

WESTSIDE JOURNAL

VOLUME XVI ISSUE 30

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2020

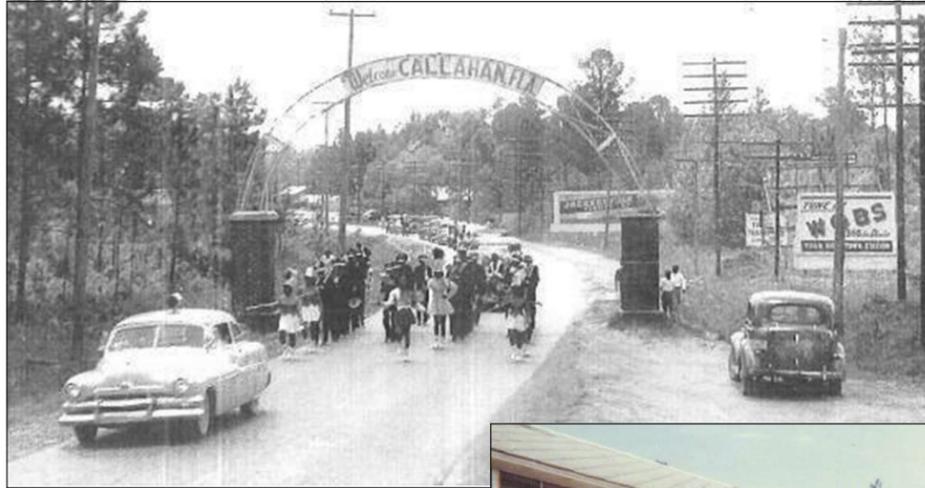
"HE GIVES STRENGTH TO THE WEARY AND INCREASES THE POWER OF THE WEAK." - ISAIAH 40:29

Pine Forest Historical Plaque to be Dedicated Saturday

Dawn S. West

This Saturday, February 8, a historic plaque will be dedicated to honor and preserve the history of Pine Forest Community High School. The ceremony will be held at the school's former location, Callahan Middle School, at 1 p.m.

Pine Forest Community High School was built in 1951 as an African American school. The school taught students from both Callahan and Hilliard from Kindergarten – 12th grade. The school continued until June



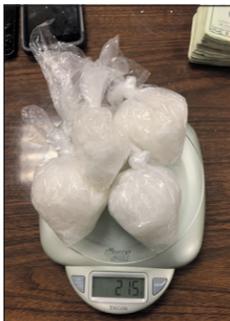
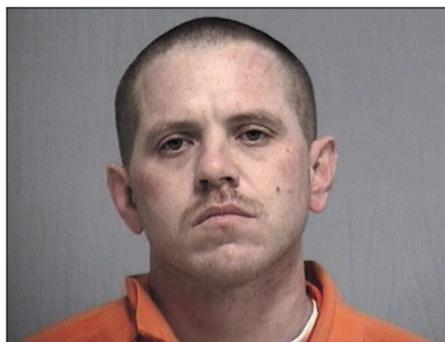
of 1968. During this period of time, the State of Florida was mandated by Federal Law under the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to desegregate its school systems statewide and allow African Americans to attend its all-white public school systems. At that time, Pine Forest Community High School was changed to Callahan Junior High School, where eventually Emmitt G. Coakley (Pine Forest Football Coach) served as Principal. Many residents that attended Pine Forest still live in the Callahan and Hilliard areas. All are encouraged to



attend this special event. Through much hard work and dedication, a commemorative plaque was approved through the state, to preserve the rich heritage of our community by honoring the memory of Pine Forest Community High School. The ceremony will be held Saturday, February 8 at 1 p.m. at Callahan Middle School, 450121 Old Dixie Highway, Callahan. Refreshments will follow the ceremony.

Callahan Man Arrested for Drug Trafficking

On January 31, 2020, members of the Nassau County Sheriff's Office (NCSO) Narcotics Unit, working with the ATF, DEA, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and Florida Highway Patrol arrested Justin Aaron Redding, 36, from Callahan, on an outstanding Warrant for Failure to Appear for Possession of Methamphetamine. Redding also had outstanding warrants out of Georgia for Aggravated Fleeing and Attempting to Elude a Law Enforcement Officer and Trafficking Methamphetamine. When Redding was apprehended he was in possession of a firearm and a large cache of drugs. Redding is facing additional charges which include: Possession and Trafficking of Methamphetamine, Possession and Trafficking of Cocaine, Possession of a



Firearm by a Convicted Felon, Possession of a Controlled Substance, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Redding is suspected of being a supplier of illegal drugs into Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia for several years. Based on information learned during the investigation the NCSO's Narcotics Unit

believed that Redding would be at a hotel in Duval County (Jacksonville) in the afternoon hours of January 31, 2020. Members of the Task Force established surveillance nearby the hotel (Tricove Inn and Suites 4300 Salisbury Road, Jacksonville).

After Redding was observed arriving at the hotel and walking on foot to a room, law enforcement officers moved in and arrested Redding after he briefly attempted to flee the area on foot.

A search of Redding and his vehicle, a 2008 Acura, revealed 7.5 ounces of crystal methamphetamine, 47 grams of powder cocaine,

Oxycodone pills, approximately \$31,000 in cash, two semi-automatic handguns and other assorted drug paraphernalia.

Redding was booked in the NCSO jail and investigators will add additional charges in the coming days.



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Jordi to be Featured on First Coast Living

First Coast Living, Jacksonville, will host Rebecca Jordi, Nassau County Extension director and Master Gardener Volunteer, Joanne Roach, on Tuesday, February 11 to promote Becky's book, Zoe's Mission and the Nassau County Book Festival. Jordi has written a children's book, Zoe's Mission. Additionally, two Master Gardener Volunteers have added their expertise. Joanne Roach illustrated the book and Kathy Warner the graphics. Zoe's Mission will be on sale at the Amelia Island Book Festival, February 13-15.



The proceeds from the book benefit the UF/IFAS Horticulture program, supporting 4-H programming, such as the Zebra Project. This Project is a Nassau County Extension program designed to get children (and adults) interested in observing caterpillars and chrysalises and then charting them.

