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Refuge
AND MY FORTRESS;
MY *God*,
IN WHOM I *Trust*”
PSALM 91:21

WESTSIDE JOURNAL

Spring
IS IN THE
air
FIRST DAY OF SPRING
FRIDAY, MARCH 20

VOLUME XVI ISSUE 36

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2020

“THE LORD IS WITH ME; HE WILL HELP ME. IT IS BETTER TO TAKE REFUGE IN THE LORD THAN TO TRUST IN PEOPLE.” - PSALM 118:7-8

Nassau County Coronavirus Updates



The Nassau County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is the “clearing house” for Nassau County’s Joint Information System (JIS) and posts incident information regularly on the NassauEM Facebook Page and www.NassauFL-EM.com website. The “OneNassau” JIS is monitoring the rapidly changing situation concerning the Coronavirus, in order to provide timely, accurate, unified messaging to our residents.

Current Situation in Nassau County:

- Local Medical Providers who are unable to obtain necessary PPE supplies through their normal vendors should contact the NE Florida Regional Healthcare Coalition or DOH-Nassau for assistance.
- Governor DeSantis has issued Executive Order #20-68 having the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (BPR) enforce the suspension of alcohol sales in bars, pubs, and nightclubs for 30 days as of 5 p. m. March 17, as well as employee health screenings and a 50% occupancy limit in restaurants; parties accessing public beaches are to limit themselves to groups of 10 and distance themselves from other parties by six feet.

- Florida’s State University System has extended remote learning through the end of the spring semester.

- County Schools are scheduled to reopen April 15.

- Other private businesses may remain open as they see fit; social distancing, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette recommendations are still in effect.

- Sheriff’s deputies are responding to calls for service under normal operations; NCSO fingerprinting services have been cancelled until further notice; although visitors are not allowed in Fire Stations through April 6, EMT/ Paramedics will meet residents needing medical assistance at station doors. Call 9-1-1 for all public safety and medical emergencies.

- Clerk of the Court will not be performing marriage ceremonies at either courthouse until further notice.

- County Jail is being sanitized multiple times per day; all programs, church services, and visitation have been suspended; attorneys and counselors will have access to inmates through glass-shielded rooms; medical care

will continue as normal; Judge Daniel ordered weekend inmates postponed until May 22.

- Property Appraiser’s office is closed to the public but services are available via phone and email.

- State parks are open for day-use from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. but all organized events, pavilion rentals and camping reservations are cancelled for the next 60 days

- Businesses have been asked to complete the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) impact survey at <https://floridadisaster.biz/>; those experiencing economic injury during the pandemic may use the form on www.FloridaDisasterLoan.org to apply for a short term, interest free, Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan between March 17 and May 8

- The City of Hilliard has cancelled all Parks and Recreation sponsored childcare services and youth athletic events; parks and office remain open through phone, email and drive-thru window.

- National & State Public Health Updates: The Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided updated information and public resources on their webpage www.coronavirus.gov.

Take everyday precautions to reduce disease transmission:

- If you are at risk or have underlying health conditions, avoid crowds and maintain social distancing practices.

- Stay home, away from others whenever ill.

- Cough/sneeze into your elbow, sleeve, or a tissue.

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; if soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

- Avoid touching common surfaces in public places – door handles, ATM buttons, handrails, etc.

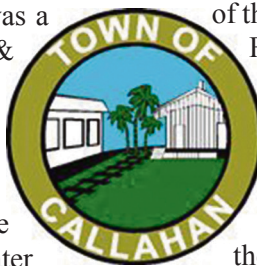
- Clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces

The Florida Department of Health (DOH) COVID-19 Call Center is available 24/7 to answer general Coronavirus questions at 866-779-6121 or e-mail at COVID-19@FLhealth.gov. If you have questions, please call the DOH-Nassau health professionals at 904-875-6100.

Callahan Town News

Dawn S. West

The Town of Callahan met Monday night for their final meeting of March. The first order of business was a proclamation read by Water & Sewer Commissioner Shirley Graham. The proclamation included proclaiming April as Water Conservation Month, as it is sometimes the driest month in Florida. Water conservation teaches people the importance of water in our everyday lives as it (water) is a basic living need. The proclamation is another way to educate people about water conservation in and around their homes every day.



The next agenda item was the approval on first reading of Ordinance 2020-003 which concerned Chapter 195 of the Callahan Code. Mayor Marty Fontes explained, “Chapter 195, in its current wording, is confusing for advertising needs and information. We have gone through the entire code definitions and updated them. Example: Re-zoning is now referred to as Future Designations.”

