](http://www.northfloridaaftermarket.com).

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10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Callahan Depot - 45383 Dixie Avenue  
CallahanMarket@comcast.net for vendor information.



# New Beginnings and Milestones

## Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday David Lee' Walter Rowell, IV



Lee Rowell celebrated his first birthday November 25. He celebrated his special day with a 'Mickey Mouse' themed party held in his honor with lots of family and friends joining in the fun! His proud parents are David Rowell, III and Ashlee Humphries of St. Marys, Georgia.

Proud grandparents are Mandy and Scott Young of Callahan; and Mary and Timothy Humphries of Yulee.

## Jackson Baylor Ward



Brooke Harrell and Jason Ward, of Jacksonville, are proud to announce the birth of their son Jackson Baylor 'JB' Ward. This precious baby boy made his grand entrance into the world and into our hearts on December 1 at 9:18 a.m. at Orange Park Medical Center. He weighed 7 pounds 4 ounces and measured 19 ¾ inches.

Paternal grandparents are Bryan and Connie Ward and Norman and Carol Clark, all of Jacksonville.

Maternal grandparents are Mark & Rhonda Melton of Callahan.

What an amazing and beautiful blessing God has brought into our lives! "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you..." Jeremiah 1:5.

## CMS Band Students Chosen for State Honors Band

Congratulations to Callahan Middle School Band students: Carlin Delassus and Kanaan McCosh on being selected to represent Callahan Middle School in the Florida All-State Middle School Honor Band. They were selected from hundreds of submissions from across the state of Florida and will participate in over 70 virtual workshops conducted by world renowned musicians and teachers in January 2021. Both young men are diligent musicians and students, and we are extremely proud of their accomplishments!

Shown (l to r) are: Kanaan McCosh and Carlin Delassus



## CMS Cheerleaders Win 1<sup>st</sup> Place Bid to Nationals!

Last Saturday, the Callahan Middle School cheerleaders traveled to Tampa to compete in the UCA North Florida Regionals. This was the first time the middle school has ever competed at this event. The team competed against three other teams and won 1st Place in the competition. With this win the team also won a bid to attend and compete in Nationals in February. This will also be the first time that CMS will be competing at this competition! History being made at CMS! The national competition will be held at ESPN Wide World of Sports in Orlando.

The CMS team includes: Connor Villet, Jaycee Dover, Victoria Williams, Michaela Perret, Sophia Perret, Kayla Manasco, Riley Curtis, Kaylee Areal, Tatum Faircloth, Haylie Young, Abigail Keeton, Jaycee Leatherman, Cailee Pike, Rhylee Tillis, Kinley Crews, Chloe Lambert, Hannah Border, Kylie Hall, Kierson Jaques, Emma Boston, Leyla Selph, Jayden Massengill, Karlee Dailey, Baileigh Love, Katie Howard, Jagger Devereaux, Emma White, Molly Miller, Lacy Johnson, McKenzie Thompson, Ryan Blanchard, Alyssa Komegay, Claire Turner and Khamani Way. Head Coach Kaitlyn Green and Assistant Coach Ali Hartman.

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## WN AFJROTC News



The West Nassau High School Air Force JROTC Cadets demonstrated the Air Force core values which are Integrity, Service before self, and Excellence in all we do this past weekend. On Saturday, they marched in the Callahan Christmas Parade. Afterwards, they traveled to GTF Paintball in Yulee for team building and leadership development. They enjoyed playing several different scenarios while learning leadership, follower ship and teamwork all while having a blast!



They once again demonstrated the core value, service before self, when the AFJROTC Cadets donated 78 toys to the Callahan Fire Department Toy Drive for their Santa Run. They did a fantastic job and hope by donating they

can give a Merrier Christmas to some of the children in the town of Callahan!

If there are any eighth graders who would love to take part in these beneficial activities to the community and have fun in the upcoming year, make sure you sign up for ROTC your ninth grade year at West Nassau!

## Last Chance to Win Fundraiser Quilt

The members of the Country Star Quilt Guild have created this extraordinary quilt for the purpose of raising funds to allow the guild to continue offering quilting classes to the community and most importantly to continue supporting our local charities.