The Master Gardener Volunteers have planted passion vines in two

locations: one at America's Youth downtown Fernandina and another at the Boys and Girls Club in Yulee. Passion Vines are a natural draw for the Zebra Longwing butterfly. The objective is to have the children count the number of caterpillars and chrysalises and then chart them. This is a required CORE standard for students, in addition to knowing the life cycle.

Our desire is to increase the number of Zebra Longwing butterflies, the Florida State Butterfly, in our area. Four other local butterflies and their life cycles are also introduced in the book.

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.

Thank you!

Dear Editor,

I would like to start by thanking the Nassau County Sheriff's Department. On Thursday, January 9, my father passed away unexpectedly while visiting my cousin in Pinellas County. Because he had been deceased for some time when they found him, the Medical Examiner had to be called in and the death investigated as though it was a crime scene. This is standard operating procedure until cause of death can be determined by autopsy. Because the Medical Examiner's Office was in charge, they had to "formally" notify next of kin. That meant that a deputy had to personally identify me and tell me the news in person. That is not a job that I would relish, but the young officer that came to my

house was not only professional, but very sympathetic as well. I felt a little bad for him as I was running a fever of 102 and dressed in my "influenza sweatpants and stocking cap" accompanied by red nose, red eyes and gravely hacking cough! He was so sweet! Thank you!

Later that day, I got a phone call from the Sheriff's Department, making sure I was ok. My dad had a massive heart attack and has gone on to be with the Lord. I just wanted you to know about an aspect of a deputy's job you may have never thought about. Our law enforcement officers have a tough job and I really appreciate their kindness during my time of grief.

Sincerely,
Karen Alderman

Amelia Island DAR Scholarships

Applications for the 2020 Amelia Island Chapter DAR Scholarships are now available from the guidance counselors at each Nassau County high school. The \$1,000 scholarships are presented to one senior from each of the four Nassau County high schools regardless of race, religion, or gender. Applicants must be U.S. citizens and seniors in high school who have been accepted by a college. Home school students are encouraged to apply through their nearest high school. More information is available from the senior guidance counselors at each school.

Deadline for all applications is March 11, 2020. Winners will be notified by telephone and will be awarded

a check for \$1,000 at the chapter's awards ceremony in April. Scholarship recipients will also be acknowledged at their school's honors program.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution is the largest women's service organization in the world and contributes over one million volunteer hours a year. The 200 members of the Amelia Island Chapter contribute 5,000 volunteer hours and \$5,000 in scholarships and awards in Nassau County each year. Go to www.ameliainlandsdar.org for more information about the chapter or www.dar.org to learn about the national society.

In the Kitchen...

2 pkgs. Pillsbury crescent rolls
1 (16 oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
1 stick butter, melted

Coffee Cake Cheesecake

1 tsp. vanilla
1 1/4 cup sugar
1 tablespoon cinnamon

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a 9"x13" pan. Press one can of the crescent rolls into the bottom of the prepared pan. In a medium bowl, mix together the cream cheese, 1 cup sugar and vanilla until smooth and creamy. Spread over the crescent layer. Unroll the second can of crescent rolls and lay them on top of the cream cheese layer. Do not press down. Pour the melted butter over the entire pan. Combine the remaining 1/4 cup of sugar and cinnamon; sprinkle over the top. Bake for 25-30 minutes or until the top is crisp and golden.

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Starting Point Offers Intervention to Youths in Crisis

Kim Deppe

Getting help during a mental health emergency is much easier now for young people in Florida, with the addition of Mobile Response Teams (MRT) that offer emergency crisis response 24/7, 365 days a year. In Nassau County, that team is part of Starting Point Behavioral Healthcare and has already responded to over 175 calls for help. The MRT program was part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglass Act. The Act called for an emergency response team in every county in Florida with the ability to respond to a youth (age 25 or younger) in crisis within 60 minutes, anywhere in the state.

Valerie Ray, MS, LMHC, MCAP, CBHCMS is Clinical Director for the Mobile Response Team at Starting Point, which began in March after receiving a grant from the state to help pay for the program. Since then, the MRT has responded to 177 calls in Nassau County. Of those, two-thirds were diverted from the Crisis Stabilization Unit because the intervention was followed by an appropriate level of care provided in outpatient settings. This means fewer youths had to be unnecessarily hospitalized.

Ray said the team responds to threats of suicide, substance abuse disorder issues, and other mental health crises. Typically, the call is initiated by school or law enforcement personnel via 911, which then contacts the team. The team responds to the crisis as does a member of law enforcement, she said.

"We have specific tools to assess the youth," she said, "And we talk with the youth, the family and others in their support

system. A licensed clinician decides if they should initiate the Baker Act or divert the individual to other services." The Baker Act provides individuals with emergency inpatient mental health services on an involuntary or voluntary basis for up to 72 hours.

If the youth is admitted under the Baker Act, Ray said the MRT will meet them at the hospital and work with them on a plan for follow-up care. "If the youth can't get to us, we come to them," she said. Follow up care can include therapy, case management and medication, whatever is needed to wrap around the youth and their family.

For young people not hospitalized, the team follows up about 72 hours after the initial call, reaching out twice a day either in person or through texts or phone calls, to ensure that the care plan is being followed.

Ray said the number of calls has been increasing over time, something they expected to happen as more people in Nassau County become familiar with the program.

About Starting Point: Starting Point Behavioral Healthcare provides mental health and substance abuse treatment services to children, teens and adults in Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia. The non-profit agency serves more than 2,800 individuals each year and has been serving the region for more than 25 years. Starting Point is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). For more information, visit spbh.org.



EVENTS AROUND TOWN

Lannie Road Baptist Church HUGE CHURCH YARD SALE! Thursday, Friday & Saturday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the church, 5998 Lannie Road, Jacksonville.

The West Nassau High School Advisory Council monthly meeting will be held Thursday, February 13 in the media center at 4 p.m.

Greater Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church will host The Pleasant Place Gala, Sat., Feb. 15 at 5:30 p.m. at the multi-purpose building at the fairgrounds. Cost: \$25 adults; \$12 youth (18 & under). For tickets call 879-2693.

Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, Boulogne, 28226 Church Dr., Hilliard. Visit: palgroup.org to learn more. Free educational support group for parents and families.

