



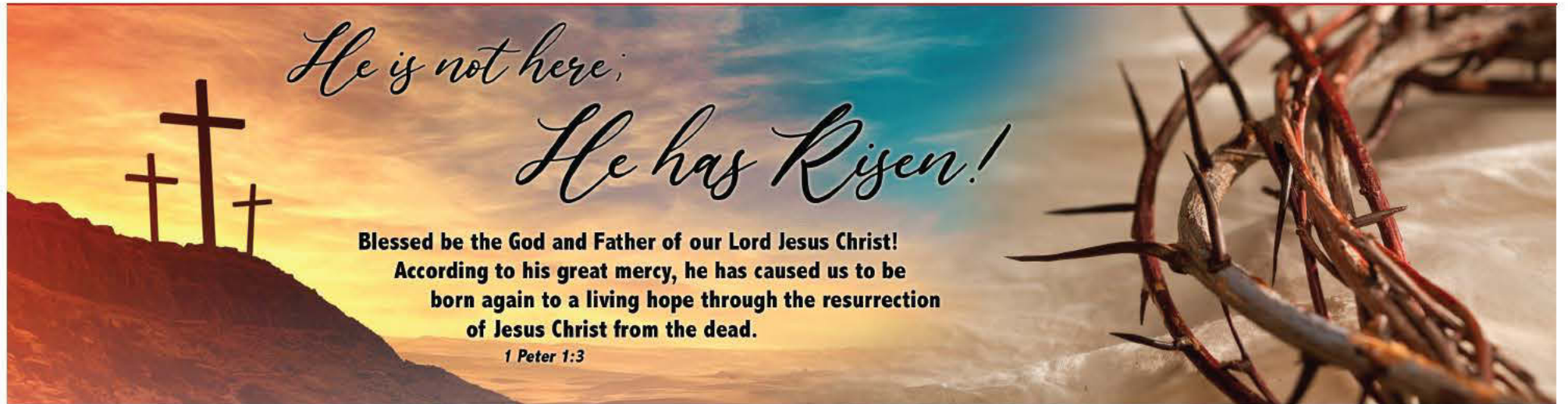
WESTSIDE JOURNAL

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to God for
Our Nation!

VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 38

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022



What's New with West Nassau AFJROTC?

The Cadets of West Nassau's Air Force JROTC unit have had a busy couple of weeks. Saturday, April 2, the unit hosted another "Warrior Challenge" in which eight (8) other High Schools competed. The Warrior Challenge is comprised of a physical fitness competition followed by an obstacle course competition. The event has grown from 3 schools to 9 JROTC programs coming from as far away as Ocala in just two years. Over 150 cadets competed during the day. "The word is



getting out about how great this event is and highlights the volunteers from the Hilliard American Legion, local military recruiters and cadet parents as the reason for its success," said Col. Gregg Kline, West Nassau advisor.

This past Saturday, April 9, the cadets were involved in three events. Twenty-three cadets traveled to Orlando to compete in a statewide Orienteering meet and won 2 Team trophies and several individual trophies. About 20 cadets attended the Hilliard Town Clean Up; while another nine supported the Hilliard VFW during their Easter event and fundraiser.

This Friday, April 15, the cadets will walk 14 miles on the Jacksonville/Baldwin trail in memory of the Bataan Death March during WWII. The cadets have selected

to use this event as a fundraiser for "Relay for Life" and will make a donation with what they raise at the Relay for Life event on May 7.

We would also like to recognize Cadet Alexandria Decker for being selected by the National Flight Academy to attend

Wesleyan University in Indiana during her summer break and earn her Private Pilot's license courtesy of the US Air Force. When she returns, the Air Force will continue to fund her to fly once a month during her senior year to keep her currency. Cadet Decker is part of a new program being offered as part of West Nassau's AFJROTC program. Col. Kline is teaching qualified Juniors "Ground School" which is required for a Private Pilots license. At the completion

of the year, the cadets are qualified to take the FAA Ground School exam. During the year, the cadets also get actual flight instruction from a Certified Flight Instructor and earn hours toward the Pilots License. In addition to passing the FAA ground school test, student pilots usually need

to obtain about 50-60 hours of flight instruction before being ready for their FAA flight evaluation. Unfortunately, the West Nassau flight instructor recently left to fly for the airlines. If you are a Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) and are interested in working with the West Nassau AFJROTC cadets, please reach out to Col. Kline at West Nassau High School, 879-3461.

As you can see, even though the end of the school year is fast approaching, the AFJROTC cadets are still in full swing!



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A Word From the Publisher

This week we celebrate our risen Savior, Jesus Christ, on Easter Sunday. I am truly blessed that I was brought up in a Christian home with Christian parents. Easter has always been a special day in our lives. I'm thankful that I will begin the day with Jesus in His house and then welcome family to our home. When I was growing up, my dad was a teacher/coach, around Easter he had more time off, so our family would travel to my grandmother's (my mom's mother) home in South Carolina. We spent many Easters there. Again, it was great times with family.

The Easter story is much more than time with family...it's about Jesus death and resurrection for us. On Palm Sunday, Jesus traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover. He arrived riding a donkey (Matthew 21), where as most kings normally rode on mighty stallions, this revealed that Jesus came in meekness, not for war but for peace, establishing peace between God and us (Acts 10:36). Jesus went through several trials. All of them were legally out of line. There was still no legal reason for Jesus to be crucified however Pilate allowed it to satisfy the crowd. He was forced to carry his own cross while he was beaten and mocked as we walked through the town. Crucifixion was one of the most brutal executions a person could endure.



On Good Friday, Christ's body was nailed to a cross at Calvary. It was then according to Luke 23:46, Jesus called out with a loud voice, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.' When he had said this, he breathed his last. As the story is told, his body was taken to a tomb to be buried. A large stone was placed in front of the entrance so the body would not be stolen. Three days later (Easter Sunday), the stone was rolled away and Jesus rose from the dead. He is Risen! Celebrate the risen Savior Jesus Christ!

Take a break from the busyness and distractions of the holiday to study the Easter story to reflect on the real meaning of Easter - the death of Christ for our sins and His resurrection that provides us new life!

Through Christ we have been resurrected into a new life that has freedom from sin. The curse of death has been broken!

We are so blessed to have one of our advertisers, Florida Coastal Construction, to share the entire Easter Story on page 8. My prayer is that you truly enjoy the true meaning of Easter and the joy we have by having Him as our Savior. Jesus gave it all for you and me so that we could have eternal life with Him. Ask Jesus in your heart today!

Have a blessed Easter!

Dawn S. West

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Hilliard Carjacking Suspect Arrested

Saturday morning around 5:50 a.m. the Nassau County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to the Marathon gas station, 551758 US Highway 1 in Hilliard in reference to a carjacking that just occurred. The victim stated a black male, later identified as Ivan Fox, entered his running 2013 Dodge Ram pickup that was occupied by two small juveniles. The suspect drove approximately 150 feet and removed the two juveniles from the rear of the vehicle, subsequently dropping them off in front of Hilliard Pharmacy.

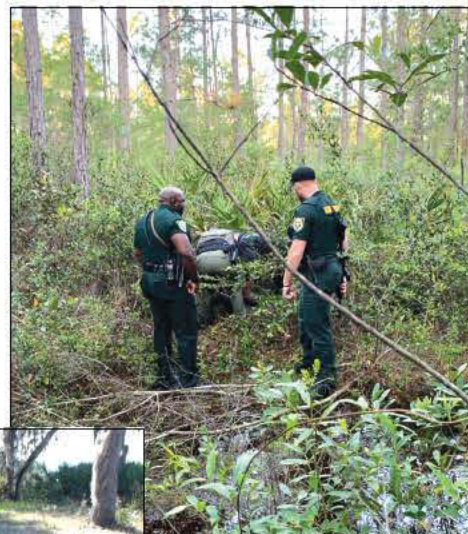
The suspect fled with the vehicle northbound into Georgia, where he was intercepted by the Charlton County Sheriff's Office (CCSO). A pursuit ensued back into Florida where NCSO joined with CCSO with lights and sirens. NCSO Deputies later deployed and made contact with stop sticks on the vehicle. The suspect continued fleeing south on US 1, approximately 2 miles, when the vehicle wrecked into a ditch near US Highway 1 and Testone Lane in Hilliard.

