VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 35

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2022

BUT THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN, AND NOT BE WEARY; AND THEY SHALL WALK, AND NOT FAINT." - ISAIAH 40:31

Welcome Back Seniors!



Monday morning, the newly renovated and remodeled Westside Senior Life Center finally opened their doors and welcomed our west side seniors in! It was great to see so many smiling faces as they entered the beautiful building. Seniors were greeted with breakfast treats, coffee and tea, as they looked for their place to sit. Not long after, Bingo cards were passed out and the games began. Talk about

smiles...it was great to see them all back together and even some new faces. The new hours for the Westside Senior Life Center are: Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. - noon. If you are interested in joining this group, call 845-3331 for more information.

The new facility is also available for renting. Perhaps you have a wedding or baby shower, community meeting, etc., call 845-3331 for more information.



Woods and Water Family Fun Day Saturday



The Woods and Water Family Fun Day will be held this Saturday, March 26 from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. The event will be a fun-filled day with activities for children and parents alike. The event is hosted by Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch at Camp Sorenson, 1023 Retreat Acres Road, located off of CR 121 in Hilliard. The purpose of the event is to promote the importance of quality family time and introduce children (of all ages) and their families to some outdoor fun! Some of the featured activities will be fresh water fishing (fishing poles

provided or bring your own), canoeing, archery and various other outdoor games. There will be a presentation given at the top of each hour on topics such as Bass Fishing; Archery,

etc. Admission is FREE for the event! There will also be FREE hamburgers and hot dogs for everyone. Everyone who fills out a registration card or preregisters is automatically entered to win door prizes and there are lots of them! There will be a FREE t-shirt for preregistered children 16 and under. You can register your children and family at this link by scanning the QR Code or register when you arrive!

The event is being sponsored by local businesses and churches. Sponsors are still needed for the event to make

it bigger and better. This is a great chance to get out and have some fun with your family! For more information call Bob at (904) 845-7286 or email: rlh458@gmail.com.



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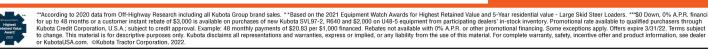
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Letters to the Editor

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

Constitutional Crisis

Dear Editor,

The current administration's impotence in the face of an economy careening out of control, supply chain shortages burgeoning and prices increasing weekly that are strangling us financially, are clear indications that Biden is not in charge. Was the Do-Nothing Democrats administration the impetus for Putin's self will run riot behavior over the Ukraine because he knew they wouldn't stop him?

We are living in an unprecedented time. We face a Constitutional Crisis because of a leader who seems incapable of stabilizing the

economy let alone influencing international events. Where are the Constitutional scholars who might provide direction out of this morass? Because dumping the Democrats in the 2022 elections may not be soon enough to reverse the damage.

The environment is filled with feelings of anger, fear, anxiety and outrage over our seeming powerlessness to influence the situation. What has become of the American spirit? It might be a good time to remember that we are in God's hands, not Biden's, and certainly not Putin's.

B. R. McConnell

Retired Educators Hold Essay Contest

Yulee Elementary student Lily Hampton was awarded 1st Place in this year's Nassau County Retired Educators Association Fifth Grade Essay Contest. She was recognized at her school on March 7 and received a plaque, ribbon and gift card.

Additionally, Sophia Croxton from Yulee Elementary, was the 2nd Place winner; and Linda Fowler from Emma Love Hardee earned 3rd Place.

Lily's first place essay will now be entered into the District 5 Florida Retired Educators Association (FREA) competition that consists of Baker, Duval, and West Volusia counties. The Fifth Grade Essay Contest was created by the FREA to encourage writing abilities in fifth grade students. It is a wonderful way for students to show appreciation and love for the important older people in their lives, be they grandparents or someone close who enhances their lives on a daily basis.



Lily Hampton

EC13008465

CGC1505434 CCC1331379



Sophia Croxton



Linda Fowler



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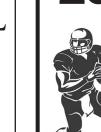
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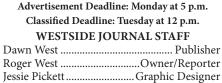
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Hilliard Town Clean Up to be Held Saturday, April 9

Dawn S. West

The Hilliard Town Council met Thursday night for their final meeting of March. The first order of business was the approval of the Engineering Agreement between the Town of Hilliard and AECOM Technical Services, Inc. The company handles professional General Planning & Engineering Consulting Services for Airport Improvements at the Hilliard Airpark. "Every five years, the FAA requires us to solicit bids for engineering," said Town Clerk Lisa Purvis. The council approved the agreement.

The following item was a request for a septic tank exception for Craig and Nicole Seabrooks for their property on Pine Street. The contractor for the Seabrooks is The Reed Group, Chad Reed, who was present at the meeting. "Public Works Director Ritchie Rowe has recommended approval for the exception," said Purvis.

"I think we need to inforce our code of 125' from the sewer," said Councilwoman Callie Bishop. "Perhaps we need to revisit the code again. Are we just doing this because of the costs?"

"There is just cause when you have to completely cut through the middle of a road," said Councilman Kenny Sims.

