

"FATHERS, DO NOT PROVOKE YOUR CHILDREN TO ANGER, BUT BRING THEM UP IN THE DISCIPLINE AND INSTRUCTION OF THE LORD." - EPHESIANS 6:4

Flag Retirement Ceremony Held Monday

Dawn S. West

Monday at the Callahan Speedway, a US Official Flag Retirement Ceremony was held. Much to my disappointment, a very small crowd attended. I felt like as distressed as many of us are about our country and all the horrible things that have been going on about the American Flag, people would be thrilled to watch a touching ceremony about the American Flag. You missed a special event!

David Hicken, owner of Callahan Speedway, opened the ceremony concerning his flag flying in the middle of the speedway. "One thing I really



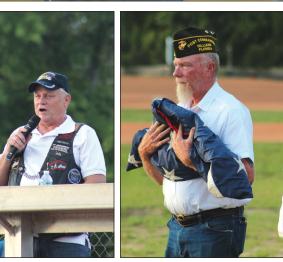
wanted here (speedway) was a big flag. Well, I think I have one," said Hicken. "This flag hangs 70 foot so I knew I had to have a huge flagpole. This pole took around two years to build and it is 100 foot tall. As you can see, flags are pretty important to me also. It is my honor to have this ceremony here for the 4th year."

Mike Mekara, BCS President, National the event. emceed Several members of the BCS, American Legion Post 401 and VFW Post 10095 assisted in the ceremony. Chaplain Russell Marty of American Legion Post 401 held the opening and closing prayer. Retired Senior Chief



retiring of a flag that was flown at the Jacksonville National Cemetery. Members carefully folded the huge flag as the 13 folds were read. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by three young boys. Following, the large flag was submitted to eternal flames by Commander David Lewis, VFW Post 10095 and Commander Wesley Baker, American Legion Post 401, as taps was played.

Guests were welcomed to place their retiring flags in to the flames. Many residents have brought flags to the Westside Journal office for proper disposal. I, for one, was glad to take part in this special ceremony and to report that all of your flags brought to our office have been properly retired.



USN Eric Lewis read "I Am The Flag" a very touching piece about the American Flag.

The ceremony began with the







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POSTAL PATRON



Homelessness

Dear Editor.

The ban on evictions of those behind on their mortgage is being lifted. That day to many families have dreaded is coming, one of their worst fears, being homeless. Victims of the Pandemic, they differ from past waves where drugs and greed of upper and middle class couples chose to turn their homes into money making propositions, left families in the street. As in the past, we will Fix the Mess. But we still haven't gotten the Message.

Up to and including the Pandemic, history has summoned us to face our relationship to our home life. It has been said that the body is the temple of the soul, the home where life lives. It can also be said that our relationship to our bodies is a mirror reflection of our relationships to everything else including the houses we live in.

In this light, the ways we abuse our bodies with spicy foods, alcohol, drugs and overeating is a stunning indictment of how we treat our homes. Even when we're there, we're not there. Instead, we're watching television, eating, drinking, sleeping and worrying whether we'll have enough. Our children tell us we don't know who they are because we don't really have relationships with family members. We don't have homes, we have houses. We are not at home with ourselves, how can we be at home with them? To one degree or another, we are all homeless.

These truths may render us more sympathetic to those who lose their homes. More importantly, they can compel us to stop fixing the mess and, instead, Get the Message. We can only change ourselves. Reclaiming our homes could change the world. Don't Fix the Mess and Miss the Message.

In Response

Dear Editor,

two weeks now and I hope it will be a good explanation of whose land Israel is. The letter to the editor in the June 3rd issue (in response to the Just My Opinion column) was just one of those pieces that just couldn't let pass without

be those who claim to be Jewish but are not B. R. Mc Connell true Jews. There are always posers in history, but the Lord also said in Jeremiah, "I will gather you from all the places where you have been scattered and I will bring you back." I have been thinking about this letter for America would do well to heed these edicts of God. We should defend this tiny nation to the best of our ability. I know I will **HOWARD & SON APPLIANCES & MORE** Washers • Dryers • Stoves **30 Day Warranty on All Appliances** Name Brand Overtsock Items

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Letters to the Editor

comment. First thing I noticed as I finished

reading the entire piece was that the choice of

Rev 2:9, was a clever little distraction to the

real issue here. The writer of this piece does

not state a religious preference here and I really

don't care, but I'm pretty sure he is a "pick-and

possibly know the Book of Genesis. It is

the first book of the Judeo/Christian Bible,

for those who are not familiar. If I am not

mistaken, GOD, Himself gave Abraham and

his descendants the land of Israel, telling him

to "go forth and settle in the land I am giving

you." God eventually changed the name of

says, he would know that the first reference

to the term or name Palestine appeared in the

5th century BC and was a district of Syria.

The land, now Israel, was specifically given

to Abram, ie Abraham (father of the Jewish

people). I choose to use the history presented

in the Bible book of Genesis to give me an

accurate idea of what the Lord God intended

Bible scholar, or that he has no reverence for

the word of God is that it states in Genesis

12:3, "I will bless those who bless you, and I

will curse those who curse you." I would be

careful, Mr. Writer about how you bless or

Also, I understand that here could possibly

Jacqueline Sikes

Also, indicative that this person is not a

If the writer is a "history scholar" as he

Abraham's grandson Jacob to "Israel."

If he were a true Bible scholar, he would

choose" Bible reader.

for the land of Israel.

curse the Jewish people.

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

Thank you!

Dear Editor,

I just want to give my unwavering thanks to all who have reached out to my four children and I during this difficult and very hard time in our lives. I cannot express enough how much love we have felt by all of your prayers, love and love offerings.

> God bless all of you, Heather Dupree

Pray Dear Editor,

This piece is used from a media news outlet, Conservative Alerts: "A New Jersey school district opted to strip its calendar of all holidays: The Randolph County Schools board voted unanimously to call Thanksgiving, Christmas, Yom Kippur, and every other holiday's "day off" when about 100 people attended the meeting, many of whom sought to protest a proposal to change Columbus Day to "Indigenous People's Day."

Is this what the majority of Americans really want? When will enough be enough?

ENTS ARO

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Chapter 2273 meet on the third Tuesday of each month at The Pig at 11 a.m. This organization looks out for earned benefits at the national and state level. There are numerous federal employees and retirees that live in West Nassau County. Not all are members, but all are welcomed to the meetings.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) have resumed their monthly meetings! The SCV will meet Monday, June 21 at 7 p.m. at The Pig restaurant, in Callahan. If you are interested in the Southern historical events during the years 1861 - 1865, please plan to attend. This is an open meeting to all.

In the Kitchen...

1 tablespoon olive oil 2 lbs. beef cube steaks

29 oz. can tomato sauce

28 oz. pkg. frozen diced potatoes with green pepper and onion, thawed Heat olive oil in a skillet over medium heat; brown steaks. Drain; place in a large

14 3/4 oz. can beef gravy

Swiss Steak Dinner

stockpot. Add tomato sauce, gravy and potatoes; bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium; simmer for 10 minutes, or until potatoes are tender.



Thank God for those who show up and protest. We had Better hope we make it to 2022 mid-term elections. We had better hope people get their heads out of the sand and vote all these socialist members of the Senate and Congress OUT. And, when the Mayoral and Governor seats in all these liberal cities and states come up for election/re-election...I hope people do the right thing and vote them OUT! Also, remember to pray for Governor Ron DeSantis. Pray for the men/women in blue and green and first responders in America.

America is at the edge of the cliff. Just a few more steps and it is goodbye America. Maybe the world is square after all.

Please pray for ALL the elected officials in D.C. and for the upcoming elections. Pray that the Church of Jesus Christ will call out for revival in the United States of America. Revival is not for those who do not know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Revival is for those who DO claim the name of Jesus. Revival is just what it suggests, for Christians to look at their lives and confess any unconfessed sin and renew their commitment to Jesus Christ. Be revived! If we were to see real revival in this country, God could work wonders and maybe would...again.

PLEASE PRAY!

Hank Martinez, Sr., PROUD AMERICAN

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Don't forget this Sunday is Father's Day! There are really no words to express how thankful I am for my father, but I'm sure I'll think of something. My dad celebrated his 89th birthday this year and I am so thankful to still have him to talk to, to hug and to spend time with. Daddy, who many of you already know, retired from a career of teaching and coaching. He may have retired however he still has many of those same traits. He remains very organized with everything he does; encourages (coaches) me through trials and celebrates victories; and continues to be very disciplined in his everyday life. I'm pretty sure I didn't get that trait (discipline) from him.

My parents taught each of us (siblings) to be productive people in whatever career path we chose. Each of us are thankful for the jobs we have (had-two are retired) and continue to give our all each day. Why? Because that's the way we were taught. We respect others and treat everyone with kindness. Each of us accepted Christ as our Savior at young ages. So, so thankful I was raised in a home by Christian parents that taught us the importance of having God in our lives.

Dad continues to teach a men's, 80 and over, Sunday school class. Last Sunday, he was proud to report that his attendance is back up to 14. That is 80 and older men that attend his class, amazing! Daddy loves his members and constantly calls and ministers to them during each week. Once Sunday comes they are so excited to see him and other members that they have a blast. Each Thursday, daddy goes to the church to his classroom and prepares his board with his outline for Sunday. I said his teaching skills are still there! His love for his class is so precious. I'm thankful for a loving father that shares his love with others.

