

"LET US THEREFORE COME BOLDLY TO THE THRONE OF GRACE, THAT WE MAY OBTAIN MERCY AND FIND GRACE TO HELP IN TIME OF NEED." - HEBREWS 4:16

## Ewing Park Bathrooms Vandalized Again!

Dawn S. West

The Callahan Town Council met Monday night for their first meeting of April. The first item on the agenda was a proclamation read by Callahan Mayor Randy Knagge.

"This proclamation is to proclaim April Water Conservation Month in the Town of Callahan," said Knagge. The proclamation included water is a necessity in everyday life; whereas, it's our duty to protect and conserve water usage; all businesses, schools and homes can do their part to conserve water; whereas April is a dry month and a good time to practice water conservation.

The next order of business was a presentation from Callahan resident Teneilia Anderson. "I wanted to tell this council about the Safe Haven Baby Box. We have all heard about babies being found in bathrooms, near garbage dumpsters, etc. The Safe Haven Baby Box is a way a troubled mother or father can place their baby in the special 'bassinet' box where the baby is safe," said Anderson. "The box must be placed at a fire station or hospital. The box is temperature controlled and once opened from the outside and closed cannot be opened again allowing the parent to walk away knowing the baby is safe. A silent alarm is sounded alerting the EMTs or paramedics that a baby is in the box. Within 5-10 minutes the baby is rescued and taken to a local hospital to make sure he or she is okay. I think this would be a great addition to our town. I have talked with Senator Aaron Bean and he has assured me that whatever we need he will help with it. The initial fee for the box is \$15,000 and I feel sure we (residents, businesses and friends) can raise the money."

"I would like to look over the



material a little further before I make a decision on this," said Councilwoman Jacquelyn Fleming.

"I also need more time to check out all the information," added Council President Ken Bass.

The final agenda item concerned the council approval of Ordinance 2024-002 which concerned the voluntary annexation of .05 acres on Old Dixie Highway.

In closing comments, Town Clerk Shawna Gugliuzza advised the council that once again, the bathrooms at Ewing Park have been damaged in a horrible way. I am recommending that we lock the bathrooms at all times unless someone is having a party at the park and they notify Town Hall about the event.

"This is horrible and a true safety hazard. It's a shame that we have such a nice park and can't use the bathrooms because of destruction!" said Fleming. "I don't know what to do other than lock the park at night and open it back up in the morning."

"I think that is what we are going to have to do right now until we come up with another option," continued Gugliuzza. At this time, the bathrooms will remain closed until repairs from the vandalism have been completed.

The next meeting of the council will be Monday, April 15 at 7 p.m.

## Westside Seniors Enjoy Easter Celebration

The Westside Seniors celebrated Easter Friday at the Westside Senior Center in Hilliard. The seniors enjoyed coloring eggs when they arrived. They all received their boiled eggs and chose what color that wanted to make their eggs. Shortly after, Mr. Bruce Beville arrived to provide the entertainment by singing and playing his guitar. The seniors enjoyed a delicious dinner and lots of great desserts! They also were given a goody bag full of treats to take home.



This is just a reminder that the Westside Senior Center is open to all seniors (60 and up) to visit. Seniors arrive by driving or by being picked up by the Council on Aging van, around 8:30 a.m. They enjoy coffee, juice and a light snack. They enjoy playing Bingo, putting together puzzles, playing games and just socializing with each other. They enjoy a lunch around 11 a.m. before they head back home. "This



place has been such a blessing to me," said Dorothy Richo. "It gets me out of the house and I enjoy all the people here. It's fun meeting with others and having someone to talk to. I'm so thankful for the center."

For more information about the Westside Senior Center, call 845-3313. You won't be sorry!



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**Letters to the Editor**

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

**In Response**

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank B.R. McConnell for their letter last week. I agree with their thoughts. I have been trying to pay attention to this election because I feel the results are going to be the most important ever. In today's climate, you need to research and see what is true and what is not. A lot of news stations on both sides will only tell half of the story so you have to look in more than one place. Too many people spend all their time talking and no time listening. Whoever you are, the other side is not going anywhere, so we all have to learn to get along and do what is right for America. I think both Biden and Trump should have a debate so they can both be asked the hard questions by the other side. When you are interviewed by your own people, you can skew things any way you want.

People need to understand that inflation is high because of corporate greed. Since the pandemic, corporations are making billions of dollars per quarter in PROFITS and we are barely able to buy our groceries. That is not capitalism. Until we figure out how to at least partially fix that, the divide between the rich and the poor will only grow. The average new car is \$48,000. A truck is \$75,000 easy. This is not inflation, it is greed. Unfortunately, even though we are told we all need to vote, the very next sentence is that this election is going

to be decided by about 5 states. How do I feel my vote counts that way? It should be decided by who gets the most votes. We the people need to change the rules.