"I have been to the property and location and looked it over," said Public Works Director Ritchie Rowe. "The closest tie in would be at Raven Drive on that side of the road which is well over 1.200 feet. Then coming from the property the line would have to go into Southern Glen right down the middle of the road and tear everything out. It's just not practical for one home. The costs for the town and homeowner would be astronomical."

The council approved the exemption with a vote of 4-1 with Bishop voting no.

Council President John Beasley advised the council that he had been to a Callahan meeting and discussed joining together (towns of Hilliard and Callahan) for the July fireworks. "The fireworks have gone up just like everything else and will be \$30,000 this year," said Beasley. "Callahan is okay with paying their portion of \$15,000 and I just need to know that we will pay ours? The event will be held at the Callahan Fairgrounds on Saturday, July 2."

The council approved the fireworks cost for July 2.

In other business, the Pine Street Estates Subdivision received final approval to move forward. The contractor for the subdivision is Ralph Bennett.

The next item concerned the Hilliard Clean Up. "I am happy to report that Hilliard will have a Clean Up this year. Following two years of pandemic issues, the Hilliard Clean Up will be held Saturday, April 9," said Beasley. "Meridian Waste stepped up to help out and will have trucks on site from 9-11 a.m. Residents and volunteers will still come to Town Hall to sign in and pick up your bags, gloves and location. We will have Shred-It and also OneBlood at Town Hall. We will still have lunch at noon."

Beasley also added, "I would like to try to set up a workshop with us (Hilliard council), Callahan, Kynex, Inc. (fireworks people) and Keith Wingate (fair). I'm looking at Monday, May 9 at 6 p.m.?'

The council agreed with the date.

Parks & Recreation Director Gabe Whittenberg advised the council that he had been contacted by the First Baptist Church of Boulougne about having the Community Wide Easter Sunrise Service here (Town Hall) on the property Sunday, April 17, like they did last year.

The council approved the request.

Roger R. West

Oh where, oh where, has my country gone, oh where, oh where, could she be? She was once thriving and morally great but now I can't find her, oh where did she go? If this world was a three-ring circus, America would most definitely have the center ring! I keep telling myself that nothing can surprise me anymore, and then something pops up that totally proves me wrong.

Who would ever have thought that a man could decide he isn't a man any longer and now "poof" he's a woman? What's mind blowing is he is now allowed to be on the women's swim team at the same college he was on the men's team when he recognized his true gender. Lia Thomas, whom is in reality William Thomas, swims on the women's swim team at the University of Pennsylvania and has just became the first transgender athlete to win an NCAA Division 1 title. There is no way to justify to me that this is even a little bit okay. It is a lot like an NFL quarterback deciding he is now only 17-years-old and plays for a high school football team, totally an unfair advantage. I tried to self-identify as a multi-millionaire, but once again in reality I wasn't. Just like Lia Thomas in reality is not a woman and the next high profile identity crisis person isn't either.

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Now we have another man that decided he was a woman, that has earned (?) the title of USA TODAY's Woman of the year! What once was Richard Levine, husband father and reputed pediatrician is now Rachel Levine. Rachel, as she identifies now, was Biden's choice as the U.S. Assistant Secretary of Health for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the head of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, where she (he) leads a group of 6,000 uniformed public health officers as an Admiral.

And you wonder why Russia attacked Ukraine? Once again, America used to be a thriving moral compass to the world. We are now a nation of no backbone clowns. Russia knows this, China knows this, and thus they no longer fear America. Is World War III a definite possibility? You bet it is, more now than ever before. Unless America welcomes God back into our country and we become that moral compass again, we will just be a non-significant third world country. Can anyone deny the decline of morals since we allowed the left to remove God from every corner of our nation? Time is nigh!

As always...that's just my opinion (while I am still allowed to have one)!

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HOURS: 8:30 AM - 6 PM, CLOSED SUNDAY & WEDNESDAY

Anticipating Jesus' Coming

Pastor Benjie Loyd, River Road Baptist Church, Hilliard



In last month's article, I briefly sketched out the storyline of the Bible. The Bible begins with the original creation in Genesis and ends with a new creation in Revelation. The centerpiece of the Bible is the person and the work of Jesus. Without Jesus there would be no point to history and there would be no hope of a new creation. Without Jesus the curse that was unleashed in Genesis 3:15 could ever be removed in Revelation 22:3. The Old Testament begins with paradise and then paradise is lost because of the emergence of sin. Adam and Eve are banished

from the land and they die spiritually and they will eventually die physically. Genesis 3:15 contains the first promise in the Bible. The Bible promises that the seed of the woman (an ultimate reference to Jesus) will destroy the seed of the serpent. As the Old Testament unfolds, we are anticipating the arrival of the serpent crusher.

As you read through the Bible, the overall story can be condensed into six movements. Driscoll has summarized these movements as follows:

- Creation: Genesis 1-2 • Curse: Genesis 3-11
- Covenant: Genesis 12-Malachi
- Christ: Matthew-John • Church: Acts-Jude
- Consummation: Revelation

In understanding this summary, we must not be upset about the lack absence of some of the details. The aforementioned six movements, do offer a succinct summary of the Bible with the emphasis on Jesus. The first three movements come from the Old Testament and the last three movements merge in the New Testament. Let's see how the Old Testament anticipates the coming of Christ. For the sake of time, we will only be able to list the ways that the Old Testament anticipates Jesus' coming.