Ordinance 2020-004 was also approved on first reading which concerned updates and revisions to the current code.

Mayor Fontes also advised the council concerning a quote from

Ampstun System Software that handles the utility billing for the town. The quote for the system upgrade is \$15,575. “This is an upgrade from our current system. There will be no changes except for the software as the readers will be fine for reading meters,” said Fontes. “There will be no extra work for the employees. The office staff will receive training on the upgrades.” The council approved the Ampstun System Software purchase.

Town Manager Mike Williams requested approval to purchase a 46’ x 46’ roof over with 12’ legs. “We currently have two sea containers at the Waste Water Treatment Plant where our equipment is stored inside,”

said Williams. “This holds a lot of the equipment however our big equipment is not protected from the weather. The roof will cover over the containers leaving a large area to park our equipment.”

Two bids were given. The council approved S & S at a cost of \$12,550 installed.

In closing comments, Mayor Fontes advised the council that the joint meeting with the Callahan Council and the Nassau County School Board is still planned for Monday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m. at the Callahan Fire Station Conference room.

The next meeting of the council will be Monday, April 6 at 7 p.m.

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Fear in the Midst of Crisis

Pastor Ted Heglund, First Alliance Church, Hilliard



Over the past couple weeks, the main headline in the news is the Coronavirus. This issue has taken over everything from greetings to canceled sports events to locked doors on schools and nursing homes. This virus has put a fear into the hearts of millions of people. So how do we balance between fear and faith, normality and panic, sickness and health? Throughout life there are many things that enter which are out of our control and this may be that time for some.

Fear will often control and drive a person in different ways and fear can lead to unwise decisions. Fear is nothing new for mankind. Consider what writers of Psalms wrote: "...when I am afraid I will put my trust in you." Psalm 49:5; "...he [God] delivered me from all my fears." Psalm 56:3. Trust in God keeps fear under control.

So how do we react to the valid concerns of these issues facing us today? Speaking in a video blog about the virus to all our Alliance churches, Rev. John Stumbo, the president of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, summarizes our present situation very well.

"Allow me to give a word of caution. Let's be honest about fear. Fear is spreading faster than the virus itself. I don't want to shame those who feel fear, but let's look at it closely and let it lead us to the Lord. What are we really afraid of - the loss of a loved one? That's a legitimate cause for prayer. - the loss of income? That's a real need to take to the Lord. - the loss of our own life? May God free each of us from the tyranny of the fear of death..."

"It is right that we have fear about some things in life, but when fear leads, it usually leads us to negative places...while we want to be honest that legitimate fear within our own souls and congregations have a place, let's make sure that that place isn't first, foremost, loudest, and strongest but that other things accompany in that conversation in our congregations and in our own hearts, things like wisdom, good judgment, faith, hope, trusting in the Sovereignty of God...if we can get into His heart and understand His view, then fear need not win the day or even lead the way."

I understand there is fear among some of our wonderful people in West Nassau. But let me also offer hope. God is still sovereign and He longs to show His love and compassion through us. Now is the time for Christians, believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, and the church to be strong and supportive of the people around us and to look for opportunities of ministry. Rev. Stumbo also said, "See, fear causes us to run away. Hope, faith, confidence in God causes us to wisely step in."

Now is the time to "step in" with love, understanding and help for those in your neighborhood, members of your family, folks at church and in the work place. Perhaps over the next few weeks you will see people hurting because their work has been cut back or in order to work they need someone to watch their children because the schools have been canceled or they need someone to go get their medicine or buy food.

Let us rise up to show Christ's love and compassion to others in the midst of these unknown and trying times. What a great time to show love to an ethnic group that others might want to step away from at this time. How can...how will you share the love of Christ with people who may be struggling with issues, life and fear at this time?

So friends, let us keep our eyes on the Lord Jesus Christ as we walk by faith in these trying days. "The Lord is my strength and shield. I trust him with all my heart. He helps me, and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving." Psalm 28:7 (NLT)

Callahan Library Fun!



The Callahan Library recently held a successful Young Adult Dungeons and Dragons gathering. The teens used their imaginations to create characters, faraway lands, and learned the ins and outs of the game to gear up for our next session: Tuesday, April 7 at 5:30 p.m., for ages 12 to 17. Special thanks to Brandon Morris and Nicholas Skunda for volunteering their time to help run the game.

