

"DO NOT CONFORM TO THE PATTERN OF THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND. THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO TEST AND APPROVE WHAT GOD'S WILL IS—HIS GOOD, PLEASING AND PERFECT WILL." - ROMANS 12:2

WNHS AFJROTC Needs Your Support



John Page

Last Friday, I learned that the West Nassau High School Air Force JROTC was in need of financial assistance. Every year, the group takes approximately 33 cadets to The Citadel in South Carolina to attend the premier Cadet Leadership Training Course in the country. This is a 6-day course filled with physical training (PT), team building, communication, discipline and leadership training. Every day starts at 5:30 a.m. with PT and a 3-5 mile run. They finish the evening with team sports and lights out at 10:30 p.m. It is a grueling schedule for the cadets, but they learn more about themselves during these six days than they do all year in the classroom environment. Each year, the cadets excel in all aspects winning awards for the fastest runners, best marchers, top cadets in their flight and top flight commanders.

The cost is \$450 per cadet and in past years the Air Force has covered \$250 per cadet. The cadets normally hold fundraisers to cover the remaining amount. Due to the COVID crisis, the cadets were unable to hold fundraisers (fair booth, car washes, etc.).

This past week, our JROTC unit learned the Air Force will not be able

to provide any funding this year. That leaves the WNHS JROTC with a shortfall of \$8,250. Unfortunately, they did not give any unit an extension for registration, which is in March. The unit has an incredible parent booster club that supports the cadets, but this amount and short time is not supported in their budget and schedule.

The unit, which is the only JROTC in Nassau County, needs assistance so all the deserving cadets can attend The Citadel Leadership Training Course; otherwise attendees will have to be cut in half. I have spoken to several local veteran and fraternal organizations that will be donating approximately \$2,000 combined, but additional donations are needed to cover the shortfall. Let's all

remember that these cadets are available at the drop of hat to help any time our towns (Callahan, Hilliard) need them. This is a time for not only the towns to help but also the businesses to help out, if possible. Every little bit helps!

Let's join together with these organizations in supporting this program. Checks may be made out to: WNHS AFJROTC. Donations may be dropped off or mailed to: WNHS AFJROTC, 1 Warrior Dr., Callahan, FL 32011. Thank you in advance!



WNHS Boys Basketball Win District Title




Last Friday, the West Nassau High School Warriors boys basketball team captured the District title after a hard fought game against Paxon High School by a score of 64-49. Paxon was the district winner last year. This was the first District title for the Warrior basketball team in 8 years! The team includes: Christian Bailey, Conner Bailey, Brian Blue, Dallan Coleman, Jacob Henson, Keenan Johnson, Tyler Lowe, Connor Simonton, Jye Thompson, Malcolm Warthren, Leondrel Whitley, Simeon Womack and Head Coach Ran Coleman. Congratulations! Go Warriors!

This Thursday, February 19, the Warriors will host the first game in the FHSAA Regional playoffs as they take on the Bishop Kenny Crusaders at 7 p.m. Thursday's game is a part of the FHSAA

playoff series, which includes: no honor cards, coach's cards, or any other passes (with the exception of the Silver State Series Card) will be accepted. Tickets will be \$7 each through GoFan.



Shown (l to r) are Assistant Principal Sherida Jones, Athletic Director Randalyn Bryant, Head Coach Ran Coleman and Principal Dan Snyder.



SHOW HOG RAFFLE!

Buy your tickets now to support the Agriculture Program at Hilliard Middle-Senior High School and you could win a whole hog, processed as you'd like. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 tickets for \$20. Tickets are available for purchase from the school or at the Westside Journal office, 450034 SR 200, Callahan, 879-4180. The drawing is Monday, March 1.

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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.

God is in Control

Dear Editor,

A whole lot of folks are unhappy with the results of the Presidential election. But the good book admonishes us to pray for those that God places in the governing positions. He doesn't guarantee that they will govern in our favor or always to our benefit.

The previous President served the Country well and his decisions and directives caused the country to prosper to a degree never accomplished before. Will we be able to say that about his successor? You all know the answer to that for he has set out to reverse every executive order that Mr. Trump executed regardless of the circumstances. Mr. Biden promised that he would provide jobs though his new green deal program. He instead did away with thousands of high paying pipeline jobs that would have benefited the environment thus giving his green new deal a black eye!

And because of his southern border decisions the immigrants are stacking up in droves and the cartels are once again in full swing. One good thing that has occurred however is that the spotlight is on Democratic leaders and already they are showing off their true colors by their recent removal of Representative Green of Georgia from several committees for irrational comments she had made prior to being elected. How hippo critical is that when a half dozen of sitting members of their party have made worse comments while in office!

