

WESTSIDE JOURNAL



VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 20

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2021



*"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign:
Behold, the virgin shall conceive
and bear a Son, and shall call
His name Immanuel."
- Isaiah 7:14*

Movie in the Park This Saturday

The Callahan Fire Department will host a Movie at the Park event this Saturday, December 4 on the evening of the Callahan Christmas parade. The event will be held at Ewing Park in Callahan and activities begin at 6 p.m. with the movie at 7:30 p.m. The event is called 'Remember the Magic' and the movie will be The Polar Express. Families are encouraged to bring their blankets, chairs and friends to enjoy the show. There will be eats, treats and fun things to do and the event is all free.

The Fire Department is asking for people to bring non-perishable food items for local food banks. The plan is to Stuff the Big Red Truck (firetruck) with food! There will be a food truck to

pick up a hot dog and also sugar cookies and hot chocolate. There will be a bounce house for the children to play on until movie time. Children, don't forget to make time to visit Santa's table and write your special letter to Santa! This is a great time for families to come out and enjoy a special night together without any cost! Make your plans to attend now!

Parking beside Ewing Park will be only for handicapped or seniors with first come first served. People will be directed, with signs, to park behind AA Bottled Gas (off of SR 200) in the field, where residents can walk to enter the park from the back. There will be a firetruck lighting the way!

Callahan Christmas PARADE AND CRAFT FAIR THIS SATURDAY!



The long-awaited Annual Callahan Christmas Parade will be held this Saturday, December 4 beginning at 11 a.m. The parade will follow the normal route which begins at the Historic Depot on Dixie Avenue, turn right and go all the way down US 1 south to 5th Avenue turn right and turn right again on Mickler Street and return to the Depot area.

The parade is always a joy to watch and participate in. If you've never experienced the parade, make your plans now to attend. There are lots of floats, marching bands, firetrucks, Shriners, horses and lots more. The finale of the parade includes Santa & Mrs. Claus! It is such a treat to enjoy and watch with your family and friends.

This year's parade is hosted by the West Nassau Historical Society and sponsors that include: Town of Callahan, Schwend Insurance, Anchor Church, Devoted Health Plans, Southeastern Bank, Meridian Waste, Joel Pace Piano & Music, VyStar and Callahan First Baptist Church.

The Vendor Craft Fair will be held on the Callahan Depot Railroad bed. The event will begin at 9 a.m. and will continue until 3 p.m. There will be pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Depot beginning at 12:30 p.m. Enjoy all kinds of vendors with crafts, woodworking, jewelry and lots more but don't forget there will also be food!

Come out and get into the Christmas spirit with your community!

Fatal Shooting in Callahan

Wednesday morning, the Spring Lake Estates neighborhood in Callahan was awoken by a heavy police presence. According to a briefing from Nassau County Sheriff Bill Leeper, a man is in custody after allegedly killing three individuals in a Spring Lake Estates home on Deer Run Road. NCSO was dispatched around 7 a.m. Wednesday.

Leeper said, "We do have the suspect in custody at this time so there is no concern for safety in the neighborhood."

Sheriff Leeper confirmed that two adult females and one adult male were fatally shot. He could not confirm if they were related to one another and said they are still working the case. The investigation is ongoing.

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Letters to the Editor

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

In Response

Dear Editor,
 After reading the letter in last week's Journal, I was reminded to be thankful to live in a country where everyone has a right to voice their opinion, as misguided and devoid of facts it may be. Trump! Love him or hate him. There seems to be no in-between.

Every commitment should be so easy. As we enter the "Season of Love" I'm glad to be on the love side. Happy Holidays!
 B.R. McConnell

In Response 2

Dear Editor,
 In rebuttal to the letter concerning the 2020 election and how we Americans "...should get back to our lives of less coronavirus risk" (only because President Trump fought hard to product the vaccine that saved many lives from the virus) "and to an economy that will stabilize once the shock and disruptions subside." When can we look forward to a stabilized economy when we can afford to fill our cars with gas in order to get to work and at the same time put food on the table for our families?
 President Trump has not yet decided if he

will run for president in 2024 and if he does he will be backed by the thousands of 'deplorables' who voted for him in 2020. PLUS those that now realize the truth about the incompetency of the current White House occupant.

Donald Trump is more qualified than the person currently in the White House and I don't think we need to start on the word "corrupt." The person currently in the White House has never worked for a living. He has been a scab politician most of his life. When the truth comes out about his connections with China (along with his son Hunter) we can talk about that. If you want to talk about a "lying sociopath" the writer should also check the record of the current White House occupant and how he, more than one time, plagiarized (copied) the works of others. Greed!
 President Trump donated his salary to charity...I cannot remember any other president that ever did that! Lastly, the BBB Bill that was passed by Congress. If changes are not made by the Senate to this bill, it will come back to bite Americans like the Obamacare Bill did.
 Make America Great Again, hurry 2022/2024. God Bless America!

Ceal Walker Hilliard

In the Kitchen...