Answer the Call of Support

The Family Readiness Group of the 146th Expeditionary Signal Battalion is helping the families of our soldiers and is asking for your support. Please help us honor the soldiers and their families as they answer the call of duty. As soldiers are called out to duty, their families are left to pay the bills, buy the groceries, etc. This is one way we can make things a little brighter while they are away. We will in turn honor your donation of time, resources or financial support. Also, we will be having a departure ceremony Friday, March 27 for our troops and families.



Please help! These volunteers support our troops and their families. Time is approaching quickly and we still need donations to cover the expenses of providing a successful event. Creating positive family memories! Please call and coordinate directly with Cassidy on how you can help our citizen soldiers. Call Cassidy May, Family Readiness Leader at 904-252-2995 or email: familyreadiness146@yahoo.com. Your monetary donations may be made out to: Post Snyder Family Support!

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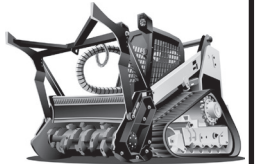
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Fish Talk

Black Drum Baby!

Chris Cockerham, Reel Habit

Black drum can be found in near shore waters all along the Atlantic coast from the Gulf of Maine to Florida and as far south as Argentina. Atlantic coast black drum migrate inshore during the spring and to the south in the fall. Black drum have been known to reach over 46 inches in length, 120 pounds in weight and 60 years of age. They grow rapidly until the age of 15 at which time, growth slows. With that said, they are being caught all over the Northeast Florida region. Grab your family, let go of social media for a bit and get out there when you can. Or, if you'd like to be guided, simply call Capt. Vic Tison. Capt. Vic can be found at Vic2Fish Adventures. If you're looking for a great fishing trip his phone number is 904-699-2285. Again, it's Captain Vic Tison! He is the best guide in our area and probably one of the most humble fishermen you'll ever meet. Capt. Vic primarily fishes the St. Johns River but is an absolute fish professor of our backwaters as well.

As for the weekend angler, you can target black drum in the deep portions of our waterways. Here on Amelia Island, we mainly focus on the shipping channel of the St. Mary's River and on the South end of Amelia Island near the Nassau River inlet. Obviously larger fishing rigs will be required due to the size of these fish. Not just that, if you're releasing these fish, it's best to keep the fight as short as possible to ensure a healthy release. You will also need to do your best and revive them before release. They can be a great sport fish so we want to ensure their wellbeing for years to come.

Now as far as tackle, I primarily use a heavy rod with a sensitive tip. For me, a 6' to 7' ugly stick tiger rod is the best base to start with. I'll pair that with a 6000 to 8000 series Penn spinning reel. Mind you, all your gear should be sized to the body of water and the targeted fish. That may vary depending on depth and current as well. It's not uncommon to use lead weights up to 12 ounces or more. So be prepared with a variety of weights, the tide may be slow moving on the incoming and ripping on the outgoing or vice-versa. For my main line, 40 to 50 lb. power pro is suitable. I will use a fish finder rig with a 40 to 60 pound fluorocarbon leader and add a 6/0 to 8/0 Mustad circle hook. When using the circle hooks, there really is no need to set the hook, just lean into the fish and begin reeling.

Lastly bait, you can cut a large blue crab in half or just break the legs off a whole crab and run the hook through the tough shell just past the horn. Many times breaking the corner off the crab shell can be an added advantage. After all, these fish depend on their keen sense of smell to collect food on the bottom. Find the river channel where these fish travel and drop down just inside the ledge. Again, drum use their keen sense of smell to find food, so if there's a hungry fish in the vicinity they will find your bait. Areas to target include the Nassau Sound River, the Pines just east of the Nassau Sound Bridge and the north end of Amelia Island around the yellow channel buoys.

In closing, I hope you all find success this weekend, may the weather cooperate and I hope to see you on the water!

JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

Don't panic! Yet if you turn on the television, all you see and hear is Corona, Corona and Corona. I'm going to make this as short as possible because I am tired of all the hype as many of you are also. Yes, it's a bad type of influenza, but it's not a death sentence.

I have a hard time believing that all this Corona hysteria is not politically motivated. The liberal news media and the liberal politicians are all just too gleeful over this outbreak. Is it not occurring at such an opportune time? In all my life I have never witnessed such absurd behavior like we are seeing play out across this nation. Is this Corona scare not accomplishing just about everything that the Trump haters have been attempting for the last four years? Do we understand how many small businesses will never recover from this hysteria? The stock markets have dramatically plummeted, and will only worsen if we don't get back to our normal routines. They are placing us in a bubble and feeding us just what they want us to hear. Welcome to a socialistic world.