- Creation: Genesis 1-2: God created by the power of his word in Genesis 1:1. Jesus is the word of God in John 1:1. God created the first Adam in Genesis 1 and Jesus is the second Adam in Romans 5.
- Curse: The curse that was unleased will be removed by Jesus who Paul identifies as the serpent crusher in Romans 16:20 and the remover of the curse in Revelation 22:5.
- Covenant: Genesis 12-Malachi: One of the mega-themes of the Old Testament is the idea of covenant. God made the Abrahamic covenant with Abraham in Genesis 12. God made the Old Covenant with Israel in Exodus 19-24. God made the Davidic covenant with David in II Samuel 7. In Matthew 1:1, Jesus is identified as the Son of David, son of Abraham. This language screams that Jesus is the fulfillment of the Abrahamic and Davidic covenants. Jesus is also the one that inaugurates the New Covenant with the shedding of his blood in Matthew 26:28.

North Hilliard Baptist Church will have a BBQ (ribs & pulled pork) Dinner sale, \$10/per plate, Sat., March 26 at the traffic light in Hilliard on the corner of CR 108 and US 1 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Preorders are available by calling 845-2515 option 3.

North Hilliard Baptist Church, 552823 US HWY1, would like to invite all men to our Men's Prayer meeting held the first Monday of each month (April

Hampton Golf Tournament in April

After two years of dealing with the pandemic, the R. Niel Hampton, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held Saturday, April 23 at Laurel Island Links in St. Mary's, Georgia. "We are blessed and excited to bring the tournament back," said

Sandy Hampton. "We are currently seeking Hole Sponsors, players, Major and Gold sponsors."

All proceeds from the tournament will go directly to the Scholarship Fund, which provides assistance to college students going into full time ministry. The scholarship Foundation was began in memory of Sandy and Niel Hampton's son, R. Niel Hampton, Jr., whose life ended tragically in a car accident.



The Hamptons wanted to do something in memory of Niel Jr. The Hamptons are longtime members of River Road Baptist Church. Through a partnership with the church and the Florida Baptist Association Scholarship Foundation was

started. The tournament was held for 15 consecutively until the pandemic. The Hamptons are so thankful to be able to bring the players and friends back together for a great event. For information about sponsoring or playing in the event, please call Sandy at 904-307-9212.

NCCOA Offers Stress-Busting **Program for Caregivers**

Family caregivers experience tremendous physical, psychological, emotional, social and financial stress. Help is on the way from Nassau County Council on Aging (NCCOA)! NCCOA is offering a FREE 9-week program: Stress-Busting for Caregivers, starting Thursday, April 14, 1-2:30 p.m., at our newly renovated Westside Senior Life Center, 37002 Ingham Rd., in Hilliard, to help you better manage stress. The program continues on the following 8 Thursdays, ending on June 9.

The Stress-Busting for Caregivers series is an evidence-based program developed by the University of Texas Health Science Center and WellMed Charitable Foundation. During the series, caregivers learn about stress and its effects, practice stress management techniques and develop problemsolving skills. A generous grant from the



Community Foundation for Northeast Florida allows NCCOA to provide this program, including material, free to caregivers.

Space is limited. Call 904-261-0701 to register. For more information, contact Emily Kunzelmann, 904-775-5472 or ekunzelmann@nassaucountycoa.org.

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Living Financially Free

Financially Fighting Back -High Gas Prices Part Two

Last week we began to discover a handful of ways to fight back against rising gas prices. Saving money does not just happen, it takes intentionality. With a little planning you can do it!

Ways to fight back:

- 1. Eat at home For this season of crazy gas prices plan on cooking and eating at home. Try themed nights like Mexican (Tacos), Italian (Spaghetti), Mediterranean/Greek (Wraps), Japanese (Stir Fry) or American (Hamburgers). To spark joy around this plan: Put the themes in a bowl and allow the kids to select tomorrow's meal. Pro Tip: Before going to bed make a habit of taking meat out of the freezer for the next day's meal and putting it in the refrigerator to thaw.
- 2. Four cylinder If you have the option, drive your 4-cylinder vehicle instead of your six cylinder or diesel. 4-cylinder models tend to offer better fuel efficiency.
- 3. Cut back on meat Meat is the most expensive food you can buy at a grocery store. Beef prices alone have increased 20.09% in a year. A family of four could save \$50.00 by cutting meat out from your meals twice a week. That is a savings of \$200.00 a month. During these meals chose to serve a hearty pasta salad, cheese quiche, vegetables, or waffles.
- 4. Stay-Cation Create wonderful memories as a family by staying home together. Day 1. Camping in the backyard or put up the tent in the living room. 2. Bike Riding Fernandina and Baldwin have wonderful, family friendly



Yvette Outler

bike trails. 3. Beach & Kite Day - Dollar tree sells kites \$1.25 buy a handful, enough for your kids and extra to give away at the beach. 4. Petting Zoo – we all know someone who owns cows, horses, pigs, or chickens. With permission granted from the owner plan an hour of fun. Do not forget to take pictures! 5. Fishing - Play a game of catch and release. The first one to catch three wins! 6. Movie – AMC on demand, at home streaming. Invite friends. Average cost to stream a new movie is \$20.00. 7. Day of generosity: Find someone to bless. Offer to rake their yard, pull their weeds, mow their grass, clean their home, or cook a meal. If possible, get the entire family involved in the blessing.