Potato Soup

- 6 slices bacon
- 1 finely chopped onion
- 2 cups milk
- 6 medium potatoes, peeled and diced
- 2 cups boiling water
- 1/2 cup grated cheddar cheese

Fry bacon until crisp. Crumble. Combine the following in a large pan: 1/2 of the crumbled bacon, potatoes, onions and water. Simmer until potatoes are tender. Add milk and simmer 15 - 30 minutes. Add cheese. Season with salt and pepper. Sprinkle with remaining bacon and serve.

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DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p><i>oh come let us adore him</i></p>			1 Callahan Garden Club 10 a.m. Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	2 Hilliard Town Meeting 7 p.m. Food Giveaway @Callahan First Baptist 10 a.m. - Noon	3 NAMI Support 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging	4 Callahan Christmas Parade 11 a.m. Wildlight Market Place 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
5 Christmas in the Country Ephesus Baptist Church 6 - 9 p.m.	6 Food Giveaway FBC Gray Gables 9:30 am - 2:30 pm Callahan Town 7 p.m.	7 Exchange Club 11:30 a.m. Fernandina Golf Club NAMI Family Support 6:30 - 8 p.m. Alachua Club, Fern. Beh.	8 Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	9 Hilliard Town Meeting 7 p.m. Food Giveaway @Callahan First Baptist 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.	10 NCSO Night Out 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Hilliard Winn Dixie NAMI Support 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging American Legion & Auxiliary Post 401 Hilliard 7 p.m.	11 Callahan Farmers Market 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Callahan Depot CES Grinch Run 8:45 a.m. WNHS Express 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Boulogne Market 241905 CR 121
12 Voices of Mobile Christmas Concert River Road Baptist Church 6 p.m.	13 WN Genealogical Society 10:30 a.m. Lions Club Food Giveaway FBC Gray Gables 9:30 am - 2:30 pm Country Star Quilt Guild 6:30 pm @ The Anchor	14 Callahan Lions Club 7 p.m. Bryceville Club 11 a.m.	15 Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church	16 Hilliard Town Meeting 7 p.m. Food Giveaway @Callahan First Baptist 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.	17 NAMI Support 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging	18 Wildlight Market Place 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Callahan Farmers Market 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Callahan Depot
19	20 Food Giveaway FBC Gray Gables 9:30 am - 2:30 pm Sons of Confederate Veterans 7 p.m. The Pig Westside Optimists 7 p.m. Lions Club Barnabas Food Fairgrounds 12:30 - 2 p.m.	21 NARFE 11 a.m. The Pig NAMI Family 6:30 - 8 p.m. Alachua Club, Fern. Beh. NC Library Advisory Board 3 - 5 p.m. Callahan Library	22 PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	23 Historical Society 6:30 p.m. @ Depot	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 <i>Merry Christmas!</i> 
26	27 NC Beekeepers Association 7 p.m. Multipurpose Building Food Giveaway FBC Gray Gables 9:30 am - 2:30 pm	28 Callahan Lions Club 7 p.m.	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i> 	Happy New Year!

EVENTS AROUND TOWN

The Bryceville Community Club December meeting will be held Tuesday, Dec. 14 at 11 a.m. at the Bryceville Community building on Motes Road. The meeting will feature the singing of Christmas songs. Please bring a covered dish for the meal following the meeting.

The Callahan Cub Scouts will be at the Craft Fair Saturday at the Depot wrapping gifts (for a donation).

PRIMITIVE SKILLS EVENT this weekend. The classes will be held December 3-5 on Marigold Lane Callahan. Contact Rebecca at OurMessHisBest@gmail.com for more information or to register.

JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

It appears that I have to move on from the Kyle Rittenhouse verdict even though it perhaps has been the only positive event of the year. The one and only encouraging thing I have seen from our justice system in quite awhile.

I think I am going to cease saying, "nothing surprises me anymore." Every time I say it, something pops up that totally surprises me. This time it is the Salvation Army! The Salvation Army has always been a true Christian organization that gave assistance to millions of people with minimal money spent in operating costs. Unlike other organizations such as the Red Cross that pay their directors huge salaries, directors of the Salvation Army never got paid big salaries.

The mission of the Salvation Army has now embraced Critical Race Theory. The first red kettle was set up in America in Oakland, California in 1891. For 130 years they have been an outstanding organization with true Christian values and advancing the Gospel. No longer is that their mission. They now are embracing racist ideology peddled by anti-white activists including Ibram Kendi.

The Salvation Army is embracing the ideas of Black Lives Matter, a group I consider as a domestic terrorist organization. The leadership team of the Salvation Army has now created

an "International Social Justice Commission" which has developed and released a resource to educate its white donors, volunteers and employees called "Let's Talk About Racism." It asserts Christianity is institutionally racist, calling for white Christians to repent and offer "a sincere apology" to blacks for being "antagonistic...to black people or the culture, values and interests of the black community."

In an accompanying Study Guide on Racism, Salvation Army authors explain that all whites are racist, even if they don't realize it. "WE must stop denying the existence of individual and systemic/institutional racism. They exist and are still at work to keep White Americans in power," quoted from the guide.