Corona viruses have been around for a long time. It is a respiratory and flu virus. This strain seems to affect

the elderly and persons with underlying medical conditions more so than the average healthy person. What really scares me is we Americans are accepting the scare tactics of the liberal left which is bringing about total disruption to our lives and our country's financial stability. We are fine with being told to cancel this or that, don't go here or there. Satan is dancing in the street because even churches are closing their doors and saying, don't come here.

Just for reference purposes let's look at the 2009 Swine flu pandemic of 2009. Between April 2009 and April 2010 the CDC estimated that the swine flu caused 60.8 million illnesses, 273,304 hospitalizations and 12,469 deaths in the United States. Globally, an estimated 151,700 to 575,400 people died in the first year of the pandemic. Where was the media then? Where was President Obama? Now compare that with the COVID-19, as of March 16th there are 4060 verified cases in the United States with 71 deaths.

Use common sense and treat this as you would in attempting to avoid the flu in any other flu season. I still think the rush on toilet tissue for a respiratory virus is absurd...but that's just my opinion!

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New Beginnings and Milestones

Mary Lue Hall Celebrates 100th Birthday

Mary Lue McLendon Hall celebrated her 100th birthday on March 8. She was born March 8, 1920 at her home in Dublin, Georgia to Ernest and Nora Perdue.

A big birthday celebration was held at her son's home in Hilliard. The party was attended by her three children, Gary and Bernice McLendon, Carl and Sandra McLendon and Gail and Larry Seigfried; as well as 11 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren. Many family and friends were there for the festivities, some in thoughts and love that couldn't make the distance. Memories made along the way were shared as we laughed and were all once again reminded of how blessed we are to be part of her life. Her daughter, Shelvia Jean Graham (1940-2016), enjoyed a Heavenly celebration.



Landri Claire Simmons



Anna Phillips and Travis Simmons, of Callahan, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Landri Claire Simmons. Landri was born January 9, 2020 at 7 p.m. at Baptist Hospital Jacksonville. She weighed 7 pounds 5 ounces and measured 18 inches.

Paternal grandparents are Kerry and Jason Fouraker; and Amy and Travis Simmons, Sr., all of Callahan.

Maternal grandparents are Christy and Eddie Holton of Callahan.

Proud great-grandparents are Leroy and June Blalock; Connie and Bobby Kyle; the late Howard Hayes; and Donna and the late Robert Simmons, Sr., all of Callahan.

School Student Meal Plan: March 23-27



The Nassau County School Nutrition Association has had many reach out to them regarding efforts to feed our students. Pending approval of the Florida Department of Agriculture – Consumer Services (FDACS), the Nassau County School District will be providing breakfast and lunch for students during the week of March 23rd.

Breakfast and lunch will be served from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Meals will be prepackaged and distributed at the parent pick-up or bus loop to be consumed off-site. Breakfast and lunch may be picked up together.

Children must be present to receive their meal per federal requirements. Any child 18 and under may receive free meals. Meals will be distributed at the following school sites: Callahan Elementary and Hilliard Middle-Senior High School.

Hilliard Reschedules Town Clean-up

Dawn S. West

The Hilliard Town Council met Tuesday night for their final meeting of March. The meeting was changed as an emergency action by Council President John Beasley due to the changing conditions of the coronavirus. "I just felt we needed to go ahead and move the meeting to Tuesday as each day new changes are happening," said Beasley. "This way we can take care of our business and make some necessary decisions."

Town Clerk Lisa Purvis provided the mayor and council with a list of items to consider. They included: Rescheduling the Annual Town Clean-up to September 12; Closing the Town Hall lobby to the public and encouraging calling, emailing or using the drive-thru window; Clean and sanitize work spaces, equipment, doorknobs, etc.; Using gloves for handling cash; and Cancel board and commission meetings through April 2. For the Parks & Recreation Department: Discontinue after school programs; stop youth soccer; stop Silver Sneakers; and no facility rentals through

April 2. The Fitness Center and the parks will remain open for public use. The council agreed to all the suggestions.

In other business, Ordinance 2020-01 was approved of first reading which concerned a temporary moratorium on Medical Marijuana to continue the moratorium through September 1, 2020.

Town Clerk Lisa Purvis requested to have Dawn Carroll removed from the Southeastern Bank management account and have Tiffany Bowden added. The council approved the request.

Public Works Director Ritchie Rowe requested approval for the purchase and installation of three (3) pumps at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. "These pumps will replace the 21 year old pumps. This purchase was already in the budget in our capital purchase plan," said Rowe. "I recommend MCS Mechanical Contractor, here in Hilliard, at a cost of \$57,163."

