

"FOR OUR STRUGGLE IS NOT AGAINST FLESH AND BLOOD, BUT AGAINST THE RULERS, AGAINST THE AUTHORITIES, AGAINST THE POWERS OF THIS DARK WORLD AND AGAINST THE SPIRITUAL FORCES OF EVIL IN THE HEAVENLY REALMS." - EPHESIANS 6:12

Help to Sponsor a 4-H Student Farmer

Garrett Bennett, 13, of Yulee, was the recipient of a goat back in 2020 with help from the Nassau County 4-H and Nassau County Farm Bureau. In January 2022, Garrett met with the Farm Bureau Board of Directors and presented them with a book of his accomplishments with his goat and now many other animals. Garrett has special needs and being in the 4-H program and receiving his first goat, has made a huge impact on his life. Garrett has recently opened his own farm called Half-Pint Dairies, Quality Goats & Products. "We are a small operation now but have great potential for growth," said Garrett. "I have grown my herd to 6 goats, 20 ducks and 5 geese. Two years ago, I would not have thought this would be possible for me to achieve. I've found a new joy with my animals and I've learned so much."

He recently attended the Florida State Fair in Tampa and showed his goat, ducks and geese. The expense was difficult but with donations Garrett was able to attend. Another thing Garrett has learned through the study of learning about his goats is that goat milk is great for Garrett. He milks his goat, Nala, each morning and shares that it is a new skill for him. "We get my food from Nala every 12 hours. She is my primary source of nutrition as I live on a feeding tube," continued Garrett. "I



am basically allergic to most food and require special medications to be able to digest foods such as carbohydrates, starch and sugars."

Before he got Nala, he was struggling to gain weight and keep his metabolic conditions under control. He provides the best nutrition possible to Nala because everything she consumes eventually comes back to Garrett in her milk. For the first time in many years, Garrett is now thriving.

What a great story of encouragement. Garrett was dwindling away health wise and now he has such a desire to learn more and do more. Garrett could still use our support as he continues to grow his business. Farming is not a cheap business. To find out more about

donating to Garrett, you can email his mother Sarah at: Sarah.bennett@davis@gmail.com. If you would like to donate and help support Garrett's business adventure, checks may be made out to: Garrett Bennett and mailed to: 861574 Worthington Drive, Yulee, FL, 32097. Garrett also has a Facebook page at: Half Pint Dairies FL, where you can follow his journey!



Hilliard Town News

Dawn S. West

The Hilliard Town Council met Thursday night for their final meeting of February. The first order of business was the final reading on Ordinance 2022-01. The ordinance, which concerns an ordinance relating to public right-of-way; making findings; vacating public right-of-way within the proposed Greenbrier PUD with the Town of Hilliard; and authorizing recording of a certified copy of this ordinance. The council approved the ordinance. The Greenbrier PUD is the property located off of US 1 south of Winn Dixie and also borders Henry Smith Road in Hilliard. The property is a total of 161.25 acres. The total build out will be 350 single family homes.

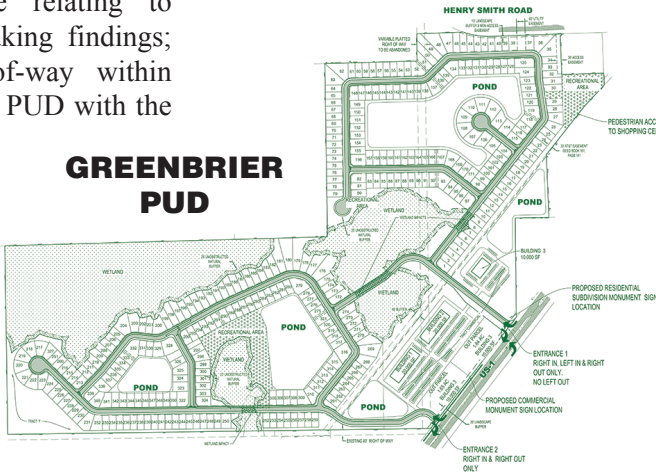
There was public comment from two persons. Jason Bergendahl, an employee with the Hilliard Public Works Department, approached the podium to just thank the council for the compensation that he (& the department) recently received from the town. "This is a great help for my family and I just wanted to personally say thank you!"

Mike Cole, who wears many hats throughout the county, first spoke as a board member of the Nassau County Economic Development Board. "There are some really good prospects looking all around Nassau County and several on the westside," said Cole. Second, Cole reminded the council that he is also a Commissioner on the Nassau County Ocean Highway and Port Authority. "I wanted to remind the council that the OHPA does bonds if you need help with any projects," added Cole. Final word, Cole also is Chair at Keep Nassau Beautiful. "Keep Nassau Beautiful will be hosting a Free Tree Giveaway on March 12. I believe people can get up to 3 trees," said Cole. "I also am aware of

your upcoming Town Clean Up."

"We will be having a Hilliard Action Committee meeting February 28th, if you would like to come," said Council President John Beasley.

"I'll be there," answered Cole.



The next agenda item was the approval of the Public School Concurrency Proportionate Share Mitigation agreement between the Nassau County School District (NCSD), the Town of Hilliard and Hilliard Equity's Resources, LLC, for the Greenbrier PUD. The site plans for the Greenbrier PUD have been sent to the NCSD, showing the district how many homes there will be and an estimate of how many children (students) will be living there. This way the NCSD can begin to plan where they need to build new schools to accommodate for more students. And in turn, the Greenbrier owners will have to pay a certain amount of money per student.

Hilliard Parks & Recreation Director Gabe Whittenberg requested approval to hire a part-time worker, Terry Gardner, to assist with the after school care. The council approved the request.