As Tucker Carlson states, "As for me and my family, we are done supporting all aspects of the Salvation Army until they repent, become un-Woke, once again focusing on helping and bringing people together, not dividing as corporate social justice activists."

A text book for law students that was printed in 1954, lists the steps to overturn a democracy. The first two are: 1) Divide the nation philosophically and 2) Foment racial strife. They are following the play book to the tee. I agree with Tucker.

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

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Engage

Pastor Marty Paparo, Friendship Alliance Church, Callahan



Each year at our church, on some Sunday toward the end of November or mid-December, I give my “take it back” speech. It’s where I disappoint each child and make parents think about February. You see, as Christmas approached and Black Friday comes around, we begin to buy things. We buy stuff for ourselves and we buy things for others. We are told if we buy now we will save. But, I have to be honest with you. That’s not how saving works. When we buy stuff, we aren’t saving. In fact, spending money (even if it’s less money) is the opposite of saving money.

Also, just like November and December rolled around, January and February will soon roll around. And with those latter two, comes a reckoning. It’s called the credit card bill. We were so fast to whip out that card and swipe (or now-a-day “insert chip”). But soon, all our new debt will catch up to us. It’s OK though, because if we can’t afford the whole bill this month, the bank will be glad to forward the remainder to next month; for a hefty interest charge of course.

So, I make it a point each year to encourage our church attenders to “Take It Back.” Your loved ones will not love you more if you spend more. Let me repeat: Your love for others is not measured by how much you spend on them.

Instead, let me recommend you make a much larger sacrifice. We are in the middle of a Christmas sermon series from 12 Stones Church called One Christmas. In it we have been looking at the Christmas story through the perspective of Joseph. We recognized that Joseph was Present, Active, and Vocal for the first Christmas. He chose to Engage with God, with Mary and with Jesus at His birth. I want to encourage you this Christmas season to be present. Be present with God (spend time with Him). Be present with your family (physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually). Be active (don’t be a by-stander, get involved). And be vocal (share with your loved ones your thoughts, feelings, and ideas). This Christmas, Engage. Because our enemy would love nothing less than for us to disengage from God and our family and to simply smooth it all over with big spending.

Engage this Christmas as Christ has modeled for us. Christ was present here on the earth. He took an active role in saving us from our sin. His words are the full expression of God’s voice. When we Engage with God and our loved ones, we are imitating Christ. I love the way Paul put it: “*And you should imitate me, just as I imitate Christ.*” 1 Corinthians 11:1 NLT

CHURCH NEWS

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

The Voices of Mobile will be at River Road Baptist Church for a Christmas Concert Sunday, December 12 at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome! A love offering will be taken.

Have You Registered? NCCOA “Glimpse of Tuscany” All-Virtual Silent Auction is Right Around the Corner!

Here’s what you need to know about Nassau County Council on Aging’s “Glimpse of Tuscany” Silent Auction, Dec. 4-11 (all proceeds will help feed seniors in Nassau County):

- Register today! Text FeedSeniors to 72727 or visit nccoahome.qtego.net. It’s super-easy and will only take a minute or two.
- The auction is 100% virtual...you can participate from home in your PJs!
- We have close to 120 donations from local businesses and individuals... vacation home, cruise, Tuscan picnic for two, Megalodon shark tooth, freshwater pearls, handmade charcuterie boards, fine wine, gift baskets galore...even a s’mores fire pit!
- You may also donate online (click the 'Feed Seniors' button)...it’s

a wonderful way to end the year on a high note!

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

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

Remember...NCCOA’s Silent Auction is all-virtual so you can bid and donate from anywhere! Contact Liz Dunn, NCCOA Marketing Director, ldunn@nassaucountycoa.org, for more information.

Coats & Blankets Needed!

“Be the Change NE FL” volunteers visited downtown Jacksonville Saturday and gave out hats, socks and food to the homeless. The non-profit is now collecting jackets and blankets for their December outreach! Items may be dropped off anytime at Joel Pace Piano & Music, 14244 Pace Road, Jacksonville. Items will also be collected at the West Nassau Historical Society during the Craft Fair and Parade this Saturday. The nonprofit also held a yard sale fundraiser on November 26. Clothing was also given to those in need.



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Yvette Outler

We all need to know how we can cut back and save. Sometimes it is helpful if we have incentive, or motivation to cut back, such as: A bill that needs to be paid off or there is a particular Christmas gift that your daughter wants but you do not have the money for right now.

Here are two simple things that you can do this week to help put cash back into your pocket:

- **Bring your lunch to work everyday.** On the average a lunch out cost \$10. If you are eating out every day that is \$200 a month. Dave Ramsey says, "If you are in debt the only time you should enter a restaurant is if you work there." I agree. Bringing your lunch may take a little preparation on your part, but you can do it!

Tips:

- When cooking dinner, intentionally make extra for your lunch the next day.
- Purchase compartmental food containers with lids. Once dinner is over go ahead and prepare your lunch for the next day or two.