The suspect fled the vehicle on foot into a nearby wood line. The NCSO dispatched K9 Deputy/Handler Beth Smith and her K9 Rogue to the scene. The suspect (Fox) was later apprehended. The suspect refused to comply with verbal commands and was



bitten by a Jacksonville Sheriff's Office K9. The suspect then surrendered and was placed into custody. Lt. Arline was able to get a positive ID on the suspect via RAPID ID. Records revealed the suspect to have three previous DWLSR and his current license to be invalid.

Post being read his Miranda rights, the suspect refused to speak or give any information in regards to this incident. The suspect was transported to Baptist Nassau for injuries he received and later



transported to the NCSO Detention Facility, where he was booked. Ivan Leslie Fox, 45, of Rockledge, Florida was charged with Carjacking; Felony Flee/Elude with Lights and Sirens; Resist without Violence Simple Assault; Driving While License Suspended/Revoked (no prior forcible felony).

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In the Kitchen...

9 large eggs, boiled and peeled
1/4 cup mayonnaise
1 tablespoon mustard

In a mixing bowl, add mayonnaise and mustard. Mix well with a fork, mashing eggs while you mix. Add seasonings to taste and mix together well. Serve on bread, croissants or on a salad.

Egg Salad

salt and pepper to taste
garlic powder to taste

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Nassau Young Republicans News

Caleb Stoner

The Nassau County Young Republicans' Leadership was sworn in on March 15. The oath taken by these officers solidified their positions within the charter, signifying their dedication to the constitution. All of the officers were mustered together by Chad Brockett - Sergeant of Arms, as he faced them with a 13-fold American flag in hand. He then asked everyone to raise their right hand and repeat the following words...

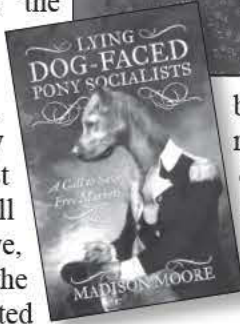
"I (name stated) do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the duties appointed to me as the (elected position) of the Nassau County Young Republicans, FL. I will serve my community to the best of my abilities, and will always strive to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

After the leadership had taken the oath, they welcomed their guest speaker, Madison Moore. Following her introduction, this Yulee native, 24-year-old grassroots conservative enlightened the group with her very interesting story. You might remember the viral video of Joe Biden calling a young female a "Lying dog-faced pony soldier" while on the 2020 campaign trail in New Hampshire. That young female happens to be the county's very own Madison Moore. Since that

video went viral, Madison's world has taken off with interviews on all the top legacy media outlets including several late-night shows. Since her overnight viral fame, she has written an amazing book, *Lying Dog-Faced Pony Socialists*, which was one of her topics discussed in the meeting where Moore hopes to persuade young Americans that only capitalism—not socialism—can equip them with the necessary tools to face the challenges of the 21st century.

As a resident of Nassau County and a natural born leader, Madison naturally expressed her excitement and intent with the group, not only in joining the YR, but potentially taking on a leadership role. Impressed by her passionate drive to raise awareness on the current state of our nation, the feeling of excitement for her to join the team was unanimously mutual.

The NCYR, FL hopes to be so fortunate as to recruit more motivated young republican leaders of Madison's caliber and is currently looking to fill two executive board positions, Secretary and Treasurer. As always, the Young Republicans of Nassau County invite you to come to their next meeting, next Tuesday, April 19 at 7 p.m.; with dinner at 6:30 p.m. at the Callahan Fairgrounds office. Monthly meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. Please check out the Nassau County Young Republicans Facebook page with any questions or comments.



JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

If you are a liberal in America, honest to God, I have a question for you, not rhetorical. Is this everything that we're seeing two years into Biden's Presidency really what you voted for? Is war in Eastern Europe and as a consequence conflict in China and Asia and the Middle East really what you voted for? Is the highest inflation we've seen in like 50 years really what you voted for? Are the highest average gas prices this country has ever seen really what you voted for? Is the Democrat Party continuing to attempt to legalize infanticide on a state-by-state basis really what you voted for? Is teaching black children through CRT that they will never be successful in this country based on the color of their skin really what you voted for? Or teaching kindergarteners about sex really what you voted for? Honest to God question, because I have a hard time believing liberals in this country can't admit the Democrat Party has left them behind. (Copied from @realjuniusa)

I would love to know the answer also. Is this what Biden voters wanted to see in America? If so, they do not have the right to live here. They are enemies to our Constitutional Republic. It is so sad what the Biden regime has

done to our country. Democrats brought back the 1918 Pandemic, the 1929 Depression, the 1968 race riots and the 1972 gas lines all at the same time! (Copied from Americasbestpics.com) And they did it in less than two years. I now have a not rhetorical question. Can America survive another two years of liberal governorship?

As sad as it is, I see no way for our country to survive on the present tract. I'm not even sure if the red tide turns into a red tsunami in November that we will be able to right all the evil that the democrat regime has brought upon this once great country. I say once, because we are not a great country today. We are an embarrassment upon the free world and a laughing stock to the dictatorship countries. Not trying to be a pessimist however I only see one way for America to survive.

It clearly states in the Bible, 2 Chronicles 7:14, "If My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land." That is God's word not an opinion!

The rest, as always... is just my opinion!

EVENTS AROUND TOWN

QUIT SMOKING CLASS, Friday, April 15 at 12 p.m. at Barnabas Health Services, Callahan 1st United Methodist Church, (Pre-school Room), 449648 US 301, Callahan. To pre-register, call: 904-482-0189.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans monthly meeting will be held Monday, April 18 at 7 p.m. at the Pig Barbeque Restaurant, in Callahan.

The Callahan Public Library is now offering Technology help on Thursdays from 3-5 p.m. Residents can sign up for a spot on our website: nassaureads.com. We will offer help with basic computer skills, ebook resources, library databases, email/internet basics, social media and more!



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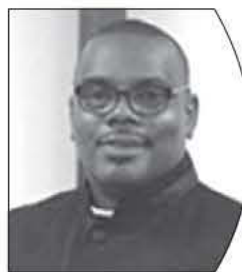
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Bondage or Freedom

Pastor Walter Cooper, He Changed My Mind Ministries, Callahan



Greetings, brothers, and sisters of the west side. The children of Israel were in bondage for over 400 years. I'm sure they thought it was over for them with no change in site. They were being forced to do jobs they didn't want to do. Their living and working conditions were awful and they were required to work in extremely harsh conditions with long hours and very little pay in return. They prayed, asking God for freedom from their pain and suffering. In response to their prayers, God sent Moses to Pharaoh to demand that he let his people go. Exodus 6:5 says, *"And I have also heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and I have remembered my covenant."*

Bondage can be vowed as positive and negative. The negative should never be our choice, the state of being bound by or subjected to some external power or control may seem like something we wouldn't consider today. But sin has a strange way of holding onto us and keeping us longer than we can imagine, rendering us useless for the kingdom of God. If we aren't careful, we could find ourselves in trouble because of our sins.

This happens over time when sin begins to control our lives; it's not noticeable when this occurs for most of us. Some of us may be dealing with the bondage of anger, having trouble controlling outbursts. I'm sure Pharaoh was having a hard time controlling his anger when Moses instructed him that God wanted him to let his people go. Pharaoh tried bargaining with God several times. When we are in the heat of battle, we often don't recognize the danger of being bound or controlled by Satan. Anger is like a pot on the stove; for some people, it starts slow and builds up; for others it explodes. Thanks be to God that he has made a way of escape, we can choose freedom over bondage. God sent his son Jesus Christ to die for our sins so that we may live a free and prosperous life. In John 8:34, Jesus said, *"Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin."*

Jesus has promised us freedom through His shed blood on Calvary. *"If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."* John 8:31-32. Freedom comes from Jesus and You can give him your heart today. He has created a system that teaches us how to live a particular way of life that would set us free.

Moses didn't rely on his abilities; he relied on asking God for His will and waiting for His guidance.

We should do the same when seeking freedom from Satan, trusting God's plan and will through his son Jesus Christ. Being obedient to his will and word will continuously increase our chance of obtaining freedom from bondage and the things that have had bounded for years. Jesus frees us from our sins and gives us the Spiritual power to do His work. The Spirit of God guides us and asks us to make changes in our lives for Him, but they are minimal compared to the eternal life He gave us through the sacrifice of His life. 1 Corinthians 10:12-13, *"Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."* Be free in Jesus Christ, Amen.

Grace and peace from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Medication Take Back Day: Why is it Important?

*Danielle Holland,
Community Coalition Alliance*

Prescription medications, especially opioid and stimulant medications, are among the highest misused and abused drugs in the nation today. Over 70% of all prescription pain medication abuse starts by access to a family member or friend's medications. Access to these medications has led to a tragic increase in addiction, prescription drug related overdoses and overdose related fatalities

in our Nassau County communities, including our youth. Recent data shows that in Nassau County, opioid related overdoses have increased by 139%, when comparing Emergency Department data from 2019 to 2021. Data comparisons from 2019 to 2021 also show stimulant overdoses have more than doubled, equating to a 152% increase and Benzodiazepine related overdoses have increased by 87%. Examples of commonly used opioids are oxycodone and fentanyl, common stimulants are ADHD medications, such as Adderall, and benzodiazepines are sedatives, like Xanax and Valium.

One way we can help overcome this and keep our community healthy, is by keeping cabinets clean of unneeded and old medications. This helps to prevent medication misuse and opioid addiction from ever starting. Since most prescription medication misuse and opioid addictions start by accessing the drugs from a friend or family member, we can work as a community to keep

our medication cabinets cleaned out and reduce the possibility of access these medications. This limits the ability for unintended use of these medications, and we can do our part to help keep Nassau County safer and healthier.

National DEA Prescription Drug Take Back Day offers a safe, convenient way to clean your cabinets of any old



or unused medications and turn them in for safe disposal. This event will take place in Nassau County on Saturday, April

30 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Medication drop-offs will be available at Hilliard Pharmacy, Winn Dixie in Callahan and the Yulee Community Center. This event is coordinated by the Community Coalition Alliance, in partnership with the Nassau County Sheriff's Office, National Guard, and Starting Point Behavioral Health. We will be giving out Deterra Medication Disposal Bags, for safe medication disposal at home, resource information and providing Narcan education and distribution. Narcan is a lifesaving tool, that should be a part of all first aid kits at home, especially for anyone who is prescribed opioids, or has a loved one who is prescribed opioids.

Please email questions or concerns to: Danielle Holland, Community Coalition Alliance at: communitycoordinator@ccafl.org about getting involved, receiving prevention support from CCA, or to learn more about Substance Use Prevention.

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HILLIARD, FLORIDA

Hilliard Town News

Dawn S. West

The Hilliard Town Council met Thursday night for their first meeting of April. The first order of business was a proclamation concerning Water Conservation Month. The proclamation is prepared every year for the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD). The proclamation included, water is a basic essential need for everyone; April is one of the driest months in Florida as to why the proclamation is done now; the Town of Hilliard joins with SJRWMD to educate citizens on the importance of water conservation. The proclamation was read and presented by Council President John Beasley.

Dave Conkey, representing SJRWMD added, "This is the 24th Anniversary of proclamations and we appreciate the Town of Hilliard's support. Recently, SJRWMD have been locating abandoned artesian wells and plugging them. As to date, 62 wells have been plugged, which have saved 10.4 million gallons of water a day."

In other business, the council approved the contract renewal between the Town of Hilliard and Mr. Bryan Higginbotham, for Building Official services, with a 3% pay increase for a total annual contract amount of \$33,990.

The next three items were approved by the council: the Building Official/Inspectors; the Code Enforcement Officers; and the Land Use Administrators quarterly report. Each of the reports can be found on the town's website at: www.townofhilliard.com.

The council also approved the Gravity Sewer Overflow Pipe Project change order at a cost of \$4,520.

Resolution 2022-03 concerns an FDOT Public Transportation Grant Agreement offer for Land Acquisition. The resolution agreement allows the

FDOT to acquire land on the north side of the Hilliard Airpark. The council approved the resolution.

Resolution 2022-05 was also approved that concerns amending Zoning and Land Use Application Fees to add a deposit to applications that require a consultant review.

Resolution 2022-06 was also approved which concerned amending Resolution 2021-23 Water and Sewer Usage Rates & Fees; Water and Sewer Tap-in Fees, adding a Septic Tank Application Permit Fee and adding a Right-of-Way Application Permit Fee.

Parks & Recreation Director Gabe Whittenburg advised the council that he was contacted by Jen Hart of First Baptist Church Hilliard. "The church would like to use Oxford Park on Saturday, April 16 from 4-6 p.m. for a Community Easter Egg Hunt," said Whittenburg. "They have already turned in their forms. I am recommending we waive the fees and allow this event."

The council approved the recommendation.

The council approved two septic tank exceptions: one for David W. and Callie K. Bishop, property located off Twelfth Avenue; the second for Michael Franklin, property located off Twelfth Avenue.

The council approved the resignation of Jack Burnette, grounds/facilities maintenance. This will leave a vacant position in the Parks & Recreation Department.

The council approved the Bulk Culvert purchase of \$20,664.12.

The council approved payment to Dixon Tree and Lawn Service for the first payment of \$8,750, for mowing the town right-of-ways.

The next meeting of the council will be Thursday, April 21 at 7 p.m. at Town Hall, 15859 West County Road 108.

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Easter Service

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Sunday, April 17th

at 11 a.m.

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Chamber to Host Political Community Leadership Training

The Nassau County Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Florida Institute for Political Leadership (FIPL), an initiative by the Florida Chamber of Commerce, is hosting a virtual Campaign School & Community Leadership Training April 26-28 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. each day. This no-cost and nonpartisan 3-day program is open to everyone and recommended for elected officials, current or future candidates, campaign workers, and anyone interested in serving in an appointed position. As we aim to secure Florida's future and move Florida's economy from 17th largest in the world to 10th largest by 2030, it is necessary to ensure candidates running for office understand the issues facing Florida and our local Nassau County community.

FIPL Campaign School & Leadership Trainings provide a comprehensive briefing on emerging local and state issues, educate attendees about the local opportunities that are available for appointed or elected positions, offer guidance on how to prepare to run for office in the future, and provide training on how to run winning campaigns. Presenters include state and local political experts, elected officials, university professors, and community leaders.

FIPL Campaign School & Community Leadership Training

Register online at www.fipl.org/register

April 26-28 5:30 to 8 p.m. each day

The Florida Institute for Political Leadership (FIPL), a newly-formed initiative by the Florida Chamber of Commerce, was created to assist leaders who want to improve their local communities by serving in appointed positions or in elected offices. The institute is a non-partisan program designed to recruit, train and guide people by providing leadership and training opportunities to get better candidates across the State of Florida. Organized, funded and managed by the Florida Chamber of Commerce, the institute partners with local chambers of commerce, and interested organizations, across Florida to host campaign schools and training programs. To date, FIPL has hosted 20 campaign schools and partnered with 111 local Chamber hosts and 26 community partner co-sponsors in 46 different counties. The program has trained 915 participants with 623 graduates, of whom 70% plan to run for office.

For more information and to register, visit www.fipl.org.

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Drug Arrests Made

On Friday, April 8, Sheriff Bill Leeper announced that the Nassau County Narcotics Drug Task Force raided two drug houses: one in Fernandina Beach; and one in Jacksonville. Three individuals were arrested with drugs and weapons seized during the raids.

On Wednesday, April 6, Nassau County Sheriff's Office Special Response Team members with the assistance from the Fernandina Beach Police Department served a search warrant at 619 South 10th Street Fernandina Beach. Nassau County Narcotics Drug Task Force Detectives searched the residence and found illegal drugs inside consisting of marijuana, cocaine and MDMA (Ecstasy/Molly), as well as drug paraphernalia and digital scales. Two people were arrested in the raid: Gus Antonio Holcey, 41, from Fernandina Beach was charged with (3) Counts of Drug Possession, (1) Count of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Keeping a Place where Drugs are Sold/Kept and Declared a Public Nuisance. Darien Jovon Owens, 25, from Fernandina Beach was charged with (2) Counts of Drug Possession and (1) Count of Possession of Marijuana with Intent to Sell within 1,000 feet of a School or Public Park.

Seized from the house were 42.6 grams of Marijuana, individually weighed out and packaged ready to be sold; 0.3 grams of Powder Cocaine, and 3.4 grams of MDMA (Ecstasy/Molly). In the residence, detectives located numerous Drug Paraphernalia items such as cigars, a glass pipe and digital scales with residue. A total of \$1,090 was located and seized from the property.



Holcey

Owens

Turner

of a joint investigation that originated in Nassau County. During the operation, the suspect Jadarien Turner, 26, from Jacksonville, was arrested from inside the residence and charged with the following: (1) Count of Armed Possession of Illegal Drugs, (1) Count of Possession of Marijuana with Intent to Sell and (1) Count of Use of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony. There were two small children (1 month and 3-year-old) inside the residence at the time of the search and DCF was contacted to conduct an investigation.



Detectives seized the following from the residence; 3 pounds of Marijuana, 3.8 grams of Cocaine, 4.1 grams of Oxycodone 10 mg pills, approximately 4 grams of suspected Heroin, 5 THC cartridges, 2 Firearms with Ammunition, 4 additional magazines (2 of them extended). Also in the residence, detectives located numerous

Drug Paraphernalia items such as: multiple large vacuum seal bags with marijuana residue and several other suspected narcotic contraband. A total of \$8,019 in US currency was seized from the property.

"These drug dealers prey on and make money off others who are addicted to drugs,"

said Sheriff Leeper. "You'd think with all of the 'Help Wanted' signs all around and businesses looking for people to work they'd go get a real job to make money legally and stay out of jail."



On Thursday, April 7, members of the NCSO Narcotics Drug Task Force assisted the US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) with a search warrant located at 1829 Biscayne Circle, Jacksonville. The search warrant was part

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Thank You Sponsors of Fundraiser

Ana Rodriguez and Laura Cullen,
WOI CO-CHAIRS

Through the guidance and mentoring of the American Business Women's Eight Flags Charter Chapter, the first annual Scholarship/fundraiser dinner and live auction, held recently by the Women of Influence (W.O.I.) student Club from West Nassau High School, was a smashing success. The sellout crowd at Wildlight Elementary School expressed awe as they arrived and were greeted by the music of the WNHS jazz band and stepped into a transformed cafeteria that looked like a magical wonderland. The young Women of Influence introduced themselves to each guest and helped them find their table. They answered questions and demonstrated their leadership; these young women were in charge of the evening.

The welcome speech, invocation, and pledge were handled by members of the club. They also assisted their



exceptionally able auctioneer, Justin Taylor, and recorded the live auction results. The students handled all the setup and take down of the entire room. The group's in-school adviser Joshua



The ABWA Eight Flags Charter Chapter and the Women of Influence W.O.I. student club from West Nassau High School want to thank all the businesses and individuals that helped a group of dynamic young women not only achieve their goals to raise money for two \$2,500 scholarships but now can double that with two \$5,000 scholarships to deserving young women.



W.O.I. also wishes to thank the ABWA mentoring team, Marie Fenn, Lillie Rogers, Judge Jenny Higginbotham, Lisa Rosenblum, and all the women in the Eight Flags Charter Chapter for their support.

Enormous thanks go to the event sponsors and auction donors.

Marijuana Bust in Fernandina

According to Nassau County Sheriff's reports, April 4, 2022, 106 pounds of marijuana was recovered from a storage shed in Fernandina. Several different departments were used NCSO Narcotic Detectives; Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent; Task Force Officer and Florida Highway Patrol State Troopers conducted a surveillance of a delivery of Marijuana, which resulted in the arrest of Johnathan Lee Balyeat of Jacksonville.

Officers, Special agents and Detectives observed Balyeat meet with another subject near the Flash Foods gas station at 5518 South Fletcher Avenue, Fernandina. When the meeting was completed, Balyeat was followed by officers to a home on Forrest Drive in Fernandina. Balyeat was driving a black GMC Sierra pickup truck. Once Balyeat arrived, officers observed him carrying black duffle bags to a small detached storage shed in the rear of the property.



Officers arrived at the residence and made contact with Balyeat while he was standing outside of the shed. Officers then made contact with the homeowner who advised she did not know Balyeat and did not give permission to store any property inside the shed. She also gave NCSO a signed consent to search the shed. A detective then talked with the other homeowner who stated he had given him permission to store personal belongings in the shed but nothing illegal.

During the search of the storage shed, officers located five black Addias brand duffle bags and one cardboard box containing approximately one pound of marijuana packaged inside vacuumed sealed plastic bags; Two 5-gallon buckets containing opened vacuumed plastic bags of marijuana; a box of small sandwich bags; a digital scale and several sandwich bags which were pre-packaged and readily available for sale. A total of approximately 106 pounds of


marijuana was recovered from inside the shed.

Balyeat was read his Miranda Rights via card, which he stated he understood. Balyeat was arrested and charged with 1 count of Trafficking Marijuana; 1 count of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; and 1 count of Possession with Intent to Sell.




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Wishing you a Blessed Easter!



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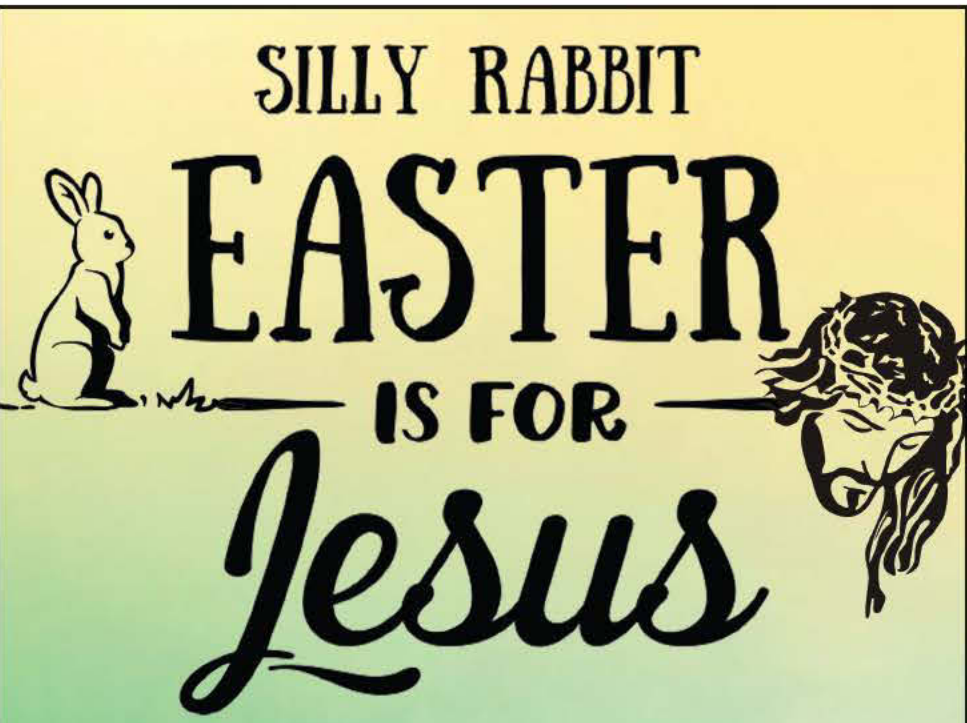


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The Last Supper

Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that His hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He now showed the disciples the full extent of his love. It was time for supper, and the Devil had already enticed Judas to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had given him authority over everything and that he had come from God and would return to God. So He got up from the table, took off his robe, wrapped a towel around his waist, and poured water into a basin. Then He began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel he had around Him. (John 13:1-5 Summarized)

Jesus is Tried and Beaten

Following Jesus' arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane for claiming to be a king, Pilate had Jesus flogged with a lead-tipped whip. The soldiers made a crown of long, sharp thorns and put it on his head, and they put a royal purple robe on him. "Hail! King of the Jews!" they mocked, and they hit him with their fists. When the crowds saw him, the leading priests and Temple guards began shouting, "Crucify! Crucify!" (John 19:1-6a Summarized)

His Crucifixion

Carrying the cross by himself, Jesus went to the place called Skull Hill. There they crucified him. There were two others crucified with him, one on either side, with Jesus between them. And Pilate posted a sign over him that read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they divided his clothes among the four of them. (John 19:17-24 Summarized)

Jesus' Death

Jesus knew that everything was now finished, and to fulfill the Scriptures he said, "I am thirsty." A jar of sour wine was sitting there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put it on a hyssop branch, and held it up to his lips. When Jesus had tasted it, he said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. (John 19:28-30 Summarized)

His Burial

Afterward Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus wrapped Jesus' body in a long linen cloth with the spices, as is the Jewish custom of burial. The place of crucifixion was near a garden, where there was a new tomb, never used before. And so, because it was the day of preparation before the Passover and since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there. (John 19:38-42 Summarized)

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Early Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. An angel was there on the stone and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said." The women hurried and told the disciples what they saw. The disciples arrived and went inside. They noticed the linen wrappings lying there, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying to the side. They saw and believed.

Jesus later appeared to the women and his disciples telling them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (John 20:1-8; Matthew 28:1-8 Summarized)

He is not here;
he has risen,
just as he said.
Matthew 28:6

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Communications Officer
Graduates Program



For the first time a Communications Officer graduated the Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute. That Officer is NCSO's very own Sgt. Danielle Rubio. Sgt. Rubio along with the other graduates met for four week-long sessions at the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office in Crestview, Florida. They learned skills necessary to support the needs of their agencies and their communities as they prepare for future challenges. "We are proud to say that we have exceptional Communication Officers, like Sgt. Rubio, to pave the way for other Telecommunicators around the state of Florida," said Sheriff Bill Leeper.

The goal of the Florida Leadership Academy is to prepare first-line supervisors in criminal justice organizations to exemplify the character and integrity expected of criminal justice professionals and to examine the various components necessary to being an efficient leader.

The Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute, which is housed within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and affiliated with the State University System, was established in 1990 by the Florida Legislature to address the need for an innovative and multi-faceted approach to the education and training of criminal justice professionals.



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GREATER LOVE HAS NO ONE THAN THIS, THAT SOMEONE
LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS. JOHN 15:13

Relay for Life...Meet Katie Milledge

My name is Katie Rochay Milledge. I am your neighbor, a mother of eight girls, a coach, a nurse, a grandmother, a wife and I am a survivor. In 2009, at the age of 35, I found a lump the size of a BB. I called my doctor and I was sent for a mammogram where nothing showed up. Because of my concerns they did an ultrasound and found the lump along with two other places. A biopsy was done immediately on a Friday and Monday I was told it was breast cancer. Surgery was set up within two weeks of my diagnosis. The kind of cancer I had was under the muscle and pushed everything out. It was hidden. That's why it did not show up on the mammogram. After my surgery, I started radiation and chemotherapy. After two days, I was given medications due to dehydration and nausea. Once I got on a regiment, things got a little more stable.

During my diagnosis and treatments, I had children at home that ranged in ages from 2 to 15 years old. I was a single parent and worked. I also coached basketball and volleyball. Also, during my treatment I went back to school to become a nurse. My parents, Kathy and Howard Rochay, were there for all of it. My mom was my rock. She helped with the kids and anything that I needed. I also had a great friend, Shawn Milledge, who helped me out. Later he became my husband.

Following treatments, I started

reconstructive surgery. I had spacers put in and preparing for implants. Another scan revealed that my cancer had come back. Immediately, I started the chemo again. After the second treatment of chemo, we did a PET scan. The results showed it was in my lymph nodes, with 3 out of 12 nodes cancerous. Robotic surgery was done for the cancerous spots and weekly treatments began. The treatments of radiation and chemo worked. I am cancer free but very high risk because they were in my lymph nodes.

Besides the side effects of the nausea, dehydration and weakness there were many other things happening to my body. It caused kidney damage, to where they had to put stents in for kidney stones. Currently I work 3 days a week as an LPN in home healthcare and I fill in as a PRN. However, I do

have some lasting effects that will eventually cause me not to be able to work this profession much longer.

I have had 37 surgeries since my diagnosis. There is no history in my family of breast cancer. I have been through a lot, but I am looking forward to continuing to be cancer free.

The Nassau County Relay for Life will be held Saturday, May 7 from 3 - 10 p.m. at the Callahan Fairgrounds. To be a volunteer, sign up a team or learn more about the local event, call Wanda at 294-2088.



EASTER Celebrations

Gardenview Baptist Church 3139 Armsdale Rd., Jacksonville
Drama 'Bow the Knee' Friday, April 15, Good Friday at 7 p.m.

First Baptist Church Hilliard
Community Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 16
at the Hilliard Recreation Center on Oxford St. from 4- 6 p.m.
Games, Egg Hunt and Hot Dogs & Chips!

First Baptist Church Bryceville
Easter Celebration Saturday, April 16 at 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Easter Egg Hunt, Candy, Bounce Houses, Food & more!

North Hilliard Baptist Church
Community Easter Egg Hunt Sunday, April 17 from 2 - 5 p.m. Lots of Eggs to Hunt, Prizes, Popcorn, Candy and Photo Area!

Hilliard First Assembly of God
Giant Easter Egg Hunt Sunday, April 17 following the 10 a.m. Service
Lots of eggs, prizes, candy and refreshments.

Bethany Episcopal Church Holy Week Services:
Thursday- Maundy Thursday 7 p.m.; Friday-Good Friday 7 p.m.;
and Easter Sunday 10 a.m.

Ephesus Baptist Church
Easter Breakfast Sunday at 8:30 a.m. followed by
Outdoor Easter Service at 9:30 a.m.

Live Oak Baptist Church
Sunrise Service Sunday at 7 a.m.; Worship Service at 11 a.m.

The Anchor Church Callahan
Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 16 from 4 - 5:30 p.m.
at the church for 6th grade and under.

He is Risen

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A Prom Night to Remember, Not a Tragedy to Forget

Sheriff Bill Leeper

Few occasions in our lives produce more lasting memories than our high school prom or graduation. The pomp and pageantry is unforgettable as we bid farewell to more than a decade of schooling and the treasured friendships forged throughout our childhood. It culminates in a night of fun and frivolity before we embark on the next journey in our lives.