The council approved the request and recommendation.

At this time, the next council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 2 at 7 p.m.

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NCCOA “Boots on the Ground” Delivering FREE Meals to Seniors

In the wake of COVID-19, Nassau County Council on Aging (NCCOA) is helping make sure seniors (60+) throughout Nassau County have balanced, nutritious meals.

“Our ‘boots on the ground’ effort is ready to deliver meals to Nassau County seniors,” said Janice Ancrum, NCCOA President & CEO. “During this challenging time, many seniors do not feel comfortable leaving their home. This means they may go without food. Help is on the way...NCCOA staff and volunteers are here to ensure the safety and well-being of this vulnerable population.”

Any Nassau County senior may request five meals at this time. Additional meals will be available upon request. Just follow these steps: Call NCCOA at 904-261-0701 and tell our staff member you would like to request meals. We will complete an intake form with this information: Name, Address, Phone number, Birthdate, and your meal delivery will be scheduled.

“The Nassau County Board of



County Commissioners is providing financial support to NCCOA to enable us to offer this free service to our seniors,” Ancrum said. “County Manager Mike Mullin called us immediately to ask how the county could support our efforts. During this financially unsure time, we are extremely grateful to the County Commission and City of Fernandina.”

NCCOA’s Fernandina Beach and Hilliard Life Centers are closed to the general public until further notice. When we are not providing services to seniors, NCCOA does not receive state funding. If you are able to lend your financial support, please contact Wallace Bennett, Development Director, 904-775-5481.

Boat & Jet Ski Rescue Sunday



On Sunday, March 15, at approximately 5 a.m., the Nassau County Sheriff’s Office received a call from the U.S. Coast Guard in reference to a boat that had struck the rocks at the jetties near Fort Clinch. NCSO’s Marine Unit responded and found a 62 foot yacht stuck on the rocks with about a 6 foot gash and hole in the hull. There were six people on board the boat, which was returning to Fernandina Beach from the Cape Canaveral area. NCSO



deputies transported the occupants to safety at the Fernandina Beach Marina. Once the tide came in the boat started to sink.

Later on that same morning NCSO’s Marine Unit was also called to assist a jet ski that was taking on water and sinking in the middle of the river. The Marine Unit picked up two teens and took them to shore for safety and towed the vessel in.



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The Town of Hilliard is soliciting bids from landscape/mowing contractors to mow the Town’s rights-of-way on a bi-weekly basis from April 15 through October 15 of each year. Sealed bids shall be received at the office of the Town Clerk at 15859 County Road 108, Hilliard, Florida 32046-6712 until 2:00 pm local time on March 30, 2020, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bids will be received for a single prime contract. Bids shall be on a unit price basis as indicated in the Bid Form. The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is the Town of Hilliard, 15859 CR 108, Hilliard, Florida 32046-6712, (904) 845-3555. Prospective Bidders may examine the Documents at the Issuing Office, Monday through Friday (excluding Holidays) and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents free of charge from the Issuing Office. Owner shall not be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

The Town of Hilliard is an equal Opportunity Employer and welcomes bids from MBE/WBE contractors.

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EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES now available at LIFE CARE CENTER OF HILLIARD- Now Hiring FL Licensed CNAs-Great starting pay rate! We offer a team-oriented environment along with a great benefit package. Please apply in person at 3756 West 3rd Street, Hilliard, (904)845-3988 or fax resume to (904) 845-4456. tfn

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

IMMEDIATE OPENING! Experienced Lawn Technicians/Drivers (Northside Jax) needed. Clean, Valid, Driver's License: Responsible for basic lawn maintenance duties including mowing, trimming, edging, blowing down walkways, pick up debris, etc. Start \$11-\$14 per hour, based on job performance and proven abilities. Please call 904-813-9727 today! 32619

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HELP WANTED: CHICK PROCESSORS. Cal-Maine Foods, Inc. in Callahan is taking applications for steady part-time employment. We are located in a hatchery that has been in Callahan for over 80 years. The position is working with day old baby chickens in an air conditioned environment. The workdays are ONLY Monday and Thursday from 6 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The hours for this position range from 15 to 25 weekly. Applicants must be able to work closely with others with minimal talking. This is a production position with minimum production numbers required to maintain employment. No experience needed as all training is provided. Starting pay is \$11.00 per hour. For applications, please call 904-879-4710 and ask for Janet or Erica. 31920