- If you do not want to cook, use this same method of packing with your favorite block cheese, deli meat and crackers, thus making an adult lunchable.

- Lastly, when I had an hour for lunch, I would use my electric skillet. (I kept it in the kitchen at work) and either sautéed' veggies for lunch or made myself a grilled cheese.

- **Refrain from buying coffee out.** Begin making your own coffee every



morning.

Tips:

- Invest in a good coffee maker. We purchased the Keurig Duo that makes a pot of coffee and a single cup. We use both daily!

- Use delicious coffee and good creamer. This way you are not shorting yourself on flavor.

- Use a cute travel mug. I know it is just a mental thing, but a pretty travel mug makes me smile in the mornings! On the average, a cup of coffee out costs \$5. That could equate up to \$100 a month.

Using these two areas for savings will help you put \$300 back into your account at the end of the month, not to mention help you set aside funds for your much needed emergency fund. (We will go deep in this topic next month). I pray that you'll be encouraged to begin your journey of saving today!

Yvette Outler is a Dave Ramsey's Solution Master Financial Coach. Start 2022 off right getting out of debt! Contact her for a free consultation at Fiscallyfree7@gmail.com.

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<p>3-Pack Bundle MEATY PORK SPARE RIBS \$1.99 lb.</p> <p>Expires 12-7-21 WJ With this Coupon</p>	<p>DL Lee Smoked Slab BACON \$4.99 lb.</p> <p>Expires 12-7-21 WJ Limit 2 With this Coupon</p>
<p>Country Style SPARE RIBS \$2.00 lb.</p> <p>Expires 12-7-21 WJ With this Coupon</p>	<p>10 lb. Bag CHICKEN DRUMSTICKS \$7.95</p> <p>Expires 12-7-21 WJ With this Coupon</p>

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New Beginnings and Milestones

*Happy 1st Birthday
Andrew Daniel Simmons*



Andrew Daniel Simmons celebrated his first birthday on November 17. He celebrated his special day with a party held in his honor at his house with his brother Carter and lots of family joining in the fun! His proud parents are Stephen and Rachel Simmons of Hilliard.

Proud grandparents are Max and Susan Carter; and Karl and Wanda Simmons, all of Callahan.

Congratulations

E3 DEMETRIO A. THOMPSON, II

Congratulations to E3 Demetrio A. Thompson, II on his recent completion of Boot Camp for the US Navy in Great Lakes, Illinois. Demetrio is currently in a training school. Upon completion, he will be stationed in Japan. Demetrio is 2021 graduate of West Nassau High School. His proud parents are Demetrio and Lisa Thompson of Callahan.



Hilliard Christmas Tree Lighting Held



It was a perfect crisp, cool Saturday night for the Annual Lighting of the Hilliard Christmas Tree. Several residents joined in the fun of the annual celebration held on the lawn of the Life Care Center of Hilliard. The organization of the music was done by Charlie Hahn of Boulougne First Baptist Church. Several of their church members along with others joined in to

fill the air with Christmas carols. Hot apple cider and cookies were provided to make the mood right. The annual event is turning into a great way to welcome the Christmas season and enjoy time celebrating with friends!

The event was topped off with a special visit from Santa Claus sitting beside a beautiful sleigh!



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Former West Nassau Graduate Pursuing His Dream

Dawn S. West

I recently had the pleasure of sitting down for a few minutes with Jeffrey McGee. Jeffrey, now 26, is a 2014 graduate of West Nassau High School and pretty much grew up in Callahan. While in school he was pretty good at basketball and was the perfect height. Of course, he now stands at 6' 10" tall if that tells you anything. Jeffrey received a basketball scholarship for Florida State College in Jacksonville. Jeffrey comes from a background of car lovers and the entire family of them can pretty much take a car completely apart and put it back together like I make a cake.



It's crazy. It's truly an art, a trade and a gift. Jeffrey remembers while he was in school his dad (Jeff) would make him throw 100 free throws before he could go in the garage and tinker with the cars. And he did it! While Jeff thought he was teaching his son the love of the game (basketball); he already had instilled him the gift of loving and learning vehicles as much as he did. Jeffrey attended college and played ball for two years then decided that was enough. "I packed up my clothes, loaded my truck and headed to North Carolina with a pocket full of dreams," said Jeffrey. "I left on a Sunday and



had a job on Monday. I haven't stopped since.

Jeffrey is blessed to have family in North Carolina, the racing capital of the world, where all the NASCAR, Xfinity and many of the Lucas Oil Series shops are based. He found his niche. He now builds cars, brakes, engines, tears apart motors and rebuilds them, etc. "Never a dull moment," said Jeffrey. "It's what I love. I enjoy the challenge of being the best I can be at what I do. In racing, you must be well-versed with the entire car. We have to be able to do anything on it to keep it going. I love it!"