Each morning, he and Mom spend close to an hour reading devotions and discussing family members. That includes praying for each of them and each other. Their faithfulness to God is unwavering as they remind me, God is always faithful. Each and every time we are together is a special time. Daddy still has quite a





unique sense of humor and he always makes me crazy but I love him with all my heart!

I know in this crazy world the only thing that is really important is, "Are you saved?" As I've shared many times before, God is in control. As we all feel like the world is crashing down around us, God is still in control. I do feel like we are in the last days and I know when the Lord returns, I'm gone! I'm heaven bound. My mom shared with me Monday, "There is only one unpardonable sin: When you choose to not accept Jesus as your Savior." The choice is truly yours. Jesus is calling. Won't vou ask Him in your heart today? I'll be happy to show vou how.

I know I have strayed away from my Father's Day article but I think my father would be happy I ended it this way! I love you Daddy!

Happy Father's Day!

Dawy S. Hest

UST MY OPINION J

Roger R. West

Fellow patriots, we are in a world of trouble! When CNN admits that VP Harris was not effective in her trip to South America, then we know it was a total disaster. CNN tried to whitewash (not a racial slur) her failures as best they could but even they were dismayed at her performance as a supposed leader. CNN reported that Harris's trip left some administration officials quietly perplexed about what they perceived as her bumpy answers to questions. She has left little doubt of her incompetence to serve as a world leader. As Jon Gabriel said, "Vice President Harris looks good on paper, but she's not good at politics, her trip to talk immigration proved as bad as her presidential run." He stated, "The White House finally noticed something the Democratic primary voters knew two years ago, put simply, Kamala Harris is not an effective politician." When Harris announced her presidential campaign in January 2019 she was immediately thrust into the top contender spot. She fit everything the progressive left dreamed about. However, by December 2019 she had dropped out of the race due to dismal support and her constant flip-flopping, verv awkward interviews and implying Joe Biden was a racist.

Her first foreign trip was as dismal as her bid for president. She attempted to be tough telling the Guatemalan people, "Do not come. Do not come. I believe if you come to our border, you will be turned back." These remarks upset progressives (socialists) and immigration reformers (socialists) and furthered the hypocrisy and confusion within the White House. Guatemalan President Giammettei in April criticized Biden's handling of this issue. He stated, "I believe that in the first few weeks of the Biden administration, messages were confusing. They were compassionate messages that were understood by people in our country, especially the covotes, to tell families, we'll take the children."

Further dismay came when Harris was being interviewed with Univision anchor Llia Calderon concerning when Harris would actually visit the border. Harris responded, "I've said I'm going to the border. And I..." "When are you going to the border, Vice President?" Calderon interrupted her to ask. "I'm not finished," said Harris with a sarcastic laugh while she raised her finger to the reporter.

Then there was the interview on NBC News when anchor Lester Holt ask her about going to the border. Harris relied, "We've been to the border. So this whole thing about the border, we've been to the border." Holt replied, "You haven't been to the border." Harris starts laughing and said, "And I haven't been to Europe." She is so undiplomatic to say the least.

So we have a President suffering dementia and a Vice President that does not possess any intellect and neither of them should be in their current positions. The saving goes, cheaters never win. I am impatiently waiting because if they hold their current reign we all will lose.

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



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"Supporting a social services organization such as Barnabas gives us great satisfaction and joy. Our joy comes from knowing we have set aside a part of ourselves to help people in need. Our planned gift will help Barnabas continue to reach those in our community who will benefit from its comprehensive and quality services."

> - Local Nassau County residents, John & Julia Taylor

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Trusting God

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When we think about trusting someone, it is based upon several factors; the first, our interactions with them. We call this their "track record." Second, if we do not have a relationship with the person ourselves their reputation is what we base our level of trust upon. Third, when we are figuring out the amount of trust we can place in a person, we often examine the person's motivations. Understanding why they do the things they do helps us justify whether we can trust them.

Fourth, the amount of trust we place in an individual is also dependent on their "track record." It is proportional to the number of times that a person has proven themselves worthy of our trust.

If we take an honest look at ourselves and this simple process of placing trust in a person, why do we have such a problem trusting God? God's "track record" is quite literally perfect. For those of us that believe, can you think of a time that God has not worked things out in your life for His glory and your good? James 1:2-4 tells us that the trials that we face test our faith and help it to grow.

For those who have yet to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior, pick any part of Scripture and you will see that God's "track record" is holy and perfect. You will find nothing that tells you that God is not worthy of all your trust. In fact, in Malachi 3:10 God tells us to put Him to the test. What are you waiting for?

As for understanding God's motivation to justify trust in His Son, the answer is simple. Jesus loves you. In the first few chapters of the Gospel of John, Jesus Christ tells us that from the very beginning of creation He loved us. It tells us that He not only created us to be in relationship with Him, but that Jesus died and rose again for the forgiveness of our sins, as well as making a way to be in relationship with Him for eternity. If the ultimate proof of trustworthiness is sacrifice, then there is no one more worthy of our trust.

God did not stop there; He continues to prove Himself to be a loving and kind Father. Jesus is waiting for you to trust Him. Putting your faith in Christ is the most important decision that anyone can ever make in their lives. This does not mean that we will never face trials again, it means that when we do Jesus will be with us. Put your trust is Jesus today.

CHURCH NEWS

BETHANY EPISCOPAL CHURCH will be selling Spaghetti Dinners this Friday, June 18 from 5-7 p.m. for \$8 each. The church is located on CR 108 in Hilliard across from Hilliard Town Hall.

RECREATION MEETING

The Nassau County Recreation Commission Meeting will be held Thursday, June 24 at 5:30 p.m. at the Nassau County Facilities Maintenance/Parks and Recreation Office, located at 45195 Musselwhite Rd., Callahan. If you have questions, please call (904) 530-6120 or (855) 534-8529. The public is invited to attend.

FREF

ESTIMATES!

ERA Holds Art Contest

Stephanie DeAngelo

Recently ERA Fernandina Beach Realty in Callahan, recently held an art contest to see what our local students could produce to reflect their vision of the west side of Nassau County. The agents handed out flyers from their booth at the Annual Railroad Days celebration and also dropped off flyers to all the

local schools. The following students: Brandon Overturf, Gabe Adkins, Ella Finsness and Kira Stroschein, from Callahan Middle School donated their pieces of art that is now being displayed at the ERA Callahan office. Each student received a gift card for their efforts and pride in their community. We are so proud of these students and hope this acknowledgement will encourage them to stay involved with their talent and their community.

ERA Fernandina Beach Realty will be celebrating their 14th year in

Leadership Nassau Class 21 Applications Still Available

Over the course of 20 years, Leadership Nassau has grown to become the most exclusive leadership development program in our community. Leadership Nassau provides participants with an in-depth understanding of the various socio-economic aspects that directly affect our region. During the 10-month program, students engage in activities that connect them with local leaders, while simultaneously helping them form a life-long bond with fellow classmates.

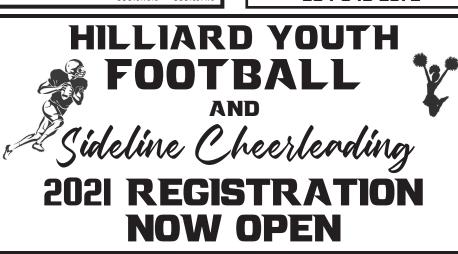
More than 325 members of the Nassau County community have

participated in Leadership Nassau, with graduates ranging from Circuit Judges to small business owners and everything in between. The program is open to any resident of Nassau County, but recruitment targets individuals with diverse backgrounds and seeks a racial, gender and age mix that is reflective of the local population.

For more information and to receive a Class 21 application, email Leadership Nassau Coordinator Alex Wilmer at: Alex@NassauCountyFLChamber.com. Interested parties may also download a copy of the application on our website: www.NassauCountyFLChamber.com. The deadline to apply is Friday, June 18 by 5 p.m.



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Callahan and will be reaching out to

invite the community to join them in

November for a celebration. There will

also be new opportunities for students

to explore their creative talents with

Ms. Sunny, the middle school art

teacher. She is opening a studio for art

students to explore their creativity all

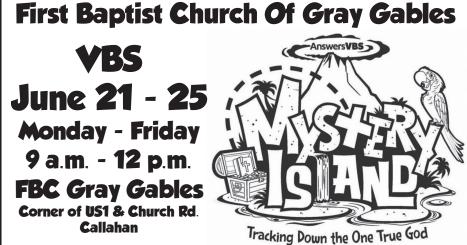
summer long. There will be a Grand

Opening celebration on June 19 at

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Hilliard Parks & Recreation News

Gabe Whittenburg, Director, Hilliard Parks & Recreation

When I sit down to write these updates every other week, my goal is to have my passion for the community to come out on the page. Admittedly, my outward personality is very reserved. However, I am very excited about this place and the things that are going on here. This is a special place and I believe we are just scratching the surface on what we can be. We live in a special place and I am optimistic great things are on the horizon.

Where to begin? Our Summer Camp kicked off last week with almost 40 campers. Our camp theme was 'color wars.' The campers and counselors participated in a week of outdoor field day type games. However, the highlight of every day has been the pool! The campers love the pool and look forward to it every day. The same can be said for the other organizations who have rented our pool for their summer camp. I have loved seeing the enjoyment on all of their faces as they enjoy the water. The expression of joy on a child's face is hard to beat and makes the job and this place worth it.