5. Cut cable or do away with The Dish! Scale back to internet only. Enjoy Free Streaming – there are a ton of free streaming services. Here are my favorites: Peacock TV, Pluto TV, Redbox Live TV, and Crackle.

Yvette Outler is a Dave Ramsey's Master Solution's Personal Financial Coach. If you have any questions or would like to set up a free consultation, contact her at Fiscallyfree7@gmail.com.

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April 3rd - 11am - Free Admission

together and celebrate our Creator and His creation. This is a family focused event. We will be offering a challenging Bible message, outdoor related booths and activities, free BBQ lunch, and prizes. Join us for fellowship and funl

Show off your best trophy whitetail mount!

Bring in your best whitetail deer mount for display and you will be entered into a drawing for a special prize.



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Our speaker at this year's event is Mitchell
Johnston. Mitchell is a multiple time World
and National Turkey Calling Champion. He is
also the Founder and CEO of Dead End Game
Calls. He is sponsored by Mossy Oak, a spokesman
for the National Wild Turkey Federation and an
ambassador for the Lord Jesus Christ.



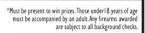


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CIS Warrior Run Held

Callahan Intermediate School recently held their 2nd Annual Warrior Run. The school uses the Warrior Run as a school-wide fundraiser to raise \$20,000. The school surpassed the goal and all students were able to participate in a color run. The fundraiser lasted for a week and many activities led up to the big day. Students were able to pie the music teacher, Mr. Seeley, dress the school resource officer, Officer Caldwell, in a tutu, and even play in a game truck. The event was a huge success!











John M. Drew Tax Collector

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Dear Taxpayers:

Did you know that you can pay your annual property tax bill in four quarterly installment payments? Breaking the tax bill into installments can make the payment of taxes easier to manage. It is important to note that if your taxes are paid by a mortgage company or through escrow, you should not apply to pay by installments. Mortgage companies are required to pay taxes in full during the November discount period.

The installment process, as outlined in Florida Statute 197.222, requires that the total amount of estimated taxes be greater than \$100. Similar to the regular tax billing process, the installment method provides for discounts on taxes due. The combined discounts for the installment plan calculate to just over 3%. This is a great savings if you typically pay your taxes between December and March each year! If you prefer to take advantage of the full 4% discount for November payments, then you may decide that the installment method does not work best for you. Once you are enrolled in the installment plan and make the first payment you are only entitled to the discounts set forth in the plan.

The deadline to apply for the installment payment method is April 30, 2022. Applications are for an installment plan on the upcoming 2022 Tax Roll.

You can submit your application electronically on the Tax Collector's website: www.nassautaxes.com. No paper forms to submit! Search for your property and click the link "Apply for the 2022 Installment Payment Plan". You may also still print an application to submit by mail or visit one of our four office locations listed below.

- First Installment Payment: One quarter of the total estimated taxes discounted at 6%. Payment is due by June 30th. Failure to pay the first installment will result in automatic cancellation of the installment plan.
- **Second Installment Payment:** One quarter of the total estimated taxes discounted at 4.5%. Payment is due by September 30th.
- **Third Installment Payment:** One quarter of the total estimated taxes, plus or minus one half of any adjustment based on actual tax liability, discounted at 3%. Payment is due by December 31st.
- Fourth Installment Payment: One quarter of the total estimated taxes, plus or minus as the case may be, one-half of any adjustment based on actual tax liability with no discount. Payment is due by March 31st.

For additional information, contact the Tax Department at taxes@nassautaxes.com or call (904) 491-7420.

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Stolen Vehicle Recovered from Satilla River

A citizen, who was boating on the Satilla River under the bridge, discovered a vehicle in the water. The area was near Burnt Fort, Georgia. The Charlton County Sheriff's Office was notified about the find. Divers from the Georgia State Patrol Dive Team handled the underwater recovery. The Department of Natural Resources Rangers and Seldomridge Towing and Recovery Service from Hilliard, assisted the Charlton



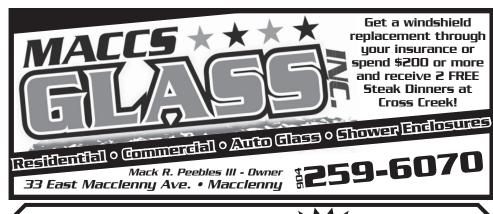
service to our community.

County Sheriff's Office with location and recovery. The vehicle was reported stolen in Nassau County in 2017. The Nassau County Sheriff's Office was notified about the recovery.

Seldomridge Towing and Recovery Service is celebrating 55 years of

Westside Regional Park Groundbreaking Monday

Next Monday, March 28 a groundbreaking Ceremony will be held for the Westside Regional Park. The event will be held at the property on US Highway 1 between Callahan and Hilliard, directly across from Mizell Tract Road at 3 p.m. The public is invited to attend.