In 2018, Jeffrey was a part of Austin Dillon's team when he won the Daytona 500. For being a part of the team, all



of the crew received a Daytona 500 ring with the date and their names on the ring. If you follow racing at all, you know that at the end of each season, drivers move to other cars and crew members do the same. For Jeffrey, he is now working with Paylor Motorsports that run the Lucas Oil Series,

which is racing on dirt tracks. Car owners, Donald and Gena Bradsher, and the driver of the car, Tim McCreddie (car #39), have literally taken Jeffrey under their wings. This year, the team won the 2021 Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series Championship, which was huge! "It was

so great to be right in the middle of all the excitement," added Jeffrey. "After all those races, long trips, long nights and days...it was worth it! Again, I love what I do."

Jeffrey couldn't give enough praise to his crew chief Phillip Snellen. "Phillip is like racing with your big brother. He's been such a mentor to me," continued Jeffrey. "He's been so patient with me. I have learned so much from him. There's nothing better than loving what you do and getting paid for it!"

At some point, Jeffrey plans to be a crew chief in one of these series. I'm sure we'll be hearing a lot more about Jeffrey McGee in the future! Jeffrey is the son of Jeff McGee and Gina McGee, both of Callahan.

OREMC Foundation Final Grant Awarded

OREMC Foundation Trustee Ramona Jones presented the final grant award of the OREMC Foundation's inaugural funding cycle to Micah's Place in Callahan. Domestic Violence Services Director Taylor Riffey was thrilled to receive the \$2,500 grant which will be used to help provide survivors of domestic violence with essentials and support throughout their healing journey.



The OREMC Foundation is a community development initiative to support education, community health and economic development in the Okefenokee REMC service area. To learn more visit: oremc.com/foundation. The next grant application deadline is January 6, 2022.

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32nd 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!
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FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 85912 Haddock Rd., Yulee, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Clothes, Christmas items, knives, small appliances, nick nacks, engine hoist, NASCAR items, throws, weed eaters, and many more items! Make offer! Call 904-504-7674.

YARD SALE, VFW Post 10095, Hilliard, across from Hilliard Airpark, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. \$5 Bag Day. Lots of new men's items and holiday décor.

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

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EXPANDING OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM. NOW HIRING! Apply in person to: The Sheik, 542104 US Highway 1, Callahan. tfn

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

Ed's Comfort Solutions, a local, family owned business, is seeking **HVAC DUCTWORK INSTALLERS, HVAC APPRENTICES and HVAC SERVICE TECHNICIANS.** Positions are available immediately! Experience preferred but not required. We offer competitive wages, commissions and benefits. Please contact Jason at (904) 225-5651. 122321

THE TOWN OF CALLAHAN is accepting applications for a **WATER & BILLING CLERK/RECEPTIONIST** - Entry Level. Applicants must be able to be Bonded, proficient in Microsoft Office, Customer Service oriented, able to multi-task & operate in a high traffic environment, and able to work Full Time - Monday through Friday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Applications are available online at www.townofcallahan-fl.gov or at Callahan Town Hall, 542300 U.S. Hwy. 1, Callahan, FL, 32011, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed 12-1 p.m. for lunch). Interested parties may email their completed Application & Resume to the Town Clerk at clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov or drop off at Town Hall. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. The Town of Callahan is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 120921

STYLIST NEEDED, station rent available, Callahan Salon. For more information call 904-403-9168. 120921

Last Chance for Quilt Raffle!



This lovely queen-sized quilt is an original custom design full of reds and greens and custom quilted. The quilt is on display at the Westside Journal office. Tickets are: \$1/ticket; or 6/\$5 with all proceeds going to the Country Star Quilt Guild. Tickets can be purchased at the Westside Journal, 450034 SR 200, Callahan until Friday, December 10.

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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 24

Keela Lynn Gaines, 46, 2475 SR 2, Hilliard: Carry Concealed Firearm

Saturday, November 27

Gregory Martin Henry, Sr., 51, Callahan: Writ of Attachment Child Support
Rachel Lynn Gail Ryals, 41, Callahan: Child Abuse

Sunday, November 28

Adrienna Rachele Jones, 29, 45048 Vera Avenue #12, Callahan: Possession of Methamphetamine

Monday, November 29

Johnathan Bradley King, 23, Hilliard: Bond Surrender (x3); Violation of Injunction Protected Ordinance

Shooting Still Under Investigation

Last Tuesday, November 23 at 5:24 p.m., the Nassau County Sheriff's Office received a 911 call in reference to a report of two people being shot at 96358 Otter Run Drive in the Otter Run Subdivision.

When deputies arrived they saw a male suspect on the front porch of the residence with a fatal gunshot wound to the head. Inside the home, a female victim had two gunshot wounds to her right arm and shoulder area. She was transported to UF Health Downtown Jacksonville with non-life threatening injuries.

The preliminary investigation revealed there had been an ongoing

quarrel between the suspect and the victim's family. The suspect, who lived across the street, approached the front door of the victim's residence and observed through the window the female homeowner (victim) sitting in a front office area. As the victim looked up she saw the suspect point a handgun at her and opened fire through the window striking her in the right arm. She got up to run and was shot a second time in the right arm area. She went into another room and hid and called 911. The suspect took his own life by fatally shooting himself on the front porch. The shooting is still under investigation at this time.