Our summer campers aren't the only ones enjoying the pool. Our Silver Sneakers members are enjoying the aqua classes in our pool as well. In fact, we have had record numbers last week with the number of participants in Becky Mirando's class. This has posed a great dilemma for us as we are now in need of purchasing some additional equipment for the class to support the turnout. This group is a blessing to me and they always invite me to jump in when they see me on the pool deck. Rest assured I will refrain for now!

Our fitness center membership has quietly continued to grow with members from all walks of life and fitness levels. This is a facility I really hope to improve over time and believe it can be a true hidden gem in the local area. Myron Saunders has a loyal group of members who start their day with him putting them through their



paces. Our membership consists of professional athletes, college athletes, a consistent and vibrant Silver Sneakers membership, as well as everyday people who have the discipline to improve or maintain their current fitness level. I would be honored if you'd consider us.

Our youth programs are really flourishing as we just kicked of our flag football season. What other small town can boast that two of their volunteer coaches are former NFL athletes. HP&R can! I am so thankful for them and the other coaches who willingly give their time to help make memories in the life of the young people of our community.

Also, by the time this is published, we will have just wrapped up our Big Red Football Camp. This is our first camp and we closed registration with 50 campers! Our own Daniel Thomas served as camp counselor along with my close friend David Pender. Both competed at the highest level of college football and played in both the NFL and CFL. Again, for a community of our size, this is not something you encounter every day. Also serving as counselors are local athletes who currently play college football at the FBS level. I am confident that the campers will have learned a lot about the game I love this week.

To close, I just want to once again express my gratitude for everyone in this community and the surrounding communities for supporting Hilliard Parks & Recreation. I am thankful for our staff and everyone that makes things go behind the scenes. Although I recognize there are many things we can improve on, I am confident we will passionately continue to work to create a strong and flourishing recreation department for you to enjoy. It is always a great day at HP&R!



Hope Builders Program Leads Simone to New Career

Barbara Farnsworth

Simone Stewart made the connection with Barnabas more than 10 years ago when she was working and paying for college. She needed assistance with paying her utility bills. At that time, she was grateful for the help and never forgot how much Barnabas supported her in her time of need. Fast forward to 2020 and the Covid-19 pandemic! Simone had been doing well, paying her bills and advancing in her career. But, like thousands of Nassau County residents, her work hours were reduced and she did not know what the future would hold.

Once again, she turned to Barnabas for utility assistance and that's when she met Lakisha Jones, Barnabas Resource Coordinator, who asked Simone if she'd like to participate in Barnabas' Hope Builders for Women program. Simone was immediately onboard and looked forward to Lakisha's guidance.

Hope Builders for Women is funded by the Women's Giving Alliance, an initiative of the Community Foundation of Northeast Florida to help woman improve themselves financially and individually. The program provides comprehensive services, including developing goals and strategies that build a path to financial, emotional and social stability. "Lakisha is wonderful to talk to and helped me focus on my goals," said Simone. "The Hope Builders program opened me up to think about new career plans. Lakisha referred me to a QuickBooks class that made me realize that I wanted to work



in the field of accounting. I also met with an HR professional who helped me improve my resume. I'm excited to report that I just graduated from the Hope Builders program with my certification in QuickBooks!"

Simone's story perfectly illustrates how Barnabas can help individuals, and families, through tough times, even multiple times, through the years. Simone is now working full time and does not need to utilize Barnabas' programs. She urges other Nassau County women to inquire about the Hope Builders program. "I'm so pleased with the benefits I received from participating in Hope Builders," added Simone. "This program will help you with your career and personal goals."

For more information about Barnabas Center and its programs, visit www.BarnabasNassau.org.

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Home Values Soaring to Record Levels

Mike Hickox, Property Appraiser

The primary responsibility for the office of Property Appraiser is to produce a tax roll which is fair and equitable. Florida Statutes requires us to identify and appraise every parcel in the County to a "Just or Fair Market Value" each year. This is the starting point for

Florida's property tax system and the funding source for local government. In my 40 plus years in the real estate and appraisal business, I have never experienced a real estate market like the one we are in currently. Almost every property offered for sale is receiving multiple offers the first few days on the market, resulting in bidding wars and sales prices above the original list price. The record level of appreciation is a direct result of limited supply and increased demand. It is simple supply and demand economics. Inflation has driven building costs to record levels, making existing homes more attractive.

We have a record number of people migrating to Florida from other states due to lock downs, lower taxes, and the ability to work remotely. This has created a shortage of available housing for sale. However, this market is dramatically different than the market we experienced from 2004 to 2008 which produced a collapse of the housing market. The current market is a user's market opposed to a speculative market which was driven by loose lending practices and over extended borrowers.



This market is being driven by low interest rates and buyers with cash looking to improve their quality of life. Tracking and trending sales into the first part of 2021 indicates that next year is shaping up to be even higher. Of course, we will not know until the end of this year.

The lock down in 2020 hurt many small businesses and commercial properties. Our job is to measure what affect the lockdown and loss of business had on the value of the real estate as of January 1, 2021. Some properties are owned and purchased for their ability to produce income. That income drives the value of the real estate. Due to the lockdowns, many income producing properties, such as hotels, restaurants, and movie theaters, lost value due to a forced shutdown. The full-service hotel industry for example, is not expected to reach 2019 income levels until 2024. After considering the reductions in value to some commercial properties as a result of the pandemic, value in Nassau County has still reached record levels.

Due to increased demand for residential properties and new construction, the total market value for the County has reached a new record high of over \$17.2 billion. This is over 10.6% above the previous year, and the taxable value has surpassed the previous year exceeding \$11 billion, almost 8.5% above last year.

The City of Fernandina Beach is projected to see an increase of 9.1%, bringing their taxable value to about \$3 billion.

The Town of Callahan is estimated to have an increase in their taxable value to \$122.7 million, up by over 17.8% from last year. The Town of Hilliard is expected to see about a 9% increase in taxable value, bringing their value to over \$115.9 million.

I am often asked, "How do you determine the just or market value of my property?" Florida is a 100% assessment state, which means we are required to estimate the "fair market value" each year based on the most probable price of the property, as if it were offered for sale in an open market. To do that, we run sales and statistical analysis for different neighborhoods, markets, and property types. We make changes to values based on the sale ratio for those property types, which reflects the sales price compared to the properties current just or market value. Because we appraise in mass and not individual properties like fee appraisers, the Department of Revenue allows us to be within a range of value, not to exceed just or fair market value. Our effective date for value and exemptions is January 1st of each year. Which means this year's value is based on last year's sales. Also, to qualify for homestead exemption for this tax year, you must have owned and occupied the property as your primary residence as of January 1, 2021.

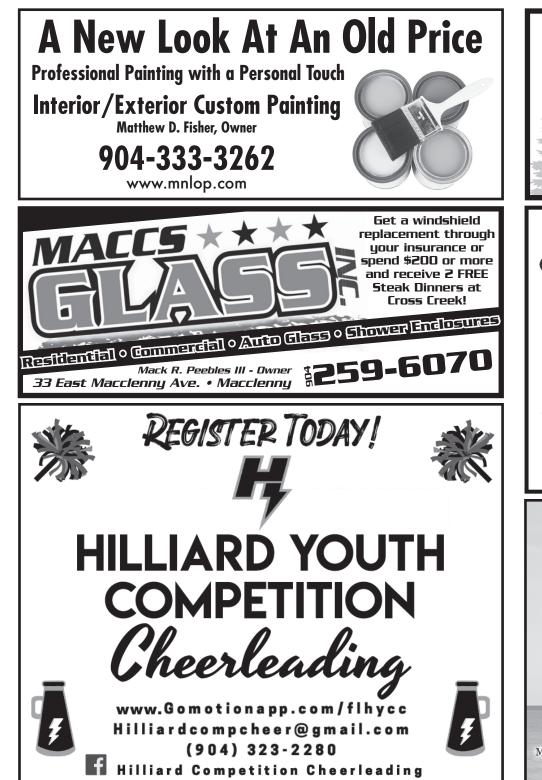
Although taxable values have increased County-wide, many property

owners are protected by the Save our Homes (SOH) Amendment, which caps the amount the assessed value can increase. Homestead properties can increase no more than 3% or the consumer price index (CPI), whichever is lower. Based on the CPI used for 2021, previously homesteaded properties will see their assessed value increase no more than 1.4% this year. Non-homestead properties have an assessment cap of 10%.

We provided the 2021 estimated values to the taxing authorities on May 28, so they can begin their budget process using these preliminary figures. They will use these values to help determine their tax rate for the property owners of Nassau County later this summer. I would encourage you to participate in this process. Increases in taxable values will result in higher taxes "IF" the taxing authorities keep or increase their current tax rates.

The "official" preliminary tax roll is expected to be released to the taxing authorities and the Department of Revenue by July 1. Property owners are encouraged to visit the Property Appraiser's website at www.nassauflpa. com, in late July to review their 2021 property values. We will send out Truth in Millage (TRIM) Notices in mid-August, which will advise you of what your estimated value, exemptions, and proposed taxes are for 2021. If you have any questions, please contact us at (904) 491-7300.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your property appraiser. It is truly an honor and a privilege.