Bonita Collins

**Pastor Loyd's Column**

Dear Editor,

I thoroughly enjoyed the article written by Pastor Benjie Loyd on "The Gift and The Loss of The Land." Looking forward to the future segments in this series. There was a well-known pastor who said, "We, the Church, needs to unhitch from the Old Testament." This just goes to show how Biblical illiterate even a, so called, pastor can be. Pastor Loyd shows one of the reasons why we need the Old Testament and can never unhitch from it. It is God's Covenant with Israel and His Promise of the land to them. It is so important with what is going on today in Israel that people know, especially our government officials and even many Christians, that the land of Israel belongs to the Jewish people, then and now. The land belongs to God and He Gave it to them and it does not belong to any other people. All these others are trespassers. This is not opinion, but Truth from God's Word, as Pastor Loyd stated.

Tommy Burns

**In the Kitchen...**

- 1 large egg
- 3 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon minced green onions
- 4 teaspoons lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon dried tarragon

**Best Ever Crab Cakes**

- 1/8 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 8 ounces crabmeat
- 1/2 cup crushed buttery round crackers
- 1 tablespoon butter

Whisk egg, mayonnaise, green onions, lemon juice, tarragon, and pepper flakes together in a medium bowl. Gently stir in crabmeat, being careful not to break up meat. Gradually mix in cracker crumbs, adding until desired consistency is achieved. Form crab mixture into 4 patties. Heat butter in a skillet over medium heat. Cook patties in the skillet until golden brown, 5 to 6 minutes on each side.



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## Exciting News for County Residents in Need of Dental Care

Barnabas Center, Inc. is excited to announce that it will change its eligibility requirements for dental care starting April 1, 2024. The Barnabas Center Dental Clinic has served Nassau County residents for over a decade. It is now expanding its intake process to include residents who may not have been eligible.



maximum income that a patient can be considered low-income, from 200 percent to 300 percent of the federal poverty level.

Dr. Charles Cotton, Barnabas Center dentist, is excited to serve more Nassau County residents. "Dental care is so important for the overall health of our residents. Barnabas Center's ability to add

more patients to the schedule will assist clients who may struggle with paying for food and necessary dental care," said Dr. Cotton.

The process is easy. Call 904-261-7000, and the front desk receptionist will guide applicants through the dental intake process. Please note that the dental clinic offers many dental services, and a sliding-scale fee applies to Barnabas Center services.

The Barnabas Center's mission is to provide help and hope to individuals and families in need throughout Nassau County to improve their stability, health, and well-being.

Florida passed important legislation called the "Live Healthy" (SB 7016) initiative. The bill revises preexisting health care programs, creates new programs, revises licensure and regulatory requirements for health care practitioners and facilities, creates new provisions within programs relating to health care practitioner education, amends the state Medicaid program, and appropriates both general revenue and trust fund dollars to grow Florida's health care workforce and increase access to health care services.

The bill amends the "Access to Health Care Act" to increase the

### CLASS REUNION

#### West Nassau High School Class of 2004

WNHS Class of 2004 20-Year Reunion will be held Saturday, April 20 from 10 a.m. – 1p.m. at Ewing Park for a Family Picnic in Callahan; and Night Out, April 20 at 8 p.m. at Sandbar at Amelia Island. Questions: email Joshua Murphy at fuprez.08@gmail.com or Heather Waters at wath0001@gmail.com.

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## JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

Com'on Man! Did anyone here vote to pay for the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Maryland to be rebuilt? I certainly didn't! Let's get this straight, a Hyundai built ship flying a Singapore flag leased by a Danish mega company named Maersk plowed into a bridge in Maryland causing total destruction of the bridge and we the tax payers are going to foot the huge bill to replace it? That's not how my world works, however in Joe Biden's world our money is his money. Such an arrogant pompous person he is. In a very brief statement, acting president Joe Biden (yes, the use of lower-case letters was intentional) made the following remarks, "At about 1:30, a container ship struck the Francis Scott Key Bridge, which I've been over many, many times commuting from the state of Delaware either on a train or by car." First off, there are no train tracks associated with that bridge. Joe's delusional lies once again prove his incompetence. Then he announced, "It's my intention that federal government will pay for the entire cost of reconstructing that bridge, and I expect to...the Congress to support my effort."

Am I wrong about my feelings? In the world I live in, the cost incurred by an action lies upon the one who committed such action. Does not the ship's owner and the business that leases said ship not required to have some type of liability insurance? We can't drive our automobiles on our very own roads without having liability insurance. Most of us don't expect the government to pay for damages we

cause to others property! We need to place the cost of replacing that bridge square on the backs of the guilty parties, period. My prayers do go out to the families of the innocent lives that were lost that morning.