Crescendo Amelia Big Band Holiday Show Announced!

Our mission is to create vibrant, engaging and meaningful performances that bring to life the incredible legacy of big band & jazz music. We're proud to announce a three-city tour of our annual holiday show, How the Big Band Stole Christmas, a must-see family tradition featuring over 25 musicians and performers. This full theatre production features all your favorite holiday songs in a classic big band setting, with local celebrity singers, dancers, actors, and more! All shows start at 7:30 p.m. Show dates are:

December 4 - Theatre by the Trax, 1000 Osborne St., Saint Marys, GA 31558

December 10 - Theatre Jacksonville, 2032 San Marco Blvd., Jacksonville

December 18 - Fernandina Beach Theatre, 315 Citrona Dr., Fernandina Beach

Singer Line-up: Marah Lovequist, Toots Lorraine, Theo Canty, David Lee Redding, Eden Rewa and special guests to be announced from the stage!

Tickets are available online at www.CrescendoAmelia.com. Reserved VIP seating and ADA accommodations are available. Group rates, sponsorship and advertising opportunities are available. Visit www.crescendoamelia.com or email dennis@crescendoamelia.com for more information including how to purchase printed ads in our program.



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TOWN OF CALLAHAN, FL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of Callahan Planning & Zoning Board will have a Public Hearing for

TOPAZ OAKS

PARCEL # 29-2N-25-0000-0006-0110



Monday, December 13th 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.

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.

JIMMY ROBERT CARROLL
Jimmy Robert Carroll, 70, of Jacksonville, passed away November 25, 2021. Jimmy was born on February 3, 1951 in Folkston, Georgia, to Jessie and Annie Johnson Carroll.

He is survived by two sisters Rosie Higginbotham and Violet Betts.

The family will receive friends Thursday, December 2 at 1 p.m. prior to the funeral service at 2 p.m. in the Chapel of Callahan Funeral Home. Interment will follow in Mill Creek Cemetery, Hilliard.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

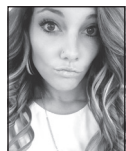
Funeral arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, Ellis McAninch, L.F.D., 879-2336.

BRITTANY LEA GRIMES

Ms. Brittany Lea Grimes, 32, of Jacksonville, passed away unexpectedly Thursday, November 25, 2021. Brittany was born on March 8, 1989, in Jacksonville to Victor Grimes and Stacy Arnstein. She was a sweet, fun loving young woman with a bubbly, outgoing attitude towards life. Brittany was a 2007 graduate of Hilliard High School. She was a loving daughter, sister and friend that enjoyed cheerleading, loved the Lord and her family.

Brittany was preceded in death by her great-grandparents David and Evelyn Rosenberg; grandfather Elliot Arnstein; grandfather John Gill; and stepfather Charles Mills.

Survivors include her mother Stacy Mills of Macclenny; father Victor (Mary) Grimes of Hilliard; brothers Cory Mills and Austin Mills of Macclenny, Josh Courchene of Hilliard and Joseph Courchene of Jacksonville; maternal grandmothers Susan Arnstein of Jacksonville and Deborah Arnstein of Atlanta; paternal grandmother Mary (Curtis) Ramsey of Gainesville; paternal grandfather William Grimes of Yulee; along with numerous other family members and friends.



OBITUARIES

The family will receive friends prior to the funeral Thursday, December 2 at Blackburn-Curry Funeral Chapel with Pastor Josh Potts officiating. Interment will follow in Manntown Cemetery.

Arrangements by Blackburn-Curry Funeral & Cremation, Macclenny, (904) 259-2806.

Please sign the guestbook at www.blackburncurryfh.com.

JOHN RAYMOND HARRELL

John "Johnny Ray" Raymond Harrell, 65, of Callahan, passed from this Earth into heaven Wednesday, November 24 at his home. He was born October 10, 1956 in Jacksonville, to Orville F. and Alice Smith Harrell of Callahan. Johnny Ray or JR, as he was sometimes called, grew up in Callahan and lived there all his life, other than the 4 years in which he served his country in the US Air Force. After his service, he went to work with Anheuser-Busch and retired after 33 years of service.

He was an avid Gators fan and in his younger days, enjoyed attending home games and a few away games each year. In 1995, he attended the historic Florida - Georgia football game played at Sanford Stadium in Athens, Georgia. He was also in attendance when the Gators won the National Championship at the Sugar Bowl in 1997. He was predeceased by his father Orville; and brother Charlie.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Sherry; mother Alice; brother Michael (Pete); and several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and extended family.

The family will receive friends Thursday, December 2 from 4-6 p.m. at Callahan Funeral Home. Burial with Military Honors will be at the Jacksonville National Cemetery Friday, December 3 at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, memorials may

be made to the charity of your choice.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

Funeral arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, Ellis McAninch, L.F.D., 879-2336.