Car Wash Expres New Touch-Free Car Wash! 879-3459 • 449645 US Hwy. 301 • Callahan Open Tuesday - Saturday 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. Serving Callahan for 60 Years **Oil Changes • AC Repair • Electrical Repair • Computer Diagnostics Transmissions • Engine Removal & Installation • U-Haul Rentals** Large Shrimp Dinner with 2 Sides & Hushpuppies 199 Restaurant (Approx. 28 - 30 Shrimp) his coupon, No limit. Expires 6-23-21 8 Grill Cannot combine 2 offers.

904-628-0755 450061 State Road 200 AHAN

2 Lunch or Dinner Entrees with the purchase of 2 Drinks n, No limit, Expires 6-Cannot combine 2 offers.

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Mon. - Thurs. 10:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. Fri. 10:30 a.m. - 10 p.m. Sat. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Sun. 11 a.m. - 9 p.m

Visit our Jacksonville Location on Main St.!

Barnabas Center Announces Wanda Lanier's Retirement

Alexandra Winsor

The Barnabas Center Board of Directors announces the planned retirement of its long time President and CEO, Wanda Lanier, effective June 25, 2021. Ms. Lanier has overseen the growth and success of Barnabas over the past 11 years. During that time, Barnabas has significantly expanded its services throughout Nassau County and earned numerous awards

for service excellence. The Charity Navigator coveted 4-star highest rating for 14 consecutive years for its strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

After a months-long search process, the Board of Directors has appointed Jamie Reynolds as the nonprofit agency's new President and CEO to succeed Ms. Lanier on June 25. Ms. Reynolds brings more than 24 years of

progressive executive and operational experience with nonprofit organizations. For the past five years, she has served as the CEO of Sisu Integrated Early Learning in Gainesville, Georgia. Sisu serves 157 students from 13 counties and is committed to helping every child reach his or her potential. In addition to sharing a Jamie



Wanda Lanier

mission with elements similar to Barnabas, Sisu offers a program model with wrap-a-round services, works with large numbers of partners and volunteers, and serves a diverse community.

Before joining Sisu, Ms. Reynolds served as Director of Marketing and Communications and subsequently the Director of Development and Marketing at Lakeview Academy in Gainesville.

She was the co-founder of Wyngate Drive Creative Communications in Gainesville, and was founder of JGR, a consumer product business. Ms. Reynolds earned a BS in nursing from Georgetown University and worked as a registered nurse for the first several years of her career.

Barnabas Board Chair, Andrea Hoffman, stated, "In addition to her administrative strengths, Jamie is passionate about the Barnabas mission.

She is data-driven, resultsoriented and able to lead in challenging times. The Barnabas Board is confident that Jamie is a good fit for Barnabas and will quickly win the trust of our communities at large."

For more information about Barnabas Center, visit www.BarnabasNassau.org.

NP3 Employment Opportunity

Stephanie Jerrell-Estep, Nassau P3

NP3 - Nassau Public Private Partnership is looking for a Graduate Student, Mature College Person, Retiree, Veteran, etc. to fulfill a compensated volunteer service position. As you know, NP3 is extremely imbedded in our county - impacting our neighbors on a daily basis. Improving the lives of the most vulnerable in our community in relation to the impact of disasters, is what we are all about. The position doesn't pay a great amount but has quite a few benefits.

The hours can be very flexible and a lot of the work can be done at home. It is a year-long program with paid leave time and a completion bonus at the end of the one year tenure with the option to reapply. This is for Disaster Response & Recovery work within Nassau County. While the compensation is not considerable, it is a paid volunteer position which equates to a great resume builder that is quite impressive for building out one's future profession. While the skill set of an individual can be flexible; computer skills are required.

It can also be a great opportunity for a retired individual to receive compensation for giving back & engaging in their local community.

If you may be interested, please call or email for more information: 386-365-2252, 904-798-0488 or email: stephestep@nassaup3.org.

We would love the opportunity to share a little about our program to anyone!

ation

#48016852

nantoniosgardens.com

904-206-3027

HMSHS Football Car Wash Fundraiser



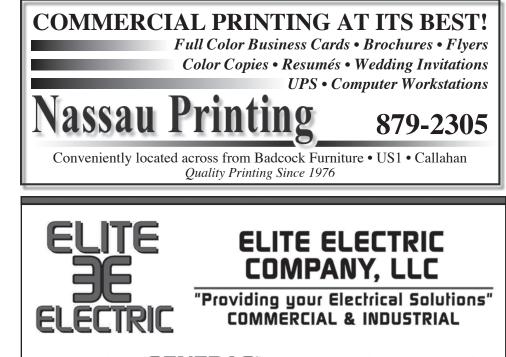
The Hilliard Middle-Senior High School football team will hold their Annual Car Wash Fundraiser this Saturday, June 19 from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the drop off loop at HMSHS! Come and support your Hilliard Flashes football team!

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS Callahan First Baptist Church 45090 Green Ave. • Callahan Thursday, June 17 • 4:30 - 6:30 pm

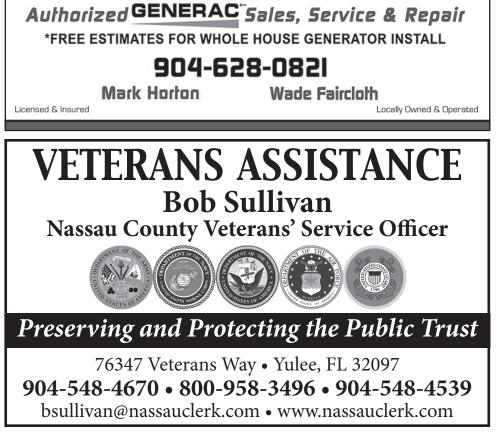
Barnabas @ Northeast Florida Fairgrounds, Callahan Monday, June 21 • 1 - 3 p.m.

Barnabas @ Mt. Olive Baptist 49167 Mt. Olive Rd. • Kings Ferry Thursday, June 24 • 9 - 11 a.m.





Jamie Reynolds

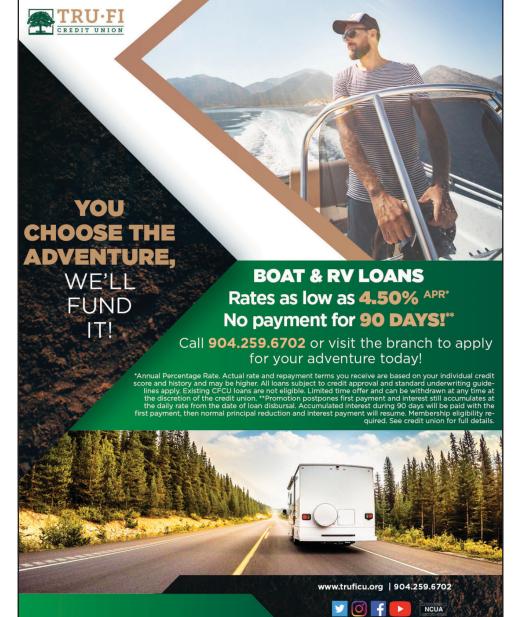


Sharing the joy of gardening - This is what we love to do! **Working Nursery Groups and planting available Delivery and planting available Save** 20% on one single *iem* per customer, per *available inventor* **Save** 20% on one single *iem per customer, per day. Maximum savings imited to \$50 per day. Cannot be used with any other discount. Excludes use on gift cards, yard art, elivery, and labor. Valid through June 30, 2021* **Discount may be used on trees, shrubs, flowers, roses, succulents, annuals, perennials,** *shade plants, sun plants, hanging baskets, mixed baskets, pottery, and windchimes. Available inventory only, first come, first served. No special orders or rain checks*

Nancy and Antonio = Nantonio's Harmony Gardens = Owne

Advance scheduling ensures we'll be available to let you in and assist you Thank you for supporting a veteran-owned small business!





New Beginnings and Milestones

Mr. and Mrs. Brenton Wade



Brenton James Wade and Kelsey Brooke Flight were united in marriage Saturday, June 5, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. at The Barn at Cottonwood Ranch in Callahan.

The bride is the daughter of Jeff and Margie Flight of Callahan. She was employed as a teacher at Hilliard Elementary School last year and will now teach at Wacona Elementary next year.

The groom is the son of Jeff and Gail Wade of Waycross, Georgia. He is employed with Memorial Satilla Health in Waycross.

Serving as Matron of Honor was Danielle Stewart and Maid of Honor was Delaney Connell. Bridesmaids were: Delaney Hendricks, Bailey Morris and Madison Wade;

junior bridesmaids were: Dani Mae Stewart and Kacey Stewart; and flower girls were: Abigail Stewart and Jane Blanton.

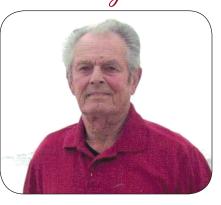
Serving as Best Man was Devin Connell; and groomsmen were: Dalton Lee, Dalton Rogers, Jakeb Eason and Benjamin Spivey. Junior groomsmen were Elijah Stewart and Payten Pope.

Following a honeymoon trip to Orlando, the couple will reside in Waycross.