A long time ago, my wife Emma and I attended our high school prom together and we witnessed the same joy when our son and daughter headed out to their high school prom. The excitement I felt for them as they basked in the enthusiasm of prom night, however, was masked somewhat by my own worry. As a father and law enforcement officer for 45 years, I have the unique experience and unfortunate perspective of personally witnessing the darker side of prom season. Far too often, happy times can turn tragic — often the result of someone impaired getting behind the wheel of a vehicle.

Here are some sobering facts:

- Young people aged 12 to 19 are already more likely to die in an accident than by any other cause, with motor vehicle crashes being the most common.
- Between April and June (peak prom and graduation season), there is a massive spike in alcohol-related teen traffic fatalities.

Keeping our children safe has always been a priority. That is why the Nassau County Sheriff's Office and many community partners team up to raise awareness in the battle to eliminate impaired driving. We want to see our teens enjoy a safe and memorable prom and graduation season. Each year, NCSO presents important programs to warn and inform teens of the serious consequences of impaired driving. These presentations can be quite intense and real — but it reinforces the dangers and potentially fatal consequences of drinking and driving. NCSO also continues to be a proud supporter of other community organizations devoted to stamping out drunk driving, including Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD).

Should you have knowledge of teens that may be intoxicated or at a venue where they may be consuming alcohol, report this information to local law enforcement. Our young sons and daughters should dance, have fun and make lasting memories this prom and graduation season. But, above all, they should also be safe. PARENTS: please speak with your children. Remind them to protect their futures by making good choices — before a night to remember turns into one we'd all like to forget.



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.

Thursday, March 31

Michael Chad Sparkman, 35, 29964 Kara Lynn Lane, Hilliard: Possession of Methamphetamine; Possession of Schedule 1-5 Substance

Saturday, April 2

Jennifer Lee Faircloth, 44, 36127 Matt Dylan Lane, Callahan: Possession of Methamphetamine

Conner Travis Lane, 20, 54051 Corley Drive, Callahan: DUI Refuse Test; Possession of Counterfeit Driver's License (x 2)

Sunday, April 3

Donald Edward Roberts, 26, 474594 Middle Road, Hilliard: Battery on Law Enforcement Officer; Resist with Violence Simple Assault

Tabitha Lynn Linton, 23, 27708 Georgia Street, Hilliard: Battery on Law Enforcement Officer; Resist with Violence Simple Assault

James Richard Fisher, 31, 27270 W. 1st Street, Hilliard: DUI; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia with Residue; Possession of Schedule 1-5 Substance; Possession of Marijuana less than 20 grams

Monday, April 4

Christopher Stevens Crissinger, 49, 54177 Bea Road, Callahan: Resist with Violence Simple Assault; Disorderly Conduct

Thursday, April 7

Christain Bryan Wilkinson, 49, 28266 Lake Hampton Road, Hilliard: Possession of Methamphetamine; Resist without Violence; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia with Residue

James Leroy Wright, 40, 44002 Charwood Drive, Callahan: Possession of Methamphetamine; Possession of Alprozolam; Possession of Schedule 1-5 Substance; Felony Habitual Traffic Offender; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia with Residue; DUI Refuse Test

Tyrel Clay Sloan, 38, 54227 Hazel Jones Road, Callahan: Trafficking Methamphetamine while Armed with a Firearm; Possession of a Weapon by Convicted Felon; Driving While License Suspended with Knowledge

WNHS Class of '72 Reunion



The West Nassau Class of 1972 will hold their 50th Year Class Reunion Sat., June 11 at 12 p.m. at the home of Pat and JoAnne Hardcastle (Kingsley Lake), 5753 SR 16 W, Starke, FL. Class picture, 12:45 p.m.; lunch 1 p.m.! Outdoor sports and swimming, bring your family! Cost \$25/per person; ages 7 and under free. RSVP by May 1. For more information, call Pam Buchanan Hicks at 904-583-5304.



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

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YARD SALES

BARGAIN HUNTERS YARD SALE, 8 a.m. until? Saturday, 241981 CR 121, Hilliard. Cheap prices on good tools, F100 parts, racing parts, toys, gently used clothing (baby, toddler, women's and men's) home decor and more!

FIVE FAMILY YARD SALE: Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m., 54672 Church Road, Callahan. Clothes, kitchen appliances, kitchen and miscellaneous items!

SATURDAY, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., 44022 Campbell Court, Callahan. Children and women's clothing, NASCAR, dolls, tools. A little bit of everything!

FUN FRIDAY NIGHT with God's Bridge! Storewide Sale! 20% OFF total purchase! Cats Angels will be onsite with FREE dog & cat food (10 a.m. - 12 p.m.) Located behind CVS, Callahan.

VFW POST 10095 YARD SALE: Saturday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. \$5 EVERYTHING BAG DAY! All winter items going away. Help support your Veterans. VFW is located across from the Hilliard Airpark.

AUCTION

ROLPH'S AUCTION DEPOT, ESTATE AUCTION Saturday, April 16. Preview at 3 p.m. Auction at 5 p.m., Callahan fairgrounds, off of US 1 north of Callahan. This auction to include over 100 beer steins, lots of diecast buses in the box, 50 Hummels, salt and pepper shakers collection, Gator memorabilia, shot glass collection, collection of soda crates and bottles, sport event tickets stubs and concert tickets stubs, beer advertising items, Anheuser-Busch eagle from the Jacksonville Busch plant off Main Street, collection of pinback buttons, some furniture, this guy was a collector of all kinds of stuff. No telling what we will come across at this auction! Something for everyone! Call 904-993-8679 for information. 41422

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CHARLES NORMAN FRAME, JR.



Charles "Norman" Frame, Jr., 51, of Callahan, went home to be with the Lord on April 3, 2022. He was born May 24, 1970, in Jacksonville to Charles Norman Frame, Sr. and Edna Sandlin Frame. Norman moved to Callahan in 1972. He was employed with AAR Corporation in Jacksonville where he was known as "The Man" for everything. Norman was a proud Papa and loved all his children equally. He loved God, his freedom and guns. Norman was a huge Florida Gator fan. He loved spending time on the water fishing, whether he filled the boat or caught nothing at all. Norman had a heart of gold. There wasn't anything he wouldn't do to help anyone. If you needed it and he had it, it was yours.

Norman leaves behind his father Charlie Frame, Sr. of Callahan; mother Edna Sandlin Frame of Callahan; his loving wife of 19 years, Michele A. Frame of Callahan; son Michael C. Souza; daughters Samantha Nicole (Bobby) Ingram of Folkston and Amber N. Souza of Callahan; grandchildren Major Devon Ingram of Folkston and Rozalynn Ann Bouknight of Callahan.

A private celebration of life service will be held Saturday, April 30 from 12-6 p.m. at his residence.

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

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

OBITUARIES

LEWIS DELBERT LLOYD



Lewis Delbert Lloyd, 79, of Callahan, passed away peacefully on April 9, 2022. He was born November 12, 1942, to the late Leonard Lloyd and Evelyn Carter Lloyd in Jacksonville. Lewis lived most of his life in Jacksonville and moved to Callahan just five short years ago. He began his lifelong career as a carpenter at the young age of 16. Lewis enjoyed fishing and hot rods but more than anything he loved spending time with his grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents; and sister Charlotte Casey.

Lewis leaves behind his son Jessie Harrelson; daughters Rita Murphy and Shelia Smith; brothers Ricky (Diane) Lloyd and David (Cathy) Lloyd; sister Sylvia (Tommy) McCauley; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Lewis's life will be held Thursday, April 14 at 4 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home with Chaplain Jim Cox officiating. The family will receive friends at 3:30 p.m.

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

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

DEBORAH FAITH PROCTOR



Mrs. Deborah Faith Proctor, 66, of Hazlehurst, Georgia, passed away Tuesday, April 5, 2022, surrounded by her family. She was born in Jacksonville, where she was a resident until relocating to Georgia four years ago. Mrs. Proctor was a longtime member of Maranatha Assembly of God in Jacksonville and spent many years working in the banking industry before her retirement.