WILLIAM CLARK KILGORE

William "Bill" Clark Kilgore, 87, of Callahan, passed away peacefully November 22, 2021 at his home. He was born on November 28, 1933 in Simpsonville, South Carolina to Wells Benson Kilgore and Vida Holland Kilgore. Bill was a truck driver most of his life. He spent a tremendous amount of time on the roads. When he wasn't working, Bill enjoyed reading the comics in the newspaper and telling jokes. Some might say that he acted like a big kid. Bill was preceded in death by his parents; wife of 35 years, Jacqueline Katrina Kilgore; son Garey Lee; sisters Mary Mobley, Harriett Weeks and Joyce Rothermel; brother John Kilgore; and grandson Robert English.

Bill leaves behind his children Patsy (Ricky) Fair, Jeannie (Clegg) Jarvis, Susan (Buck) Shaw and Joe (Tammy) Lee; brother Robert (Lillian) Kilgore; daughter-in-law Elizabeth Lee; five grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was held Sunday, November 28 at Jones Cemetery.

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

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



LENA G. PICKETT
Lena G. Pickett, 86, of Hilliard, passed away peacefully November 27, 2021, at the Community Hospice Warner Center in Fernandina Beach, surrounded by her loving family. She was born on February 10, 1935 in Brunswick, Georgia to Robert Homer Hanner and Libbie Gertrude Herrin Hanner. Lena loved spending time with her family and friends. She was a member of First Alliance Church of Hilliard and enjoyed fellowship with the other members. Lena enjoyed traveling and going on vacations. She was a member of TOPS Club since 1978 until recently and was also a member of the Southern Belles. Lena was a school bus contractor for 21 years. She then was a bookkeeper at P & H Hydraulic Service which was also the family business for 20 years before retiring. Over the years, Lena received many blue ribbons for arts and crafts she entered in the Duval and Nassau County Fairs, was a 4-H Club Leader for 3 years, and always had a great love for flowers and animals. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband Laverne Pickett; still-born son; brother Robert Hanner; and sister Winifred Carlson.

Lena is survived by her daughters, Becky (Ronnie) Purdy and Glenda Crosby; son Edward "Eddie" Pickett, Jr.; grandchildren, Carmen Sarratt, Michelle Purdy, April Purdy Brandies, Emily (Jason) Oliver, Ashley (Tim) Crosby, Samantha (Mark) Owenby, Dacey (Miranda) Pickett and Kent (Kerigan) Pickett; great-grandchildren Kayla, Alexis, Tristin, Lydia, Dawson, Hadley, Clay, Nixon, Riot, Lillyan, Hannah and Nathen; great-great-grandchildren Blake and Harper; a brother Harley James Hanner; and many nieces nephews, cousins and other extended family members.

Pallbearers will be Jason Oliver, Timothy Parsley, Bruce Thompson, Cory Sweat, Gavin Wettstein and Johnny Prescott. Honorary pallbearers will be Ty Simonds and David Greene.

The family will receive friends Monday, December 6 from 5-7 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home. A celebration of Lena's life will be held Tuesday, December 7 at 11 a.m. at First Alliance Church of Hilliard, 37207 Mill Street, with Pastor James MacFarlane and Pastor Ted Heglund officiating.

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

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

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Vendors Needed for WNHS Express Christmas Event

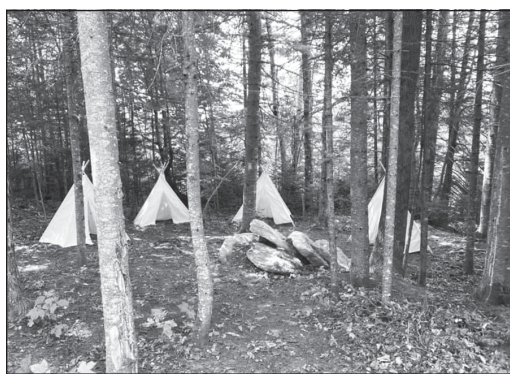
The students of West Nassau High School are gearing up for one of the biggest events they put on...the WNHS Express (formerly A Callahan Christmas). The event will be held Saturday, December 11 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at West Nassau High School. The event is a free community event for families and their children. The group is much in need for vendors selling their crafts, jewelry, wood crafts, accessories, etc. Anyone wishing to find out more about being a vendor at the event (\$40 fee) is asked to email the vendor coordinator at: callahanvendors@gmail.com.



that sophomore Carson Watts is working for. Carson is a Boy Scout and has been in scouting for 10 years. Carson is on the brink of achieving his Eagle Scout. To achieve his goal he must organize and finish his Eagle Scout Service Project. His community project is to collect \$2,000 at the event (from donations, vendor registrations, etc.) and donate \$100 to as many families in need that he can to assist with Christmas for their children. There will be a donation box at the event however those wishing to help Carson achieve his goal may make checks payable to WNHS (memo line: WNHS Express).

Primitive Skills Event Weekend

Tony Pike of Ancient Wisdom Survival School will be teaching bushcrafting skills this weekend in Callahan. Ancient Wisdom Survival School teaches students the primitive living skills that are necessary to survive short or long term in the wilderness. Our focus is upon using only the natural resources of the area. Demonstrations throughout the weekend will cover friction fires, hunting tools and traps, making cordage, shelters, useful and medicinal plants, finding and purifying water, and much more!



Come enjoy a fun weekend of learning lifesaving skills from the past. These classes will be held December 3-5 on Marigold Lane in Callahan. The cost is \$30/teen or adult for 3-day primitive camping; \$15/teen or adult for Saturday demonstrations. Contact Rebecca at OurMessHisBest@gmail.com for more information or to register.



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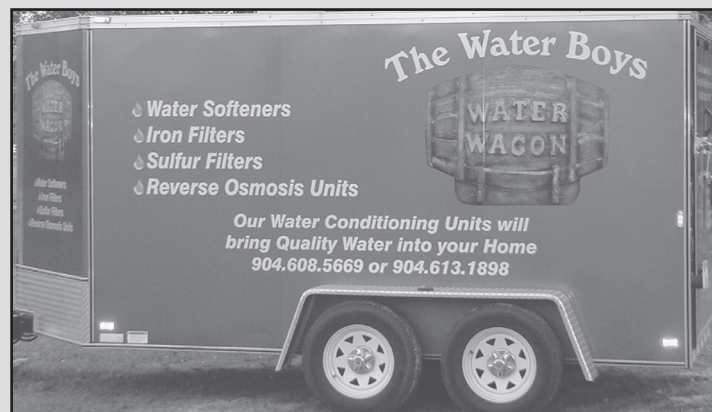
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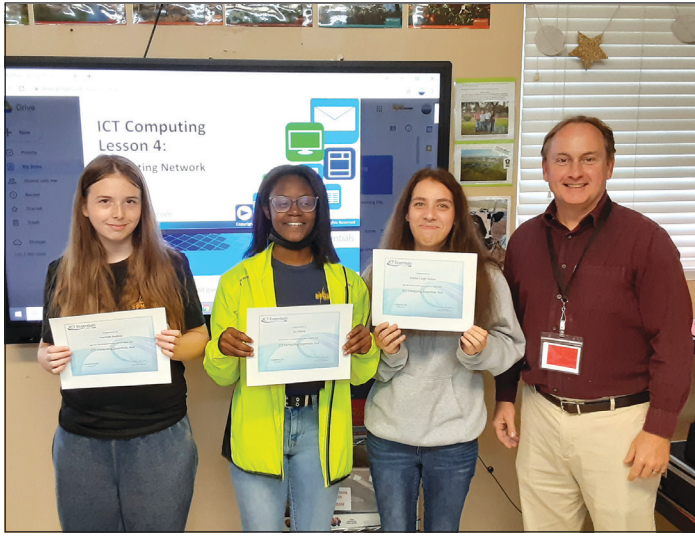
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New Sonshine Christian Technology Academy Sets the Bar High

Great news! Sonshine Christian Academy has received its first ever Digital Tool certifications! SCA students Emma Sutton, Ivy Darby, Hannah Andreu and Blaze Gonzalez earned their official Digital Tool Certifications in ICT Computing Essentials.

“It was A LOT of hard work and diligence on their part. We commend them for this accomplishment, and congratulate Sonshine Christian Academy on this historical event,” said Jonathan Petree, Technology Coordinator. “There are going to be many more students following in their footsteps in the



coming weeks.”

Beginning with the fall semester, 10 new Technology courses have been integrated into the 5th – 12th grade curriculum of Sonshine Christian Academy. The school now offers a robust schedule of courses including Computing Essentials (hardware, software and networks), Multimedia, Cyber Security, Communications, Web Design, Programming and Logic, Video Gaming Creation, Word Processing, Spreadsheets and Database Management. The SCA Technology Academy is a three year program with the goal of equipping students for academic success today, and professional success tomorrow. Sonshine Christian Academy is an accredited K-12 school in Callahan.

To find out more, visit: www.sonshinechristian.com.

Toy Donations Needed for Santa Run

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

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





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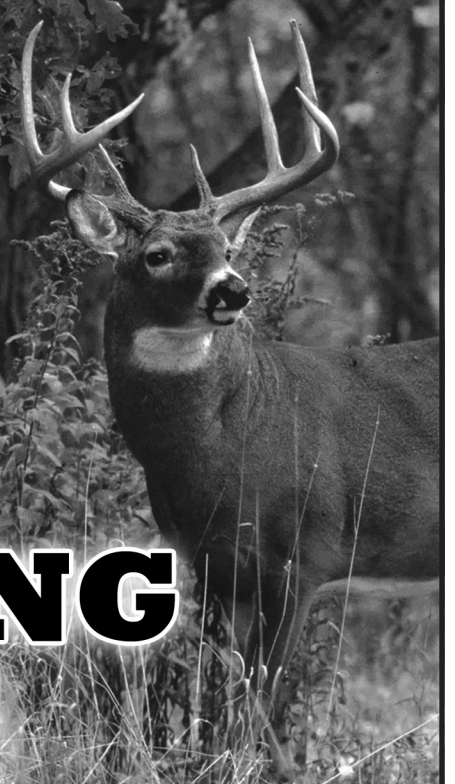
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