So watch out AMERICA as it appears that we are in for a bumpy 4 year ride! Soon they will be coming for our guns with devious ways to restrict their usage. Last and no ways least, keep your eyes peeled for the New World Order for the Left will have greater access through the present Democratic administration.

Frank Kearns, Sr.

E-Notify Offers Court Date Text and Email Alerts

Never miss a hearing with E-Notify, a statewide program that notifies registered users about court events!

Whether you are an attorney, a defendant, a bail bondsman, or a citizen with an interest in a criminal court case, E-Notify is available statewide to send text or email reminders of hearings for the cases that you designate, at no cost to you.

Similar programs elsewhere have shown the notification system is effective. Studies in jurisdictions where electronic alerts have been implemented show significant reductions in "failures to appear," or instances in which defendants miss their court events.

Failure to appear for a court event can result in a warrant being issued for the arrest of a defendant. Fewer defendants with missed court dates will reduce negative consequences both for the

individuals and associated costs to the justice system.

E-Notify was designed specifically to fulfill the legislature's direction to provide alerts to defendants in criminal cases. The system, however, is not limited to defendants and offers a valuable resource to others who may wish to be notified of case events.

Users who sign up for the service choose how they will get alerts: by email, text, or both. Users are able to sign up to get notifications on multiple cases. E-Notify allows users to manage their alert subscriptions and make changes to which cases they follow or the frequency of alerts.

Users can go to: www.enotify.flcourts.org to sign up for alerts. The program was developed collaboratively by the state's clerks of court and the state courts system.

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Fish Talk

Sheepshead is the Word!

Chris Cockerham, Reel Habit

Sheepshead has been the word on the water. If and when you can get out, they are chewing good. With that said, our weather hasn't been very cooperative. This weekend is not looking any different, with fingers crossed that may change should you do decide to give these pesky convicts a shot. A Sparky Jig has been very productive or just your favorite Carolina Rig.

Look for sheepshead to be stacked up in the river and offshore. Vertical jigging with fiddler crabs over deep structure has been the key. One of the most common practices over the years has been setting up parallel with the jetties and dropping down on top of the rocks. The biggest thing will be to find the safest spot to anchor. Chumming legally can give you a huge advantage. Medium weight rod and reels with 20 to 30 pound power pro as your main line will provide you the best sensitivity. If you are tying straight to a jig head, tie straight to your fluorocarbon leader.

Leader size can depend on water clarity. For instance, if the water is cloudy, I'm using a minimum of 20 pound leader line. If the water is very clean, I'm downsizing my tackle by five or 10 pounds to keep the fish from spooking. Weigh sizes are determined by tidal flow and water depth. Keep in mind to use the lightest weight possible as long as you can feel bottom or the structure being fished.

In addition, black drum and whiting migrate in with our sheepshead. They're starting to show up all over our region. It's best to target deeper troughs along our beaches on the falling tides. While targeting whiting, use fresh clams and fresh shrimp. Again, tip them on your favorite fish finder rig or the newer improved sputnik rig.

Weather permitting, offshore reefs such as KBY are going to be the absolute most productive areas to target sheepshead. If you choose to go offshore this weekend, please pay very attention to the forecast. It really can turn a calm ocean into dangerous situation.

Good luck everyone, I hope you all have a great weekend. Remember, take a kid fishing! Tight lines...

JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

There is a meme floating around that asks, what does the "H" in the word Democrat stand for. The answer is "Honesty"! I feel as though there does need to be an "H" in democrat and it should stand for "Hypocrisy". Obviously the democrats have no morals as they continuously work to destroy good and replace it with bad.

Biden in his whirlwind Executive Order signing frenzy eagerly and boastfully cancelled the Keystone XL pipeline project which caused thousands of American jobs to simply vanish. This means Canada will have to find an alternative route and transporting methods for their oil. It also puts Canada in a position to work with China to accomplish the project. So, Joe kills American jobs, leaves Canada hanging with billions of dollars invested so that China can now profit from his action. Maybe Hunter needed some more money! Sleepy Joe defines his action as a step in the right direction to venture away from fossil fuel use and to protect the environment.

Here is where hypocrisy comes into play. Biden is promoting a pipeline to enrich both one of the world's worst dictatorships and a group responsible for thousands of American deaths. Biden has evidently approved a brokered meeting between the Turkmenistan government and the Taliban. If all approve this deal, a trans-Afghanistan pipeline will bring Turkman gas across

Afghanistan and Pakistan to India. This same scam was attempted prior to 9/11 by a consultant of the Unocal Corporation. This same consultant is now Biden's Special Envoy.

Never mind the environmental arguments and focus on the money. According to "Freedom House" latest report, Turkmenistan ranks among the world's worst offenders in terms of freedom and civil liberties. They ranked lower than North Korea! For the United States to assist the Turkmen gas line only makes the rogue regime even more powerful against their citizens. The second part of this may even be worse. Part of the deal is to pay the Taliban to protect the pipeline that's running through Afghanistan. This will give the Taliban tens of millions of dollars monthly. It is very sad when the United States State Department crafts a scheme to enrich the Taliban. I guess Joe is keeping his word when he stated "America first is no longer".

We are now living in the darkest days in American history. These days are darker than the days of slavery due to the fact that the slaves of past had no choice. These dark days we as a country have now are self-induced by a blind uneducated realization of what happens when a country accepts socialism. The bread-lines haven't begun yet, but they will come if this administration has its way.

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

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In the Kitchen...

Tender Round Steak

- 1 lb. round steak
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1/2 pkg. onion soup mix

- Dash salt
- Dash pepper
- Dash garlic powder

Cut steak into 1/2 inch strips. Place in crockpot. Add mushroom soup, onion soup mix, salt, pepper and garlic powder. Stir. Cook on medium for 4 hours or until tender. Serve over mashed potatoes, noodles or rice.

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Where is your focus?

Pastor Ted Heglund, First Alliance Church, Hilliard



Where you are looking will determine the direction you are going. We all know that when driving and we look to the back seat, at our phone or search for something that has fallen, often the car will drift out of the lane. This sometimes causes an accident. It is because our focus has turned away from the road.

I remember flying into Magoda, a small jungle airstrip in the mountains of Papua, Indonesia. There was a cliff at both ends of the airstrip. The big problem, when landing there, was always a downdraft just before the airstrip. The skilled Mission Aviation Fellowship pilots would keep focused on the end of airstrip because when that downdraft hit, suddenly you could be looking up at the top of the cliff. Their focus had to be firm so as soon as they saw the airstrip go from below the plane to above, they added power thus allowing a safe landing.

There are many examples in life of keeping our focus on things around us. There is also the focus we must have in our studies, career path and daily work. These are mental focuses of the mind to help us accomplish every day needs and wants.

However, there is another focus that each person must have. It is the spiritual focus that keeps the eyes of our heart and mind focused on God and His will for our lives. It is so easy for us to focus on what I want, what will make me happy, or be so inner focused that we exclude God.

In God's Word we are told in the first part of Hebrews 12:2, "Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end. He did not give up because of the cross! ..." So what does it mean to keep our eyes on Jesus? In order to do this one must first acknowledge we, like all people, have sinned and need to be forgiven. Jesus died on the cross to take our punishment for sin and it is by faith in Him that we have forgiveness.

Now, as a believer in Jesus, we are to fix or focus our spiritual "eyes" on Jesus. Very simply, it means that everything we do in life must be pleasing to Him. No matter if it is our relationship with others, our job, our relaxing time or whatever. Again we read in God's Word in 1 Corinthians 10:31, "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

Just like with driving, landing a plane, sewing or even catching a ball you must be focused on what you are doing. In your spiritual life Satan will try to get you to focus on anything but Christ. Satan will do this by getting you to think "O, how bad things are for me," rather than thanking the Lord for what He has done. It might be covering up sins of lying, cheating, sexual misconduct, or anything that would be against what Jesus teaches us.

It is easy for us to think, it will not happen to me, yet when people take their eyes off of living their life for Jesus, any of us can succumb to sin, both open and hidden. Even leaders in the church can fall and that is why you and I must fix, purposely focus, our eyes on Jesus (not others or self) and consciously "whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." Where are your spiritual eyes fixed?

Support Groups Aid Families of Suicide or Overdose

Losing a family member to suicide or overdose is a crushing experience for everyone involved. The pain, shame and guilt can be overwhelming, yet survivors often feel as if there is no one to talk to who will understand. A new Family Support Group offered by Starting Point Behavioral Healthcare, in association with the Vinson Foundation, provides a safe and comforting opportunity to spend time with others who have similar experiences. The groups are open to anyone and will be facilitated by mental health professionals. "Since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, suicide and overdose rates have risen," said CEO Dr. Lauren Pagel. "Promoting emotional wellness through community education and awareness is one of the most important pillars to our mission

at Starting Point. I believe it is our responsibility to address what's going on right here in our community. It is my hope that The Family Support Group will provide a home to anyone that needs to talk, understand, and grieve."

The groups will be offered twice each month in Nassau County. At the Hilliard Drop-In Center, the group is offered on the last Tuesday of each month from 5:30-7 p.m., 371015 Eastwood Road in Hilliard. On the second Tuesday of each month, the group will meet at the Fernandina Drop-In Center from 5:30-7 p.m., 2201 Sadler Road in Fernandina Beach.

There is no pre-registration required, but masks or face coverings are required to attend. For information, call Kayla Woodle at 904-225-8280, ext. 473.

FREE Clothing Giveaway Saturday!

Joel Pace Piano and Music Students will be holding a FREE Clothing Giveaway this Saturday, February 20 at the studio located at 14244 Pace Road, Jacksonville from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.! The students continued their outreach in the community by visiting downtown Jacksonville Sunday and passing out Valentines to the homeless community!



Happy 3rd Birthday
Callie, Coco
and Thunder!



CHURCH NEWS

KIDZ Jam Adventure! Friendship Alliance Church, Callahan! Wednesday nights through March 10, 6:30 – 8 p.m. All children ages 5 and up are welcome! For more information call 879-1907 or email Kidz@FriendshipCMA.org.

North Hilliard Baptist Church invites you to come as you are, Sundays at 11 a.m. The church is located at 552823 US Highway 1, Hilliard.

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Hilliard Parks & Recreation News

Gabe Whittenburg,
Parks & Rec Director

As 2021 continues to push forward, can you believe we are a month out from the start of spring? With the change in the season, more people will begin to venture out to participate in outdoor activities. Before you know it, our pool will be open and we will be in the middle of our summer camp which I am excited about putting together in my first year! We have great plans for the spring and summer and want you to know we are here for you.

Spring soccer sign-ups are winding down and we have been encouraged by our turnout. I'm looking forward to seeing all the kids out on our fields enjoying the lessons learned through participation in sports. In my opinion, these skills are foundational as they continue to develop and grow. Likewise, our gymnastics sign-ups are in their final week. I have been extremely pleased by our turn-out and am looking forward to our gymnastics season. I am also very excited about our 5K planned for Saturday, February 27. It is the first of our annual events we have developed for the adults in the community. My hope is that this event can grow even larger each year and become an event

that has broad reach beyond our local communities.

Looking back, last week concluded our HP&R basketball season. It was my first that I had the pleasure of putting together. I am always looking for improvements that can be made, but I was encouraged by the feedback I received this season. It was no doubt a community effort. I am thankful for people I met who were willing to step up and help without hesitation. I really think this is what makes our communities special. I am thankful for the supportive parents who demonstrated patience and grace as we navigated a season beyond the scope of anything we had ever done. I also want to thank the volunteer coaches as well as all the student volunteers from HMSH who spent their Saturdays in a gym or concession stand to help support our program. Lastly, I would like to thank the administrative staff and basketball programs at HMSHS for our partnership.

To close, I hope each of you will find an opportunity in your day to be active. Even if it can't be here with us at our Fitness Center or Parks, get out and enjoy the day!

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Fresh, Lean PORK BUTTS

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Expires 2-23-21 WJ

New 4-H Member Receives Donated Goat

Recently, a 4-H family reached out about beginning the 4-H dairy goat project but faced several challenges in getting started. To help this member on his agricultural journey, 4-H and Nassau County Farm Bureau partnered to find and sponsor his new dairy goat. Last Tuesday, Garrett Bennett, 12, of Yulee, was presented his new Nigerian dwarf goat at the Nassau County Farm Bureau office in Callahan.

This was a celebration of helping young people achieve their dreams despite life's many challenges!



Shown (l to r): 4-H Member Sayde Price presents Garrett Bennett with his new Nigerian dwarf goat.

Shown (l to r) are Janessa Reed of Farm Bureau, 4-H Member Sayde Price, Garrett Bennett and Kelsey Irvine, Nassau County 4-H Agent.

New Beginnings and Milestones

Bob Zortea Celebrates 100th Birthday

Nello 'Bob' Zortea celebrated his 100th birthday February 14. He was born February 14, 1921 in Johnson City, Illinois. He is a WWII Veteran proudly serving in the US Navy. He served in the Navy for 5 ½ years. In the 50s, he moved his family to Jacksonville (Dinsmore area) where he worked for General Motors, working in the Electric Motor Division building traction motors for locomotives. Mr. Bob now lives in Hilliard, where before the pandemic he was an active member of the Westside Senior Center. He enjoyed meeting up with his friends, enjoying lunch and making people laugh. He continues to have the most pleasant personality and is a very special person. He misses being with his friends!



He celebrated his special milestone with a birthday celebration held in his honor with lots of family and friends sharing special memories and well wishes. The room was decorated in all red, white and blue with a beautiful cake to celebrate the special occasion.

Mr. Bob has two daughters Gail and Jimmy Davis; and Inez and Terry Humphrey, all of Hilliard.

Beverly Eckes Celebrates 90th Birthday



Beverly Eckes was born February 23, 1931 in Hawley, Pennsylvania. She has been resident of Florida since 1978; and she moved to Callahan, God's county in 1998. She has been blessed with three children; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

She faithfully walks with Christ and continues to be active in the women's group at her church, Spirit of Life Lutheran Church in Jacksonville. She can be found almost every Tuesday, volunteering at her church's Food Pantry doing God's work by bagging food or doing whatever is needed.

 Look for us on Facebook!

Extreme Outdoors Raffle Fundraiser



Win a Barnett Blackcat Recurve Bow! The bow is a \$285 value on Ebay. The fundraiser is to raise money to purchase equipment (archery, kayaks, ground blinds, BB guns, camping gear, etc.) for outdoor events. Purchase tickets at the Westside Journal office, 450034 SR 200, Callahan. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 tickets for \$25.

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The Anchor to Host Missions Conference

Dawn S. West

If you are not familiar with The Anchor Church in Callahan, you are invited to enjoy a weekend of learning what the church is all about as they host their annual Missions Conference. The Anchor, located south of Callahan on US Highway 1, the big church with the blue roof, has gone through some 'God growth' in the past 3 years. Senior Pastor Dwight and Mrs. Bonnie Allen came to the church from south Florida. Pastor Allen was actually planning to retire but God had other plans for him. Following months of prayer and lots of tough decisions, the church is alive and well sharing God's promise of love and salvation. The church fellowship is quickly making its name known in the community. Pastor Allen is joined by fellow Pastors Jeff Carter and Youth Pastor Ethan Thompson.

Then March 2020 and COVID arrived. Things changed for each of our churches as well as this one. They, like many other churches, began live streaming their Sunday worship and offering drive-up church. Still with all the distractions, the church continued to thrive. In October 2020, the church held their first ever Pumpkin Patch, which was all outside. It was welcomed well in the community as they actually sold out! Like other churches, The Anchor began the process of opening up the church safely to welcome people back to church, and did so successfully.

"People were eager to come together again and praise the Lord together," said Pastor Allen. "When problems arrive we address them head on and continue to do service for our Lord. It's been a learning experience for all of us, but God provided guidance."

The Anchor is proud to announce their upcoming Missions Conference, Friday through Sunday, February 26-28. The theme of the conference is Go Ye and Tell! There will be 8 (if all are allowed to travel) of the missionaries the church supports at the event. Some will travel from

Africa, Europe, Romania, Uruguay, Equator, Philippines, etc. Some of the missionaries are in areas that are not allowed to be mentioned as it could cause harm to them. The first night (Friday) will be a service hosted by the youth of the church, so it's guaranteed to be a fun event! Everyone is invited Friday night, at 7 p.m., as it will also be a family night. Perhaps your child is in the youth program at the church...it would be a great time to see what they have going on! There will be



a service, pizza and some outside time with a fire! "We want to make this a special time for our missionaries. They will have their families with them too," added Pastor Allen. "They can join right in with the youth!"

Saturday will be a day of pampering the missionaries. Each will enjoy a fun day planned by the church fellowship ending with a progressive dinner, traveling from home to home with a different part of dinner, ending back at the church for dessert! Sunday will be back to regular Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. with missionaries visiting classes and also speaking during the worship

service at 10:30 a.m. The conference will end following the Sunday night service which begins at 6 p.m. All are welcome! "Statistics have shown that the average family gives less than \$20 per year to missions. This event gives people a personal link with the missionaries and what they do for the Lord," continued Pastor Allen. "Missions is the church. It's the whole goal of the church to reach people for the Lord. Missions remind us that we're a part of a much bigger church. 'We can do all things through Christ...' Philippians 4:13. Missions don't happen on the bank, you have to get your feet wet. Missions open the door to miracles...and miracles happen every day."

Make plans now to attend the Missions Conference at The Anchor Church, Friday, February 26 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, February 28 at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. The church is located at 541798 US Highway 1, Callahan. For more information call 879-2876.



Images from last year's Missions Conference.

Nice to meet you.

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Mark Brinkman, DO



Mark Brinkman, DO, is the newest family medicine doctor in town, joining Warren Groff, MD, and Stephanie Meyer, MD, at Baptist Primary Care's location in Callahan. Dr. Brinkman is passionate about family medicine because it allows him to form long-lasting relationships with his patients and to anticipate their health care needs. Dr. Brinkman is currently accepting new patients age 4 and up!

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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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Believe it or not, I chose law enforcement when I joined the service, the United States Army. I was flipping through a recruiter's magazine that showed all these different glorified job titles. There were pictures of the job description. The one that drew me to it was a



military policeman kneeling next to the Jeep with a canine. He had a German shepherd with him, and I've loved animals since I was a kid, so that was what drew me to it. My father was in the Jacksonville Police Reserves in the '70s and he would come home and tell stories of riding the midnight shift and whatnot. And I think it struck something with me.

I never gave it a thought about working weekends and nights and holidays, but the aspect of getting out there and helping people, it has been exactly what I thought it was. What I liked about JSO was I was there for 27 years. During those 27 years, I worked every zone in the city except for East Arlington, which is where I was raised. I was on a couple of task forces. I did highway interdiction. I did two rounds through the detective division.

My wife and I have been married

for 12 years. We moved to Nassau when I retired from JSO in 2015. The very first day on my own, I got called to an alligator in the lady's swimming pool. We were able to call the trapper and he showed me how to trap that alligator and get it under control. Then, almost a year to the day, we got called to another swimming pool on the opposite end of the island. It was another alligator and we were able to call the trapper. This time he let me catch it, but he made sure I did it in a safe way.

Where I ride the beach, I found a young family one day. We set up a little skit where we hooked his little remote control Jeep to the front of my truck and made it look like he was pulling me from being stuck. He really enjoyed that. That ended up going viral on the internet.

We had a couple of incidents when Hurricane Dorian was coming. My partner and I posed for a photo and then made a beam, where we'd issued a trespass to Hurricane Dorian, that way it would not come to the county. It seemed to work, as we didn't get hit by the hurricane that year.

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AARON COBB

Aaron Cobb, 79, of Hilliard, passed away February 13, 2021, at his home surrounded by his family.

Aaron is survived by one brother Clifton Cobb of Hilliard; two sisters Mary Reynolds of Citra and Margaret Harris of St. George; two special cousins and caregivers Loretta Higginbotham, and Melton and Jeanie Cobb, all of Hilliard.

The funeral service was held Tuesday, February 16 at Buford Grove Baptist Church with Rev. Curtis Harrington and Rev. Mike Pruitte officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Pallbearers were Hal McIntosh, William DiMaria, Kerry Davis, Author Joe Geiger, Ronnie Cobb and Randy Cobb.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, Inc.

JAMES H. M. FILLYAW

James H. M. Fillyaw, 75, of St. Petersburg, Florida, passed away February 3, 2021 from an extended illness. He was born to Leone and Tom

Fillyaw on October 27, 1945 in La Crosse, Florida. He was raised in Miami by his grandparents following his mother's death. He served his country in the US Coast Guard. Following his service, he became a professional Chef. He was an entrepreneur and his hobby was antiques. He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his loving four legged companion, George; his sister Janie Randall; his niece and caregiver Lyla Marie (Robert) Smith; nieces Brenda Libow, Sheryl Johns and Patricia (Joey) Crochet; and nephew Ben (Rebecca) Cothren.

A private ceremony will be held at a later date.

OBITUARIES

BARBARA A. GODWIN



Barbara A. Godwin, 76, passed away February 11, 2021. Barbara was born December 22, 1944, in Jacksonville, to the late Alford and Rita Schramm.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother Buddy Schramm; sisters Rita "Diane" Griffin and Sandy Mossuto.

Barbara leaves behind her husband, Charles Godwin; son Darren (Melissa) Cribbs; daughter Debbie King; brother John Schramm; sisters Michelle (Richard) Calvin, Donna Kieper and Joyce Piper; grandchildren Kandi Cribbs, Krista Cribbs, Brandon Crawford and Nicholas Cribbs; great-grandchildren Conner Cribbs, Parker McGowan and Julian Perlberg.

A Celebration of Barbara's life was held Wednesday, February 17 at Jacksonville National Cemetery in Jacksonville.

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

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

PHILLIP STEPHEN GUESS



Phillip Stephen Guess, 56, peacefully passed away Saturday, February 13, 2021, at home surrounded by his sister and niece following a long battle with brain cancer. He was born in Jacksonville on May 3, 1962. In 1973, the family moved to Callahan where he graduated from West Nassau in 1980.

He worked in construction and retail until he was no longer able. He loved listening to different types of music, watching scary movies and just spending time with family and friends. He loved all

people. He never met a stranger. He could talk to anyone and make them feel like he'd known them all their lives.

He is predeceased by his parents, Jo and Dale Guess; two brothers Terry Payne and Dale Guess; and two sisters Sue Myers and Dale Hurlay.

He is survived by a sister Corkie Reid; a very special niece Robin Nesbit; and many other nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles and many close friends, and of course his fur-baby, Suzie. A very special thank you for Robin's 24/7 care she had unconditionally given him. Thank you to Hospice and staff for their care and support.

Final arrangements will be announced at a later date.

JAMI LYNN HAVELIN



Jami Lynn Havelin, 56, of Jacksonville, went home to be with the Lord January 23, 2021. Jami Lynn was born on November 9, 1964 in Mobile, Alabama.

Jami graduated from West Nassau High School in 1982. She loved going to the beach, hunting for shark's teeth and her dog Bailey. Nothing was ever going to stop Jami from living life to the fullest! She had the most contagious smile and brightened any room she entered. She is preceded in death by her father James Havelin, Sr.; and her sister Brandy Havelin.

Jami Lynn is survived by her mother and stepfather, Linda and Ernest Harden of Callahan; siblings Mary Crawley, Elva Peppers, Ernie (Cyndi) Harden and James Wesley Havelin, Jr; nieces Lacey Cardell, Haley Wojtowicz and Lindsey Boomer; nephews Ben, Joel, Sam and Micah Harden and Austin Peppers; great nieces, nephew, extended relatives and many, many friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to No More Homeless Pets angel funds or your local humane society in Jami and Bailey's honor.

The family received friends prior to the celebration of life ceremony held Sunday,

January 31 at Callahan Funeral Home.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, 879-2336.

DELMAR KILBY



Delmar Kilby, 42, suddenly and unexpectedly was received into the Lord's open arms on Thursday, February 11, 2021.

He was born March 14, 1978 in Jacksonville, to William H. and Diane E. Mullis Kilby of Callahan. Delmar was a graduate of West Nassau High School in 1996 and received his college degree in Information Technology. He was a directional driller for Scientific Drilling. He lived life to the fullest and mastered anything he put his mind and heart into. He was a problem solver and enjoyed the challenge of taking on difficult projects. He enjoyed technology and was always learning new things. He loved and lived for his family. He married his high school sweetheart on November 22, 2000. He was eternally devoted to her and their two boys whom he was deeply proud of. Nothing in this world gave him more joy than his wife and sons. Delmar was well loved and respected by everyone who knew him.

In addition to his parents, Delmar is survived by his wife of more than 20 years, Brandy Jo Dozier Kilby; and their two sons Gabriel Sebastian Kilby and Noah Alexander Kilby; his secondary parents James H. and Lisa K. Dozier; one sister Kristy Y. Shuman and her two children Macy and Colby Shuman; one sister-in-law Danielle Dozier Hill and her two children Avery and Savannah; in addition to several aunts, uncles and cousins and many, many friends.

The family will receive friends from 5-6 p.m. Wednesday, February 24 prior to the memorial service at 6 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home.

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

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

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Taylor Michelle Overby*

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When I Lost You

I wish I could see you one more time,
Come walking through the door...
But I know that is impossible,
I will hear your voice no more.

I know you can feel my tears
And you don't want me to cry,
Yet my heart is broken because
I can't understand why someone
So precious had to die.

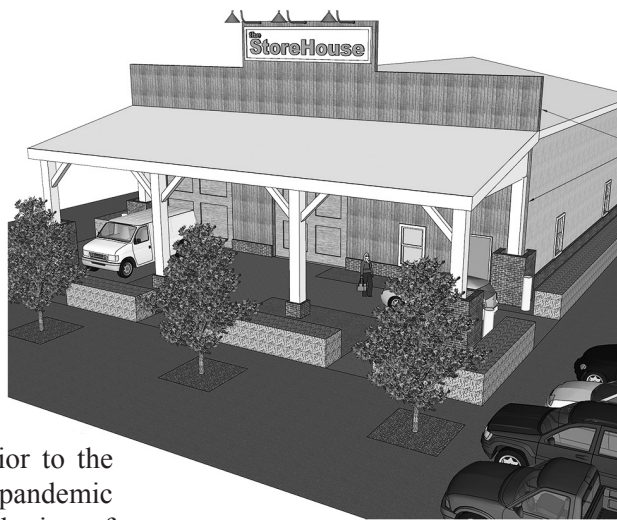
I pray that God will give me strength
And somehow get me through...
As I struggle with the heartache
That came When I Lost You.

Always,
your Nannie Ceal

Callahan Approves Site Plan for New FBC Food Ministry

Dawn S. West

The Town of Callahan met Tuesday night, due to the Monday holiday, for their final meeting of February. The first order of business was a Public Hearing and First Reading on the Site Plan Review for Callahan First Baptist Church's new Food Distribution Ministry. "The Lord had placed on our (members) hearts the need for a Food Ministry prior to the pandemic. However, with the pandemic we started with a food distribution of about 20 families," said Pastor Lynn Hyatt. "Now we are serving around 400 families every other week. Our vision is to have this building as a permanent home for our food ministry. It is a metal building but it will look much better, as you can see." (drawings were provided)



Councilwoman Jacquelyn Fleming asked, "Where on the property will the building sit?"

"It will be in the parking lot directly across from our chapel at the rear of the building across from the county building," added Pastor Hyatt. "We feel like that also may be an easy access from people visiting the county clinic."

The council approved the site plan on first reading. There will be one more public hearing on the issue.

The council approved two resolutions: Resolution 2021-R02 which concerned donating \$500 to the Episcopal Children's Services; and Resolution 2021-R02 which concerned donating \$1,000 to the West Nassau Historical Society for the 2021 Railroad

Day Festival that will be held Saturday, April 17.