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Kirby-Smith 1209 Confederate Park Officially Opens



Kim Hoffecker, Chaplain

Spring officially arrived on Sunday, however Saturday, March 19, was a perfect day for the Grand Opening Ceremony for the Kirby-Smith Camp 1209 Confederate Park. Clear skies, mild temperatures and a slight breeze



greeted the 100 plus who attended.

Several years in the planning and development stages, the park is the culmination of the work of many members of Kirby-Smith Camp 1209, Sons of Confederate Veterans. Situated in the Dinsmore area of Jacksonville near I-295, the park contains markers and monuments that remember the soldiers from Florida, the soldiers that never returned and will never be forgotten. Remembrance of the 1914 reunion of the United Confederate Veterans, a statue of General Robert E. Lee, along with several other smaller markers. The focal point however, is a 50-foot flagpole on which a 10 by 15foot Battle Flag was raised. Other flags will be rotated periodically.

The ceremony began with an invocation by the Camp's Chaplain, followed by a recitation of "The Charge" by James Ezell. Camp Commander Calvin Hart spoke on the work that took this from an idea to the reality that we see today. A three-round volley of muskets being fired was followed by the



firing of the Bruton Artillery Cannon. The ceremony closed with a benediction, but the day was not over. Those attending, enjoyed a lunch of Brunswick stew while taking in all that makes up this beautiful park...a remembrance of the sacrifice of the Confederate soldier.

Kirby-Smith Camp 1209 wishes to thank all who have supported this effort,

including other S.C.V. Camps, the Florida Division of the S.C.V., the S.C.V. Mechanized Calvary, United





Daughters of Confederacy, Order of the Confederate Rose and individuals who donated to the creation of this park.

JEWEL RENEE BARRON

Congratulations to Jewel Renee Barron for recently receiving achievement medal in the US Navy and Marine Corp. Jewel achieved Level III Countermeasure Crew Chief, the only African American female in the MH-53E community. She also achieved E-6 in AWS rate, the first African American female. She received her medals just before the tip-off at the Orlando Magic and Philadelphia 76ers basketball game in Orlando on March 13. Jewel is currently stationed in Gainesville.

Jewel is from Hilliard and will complete her 9th year of serving in the military in August. Her mother, Sharon Barron, sister Keiana Barron and friend Amanda were all at the game with Jewel during the presentation. Her proud

grandmother is Mary Scott of Hilliard. The family would like to thank ALL the service men and women!

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Douglas C. Pearson, Sr.

There is a phrase that defines everything that has gone on recently and explains just why we, as a nation, are in the situation we are in. We know you have heard it, but do you know just how old it is? Take a moment and reflect, as you read: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it!" - George Santayana – circa 1905.

Every event that has happened, since the current administration took office, has occurred more than once in the last 100 plus years. Dictators that dream of world dominance. Goals of good intentions that, through ignorance, provide motivation for those dictators to exploit their dreams of dominance. Elimination of industries, to provide room for another industry to move in, before they can even provide a reliable product.

We can provide the dreams! But to do so requires research and development, with testing and studies. When the lessons of history are ignored, we are truly "Condemned" to repeat the problems of the past. The courts cannot issue orders fast enough to reverse the stupidity that has existed since January, 2021.

So far as the Political map is concerned, it was in the early 1900's when the Kaiser attempted to dominate Europe. In the late 1930's, Adolph Hitler attempted the same thing. Now, in the early 2020's, Vladimir Putin has started his attempt to dominate Europe. If you think this is just about Ukraine, you're IQ is as low as our current President. Does Uncle Joe pay attention to the lessons of the past? No! He has downplayed the signs and ignored the indicators that were a road map to the current world environment.

Then we need to look at industry. It was in 2018, that Ford and General Motors announced that they were discontinuing the most popular line of vehicles in their inventory. In doing so, all of the "Big Three" continued to increase their production of SUVs and pick-up trucks. The most inefficient line of vehicles in the inventories. I remember, during a maintenance visit to my dealership in 2018, I asked why Detroit made that decision. The response was because those were the vehicles (SUVs and pick-up trucks) that were most profitable to produce in their fleets. Cars/Automobiles just weren't important to their bottom line anymore.

The last time fuel prices did this was in 2008. The Big Three all lost a lot of money, as they could not produce enough fuel-efficient vehicles to meet the public demand during those times. It did not take much imagination to see into the future and

Micolle D.

Rosenberry, Esq.

know that those conditions could return once again, rendering those "Profitable" line of vehicles archaic and out of touch. Remember, it was the Federal Government that had to bail out the Auto Industry back then. Only Ford Motor Company remained solvent, without need for the bail out. The difference now is that there are no other vehicles out there that people can explore, without once again turning to imports and padding those foreign bank accounts.

Now the emphasis for correction, according to senior leadership in this administration, is for people to buy Electric Vehicles. We better look around and recognize that there are not enough, reliable Electric Vehicles to satisfy the need of a demanding public, at a price that can be affordable. Let alone safe enough to not "Fry" the owners in a death trap.