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JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

I was asked the other day what my opinion was concerning the adult arcade businesses. Of course we all know that the County Commissioners declared them a public nuisance and ordered all gaming establishments to close within 60 days.

My opinion seemed to surprise this person. My answer was, "I have mixed emotions." There are a few reasons behind my reactions of what has transpired with these businesses. We have had gaming rooms in Nassau County for several years with very little controversy. I know for a fact that many were utilized by upstanding county citizens as a social outlet. There were small groups that met at set times to play and socialize. Some even ordered pizza and such, as a group fun time. That now has been taken away from them. With the closure also comes the price of many people losing their jobs and their means of supporting themselves and their families.

I also have to assume the gaming arcades were a legal business. If not, the Sheriff's Department would have raided them, arrested the operators and closed down the business. It causes me great concern anytime the government becomes involved with dictating which businesses can exist and which can't. It seemed so easy for the Commissioners to decide that these businesses were a nuisance and with a swipe of the pen they become illegal and the doors are shut. My concern is, if they (the government) can declare this business a nuisance, which businesses could be next? What if the government decided that this newspaper is a nuisance (some people already do)? Do they have the power to say the Westside Journal is a nuisance and they

give us 60 days to cease operation?

I also realize that the local friendly game room atmosphere was destroyed after Jacksonville closed all their gaming rooms. The influx of new arcades became overwhelming. With nearly a dozen gaming rooms between Ratliff Road to the state line on US 1, it was clear to see that Jacksonville had come to our county. It was also evident that the senior citizens that once gathered had been replaced with outsiders. Most senior citizens are not out socializing at 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning. As I have always heard and witnessed, nothing good happens after midnight. Yes, we had a problem and yes the end result by the Commissioners was probably the appropriate action to take in this case.

Hopefully the citizens of west Nassau County will take heed at what has transpired. We have groups of people that are pushing for (controlled) growth for our area. They say we are just a bedroom community. I hope they take a good hard look at what happens with growth. The influx of undesirables comes with growth. Crime comes with growth. That wonderful small town feeling disappears with growth. There is a large portion of our citizens that live here to escape the growth; people that actually enjoy and welcome the benefits of a bedroom community. I, for one, love our side of the county just as it is. Keep your six lane highways, your big box stores, your three story condos and apartment complexes and your Starbucks. We don't need them! I'll gladly drive to whatever or wherever knowing I'm coming home to my small town atmosphere.

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

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 PHYSICAL THERAPY

Tell Me About Yourself

Pastor Marty Paparo, Friendship Alliance Church, Callahan



Have you ever had someone say this to you before? Maybe as an icebreaker, or at a group event or class! The leader says let's go around the room and tell a little about yourself. How do you respond? What do you say? Most people would say: their age, married or single, children, employment and where they live.

When it comes to questions of identity, we usually look to our family, our vocation, or geography. We go to these because they are easy and many times we are not secure in our identity. But, for those of us who call ourselves Christ-followers, our identity should be found in Jesus.

A few months ago, our church went to the movies to see *Overcomer* (I would highly recommend it). The movie looks at the identity of Christians. It asks the question "Who are you?" Without giving away the ending, I will tell you one of the most powerful parts of the movie is when one of the characters asks another to read Ephesians 1 and 2. She asks her to write down everything it says you are as a believer in Jesus Christ. With Hillsong Worship's *Who You Say I Am* playing in the background, the main character of the movie makes a list. It includes: I am Blessed, Chosen, Adopted, Redeemed, Forgiven, Sealed, Loved, Saved and God's Child.

When someone asks, who are you? Do any of these answers come out? If you said no, don't worry, these aren't the first descriptions I give of myself either. But, shouldn't they be? When someone asks me to tell about myself, shouldn't I respond with I'm a child of God?

If you're reading all of this and questioning your identity, I would ask you to do two things: 1) Read Ephesians 1 and 2 and find each of those things that are true of believers in Jesus Christ; and 2) Google each of the words listed above followed by the word "Bible." Take the time to research and really understand who God says you are in Him. I found a wealth of information in the search bar of the websites: www.bible.org and blogs.bible.org.

"The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God." Romans 8:16.

CHURCH NEWS

Lannie Road Baptist Church HUGE CHURCH YARD SALE! Thursday, Friday & Saturday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the church, 5998 Lannie Road, Jacksonville.

Greater Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church will host The Pleasant Place Gala, Sat., Feb. 15 at 5:30 p.m. at the multi-purpose building at the fairgrounds. Cost: \$25 adults; \$12 youth (18 & under). For tickets call 879-2693.

Lifeline Concerts presents an evening with Joseph Habedank, Friday, February 7 at 7 p.m. at Gardenview Baptist Church, Jacksonville. Admission is \$10 at the door. A love offering will be received. For information call 904-472-7865.

The Patricia V. Williams Concerned Citizens Chapter will hold their MLK Sponsor Scholarship Breakfast Saturday, Feb. 8 at 9 a.m. at Greater Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church. A \$10 donation is requested.

4-H'er of the Month Raelin Tew



Raelin has been a part of the Nassau County 4-H program for 7 years. She is active in her club the Young Riders, County Council, Hippology and has helped in several service events. She is always challenging herself to learn more and is even going to the State Hippology contest this spring. Raelin has been the Secretary for Young Riders for 2 years and has just started her role as Historian for County Council. She has given multiple speeches at her club, County Events and District Events, shows in the fair and participates in many horse clinics. She is always smiling and is eager to mentor her peers. "For one so young she is mature and full of ideas." Great job, Raelin!

If you are interested in learning more about 4-H, call 904-530-6353 for more information.

Country Star Quilt Guild News

The monthly meeting of the Country Star Quilt Guild will be held Monday, February 10 at the First Baptist Church of Hilliard beginning with social time at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. with member Anne Hines showing participants how to make one of her beautiful quilted zippered bags.

All those interested in quilts are welcome to attend the Guild meetings on the second Monday of each month. More information about the Guild can be found at www.CountryStarQuilters.org. There are still spots available in the Guild's "Learn to Quilt" Class on February 15th and 22nd and March 7th and 14th from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. The cost for the class is \$30 per person. For more information and to reserve your spot, call Marsa at 239-560-4657.