Measuring 84" x 84" this lovely quilt is an original custom design and custom quilted. The beautiful quilt is currently on display at the Westside Journal office. Its creamy background with small flowers and dragonflies is just mesmerizing. It's truly a work of art. The Guild is looking to the community for participation in their fundraising endeavors since most of their normal venues of showing the quilt have been canceled because of the pandemic.

The Country Star Quilt Guild is an amazing group of people that meet together and quilt and sew for the benefit of others. They are one of the most talented, selfless and giving organizations. The work they produce



is amazing and all are handmade, beautiful creations.

Tickets are: \$1 per ticket; or 6 tickets for \$5. Tickets can be purchased from the Westside Journal office, 450034 SR 200, Callahan through Friday, December 11. The drawing will be held Monday, December 14 at their monthly meeting. You do not have to be present to win!

## FUNDRAISER YARD SALE

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12**

**8 A.M. - 2 P.M.**

**CALLAHAN UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

Cub Scout Pack 351 is holding a multi-family Yard Sale Fundraiser on this Saturday, December 12 from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Callahan United Methodist Church. The Cub Scouts will be selling everything from furniture to toys so come on out for some affordable Christmas shopping. Your support is greatly appreciated!



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**COUNTRY LIVING,** large 1 bedroom, handicap and wheelchair accessible apartment, Nigerian dwarf goats come up in your backyard, utilities included. Call 904-672-6260. 121020

### YARD SALE

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY,** 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., 85912 Haddock Road, Yulee. Christmas items, Nascar items, weed eater, toys, new clothes, small appliances, collectibles, knives, dolls, throws and more. 904-504-7674.

**SATURDAY, DONATION YARD SALE!** ALL proceeds will go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. 36090 Congregation Lane, (off Dyal Road) Callahan.

**MULTI-FAMILY yard sale,** FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 8 a.m. until? Trophy Trail in Buckhead subdivision off Ford Road, Bryceville. Lots of good deals!

**SATURDAY,** 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., 55110 Fawn Court (Spring Lake Estates), Callahan. Tools, housewares, men's clothes, women's S-XL, boys 2T, tiller, new coffee table & much more!

**2 FAMILY yard sale! FRIDAY,** 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.; **SATURDAY,** 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., 35225 Quail Road, off Old Dixie, Callahan. Toys, clothes, housewares and Christmas decorations!

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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

**DIETARY AIDE,** part time evenings. Prior food service experience preferred. Please apply online at www.life-carecareers.com. LCCHilliard/904-845-3988. tfn

**SEEKING DETAIL ORIENTED,** full time worker (over 18) for restaurant hood cleaning company located in Callahan (25-30 hours per week). Must have valid & clean license, dependable transportation, reliable means of contact (availability for emergency calls), flexible schedule & not afraid of heights. Please call (904) 422-8472 if interested. 121020

**CUSTODIAL WORKER.** Nassau County has an opening for a Custodial Worker in the Facilities Maintenance Department at \$12.6880 hourly plus benefits. Applications will be accepted thru December 16, 2020. To apply please visit www.nassaucountyfl.com or for additional information contact the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 121020

**JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIAN/MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN.** Nassau County has an opening for a Journeyman Electrician/Maintenance Technician in the Facilities Maintenance Department at \$20.1346 hourly plus benefits. Applications will be accepted thru December 16, 2020. To apply please visit www.nassaucountyfl.com or for additional information contact the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 121020

**PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR.** Nassau County has an opening for a Parks & Recreation Director in the Facilities Maintenance Director at \$76,559.36 - \$116,494.28 annually plus benefits. Applications will be accepted until filled. To apply please visit: www.nassaucountyfl.com or for additional information contact the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 121020

**PRINCIPAL PLANNER.** Nassau County has an opening for a Principal Planner in the Planning & Economic Department at \$57,520.11 - \$87,523.55 annually plus benefits. Applications will be accepted until filled. To apply please visit www.nassaucountyfl.com or for additional information contact the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 121020

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**REDUCED:** Prime commercial property in Hilliard, US 1 North, 8.58 cleared acres, across from shopping center with two restaurants. City water and sewer available. Perfect for new venture. **\$375,000**