Did you know that the Biden administration prohibited children from submitting "religious egg designs for their Easter Art Event? Did you know that Biden formally proclaimed Easter Sunday as "Trans Day of Visibility," a day created by Obama in 2009. Secretary of State Anthony Blinkin's office released a statement Sunday that said in part, "Transgender Day of Visibility is a celebration of the courage and resilience of transgender, nonbinary, and gender non-confirming persons who exist in every country and culture around the world," the Easter Sunday statement read. "On this day, the United States recognizes the achievements and progress that trans persons have made in the global struggle for equality and re-affirms its commitment to supporting the equality, inclusion, and full recognition of the human rights of transgender persons. To be fair, the White House X account posted a quick message, saying, "Happy Easter from the Biden-Harris Administration!" Psalm 37:13: "But the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming."

As my father-in-law said Sunday, "It's no longer Democrats versus Republicans; it's bad versus good!"

As always...that's just my opinion!  
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# How was your Resurrection Day?

Pastor Marty Paparo, Friendship Alliance Church, Callahan



Five days ago, we celebrated the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is the most significant event in all of history. Jesus was dead, and after the resurrection, He is alive! But, what does this mean for us? Romans 8:11 says: *“If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.”* This means that those of us who have asked Jesus to live in us, will join Him in His resurrection.

And thanks be to God that He raised Christ from the dead because without His resurrection, Paul says we are to be pitied. *“And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.”* 1 Corinthians 15:14,17. Without Christ resurrection, we are without hope and we are stuck in our sins. But the truth is Christ is raised from the dead. *“But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.”* 1 Corinthians 15:21.

And the result is, Death has no hold on us! 1 Corinthians 15:54b-57 says, *“... Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

So how do we respond to this victory?

Romans 14:8-9 tells us: *“For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.”*

Our proper response is to live for Him. So, what about you? On your last day will you be resurrected into God’s glory? Today, in this world, are you living your life for Him? What is the next thing God is asking you to surrender?

*Attend the church of your choice this Sunday.*

# Five Generations!



Celebrating our family with five generations! Shown (l to r) are: Joyce Rowell, her daughter Candy Rowell Steele, Candy’s son David Steele, David’s daughter Brittany Steele Cubbedge, and Brittany’s son Brooks Cubbedge. Thank you, Lord, for blessing us!

# Confederate Heritage Month

April is Confederate Heritage Month and Kirby-Smith Camp 1209, Sons of Confederate Veterans, works tirelessly throughout the year to honor their ancestors. On a recent workday, the tasks continued at Camp Mooney Cemetery where five Confederate casualties from the skirmish at Cedar Creek lie. For more information on the SCV visit: [www.scv-kirby-smith.org](http://www.scv-kirby-smith.org).



# Genealogy Tidbits

Claude Arpen

Are you descended from royalty? According to American genealogist Gary Boyd Roberts, an expert on royal descent, 150 million Americans (half of the population) have royal descent or their wives have traceable royal descent. Many Americans descend from 17th century British colonists who had royal descent. Each of these colonists left descendants in America numbering many thousands and some as many as one million. Are you one of them?

Come join us at the West Nassau Genealogical Society meetings, held the second Monday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Callahan Lions Club. Visitors are welcome!

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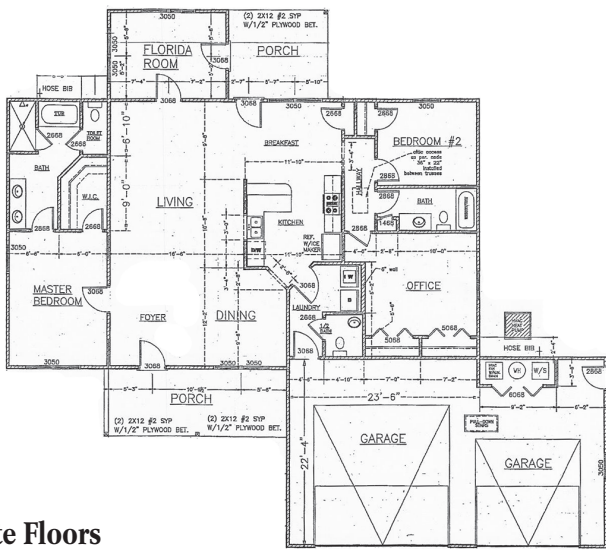
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# Living Financially Free

Yvette Outler

## Budget is Not a Bad Word

Unfortunately, we are well acquainted with common ugly four-letter words. Fortunately, budget is not a bad six letter word, even though it has been given a bad rap. It is easy to dismiss because it may be an unwanted item on your radar. If you are serious about getting out of debt, you will embrace it.

The proverbial elephant in the room is that you need a budget. When you eat the elephant one bite at a time it is easier to manage. Dave Ramsey encourages paycheck-to-paycheck budgeting. You get paid. You tell your money where to go. If you do not tell it where to go, you will wonder where it went.

### Simple budget thoughts and ideas:

1. List your income: List your paychecks, alimony, child support, rental income, pension, or any other income. If you are married, tally up your income together.

2. List your debt(s): Your mortgage, car payments, student loans, personal loans, credit cards, and any other debt you have in your name(s).