Evidence? Over 3,000 EVs that were being transported from Europe to the U.S., caught fire last month. Lithium Ion Batteries cannot be extinguished, once a fire begins. The result of this incident was a total loss of 3000+ vehicles and of the ship that was transporting them. Evidence? The average cost of a new EV is over \$60,000 and no one can come up with a reliable study to compare what the benefit might be, over the current cost of what was a competitive Internal Combustion Car. When the Big Three discontinued producing automobiles, the average price for a 5-passenger car would start around \$25,000 per vehicle. More expensive options were out there, but competitive pricing made them affordable to the general public.

So now you're asking; "How did history demonstrate this?" Recall in the late 1990s a decision was made to permanently ground the "Space Shuttle" program. That decision resulted in the fact that the United States no longer had a vehicle to transport supplies and personnel to the International Space Station. While we waited for someone to step up and develop a transportation system, we began to pay Russia to deliver supplies and people to that platform, which was developed and paid for by US Taxpayers.

Now, through the ignorance of arrogance (until recently), we have been paying Russia for Oil to finance their dreams of dominance over Europe. Mr. President, that fence that Nancy Pelosi put around the capital won't stop Putin from running you out of the White House. Either wake up or pack your bags! Failure to do so will never see an investigative congressional commission to determine why the United States no longer exists.

Buy the Kids an Experience... Not More "Stuff"



Patti Foster

Give the kids an "experience" that will create a memory for a lifetime! On Saturday, April 30, Extreme Outdoors will host a "Children's Outdoor Adventure Day." This event will take place at Eden Gardens on Garden Street in Jacksonville. The event will introduce your child/grandchild to a variety of outdoor activities, while learning in a non-competitive, safe, fun, outdoor environment.

The event will offer beginner classes in: Archery, Kayaking, Fishing, Beekeeping, Camping, Pie Iron Cooking, Outdoor Crafts, Nature Scavenger Hunt, Introduction to Hunting and an Air Gun Range. Your child will pick 4 classes he/she would like to participate in. The event begins at 9 a.m. and ends at approximately 4

p.m. Children between the ages of 6 -14 years old are welcome. We require a parent to attend with the child, throughout the entire event. The cost is \$45 per child. Parents and children can buy their lunch for approximately \$10 from the food trucks that will be on sight. During lunch we will have an age-appropriate, fun presentation on hydroponics and S.T.E.M. Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Adults will love this presentation too! A fun new addition to this year's event is the "Farm to Table" farmers market. Parents can buy organic fruits and vegetables directly from Eden Gardens; 8 oz. bag of (lettuce, herbs, tomatoes, etc.) for a \$5 donation.

Pre-registration is required for this event. Please email Patty at: extremeoutdoorenterprises@gmail.com or call (904) 210-1110, to register and select the classes your child would like to attend.





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MILDRED ALLEE ALLISON



Mildred Allee Allison, 88, of Callahan, passed away on March 17, 2022. She was born in Madison, Florida to the late Benjamin F. Rutherford, Sr.

and Allee McClemma Rutherford, Mildred graduated from Andrew Jackson High School. Shortly after graduating from high school, she married the love of her life, Alfred Roscoe Allison, Jr. on January 27, 1952. They shared 57 beautiful years of marriage together. Mildred was employed as a secretary at East 45th Street Baptist Church for 18 years. She loved flowers and cats, but more than anything she loved her family. Mildred is preceded in death by her parents; husband Alfred Roscoe Allison. Jr.; son David Duane Allison; daughter Sarah D. Williams; and brother Benjamin Rutherford, Jr.

Mildred is survived by her daughter Deborah J. (Charles) Pember; grandchildren Stephanie M. (Marc) Pearl and Samantha R. Peavey; and 12 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Mildred's life will be held Thursday, March 24 at 12 p.m. at Callahan First Baptist Church with Pastor Brian Gunn officiating. Family will receive friends one hour prior to the service. Interment will be held Friday. March 25 at 9:30 a.m. at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

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

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

MARK LEE CONNER, JR.



Mark "Lil' Mark" Lee Conner, Jr., 25, of Hilliard, suddenly went home to be with his Lord and Savior on March 15, 2022. He was born in

Jacksonville November 10, 1996, to Mark Conner, Sr. and Christy Rosian Conner. Mark graduated from Hilliard High School in 2015. He furthered his education by

BITUARIES

obtaining a Bachelor's Degree in Theology from Joy Baptist Bible College. Mark was currently pastoring at Truth Baptist Church of Hilliard. He loved the Lord, preaching, and winning souls to Jesus. He also loved football, especially the Florida Gators. But more than anything Mark loved his family and spending time with them. He is preceded in death by his papa Albert Conner; nanny Helen Conner; and aunt Felicia Hickox.

Mark leaves behind his loving parents Mark and Christy Conner. Sr. of Hilliard: brother Brandon Conner of Hilliard; grandpa Craig Rosian; grandma Becky Valentine; cousins Macy Johnson, Colby Hickox, Michaela Conner, Lexi Crews and Ashton Crews; several aunts, uncles and numerous friends.

A celebration of Mark's life was held Monday, March 21 at Nassau Funeral Home with Pastor Bobby Drury and Pastor Mike Norman officiating. Interment followed at Conner Green Cemetery. The family received friends Sunday, March 20 also at the funeral home.