Public Works Director Ritchie Rowe advised the council that the town had received two bids for the mowing contract for the town: 1. No Weeds Landscaping, \$88,880; and Dixon Tree & Lawn Service, \$70,000. "Both

See 'Hilliard Town' on page 2

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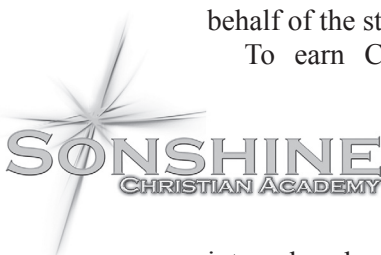
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Sonshine Christian Academy Earns Cognia Accreditation

Sonshine Christian Academy announced today that it has earned accreditation by Cognia™, a nonprofit organization that provides quality assurance for schools, school districts, and education service providers.

Cognia, formerly AdvancED, nationally recognizes districts that meet rigorous standards focused on productive learning environments, equitable resource allocation that meets the needs of learners, and effective leadership. Earning accreditation from the Cognia Global Accreditation Commission means that the school is accredited, and that Sonshine Christian Academy is recognized across the nation as a school that meets Cognia Standards of Quality and maintains a commitment to continuous improvement. "School accreditation as conferred by the Cognia Global Accreditation Commission provides Sonshine Christian Academy a nationally recognized mark of quality for our school," shared League of Christian Schools Representative. "It demonstrates to our community our commitment to excellence, our openness to external review and feedback, and our desire to be the best we can be on

behalf of the students we serve." To earn Cognia accreditation, a school district also must implement a continuous process of improvement, and submit to internal and external review. Schools in good standing can maintain their accreditation for a five-year term. Dr. Mark A. Elgart, president and CEO of Cognia, stated, "Cognia Accreditation is a rigorous process that focuses the entire school and its community on the primary goal of preparing lifelong learners in engaging environments where all students can flourish. Sonshine Christian Academy is to be commended for demonstrating that it has met high standards, and is making progress on key indicators that impact student learning." Cognia is the parent organization of the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI). Parents and interested community members can learn more about the Cognia Accreditation at cognia.org.



Be the Change Needs Donations



Be the Change of NE FL had their monthly outreach to the homeless last Sunday. The non-profit is collecting donations of men's pants, socks, hygiene items and peanut butter and jelly for their next outreach. Donations can be dropped off at 14244 Pace Road, Jacksonville.

Hilliard Town

provided necessary documentation. I recommend Dixon Tree & Lawn with the quote of \$70,000.00," said Rowe. The council approved the recommendation. The council approved change order #5 in the amount of \$1600. "This is the project ongoing under Georgia Street," said Councilman Kenny Sims. "This is why the sidewalks haven't been repaired in that area yet, as the work is not complete." Council President John Beasley requested permission to talk to Callahan about the July 4th fireworks. The council agreed. During public comment, Hilliard resident Brent Newton advised the

Continued from page 1 council that there has been a large amount of fast cars on Lee Street. "I live on Lee Street and have three small children. My children enjoy playing outside," said Brent. "I'm really concerned about the speeding on our road. Could we maybe put speed bumps down, signs, flashing lights, anything?" Town Clerk Lisa Purvis advised the council that so far the town has received approval on two of the projects that were sent to the legislature: Oxford Street Force Main; and the 6th Street Paving Project. The next meeting will be held Thursday, March 3 at 7 p.m.

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NCCOA Announces 2022 Board of Directors, New Appointments

Ken Saitow, Chair, Nassau County Council on Aging (NCCOA) Board of Directors, is pleased to present the 2022 Executive Committee and new appointments to the organization's board.

Executive Committee officers include: Ken Saitow, Chair; Rick Keffer, Vice Chair; Karen Hackett, Vice Chair; Gerald "Jerry" Mathe, Treasurer; Christina Bryan, Secretary; and Geoff Clear, Immediate Past Chair.

Jerry Mathe is a new appointment to the Executive Committee. Mathe spent his 42-year professional career as a banker across a broad array of financial services. He retired in 2014 as an executive from City National Bank, CA. Previously, Mathe held various leadership positions with Chase Bank (formerly Manufacturers Hanover Trust), as well as with HSBC. He is a retired Army Major having served 20 years in the U.S. Army/U.S. Army Reserve. Mathe's current charitable and non-profit activities include various committees for the Amelia Island Plantation Community Association and The Amelia Island Club; and is Past President of the Beachwood Villas Condo Association. He and his wife, Jill, have two children and two grandchildren.

Two new members have been appointed to the Board:

Tyrone Blue, EdD, a lifelong resident of Nassau County, served the community in both Nassau and Duval counties' school systems for 28 years. As a principal, teacher, athletic director and coach, Blue had the opportunity to impact and mold many students in



Northeast Florida. He continues to serve the community as Principal of Grand Park Education Center in Jacksonville. In addition, Blue

serves as an adjunct Professor at Nova Southeastern University and the University of Phoenix. Blue was licensed as a Minister in 2005, and currently serves as Senior Pastor for the First Missionary Baptist Church in Gainesville. He is also President of the Patricia V. Williams Chapter of The Concerned Citizens of Nassau County. He and his wife, Cynthia, have one child.

Susan Crawford, PhD, RN has been a registered nurse since 1989, with a focus on nursing science, adult education, rural health and managing chronic illnesses in adults. Crawford's practice largely consisted of caring for adult patients with various cardiovascular diseases, including electrophysiological issues. From 2009-2017, she worked in the university setting as a clinical instructor. After retiring in 2017, she and her husband, Don, moved to Fernandina Beach after living in the area part-time since 2010. Crawford is an active member and Elder at First Presbyterian Church, a volunteer with Rock Steady (a program for Parkinson's patients) and an active medical volunteer with Nassau County's Medical Reserve Corps, through which she has administered Covid-19 vaccines in the local area.



JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

I, for one, am about sick of the phrase "follow the science." Just what science are the politicians and scientists referring to? Which group are we supposed to listen to and believe? There are so many conflicting story lines that I am convinced that science is just another word for politics. I can no longer believe much of anything that 'research' unveils.