3. When you get paid, minus your debt from your income.

4. If your debt outweighs your income, you must increase your income.

Pro Tip: Look at your arm's length, obvious choices for creating extra, immediate cash. What can you sell that has value? Plan any of the following: Yard Sale, sell items on Facebook Marketplace, Ebay, ThredUp,



Poshmark, or any other avenue you have access to. If you are car poor and have a huge car payment that is eating up your income, sell the car. Your income is your best wealth building tool. There was a time that I had to sell my 6-month new car, because it did not make sense for me to keep it while getting out of debt. I sold it and with the equity I had in it I bought a very used, but good car for me to use for that season of my life.

A user-friendly budgeting app called *EveryDollar* can be found at [www.ramseysolutions.com](http://www.ramseysolutions.com).

*EveryDollar* works well on your computer or cell phone. The free version is enough but if you need help tracking your transactions while spending, you can purchase the affordable version to keep you on budget. We all need budgets. Having a budget is the secret sauce to making your finances work!

*Yvette Outler is a Dave Ramsey's Solution Master Financial Coach. If you are in over your head in debt and need hope and help, contact her at [Fiscallyfree7@gmail.com](mailto:Fiscallyfree7@gmail.com).*

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<p><b>Meaty Pork SPARE RIBS</b></p> <p><b>2-3 Pack \$1<sup>99</sup> lb.</b></p> <p>Expires 4-9-24 WJ With this Coupon</p>	<p><b>WHITE CASTLE CHEESEBURGERS</b></p> <p>16 CT. BOX</p> <p><b>\$5</b></p> <p>Expires 4-9-24 WJ While Supplies Last, With this Coupon</p>
<p><b>Meaty Beef NECKBONES</b></p> <p><b>\$2<sup>00</sup> lb.</b></p> <p>Expires 4-9-24 WJ While Supplies Last, With this Coupon</p>	<p><b>10 lb. Bag FRYER DRUMSTICKS</b></p> <p><b>\$7<sup>95</sup></b></p> <p>Expires 4-9-24 WJ With this Coupon</p>

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## Aluminum Theft Busted at the Florida Hotel in Yulee

In a swift response, the Nassau County Sheriff's Office apprehended two Jacksonville men allegedly caught in the act of stealing aluminum from a Yulee hotel. The incident unfolded on March 22, 2024, just after 2:30 p.m., when a deputy responded to reports of a burglary in progress at the Florida Hotel on US 17. Upon arrival, the deputy encountered a disturbing scene – the chain-link fence and entry gate had been pried open, granting access to the property. Nearby, aluminum pieces lay scattered next to a truck, seemingly in the process of being loaded. Inside the vehicle, the deputy discovered several power tools.

As the investigation unfolded, the deputy spotted 44-year-old Albert Alex, emerging through the breached entrance gate. A second suspect, 40-year-old Blayne Buchanan, was also located on the premises. Both men showed signs of



Albert Alex



Blayne Buchanan

handling the cut aluminum, with dusty metallic powder covering their clothing. When questioned, the pair claimed they had been hired to perform work at the hotel. However, upon contacting the property owner, the deputy learned that neither man had permission to be on site, let alone dismantle the premises.

Albert Alex and Blayne Buchanan, were both placed under arrest, facing charges of Burglary and Criminal Mischief causing over \$1,000 in damages, Theft for the stolen aluminum, valued between \$700 and \$5,000, and Possession of Burglary Tools.

## Domestic Dispute Turns Violent

Alicia Tarancon,  
Public Affairs Officer

A heated argument between a Yulee man and a victim escalated to gunfire on Wednesday afternoon, leaving the victim hospitalized with multiple gunshot wounds. Chad Jones, 32, is accused of shooting the victim after a series of altercations. The incident unfolded when the Nassau County Sheriff's Office dispatch received a 9-1-1 call reporting that someone had been shot multiple times in the hip area. Deputies rushed to the scene, where they detained Jones and interviewed witnesses.



Witnesses stated that Jones and the victim had been involved in numerous altercations. As tensions reached a boiling point, Jones allegedly brandished a handgun and fired twice at the victim's back while they were walking away.

NCSO deputies arrested Chad Jones and charged him with Attempted Second-Degree Murder. He was transported to the Nassau County Jail, where he awaits further legal proceedings. The victim, whose identity has not been released, was transported to a nearby hospital for treatment of their gunshot wounds.

## HMSHS Alumni Flag Football Game



The Hilliard Middle-Senior High School Flashes football program would like to invite all Alumni back to participate in our Alumni Flag Football Game. The game will be held Friday, May 10 at halftime of the Spring Sneak Peek Scrimmage at Paul Whittenburg Field. Varsity will play the first quarter; JV the second quarter; and the Alumni Flag Football Game at Halftime. The varsity will take the field at 5:30 p.m. with the Alumni Game starting around 6:30 p.m. Come showcase your skills one more time under the lights! Contact Coach Yancey at: yanceyma@nassau.k12.fl.us if you plan to play!



## TOWN OF CALLAHAN, FL

The Town of Callahan's Volunteer Fire Department is looking for a qualified individual to serve as the **VOLUNTEER FIRE CHIEF**

Letter of Interest with a List of Qualifications and/or Resumé may be emailed to Callahan Town Clerk at: [clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov](mailto:clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov).

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Support the Historical Society  
**Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**  
Callahan Train Depot  
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**LIVE MUSIC** 9 A.M. - 4 P.M.  
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# New Beginnings and Milestones

## Miss Wilson and Mr. Perez Announce Upcoming Marriage



Michael Perez and Jordan Wilson are excited to announce their engagement and upcoming marriage. The bride-elect is the daughter of Frederick and Patricia Wilson of Callahan. She is a West Nassau High School graduate; and a graduate of Southeastern University. Jordan is the owner of her own professional organizing business, Jordan Elisabeth, LLC in Los Angeles, California.

Michael is the son of Dr. Mario and Martha Perez of Riverside, California. He is a graduate of La Sierra University and is a social worker based in Los Angeles, California.

Their wedding is planned for Friday, April 26 in Riverside, California. Congratulations!

## Congratulations

### AIRMAN 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS JAMES MARTIN CLAY

Congratulations to Airman 1st Class James Martin Clay on his graduation March 21, 2024 from Basic Military Training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. Airman Clay is a proud member of the 125th Fighter Wing, Florida Air National Guard in Jacksonville.

Airman Clay is a 2021 graduate of West Nassau High School. His proud parents are David and Edith Clay of Bryceville. Congratulations AIC Clay!



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## NASSAU COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION



Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

8 a.m. – 12 p.m. (or until capacity is reached)

Nassau County Road Department

86200 Gene Lasserre Blvd. • Yulee

Enter from Hwy. 200 to Chester Rd. and left onto Courtney Isles Way  
Left turn into event ONLY.  
Gene Lasserre Blvd. Gate will be EXIT ONLY.

**Accepted Household Items:**

- Aerosol Cans
- Batteries (all types)
- Cooking Oil (used)
- Corrosives
- Fertilizers
- Flourescent Bulbs
- Gasoline/Fuels
- Household Cleaners
- Insecticides
- Medications\* (OTC)
- Oil/Lubricants (used)
- Oil Filters
- Paints
- Paint Thinners
- Pesticides
- Pool Chemicals
- Propane Tanks
- Radiator Fluid
- Solvents

**Accepted Electronic Items:**

- Camcorders
- Computer Monitors
- Computer Terminals
- CPUs
- DVD Players
- Hard Drives (will be shredded)
- Health & Beauty Appliances
- Keyboards
- Pagers
- Power Tools
- Printers
- Radios
- Scanners
- Small Kitchen Appliances
- Stereo Equipment
- Desk & Mobile Phones
- Televisions
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Large Appliances may be dropped at the Callahan Convenience Recycle Center



\*No Controlled Substances will be accepted





## 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.*

### Tuesday, March 26

Austin Blaine Martin, 28, Hilliard: Possession of Marijuana less than 20 grams; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia with Residue; Possession of Schedule 1-5 Substance

### Wednesday, March 27

Kelly Terree Alexander, 37, Callahan: Violation of Probation Community Control Felony (x 3)

### Saturday, March 30

Avery Demond Simmons, 47, Callahan: Driving while License Suspended or Revoked Revocation Equivalent Status 3rd Subsequent Violation

Rodney Eugene White, 66, Hilliard: Battery Cause Bodily Harm Domestic Violence

### Sunday, March 31

Maggie Virginia Gunseich, 36, Hilliard: Battery Cause Bodily Harm

## FSCJ and CareerSource to Host Spring Career Fair

Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) and CareerSource Northeast Florida have partnered to bring job seekers together with local and regional employers who are looking to fill open positions. The Spring Career Fair will be held Tuesday, April 9 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the FSCJ Advanced Technology Center, 401 W. State St., Jacksonville.

Representatives from a variety of different companies will attend the Spring Career Fair, including: Bank of America; Baptist Health; City of Jacksonville; CSX; Duval County


Public Schools; Haskell; Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department; Jacksonville Sheriff's Office; Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa; Wounded Warrior Project and more!

The Spring Career Fair is open to FSCJ students and alumni, our community's veterans, military spouses and their families, as well as the general public. Attendees should dress appropriately and be prepared to share an updated resume. To see a complete list of employers and the pre-fair workshop schedule, visit: [fscj.edu/careerfair](http://fscj.edu/careerfair).

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**ROBERT ELLIS BURNS, SR.**



Robert "Bobby" Ellis Burns, Sr., 90, of Callahan, passed away March 30, 2024. Bobby was born in Dinsmore, Florida on their family farm on Plummer Road to William H. Burns and Sara Eve Walsh Burns. Bobby retired from the Jacksonville Fire Rescue Division in 1993 after 33 years of service as a Lieutenant. In 1972, Bobby and his brother Burt bought a large tract of land on Woods Road that became a county road, Burns Road. There they farmed raised cattle, raised children and grandchildren.