James A. Sheppard, Jr. to Celebrate 85th Birthday

James A. Sheppard, Jr., of Callahan, will celebrate his 85th birthday on June 22. Blessed be the day that this man of men was born! He has always been, and continues to be, a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. A stronger more honest, faithful, loyal, patriotic man, you will never know. His words are wise and his faith is strong. May God continue to bless you! I love you Daddy,

Kathy



Vacation Bible School June 21st – 25th

6:00 PM - 8:30 PM · <mark>139 - 5th Grode</mark> Call the Callahan First office at 904.879.2172 for details. 45090 Green Ave · Callahan, FL





Activities! Food! (Dinner served each night)



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Scan here with your phone to pre-register for VBS!



Grab your gear and join us for an epic adventure of discovery! "DESTINATION DIG" Unearthing the Truth About Jesus

A FATHER'S LEGACY... DEATH IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF LIFE



Yvette Outler

James enjoyed hunting. He was given a bucket-list hunting trip in Texas! It was the picture perfect "out-west" experience that every hunter dreams about doing. At the end of the first night, they sat around the campfire, laughed and told stories. The next morning James was up early, fixed breakfast for everyone and sat waiting with his Bible in hand. As the other men awoke, they gradually assembled. He gently told the

men, "Last night I sat by the fire and listened and watched while you did what you liked to do and this morning I would like to do what I love to do. I would like to read the Bible and share a devotion."

Surprised but interested, they nodded and obliged him. After he finished the Bible story, James shared his faith and told them about the Lord Jesus Christ being the Way, The Truth and the Life. Every subsequent morning of the hunting expedition the guys re-assembled to hear their morning devotion. At the end of the hunting trip a couple of the men told him how much he had encouraged them and challenged them to be better Christians.

James wanted everyone he met to know Jesus Christ and to believe in Him. He was a living, effective billboard for the cause of Christ. He celebrated and embraced the great commission, "...*as you go, make disciples of all nations*..." Matthew 28:19. That was the essence of who he was as a Christian husband, father, brother and friend.

Last year when he was diagnosed with terminal, pancreatic cancer he told his children, "I've taught you how to live now I am going to teach you how to die." His family learned from him that the most important part of life was to be ready for death. On October 23, 2020, James Norman Morgan quit walking on this side of eternity and because of his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ began walking on the streets of gold.



"What would it matter if you gain everything this world had to offer but lost your soul?" (Matthew 16:26) If James could speak audibly from heaven, I think he would say something like this, "Life after death is beautiful. I am in the presence of my Lord Jesus Christ. Living a life with Christ is worth it. Dying with faith in Christ is even better!"

Like James, when you die do you know where you are going? He would recommend Heaven! 1. We all need a Savior! *"For all have sinned and fall* short of the glory of God. "Romans 3:23, *"For the wages of sin is death."* Romans 6:23a. 2. A Savior was provided! *"But* God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8. *"...but the* gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23b. 3. Put your faith and trust in The Savior! "For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Romans 10:13, "If you declare with your mouth Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved." Romans 10:9-10

I encourage you right now to stop what you are doing and say this prayer, "Lord, I know that I am a sinner. I believe and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord and that you sent Him to pay the ultimate payment for my sins by way of the cross. Take me as I am. I need You, In Jesus Name, Amen."

Congratulations Dr. Mekayla Norden!

Mekayla Mekara graduated with Honors and as Salutatorian and Class President from Hilliard Middle-Senior High School in 2013. Mekayla followed her dream to continue her studies and graduated from Berry College Cum Laude, with a Bachelor's of Science Honors, majoring in Biology with a double minor in Chemistry and Animal Science.

On May 5, 2021, Mekayla graduated from the Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Doctor Mekayla Mekara Norden has recently joined the Medical Team of The Cat Doctors in Tampa, Florida.



Congratulations Dr. Mekayla! Your family and friends are very proud of you! We all wish you much success in your future endeavors.



SERVICES

PRO WASH PRESSURE WASHING. We pressure wash anything, hot or cold water. FREE estimates. Call 904-507-9263. tfn

JACKSON LAWN CARE & LANDSCAPING SERVICES. FREE Estimates! Mowing, edging, weed eating, blowing, pressure washing, landscaping, tractor work. Call (904) 434-5769. tfn

UPHOLSTERY: ROWLAND'S, for a free estimate email a picture to: dexter@rowlandsupholstery.com. Remember upholstery fabric is 3 times more durable than new furniture fabrics. Call 904-879-5130 or 904-398-1653. tfn

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING. Repairs. FREE Estimates on New Installations. Licensed & Insured. Owner Timothy Reeves, Reeves Climate Control (904) 238-8492. tfn

THE MOWER & SAW SHOP! Lawn equipment repairs both 2 and 4 cycle. Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Call (904) 472-0600. tfn

C & C LAND PROS offers extreme bush hogging along with installing culverts and driveways. Licensed and Insured. Call (904) 518-0349. tfn

NASSAU CONCRETE PAVERS: Driveways, walkways, patios & slabs. Remove/Install. FREE Estimates! 20 years experience. Licensed & Insured. Call 904-309-1488.

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ART'S LOCKOUT SERVICE. Locksmith/Lockout Specialist. Licensed, bonded, insured, 24/7 emergency services, auto, home, business, Serving; Nassau, Duval, Charlton & Camden Counties. 904-294-0314, ArtsLockout.biz or FB/Art's Lockout Service. tfn

AIR POWER HEATING & AIR: Installation and Service. Serving Nassau County. Mention this ad to receive 10% OFF. Call (904) 314-8892. CAC1815504

PAINTING! A New Look At An Old Price. Interior/ Exterior Custom, Professional Painting and more. Fully Insured. Call 904-333-3262, www.mnlop.com.

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PRESSURE WASHING, trash removal. Call or text 904-588-6360. 80521

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified Deadline is Tuesdays at Noon 879-4180 • news@westsidejournal.net

SERVICES CONT.

SUMMER TUTORING: Math/Algebra; English/ Reading, ALL Grades, \$30/hour. Facebook: @ HHJax or Call or Text: (904) 372-3793. 62421

GLISSON LAWNCARE & MORE, LLC: Free Estimates! Licensed & Insured. Mowing, edging, blowing, weed eating, landscaping and pressure washing. Owner Dustin Glisson. Call (904) 452-3086. 62421

PIANO, GUITAR, UKULELE AND DRUM LESSONS! All ages, 4 years to adult. Experienced teacher. www.joelpacepiano.com, joelpace@juno.com. 904-766-9544. \$75 per month. tfn

HANDYMAN

E-Z REPAIRS! Home repairs: Full remodels, decks, plumbing, roofing, flooring, siding, interior/exterior painting, etc. 25 years experience. FREE estimates! Call Tom at (904) 586-5078. 62421

MOBILE HOME bathroom remodeling or repairs including vinyl soffit and siding. All types of mobile home and deck repairs. Call 879-9631. tfn

WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY JUNK CARS! ALSO OFFERING TRACTOR WORK AND BACKHOE WORK. Call Laid Back Scrap Removal at 507-9580 or 879-1595.

JOHNSON'S! WE BUY JUNK CARS. tractors. equipment and pick up scrap metal. Call 904-628-0622 or 904-580-1404 ffn

FOR SALE

FILL DIRT, SAND, TOP SOIL, CHEAP! 18-yard load, Callahan/Hilliard area. Tree removal available. Call 416-6082. tfn

DIRT CHEAP! Fill dirt, sand, top soil, rock and hard pan, 18-yard bed, land clearing and tree removal. Call Dirt Pro at 755-1341. tfn

SILVER QUEEN CORN, .25 cents/ear; squash, cucumbers and red potatoes; 9 miles out River Road (CR 108) to Windy Lane, Callahan. Call 507-2666. 61721

BEAUTIFUL WICKER BEDROOM SET, includes: twin size trundle bed with mattress and dresser with mirror, \$150. Call 879-4067. 61721

EMPLOYMENT

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

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

DIETARY AIDE, part time evenings, Prior food service experience preferred. Please apply online at www. lifecarecareers.com. LCCHilliard/904-845-3988. tfn

FERREIRA FUNERAL SERVICES is looking for a burial team member! This team provides an essential service to our families in need and the entire Ferreira FS Family. Work hours are 30+ weekly and responsibilities include all aspects of preparing plots for funeral services. Candidates must have a valid driver's license, reliable transportation, a strong work ethic, be a self-starter and TEAM oriented. Applications are available at 541720 US 1, Callahan, or via online request: ADMINISTRATION@ VTODDFERREIRA.com. tfn

NORTH FLORIDA TIRE AND AUTO CENTER is Now Hiring Mechanics and Tire Technicians. Please call 904-845-3357 or come apply in person to: 551894 US Highway 1, Hilliard. 61721

\$1,000 SIGNING BONUS! Bert Norman's Plumbing is looking to hire a PLUMBING TECH, 1 year experience; must have clean driving record, pass drug screening and background check. Email resume with 3 references to: normansplumbing@bellsouth. net or call 904-225-5888. tfn

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

PART TIME MAINTENANCE POSTION at First Baptist Church of Boulougne: Plumbing, painting, basic AC upkeep, light electrical work; Monday -Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., up to 24 hours per week Background check required. Call (904) 305-2283. tfn

EMPLOYMENT CONT.

Callahan First Baptist Church is now accepting applications for a MAINTENANCE POSITION. This is a fulltime position. If you are interested in this position, please come by the church office, 45090 Green Avenue, Callahan, and fill out an application. 70121

SANDHILL RECYCLING NOW HIRING CDL DRIVERS, Landfill Laborers and Heavy Equipment Operators. Apply at 153326 CR 108, Yulee, FL. For more information call 904-225-2801. 61721

PORT OF FERNANDINA, HIRING DOCK WORKERS, Forklift Operators, Mechanics and Industrial Electrician; competitive pay and benefits. Call (904) 990-1400 or email resume to: hr@ worldwideterminals.com. 62421

FULLTIME ELECTRICAL FOREMAN needed. starting pay \$25-\$28/hour, depending on experience; also needing ELECTRICAL HELPER. Email resumes to: chendry@hendryelectrical.net; or call 904-314-2544 for information. 62421

CUSTOMER SERVICE **REPRESENTATIVE** Okefenoke REMC is now accepting applications for the following position: Customer Service Representative, Hilliard Office. Applications can be printed from visiting: www.oremc.com or picked up at any of our offices Monday- Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Applications will be accepted through Friday, June 18, 2021, at any of our offices or via email: customer. service@oremc.com. The Co-op reserves the right to cancel all bids. Okefenoke REMC is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Drug-Free Workplace. 61721

SHELTER/CENTER ATTENDANT: Nassau County has an opening for a Shelter/Center Attendant in Animal Care & Control at \$12.6880 hourly plus benefits. Applications will be accepted thru June 24, 2021. To apply please visit: www.nassaucountyfl. com or for additional information contact the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 61721

MAINTENANCE HELPER: Nassau County has an opening for four (4) Maintenance Helpers in the Road Department at \$12.6880 hourly plus benefits. Applications will be accepted until filled. To apply please visit www.nassaucountyfl.com or for additional information contact the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 61721







It is illegal to discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale, rental, financing, appraisal of housing or in the provision of real estate brokerage services. If you believe you have been discriminated against or would like further information about your rights or obligations under the Fair Housing Act call Jacksonville Area Legal Aid at 904-356-8371

Sheriff Launches "Teen Citizens Academy"

Sheriff Bill Leeper is announcing a new program for Nassau County teens which teaches young people what it's like to be a police officer in hopes they will consider a career in law enforcement in the future. The Sheriff's Teen Citizens Academy is a 4-week program that allows Nassau County teens the opportunity to take a behind-the-scenes look at the Nassau County Sheriff's Office. The program is geared toward teens between the age of 14 and 18. The class is held on consecutive Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Applicants must be enrolled in an education program (including homeschool) and be willing to undergo a criminal history screening and background check.

"In launching the Sheriff's Teen Citizens Academy we hope to provide a free and fun avenue for interested students to learn first-hand how exciting and rewarding a career in law enforcement can be," says Nassau County Sheriff Bill Leeper. "The program will cover several areas such as meeting the sheriff, touring the sheriff's administration building, patrol operations, defensive tactics, special operations, forensics, firearms, vehicle operations, a jail tour and much more."

There is a limit of 15 teens for each class and all applications must be in by July 2, 2021. Classes will held on Saturdays starting July 17, 24, 31 and August 7, from 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

To download an application visit: www.nassauso.com and look under the programs tab for Teen Citizens Academy or call 904-206-0883.

At the end of the last class the teens will graduate and receive a certificate of completion. Each teen will also receive a Teen's Citizen's Academy t-shirt.

Summer Library Fun!

The Nassau County Public Library System is excited to announce our Summer Reading Events that are free and open to the public. This summer's theme is "Tails and Tales". We will have special guest presentations that are fun, entertaining, and educational to promote a lifelong love of reading.

Programs are as follows:

Callahan Multi-Purpose Building at the Fairgrounds at 11 a.m. Monday, June 21 - "The Forgetful Fairy Godmother and other Magical Tales" Monday, June 28 - "Wild Wonders Animal Show"

Bryceville Branch Library/Community Center at 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 23 - "Tales in the Wild: National Wildlife Refuge" Wednesday, June 30 - "Musical Tales with Joel Pace Instrument Petting Zoo"



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.

Friday, May 28

Darryl Wayne Burden, 36, 54116 Penny Lane, Callahan: DUI Normal Faculties Impaired; Possession Schedule 1-5 Substance

Thursday, June 3

Jimmy Ricky Gee, 58, 45284 Dixie Avenue, Callahan: Sex Offender Failure to Register; Possession Weapon by Convicted Felon

Rodney Keyshawn Alderman, 24, 58323 Timmons Road, Hilliard: Felony Battery with Prior Conviction

Sunday, June 13

Ernest Lee Johns, 29, Hilliard: Violation of Injunction Protected Order **Monday, June 14**

Brian Roy Green, 30, Callahan: Driving While License Suspended with Knowledge; DUI Normal Faculties Impaired; Possession Drug Paraphernalia with Residue; Possession of Schedule 1-5 Substance

Burglary Suspect Arrested

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to a burglary in progress Monday, June 14 in a residence off Lem Turner Road in Callahan. According to NCSO reports, when the deputy arrived on scene, he saw two females and

deputy arrived on scene, he saw two females and one male walking around the home. He approached the complainant that stated, one female and male subject, were parked in the driveway while she was pulling in. While speaking to the complainant, the deputy asked for the female subject's identification, and it was Kayla Skimore. While waiting for back up, the male subject walked around the house and took off.

Skimore stated the male subject's name was George. The deputy read Skimore her rights via Maranda Card

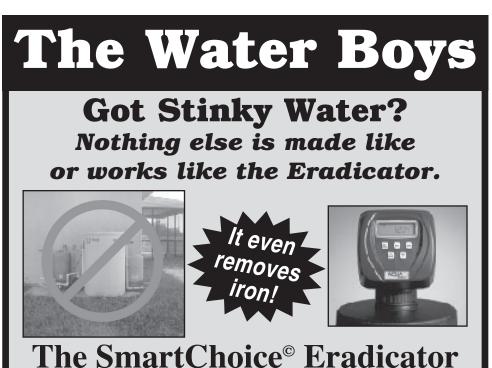


and she agreed to talk to him. When asked what were they doing here she stated, a female by the name of Veronica told her she had been living here for a few days and the house was for sale so she came to look at it.

Deputy Terry ran the

vehicle that was parked in the driveway that the male subject and Skimore drove to the residence in. The vehicle was confirmed to be stolen out of Duval County.

The complainant provided with a written statement that stated the female driver was in possession of the vehicle. Due to the complainant providing the written statement, Kayla Skimore was placed under arrest for Theft of a Motor Vehicle.



ALL STARS SATURDAY, JULY 17 LIVE AT CANADAY BARN 5:30 - 7:30 PM

3399 Jessie Rd. • Hilliard



Gates Open at 3:30 pm with Live Music by Dusty McCullough

CASH EVENT!

Food & Beverage Concessions Available

Tickets are Limited!

Tickets Available at Connie's Pizza in Hilliard and Dick's Wings Callahan GENERAL ADMISSION \$20 VIP TABLES \$250 Includes Ring-Side Seating for 6 and 2 Buckets of Beverages Call 904-219-2070 for more information.

It has proven itself to be VERY EFFECTIVE in REMOVING SULFUR and IRON from your water.



We can bring the Water Wagon to your home to fix the problem.

Call Bob Chavers at 904.608.5669

Check out our website at www.waterboysmacclennyfl.com

Pete A. Akers



Pete A. Akers, 71, of Hilliard, passed away June 10, 2021, surrounded by his friends and family. He was born June 17, 1949, in Oakhill,

Akers. Pete was the 7th out of 11 children and was raised in Oakhill, West Virginia with his 10 siblings. Pete decided to move to northeast Florida after serving in the military, this is where he met the love of his life, Charles Gardner. They adopted two daughters Miranda (Jesse) Merritt and Terrah Gardner; and eventually welcomed his first grandson Jackson Merritt. His legacy will be remembered through many friends and family who loved him dearly. He is preceded in death by his parents Bedo and Frances Akers; brother Roscoe (Geraldine) Akers; sisters Annadean (Bill) Parker, Della (Carl) Akers and Rosemary (Jim) Rogers.

Pete is survived by his loving husband of 38 years, Charles Gardner; daughters Miranda (Jesse) Merritt and Terrah Gardner; grandson Jackson Merritt; brothers Walter (Caryl-deceased) Akers, Ira (Loretta) Akers, Benny (Tammy) Akers and Joe (Sue) Akers; sisters Gennevieve (Richarddeceased) Dome and Nina (Tom-deceased) Medford; and many nieces and nephews.

The family received friends Tuesday, June 15 at Nassau Funeral Home. A Celebration of Pete's life was held Wednesday, June 16 at Nassau Funeral Home. Interment followed at Jones Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www. nassaufh.com.

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

DALTON CODY CROFTON



With a broken heart and saddest of regrets we announce that Dalton Cody Califano Crofton left this world June 12, 2021 in Yulee. He was

raised and lived in Callahan. Dalton was charismatic and larger than life. If he was in a room you knew he was there. He was loved by so many and will be forever remembered and missed. The world truly lost an amazing man. Hug those you love tight and always tell them you love them.

He is survived by a son Jackson Cody Crofton (age 1); and his mother Rayanna

girlfriend Logan Stevenson; sister Kayla (Allan) Vera; his niece Amelia; brother Ryan West Virginia, to Frances and Bedo (Jeni) Griffin, and their children Eymrie and Rhett; his sister Brooke Griffin (Danny) and niece Charlie; brother Elijah Gage; father William (Billy) Califano; stepfather Tony Griffin; grandmother Connie Califano;

along numerous other family and friends. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to an account that will be set up for Jackson or a local Suicide Prevention program in Dalton's name.

Shaffer; his mother Kelli Crofton; his

Condolences may be expressed at www. shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

KIMBERLY ANN FLYNN

Kimberly Ann Sharp Flynn, 51, passed away peacefully and unexpectedly Saturday, May 29, 2021 in her home. She was born on July 18, 1969 in Jacksonville. Kimberly is preceded in death by her parents Frank and Suzanne Sharp.

Kimberly loved to make plaques and do crafts. She played softball growing up. Kimberly loved watching her children play sports, whether it was football, baseball, basketball or softball. She also loved watching her children race go karts and mainly loved taking pictures for the karting and softball community. She loved watching her granddaughter Avery play tee ball. Most of all she loved her family so much.

She is survived by her husband of 31 years, James Flynn, Jr.; her children James (Faith) Flynn, III and Veronica Flynn; her grandchildren Avery and Elaina Flynn; her sister Jennifer Hoover; and several nephews and nieces.

would call when no one else could fix it. There are very few people like him left in this world. Scott loved tinkering with all kinds of things but most of all he loved spending time with his family. He enjoyed working on vehicles, shooting bows & arrows, grilling, watching Star Trek for the 1000th time, and sitting outside with the love of his life, Lorie enjoying the night air. Scott's absence will be felt for the rest of our lives. Find peace in knowing that Scott knew and loved the Lord. He is at peace now and free of the worries of this world. He is preceded in death by his parents Kent and Freida Trotter; aunt Alta Hinkel; and uncle Cletus Hinkel.

BITUARIES

Scott is survived by his wife, Lorie Jones; daughters Kari Jones (Steve Spann), Amanda Clemons and Noel (Ben) Henderson; grandchildren, Christianna Johnson, Ethan Hodges, Ava Johnson, Madalynn Hodges, Chloe Clemons, Isaac Hodges, Jeremy Clemons II, Bowen Proulx, Weston Proulx, Victoria Henderson, Sophia Henderson and Railynn Jones; siblings Jody Jones, Donna Descombes, Becky Rouse, Darlene Rodgers, Susan Albachten, Heather Kneece and Ginger Crosby.

The family would like to thank everyone that prayed for him and his family. They ask that everyone continue to pray during this time of mourning.

The family will receive friends Thursday, June 17 at 10 a.m. prior to the Celebration of Scott's life at 11 a.m. at Nassau Funeral Home with Pastor Tommy Richardson officiating. Interment will follow at Jones Cemetery.

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

Condolences may be expressed at www. nassaufh.com.

Michael John Pertzog, 95, of Hilliard, passed away peacefully June 13, 2021, and went to his heavenly home to be united with his Lord and Savior Jesus and was reunited with his beloved wife of 45 years, Dorothy Jean Pertzog. Mike was born in Jeannette, Pennsylvania. He worked as an Independent Life Insurance Agent until he retired at the age of 80. Mike

EMMETTE CLAYTON THARPE

Emmette Clayton Tharpe, 85, of Callahan, went home on June 12, 2021, after a valiant and courageous fight. He had ambition, grit and determination. He was proud of his career at Winn Dixie and Publix but was most proud of the business he built from scratch, County Boy Feed. He loved his customers and considered them friends. One life



faithfully attended church wherever he resided, most recently at Dayspring Senior Living. Previously, Mike lived on the Gatlin Family Farm in Hilliard and attended Live Oak Baptist Church and Gray Gables Baptist Church. He is preceded in death by his parents Pauline Fedoronka Pertzog and Michael Pertzog; brothers Joseph Pertzog and Walter Pertzog; sisters Olga (Pertzog) Zinna, Mary (Pertzog) Kratochvil and Elizabeth (Pertzog) Lazar.

Mike is survived by his daughter Mary Ann Pertzog Webb; step-daughters and sons-in-law Patty (Pat) Nesbitt, Cathy (Steve) Cotton and Tammy (Thad) Penland; grandchildren Milton (Gina) Nelson, Kevin (Ami) Nelson, Jonathan Dotson, Joshua (Kelly) Dotson, Jordan Dotson, Kyle Cotton, Austin (Lizzy) Cotton, Luke Penland, Sarah Penland, Peyton Penland and Olivia Penland; great-grandchildren Haley, Montgomery, Alana, Ethan, Everett, Forrest and Rixci; and sister Anne (Pertzog) Mowry.

A Celebration of Mike's life will be held Friday, June 18 at Nassau Funeral Home with Rev. Raymond Mixon officiating. A private family burial will be held at Gethsemane Memorial Gardens.

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

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

BARBARA SUTHERLAND

Barbara Sutherland, of Bryceville, passed away June 14, 2021. She was born July 20, 1941.

A Celebration of her life service will be held Thursday, June 24 at 11 a.m. at Lighthouse Praver Center in Callahan.

Corev-Kerlin Funeral Home is assisting the family, 904-768-2596.

MICHAEL JOHN PERTZOG



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was born in Amarillo, Texas. Scott was the son of Kent and Freida Trotter. He worked in the petroleum

SCOTT FORREST JONES

Scott Forrest Jones, 59,

passed away Saturday, June 12,

2021 at Baptist Downtown. He



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comes into the world and one life leaves. Our family has had the bookends of joy and sorrow. His sixth great-grandchild was born on Sunday. We lost him on Saturday night. He loved his children, his grandchildren, and his great-grandchildren. He fought hard and we were gifted with extra time with him. At the end, he passed with family there.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Louie Frank and Lula McCall Tharpe; brothers, William Houston, Louie Grafton and Waylon Milton Tharpe.

He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Patti; sister Virginia Tharpe Gallopo; brothers Marion Preston Tharpe and Melton Durell Tharpe; children Penny (David) McGowan, Beth Middleton, Bill (Amanda) Tharpe and Erica (Rusty) Newton; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Emmette's life will be held Friday, June 18 from 6-8 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home. Interment will be held Monday, June 21 beside his mother and father, in Shady Grove Cemetery in Sampson, Alabama.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you donate to a charity of your choice in his honor. Arrangements by Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 904-879-1770.

JAMES WALDEN TROSCLAIR, JR.



Mr. James 'Jim' Walden Trosclair, Jr., 62 of Jacksonville, passed away Tuesday, June 8, 2021. He was born in Mobile, Alabama. He was a lifelong Jacksonville resident. He was a 1977

graduate of Ed White High School and attended what is now Florida State College at Jacksonville. As a young adult, Jim was a lifeguard at Little Talbot Island and had six certified rescues. He was employed by the City of Jacksonville and retired after 37 years of service. Jim enjoyed going fishing and spoiling his grandbabies. He was a wonderful son, husband, father, grandfather and friend.

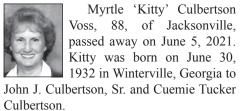
He is survived by his wife of 31 years Cheri Trosclair of Jacksonville; mother Faith Belloit of Jacksonville; sons Chris Sheppard and Matt Sheppard, both of Jacksonville; grandchildren Emily, Taylor, Hannah, Maliyah and Kristen; brother Mike Trosclair; and sister Renee (Buck) Meredith, all of Jacksonville; and numerous friends, family, a niece and nephew. He was preceded in death by his father James W. Trosclair, Sr.

A celebration of his life will be held Saturday, June 19 at 1 p.m. in the chapel at Warren Funeral Services of Baldwin.

Please leave online condolences at www.warrenfuneralservices.com.



Myrtle 'Kitty' Voss



Kitty leaves behind her loving husband of 67 years, Carl August Voss, Sr.; daughter Lafrenda Cheree Voss Moore; son Carl August (Kim) Voss, Jr.; grandchildren Valerie Jean Voss (Kris) Tsairis, Dustin August Voss, Heather Cheree Moore (Jonah) Iser, Rachel Cheree Moore (Jason) Crowe; great-grandchildren Piper Elizabeth Tsairis, Holly Jean Tsairis, Dylan August Voss, Charlee Cheree Iser, Rylee Cheree Iser, Camden August Crowe and Devin Cheree Crowe.

Much love and appreciation to Diane Kelly with Home Care at Healthcare Management and Heartland Hospice for all the love and care they gave to Kitty.

A graveside service for Kitty was held Friday, June 11 at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

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

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

WILLIAM 'BILL' BOYD WATTS

William 'Bill' Boyd Watts, 70, of Callahan, passed away on June 11, 2021, following a long bout with cancer. He was born on February 19, 1951, to Woodrow and Annie Watts in Loris, South Carolina. Bill worked for Comcast for 21 years. He was a coach in Little League baseball and Pop Warner football. He was also a former president of the West Nassau Band Boosters. His greatest passion was being a volunteer firefighter. He volunteered for 29 years beginning with the Gray Gables VFD and ending at the Callahan VFD, where he served as Chief for the last 14 years. During his time with the fire department, he was very instrumental in recruiting many people to volunteer that went on to make it a career to serve. Over the years, he also helped raise money for the MDA through the Fill the Boot drives. Thousands of dollars were raised each year for MDA research.

Bill was preceded in death by his mother Annie; his father Woody; and his three brothers Larry, Charles and Paul.