**REDUCED:** 34 acres on Runaway Cove Rd., Hilliard. Nice high land, mostly planted pines, creek on property, secluded, graded road, perfect for home or MH. Animals welcome, zoned open rural, new legal at closing. **\$306,000**

**REDUCED:** Nice building lots on Andrews Rd., Hilliard. Perfect for new home or MH, paved road. Beautiful homes in the area. 1.45 acre lots, 4 lots left, **\$35,000** each

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**BETTY JO ALLEN**



Betty Jo Hagan Allen, 88, passed away unexpectedly on December 7, 2020 at Baptist South Hospital. She was born December 11, 1931 in Hilliard, the daughter of Joseph and Nellie Louise Keen Hagan. She graduated from Callahan School, Class of 1947. After graduation she became an operator for Bell South for some time. Following, she worked several jobs and later worked as a caretaker which was the profession that she is well known for to this day. She married and was the mother of five children. She is preceded in death by her husband of 12 years, MacHenry Allen.

She is survived by her children Teresa (Billy) Konruff, Arthur (Stephanie) Gordon, Karen (Bob) Levine, Tamie (Terry) Cordoba and Kevin (Laurie) Gordon; grandchildren Tonya (Kent) Williamson, Melissa Adams, Jason (Neaka) Neiss, Mathew (Hilary) Gordon, Christopher Gordon and Nicholas Gordon; great-grandchildren Kevin, Josh, Carson, Malachi, Dawson, Meadow, Jared, Jason, Marcus and Penelope; two sisters Kitty Parrish and Norma Heheintzleman; and numerous nieces and nephews. Don't want to forget the people she helped to get started in AA. She was like a mom to a lot of them.

The family will receive friends Thursday, December 10 from 5-7 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home. The funeral service will be held Friday, December 11 at 10 a.m. at Callahan First Baptist Church, 45090 Green Ave., Callahan. Burial will follow at Jones Cemetery.

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

Nassau Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements, 879-1770.

**Obituaries are published free of charge.**  
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# OBITUARIES

**ANNIE MAE HAND**

Annie Mae 'Susie' Hamilton Hand, 72, of Jacksonville, passed away Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at Trinity Hospice in Jacksonville. She was born October 5, 1948 in Summerville, Georgia. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband Robert Lee Hand, Sr.; a son Robert 'Robby' Lee Hand, Jr.; and her parents Harvey and Carrie Hamilton.

She is survived by her son Michael Hand; and grandchildren Joseph Hand and Whitney Hand; and a number of great-grandchildren.

A graveside funeral service was held Saturday, December 5 at Little Phoebe Cemetery in Folkston.

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

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

**JAN H. JOHANNES, SR.**



Mr. Jan Herbert Johannes, Sr., 80, currently of Jacksonville, passed away Thursday, December 3, 2020 at Baptist-Oakleaf Emergency Room. He was born in Tacoma Park, Maryland, to the late Dana B. and Elizabeth A. Goodyear Johannes. Jan grew up in Maryland and graduated from Montgomery Blair High School, Class of 1958. His family moved to Clearwater, Florida shortly after he graduated from high school. He met his future wife, Lynne Petelle, in 1961 and they married in 1964.

After serving in the US Navy for 4 years, Jan then went on to work for the FAA as an Air Traffic Controller for nearly 35

years. Jan's passions were trains, history, photography and his late golden retriever Colonel. He helped establish and served on the board for the West Nassau Historical Society for many years. He wrote several books on Nassau County and Amelia Island. One familiar one was Yesterday's Reflections.

He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Lynne Johannes; his son Jan (Jennifer) Johannes, Jr.; his daughter Jennifer (Shawn) McLean; son Thomas Johannes; grandchildren Patrick, Lauren, Jacob and Zachary; and great-grandchildren Olivia and Savannah.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be made in his memory to the West Nassau Historical Society; the American Cancer Society; or G.R.E.A.T. Golden Rescue of NE FL, Inc.

A public service will be held Thursday, December 10 at 11 a.m. in the Burgess Chapel of Oxley Heard Funeral Home in Fernandina Beach. Burial will follow at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

Please share your condolences at: [www.oxleyheard.com](http://www.oxleyheard.com).