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

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

MONTANA (TINY) R. HYSER



Montana (Tiny) R. Hyser, 91, of Callahan, went to be with her Lord and Savior on March 19, 2022. She was born on March 3, 1931 in Ashland,

Kentucky to Jerry and Myrtle Mullins. She retired from Swisher International, Inc. after a 45-year career.

Tiny is survived by her loving daughters Linda (Charles) Alvarez and Tami (Brian) Brown; grandchildren James (Jennifer) Alvarez, Jeremy (Andrea) Alvarez, Jason (Maren) Alvarez, Julie (Daniel) Sykes, Ryan (Ismely) Williams, Jessica (Richard) Raines, Miranda (Sam) Proffit, Sarah (Rob) Campbell and Corey Hyser; 23 greatgrandchildren. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Fred (PaPa) Hyser; son James F. Hyser; her parents; and several siblings.

The family received friends Wednesday, March 23 prior to the funeral service at Callahan Funeral Home with Rev. Ken Barney officiating. Interment followed at Jones Cemetery Callahan.

Pallbearers were James Alvarez, Jeremy Alvarez, Jason Alvarez, Tyler Alvarez, Riley Williams, Reese Williams, Rhett Williams and Samuel Proffit.

Condolences may be expressed at www. callahanfh.com.

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

WILLENE S. JOHNSON



Willene S. Johnson, 77, of Homeland, Georgia, passed away Monday, March 14, 2022 at her home surrounded by her family. She was born November

13, 1944 in Lyons, Georgia to the late Rufus L. Spence and Earline Sikes Thomas. She was a member of the Homeland United Methodist Church.

In addition to her parents; she was preceded in death by her husband Rollen Y. Johnson; and three sisters Ruby Santrock, Edna Dinkins and Elaine Watson.

She is survived by her children Tracy (Brenda) White, Jimmy (Cindy) White, Robert (Rachel) White and Nancy (C.L.) Lewis; three sisters Joan (John) Dixon, Linda (Nal) Creel and Barbara Meadows; 11 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren; and a number of nieces, nephews and other relatives.

The family received friends Thursday, March 17 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home. The funeral service was held Friday, March 18 in the chapel of funeral home with Pastor Cliff Adams officiating. Burial followed in Homeland Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www. shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

Laura Louella Jones



Laura Louella (Louelle) Jones, 96, lifelong resident of Callahan, was welcomed into her Savior's presence on March 21, 2022. The youngest of six

siblings, Louelle was born on January 12, 1926, to Lonnie and Eula Higginbotham. She graduated from Callahan High School and later married her true love, Harley Hansel Jones, in November 1945. Over the following years, she held positions at a physician's office, Alltel Telephone Company, and the Nassau County School Board. Though Callahan was home, she and Hansel also resided in Fernandina Beach for a time.

Married almost 50 years, Louelle fulfilled her roles as wife, mother, and Nana with devoted love and graceful elegance. Her family was built on a foundation of faith in Jesus Christ and she faithfully served Him as a Sunday school teacher until nearly 90 years of age. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Hansel Jones; five siblings; and son Stephen Jones.

She is survived by her son Greg (Willene) Jones and daughter Melanie (Jim) Williams, all of Callahan; daughter-inlaw Cindy Jones; grandchildren Lori Hart, Melissa Bradshaw, Dr. Chris Mott, Emily Bailey, and Jason, Pam and Jeremy Jones; along with several great-grandchildren.

The family would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Carol Ruska and Linda Reeves for the exceptional caregiving they provided over these last months.

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The family will receive friends Friday, March 25 at her church of membership, First Baptist Church of Callahan at 10 a.m. followed by the celebration of Louelle's life service at 11 a.m., officiated by Dr. Stephen T. Peeples. Interment will follow at Jones Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at: www.nassaufh.com.

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

GINA FAYE MCGEE

Gina Faye McGee, 55, of Jacksonville, passed away Friday, March 18, 2022 at her home. Although she was born in Jacksonville, Gina was raised in the Callahan area and lived most of her life in Nassau County. She was born on December 16, 1966. She graduated from West Nassau High School in 1984.

She worked as a receptionist at the Spa at the Omni Resort on Amelia Island. Gina was a true lover of the beach and spending time on or around the water. No matter how much time she spent on and around the water, Gina's passion was for her family. Whether she was cooking for them, playing with her grandson, Ryan, or just spending time with them, her family was the priority in her life. Gina was predeceased by her brother Nathaniel Mabry, IV.

She leaves behind her children, Mabry Burch and son-in-law Josh of Callahan and her son James McGee of Lexington, North Carolina; a grandson Ryan Burch; her parents Oliver Mabry, III of Jacksonville and Lynn Sikes of Callahan; her brothers Sean (Dessica) Mabry of Jacksonville and and Matthew Yates of Callahan; a sister-inlaw Jennifer (Lin) Rhoden of Jacksonville; and a special aunt, Kaye Baker.

She loved the Lord and was a longtime member of Callahan First Baptist Church where a celebration of her life was held Tuesday, March 22. The family received friends prior to the service.

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

Oxley-Heard Funeral Directors.