Genealogy Tidbits

Claude Arpen

It's that time of year again. The North Florida Genealogy Conference will be held March 14, 2020. This is the largest event of its kind in Northeast Florida. Complete registration information and directions are located on their website at www.nfgenealogyconference.org. They offer about 20 classes such as German Church Records, DNA, and Southern County Court Records, just to mention a few.

Our program for the February 10 meeting will be presented by Meg McAlpine. The program is entitled "Safe Food prep and how our pioneer ancestors preserved and stored food." To learn more come join us at the West Nassau Genealogical Society meeting, the second Monday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Callahan Lions Club, located on US 1 north of the fairgrounds. Visitors are always welcome.

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MOVEMENT 2020 at Advance Rehabilitation

Josh Beyl, PT, DPT, CCWC
Clinic Director



Movement 2020 is a free health program offered for the community to get people thinking about their overall health and educate them on ways to improve it. There was a recent study in the New England Journal of Medicine that really jumped out at me. The study predicted with a high level of confidence that by 2030, 1 in 2 adults in the USA will suffer from obesity. There are so many medical conditions, not just obesity that regular exercise and movement can improve. This time of year many people set resolutions to get healthier or start exercising more but some are not sure exactly where or how to start. My hope is this program can help point them in the right direction.

My plan is to offer educational classes, such as Nutrition and Pain Education, as well as exercise classes, such as Cardio, Balance and Strengthening. Classes will be available for all levels of experience,

i.e. beginner, intermediate and advanced. This program will be available for people of all ages to come and get involved and take their health back in their hands. Classes will be offered weekly and open to anyone free of charge. The classes are finalized and the schedule is ready to be filled.

This is a program I would like the entire community of healthcare professionals in the area to be involved with. My hope is we can become more proactive instead of reactive in regards to the health of the community as well as provide a platform for healthcare professionals to reach more people in the community.

For more information about Movement 2020, call Advance Rehabilitation in Callahan at 904-980-0119. The office is located at 450077 State Road 200, Ste. 9 (beside the Tax Collectors office), Callahan. Remember, this information and classes are FREE to anyone! Find out more today!

Shooting Stars 4-H News



The Nassau County Shooting Stars 4-H Club held their first club meeting of the New Year at The Ark Sanctuary in Hilliard. Club members and their families learned a lot about the number of animals being injured in our county and nearby and how this non-profit organization is helping to rehabilitate them or make these animals comfortable in their native environment. We had an opportunity to see deer, emu, raccoons and many other animals. A special thank you to this organization for welcoming us!

If you would like more information about opportunities in the UF/IFAS Nassau County 4-H Program, please call (904) 530-6353.

Attention Nature Lovers!

The Florida Master Naturalist Program is offering an Uplands Module in Nassau County. UF/IFAS Nassau County Extension along with community partners is offering an Uplands module beginning February 10 and ending March 2, 2020. This core course will provide classroom, field trip and practical experience as related to the Upland Systems of Florida. Classroom instruction will cover ecology, habitats, vegetation, wildlife and conservation issues for Florida's Hardwood forests, pinelands, scrub, dry prairie and rangelands as well as urban green spaces. Field trips will focus on providing students with real-life examples of these systems in Nassau County. The only requirements

of students are enthusiasm, attendance and class project participation! Hurry up and reserve your spot today!

The Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP) is an adult education UF/IFAS Extension program developed by the University of Florida and provided by professionals throughout the state of Florida. FMNP training will benefit persons interested in learning more about Florida's environment or wishing to increase their knowledge for use in education programs as volunteers, employees, ecotourism guides and others.

Please register at: <http://masternaturalist.ifas.ufl.edu/> and for further questions call 904-530-6350.

Healing Hearts Workshop

Cupid's arrow can pierce your heart in a very different way on February 14. What was once a holiday of fun and "warm fuzzies" can turn into a day of sorrow. Community Hospice & Palliative Care offers the opportunity to attend our Healing Hearts Workshop for those facing pain and heartbreak around Valentine's Day. Attendees will have the chance to learn valuable resources for coping with grief in a supportive atmosphere.

Friday, February 14 at Noon ♡ ♡

New Bethel AME Church • 45133 Page Street • Callahan

Lunch will be served

Healing Hearts at Valentine's Day is open to the public and free to attend. Space is limited. For more information, call 904-407-6464.

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New Beginnings and Milestones

Mr. and Mrs. Chase Strickland

Lauren Riley and Chase Strickland were united in marriage November 2, 2019 at Laurel Island Golf Club in St. Marys, Georgia.

The bride is the daughter of Jim and Karen Riley of Jacksonville. She is employed with the Nassau County School District as a second grade teacher at Yulee Primary.

The groom is the son of Dorothy Strickland of Hilliard and the late Donnie Strickland. He is employed with Miller Electric.

Following a Caribbean Cruise, the couple is residing in Hilliard.



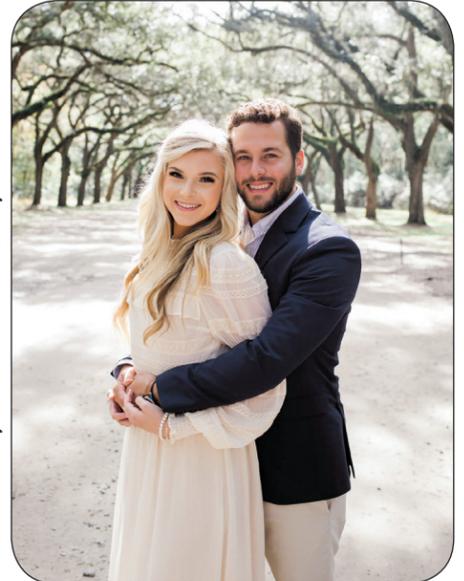
Ms. Dover and Mr. Franklin Announce Engagement

Brad and Autumn Dover, of Hilliard, are pleased to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter Baylee Autumn Dover to Brenton Michael Franklin, son of Michael and Vickie Franklin, also of Hilliard.

The bride-elect is a 2016 graduate of Hilliard Middle-Senior High School. She is currently attending FSCJ with a 2021 graduation date, majoring in Psychology. She is also co-owner of B&B Magnolia Boutique and the Hilliard High School Cheer Coach.