This is an Associated Press article: *"The Arctic Ocean is warming up, icebergs are growing scarcer and in some places the seals are finding the water too hot according to a report to the Commerce Department yesterday from the Consulate at Bergen, Norway. Reports from fishermen, seal hunters and explorers all point to a radical change in climate conditions and hitherto, unheard of, temperatures in the Arctic zone. Exploration expeditions report that scarcely any ice has been met as far north as 81 degrees 29 minutes. Soundings to a depth of 3,100 meters showed the Gulf Stream is still very warm. Great masses of ice have been replaced by moraines of earth and stones,"* the report continued. *"Within a few years it is predicted that due to the ice melt the sea will rise and make most coastal cities uninhabitable."*

I must apologize. I neglected to mention that this report was from November 2, 1922, as reported by the AP and published in The Washington Post 96 years ago. This must have been caused by the Model T Ford's emissions, or possibly from horse and cattle farts. Snopes says it's TRUE.

When I was much younger, we were told that earth was facing an upcoming ice age. The entire earth was going to freeze. Then later in my life, John Kerry declares there is global warming and earth is going

to flood because of the melting ice. Since many of the polar ice caps have grown they changed it to climate change (how convenient). Kerry and globalist Obama have both purchased ocean front mansions at Martha's Vineyard; Obama just built another mansion on the southeast corner of the island of Oahu, so apparently, they are not too concerned about the rising water they claim is going to happen.

No joke Sherlock, Earth has been changing ever since GOD created it. Science states our use of fossil fuels is the primary cause of "climate change" and I totally disagree. Perhaps it is caused by the sprawling growth across our planet, perhaps there are so many new skyscrapers that are predominantly glass which is reflecting the sun's heat back into the atmosphere. Heck it could be the thousands and thousands of acres covered with solar panels. All of the above leave less and less land to absorb the heat radiated by the sun. The most plausible explanation is, earth was created by God and He will sustain earth in His way and His timing. Therefore, I do not worry about what science says. They cannot even tell us if it's going to rain in 10 days.

If you haven't figured it out yet, this climate thing is just a part of the socialist move to ruin economies worldwide. Green energy cannot and will not sustain the world, but it will break the back of most human's ability to maintain a normal life. If you think the "pandemic" was bad, you haven't seen anything until you see the greendemic. I'm too old to live under socialism. I'm addicted to luxuries like toilet paper, electricity, food, clean water and shoes.

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

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The Big Story of the Bible

Pastor Benjie Loyd, River Road Baptist Church, Hilliard



In last month’s article, I challenged everybody to read the Bible from cover to cover. I understand that this can be a little intimidating. A book that has 66 books that do not appear to have any cohesion doesn’t sound all that thrilling. Maybe you would be more interested if you began to see the Bible as one book, telling one epic story, with 66 components.

The Bible is one book telling the grand story of redemption. If I were to ask you to summarize the story of the Bible in one paragraph, could you, do it? If so, what would your summary be? Here is my stab at the one paragraph summary of the entire Bible. In the beginning God created a perfect world and gave creation to his image bearers. God’s image bearers enjoyed God’s paradise until they rebelled against God by defying his one and only command. As a result, the perfect world has been cursed and death entered the world. God promised to redeem the world through another representative. The promised redeemer would come, but God’s people waited for centuries for the arrival of God’s Son to come to the earth. God’s Son finally comes to the earth and the creation rebels against him and murders him. Christ tasted death and arose from the grave so that the curse could be lifted and God’s image bearers could enjoy God again and experience salvation. Jesus is now the ascended Lord and he has given his people (the church) the mandate to be faithful ambassadors so that mankind can be reconciled to God through the Gospel. Jesus will come back again and when he returns the curse will be lifted from the earth and God will dwell on the earth with his people again.

This is the story of the Bible. The story of the Bible is the story of redemption through Christ. Christ is the only hero in the Bible. Every page in the Bible whispers his name. Matt Smethurst looks at the Bible through the lens of Jesus as follows:

- Old Testament: Anticipation of Jesus
- Gospels: Manifestation of Jesus
- Acts: Proclamation of Jesus
- Epistles/Letters: Explanation of Jesus
- Revelation: Consummation/Return of Jesus

When the Bible is approached this way, you will discover that there is nothing boring about this grand story. This story involves you and me. Jesus is the hero of the greatest story ever told. Over the course of the next several months, I will walk us through the story of the Bible together.

How to Differentiate Yourself and Your Business

All Nassau County Businesswomen are invited to join the Eight Flags Charter Chapter of the American Business Women’s Association (ABWA), Tuesday, March 8 at 5:30 p.m. for a presentation on “How to Differentiate Yourself and Your Business.”

Starting at 5:30 p.m. at Fernandina Beach Golf Club on Bill Melton Road in Fernandina Beach, the chapter will host Ms. Jodi Henson, business consultant and entrepreneur; Henson also serves as an advisor with the Florida Small Business Development Center (SBDC) in Yulee. She consults with existing and prospective small business owners in northeast Florida on all aspects of small business. “In this climate of enormous competition, employing effective methods to stand out among the pack is critical. I will cover the various strategies that help differentiate a business, and help you find the one that best serves you,” says Henson.

Each monthly meeting of ABWA provides a professional development

speaker who imparts the motivation and skills needed to create success in today’s business world. In addition, there is time to network with women from variety of businesses, skill sets, and experience. The organization meets on the second Tuesday of each month

at 5:30 p.m., beginning with networking, a light meal and followed by a program starting at 6 p.m. Please visit www.abwaeightflags.org to learn more and to register for the meeting. The cost is \$20 for members; \$25 for non-members.

The mission of the American Businesswomen’s Association is to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support, and national recognition. The Eight Flags Charter Chapter has been helping the women of Nassau County succeed for 52 years. This year’s ABWA theme is Together Towards Tomorrow.



Storing Eggs... Refrigerate or Room Temperature?

Meg McAlpine, UF Consumer Sciences IV Agent

If you buy commercially produced eggs (grocery store) then store eggs in your refrigerator. If you have hens and do not wash the eggs, then store eggs at room temperature. If storing these eggs in the refrigerator, wash them first.

Why the difference? Eggs have a natural protective coating – cuticle. It prevents bacteria from entering the egg. This natural protective coating is removed when eggs are washed. In the United States all commercial eggs are washed and sanitized and must be refrigerated. Refrigerated temperatures at or below 40 degrees Fahrenheit

slows the growth of bacteria and helps prevent bacteria from penetrating the shell. Eggs can be stored in the refrigerator for up to 5 weeks.

Unwashed eggs can be stored at room temperature for up to 21 days.



CHURCH NEWS

The Bridge Family Worship Center, Yulee will celebrate Youth 180 – Turn Around for God! Food, Bounce Houses & more, Sunday, Feb. 27 at 12:30 p.m. Call 904-225-4860 for more information!

Grace Baptist Church, 13290 Ranch Rd., Jacksonville, invites you to their Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. (Sunday school), 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; and Wednesdays 7 p.m. Pastor Bill Forde.

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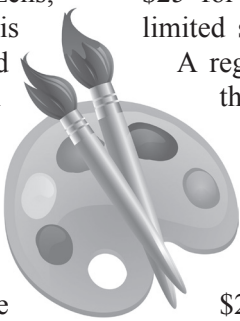
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Senior Citizen Art Classes

The West Nassau Historical Society is pleased to announce the offering of two art classes for senior citizens, age 55 and over, to be held this March. Each class will be held at the historic Callahan Train Depot Annex, 45383 Dixie Avenue. Art supplies will be provided by the Historical Society. A signed entry form and nominal fee are required for each participant to attend the classes.



The classes being offered are:
Tuesday, March 1 • 12 - 2 p.m.
Fence on Sand Dune/Acrylic Painting
Thursday, March 3 • 12 - 2 p.m.
Flowers/Acrylic Painting

Classes will be taught by talented Nassau County artist and instructor Ed Mosher. Ed began painting as a young child and has been sharing his impressions of nature through art ever since. He and his wife have resided on Amelia Island for over 30 years and Ed is an active part of the Plantation Artists' Guild and Gallery since its early

beginnings.

Class fees are \$15 for one class or \$25 for both classes. Class sizes are limited so pre-registration is required.

A registration form is available on the Historical Society website at: www.wnhsfl.org or by calling 879-3406. Mail the completed form with payment to the West Nassau Historical Society on the address on the form. A \$2 handling fee will be added to debit and credit card payments. The finished artwork will be exhibited during the Wearing of the Green Ice Cream Social on Friday, March 4, from 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the Callahan Train Depot.

The West Nassau Historical Society is an all-volunteer nonprofit dedicated to the promotion of history and culture in Nassau County, Florida. Funds for these classes are made possible in part from a grant from Arts and Culture Nassau, an advocacy group for the arts and cultural events county wide.

4-H'er of the Month Sam Riley



Sam is the "Can Do" 4-Her of Zooming In Club. Even though Sam has been in 4-H less than a year, he is actively involved in a variety of opportunities, events and his club. Sam began his 4-H journey over the summer with attending Day Camps and continued his membership at the start of the year. He entered art in the fair, attended our Holiday banquet and auction and has been an absolute joy to have in our program. Sam can be described as brilliant, compassionate and helpful in whatever he is involved in.

No matter what the task is, Sam says, "Okay!" with a willingness to learn and finishes with newfound confidence. He has even taken up leadership roles within his club.



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MEDAL OF HONOR MAIL CALL

CONNECTING THANKFUL AMERICANS WITH OUR NATION'S MEDAL OF HONOR HEROES ONE LETTER AT A TIME

The National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation is joining forces with Janine Stange for the 6th Annual Medal of Honor Mail Call.

Today, there are 66 living Medal of Honor recipients. There is only one WWII Medal of Honor recipient still living. Each has a powerful story and we owe each a debt of gratitude.

Help us show America's heroes how thankful we are for their service and sacrifice by writing a personal letter of thanks.

How to Participate in the Medal of Honor Mail Call:

1. Pick a living recipient from the database at:

www.MOHMuseum.org/mail-call/#mail-call-list

2. Research your recipient's service & learn about their life

3. Write your letter, speak from the heart, tell them what you learned from their story, why it matters to you and what it means to you. If possible, have children draw them a picture to include with the letter. Make it special!

4. Mail your letter by March 25th to:

National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation
Attn: (Insert Recipient's Name)
1905 East Randol Mill Road
Arlington, TX 76011

**ALL LETTERS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 25
NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR DAY**

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New Beginnings and Milestones

Berkeley Eileen Lawson



Dale and Amanda Lawson, of Hilliard, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Berkeley Eileen Lawson. Berkeley was born January 2, 2022 at 5:41 p.m. at Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville. She weighed 6 pounds 9 ounces and measured 29 inches.

Maternal grandparents are Carey and Karen Carter of Hilliard.

Paternal grandparents are Carmen Register Lawson of Hilliard; and Dale and Lynnette Lawson of Callahan. Proud great-grandparents are Lawton Carter of Jacksonville; and Joyce Lawson of Callahan.

Berkeley was welcomed home by her siblings Ansley and Tripp Lawson!

Happy 1st Birthday

Ansley Blayke Lawson

& William Dale "Tripp" Lawson



Ansley Blayke Lawson & William Dale "Tripp" Lawson celebrated their first birthday December 25, 2021. They celebrated their special day with a huge birthday celebration in their honor with lots of family and friends joining in the fun! Their proud parents are Dale and Amanda Lawson of Hilliard!

Proud grandparents are Carey and Karen Carter of Hilliard; Carmen Register Lawson of Hilliard; and Dale and Lynnette Lawson of Callahan.

Proud great-grandparents are Lawton Carter of Jacksonville; and Joyce Lawson of Callahan.

Proud great-grandparents are Lawton Carter of Jacksonville; and Joyce Lawson of Callahan.

Westside Journal Visits Texas!

Billy and Michele (Mickey) Walker and their granddaughter Ava Walker recently vacationed in Waco, Texas and took along a copy of the Westside Journal. The pictures



are taken at Chip and Joanna Gaines' Magnolia Farm & Silos. They had an enjoyable time there. They also visited the Dr. Pepper Museum, the Branch Dividian Compound, Brazos River Park, and the Waco Mammoth National Monument. Ava really enjoyed an order of Gator Tail at the Buzzard Billy's restaurant "Where the Bridge meets the Brazos." They were pleasantly surprised at the attractions in Waco, a city they would have never thought to visit had it not been for Mickey's love of Chip and Joanna's Fixer Upper TV series. And the weather was fabulous!



Crowns for the Cure Pageant

The Miss Nassau County Relay for Life "Crowns for the Cure" Pageant will be held this Saturday, February 26 in the Callahan Middle School cafetorium at 1 p.m. Admission is \$5 and all proceeds will benefit the Nassau County Relay for Life event.

There will be 8 different age categories in the pageant: Baby Miss 0-12 months; Tiny Miss 1-3 years; Little Miss 4-6 years; Jr. Miss 7-9 years; Pre Teen 10-12 years; Jr. Teen 13-15 years; Teen 16-18 years; and Miss 19 years and up.

The Nassau County Relay for Life event will be held Saturday, May 7 at the Callahan Fairgrounds from 3-10 p.m. To enter your team, volunteer or donate please call Relay Chair Wanda Nichols at 904-294-2088.



The Nest, A Women's Center invites you to our Annual Women's Event

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Saturday, March 5th

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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Tickets:

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please call 904-619-4914 or visit
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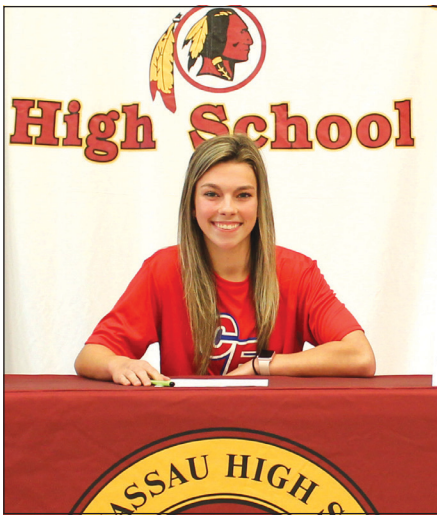
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OWNER



SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

WNHS's Armstrong and Butler Sign on Wednesday

Last Wednesday, West Nassau High School was proud to honor two athletes that signed their letters of intent to attend college. Trinity Armstrong was thrilled to sign her letter of intent to attend college and play softball at the College of Central Florida located in Ocala. Trinity is very athletic as she plays softball (her favorite), basketball and weightlifting. Her scholarship was both an academic and athletic. She looks forward to being able to continue playing softball. Along with her athletics, Trinity plans to work on her degree to become a Nurse Practitioner. Her proud parents are Rickey and Donna Armstrong.



Wyatt Butler is just an all-around great athlete. His family moved to Callahan when he was in 9th grade and fit right in. Last year Wyatt won the State Championship in Weightlifting. He will be competing again this year and maybe another state title. Wyatt signed his letter of intent to attend college at Warner University in Lake Wales, Florida. He was a part of the offensive line for the Warriors. Wyatt is looking forward to continuing his football career however will also be hitting the books. He plans to major in Sports Medicine and/or Exercise Science. "I would like to eventually come back to West Nassau and coach one day. We'll see how that goes," said Wyatt. His proud parents are Brian and Nicole Butler.

BES Students Question British Author



Bryceville Elementary School Principal's Book Club participated in a transcontinental Question & Answer session with New York Times Best Selling British author Kate Moore. The club is reading Moore's book Radium Girls. The book is a scary but true story of the poison that made people glow in the dark!

April Dingman Named Nassau County School Related Employee of the Year

Callahan Elementary School is very proud to announce April Dingman as the School Related Employee of the Year for Nassau County. April was surprised by a visit from Superintendent Kathy Burns to present her with a beautiful bouquet of flowers!

Three of the top finalists were from our west side schools: April Dingman, Susan Carter (CIS) and Gay Williams (CMS). Congratulations!



HILLIARD YOUTH FOOTBALL AND SIDELINE CHEERLEADING ANNUAL MEETING



Sunday, March 6 at 4 p.m.
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THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m., 5532177 US Highway 1, Hilliard. Antiques, coins, collectibles, Geodes, household items and tools!

CRAFT SHOW COMING! 4 vendor spaces available to rent for \$15/day. Event will be Friday & Saturday, March 11 & 12, across from Kelly's RV Park on US 1. Call 1-229-449-4602 for information. 30322

“PEACHES TO BEACHES” longest yard sale coming up March 11, 12 & 13, Highway 343 from Brunswick, Georgia to past Perry, Georgia. 30322

LOOKING FOR

A FAITH BASED CHRISTIAN BLUEGRASS BAND in west Nassau County is seeking a Bluegrass guitar member. Call 941-321-0645. 22422

FOR RENT

1BR CAMPER TRAILER, Callahan, no smoking, drugs or pets; \$300/month; \$200/deposit; excellent for single person. Call 904-343-7819. 22422

1BR UNFURNISHED APARTMENT, Callahan city limits, all appliances, water/sewer furnished, ceramic tile throughout, no pets, private patio. Call 904-704-6137, call between 3-8 p.m., leave message. tfn

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CAST IRON BATH TUB, \$100; like new **LIFT CHAIR,** \$200, OBO; glass top **DINING ROOM TABLE** with 5 chairs, \$200, OBO. Call 904-338-1920. 22422

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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

FULLTIME ELECTRICAL FOREMAN & HELPER needed, starting pay depending on experience. Email resumes to: chendry@hendryelectrical.net or call 904-314-2544 for information. tfn

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

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USPS CARRIERS NEEDED IN HILLIARD, \$19.06 per hour, suitable vehicle for delivering is required. Apply at: www.usps.com/careers 2/19/22 to 2/23/22.

WANTED LANDSCAPE LABORERS, no experience or license needed. Call Danny at 904-251-4963. tfn

ASSISTANT GARDENER positions for seasonal part-time employment at **NANTONIO'S HARMONY GARDENS** in Hilliard. An opportunity to learn invaluable gardening skills that will give you the experience and confidence to tackle your own gardening goals. Approximately 18-24 hours per week, 3-4 days per week. Mid-March through May, morning shifts and/or afternoon shifts, weekdays and Saturday or Sunday. Email nantoniosgardens@yahoo.com or call 904-206-3027 for more information. 22422

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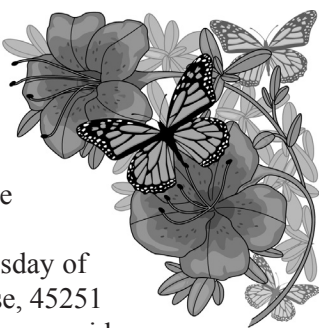
Garden Tips from... The Garden Club of Callahan

The Garden Club of Callahan will have their regular monthly meeting next Wednesday, March 2 at 10 a.m. at their club. The program will include information about growing and cooking with herbs.

March Tip: Start planting tender annuals and vegetables in March. Transplant, prune and fertilize azaleas as soon as they finish blooming.

The Garden Club of Callahan meets the first Wednesday of each month (September through May), at their clubhouse, 45251 Fourth Avenue, Callahan. Guest speakers at each meeting provide information on current trends in gardening.

If you have an interest in gardening or horticulture, please join us. Visitors are always welcome! You will be inspired!



Tax Season is Upon Us

It is the end of February and income tax filing season is going on. By now, you should have received your W-2 forms. Keep on the lookout for additional documents such as 1099-INT (reports interest from bank accounts or other investments); 1099-DIV (reports dividends earned from investments); 1098-T (issued by qualified educational institutions to report tuition paid, scholarships, grants); etc.

There are three other important letters/forms that will be mailed to you. Two are from the IRS, and one is from the Marketplace – Healthcare.gov.

The IRS is sending Letter 6475 to recipients of the Third Stimulus Payment. Please read it! This letter will help you determine if you need to claim the third economic impact recovery rebate credit on your 2021 tax returns.

The IRS will also send Letter 6419, 2021 advance CTC (Child Tax Credit). The letter will include the total amount of advance Child Tax Credit payments

taxpayers received in 2021 and the number of qualifying children used to calculate the advance payments. Keep this and any other IRS letters about advance Child Tax Credit payments with your tax records.

Families who received advance payments will need to file a 2021 tax return and compare the advance Child Tax Credit payments they received in 2021 with the amount of the Child Tax Credit they can properly claim on their 2021 tax return.

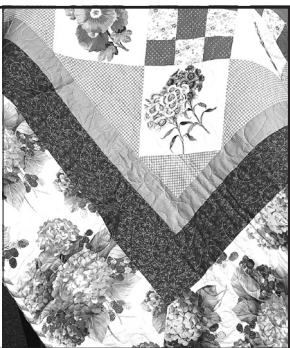
Form 1095-A will be mailed to you if you received health insurance from the Marketplace. You must have this form to file your income taxes.

The UF/IFAS Nassau County Extension Family and Consumer Sciences Agent Meg McAlpine offers facilitated self-assistance tax returns at Yulee and Callahan. Ms. McAlpine has been IRS certified to provide this service to Nassau County residents. For questions or appointments, contact Meg McAlpine at 904-530-6359.



Quilt Raffle to Benefit the Pinky Promise Foundation

Okefenoke REMC is holding a quilt raffle through February 28 to benefit the Pinky Promise Foundation. Raffle tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased at any Okefenoke REMC office or at the Westside Journal office in Callahan, 450034 SR 200.



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Hilliard

POLICE REPORTS

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

Friday, February 11
Jarvis Isaiah White, 20, 37717 Pine Street, Hilliard: Possession of Schedule 1-5 Substance; Possession of Marijuana less than 20 grams
Troy Lee McKenzie, 26, 273535 Murree Road, Hilliard: Aggravated Assault with Deadly Weapon

Monday, February 14
Joshua Kory Edwards, 38, 26287 Sheared Stokes Road, Hilliard: Felony Criminal Mischief

Tuesday, February 15
Erica Catherine Foley, 42, 450464 Old Dixie Highway, Callahan: Possession of Methamphetamine; Possession of Schedule 1-5 Substance

Thursday, February 17
Randy Noah Johns, 53, Callahan: Violation of Probation Community Control
Dwayne Ray Rageth, Jr., 35, 151064 CR 108, Hilliard: Felony Habitual Traffic Offender
Roy Bryant McGee, 42, 56278 Colby Drive, Callahan: Possession of Methamphetamine

4-H

Howdy Hay Horse Day!

Come learn some horse-riding fundamentals, have fun, and even get a 20 minute riding lesson!

March 5, 9:30-12
The Ranch At Trader's Hill
Limited to 16 youth ages 8-13!
\$40

Register Here

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Friends of NRA Gun Raffle

Nassau County Friends of NRA event will be held Saturday, March 19 at 5 p.m. at the Multi-purpose Building at the Fairgrounds. If you have any questions or would like to purchase tickets or a table for our event, call Karen at 904-903-9552 or email her at ncfra01@gmail.com.