She was devoted to her family and was known for her excellent cooking. She thoroughly enjoyed feeding people and it's said that no one ever left her home with an empty stomach. Mrs. Proctor lived life to the fullest and loved being outdoors. She enjoyed camping, fishing, trips to the beach and singing. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

She is survived by her husband Christopher R. Proctor; mother Maxine Briley Odum of Hazlehurst; children Donald (Jennifer) Kratzer, Jr., Christy Proctor and Courtney (John) Kline, James "Jory" Odum and Julie Odum; brother James D. Odum; grandchildren David (Rebecca) Kratzer and Christopher Kratzer, Henly Harris, Jade Harris, Cooper Kline, Barrett Kline, Avann Kline, Madisyn and Dezmond; and beloved nieces Victoria (Travis) Odum and Sarah (Dakota) Odum of Bryceville; and numerous other family members and friends. She was preceded in death by her father John Wesley Odum, Sr. and brothers Richard D. Odum and John W. Odum, Jr.

A celebration of her life was held Friday, April 8 in the chapel of Warren Funeral Services of Baldwin with Reverends Ralph Horne and Tim Thomas officiating. Interment followed at Oak Grove Cemetery, Macclenny. The family received friends prior to the service.

Please leave condolences at www.warrenfuneralservices.com.

Warren Funeral Services of Baldwin is honored to serve the Proctor family.

JEANETTE RHODEN TAYLOR

Jeanette "Netti" Rhoden Taylor, 82, passed away April 4, 2022, peacefully and quietly at her home, surrounded by family in Jacksonville. Netti was born April 13, 1939 to Virginia and Owen Rhoden in Macclenny. She was married for 35 years to Wilton Taylor, who preceded her in death in 2000. Netti was known for her southern cooking, beautiful gardens (flowers and vegetables), the annual "February" Fish Fry, and her love for family and friends. She never missed the July Norton (Grandma) Family Reunion, and remained close to her extended family. Jeanette was soft spoken, kind, and a faithful prayer warrior for her church. She never met a stranger, she engaged people with a love and fellowship that was grounded in her walk with Christ, her Lord and Savior. Jeanette will be remembered lovingly and lives on through her family. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband; son Kevin Taylor (stillborn); and a brother Tommy Rhoden.

She has three children Jerry Lee York, Tammy Lynn Carroll and Amy Denise Taylor-Towson; grandchildren Colby Daniel Taylor and Cheyenne Niccole (Kain) Sager; great-grandchildren Kaybree Faye, Kain Francis, Jr. and Braylynn Gabriella; a brother Johnny (Joan) Rhoden; nieces Kathy Rhoden (Sam) Huff, Tracy Rhoden Woodard and Deborah Wilson; great nieces and nephews Mindy, Billy, Kristin, Lynsay and Billy; and two Aunts Geraldine Murray and Virla Long. Throughout her life, Jeanette cherished family including extended family. She will be especially missed by her dearest "life" sisters Mary, Gwendolyn, Marie, Virginia, Alana, Nani and Evelyn. Her family was further extended by her children's half-siblings Lisa York and Grady (Laura) York. During her final year of life, she had the privilege of knowing some wonderful in-home care givers, Diana, Teresa, and her daily companion Deb.

The family received friends Friday, April 8 at Live Oak Baptist Church, Callahan. The funeral service was held Saturday, April 9 also at the church.

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

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OBITUARIES

BILLY WENDELL WRIGHT, SR.



Billy "Bill" Wendell Sr., 83, of Callahan, went home to be with the Lord on April 8, 2022. He was born October 28, 1938, in Lumber City, Georgia to the late William Dewey Wright and Susan Clark Wright. Bill proudly served his country in the US Army National Guard as a Sergeant. He moved from Jacksonville to Callahan in 2003. Bill was employed by the City of Jacksonville in the water department for 28 years and retired in 1994. One year into retirement, Bill became a "Papa." He was a faithful member of Callahan First Baptist Church for 19 years. He enjoyed attending, worshipping and serving as a greeter where he excelled at shaking your hand as hard as he possibly could. Bill also had his hand in fishing, bird hunting and shooting skeet but most of all he cherished his family and each moment he spent with them. He was a Freemason for 50 years and was honored to serve as the Past Master of Riverview

Lodge in 1975. Bill is preceded in death by his parents; brother Charles Wright; and sister Lucille Bass.

Bill leaves behind his loving wife of 59 years, Judith Wright; son Billy Wendell Wright, Jr.; sister Ann Wiedgreen; grandchildren Haley and Jason, who could both do no wrong; several nephews and a niece.

Bill will be laid to rest by his nephews Todd and Troy Meeks; great nephews Jake and Cole Meeks; and his bonus grandsons Clayton Tinkle and Chance DeArman.

A celebration of Bill's life was held Tuesday, April 12 at Callahan First Baptist Church with Dr. Lynn Hyatt officiating. The family received friends Monday, April 11 at Nassau Funeral Home. A Masonic Rite was also held at Nassau Funeral Home following the visitation.

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

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

Speech Winners Announced



Ted Karsch, 4-H Agent

On Friday, April 8, Nassau County 4-H held its 4-H Public Speaking contest sponsored by FPL (Florida Power and Light). This competition begins with a classroom competition then proceeds to school level competition and ends with the Nassau County 4-H office County Level.

Public speaking is a skill youth need and is an effective skill in communicating with peers and an audience. Words have the power to educate, inform, persuade and even entertain. Often the spoken word can be a powerful tool!

Nassau county 4-H is an advocate for building our future leaders. We are amazed by the talent and dedication our teachers, families and youth have put into this speech competition. Congratulations to our County winners.

1st Place Winners: Dominic Cortes (over all 7th & 8th) St. Michael's Academy, Kamran Short (6th) Callahan Middle, Jordan Long (5th) Callahan Intermediate and Avery Mokris (4th) St. Michael's Academy

2nd Place Winners: Anna Armstrong (6th) Callahan Middle, Lulu Hicks (5th) Emma Love Hardee and Cayhl Livingston (4th) Bryceville Elementary

3rd Place Winners: Angela Pierson (6th) St. Michael's Academy, Danae Moncrief (5th) Wildlight Elementary and Bryce Martin (4th) Callahan Intermediate

SAVE THE DATE: A Gathering of Veterans

The Veterans Council of Nassau County proudly hosts a gathering of Veterans4Veterans from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 14, at West Nassau High School, 1 Warrior Drive, Callahan. All veterans in northeast Florida are cordially invited to attend this FREE event.

Information booths staffed by veterans' organizations and support personnel within the county, such as Nassau County Veterans Service Officer and Veterans Treatment Court, will provide information and guidance. Lunch will be at no cost and will be catered by Callahan Barbeque.

The keynote speaker will be the FOAR from Home rowing team, recently returned from rowing across the Atlantic Ocean to raise awareness of and resources for combating veteran suicide.



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Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Keep Nassau Beautiful and Nassau County Solid Waste Management will hold a free household Hazardous Waste Collection for Nassau County residents Saturday, April 16 from 8 a.m. to noon (or capacity) at the Nassau County Road Department, 86200 Gene Lasserre Blvd., Yulee.

Aerosol cans, batteries, used cooking oil, computers, corrosives, electronics, fertilizers, fluorescent bulbs, gasoline, cleaners, insecticides, lubricants, oil filters, paint/paint thinners, solvents, pesticides, pool chemicals, propane tanks and televisions will be accepted. A non-perishable canned food drive for Barnabas Food Pantry will also be held. For more information and/or directions to the event call 904-261-0165 or visit: www.KeepNassauBeautiful.org/news-and-events/.



CES POW WOW Coming April 18



Callahan Elementary School is getting ready for their Annual CES POW WOW for upcoming Kindergarten students for the 2022-2023 School year. The event will be held Monday, April 18 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. During the event, families will have the opportunity to tour the school, meet the teachers and staff, play games, make crafts and pick up a registration packet. There will be a limit of 2 adults per incoming Kindergarten. For more information or questions, call CES at 879-2121.