The groom-elect is a 2011 graduate of Hilliard Middle-Senior High School. He is owner of Axis Management Company.

The wedding is planned for May 2020 in Hilliard.



Happy 1st Birthday Annalee Grace Ladson



Annalee Grace Ladson celebrated her first birthday January 5. She celebrated her special milestone with a huge birthday party in her honor with lots of family and friends joining in the fun! Her proud parents are Jacob and Kirby Ladson of Callahan!

Proud grandparents are Donna Gail and Ray West; Paul and Phyllis Ladson, all of Callahan; and Holly Kitler of Yulee and the late Randall Kitler.

Proud great-grandparents are Anna Jones and the late Jessie Jones; and Mary Ann Steele and the late George Steele.

Frozen: The Musical

A West Nassau High School Theatre Production

The West Nassau High School Theatre students will be presenting Frozen: The Musical next week. This show consists of an abundant amount of students. It is the story of two sisters, longing to be with each other, but separated by fear. After unintentionally causing a cold, icy winter in the middle of summer, Anna sets off after her sister Elsa to fix the catastrophe. Accompanied by the ice-expert Kristoff, his reindeer Sven, and the lovable snowman Olaf, Anna is determined to help her sister bring back summer.

Frozen: The Musical, will be held Wednesday, Thursday, February 12-13 at 6 p.m.; Saturday, February 15 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.; and Sunday, February 16 at 2 p.m. at the West Nassau High School Cafeteria, 1 Warrior Drive, Callahan. Tickets are \$5 for each show.

Friday, February 14, tickets are \$15 each, as the theatre group will partner with the WNHS Band to do a Dinner Banquet with the show at 6 p.m. All families and friends are welcome. This show is too "cool" to miss!

This presentation is produced by the International Thespian Society Troupe 5268. ITS is an honors organization for high school theatre students, and it is a division of the Educational Theatre Association.

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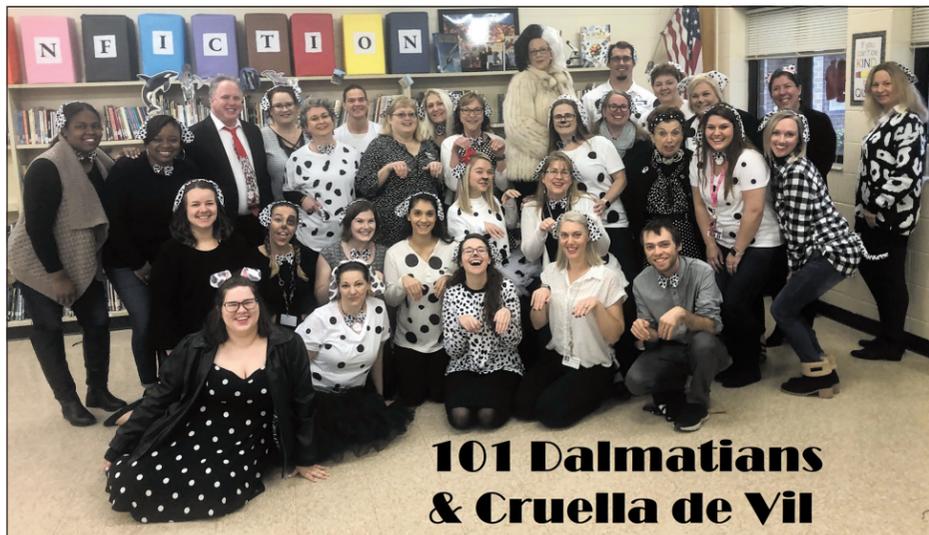
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CMS Celebrates Literacy Week



101 Dalmatians & Cruella de Vil



Social Butterflies

Callahan Middle School's Celebration of Literacy Week on January 27-31 will go down in history as one of the best. Just a few highlights were the unique dress-up days on Thursday and Friday, which included Figurative Language and Fictional Character Day. On Thursday, faculty, staff, and students celebrated their favorite use of Figurative Language with great enthusiasm. The sixth grade

Language Arts Team dressed up as Social Butterflies; the sixth grade Math Team as Spice Girls; and the Science Team as Heavy Metals.

The entire faculty and staff wrapped up the week with a Friday's Fictional Character Day of epic proportions. Together, they celebrated Dodie Smith's Classic Novel, "101 Dalmatians" with a staff of adorable polka-dotted puppies and their fearless leader, Principal Rhonda Deveraux, who transformed into Cruella de Vil, herself, for the day!



SPICE GIRLS!!



HEAVY METALS

Boy Scouts Hold Court of Honor



On Thursday, January 30, Callahan Boy Scout Troop 351 celebrated their successes for the end of 2019 at their Court of Honor, a formal recognition ceremony. Over the past 4 months, the Scouts collectively earned 43 merit badges, including citizenship in the nation and world, cooking, robotics, pottery, and digital technology, among many others. During that same time, the Troop worked 64 hours of community service. In addition, three scouts earned the rank of Star.



Star Scouts shown (l to r) are: Carson Watts, Joseph Donohue and Alexander Waltman.

The Star rank is attained with Participation, Leadership, Service and Self-directed Advancement through merit badges. For more information on Troop 351, visit: <http://callahantroop351.com> or visit their Facebook page at "Callahan Boy Scout Troop 351."