Bobby was predeceased by his wife of 52 years, Ginger Burns; his daughter-in-law Laurie Burns; parents; four brothers and three sisters.

Bobby is survived by his wife, Delores Burns; three sons Robert Burns, Jr., Frank Burns and Raymond (Gina) Burns; grandsons Robert "Ellis" (Marianne) Burns, III, Evan (Ashley) Burns, Christopher (Melissa) Burns and Jeff (Allison) Burns; and seven great-grandchildren.

The family has requests in lieu of flowers, to donate to the Ephesus Baptist Church Hilliard, Building Fund, for their growing congregation.

The family received friends Wednesday, April 3, prior to the funeral service at Ephesus Baptist Church, 48143 Ephesus Rd, Hilliard. Bobby was laid to rest at Edgewood Cemetery.

Arrangements by Hardage-Giddens Funeral Home.

**LEO WILLIS GRIFFIS**



Leo Willis Griffis, 81, of Callahan, passed away March 27, 2024. He was born March 31, 1942 in Penny Farms, Florida to the late Ancil Willis Griffis and Geraline Todd Griffis. Leo proudly served his country in

# OBITUARIES

the United States Air Force as a Shipping Clerk. Following his honorable discharge, Leo started working for US Gypsum followed by St. Regis Paper Company as a paper tender. Leo began his 30-year long career at Anheuser-Busch where he worked as a brewer.

After retiring, Leo enjoyed spending his free time fishing, hunting and gardening. He was an avid Florida Gator fan and enjoyed watching them play football. Leo was a faithful member of Callahan First Baptist Church where he enjoyed attending services and worshipping his Lord and Savior. He was also a member of the Callahan Masonic Lodge and a past Master of Frances T. Hurlburt Lodge of Jacksonville.

Leo loved his family and enjoyed spending time with them, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was a loving husband, father, brother, grandpa and papa, that will be dearly missed. He is preceded in death by his parents; brothers Joseph Griffis, Leroy Griffis, Donald Griffis and Bobby Griffis; and daughter Tracy Jean Griffis.

Leo is survived by his loving wife of 27 years, Joanne Griffis; son Leo Dwayne (Kim) Griffis; stepdaughter Jennifer (Robert) Hill; grandchildren Brandon (Ashley) Griffis, Brock Griffis, Brady (Brandi) Griffis and Abigail Hill; great-grandchildren Walker Griffis, Brayley Griffis and Grainger Griffis; brother Lamar (Bentia) Griffis; sisters Joan Buschell, Annette (James) Tomlinson, Evelyn Crawford, Sadie (James) McKenny, Janie Heiken, Bernice Manning and Carolyn Mintz.

The family will receive friends at 1 p.m. Thursday, April 4 prior to the celebration of life service at 2 p.m. at Callahan First Baptist Church with Dr. Lynn Hyatt officiating. Interment will be held Friday,

April 5 at 9 a.m. at Jacksonville National Cemetery where Military Honors will be rendered.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like donations to be made to the Gideons International at: [www.gideons.org/donate](http://www.gideons.org/donate); or to the Store House at Callahan First Baptist Church [www.callahanfbc.org](http://www.callahanfbc.org) in Leo's honor.

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

Visit [www.nassaufh.com](http://www.nassaufh.com) to sign the family's guest book.

**GORDON FRANKLIN HAND**



Gordon Franklin Hand, 72, of Folkston, God called home Friday, March 29, 2024. Gordon was born March 18, 1952, in Tampa. He was a 1974

graduate of Nuernberg American High School in Germany. He was enlisted in the United States Army as a Field Artillery Crewman and a Unit Supply Specialist from 1972-1975. Gordon was stationed at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. While enlisted, Gordon received a National Defense Service Medal. He retired from Sysco Jacksonville.

Gordon was known for his love of family, as well as his love for Jesus. He also enjoyed fishing, playing poker with his family, Hallmark movies, crime shows, country music, the Miami Dolphins and the Miami Hurricanes. He is predeceased by his parents Eli and Katie Hand; four brothers Sammy Merchant, Curtis Hand, Eli Joe Hand and William G. Hand; and sisters Debra Gill and Kathy Hand.

Gordon leaves behind his loving wife, Linda Joann Hand of Folkston; children Darrell (Donna) Crawford, Franklin Scott

(Beverly) Hand, Sr. and Amanda Worth; sister Kay Beasley; grandchildren Kory (Autumn) Bryant, Constance (Matthew) Bennett, Kylee (Dalton) Thompson, Jordan Hand (Kelly) Allen, Grace Worth, Taylor Worth and Franklin Scott Hand, Jr.; and eight great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Condolences may be expressed at [www.shepardrobersonfh.com](http://www.shepardrobersonfh.com).