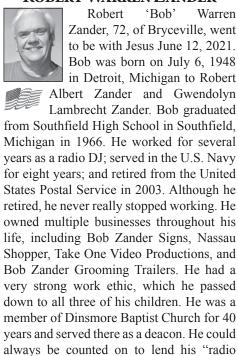
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He is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Kathy; daughter Jamie Kuches of Callahan: sons Bill (Wendy) Watts of Jacksonville and Sean (Erin) Watts of St. Johns County; sister Ellen Vasquez; and seven grandchildren Esther, William, Lily, Christopher, Joel, Jonathan and Chase.

The family will receive friends Thursday, June 17 from 5-7 p.m. at Hardage-Giddens Funeral Home, 7242 Normandy Blvd., Jacksonville. The funeral service will be held Friday, June 18 at noon, also at the funeral home.

Hardage-Giddens Funeral Home assisted the family.

ROBERT WARREN ZANDER



voice" to narrate plays and performances at his church, and he looked forward to Dinsmore Baptist's Annual "Kruisin' 4 Kids" Car Show. He was a faithful husband, devoted father, doting grandfather, and loyal friend. He was preceded in death by his parents Robert and Gwen Zander; and his sister Julie Zuby.

Bob is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Gail Allen Zander; son Eric Zander of Hilliard; daughters Melissa (Michael) Chambliss of Port Orange and Christina (Daniel) Horton of Hilliard; grandchildren Lucy Chambliss, Tristan Horton, Abby Chambliss and Aiden Horton; brothers-inlaw Michael Zuby; brother-in-law Gary Allen; three nieces; one nephew; several great-nieces and nephews; and many other beloved family members and friends.

Pallbearers will be J.R. Barnard, Rick Doggett, Chris Gamboa, Daniel Horton, Jim Jones and Mark Morgan. Honorary pallbearers are Larry Morgan, Michael Zuby and the deacons of Dinsmore Baptist Church.

The family will receive friends Monday, June 21 from 5-7 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home in Callahan. A Celebration of Bob's Life will be held Tuesday, June 22 at 11 a.m. at Dinsmore Baptist Church in Jacksonville with Dr. E. Winson Butler and Rev. Michael Chambliss officiating. Interment will follow at 1 p.m. at the Jacksonville National Cemetery with Rev. Gary Poplin presiding. In honor of Bob's military and civil service and his love of country, please feel free to wear red, white, and/or blue.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations may be made to Krusin' 4 Kids, in care of Dinsmore Baptist Church, or St. Jude Children's Hospital.

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

Condolences may be expressed at www. nassaufh.com.

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Please visit our webside for valuable resources and information: www.warrenfuneralservices.com

Barnabas Awarded Grant

Alexandra Winsor

Barnabas Center was recently awarded a grant of \$40,000 by The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida from The Partnership for Mental Health. The Partnership for Mental Health is a project of Baptist Health and the Delores Barr Weaver Fund at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida.

The grant will help Barnabas provide mental health services to the uninsured adult patients of its health programs. For example,

a health services patient was referred to Barnabas' mental health counselor when she began to discuss her depression resulting from the death of her husband. She was unable to afford access to mental health counseling due to lack of insurance.

"The access and flexibility of the counseling I am receiving helped me immensely," she said. "The ease of these sessions took away stress from my already stressful life. I hope this is a program that Barnabas can continue to offer. It is a great asset to the Nassau County community."

The patient mentioned above is just one of many who utilize the mental health counseling services offered

Barnabas

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at Barnabas. In particular, a recently released survey by the Jacksonville Nonprofit Hospital Partnership, reported 64% of respondents said mental health and mental health conditions top the list of 14 pressing community health needs. However,

the current need for behavioral health services is great and seems more urgent in these difficult days. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Barnabas has been working at an accelerated pace to meet this demand for increased mental health services. Barnabas' mental health counselor

said, "Working at Barnabas has been fulfilling. It was especially fulfilling during the earlier stages of the COVID-19 quarantine. For some patients, I reminded them of the hope they previously had, and educated them on the correlation between their medical condition, patterns of behaviors and their mental health challenges. For others, it was about guiding them in developing new coping strategies."

To learn more about Barnabas' health services, contact Barnabas at (904) 261-7000. To learn more about The Partnership for Mental Health, visit http://www.jaxcf.org/receive/how-to-apply#partnershipmentlhealth.



Ann Kizer,

Ferst Readers of Nassau County

Ferst Readers of Nassau County recently hosted the 1st Annual Carl Marhaver Memorial Clay Shoot at Amelia Shotgun Sports. Thanks to sponsors and participants we are able to mail over 1500 books to children in our communities from this event, which will enable us to continue to mail books to over 900 children every month and register all the babies born at Baptist Nassau!



A huge Thank You to our event sponsor Coastal Vision Center. Station sponsors included: Tupper's Turf, Callie Kay's, TRU•FI Credit Union, First Federal Bank of Fernandina Beach, Baptist Medical Center Nassau, First Coast Sotheby's International Realty, J. Howard Construction Inc., Meridian Waste, and Amelia Dental Group. Other





donors included Sweet As Cyn sending doughnuts for breakfast, Home Depot and Lowe's sending gift cards for the winners, Willie Jewel's BBQ donating sides for our lunch, Winn Dixie in Fernandina Beach for sending cookies, and Boy Scout Troop 351 selling mulligans at the shoot. Also, a big thank you to David and the amazing staff at Amelia Shotgun Sports for helping the participants and ensuring the event went smoothly and safely.

There were four teams of shooters who enjoyed lunch and sharing "stories" as they waited on the scores to be tallied. Winners were presented a basket of goodies including gift cards to either Lowes or Home Depot. Winners of the tournament were Philip Teague, Dan Powell, and David Jackson. Ferst Readers of Nassau County and our little readers are thankful the event turned out so well and are looking forward to next year!





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Remembering Chief Bill Watts

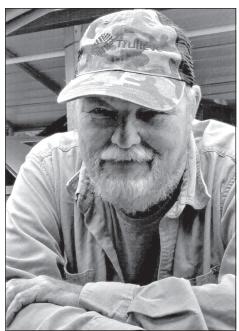
Dawn S. West

We mourn this week as we learned of the passing of retired Callahan Volunteer Fire Chief Bill Watts. Chief Watts was definitely one of a kind. His humor was contagious and he always had a joke to share. He was a friend to many and always had a smile on his face. While serving as CVFD Chief, he and his partner Assistant Chief Alan Pumphrey made sure to aggravate former Mayor Shirley Graham as much as they could. They all had a special relationship. Bill was a frequent visitor to Callahan Subway. In fact, during the pandemic, he had a table and chair outside where he continued to make his visit. Subway honored him by designating a table in memory this week. He will certainly be missed.

The following message was shared on Facebook by the Callahan Volunteer Fire Department: It is with a heavy heart that we announce the loss of our retired Chief William "Bill" Watts. Chief Watts began his fire service in 1986 as a volunteer firefighter for the Gray Gables Volunteer Fire Department (Station 8). Following a 6-year tenure there,

Chief Watts transferred to the Callahan Volunteer Fire-Rescue Department where he continued to serve not only the citizens of Callahan but ALL of Nassau County for an additional 22 years. He always had a smile and a snicker that made everyone feel welcomed.

After he "Retired," he



could still be found puttering around the station or helping with various fundraisers. Chief Watts could always be counted on to help. His community service even included being a mentor to several past volunteers. These men and women have gone on to work not only for Nassau County Fire Rescue but also for many other surrounding departments as well.

> Those of us who knew him or served with him during his service with the fire department know what a true honor it has

what a true honor it has been. His passing has left us with some large boots to fill and at this time we would like to extend our deepest condolences to all Chief Watts' family and friends.

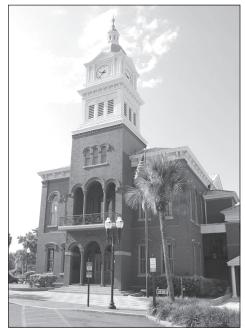
Historic Courthouse to Reopen This Summer

Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, John A. Crawford, announces a sneak-peek into our plans for the reopening of our office in the Historic Courthouse in downtown Fernandina Beach.

We are expecting to reopen to the public this summer, pending the release of a Phase 3 order from our Administrative Judge, the Honorable James H. Daniel. Phase 3 will bring us closer to pre-COVID protocols.

As warranted by decreases in state court revenues, a few changes in the downtown office are being implemented. Recordings of official documents, marriage license applications and marriage ceremonies will be the focus of our office downtown. All court related transactions will continue to be offered at the main Courthouse in Yulee.

More details will follow as the reopening date approaches. To keep up to date with the latest information about what's happening at the Clerk's



office, please like and follow our social media pages on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Information will also be posted on our website, www. nassauclerk.com.





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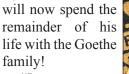
D2- NOLES Coach- Robby Sapp



D3- TORNADOS Coaches- Syntha and Jeremy Johnson

NCSO K9 Diesel Retires

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office is pleased to announce the retirement of their K9 Diesel. K9 Diesel's official retirement paperwork was signed ending his almost 10 years as a Police Service Dog. NCSO Deputy Goethe had the honor of calling Diesel his partner for the past 3.5 years. K9 Diesel



"It was once said that every man is entitled to one

good dog in his life, and if he's it, I consider myself very, very, fortunate," said Goethe. "I couldn't have asked for a better partner and Nassau County is a better place because of his service and dedication."

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