Gun Raffle: \$20 per ticket for a chance to win: a Ruger American Ranch Rifle .350 Legend, a Weatherby Element Synthetic Tungsten 12ga Shotgun, a Savage Axis II 30-06 Overwatch Camo, and a Fireproof Gun Safe. Tickets are available at the Westside Journal office in Callahan.

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CHARLES WESLEY BERCAW
 Charles Wesley Bercaw, 70 of Waycross, Georgia, passed away February 7, 2022 at his residence. Charles was born on July 24, 1951 in Fernandina Beach, to Edward and Wanda Lee Musgrove Bercaw.

In addition to his parents; he is preceded in death by Faye Otting and Randy Bercaw.

Survivors include Lucille Johns, Sharon (Larry) Lloyd, Cathy Griffin, Sandy King and Larry (Fran) Bercaw.

A funeral service was held February 23 in the Chapel of Callahan Funeral Home.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, 879-2336.

JACKIE BROCK, JR.
 Jackie Brock, Jr., 53, of Jacksonville, passed away on February 7, 2022. He was born April 6, 1968 in Jacksonville to Jackie and Barbara Brock.

Jackie is predeceased by his wife Cindy Gariepy Brock; and his father Jackie Brock, Sr.

Survivors include his mother Barbara J. Ruby; his children Michael Langdale, Joshua (Danielle) Gariepy and Holli Brock Ocon; seven grandchildren; his sister Carrie Hodges; and several nieces and nephews. Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

BRENDA SHAW CRAVEY
 Brenda Corine Shaw Cravey, 93, of Callahan, passed away February 20, 2022. Brenda was born on March 13, 1928 in Jamestown, Louisiana to Lola Mae Wiggins Shaw and Jackson David Shaw. She graduated from High School and began college in Louisiana. Later in life, after she moved to Florida, she completed 2 more years of college at UNF. She met her husband James Jackson “Jack”

OBITUARIES

Cravey while he was stationed in Louisiana during his service in the US Air Force. They were married August 2, 1946. They relocated to Florida shortly after they were married and began their life as ranchers in Callahan.

Brenda worked multiple jobs in Callahan as a paralegal, a real estate broker, an insurance agent and assisted Jack on the Cravey Chicken and Cattle Ranch. Brenda enjoyed time with family and friends. She was also a proud member of First United Methodist Church of Callahan. She was also involved in various political campaigns at the local and state level.

Brenda is survived by her son Thomas “Tommy” Cravey of Callahan; and daughter Barbara Cravey Steeg of Neptune Beach; 10 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. Brenda was predeceased by her loving husband Jack Cravey; and son Richard Cravey.

Celebration of Life will be announced at a later date.

devoted wife, mother, sister, grandmother and great-grandmother who will be dearly missed. Annette is preceded in death by her father Henry Calvin Knowles, Sr.; and her husband Joseph Thomas Erwin, III.

Annette leaves behind her mother Leila Knowles; loving sons Neal (Lisa) Erwin, Jeramie (Michele) Erwin, Joseph (Destinee) Erwin, V and Scott (Brooke) Erwin; brother Henry C. Knowles, Jr.; sister Sherry Simmons; nine grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and one of many lifelong friends, Penny Courtney.

The family will receive friends Friday, February 25 at 11 a.m. prior to the celebration of life service at 12 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Edgewood Cemetery.

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

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

ELIZABETH “ANNETTE” ERWIN
 Elizabeth “Annette” Erwin, 59, of Jacksonville, passed away February 21, 2022. She was born in Jacksonville February 7, 1963 to Henry Calvin Knowles, Sr. and Lelia Edwina Nettles Knowles. Annette was a member of New Beginnings Ministries Church. For many years, she worked with her late husband, Joseph Thomas, III for his courier service delivering newspapers. In Annette’s free time, she enjoyed carpentry, collecting trinkets, camping, cleaning and taking cruises to various places. Most of all, Annette loved spending time with her family. She was the most selfless person; always putting her family first. Annette was also a

THOMAS LESLIE FOURNIER
 Thomas Leslie Fournier, 65, of Callahan, passed away on February 18, 2022. He was born on August 29, 1956 in Jacksonville. Thomas served in the United States Army. After his honorable discharge, he then went on to pursuing a career as a carpenter. Thomas loved to read. Two of his favorites were westerns and his Bible. He also enjoyed fishing, hunting, growing fruit and vegetables, telling jokes making people happy and putting on a record or two to jam out with his daughter. Thomas is preceded in death by his mother Betty Lewis; daughter Melissa Fournier; and sister Tevis Stevens.

Thomas leaves behind his father Herbert Fournier (Alma Dean); daughter Amy Fournier; brother Herbert (Kathy) Fournier, Jr.; sister Beth (Cecil R.) Holloway; grandchildren Nicholas, Hailey, Faith and Thomas; great-grandchild Oliver; loving dog Gracie; and many nieces and nephews.

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

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

WILLIEDA FREEMAN
 Willieda Freeman, 87, of Hilliard, passed away on February 16, 2022. Willieda was born November 13, 1934 in Seco, Kentucky to the late Garrett Calhoun and Jernie Mae Sexton Calhoun. She has been a resident of Hilliard and a faithful member of Buford Grove Baptist Church for the past 20 years. Willieda had a giving, loving heart of gold. She loved to laugh; always made you feel welcome but more than anything Willieda loved her family with everything she had. She always made sure they were taken care of. If you left her house hungry, it was your fault! She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend to so many. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband Elbert Harold Freeman; and son Keith Freeman.

Willieda leaves behind her daughters, Wanda (Jim) Ward of Folkston and LaDonna (Noah) Cadle of Knoxville, Tennessee; grandsons William Butler and Tyler Hermann; granddaughters Tracy Butler and Shanna Butler; great-grandchildren Dakota, Brittany, Justin, Kaylee, Sabrina and Billy; great-great-grandchildren Mia, Meadow, Javiona and Evylynn; and daughter-in-law Phyllis Freeman.

A graveside service was held Tuesday, February 22 at Buford Grove Cemetery, with Pastor Michael Pruitte officiating. The family received friends prior to the service.