Emily Baumgartner and John Hendricks
West Nassau Historical Society

On behalf of the West Nassau Historical Society, we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for making our 17th Railroad Day Festival and Car Show a fantastic success. Good weather, for the most part, combined with the steady crowd and a supportive community, made for a very enjoyable day. We are an all-volunteer 501c3 nonprofit and we depend heavily on monies raised from this signature event to achieve our goal of highlighting the culture and history of western Nassau County. We are extremely grateful for all of the area groups, businesses, citizens and volunteers who pitched in and made our 2022 Railroad Day possible.

First, we would like to thank the Town of Callahan for allowing us to host the vendor midway on the historic 1856 rail bed. Decades ago, when the tracks were still active, this narrow strip of land was the bustling center of town and it is great to see the rail bed alive again with people. Thanks to the Princess Amelia Chapter of Colonial Dames XIV Century for recognizing the historical significance of the Callahan Depot by placing a beautiful marker here. Kudos goes to our faithful supporters and donors: CSX Transportation, Rusty Acres, WestRock, West Fraser, Rayonier, Florida Power and Light, RPM Wood Products, AA Bottled Gas and Fuel, BSCM/Callahan Recycling, Vystar Credit Union, Nassau Printing, Gore's Nursery, Paul Clark Ford, Nassau County Record, Southeastern Bank, Westside Journal, Callahan Subway, SCV Camp 745, Junior's Seafood, D & J Odds and Ends, Davis Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram, Brooks Rehab, Hendricks Septic Services, Meridian Waste, Brandies Ace Hardware, Nassau County Chamber of Commerce, RandallSmithMusic.com,

Thank You from the West Nassau Historical Society

Hagan Ace Hardware and Callahan Walgreens. Kudos to Callahan Cruisers and Cochrane's Collision Center for hosting one of our best Classic Car Shows in years. Special thanks to our craft vendors and exhibitors and to Joel Pace Piano and Music for hosting our kid's area and for the Mandalorian Mercs and 501st Squad 7 for coming out and making the kids happy. May the force be with you. Thanks to Bill and Kathleen Maurer for designing our fantastic Art Deco logo and for the Callahan Masonic Lodge #32 for bringing their Child ID program. Special thanks to Jerry Peterson for coordinating the entertainment lineup and to Jerry Ganey, Rick Crosby, Buck Lucontro and Patti Peterson Eason for making sure everything ran smoothly. Last, but not least, we want to give a very big thank you to our entertainers themselves for freely giving of their time and talents to put on a great show each year.

Last, we would like to thank each and every member of the West Nassau Historical Society who went above and beyond what was asked of them to ensure that we put on a safe and enjoyable event. This was our third major fundraising event within the past five months, yet you did not pause nor miss a beat. You all continue to show that by working together, all things are possible. The West Nassau Historical Society is in crucial need for new members and volunteers to join us in planning future projects. The West Nassau Historical Society meets the fourth Thursday of each month for a meal at 6:30 p.m. followed by a meeting at 7 p.m. inside the historic Callahan Train Depot. Our next meeting will be Thursday, April 28. Please come on out and join us as we plan more events that will help us secure the future of our past!



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Congratulations NCSO Captain Carter!



Congratulations to Nassau County Sheriff's Office's very own Captain Jeremy Carter on his graduation from the prestigious Florida Sheriffs Association Commanders Academy (Capt. Carter is pictured in the front row 4th from the left). The Florida Sheriffs Association is pleased to announce Sheriff deputies and personnel representing 29 Florida sheriffs' offices have graduated from the prestigious FSA Commanders Academy. The Commanders Academy is an exceptionally informative and educational experience that is vital for public safety leaders of the next generation. The Commanders Academy has become recognized as the premier course of executive study for mid to upper-level criminal justice leaders. Congrats to Class 10!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR NASSAU COUNTY SCHOOLS

Registration for students in kindergarten for the 2022-2023 school year will be held at Bryceville Elementary, Callahan Elementary and Hilliard Elementary April 20 – April 26, 2022. Parents may use their private physician or Health Department Clinic to meet immunization and health examination requirements.

Kindergarten: A child five (5) years old on or before September 1, 2022, may be admitted any time during the school year.

INFORMATION REQUIRED TO COMPLETE REGISTRATION WILL INCLUDE:

- A birth certificate
- A health examination certificate (Physical Exam) performed within one (1) year prior to enrollment in school signed by a Physician, PA, or DO.
- A certificate of immunization form for those communicable diseases for which immunization is required by the Department of Health Florida Statutes.
- Child's Social Security Card.
- Proof of residency. (Example, Lease agreement, utility bill, etc.)



Big Wins for Nassau County!



This past weekend, eight Nassau County youth competed at the State Hippology Contest. Over the course of this 2-day competition our youth placed in four horse judging classes, industry item identification at over 20 stations, a 100 question written test, and team impromptu oral presentations... which took months of preparation and studying. As a special trip we were even able to tour and get some hands-on practice at the UF Equine Genetics Lab. With a lot of laughter and a lot of studying, we are happy to announce that we came home victorious!

Intermediate Team Placings- 4th place

overall intermediate team! Jack Norstrom- 4th place in Judging, 7th for his test, 2nd for stations, and overall 4th place intermediate; Emma Anderson- 9th place stations and 13th overall intermediate individual; Lainey Walters- 4th place in judging, 8th for test, and overall 8th place intermediate individual.

Senior Team Placings- 1st place overall Senior team! Charlie Norstrom- Tied for 1st but placed 2nd in horse judging and overall 13th place Senior; Emma Norstrom- 4th place judging, 4th place for written test, 2nd place stations and 3rd overall Senior individual; Lauren Walters- 8th place in judging, 6th for written test, and overall 18th place Senior individual; Raelin Tew- 5th place written test, 7th for stations, tied and placed 7th place overall Senior individual; Rebecca Blalock- 15th for written test, 16th place for stations, and overall 17th ranked Senior.

4-H'er of the Month Parker Tew



Parker is irrefutably one of the most charismatic 4'Her's we have! Parker is a junior but has been a member since early Cloverbud Days. He has attended several day camps, helps with all his club activities, competes every year in County Events and is often our pledge leader for 4-H events. He will always have a big smile, a good joke and a helpful hand. At the most recent tack cleaning fundraiser, Parker was a key reason why this year was a success. He eagerly chatted with customers and helped garner donations, event generously giving his share to his sister so that she may compete at this year's horse shoe. Parker also won best overall speech at this year's County Event, charming our judges with his confidence and knowledge on his topic. Parker is undoubtedly a superstar in Nassau County 4-H and his community. Great job, Parker!

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Hilliard Clean Up Held Saturday

Dawn S. West

After two years of cancellations due to the pandemic, the annual Hilliard Clean Up was held Saturday. It was so refreshing to see so many people come out and get involved. The amount of people was not at its peak but we'll get there. The Town of Hilliard has been sponsoring the event for some 20 years. The town staff plans it around the same time every year consistently, which has made it such a great event. As volunteers arrived to Town Hall they signed in and received the famous, I 'love' Hilliard t-shirt, garbage bags and gloves and enjoyed some donuts and juice before tracking out. Seven water bottles with a

\$50 bill inside were stashed throughout Hilliard for some lucky people to find! The town teams with Keep Nassau Beautiful that provides disposable trash containers around and an activity table for children. Meridian Waste stepped up to provide the garbage trucks and workers to handle the household trash. OneBlood was on site for blood donations and Shred-It was helping people for their items that needed to be shredded at no cost. The totals for the event were: 3,330 pounds Shredded; 4.45 Tons Litter; 1.13 Tons of Debris and 231 Volunteers that signed in! Congratulations to another successful clean up!



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