OBITUARIES

ANNE HODGES MOORE



Laura "Anne" Moore, 89, of Hilliard, went home to be with the Lord on March 16, 2022. She was born on November 22, 1932,

in Hilliard, to the late Benjamin Franklin Scott, Jr. and Vera Lee Gowen Scott. Anne also known as "Grandma Anne" and "Gram Gram" was a very loving mother, sister, grandmother and mother-in-law, who will be dearly missed. She is preceded in death by her first husband Capt. Louis Dyal Hodges, Sr.; daughter Nancy Dianne Hodges Wade: brother Benjamin Franklin Scott, III; and second husband Jesse W. Moore.

Anne leaves behind her son Louis (Janice) Dyal Hodges, Jr.; daughter Regina (Joel) Mackenzie; grandchildren Duane Hodges, Amy Hodges, Katie Hodges Owen, Mandy Lenertz and Sean Wade; great-grandchildren Hunter, Taylor, Noah, Jackson, Alexis and McKenzie; great-great grandchildren Kora, Rylan and Weston.

Pallbearers were Ron Pritchard, Mike Wade, John McCullough, Ralph Bright, Hunter Hendrix and Kyle Hardcastle.

A graveside service was held Sunday, March 20 at Oakwood Cemetery with Pastor David Cubbedge officiating.

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

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

GAY ILENE MOORE



Gay Ilene Moore, 78, of Callahan, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on March 17, 2022. Gay was born on February 25, 1944 in

Kalamazoo, Michigan to Leslie and Helen Provost. After graduation she earned her LPN and later moved to Jacksonville before settling in Callahan. She was an employee of Baptist Medical Center Nassau until

her retirement after 28 years of faithful service. She was an active member of Live Oak Baptist Church, very talented at cross stitching and crocheting, enjoyed reading and bible study, loved her family and most of all, loved her Lord. She had a heart for missions and even though she couldn't physically participate she always gave in donations and prayer. She was preceded in death by her parents: siblings Merrill. Lannie, Jim, Sue and twin brother Gayle.

She is survived by her sons Carl (Allison) Moore and Brian Moore; grandchildren Miranda (Matthew) Spivey, Casey (Jeffrey) Moore-Cohn, Taylor Moore and Micheal Moore: great-grandchildren Kierstin. Keziah and Taishaun; sisters-in-law Connie Provost, Berrianne Provost and Shirley Provost; several nieces and nephews.

A viewing was held Tuesday, March 22 at Live Oak Baptist Church in Callahan. The funeral service was held Wednesday, March 23 also at the church, with Pastor Sonny Foraker officiating. Interment followed at Live Oak Baptist Church Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations in her memory be made to: Sherrie Fausev, DSM International, PO Box 826, Bedford, VA 24523.

MARGIE JEAN VEAL



Margie Jean Veal, 82, of Callahan, passed away March 14, 2022. Margie was born in Quitman, Georgia on August 19, 1939 to Plez Mack and

Hazel Gunter. Margie retired for Mail-Well Envelope Company of Jacksonville and dedicated 20 years to the company. She loved fishing, her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She loved oysters, fish and grits, and most days, since retirement, you could find her watching her soaps in the easy chair.

Margie is survived by her loving husband of 40 plus years, Leslie Veal; daughters Helen (James) Buzzard, Tammie (Al) Crews, Vickie (Angelo) Costa and Karen (Jimmy) Veal; son Mack (Donna) Manuel; brother Billy Woodard; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren and many family and friends.

Margie is preceded in death by her parents; son James Manuel; siblings Mack Gunter, Diane Collins and Martha Gunter; grandchildren Charlie Rhodes and Donna Jean Cox.

The funeral service was held Friday, March 18 at Hardage-Giddens Riverside Memorial Park & Funeral Home, Jacksonville. The family received friends prior to the service. Interment followed at Riverside Memorial Park, Jacksonville.

Hardage-Giddens Riverside handled arrangements.

Obituaries are published free of charge. They may be emailed to news@westsidejournal.net.



In Loving Memory of **Mamie Patterson Gardner** 3/22/49 - 2/26/21

As we celebrate your birthday...we smile, we laugh, we remember, we cry, but most of all, we love and miss you! Happy Heavenly Birthday!

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Heavenly Father, I want to be successful in Your eyes. Teach me how to love others





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WNHS AFJROTC Poker Run Held

Saturday, March 19, the American Legion Riders Post 401 sponsored a Poker Run Fundraiser in support of the West Nassau AFJROTC. The riders raised over \$2,500. There were over 20 Riders and an awesome showing of support from the community with raffle items bringing in over \$600.

American Legion Post 401 proudly donated \$500 and the Blank Check Society of America Nassau Chapter donated \$325 to the WN AFJROTC Program. Thank you to all who contributed in any way!













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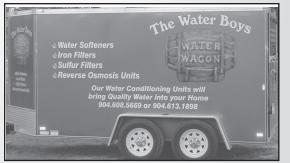
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CIS Hosts Get Your Teach On

On March 10th, the teachers at Callahan Intermediate School were treated to a professional development called Get Your Teach On. The teachers (and some paraprofessionals) spent their planning day getting pumped up and excited to finish the year strong. The teachers learned engagement strategies, classroom management tools, and how to transform their classrooms. The professional development was led by Chris Pombonyo, former Radio Disney host, education influencer.









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