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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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FARM WORKERS NEEDED! Employment dates are as follows: 03/30/2020 - 06/22/2020, Job Order Number: 4277599977 Guaranteed ¾ of contract hours. All tools are provided at no cost. Free housing for non-commuting workers. Transportation and subsistence reimbursement to qualifying worker upon completion of 50% of contract. Pay rate of \$11.71. Three months of verifiable farm work experience required. Employer information: Bland Farms Production and Packaging, Tatnall County, 1126 Raymond Bland Rd., Glennville, GA, 30427. Temporary workers needed: 86. An Equal Opportunity Employer. Apply for this job at the nearest State Workforce Agency Using job listing number 4277599977. 20620

FARM WORKERS NEEDED! Employment dates are as follows: 03/30/2020 - 05/14/2020, Job Order Number: 4277301147 Guaranteed ¾ of contract hours. All tools are provided at no cost. Free housing for non-commuting workers. Transportation and subsistence reimbursement to qualifying worker upon completion of 50% of contract. Pay rate of \$11.71. Three months of verifiable farm work experience required. Employer information: Bland Farms Production and Packaging, Tatnall County, 1126 Raymond Bland Rd., Glennville, GA, 30427. Temporary workers needed: 314. An Equal Opportunity Employer. Apply for this job at the nearest State Workforce Agency Using job listing number 4277301147. 20620

FARM WORKERS NEEDED! Employment dates are as follows: 04/06/2020 - 02/06/2021, Job Order Number: 4288562095 Guaranteed ¾ of contract hours. All tools are provided at no cost. Free housing for non-commuting workers. Transportation and subsistence reimbursement to qualifying worker upon completion of 50% of contract. Pay rate of \$11.71. Three months of verifiable farm work experience required. Employer information: Bland Farms Production and Packaging, Tatnall County, 1126 Raymond Bland Rd., Glennville, GA, 30427. Temporary workers needed: 25. An Equal Opportunity Employer. Apply for this job at the nearest State Workforce Agency Using job listing number 4288562095. 020620

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Callahan Town News

Dawn S. West

The Callahan Town Council met Monday night for their first meeting of February. An hour prior to the meeting, the council held a joint workshop with the Planning & Zoning Board concerning changes and updating the future land use map. Members of the zoning board requested another workshop to discuss these changes and updating again. Another workshop will be scheduled.

The first agenda item concerned Howie Kendrick. Council President Ken Bass asked if there was anyone to speak on this to refresh the council's memory about what's requested. Sybil Purvis and myself (Dawn West) once again approached the podium. Purvis once again advised the council that we would like to see some recognition from the town concerning the many achievements of Howard Kendrick. "Let's see, West Nassau graduate, college graduate, MVP National League playoff game and player of the World Series Champion Washington Nationals," said Purvis. "We suggested maybe changing the sign coming into Callahan with Welcome to Callahan! Home of Howard Kendrick..... We also suggested changing Brinkley Road (the road that leads to the WN baseball field) to Howard Kendrick Way."

"We can't change the main sign to

someone's name," added Town Clerk Stephanie Knagge. "We ran into some issues a few years back with the cheerleaders about the sign. It was decided then that the sign would not be changed again."

"Would changing the road sign (Brinkley) be enough for y'all?" asked Councilwoman Kathy Smith.

"Umm...sure," I responded. "If that's all you (the town) want to do!"

After much discussion, the council referred us to the FDOT to see if we could get some of their right-of-way to place a sign or perhaps use one of the billboards on the edge of town.

Town Manager Mike Williams advised the council that a portion of the ditches around Depot Park will be filled in. The one closest to the back of the depot and the one on the Dixie Avenue side before the first turn.

Mayor Marty Fontes advised the council that an addendum had been added to the Meridian Waste contract for a Senior (citizen) discount. A 10% discount for seniors (65+) will go into effect in April for residents within the town limits only.

The next council meeting will be Tuesday, February 18 at 7 p.m. due to the President's Day holiday.

POLICE REPORTS

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

Monday, January 27

Steven Lawrence Higgins, 33, 27056 Michael Lane, Hilliard: Violation of Protection Order

Tuesday, January 28

Ray Shaun Bryant, 37, 45171 Mickler Street, Callahan: Sell Contraband within 1000' of School or Park

Cindy Lee Queen, 47, 54463 Marlee Road, Callahan: Driving While License Suspended with Knowledge; False Name While Detained

William Alton Moody, 36, 17194 Buckskin Road, Hilliard: Possession of Methamphetamine

Jonathan David Merritt, 41, 3000 Barbara Lane, Hilliard: Sale of Controlled Substance

Thursday, January 30

Ranie Shaw Rewis, 48, 27017 Kristie Circle, Hilliard: Possession Weapon by Convicted Felony; Possession Weapon by Convicted Felon

Friday, January 31

Dustin Timothy Maddox, 33, 3741 Falcon Drive, Hilliard: Violation of Probation Possession of Controlled Substance

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Congratulations Amanda!

Congratulations to Amanda Griffin, formerly of Callahan, for achieving manager/partner of her own Longhorn Steakhouse in West Palm Beach! Nana Crews is so proud of you!

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MARTHA 'TOTTIE' CONWAY



Martha 'Tottie' Gwen Wrye Conway, of Callahan, went home to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on January 31, 2020. She was born on September 13, 1948 to Annette Jones Wrye and Henry S. Wrye, Jr. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Callahan where she was a member of the Joy Sunday School Class where she had many special friends. She was a beloved mother, sister, nana and friend. Her favorite Bible verse was Isaiah 40:31, "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

She was a kitchen worker at the Nebraska NS4J (Native Students for Jesus) Good Will Camp where teenagers came from three reservations. She was a big influence on the ladies at the prison ministry, SHISA house.

She is survived by her daughter Misty (Alan) DiMaria; sisters Lynn (Ronald) Green, Alison Wrye Purvis, special Aunt Dotty Rowe and brother-in-law Bill Spencer; grandchildren Shelby DiMaria (Drew) Batten, Ashton DiMaria (Taylor) Crawford and Blayne DiMaria; great-grandson River James Batten; and several nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents; brothers Henry S. Wrye, III and Eddie Wrye; and a sister Jane Wrye Spencer.

Active Pallbearers were Gary Horne, Bubba Green, Zachary Spencer, Taylor Crawford, Drew Batten and Derrick Hodges. Honorary Pallbearers were Dean Bomgardner, Wally Pittman, Jimmy Schramm, Wallace Lee, Darrell Livingston, Charlie Gressman, Billy Carter and Wayne Temple.

The family received friends Monday, February 3 at the First Baptist Church of Callahan. The funeral service was held Tuesday, February 4 with Pastor Lynn Hyatt

and Pastor Todd Carr officiating. Burial followed in Jones Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www.nassaufh.com.

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

OWEN 'ROCKY' HILLIER, JR.