Okefenoke Rural Electric Membership Corporation is now accepting applications for the following position: **JOURNEYMAN LINEMAN** position at the Nahunta office. Applications can be printed from the website (OREMC.com) or picked up at any of our offices Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Applications will be accepted until Friday, March 30, at 5 p.m. at any of our offices or emailed to customer.service@oremc.com. (The Co-op Reserves the Right to Cancel Any and All Bids) Okefenoke REMC is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Drug Free Workplace. 32620

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OKEFENOKE REMC is now accepting applications for a **CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE - NAHUNTA OFFICE.** Applications can be printed from the website (OREMC.com) or picked up at any of our offices Monday - Friday, 8 A.M. - 5 P.M. Applications will be accepted until Friday, March 30, at 5 P.M. at any of our offices or emailed to customer.service@oremc.com (The Co-op Reserves the Right to Cancel Any and All Bids) Okefenoke REMC is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Drug Free Workplace. 32620

SEEKING EXPERIENCED LAWN TECHNICIAN, must have clean valid driver's license, transportation and be dependable. Call (904) 879-6709 for an interview. tfn

PART TIME LIBRARY ASSISTANT II: Nassau County has an opening for a Part Time Library Assistant II in the Library at \$15.4094 - \$23.4475 hourly plus benefits. Applications will be accepted thru March 24, 2020. To apply please visit www.nassaucountyfl.com or for additional information contact the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 31920

ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER: Nassau County has an opening for an Administrative Manager in the County Manager's Office at \$20.5102 - \$31.2086 hourly plus benefits. Applications will be accepted until filled. To apply please visit www.nassaucountyfl.com or for additional information contact the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws.

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HUGE SALE! Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., 44233 Knott's Landing, off US 301, Callahan. Antiques, collectibles and toys.

ESTATE SALE: FRIDAY, March 27 & SATURDAY, March 28, 8 a.m. until? 614766 River Road, Callahan. Antiques, furniture, clothing, bedding, towels, small appliances, medical equipment, hospital bed, home décor, table decorations and so much more! 32620

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VIOLET BIRMAN



Violet Birman, 96, a resident of the Life Care Center, of Hilliard, peacefully passed away March 10, 2020. She was born February 16, 1924 in Michigan to John and Ida Cheeseman Norton. She graduated from Hastings High School in 1942 in Hastings, Michigan. She married John Birman in 1943 and they were married 59 years until his passing in 2002. Ms. Violet spent 7 years being a 'nanny' to children and babies. She later worked at Hastings Manufacturing Company, where they made car parts, for over 20 years. After retiring she and John moved to Leesburg, Florida. She enjoyed doing crafts and crocheting. She made afghans for most of her children and grandchildren. She also enjoyed visiting with family and friends. She was very passionate about her love for the Lord. She was a very considerate, sweet lady that cared about others above herself. She was so thankful to him for the way He has provided for her these many years. She was also a breast cancer survivor since 2003. She was a member of the First Black Creek Baptist Church in Penney Farms.

She is predeceased by her parents; her husband John; a daughter Connie; a son Gary; a grandson Robert; siblings Howard (Pauline) Norton, Donald (Bonnie) Norton, Vivian (Ping) Beckwith and Evelyn (Calvin) Campbell.

She is survived by her son Wayne (Kathy) Birman of Yulee; 11 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; and many other relatives.

The family received friends prior to the funeral service held Friday, March 13 at Hardage-Giddens Holly Hill Funeral Home in Middleburg. A graveside service followed at Hardage-Giddens Holly Hill Memorial Park. Please post words of comfort at www.hollyhillfunerals.com.

OBITUARIES

RALPH ANGELO DELUCA



Ralph Angelo DeLuca, 88, departed this life on March 10, 2020. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on November 5, 1931.

He is survived by his loving wife, Kenda DeLuca; sons Michael and Shawn; daughters Alicia and Paula; and granddaughter Tiffany.

A celebration of Ralph's life will be held at a later date.

Condolences may be expressed at www.nassaafh.com.

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

DAVY F. EDWARDS



Davy F. Edwards, 64, of Yulee, passed away Monday, March 9, 2020, at Baptist Medical Center. He was born September 8, 1955 at Travis Air Force Base in Vacaville, California.

He was one of six children to the late Richard "Ed" Edwards and Yvonne Edwards.

Davy graduated from West Nassau High School in 1973. He then joined the US Navy where he served his country here and abroad for 20 years. After his military retirement, he returned to Florida to begin working for his family's HVAC Company, Ed's Comfort Solutions, until he started his own HVAC Company, Ed's Heating & Air. He also started Dave's Custom Woodworks, where he crafted beautiful pieces of furniture, kitchen ware and pens.