In other business, a request for an ordinance change (Chapter 152) was discussed concerning placing a billboard within the city limits on the north side of town. "This request would require and Ordinance change as the Sign Code allows no billboards in the town limits," said Town Manager Mike Williams. "The only way you (council) can allow this is to change the code. That is up to you (council)."

A consensus of the council agreed that they do not want any billboards within the town limits and the request will not move forward.

The next item concerned a traffic study on US Highway 1. "There was a traffic study in January on US 1," said Williams. "In an 8-day period 96,000 trips were made on US 1. That was vehicles passing over the strip for the study other than the road is in good shape."

"I feel like the traffic lights need to be re-scheduled for the traffic," said Councilwoman Ashton Bishop-Vargas.

"When the lights were maintained the last time it was noted that the Wavetronix (the magnetic strips under the asphalt) for the main light and the Brandies intersection need to be replaced," added Williams. "That is scheduled to be done."

The next item concerned the review of persons for the attorney position. The town received only two applications from: Christian Waugh, P.A.; and Robert J. Grimaldi, P.A., both from the Orlando area. The council agreed to have a workshop set up so both applicants can talk with the council and they will make the decision. Waugh is acting as Interim Attorney for now.

In closing comments, Mayor Matthew Davis read a proclamation stating the month of March as Problem Gambling Awareness Month. The mayor also encouraged the council


to attend a workshop Thursday night at 7 p.m. with the Town of Hilliard concerning fireworks.

Councilwoman Janet Shaw updated the council on the proceedings with security at Ewing Park. "We have got several quotes on cameras and received more donations. I received another \$500 from Callahan resident Eddie Flynn," said Shaw. "Currently we are adding more lighting to the inside of the park with LED lights and also have purchased some cameras."

"We have gotten some prices on iPads for the council as requested," added Williams. "The cost will be approximately \$325 each, for 8 people a total of \$2,600. This follows a purchase under what the mayor can authorize if you (council) choose and the mayor agrees."

Mayor Davis authorized the purchase of 8 iPads for the town.

The next meeting of the council will be Monday, March 1 at 7 p.m.



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Three WNHS Athletes Sign Letters of Intent



Shown (l to r) are Trey McCullough, Chaz Davis and Franco Jimenez.

Last Wednesday, three West Nassau High School football players signed their letters of intent to attend college with an athletic scholarship. WN Head Coach Rickey Armstrong praised each of the players for their dedicated service to the Warrior team. “Each has their own special talents that they brought to the team and they will be missed,” said Armstrong. “We are happy for each of them as they continue their education and continue to play the sport they love.”

Trey McCullough was a 4-year starter for the Warriors and played Offensive Tackle. Trey will be attending Alcorn State located in Lorman, Mississippi. He will be a red-shirt and train with the team for his first year then his second year start playing. Alcorn State competes in the SWAC (Southwestern Athletic Conference) Conference. Trey plans to major in Criminal Justice. He is the son of Shanda McCullough and the

late Richard McCullough.

Chaz Davis is also a 4-year starter for West Nassau. He is an all-around player that loves the game of football. Chaz has served the Warriors as a running back, receiver, kick returner and also played defensive back when called upon. Chaz signed with Gannon University in Erie, Pennsylvania. Gannon is a private Catholic University that competes in the NCAA Division II level. Chaz plans to major in Athletic Management and/or the Sports Injury field. He is the son of Sarah Monds and Prentiss Davis.

Franco Jimenez is a 2-year starter of West Nassau as he transferred in from Jacksonville. Franco held the offensive line as a guard and center for the Warriors. He is looking forward to his time at Warner University in Lake Wales, Florida. Warner is a private Christian University that competes in the Sun Conference. He is the son of Melissa Infinger and Jason Corbett.

Congratulations Tristen!

Tristen Roddenberry was presented his 2021 Sunshine State Scholar Award at the School Board Meeting held February 11, 2021. Each of Florida’s school districts selects their top 11th grade students in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM). Each scholar, along with their parents, will travel to Orlando for an extraordinary two-day program designed to bring together scholars from around the state, connect them with employers that specialize in the STEM fields, and create a networking opportunity between the scholars and schools from Florida’s College and State University System. This year’s program will bring



103 high school STEM scholars together to conduct a “think tank” on tough Florida challenges. The two-day program honors each scholar with representatives from Florida’s colleges and universities to meet with the students to discuss higher education opportunities available to them in Florida. This includes workshops for college applications and informational sessions on college funding for students and their parents!

Congratulations Tristen! We are proud of you! Tristen is a junior at Hilliard Middle-Senior High School! You have represented HMSHS well! He is the son of Aimee and Shaun Roddenberry of Hilliard.

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