Owen 'Rocky' Richard Hillier, Jr., 91, of Callahan, passed away February 1, 2020 at his home. He was born November 26, 1928 in

Chicago, Illinois, to the late Owen Richard Hillier, Sr. and Ethel Wells Hillier. Rocky honorably served his country and retired from the United States Marines. He later became a postman for the US Postal Service and retired after 25 years. He also served 12 years with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office as a Reserve Officer. Rocky married the love of his life, Doris Craven Hillier, in 1950. They have been residents of Callahan for over 20 years and members of the First Baptist Church of Callahan. Rocky enjoyed working on electronics, fishing, and tinkering on cars. Most of all he enjoyed being outdoors watching and playing sports with the kids. Rocky is preceded in death by his parents; and son Darrell Gregory Hillier.

Rocky is survived by his loving wife of 70 years, Doris Craven Hillier of Callahan; children Debby (Barney) Thompson and Richard (Kathy) Hillier, all of Callahan and Jeffrey (Sharon) Hillier of Walterboro, South Carolina; four grandchildren Melissa Jadoo, Andy (Wendy) Thompson, Jake (Melissa) Hillier and Kristen (Adam) Norman; 13 great-grandchildren; and two great-great grandchildren.

The family will receive friends

Wednesday, February 5 from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home. A Celebration of Life service will follow at 2:30 p.m. at Jacksonville National Cemetery where military honors will be rendered.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to The Gideons International at: www.gideons.org/donate or any charity of your choice.

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

RICHARD A. HOLBROOK, JR.



Richard Allen Holbrook, Jr., 51, of Folkston, passed away January 29, 2020. He was born March 16, 1968 in Savannah, Georgia. He was goofy and

always the life of the party. He strived to be himself and taught his children to do the same. He was always outgoing, loud and just all around an awesome guy to be around. He always had the next grand idea. He loved his family and was always there when someone needed him. He always knew how to have fun with his kids. He was preceded in death by his father Richard Allen Holbrook, Sr.

He is survived by his children Joshua Jones, Jordan Holbrook, Taylor (Johnny) Holbrook-Payan, Patricia Holbrook, Richard (Kristin) Holbrook, III and Jaylin Holbrook; parents Earl and Barbara Gibbs; brother James Holbrook; grandchildren Kairi Helphrey-Jones, Korah Helphrey-Garrido, Starlett Jones and August Payan; nephews Christian Holbrook, Jesse Holbrook and Noah Holbrook.

The family received friends Monday, February 3 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 4 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed in Homeland Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston, "Go Dawgs!"

MARY 'EDNA' LANIER

Mary 'Edna' Coulliette Lanier, 89, went home to be with her Lord January 27, 2020 after almost 15 years battling cancer.

Edna was born in Frostproof, Florida on April 18, 1930 to William Hannon Coulliette and Myrtle May Stevens Coulliette. She was married to the late Clyde Oliver 'C.O.' Lanier, for 65 years. She lived in Callahan for 36 years. Edna was retired from many years of clerical work at Gulf Life Insurance Company. She was a faithful member of Gray Gables Baptist Church, always ready to help wherever she could, to honor Jesus. Mary was preceded in death by two sons Mark and Michael.

Edna is survived by her two grandchildren Lance Lanier Stachnik and Jennifer Lanier Moore; great-grandsons Hunter and Hayden Stachnik; nieces Patricia Owen, Pamela Ratney, Tammy Zipper and Melody Croker; nephew Nicky Coulliette.

A graveside service was held Thursday, January 30 at Jones Cemetery in Callahan.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Gray Gables Baptist Church, PO BOX 629, Callahan, FL, 32011; or to the charity of your choice.

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

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

MISTY BLUE LOVEJOY



Misty Blue Lovejoy, 39, of Hilliard, passed away January 29, 2020 at Baptist Hospital in Jacksonville. She was born February 14, 1980. Misty

enjoyed a career as a medical assistant and lived most of her life in Callahan. She enjoyed aquariums, goldfish and tropical fish. Misty also liked to be outdoors gardening. Most of all she loved spending time with her family.

Misty is survived by her mother Lisa (Wade) Akin of Hilliard; father Edward Lovejoy of Callahan; children Brianna, Seth and Ciara O'Neal; father of her children Jason O'Neal; her twin boys Jayden and Brayden; sister Toni Lovejoy; brothers

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Jason Lovejoy, Nick Lovejoy and Edward Lee Lovejoy.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held at a later date.

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

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

ELLIS 'MACKY' MCANINCH, III

Ellis L. 'Macky' McAninch, III, 32, of Callahan, passed away Thursday, January 30, 2020. Macky was born on October 15, 1987 in Jacksonville to Ellis and Charlotte Clark McAninch. Macky was an outstanding athlete who loved football, baseball, weightlifting, fishing and Race Cars (Drag Racing). He also loved cooking and reading the Bible. Macky was a die-hard Seminole fan, GO NOLES! One of his fondest memories was being in attendance for the 2010 Gator Bowl (Bobby Bowden's last game). Macky also loved the Jaguars. He was also a one in a lifetime family member and friend, always willing to do anything for his family members or loved ones. His passion and hyperness for anything he ever did or attempted to do, was unmatched. Macky was very charismatic, he left a positive, lasting impression on anybody he ever met. His life touched the lives of many.

In addition to his grandparents; Macky is predeceased by his mother Charlotte McAninch; three uncles Mark J. McAninch, Sr., Maurice R. Higginbotham and James Jack Clark, Jr.; as well as cousins Jonathon Clark and Mason Clark.

Survivors include two daughters Ellysiah McAninch and Aaliyah McAninch; a son Isiah McAninch; father Ellis L. McAninch, Jr.; sister Amanda McAninch; brother (cousin) Mark McAninch, Jr.; neices Arielle McAninch and Taylie McAninch; and nephew Brantley Kingston McAninch; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

His family received friends Tuesday, February 4 at First Baptist Church in Callahan. The funeral service was held Wednesday, February 5 also at the church. Burial followed in Jones Cemetery in Callahan.

Arrangements by Oxley Heard Funeral Home in Fernandina Beach and Callahan Funeral Home, 879-2336.

OBITUARIES

EDNA HENDERSON PICKARD



Edna Henderson Pickard, 84, of Hilliard, passed away Friday, January 31, 2020. She was born October 12, 1935 in Hilliard, to the late Lee Henderson and Fannie Keene Henderson. She retired from the Florida Department of Transportation.