Oxley-Heard Funeral Directors.

**DOROTHY LEE MINCHEW**



Dorothy Lee Woods Minchew, 95, of Callahan, passed away Thursday, December 3, 2020. She was born July 20, 1925 in Douglas, Georgia, to the late Henry and Emmie Carver Woods. She was a homemaker and a member of the Anchor Church of God in Callahan.

In addition to her parents; she was preceded in death by her husband Homer

Daniel Minchew, Sr.; her son H.D. Minchew, Jr.; five brothers Samp, Jesse, Sylvester, Esther Lee and A.B. Woods; and four sisters Nellie Cato, Ethel Kimbrough, Doll Holley and Verdie Stephens.

She is survived by her children Diane (Troy) Arnold, Donnie (Tammy) Minchew, Rene' Guynn and Denise (Ronald) Bell; 12 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

The family received friends prior to the funeral held Tuesday, December 8 at the Anchor Church of God, Callahan, with Pastor Dwight Allen and Pastor Grady Albritton officiating. Burial followed in Jones Cemetery, Callahan.

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

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston, Georgia.

**DAVID LESTER O'QUINN**



David Lester O'Quinn, 63, passed away Sunday, November 29, 2020 at his home in Jacksonville. He was born on February 4, 1957 in Fernandina Beach, to the late Felton and Alma (Altman) O'Quinn. David was Baptist by faith and has lived most of his life in Jacksonville. He enjoyed watching NASCAR, working on cars and most of all spending time with his loving family.

David was preceded in death by his brothers Felton O'Quinn, Jr., George 'GW' O'Quinn and Jimmy O'Quinn; sister Sandra Taylor.

Survivors include his wife of 42 years, Barbara; sons Ronald and Kayden Horne; daughters Belinda O'Quinn and Natalie Horne; sisters Geri Schaeffer, Beth Dunham, Pat Morrison, Gwen Carney, Kim Sealey and Debbie Bay; eight grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and a host of other friends and family.

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# OBITUARIES

Service of remembrance was held Friday, December 4 in the chapel of Cedar Bay Funeral Home, Jacksonville with Brother Alton Crews and Greg O'Quinn officiating. The family received friends prior to the service.

Cedar Bay Funeral Home assisted the family.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the American Heart Association.

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

Callahan Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements, 879-2336.

## TINY MAE SIRMANS



Tiny Mae Sirmans, 79, of Callahan, passed away December 6, 2020. She was born February 14, 1941 in Stillmore, Georgia. She worked for Xemod Medical Equipment (Medtronic) as a factory worker producing medical equipment for 30 years. Following retirement, she enjoyed spending time with her family.

She is predeceased by her husband Bennie Lester Sirmans, Jr. (2016); her daughter Mary Lynnette Anderson (2016); and six siblings.

She is survived by her children Terri Lynn Gordon, Mike Sirmans, Donna Gail Nickel and Debbie James; her grandchildren Melissa Gordon, Alicia Libby, Sabrina Mummert, Tommy James, Kacie Cabal, Kelli Spivey, James Lynch, Cami Sirmans, Chris Lynch, Tyler James and Jordan Dillard; 14 great-grandchildren; and one brother Bobby Griffin.

The family will receive friends Wednesday, December 16 from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Callahan Funeral Home. A graveside service will follow at Jacksonville National Cemetery at 12:30 p.m.

## MARGARET LOUISE TURNER



Margaret Louise Groover Turner, 89, of Hilliard, passed away Saturday, December 5, 2020 in Jacksonville. She was born June 9, 1931 in Waycross, Georgia, to the late Sylvester and Mozelle Hand Groover. She was a homemaker and a member of Piney Grove Baptist Church.

In addition to her parents; she was preceded in death by her siblings Mary Tucker, Vernon Groover and Melvin Groover.

She is survived by her children Linda Sue (Jerry) Bandy, Henry Jerry (Carol) Turner and Thomas Glenn (Melinda) Turner; a brother Wilson Groover; seven grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held Wednesday, December 9 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home with Joey Cason officiating. The family received friends prior to the service. Burial followed in Oakwood Cemetery in Hilliard.

