

WESTSIDE JOURNAL

Pray to God for Our Nation!

VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 45

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2022

"LET THE MORNING BRING ME WORD OF YOUR UNFAILING LOVE, FOR I HAVE PUT MY TRUST IN YOU. SHOW ME THE WAY I SHOULD GO, FOR TO YOU I ENTRUST MY LIFE." - PSALM 143:8

Buck's Gulf Station in Hilliard Finally Demolished



Dawn S. West

For many residents in Hilliard, last Tuesday was a bittersweet day as they watched the former Buck's Gulf Station being torn down. The station, located at the corner of US Highway 1 and CR 108 in Hilliard, has sat dormant for 26 years since its closure in 1996. It was such an honor for me to meet with David Buchanan, whose grandfathers (both) and eventually his father owned the once-thriving business.

"The original Gulf station building was built in 1953 and it was located on the other side of US 1, by the current Nassau Pawn Shop. It was owned and built by my grandfather Cris S. Walker



(his mother's father) and the station was run by my uncle Ivor McConnell for about a year," said David. "For about the next 30 years, the station was managed by Julian Stokes, who was my father's brother-in-law. In fact, after Julian retired, his son Jeffrey managed the station for a few years. This was truly a family business. My other grandfather, Mr. Buck Buchanan, Sr. also worked at the station. My father Buck Buchanan already had a station and took this one over around 1955. Dad would

have been about 28 years old at that point. My grandfather was always called Mr. Buck, my dad Buck and me Little Buck."

Mr. Buck was always at the station and ready to help when needed. He loved meeting with people and talking. In fact, Mr. Buck passed away in 1963 at the counter in the station. He truly loved what he did!

Buck's Gulf Station was open 24/7 offering full service for all vehicles that came through. By full service they meant: fill up your car with fuel, check your engine fluids, windshield wipers, tires and vacuum your car. Back in those days, Gulf offered Gulf Flecks, basically a check list of things to do when a car pulled in. It was a good way to keep up with what the employees were supposed to do while providing a copy for the customers, too. Wouldn't that be nice to have that now, full service?

The new building (the one that was just demolished) was built around 1966. The old Methodist Church, a wooden building, was on the corner and it was moved to the back of the property behind the station. The building was



Buck Buchanan

quickly put into use as a garage for working on vehicles. Through the years, many high school students were employed at the station. It was a great place to learn a trade and learn how to talk to people and socialize.

David remembers he and his brother, Gary, working at the station as young boys and later young men and adults.

The Buchanan family also owned and operated a Fuel Oil business that was located behind the original station. The business was open from 1946- 1978 serving and delivering fuel oil around the area. During the last few years of the station, the brand was changed from

Gulf to BP and finally to Shell. "It was bittersweet to see the old station go. I do wish my dad would have been here to see this. I think he would have been happy," added David. "I have so many memories of those days. I'm glad to see something come in its place and hope it will be as popular as the station was!"

The property was sold years ago by the Buchanans and has recently been sold again to its current owner. And yes, the old tanks have long been removed and the property has been clear of gas and diesel for several years. The current owner is still considering several options at this time of what will fill this new vacant corner in Hilliard. Inquiring minds can't wait to see what comes next!

Memorial Day Observed at Oakwood Cemetery

Monday, May 30, a special ceremony was held at Oakwood Cemetery to remember those who lost their lives while serving our great country. The VFW Post 10095 Commander David Lewis conducted the special ceremony. "We call this a ceremony not a celebration because we are honoring all those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country and us," said Lewis.

The officers attending assisted with the ceremony. They led in the reading



of the Memorial Call of those listed on the roll from Nassau County from each branch service. Members took turns
See 'Memorial Day' on page 4

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Volunteers Needed!

Dear Editor,
 I am Kim Clemons, Facilitator for the new NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Nassau County Family Support Group meeting the first Wednesday of the month at 12 noon at the Journey Church on Highway 1 in Hilliard. Since May is Mental Health Awareness Month, I would like to explain some things about our organization. NAMI Nassau County has no employees. We are completely staffed through volunteers and our Board members are volunteers. Maybe you have a link to mental illness and would like to make a difference? Maybe you have seen that untreated mental illness can lead to homelessness? Maybe in your job you have worked with people impacted by the devastating impacts of mental illness and substance abuse? Maybe you work in law enforcement and see the tie between mental illness and crime? Maybe someone in your family has come through a dark period of a suicide attempt, and you want to help other families in similar situations? Many of our volunteers come from these types of connections to mental illness.

Some of the volunteer opportunities require no training or expertise. For example, we have new print materials that need to be distributed around all parts of Nassau County in grocery stores, churches, community centers, laundromats or anywhere we have permission to place them. Many still don't know about NAMI or its work. But it takes volunteers to get out these fliers, brochures and information cards.

We also need help planning events. It is a volunteer who rounds up tables, tents and materials and develops a schedule for those who will work the NAMI table. In the past, NAMI has also put on a golf tournament, community dinners and walking events. These activities require several volunteers for successful planning and working the events.

For the support groups like the one I lead, we need facilitators. These individuals are also volunteers, though a friends and family facilitator should have a loved one living with a behavioral health diagnosis and peer facilitators should be individuals living with a mental health condition. Training is provided to interested persons at no cost to you. NAMI is a national program with a well-organized training model and a well-vetted evidence-based curriculum.

Letters to the Editor

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

Again, 1 in 5 individuals live with the effects of mental illness. A mental health crisis could happen in any family. