VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 32

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2022

**Our Nation!** 

Pray to God for

"FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE." - JOHN 3:16

# HMSHS Football Changes Direction

Dawn S. West

Facebook was filled frustrated and disgruntled parents and players when learning of the release of the Hilliard Middle-Senior High School Head Football Coach John Pate on Monday, February 28. I talked briefly with **HMSHS** Principal Tammy Johnson and she stated, "This was a united decision from the administration and the Athletic Director." We

later received a statement from Johnson stating, "HMSHS appreciates Coach Pate's contributions in reviving our football program. Coach's plan was to create a winning culture, develop long-term sustainability, and groom rising coaches, all of which he has accomplished. As we follow his original plan, the health of the program and our team's success remain our top priority. Coach Pate made the announcement to our team Monday afternoon."

Pate came to HMSHS four years ago as a teacher and the head football coach. The football program made a complete 180° from having only around 18 boys on the team to now having enough players to have not only a varsity, but also complete JV and middle school teams. For the last three years the varsity football program has been in the playoffs, last year to the semi-finals of the state playoffs. The team has finished the last two regular seasons undefeated. The decision was posted, "The administration has decided to take a different direction."

Several posts from parents, alumni and fans were shared...

"I have seen him take that desperate, needy, unorganized, hurting football program and turn it into a record setting



program.

"I really don't understand what direction the administration can possibly take the program at this point. Coach John Pate has put this program on the map and only had it going in the right direction. I'm just at a loss."

"Shame on those who let Coach Pate go because they want to, 'go in a different direction.' If you're not moving forward then you're moving backwards, if you're not moving up, you're going down...it makes no sense to me!"

"...You are 100% correct, any other direction would be the wrong direction...He's been such a great leader for our boys and they need him!"

"Any other direction is the wrong direction. This man works his tail off for Hilliard Football so what direction could possibly be better?"

"My heart hurts for all these boys. Having a coach you respect, admire and who has mutual feelings towards the players is hard to find. Having that taken away with no real explanation is heartbreaking."

We will all be waiting to see exactly what direction Hilliard football is heading for in the coming weeks.

## Callahan Page Street Concerns Continue

Dawn S. West

The Callahan Town Council met last Tuesday night, due to the President's Day holiday on Monday, for their final meeting of February. The first order of business was the approval of Resolution 2022-R02 which concerned donating \$500 to the Relay for Life of Nassau County.

The following item concerned extending the Meridian Waste garbage contract. "I've talked with Meridian about extending our contract for one more year without any increases in the cost," said Town Manager Mike Williams. "They have agreed

Williams. "They have agree to the one year extension."
The item was tabled so that Town Attorney Reba
Pearce could review the extension contract.

The next agenda item concerned Page Street.
"I've talked with the Planning & Zoning Board concerning fixes for Page St.

One thing we came up with was making Page St. only a right hand turn," said Williams. "Vehicles turning left seem to back up the traffic many times."

"I live in Amhurst Oaks and my husband and I both turn left on Page St. in the mornings," said Councilwoman Ashton Vargas. "I don't vote for that option." After much conversation and many different suggestions, Williams once again addressed the council.

"The option to widen Page St. is still available. This will take some time to get the telephone poles moved back and other issues handled," continued Williams. "This will take time and we need to be patient. There really is no permanent fix for this road." Following all the conversation, the Page Street item was also tabled for the next meeting.

The final agenda item was the discussion about the purchase of Brandies Ace Hardware. Once again, Williams headed to the podium. "The March 7 at 7 p.m.

folks at Brandies are ready for a decision if the town is interested in purchasing the property or not. You have one appraisal that has been done and the appraised cost was \$1.3 million," said Williams. "This is about the only historical building left in town. The building could be registered as a historical building and grants are available for repairing it if that is done. One option is: the town buys that property; and the county is interested in purchasing this (current Town Hall & Fire Station). That's just a thought."

"I'd rather see us start from scratch for a new Town Hall and build what we want," added Councilwoman

Janet Shaw. "I think fixing that up would take a lot of money."

"I don't see us (council) selling this building to get that building (Brandies) and then have to turn around and rent from the county until our building is ready," said Councilman David Mellecker.

"What's it going to take to get that building up to code?" commented Council President Ken Bass. "I'd rather spend the money on a new building. I thought we (council) bought the old railroad bed to build Town Hall there but we just got turned around."

"We are outgrowing this building now. We have no more room in our records room," said Williams. "We need to find something because I'm going to have to purchase a building for storage, and that's not cheap. Whatever you (council) decide, Ace is waiting for a decision and we don't need to keep them waiting."

Bass asked for a motion of interest on the purchase of the Brandies Ace Hardware building and there was no motion stating that the council is not interested in the purchase of the building.

The next meeting will be Monday, March 7 at 7 p.m.



POSTAL PATR

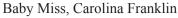
JOURNAL P.O. Box 607 Callahan, FL 32011-0607



## Miss Relay for Life Pageant Held

The Miss Relay for Life 'Crowns for a Cure' pageant was held Saturday at the Callahan Middle School cafetorium. "We want to say a big Thank You to everyone who participated, attended and volunteered for the Miss Relay for Life Pageant Crowns for a Cure! Together we raised \$3,102 for the Crowns for a Cure team that directly benefits the American Cancer Society!" said Wanda Nichols, Relay Chair & Pageant Coordinator Kristina Green.







Tiny Miss, Maebry Moore



The winners were: Little Miss, Areyna Lee; Jr Miss 7-8-year-old, Braelynn Rogers; Jr Miss 9-10 year-old, Alaina Crews; back row (1 to r) are: Jr Teen Miss, Macy Irby; and Pre-Teen Miss, Kinley Crews.







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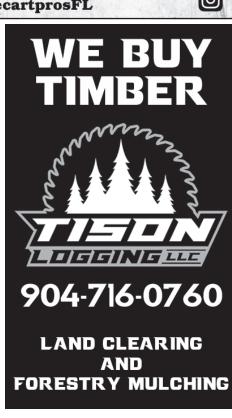
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## Thieves Burglarize Hagan Ace Hardware

Saturday morning, Hilliard residents were all concerned as crime tape closed the entrance to Hagan Ace Hardware and a heavy police presence was seen. Fortunately, no one was hurt as a burglary occurred while the store was closed.

According to Nassau County Sheriff's reports, store manager Garrick Crosby arrived at the store shortly after 7 a.m. Saturday morning. Once in the store he noticed his desk drawer was open. He then began to look around the store and noticed the glass door in the garden center was damaged and

open. As he walked around the garden center he observed the power meter was broken and laying on the ground. Crosby also observed the internet wires were severed inside the box. He then called 9-1-1 to inform NCSO of the incident. The store does not have any video surveillance.

The property stolen is estimated to be over \$10,000. Crosby will be conducting an inventory of the merchandise in the store in order to provide a complete list of the items that were stolen. The incident is still under investigation.

## Ice Cream Social Friday Night

Joel Pace's Piano & Music students will perform Friday, March 4 at the Ice Cream Social hosted by the West Nassau Historical Society at the Depot from 6:30-8 p.m. Wear your green as we celebrate and early St. Patrick's Day! Come join us!



## In the Kitchen...

#### **Homemade Onion Burgers**

Salt to taste 1 1/2 - 2 lbs. hamburger 1 medium onion

2 tablespoons flour garlic salt, optional cheese, optional

Mix together first five ingredients in a large bowl. Make into patties and sprinkle with garlic salt. Bake in oven at 400° until desired doneness. Top with cheese and place back into oven to melt.



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## **MARCH**

MARCH						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Happy St. Datri Day!	ch's	Exchange Club 11:30 a.m. Fernandina Golf Club NAMI Family Support 6:30 - 8 p.m. Alachua Club, Fern. Bch.	2 Callahan Garden Club 10 a.m. Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	Hilliard Town Meeting 7 p.m.  Food Giveaway @Callahan First Baptist 10 a.m Noon	A NAMI Support 11 a.m 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging	5
6	Food Giveaway FBC Gray Gables 9:30 am - 2:30 pm Callahan Town 7 p.m.	Callahan Lions Club 7 p.m.	Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	10	NAMI Support 11 a.m 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging American Legion & Auxiliary Post 401 Hilliard 7 p.m.	12 Callahan Farmers Market 9 a.m 1 p.m. Callahan Depot
13	14 WN Genealogical Society 10:30 a.m. Lions Club Food Giveaway FBC Gray Gables 9:30 am - 2:30 pm Country Star Quilt Guild 6:30 pm @ The Anchor	15 NARFE 11 a.m. The Pig NAMI Family 6:30 - 8 p.m. Alachua Club, Fern. Bch. Bryceville Club 11 a.m. NC Young Republicans 7 p.m. Fairgrounds	16 Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	Hilliard Town Meeting 7 p.m. Food Giveaway @Callahan First Baptist 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.	NAMI Support 11 a.m 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging	19
20	21 Callahan Town 7 p.m. Westside Optimists 7 p.m. Lions Club Barnabas Food Fairgrounds 12:30 - 2 p.m. Sons of Confederate Veterans 7 p.m. The Pig	Callahan Lions Club 7 p.m.	PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	24 Historical Society 6:30 p.m. @ Depot	25 NAMI Support 11 a.m 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging	26
27	28  NC Beekeepers Association 7 p.m. Multipurpose Building Food Giveaway FBC Gray Gables 9:30 am - 2:30 pm	29	30 Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	31		

## **EVENTS AROUND TOWN**

The Callahan Lions Club meetings are held the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m. at their building located at 543514 US 1, just north of the fairgrounds. Tuesday, March 8 the guest speaker will be Margot Morlock from the Council on Aging.

The Bryceville Community Club will resume their monthly meetings March 15 at 11 a.m. at the Bryceville Community building on Motes Road. Janet Adkins, Supervisor of Elections will speak on the new Florida Voting regulations.

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#### JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

On February 6, 2022, a fine gentleman and friend went home to be with the Lord. His name was Ted Dinwiddie. He has lived in Hilliard with his beautiful wife Bernita since 2005. Ted was a man that if you met him, you liked him! He had a voice and a laugh that I loved to hear. He will be sorely missed by family and friends.

He had a love for this town, this county and this country. He was a mentor in Take Stock in Children, he was a dedicated member of Concerned Citizens of Hilliard, Nassau County Council on Aging, Nassau County Christian Leadership Council and most importantly a Deacon at Mount Hebron Baptist Church. He exemplified the term "good neighbor." He and Mrs. Bernita invited Dawn and I to their annual barbeque at their home a few years ago and oh what a wonderful experience it was and the food was off the chart good. We were accepted as if we were just part of the family. Mr. Dinwiddie and I were on the totally opposite ends of the political spectrum, yet, politics did not tarnish my admiration of this awesome man. In fact, we only had one conversation about politics. We were in front of a church after a MLK parade. Our views of our country's political make-up were totally different, however our love for America was the same! It helped me realize that the love for country comes in many different political thought processes. I felt my line of thought was best and Mr. Dinwiddie thought his was best. The best part of this is although we had different political views, we did not let that get in the way of two men fellowshipping with one another. I will miss seeing him on his tractor and driving around town in his pick-up truck, however I know we will see one another again one day and our views will be exactly the same!

Why we as humans can't all be as Mr. Dinwiddie and be strong on community and country but yet show respect for your fellow man is beyond me. If only Putin had an ounce of Mr. Dinwiddie in him there would be no war occurring right now! However, that's the difference between evil and good. Anyone who gives a command to attack and kill innocent people does not hold any goodness in their heart. If this world is going to survive, we must turn from the evil that now seems to be the ruler of most nations.

Time is short, much shorter than we probably realize. Now it is crucial to become a saved child of God and continue looking up to the sky where we'll see the face of Jesus coming to take his children home. Please don't be left here on earth. It is going to be worse than any of us can fathom. Let's all be ready and then all of you can meet Mr. Dinwiddie.

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

# **FREE WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY DINNER 5 p.m. • Callahan Methodist Church • Walk up**Located beside Callahan Elementary School

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## This Is No Surprise

Pastor Marty Paparo, Friendship Alliance Church, Callahan



We flip open the newspaper or turn on the TV and hear about what's happening in Ukraine. We read headlines like: "Putin's 40 miles of killing machines taunt Ukraine's capital" (FOX News) and "A Kyiv family returned from a night in a shelter to find bullets in their home" (CNN). This week I've seen videos on social media of planes firing on ground units and nurses creating a makeshift NICU in the basement of a hospital because it was unsafe upstairs. With all that is

happening, we may wonder if God saw this coming.

We live in a broken, fallen world. One that God is in the process of redeeming. But these events are no surprise to God. Jesus told us as we approach the end times, this is what we would see. In Matthew 24: 3 & 6, Jesus' disciples ask Him when the end will come: "Tell us...what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" (ESV). One of the signs Jesus gives is, "And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet." (ESV).

Although we go through the events we are watching unfold, God does not let us walk them alone. A pastor in Lviv, Ukraine writes: "Please tell your people, because of their prayers, God really fights our battles. The rockets disappear in the air without reaching our homes and no one knows where did they go. Enemy tanks run out of fuel, Russian troops get lost and ask our locals for food and for directions -- that is definitely God because we are dealing with the second strongest army in the world. And this morning Kyiv and other major cities are still free and we in Lviv did not have to run to the basements." (Reformed Faith Forum). God never promised we would avoid all hard times in this broken world, He promised He would be there through it. "It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed." (Deuteronomy 31:8, ESV).

As we continue to see what is happening in our world, know this: the Creator of everything, the one who spoke the world into existance, is not caught off guard. He is not surprised or afraid of what will come. He is taking our broken world and working His plan to save us from ourselves. He will not leave us; He will not forsake us. We do not need to fear or be dismayed.

Hilliard First Assembly of God, 550920 US Hwy. 1, will have a Community Fish Fry, Fri., March 4 from 6-7:30 p.m. Fish dinners, \$5.00 each. They request that everyone eat at the church, no take-out meals.

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

## True Faith Christian Fellowship 22<sup>nd</sup> Homecoming Sunday, March 6th at 10 a.m.

**Gospel Sing Featuring** The Hendrys

**Guest Preacher** Bro. Terry Yerby

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## Family Support Groups Available

NAMI Nassau County introduces support groups for friends and family of people with mental health challenges. NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Health) conducts support groups with trained facilitators following the NAMI signature format in a safe, judgmentfree space. Meetings are structured, confidential and inclusive. Anyone 18 years or older is welcome.

Hilliard Group: This NEW group will meet the first Wednesday of each month from 12 noon - 1:30 p.m. at the Hilliard Journey Church, 550974 US 1, Hilliard, opposite the Winn Dixie shopping plaza, starting March 2. Subsequent meetings will be the first Wednesday of every month at noon at the same location.

Zoom Group – This NEW group will meet the second Tuesday from 6:30 - 8 p.m. via zoom starting the first Tuesday in April (April 12).

Nancy Bell, President of NAMI Nassau County, FL, says, "NAMI is the place to turn to when you don't know where else to go or what to do. Your family and friends may not hear you or be able to support you when you are

dealing with a mental health concern. The numbers show that you are certainly not alone during this time of isolation, fear and uncertainty. For instance, more than 7,500 Floridians died from opioid overdoses in 2020, a 37 percent increase from 2019, and nearly one-third of Floridian adults reported symptoms of anxiety and/or depressive disorder in October 2021. Over 35,000 Floridian children and youth were subject to involuntary emergency behavioral health examinations initiated under the Baker Act in 2020."

These FREE support groups are led by volunteer facilitators just like you who have "been there and done that" when it comes to coping with mental health challenges affecting families. We provide support (not treatment) based on training and lived experience and can direct you to an array of NAMI resources, both in person and on-line.

For more information, please email contact@naminassauflorida. org, or visit our website at: www. naminassauflorida.org, or call our Help Line at 904-277-1886, leaving a message.

## **Friends of NRA Gun Raffle**

Nassau County Friends of NRA event will be held Saturday, March 19 at 5 p.m. at the Multi-purpose Building at the Fairgrounds. If you have any questions or would like to purchase tickets or a table for our event, call Karen at 904-903-9552 or email her at ncfnra01@gmail.com.

Gun Raffle: \$20 per ticket for a chance to win: a Ruger American Ranch Rifle .350 Legend, a Weatherby Element Synthetic Tungsten 12ga Shotgun, a Savage Axis II 30-06 Overwatch Camo, and a Fireproof Gun Safe.

Tickets are available at the Westside Journal office in Callahan.



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On behalf of the West Nassau High School Baseball program, we would like to thank each and every company and individual for their support this season. Whether it be businesses, individuals or anonymous donors, we are so grateful for the huge amount of love and support for our players and program. Being in a small town, we know all sponsorships or team donations have to be spread out to a wide variety of teams and organizations. With that said, we have been blessed to have so much support. Without the community, we cannot reach the goals and success we want for these players and our program. God bless you all!

Chad Reed The Barnetts Perret & Perret Dotty Rowe Callahan Animal Hospital Conner's Service Center Diesel Powerhouse Tracev Sims Conner Drury's Auto Lifts Southern Charms of Amelia Don Carter K.T. Carter Contracting Main Street Site The Mansion (The Carters) Schwend Insurance S & S Building Cochrane's Collision Badcock & More Mumford & Sons

Bill Spencer

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## Battle Of Olustee Reenactment Held

Lt. Commander Chris Bunton
One hundred fiftyeight years ago, Union
forces moved west out of
Jacksonville to capture and
occupy Florida's capital, but
were stopped by Confederate
troops at Olustee and driven
back to Jacksonville never to
try again. In fact, Tallahassee
was the only southern capital,

east of the Mississippi River, not to be taken during the "War of Northern Aggression." The Kirby-Smith Camp 1209, out of Jacksonville, represented the Sons of Confederate Veterans at the annual



20. The members set up a Confederate camp, a ½ scale replica of the H.L. Hunley submarine, the Bruton artillery battery, ordinance wagon and an observation balloon.

During the three-day event, members of the Camp spent time talking to visitors about the battle, our historical displays and also

904-434-4001



looked for and recruited new members into our ranks. Many of our members also participate in the battle reenactment that took place on both Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Olustee is one of

only a few reenacted battles that actually take place on the original battlefield.

If you have never been to the Olustee reenactment, make plans to attend next year. You won't be disappointed! If you have any questions about the reenactment or the Sons of Confederate Veterans, visit the website at: www.scv-kirby-smith.org.

904TINT.com



## Living Financially Free

## Hair Care on a Budget

At the beginning of my debt retirement journey, I transitioned from an expensive hair stylist to other methods of getting my hair done. Making these changes were a little easier knowing that it was just going to be for a more budget friendly "season" of my life.

Here are frugal options for haircare: 1) Salon Beauty Schools: When I lived in Atlanta, I found a local beauty school that would color, cut, wash and blow dry my hair for \$20.00. I was extremely skeptical at first because I did not want my hair to look like I went to a beauty school. I grew to have faith in the system because everything the student did was approved by her supervisor. Jacksonville has a handful of salon schools. In doing a price comparison with what I currently pay verses what they charge for their services, I would be saving around \$70.00. Since I have not used any in Jacksonville. I cannot recommend one over the other, but I found a few that I would be willing to try: American Academy of Cosmetology, Aveda Institute of Jacksonville or Parisian Spa Institute.

2) Use a friend: My best friend's daughter had just earned her cosmetology license and asked to practice on me. Regarding hair color, she told me what to buy and I showed up at her house every 6 to 8 weeks. This



cost me on average \$25.00.

3) Haircare products: products can be expensive! I use "Big Sexy Hair" hairspray. The average cost is \$20.00 a can. Ulta will sometimes run a BOGO deal. TJ Maxx and Marshalls will sometimes have the same product for \$12.99 a can. My favorite shampoo and conditioner are Costco's brand, Kirklands. For less than \$30.00 I can buy shampoo and conditioner that will last me a few months. TJ Maxx and Marshalls also sell my other favorite brand, Joico. I alternate Kirklands with Joico every other wash. If you are not brand loyal, I highly recommend that you explore the haircare section of TJ Maxx, Marshalls, and Ross' before making your next purchase. They have packages of high end products that are very affordable.

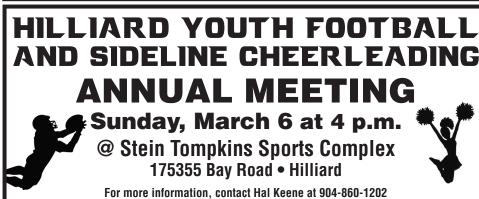
Yvette Outler is a Dave Ramsey's Master Solution's Personal Financial Coach. If you have questions or would like to set up a free consultation, contact her at Fiscallyfree7@gmail.com.

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**SEASON!** 

# New Beginnings and Milestones

## Fudah Taylor Hamrick



Russell and Allyson Hamrick, of Jacksonville, are proud to announce the birth of their son Judah Taylor Hamrick. This precious boy made his grand entrance into the world and into our hearts February 12 at 3:27 p.m. at UF Health. He weighed 7 pounds 3 ounces and measured 19 inches.

Paternal grandparents are Clay and Rosanna Hamrick of Maryland.

Maternal grandparents are Mark and Rhonda Melton of Callahan.

"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you..." Jeremiah 1:5. What an amazing and beautiful blessing God has brought into our lives!

## Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday Wyatt Earl Canaday

Wyatt Earl Canaday celebrated his first birthday January 7. He enjoyed his special milestone with a birthday party held in his honor at The Canaday Barn with lots of family and friends joining in the fun. His proud parents are Ethan and Natalie Canaday of Hilliard!

His proud grandmothers are Connie Canaday of Hilliard and the late Kenny Canaday; and LeeAnn Hutchinson of Hilliard and the late Doug Hutchinson. Proud greatgrandmother is Bonnie McInturff of Hilliard.



#### Come join the West Nassau Historical Society for a **WEARING OF THE GREEN** ICE CREAM SOCIAL Friday, March 4th 6:30 - 8 p.m. **Ice Cream Bar & Floats Joel Pace Piano Entertainment Senior Art Painting Exhibit** Made Possible by a Grant from Arts & Culture Nassau Callahan Train Depot 🚄



## Mr. and Mrs. F.C. Golden Celebrate 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



J.C. and Linda (Riner) Golden, of Bryceville, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary February 24. The high school sweethearts were married February 24, 1962 at 10th Street Baptist Church in Jacksonville. Years ago, both J.C. and Linda were members of the Bryceville Volunteer Fire Department, where they made lasting friendships. J.C. continues to work parttime with Sell Ethics. Linda retired from Southeastern Bank, after 33 years of service.

They are active members of Lighthouse Baptist Church in Bryceville. They enjoy spending time with family and friends. They celebrated their special milestone

with a party held in their honor, hosted

by their children, with several family members and friends sharing memories and well wishes!

The Goldens have two children, Jeff and Kim Golden of Yulee and Robin and Ken Johnson of Bryceville. They also have four grandchildren Jeremy (Amanda) Golden, Lindsey (Ben) Southwell, Tyler (Baleigh) Johnson and Austin Johnson; they also have two great-grandchildren Jase Golden and Judah Johnson.



## Mr. and Mrs. Paul Trouille Celebrate 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Paul and Barbara Trouille, of Hilliard, will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary March 5. They were married March 5, 1992 in Georgia. They enjoy the outdoors by riding 4-wheelers, fishing and spending time with their grandchildren.

The couple shares one daughter, Eleni and Travis Nelson; and they have four grandchildren Layla, Tayla, Natalie and Steva.

# We the Zeople...

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#### HES Students Perform Aladdin



Hilliard Elementary School students recently astonished audiences with their performance of "Aladdin the Musical." The Baillie Players, a nonprofit that directs and produces plays with children, spent two weeks with the fourth and fifth grade students practicing and preparing for the show.

The students demonstrated great strength of character and perseverance as many stepped outside of their comfort zone and into the spotlight. The musical showcased a range of familiar scenes and songs, such as "A Whole New World", along with several newly added twists that kept audience members captivated. Special thanks to the Arts

Alive Nassau for funding the Baillie Players residency, and allowing such an amazing opportunity for students to shine in a whole new way.









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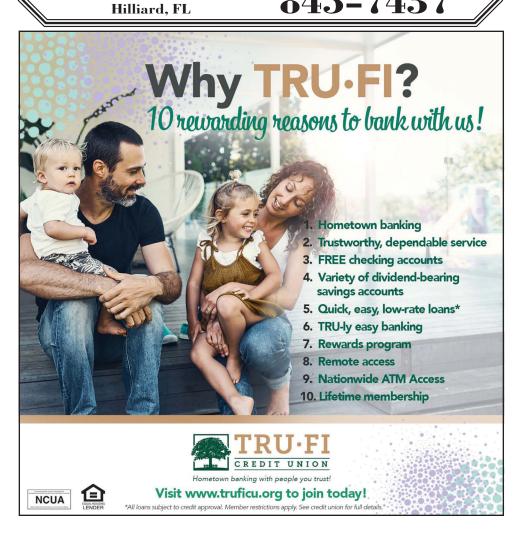
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## Paint Party at CES

First-grade students at Callahan Elementary School participated in an in-school paint party field trip! They had an art lesson with the reading coach where she taught them all about mixing and creating new colors! They used water paints onto a blank puzzle to create their own design and used sponges to paint a stencil design onto a canvas! Students also participated in different teacher chosen crafts in their classrooms!



#### **Sandy Ford Road CSX Closure**

On behalf of CSX, the Nassau County Road Department is issuing a Notice of Intent to Begin Construction on the railroad crossings at Sandy Ford Road, in Callahan, due to emergency repairs needed.

Sandy Ford Road in Callahan, will be

CLOSED on March 4, 2022, from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m.

This is a one way in/out, no detour available. Please note the expected closed date and times and make the necessary arrangements. For additional information, please contact Erika L. Elmore at Southern Commercial Development 229-262-4394.



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Dear Bryceville & Hilliard Residents,

It has been a great pleasure for our team at Bert Norman's Plumbing to service the Bryceville and Hilliard areas for the past 35 years, but unfortunately, we will no longer be able to do so after January 1, 2021. We appreciate all the support from the community and wish everyone the best with their plumbing needs in

904-225-5888 www.NormansPlumbing.com

Sincerely, **Bert Norman's Plumbing Team** 

#### YARD SALES

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

"PEACHES TO BEACHES" longest yard sale coming up March 11, 12 & 13, Highway 341 from Brunswick, Georgia to past Perry, Georgia. 30322

COMMUNITY YARD SALE, Caties Way & Green Meadows, off Ratliff Road, Callahan, Saturday, March 5 starting at 8 a.m. until?

4 FAMILY YARD SALE, Thursday, Friday & Saturday, 54198 Hurst Road, off Ratliff Road, Callahan. Clothes, furniture, sporting goods, guns, bows, fishing equipment, glass & silver ware, dresses, toys and many items to choose from.

FRIDAY, 9 a.m. until? 27450 West 1st Avenue, Hilliard. All clothing \$1 and under, lots of miscellaneous priced to go!

ESTATE SALE! Thursday, Friday & Saturday, 8 a.m. 3 p.m., 45101 American Dream Drive, Callahan. Clothes, housewares, holiday décor, home décor, lots of dishes, a complete household full & much

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., 241753 CR 121, off of Andrews Road, Hilliard. Fifth wheel hitch, drawing table with chair, scroll saw, clothing, tools.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, March 4 & 5, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 44537 Woodland Circle, Callahan.

VFW YARD SALE, Saturday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., VFW Post 10095, across from the Hilliard Airpark. \$5 Bag for clothes and shoes. Lots of new donations! ALL sales are donations for our Veterans. Rain or shine!

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Life Care Center of Hilliard now hiring RNs and LPNs, must have FL License. Please apply in person to: 3756 West 3rd Street, Hilliard or fax resume to 904-845-9487, or email to: Loren Reddish@lcca. com<mailto:Loren Reddish@lcca.com. tfn

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

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

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TECHNICIAN NEEDED, experience preferred, good driver's license necessary. Call 813-9727 or 879-2518. 31022

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**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF NASSAU COUNTY** is now hiring four Program Assistants for afterschool programs at the Journey Church in Hilliard. To apply BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS visit: bgcnassau.org/employment. 33122

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## Bring Your Brokenness Named an **OREMC** Foundation Grant Recipient

The Okefenoke **REMC** Foundation recently named 12 organizations as grant recipients for the first quarter of 2022. A total of \$52,987 has been awarded and includes Bring Your Brokenness, Inc., in Nassau County.

OREMC Foundation Trustee Ramona Singer presented the \$5,000 grant award to Bring Your Brokenness Executive

Director Amie Shields and Director of Admissions & Administration Julia Hutson. The funds are to support bringing Charis House, a residential treatment facility for eating disorder recovery, into ADA compliance.

Expected to open this spring, Charis House is a dream fulfilled driven by the ministry, passion and compassion of Shields, "God gave me a dream of opening a nonprofit residential treatment facility where people can get the help they deserve regardless of how much money or insurance they have. My prayer was and continues to be that others will bring their brokenness and join me in mine, because there is power in connection." To learn more visit online at bringyourbrokenness.com.

"The house and the program are just amazing," commented Jones while touring Charis House and speaking with



Shields about the planned opening. "Through the OREMC Foundation, we as trustees have been grateful to learn about and support programs that are quietly making a significant, positive impact on the lives of people in our communities."

The OREMC Foundation is a launchpad for community development supporting education, community health and economic development in the six Georgia and two Florida counties OREMC serves. Currently, OREMC unclaimed capital credits are the primary funding source. The Foundation Trustees meet quarterly to review applications and make grant awards based on funds available.

The next grant application deadline is April 4, 2022. Applications and information are available online at oremc.com/foundation.

## POLICE REPORTS

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

#### Monday, February 21

Charles Matthew Chason, 48, Callahan: Failure to Appear

#### Tuesday, February 22

Jarrica Danielle Rogers, 32, 371855 Kings Ferry Road, Hilliard: Possession of Controlled Substance 1-5

#### Wednesday, February 23

Benjamin David Wilson, 48, 43581 Keen Cemetery Road, Callahan: Trafficking Methamphetamine over 14 grams; Habitual Traffic Offender

#### Thursday, February 24

(Fentanyl); Sale of Methamphetamine

Edward Mark Wade, Jr., 39, Hilliard: Sale of Methamphetamine (x 3)

Friday, February 25 Lorie Ann Barber, 55, Callahan: Possession of Methamphetamine John E. Boggs, 53, Hilliard: Sale or Delivery of Controlled Substance

## Giddens Book Signing

Nassau County author, Martha Giddens, of Bryceville, will hold a book signing for her Christian suspense novel, The Girl Who Swam to Life. The signing will be held Friday, March 4 from 1-3 p.m. at The Book Loft, 214 Centre Street in Fernandina Beach. Books will be available for purchase.





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#### WILFRED ERLER



Wilfred Erler, 94, of Yulee, passed away February 25, 2022. He was born January 3, 1928, in Germany, where he was also raised. He was a

hard worker and a retired Mason. Wilfred loved sports. He was a hockey player over in Germany in his youth. He loved life to the fullest. Rest in peace my sweet husband, my Teddy Bear, always, your wife Ruthie. Wilfred is predeceased by his parents Richard and Martha Erler of Germany and others he loved and cared about.

He is survived by his wife of 13 years, Ruth Jones Guerrero Erler; two sons Richard (Doris) Erler of Wisconsin and Steven Erler of Kissimmee; three daughters Laurie Erler of Wisconsin, Hannelore (Peter) Barmig of Germany and Linda of Georgia; stepson Donald L. (Scarlet) of Georgia; a sister Doris (Willie) Rasel of Germany; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was held Wednesday, March 2 in Jones Cemetery in Callahan, with Rev. John H. Walding officiating. The family received friends prior to service.

Condolences may be expressed at www. callahanfh.com.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home Inc., 879-2336.

#### JOHN CROCKETT GRAY, SR.



John Crockett Gray, Sr., 79, of Hilliard, passed away peacefully February 23, 2022 at his home with his loving family by his side. John was born on

January 19, 1943 in Jolo, West Virginia to the late James Edward Gray and Arminta Jane Wolfe Gray. John married the love of his life, Nona Lee Carter April 13, 1964, and they have enjoyed the past 57 years of

John has been a resident of Hilliard for the past 21 years. He was a faithful member of Hilliard Pentecostal Full Gospel Church. If anything, John was a hard-working man. He was always working a side job in addition to his regular job as a painter/ glazier with the Duval County School Board, of which he retired in February of 2000. John was also a member of New Horizons and Sunny Side Bluegrass Gospel Singers groups where he loved playing the bass guitar. He was the kind of guy who loved to tell a joke, kid around and pick on everyone; especially "Baby Red." John also

## **OBITUARIES**

enjoyed attending car shows, working on his old cars and yardwork in his spare time. He was a treasure to his family and friends and will be greatly missed. John is preceded in death by his parents and several siblings.

John is survived by his wife, Nona Lee Gray, whom he lovingly called Baby Red; children Jan (Aldean) Hodges, Johnny (Michelle) Gray, Jr. and Joey (Melissa) Grav; grandchildren Cole Hodges, Trenton Hodges, Justin Gray, Kyle Gray, Tyler Gray, Chelsea Gray, Mindy Gray, Syndney Tollick, Bradley Reynolds, Heather Carter and Hannah Francis; great-grandchildren Kelilah Gray, Jackson Gray, Tucker Gray, Olivia Tollick, Brandon Tollick, Jade Bowie, Liam Carter and Stella Carter; brother David (Charlotte) Gray; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were: Cole Hodges, Tyler Gray, Justin Gray, Trenton Hodges, Kyle Gray and John Claxton. Honorary pallbearers were: Mark Parker and Drane Parker.

A celebration of John's life was held Wednesday, March 2 at Hilliard Pentecostal Full Gospel Church, 551821 US 1, with Pastor Ike Mohler officiating. Interment followed at Riverside Memorial Park Cemetery. The family received friends prior to the service.

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

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

#### DOROTHY M. HADDOCK



Dorothy Catherine Musgrove Haddock, 87, of Hilliard, passed away on February 22, 2022. She was born on July 12, 1934 to the late

Ollie Mitchell Musgrove and Susie Knight Musgrove. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Boulogne. In addition to her parents; Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband John Thurman Haddock, Jr.

She is survived by her son John Haddock; two daughters Diane (Robert) Hinson and Vicki (Bobo) Lloyd; two sisters Evelyn (Dell) Dinkins and Ann Grooms; a brother Freeman Musgrove; six grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

The family received friends prior to the funeral service held Friday, February 25 at Shepard- Roberson Funeral Home with Bro. Paul Lucas officiating. Burial followed at Pigeon Creek Cemetery in Hilliard.

Pallbearers were Mark Haddock, Jeremy Hinson, Daniel Lloyd, Jestin Lloyd, Tanner Clark and Lee Hogan.

Condolences may be expressed at www. shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

#### DONALD R. KELLY



Donald R. Kelly, 77, of Bryceville, passed Thursday, February 24, 2022 at St. Vincent's Medical Center Riverside with his family by his

side. He was born August 21, 1944 in High Springs, Florida to the late Lonzie Kelly and Evelyn Corrie O'Steen Kelly. Donald was raised in Jacksonville and graduated from Paxon High School. Following school, he met the love of his life, Sioda Louise "Bunny" Oxford, and they were happily married on August 28, 1965. A few years after marriage, Donald and Bunny moved to Bryceville and made Nassau County their forever home. Together they enjoyed attending Evangel Temple Assembly of God where they loved worshipping their Lord and Savior.

Donald was a devoted husband, loving father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother and friend. He was known for his sweet spirit, gentle heart, generous nature and loving ways. Donald enjoyed a long career in the structural steel industry as a Purchasing Manager for steel fabricator Owen Steel. He also had a passion for woodworking and was very talented in his carving abilities. Donald made tables, furniture, clocks, cabinets and hand carved wood crosses. He spent many hours shaping each cross to perfection, all while praying over the hands that would receive this precious gift. Donald was an avid FSU and Nascar fan who enjoyed watching the races and football games. More than anything, Donald loved his family and truly loved spending time with them. Donald was preceded in death by his parents; daughter Connie Wingate; sister Dot McKenzie; and brother John Wayne Kelly.

Donald is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Bunny Kelly of Bryceville; daughter Kimberly (James) Stormer of Bryceville; brothers Harold (Barbara) Kelly

of Callahan, Bryan Kelly of Middleburg, A.L. "Alton" (Denise) Kelly, Howard (Patti) Kelly and Ronnie (Rose) Kelly, all of Jacksonville; sisters Lora (Johnny) Brewer and Evone Hutchinson, both of Jacksonville; brother-in-law James McKenzie; sisterin-law Carol Kelly of Jacksonville; grandchildren Jennifer (Shane) Petty, Wesley Wingate, Jacob Wingate, Mindy (Brian) Wester, Jamie (Mike Placido) Lott, Casey Hemphill and Hannah Hemphill; great-grandchildren Bryson and Brayden Wester, Cali and Cash Lott, Cruz Placido and Memphis and Grayson Petty; along with numerous extended family members and friends.

A Celebration of Donald's Life was held Tuesday, March 1 at Evangel Temple Assembly of God with Pastor Garry Wiggins officiating. Interment followed at Brandy Branch Cemetery in Bryceville.

Arrangements by Ferreira Funeral Services, Jacksonville, 904-378-7777.

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

#### EARL ROLAND NORRIS, SR.



Earl Roland Norris, Sr., 84, passed away on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 in a local hospital. Mr. Norris was born November 6, 1937 in Lake

City, Florida. He has lived in the Jacksonville area most of his life. He was son to the late Earl Norris and Beulah Horne Norris and worked as a truck driver before retiring from US Gypsum Company in 2000. Mr. Norris was a Veteran of the US Air Force and enjoyed fishing, camping, cruises and spending time with his family.

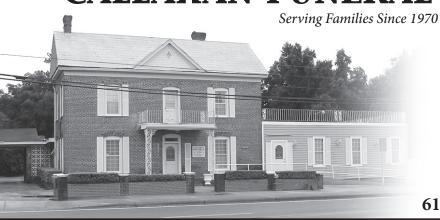
He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife of 60 years Patricia Ann Norris; brother Dewey Norris; and sister Eunice Padgett.

Mr. Norris is survived by his three children Roland (Mary) Norris, Jr., Angela (Todd) Fouraker and Debbie (Ronnie) Randalls; three sisters Emma Drury, Mary Gibson and Lillie Mae Swaggerty; eight grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

The funeral service was held Monday, February 28 at the Event Center at Peeples, 14165 N. Main Street, with Rev. Steve Kegley and Rev. Roland Norris, Jr. officiating. The family received friends prior to the service. A burial service was held Tuesday, March 1 at Jacksonville National Cemetery, with Military Honors.

Peeples Family Funeral Home served the Norris Family.

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UNERAL HOME

## **OBITUARIES**

#### BROCK ALLEN SMITH



Brock Allen Smith, 57, went home to be with the Lord on February 23, 2022. He was born August 4, 1964 in Miami to Fred and Arielle Smith.

Brock and the love of his life, Lisa Carol Smith, have enjoyed the past 36 years of marriage. Together they had two beautiful daughters. Brock was a devoted husband, loving son, father and grandfather who enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandson. He enjoyed his time with the Nassau County Sheriff's Office as a Corrections Sergeant.

Brock was a longtime member of St. George Church of God where he thoroughly enjoyed attending, praising and worshipping His Lord and Savior. He was a strong believer in Christ. Brock truly had a great spirit, loved life and always loved joking around. He was known for putting others first, whether it be in his prayers, trying to cheer them up or simply bringing a smile to their face. Brock was a treasure to his family and friends and will be greatly missed. He is preceded in death by his paternal grandmother; and maternal grandparents.

Brock leaves behind his loving wife, Lisa Smith; daughters Tiffany (Matt) Boyett and Brooke (Blayne) Taylor; grandson Eastyn Boyett; parents Fred and Arielle Smith; paternal grandfather; brother Brian (Karen) Smith; sister Teresa (Keith) Rowe; and numerous nephews and nieces.

The family received friends prior to the celebration of life service held Tuesday, March 1 at St. George Church of God with Bro. Grady Albritton and Bro. Ritchie Vaughn officiating. Interment followed at

Jones Cemetery.

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

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

#### FRANCES L. WADDELL



Frances L. Waddell, 87, left her earthly home on February 23, 2022. She is reunited in Heaven with her beloved husband, Rev. Paul E. Waddell;

her parents Walter Lee and Stella Irene Murray; and many other friends and loved ones who have gone on before. She was a native to Springville, Alabama and had lived in Florida since 1950.

Frances loved her children, and grandchildren but most of all she loved the Lord. She was a pastor's wife for over 50 years and attended the Lenox Avenue Church of God. She lived for her family and her church. Among being a pastor's wife and mother, she was also "Memaw" to a lot of her church family. Her infectious smile and genuine heart will be greatly missed by all that love her.

Frances is survived by three sons Gary W. (Debbie), Steve W. (Melba) and Keith W. (Melinda); two daughters Janice (Gary) Minix and Lisa (David) Smith; one bonus child Patsey Cranford; 17 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren.

Her homegoing service was held Saturday, February 26 at the Lenox Avenue Church of God. Interment followed in Edgewood Cemetery.

Arrangements by Fraser Funeral Home, Jacksonville, 781-4314.

## SEG Foundation Donates \$250,000 for Relief Efforts for Ukraine



Winn\Dixie

HARVEYS.

Southeastern Grocers Inc. (SEG), parent company and home of Fresco y Más, Harveys Supermarket and Winn-Dixie grocery stores, together with the SEG Gives Foundation, announces a donation of \$250,000 to the International Committee of the Red Cross to support Ukraine and its citizens as they fight to defend their country. As the grocer proudly stands with Ukraine and those who support peace, SEG will also donate 100% of the proceeds from its private label Ukrainian vodka to the cause for the next 31 days as a nod to Ukraine's official declaration of independence nearly 31 years ago.

Anthony Hucker, President and CEO of Southeastern Grocers, said, "At Southeastern Grocers, we are guided by doing the right thing; we recognize the people of Ukraine need our help, and they need it now. That's why we are immediately directing funds to the International Committee of the Red Cross to support the victims of the war in Ukraine. This decision is a natural extension of our belief that there is greater power in unity than there is in division; we believe that we are all stronger together."

SEG is proud to help those in need and to support the international arm of the American Red Cross to globally aid the citizens of the world. Through SEG's longstanding partnership with the American Red Cross, the grocer has aided the organization in countless disaster relief missions. With the generous support of its loval customers. dedicated associates and valued vendor partners, SEG and the SEG Gives Foundation has donated more than \$11 million to the American Red Cross to support communities in times of need.



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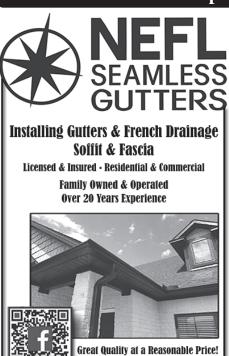
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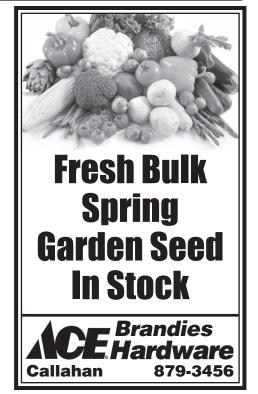
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## **Congratulations CMS Cheer Team!**



Congratulations to the Callahan Middle School Cheer Team on a great season and making it to the Nationals! They recently competed at the Disney ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando. This year they competed in a very large division with over 20 teams!

The CMS Cheer Coach is Kaitlyn Kight. Team members include: Khamani Way, Victoria Williams, Emma White, Claire Turner, Mackenzie Franklin, Chloe Little, Anna Armstrong, Macey Hurst, Baileigh Love, Journey Coltrane, Ava Faircloth, Marlee Potter, Shelby Allison, Rhylee Tillis, Payton Swartz, Ryan Blanchard, Emma Lockwood, Cailee Pike, Kayla Manasco, Kinley Crews, Raleigh Pickett, Kylie Hall, Emma Boston, Lacy Johnson, Abigail Keeton and Chloe Lambert.

## **CES Welcomes Author**



On Friday, February 18, Callahan Elementary School welcomed author Kentrell Martin for our annual Authors in Schools Day. Mr. Martin is the author of the Shelly's Adventures series. The main character goes on adventures and teaches her friends and readers some signs in American Sign Language (ASL). Mr. Martin read his latest book, Shelly Goes to New York. Every student in the school received a free copy of

the book courtesy of the Amelia Island Book Festival. Students had a great time learning about New York City, and they also learned about 15 new ASL signs!

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