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

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston, Georgia.

## VANZANT FAMILY THANK YOU

The family of Freddie Vanzant would like to thank Baptist Nassau Hospital, Baptist Heart Specialist, Ascension Hilliard, Hilliard Pharmacy, Florida Agriculture Retirees, Ephesus Baptist Church and Pastor Marvin Lee for the service and the ladies of the church for providing food; and Steven and Melissa Popwell for singing at the service and Nassau Funeral Home for their professional service. We would like to thank all the family and friends for the love, condolences and prayers.



## Baby Donations needed!

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.

## VETERANS ASSISTANCE

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## Come Run With the Grinch!

The 10th Annual Callahan Elementary School Grinch 3K Run will be held this Saturday, December 12 beginning at the school at 8:45 a.m. Registration is \$5 per person. Each family will receive a goody bag. Make sure to get your picture taken with the Grinch and have fun in the run!

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# POLICE REPORTS

*Names, Addresses and all information appearing in the Police Reports are taken from the Sheriff's Department files and do not necessarily indicate guilt, only that arrests were made or charges were filed.*

## Wednesday, November 18

John Randolph Gainey, 35, 1845 Kinard Road, Bryceville: DUI Normal Faculties Impaired

Maurice Edison Moore, 20, 68042 Coopers Neck Road, Hilliard: Possession of Schedule I Substance (more than 20g Cannabis)

## Monday, November 23

James Harvey Smith, 66, 45156 Booth Street, Callahan: Battery Simple

## Tuesday, November 24

Chance Harley Ray, 30, 43400 Ratliff Road, Callahan: Writ of Attachment Child Support

## Thursday, November 26

Scotty Ray Brown, 44, 33250 Rattlesnake Trail, Callahan: Failure to Appear Driving While License Suspended/Revoked

## Sunday, November 29

Charles Edward Kilpatrick, 40, 371067 Eastwood Road, Hilliard: Violation of Injunction Simple Assault

## Wednesday, December 2

Michael Houston Mosley, 40, 44276 Pinebreeze Circle, Callahan: Violation of Probation Battery Domestic

## Thursday, December 3

Rochelle Ashley Rhodes, 26, 18044 Geranium Lane, Hilliard: Failure to Appear Misdemeanor, No Motor Vehicle Registration

## Friday, December 4

Nidia Vicky Cruz, 63, 45071 Evelyn Street, Callahan: Stalking Simple



## COMMUNITY MARKET OPEN NEXT TWO SATURDAYS

The Callahan Community Market will be open this Saturday and also next Saturday. The vendors, your neighbors, have been creating and baking all kinds of wonderful things for you. The Market will open this Saturday, December 12 and also next Saturday, December 19 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. for holiday shopping.

Your favorite vendors will be there including: Callahan Cookie Company, Totally Baked gluten free Bakery, Handcrafted by Alice, Color Street, Peggy Crafts A Lot, Crafty Hands,

Beach Girl Tumblers, Three Palms Farm, Papparazzi, Pampered Chef, Susie's Sugar Shoppe, Fields Sign Design, Scentsy, South Pine Design and so many more! We will also have two food trucks as well!

In January, we will go back to the first Saturday each month. We are located at the West Nassau Historical Society Museum and Railroad Depot, 45383 Dixie Ave., Callahan.

Please come out and support your neighbors!

## Nassau County 4-H Give Back!

This holiday season Nassau County 4-H has two great ways to give back to our community! We have a donation drive for multiple animal shelters; and a letter writing campaign for all our First Responders working through the season. All gifts can be dropped off at the Callahan Extension Office at the fairgrounds from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Howliday Drive (Animal Shelters):** Drop off treats, collars, halters, food, blankets, grooming tools, toys and other gifts in our Howliday box located outside the Callahan Extension office. Help our animals feel a little bit more loved this holiday season.



**Letters for Service:** Every year our members make cards for our police, firefighters and other first responders who may not be able to celebrate the holidays with family due to work! We must continue this tradition so we have set up an official mailbox outside of our Callahan Extension office but we will also collect letters at our Holiday Awards event. Each and every card will be appreciated, so please use your creative skills and give back to those who selflessly give to you! For more information, call the Extension office at 904-530-6353.