Davy was a loving father, son and brother. He had a heart for people that was evident in the way he gave so freely with his time and generosity. He deeply loved his family and friends, and gave of himself selflessly to all. He had a passion for woodworking and pen turning, and gave away more than he sold. He loved to

make people happy and truly had a passion for life. But most importantly, Davy loved Jesus and his faith was unflinching. Davy was a long-time member of Yulee Baptist Church where he faithfully served the Lord.

He is preceded in death by his dad, Richard "Ed" Edwards; a sister Debbie Armstrong; a brother Ricky Edwards; and a daughter Jennifer Crane.

Davy leaves behind three children Becky (Ben) Sinclair, Lauren Edwards and Russ Price; three siblings Phyllis (Chris) Lathrop, Tommy Edwards and Mike (Marty) Edwards; his mom, Yvonne Edwards; and several nieces, nephews and grandchildren.

The family received friends Wednesday, March 11 at Oxley Heard Funeral Home in Fernandina Beach.

A service to remember and celebrate Davy's life was held Thursday, March 12 at Yulee Baptist Church with Pastor Doug Sides officiating. He was laid to rest at the Jacksonville National Cemetery with full military honors.

Pall bearers were Scott Kirkland, Jason Lathrop, Kyle Edwards, Jack Webb, Kyle Pikula, David Adams, Corey Poore, Craig Winters and Matt Lee.

The family has asked in lieu of flowers, please send donations to Yulee Baptist Church Wheelchair Fund.

Please share your memories and condolences at www.oxleyheard.com.

Oxley-Heard Funeral Directors.

SHIRLEY JOYCE JACKSON



Shirley Joyce Jackson, 88, passed away March 5, 2020. She was born in Dukes, Florida on September 27, 1931 to Russell and Vera (Dukes) Hewitt. Accepting Jesus Christ as her personal Lord and Savior at the young age of 12 was something she wrote about in her personal journal. She remembered the details of the day as if it were yesterday. She remembered walking down the aisle as "Just As I Am" was being played on the near piano. Her favorite Bible verses were: 1 Corinthians 13 and John 3:16. Her lifelong prayer was that each of her children and their families would come to know Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior.

She married the late Oliver James "Jimmy" Jackson on May 13, 1951 and resided in Jacksonville until his death in 1975. They were both blessed with six children: Sara (Arthur) Nussel of Williston, Lynn (Gary) Hicks of Jacksonville, Darlene (Matt) Blanz of Oviedo, Charlene (Bobby) Hickman of Jacksonville, Lisa (Michael) Harris of Callahan and James Darrell "Jim" (Katherine) Jackson of Yulee. Both Jimmy and Shirley loved music and often shared in song while Shirley played the piano in church at the Highlands United Methodist Church in Jacksonville. Lisa remembers her mother playing the piano while her father sang "He Touched Me." Both Shirley and Jimmy instilled the love of music into all of their children. Shirley often shared her piano playing with others up until the end of 2019.

After the death of Jimmy, she remained in their home in Jacksonville until the early

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1980s. She then moved to Yulee in 1982 and resided there until 1994 when she moved in with her daughter and son-in-law, Lynn and Gary Hicks. She resided there until 2008.

In April of 2008, she married James "Ralph" Falkner and lived in Waynesville, North Carolina until May of 2016. At this time they sold their beautiful mountain home and moved to Magnolia Manor in St. Mary's, Georgia where they lived until Ralph passed away in January of 2020. Shirley spent her remaining days living at Osprey Village in Fernandina Beach.

Shirley is survived by her children; 11 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and a loving god-daughter Mary (Jeff) Saltzer.

Shirley's family would especially like to thank the incredible staff at Magnolia Manor and Osprey Village, as well as two special care-givers, Darlene McCullough and Sandy Edenfield. The love and care that was provided by all to their mother is deeply appreciated and the family is forever grateful.

A celebration of Shirley's life will be held Saturday, April 4 at 10 a.m. at Nassau Funeral Home in Callahan, with Pastor Dan Krupp officiating. Interment will be in Lochloosa, Florida at Tompkins Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Community Hospice and Palliative Care of Nassau County.

Condolences may be expressed at www.nassaufh.com

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

BARBARA ARLENE KELLEY

Barbara Arlene Gripes Kelley, 87, of Callahan, passed away March 10, 2020. Barbara lived a full life, leaving us with beautiful memories, active family and

OBITUARIES

enough love to span decades for generations. She would have been 88 years young on her next birthday, but that was never a priority to her. She was born November 18, 1932 in Cambridge, Nebraska to Arlie and Dorothy Gripe and younger sister Jean.