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

**THOMAS JACOB POWELL**



Thomas Jacob Powell, 72, passed away March 24, 2024 in Boulder City, Nevada. Tom was born June 28, 1951, in Hinsdale, Illinois to Ruth Eleanor and George Douglas Powell, Sr. He grew up in Hinsdale, attending St. Isaac Jogues Catholic School and Hinsdale Township High School from which he graduated in 1969. In 1970, Tom joined the US Navy and served for four years. During this time, he married Sue Vicik of Hinsdale. Together they had two children, Kristy (1978) and Michael (1981). Tom and Sue divorced in 1982. Over the next 20 years, Tom worked various technical jobs, including a stint at Fermi Lab in Batavia, Illinois. Tom has lived in Batavia, Rochelle and Brookfield, Illinois as well as Jacksonville, Florida.

In 2003, he relocated permanently to Nevada with his brother Marty. They lived both in Reno and Laughlin, Nevada. At the time of his death, Tom was living in the Nevada State Veteran's Home in Boulder City, Nevada. Throughout his life, Tom enjoyed fishing and in later years TV shows about fishing and fishing tournaments. Tom is preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his six siblings Marge Powell (Tom Palven) of Callahan, Ruth Ann (Wally) Atwell of Atlantic Beach, George Douglas (Vauna) Powell, Jr. of Austin, TX,

## The Water Boys

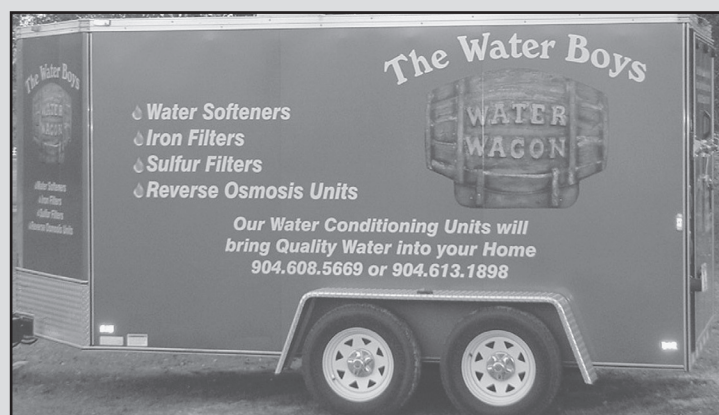
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Martin Joseph Powell of Laughlin, NV, Jeffrey John (Linda) Powell of Minnetrista, MN and Kathryn Jane (Steve) Engels of Sun City West, AZ; two children Kristy and Michael; his ex-wife Sue; and fondly remembered by two aunts Mary Ann Couture and Carol Crow; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Tom's final resting place is the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Boulder City, Nevada.

**DAVID VERLON REID**



David Verlon Reid, 71, earned his wings March 27, 2024, in Jacksonville, surrounded by his family. He was born to Percy and Mary Helen Reid and raised in Jacksonville. He was a 1970 graduate of Ribault Senior High School where he played football and was a photographer for the yearbook.

In 1978, he married Coretta "Corkie" Payne of Jacksonville. The couple did wedding photography and made stained glass before settling in Callahan in 1982. They welcomed their daughter in 1993. David was an avid experimental aircraft aviator, scuba diver and Ham radio operator. N4ZUU, signing off. He is preceded in death by his parents; and a sister Susan Reid Willwerth.

He is survived by his wife Corkie Reid; his daughter Mary (Kerk) Reid Roberts; granddaughter Ashley; and many extended family members and friends.

Services will be held at a later date.

**OBITUARIES**

**KENNETH TROY REYNOLDS**



Mr. Kenneth "Kenny" Troy Reynolds, 55, of Bryceville, passed away Tuesday, March 19, 2024. A lifelong resident, Mr. Reynolds was born in Jacksonville and was a 1986 graduate of Baldwin Senior High School. He was a longtime warehouse supervisor for Cardinal Unijax LLC, formerly WinCup, and recently retired after 37 years of employment. In his free time, he enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, being outside, working in his yard, and restoring classic cars. He was preceded in death by his father Gary Reynolds.

Kenny is survived by his children David (Britney) Reynolds of Baldwin, Sydney (Jason) Tollick of Green Cove Springs and Bradley Reynolds of Baldwin; grandchildren Skylar, Jace and Rayne Reynolds and Brandon, Olivia and Cayde Tollick; mother Julia Reynolds and stepfather Les Manucy, of Baldwin; and his dog Lady.

The celebration of life service was held Friday, March 22 at the First Baptist Church of Baldwin with Pastor Chris Drum officiating. The family received friends prior to the service. Interment followed at Brandy Branch Baptist Church Cemetery, Bryceville.

Warren Funeral Services of Baldwin was honored to serve the Reynolds family.