## The Great Outdoors

Carson Murray, of Callahan, took this 8-point buck while hunting this weekend. Congratulations!

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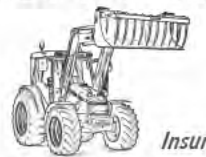
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## Callahan Santa Run This Saturday

The Annual Callahan Santa Run will be held this Saturday! The Santa Run is hosted by the Callahan Volunteer Fire Department. The volunteers, along with Santa Claus, take their fire truck and ride through the neighborhoods in Callahan visiting with children and giving a small gift! We realize it's a late notice however donated gifts are needed to help with the Santa Run! Those wishing to donate a gift may bring an unwrapped gift to Callahan Town Hall by Friday! The Santa Run is scheduled to begin around 10 a.m. Saturday morning, so be listening out for the sirens!



## CMS Beta Gives Back



The Callahan Middle School Junior Beta Club held their annual Thanksgiving Food Drive, which was very successful. The students collected and sorted over 400 non-perishable food items, which blessed 11 local families.



*Merry Christmas*  
to our Local Service Members

**We pray you enjoy your holidays safely and thank you for your service.**

Gabriel Albert (Hawaii), 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 Braawn (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 (California), Trevor Corum (Nebraska), Charlie I. D. Cox (South Korea), Quinn Coxwell (New Mexico), Gavin Crews (Germany), Tison J. Crews (Kuwait), 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), Robert Dodson (Florida), Devin Michael Dowling (Kansas), Christopher Downs (Arizona), William Clay Dryden (South Korea), James Dale Evans (Baghdad), David Farhat (Kuwait), Christen Fernandez, Clinton Fouraker (Virginia), Jeremy Francisco (Mayport), Jennifer D. Frederick (Colorado), Kevin J. Gahr (United Arab Emirates), Michael E. Garcia (Afghanistan), Marcus Gee (Iraq), Samantha Gee (Korea), Tabetta 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), A.L. Henck (Middle East), 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), Joseph A. Kidd, IV (Iraq), 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 (Iraq), 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. Robinette (Florida), Michael Robinson (Alabama), Jason Rodgers (Texas), Douglas Raymond Roth, Marc Rowe (Georgia), Brian M. Sartain, Jr. (Pensacola), James Sanders (Germany), Tressie Scott (Afghanistan), James Scully (Poland), Marcus Sharpe (Michigan), Donald Shaw (Iraq), Michael Shearer (Illinois), Jesse D. Silcox (Bahrain), Daniel Singley, Corey Slayton (California), Christopher E. Smith (Iraq), Michael J. Smith (North Carolina), David Stallings (Kuwait), Bill Starling (Iraq), Larry V. Starratt, III (Korea), Scott M. Stephens (Hawaii), Caleb & Jordan Stoner (North Carolina), James 'Mike' Stringer (Iraq), Joseph R. Taylor (Texas), Luke Thomas (Germany), Michael Thomas (North Carolina), Crystal Thompson (Iraq), Terry Thompson (Africa), Tiffany Thompson (Washington), Sarah Tindell (North Carolina), Andrew N. Turner (Alaska), Corey M. Turner (Texas), William Varner (California), Shawn W. 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), Jacob Wesson (Japan), James D. Whitman, Carson Williamson (North Carolina), Earl Youman, Jr. (Virginia)

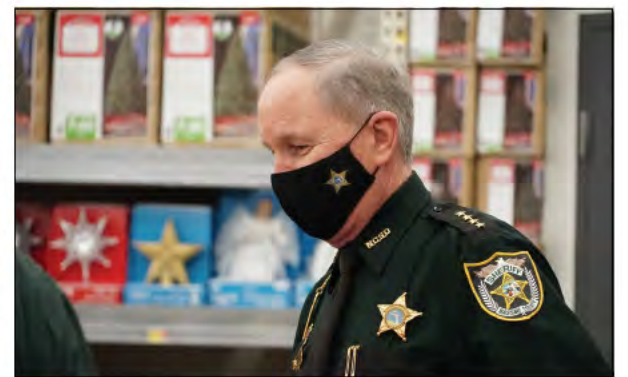
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