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

JENNIFER LEIGH HAMILTON
 Jennifer Leigh Hamilton, 45, of Baldwin, completed her journey Sunday, February 20, 2022 and is now in her heavenly home. She was born in Jacksonville to Robert L. and Nelda Hamilton. Jennifer was a special blessing to her family for 45 years and was loved by all who knew her.

She is survived by her mother Nelda Hamilton (Tom Chisholm) of Baldwin; siblings Keith (Ana Laura) Hamilton of Orange Park, Ronnie (Tara) Hamilton of

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OBITUARIES

Live Oak, Cynthia (R.L.) Kilpatrick of Hilliard and Scott (Amanda) Chisholm of St. George, GA; nieces and nephews Hunter, Chase, Anna, Kailey and her four-legged nephew Hammy; her aunt Betty Hamilton; uncle Sam Hart; numerous other family members; and a special caregiver of over 20 years June Washington. She was preceded by her father Bob Hamilton; brother Michael Chisholm; and grandparents JW and Lucille Baile; and Luther and Chloe Hughes.

The family will receive friends Thursday, February 24 at 1 p.m. prior to the celebration of life service at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Warren Funeral Services with Reverend Chris Drum officiating.

Please leave online condolences at www.warrenfuneralservices.com.

Warren Funeral Services of Baldwin is honored to assist the Hamilton family.

WANDA KILPATRICK PHILLIPS



Wanda Kilpatrick Phillips, 69, of Hilliard, went home to be with her Lord and Savior Friday, February 18, 2022. She was born in Jacksonville, to the late Louis F. Kilpatrick, Sr. and Willene K. Goodwin.

Wanda was married to the love of her life and soulmate, Russell (Rusty) Phillips, for 25 years. She dedicated nearly half her life to working for the Duval County School Board, from where she eventually retired to move on to the next journey of her life, sharing a very successful construction company with her son Kenneth W. Hunter, Jr. She loved reading her Bible, singing, playing the piano, shopping, hunting, and

sometimes, just having fun on the 4-wheeler with her dog Belle and the kids. Wanda was all about her family and helping others and enjoyed spending time with all of them. She was also a faithful member of First Baptist Church of Hilliard. Wanda is preceded in death by her parents; and her brother Louis F. Kilpatrick, Jr.

She's survived by her husband Russell "Rusty" Phillips; former husband and friend Kenny Hunter, Sr., son Kenneth W. Hunter, Jr. (Sara Ann); daughter Tonya M. (Chris) Sawyer; grandchildren Sabrina (George) Register, Rodney Claxton, Jr., Hannah Hunter, Easton Hunter, Ava Carpenter and Aspen Carpenter; great-grandchildren Rosalee Register and Dallas Claxton; sisters Judy Harris and June Constande; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

The family received friends and family Tuesday, February 22 prior to the funeral service held at the Chapel at Green Pine Funeral Home.

Arrangements by Green Pine Funeral Home, www.greenpinefuneralhome.com.

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AVERY LEE ROWELL, SR.



Avery Lee Rowell, Sr., 72 of Callahan, passed away on February 16, 2022. He was born in Jacksonville November 16, 1949 to the late Clifton Rowell and Vernie Celista Dixon Rowell.

Avery proudly served in the United States Marine Corps and while doing so he earned a National Defense Service Medal, Rifle Expert Badge, two Purple Heart Medals, Combat Action Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal and a Vietnam Campaign Medal. After his honorable discharge, Avery decided to take a different career as a carpenter. He also volunteered over 2,500 hundred hours driving for the VA. When he wasn't working, Avery enjoyed hunting, fishing and spending time with his family. Family time was very important to Avery. He was a dedicated husband, father, brother, grandfather and friend, who will be missed dearly. Avery is preceded in death by his parents; infant son Henry Lee Rowell; brothers Rabbit Rowell and Eddie Fletcher; and his sister Gradenia Rowell.

Avery leaves behind his loving wife

of 49 years, Doris Rowell; children Avery L. (Ginny) Rowell, Jr., Amanda (Jeremy) Rowell-Bell and David W. (Bailey) Rowell; brothers Carl Chirico and Rickey Cason; sisters Linda Jones and Bunny McMahan; grandchildren Matthew (Megan) Rowell, Caralyn Bell, Monica Rowell, Dalton (Brittany) Rowell, Lauren Rowell, Abbigail Bell and Willie D. Rowell; great-grandchildren Junior, Guinevere and Kristi, who he raised and loved like one of his own.

The family will receive friends Sunday, February 27 from 5-7 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home. A celebration of Avery's life will be held Monday, February 28 at 12 p.m. at Lannie Road Baptist Church with Pastor Buddy Wimberly officiating. Interment will follow at Jacksonville National Cemetery where Military Honors will be rendered.

Per family request, please wear a mask if you plan to attend the visitation and/or the service. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Purple Heart Foundation, PO Box 49 Annandale, VA, 22003; or by visiting: <http://purpleheartfoundation.org>.

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

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

In Loving Memory of

Mamie Pearl Patterson Gardner

March 22, 1949 – February 26, 2021



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SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Community Helpers Visit HES

As part of our community helpers unit, the pre-K classes at Hilliard Elementary School were visited by a firefighter! A huge thank you to Dallis Hunter for coming in to share with the students and teach them about all the jobs firefighters do and the gear they wear along with fire safety. Students could practice what to do if their clothes ever caught on fire...stop, drop and roll!



HES Reading Buddies

Miss Olman's 2nd graders at Hilliard Elementary School ended literacy week by showing their favorite books to their kindergarten reading buddies in Mrs. Bowerman's class! It was awesome seeing how they lit up describing their favorite books to their buddies. Showing their favorite parts, describing different story elements, and laughing at all the silly parts (dog man is a very popular choice in our second grade!) It surely was a great way to wrap up a week of fun reading.



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