Condolences may be expressed at: [www.warrenfuneralservices.com](http://www.warrenfuneralservices.com).

**THERESA ANN STALLINGS**



Theresa Ann Stallings, 61, of Yulee, went home to be with our Heavenly Father Sunday, March 31, 2024, with her two daughters by her side. She was born May 7, 1962 at Humphreys Memorial Hospital in Fernandina Beach. She was the second child born to Dan E. "Doc" and Joyce Smith Stallings. She was raised in Yulee and graduated with Honors from Fernandina Beach High School in 1980. After graduating from Normandy Beauty School in 1981, she pursued her 30 plus year career as a hair stylist at Swails Beauty Salon.

In 1991, she welcomed her first daughter and her second daughter in 1996. She was a very proud mother and encouraged her daughters to always pursue their goals. Her daughters remember her as a mother to all of their friends. Always welcoming them with open arms. Theresa was an avid reader, loved the beach, the Florida State Seminoles and spending time with her family. She was most proud to be called Nay Nay by her beautiful granddaughters. They were the light of her life. She is predeceased by her

parents; and brother Roger.

She leaves behind her daughters Rebecca (Michael) Wright and Rachel (Hunter) Totzke, all of Yulee; grandchildren Kimberlynn Love and Keelynn Wright; sisters Maxine (Bill) Ley of Lawrenceville, GA and Angie (Ray) Lee of Yulee; niece April (Adam) Stavely and nephew Adam Ley; great-nieces Carter Ley, Brooklyn and Memphis Stavely and great-nephew Phoenix Stavely; uncles Hubert (Nan) Smith, Curtis "Bubba" (Linda) Stallings and Aunt Vivian Stallings; and numerous extended family, friends and her special grand fur babies Harley, Dozer and Zazzles.

Pallbearers will be Hunter Totzke, Michael Wright, Adam Ley, Adam Stavely, Ron Ely and Gage Waters. Honorary pallbearers will be Bill Ley, Ray Lee, James Crider and Dewayne McCormick.

The family will receive friends Thursday, April 4 at Oxley-Heard Funeral Directors from 5 - 7 p.m. The funeral service will be held Friday, April 5 at 11 a.m. at the Burgess Chapel of Oxley-Heard Funeral Directors with her cousin Rev. Curtis Crider officiating. Burial will follow at Hughes' Cemetery in Yulee.

Arrangements by Oxley-Heard Funeral Directors, Fernandina Beach.

Condolences may be expressed at: [www.oxleyheard.com](http://www.oxleyheard.com).

**Obituaries are published free of charge. They may be emailed to [news@westsidejournal.net](mailto:news@westsidejournal.net).**

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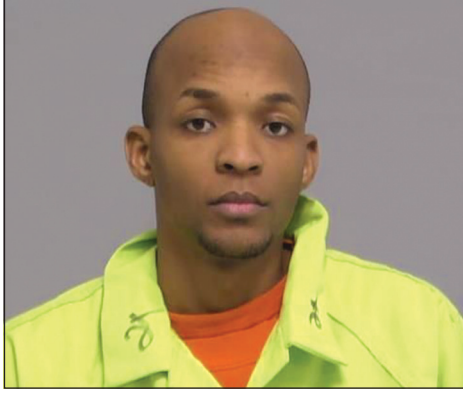
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## NCSO Nabs Credit Card Skimmer

Sheriff Bill Leeper recently announced the arrest of 30-year-old Osiel Izquierdo Zambrano. The suspect, who is originally from Cuba, has been living in Jacksonville and traveled to Nassau County to commit this crime. On Tuesday, March 5, Nassau County Sheriff's Office detectives were called to the 7-Eleven at Lofton Square Court in Yulee, for reports of a skimming device installed on a pump.



on State Road 200, just east of US Highway 17. One of the deputies attempted to conduct a traffic stop however the vehicle failed to stop. The Chrysler was found abandoned near the intersection of Vegas Blvd and Venue Court. Both men took off running but Zambrano was found a short while later and placed into custody.

The suspect faces multiple charges including: Felony Fleeing and Eluding; Resisting Arrest Without Violence; Burglary to Unoccupied Dwelling; and Use of Scanning/Skim Device to Defraud.

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office is warning residents to carefully inspect credit card terminals, gas pumps, and ATMs before using them, and to immediately report any suspicious devices or tampering to law enforcement.

Credit Card Skimmers are illegal devices that are normally covertly installed over legitimate payment terminals. The device is designed to read and store the information encoded on the magnetic strips of a credit card. They are designed to secretly capture the card data when an unsuspecting customer uses their card to make a payment.

A customer called 7-Eleven after witnessing two suspicious men tampering with one of the pumps. An employee walked out and noticed that one of the men sprayed a substance on the pump. When confronted, both men took off in a black Chrysler with Illinois tags. The 7-Eleven employee spotted the skimmer device installed over the original card reader.

NCSO deputies soon spotted the vehicle matching the description

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