Barbara and Jim lived in Callahan for 23 plus years. She was involved in working the polls during elections and the NE FL Fair (where she won blue ribbons on her knitted blankets and afghans). She was treasurer of TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) and then KOPS (Keeping Off Pounds Sensibly) 20 plus years after reaching her goal weight.

Barbara retired as floor manager at JC Penney; and bookkeeper at Mac Paper Company. She and Jim enjoyed Square Dancing and Round Dancing with the Dixie Chain Gang, and were also active members of the Jumping Jacks RV Camping Club. They RV'd through most states in the Continental US. Barbara will be greatly missed. Her family and friends cherish her memory.

She was married to her husband of 69 years James Kenneth Kelley; her children Michael (Janice), Robert (Vicki) and Tommi (Jimmy) Harrell; 11 grandchildren Ryan, Kristin, LeRay, Jeanette, Kayla, Travis, Trey, Zack, Gena, Angela and Shelline; and 11 great-grandchildren Brock (Brionna), Erin, Emily, Lela, Jace, Bryson, Catherine, Rayn, Naomi, Chelsa and Hope; and one great-great grandchild Annallie.

It was her decision to be a donor to the UF Medical Program where she will help to educate medical students as they study anatomy. Afterwards, her body will be cremated and her ashes will be entombed at the Jacksonville National Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

JANIE CARVER NELSON



Janie Irene Carver Nelson, 79, of Hilliard, passed away on March 9, 2020 at Warner Center for Caring Hospice in Fernandina Beach, after an extended illness. Mrs. Nelson was born in Stuart, Florida to the late Jessie E. and Mary M. Carver. She was a resident of Hilliard for the last 62 years.

Along with her parents; she was preceded in death by her husband of 38 years, Leon Adel Nelson; and two brothers Johnny and Raymond Carver.

She is survived by her children Tommy L. Nelson and Penny Nelson; a brother Bobby Carver; sisters Evelyn Carver Guynn, Catherine Carver, Connie Carver and Bonnie Carver Cooper; nine nephews; and three nieces; and many cousins and other relatives.

Graveside funeral services were held Saturday, March 14 in Oakwood Cemetery in Hilliard.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

TRUDIE TAYLOR THARPE

Trudie Taylor Tharpe, 68, of Callahan, passed away on March 6, 2020. Trudie was born on August 13, 1951 in Thomasville, Georgia to Willie and Leola Wood Taylor. She was employed at the Callahan Mulch Plant in shipping and receiving. She was a member of First Baptist Church Callahan. Mrs. Tharpe loved spending time with her family, especially her great-grandchildren.

Survivors include her son William (Amanda) Tharpe; a brother Douglas Taylor; grandchildren Courtney Hughes, William Tharpe II, Alyssa Tharpe, Leilah Tharpe and Blyden Tharpe; as well as great-grandchildren Ansley Tharpe and Ryder Laskis.

Visitation will be held Saturday, March 21, 2020 from 3-4:30 p.m. with the memorial service beginning at 4 p.m.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

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

Railroad Day Festival Rescheduled

With the uncertainty of the current Coronavirus pandemic along with the CDC's newly released guidelines regarding crowd limitations, the Board of Directors of the West Nassau Historical Society has decided to reschedule our 2020 Railroad Day Festival and Classic Car Show from this April 18 to Saturday, November 7, 2020. This new date had already been set aside for our fall Hobo Day so now we will use the autumn Saturday to celebrate both our rich railroad history along with the fabled rail riders of yore.

This decision was not an easy one to make considering the ever-changing aspects of this very fluid national health crisis. The West Nassau Historical Society is an all-volunteer nonprofit and we rely heavily on the proceeds that we receive from this one day event. Many of our members have already put in countless hours preparing the historic 1881 Callahan Train Depot, stage and grounds for our 15th Railroad Day and Car Show. We were very excited about opening in a few weeks the doors of our beloved depot to visitors both young and the young at heart. However, the health and well-being of the people of our community, especially our senior citizens, are paramount to anything else.

In the coming days we will be reaching out to our sponsors, supporters, entertainers, exhibitors and vendors and explain our situation. Those arts/craft and food vendors who have paid for their spots will be given full credit to use on our new November 7th date or at our 16th Railroad Day Festival and Car Show to be held on April 17, 2021. Any questions will be addressed via CallahanRRdays@aol.com.

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