Along with her parents; she was preceded in death by her siblings Noah Henderson, Ruby Henderson, Claude Henderson, Winnie Mae Allen, Ollie Henderson, Louise Lee, Edward Henderson and Kelly Henderson.

She is survived by her children Archie Carroll, Clay Kemp, Tina Kemp and Janet (Michael) Kelley; 12 grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

The family received friends Tuesday, February 4 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 5 also at the funeral home with Rev. Michael Roddy officiating. Burial followed in Buford Grove Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston.

find Lores, the final love of his life. They spent his last year riding motorcycles and enjoying life. Roy is remembered by his family and friends as a loving, thoughtful son, kind spirit and a true friend. Roy was preceded in death by his son Raymond and father Roy, Sr.

He leaves behind a loving family including his mother, Ada; two daughters Kimberly and Stephanie; grandson Jacob Lewis Bell; three sisters Janet, Kathy and Cindy; and five nieces and six great nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held Saturday, February 1 at Oak Leaf Baptist Church, Orange Park, with Brother Robert officiating.

MILDRED INEZ THRIFT



Mildred Inez Hickox Nelson Thrift, 90, of Hilliard, passed away Thursday, January 30, 2020 in Orange Park. She was born December 9, 1929 in Hoboken, Georgia, to the late Noah David Hickox and Amanda Estelle Lee Hickox. She was a homemaker and member of Live Oak Baptist Church in Callahan. In her younger days, Inez enjoyed fishing, gardening and canning food. Till the end, she took great joy in country music, a clean house and spending time with her children.

Along with her parents; she was preceded in death by her husband Odis Clifford Thrift; a daughter Susan Estelle Nelson Prescott; four sisters Thelma Crews, Vera Ingram, Mary Herrin and Annie Maude Hauser; three brothers James Robert Hickox, Floyd Hickox and David "Dubie" Hickox; and a grandchild Jessica Nelson. Inez was the last of 7 siblings.

She is survived by her children David (Margaret) Nelson, Charles (Susan) Nelson and Debbie (Bill) Hoskison; seven grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Monday, February 3 in the Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Jimmy Thrift officiating. The family received friends prior to the service. Burial followed in Winn Cemetery in Blackshear, Georgia.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

SPENCER LAMAR YOUNG



Spencer Lamar 'Grumpy' Young, 84, of Hilliard, passed away Wednesday, January 29 in Jacksonville. He was born August 1, 1935 in Waycross, to the late Willie Leon Young and Lonnie Roxie Waters Young. He was a Land and Construction Surveyor until his retirement. He was a member of Buford Grove Baptist Church in Hilliard. He was a loving father and family man. Mr. Young was the #1 surveyor in the state of Florida for 40 years, leading many younger generations to the trade of construction surveying. After retirement, he found Christ at the age of 80 and became a servant to the Lord and found another calling handing out food at the food bank serving hundreds weekly. He enjoyed farming and was born with a green thumb and was always willing to share his bountiful harvest with anyone. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by four brothers.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Martha Jean Corbitt Young; three children Brenda Kay Nelson, Spencer Newsome 'JR' (Michelle) Young and Marsha Gail (Roland) Cabanas; four grandchildren Sabrina Ann McIntosh, Katlyne Renee Moore, Michael Thomas Young and Wesley Spencer Lee Young; six brothers; and a number of nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, February 6 at 4 p.m. at Buford Grove Baptist Church, Hilliard with Pastors Curtis Harrington and Mike Pruitt officiating. The family received friends at 3 p.m. prior to the service. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

ROY B. STOUTENBOROUGH, JR.



Roy B. Stoutenborough, Jr., 59, passed away January 20, 2020 at UF Health in Jacksonville, following a short battle with thyroid cancer. He was born in Hahn, Germany on August 14, 1960, the youngest of four children of Ada Stoutenborough and the late Roy B. Stoutenborough, Sr.

Roy joined the US Air Force right out of high school, where he learned his Communications Equipment trade. After serving our country, he went to work for MCI in New Jersey. Wanting to be closer to parents and siblings, he moved his family to Florida and resided in Glen St. Mary for the last 20 years. He was a member of the American Legion. Roy's passions were motorcycles, family and protecting all he loved dearly. He searched long and hard for his perfect mate and was ecstatic to

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Lanier Family Thank You

The family of Mary Edna Lanier would like to thank each and every one for their love and prayers for her and the kindness you extended during her lengthy illness and passing. We thank those who cared for her constantly during the last few weeks; the doctors and staff at the Cancer Center, St. Vincent's Community Hospice for their compassionate care and Nassau Funeral Home for their thoughtful, professional help. We especially want to thank the Gray Gables Baptist Church family and Pastors for their constant love and support. We will miss her greatly.

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Battle of the Westside Basketball



Friday night, Hilliard Middle-Senior High School hosted West Nassau High School for some exciting basketball. Both boys and girls JV and Varsity teams participated in the Battle of the Westside! Hilliard's JV teams came out on top with the girls winning 48 - 38 and the boys winning 69 - 31. As the night went on, the gym became packed with standing room only by halftime of the varsity girls' game. Hilliard's Lady Flashes came out on top 46 - 35.

Before the varsity boys took the court, a military appreciation ceremony took place which included West Nassau's JROTC color guard, readings from students and a moment of silence. Following the ceremony, the excitement could be felt as the gym was filled to capacity. Both teams battled it out on the court showing both skill and sportsmanship. West Nassau's Warriors came out on top of an intense game, winning 53 - 48. What a fun and successful event for our schools to get to participate in together.

Two Soccer Players Selected

Two West Nassau High School seniors, who play on the soccer team, were selected to play in post season All-Star tournaments. Co-Captain Claudia Wiggins (22) was selected as a forward to play in the Florida Athletic Coaches Association All-Star Classic on March 6-7 in Celebration, Florida.



Senior Co-Captain Jordan Hartley (4) was selected as a midfielder to play in the North Florida All-Star Series Soccer Classic on March 14 in a location to be determined. Jordan will join seniors from Bolles, Bishop Kenny, Fletcher, Mandarin, Stanton and Englewood playing against teams from other regions of the state. Congratulations ladies!



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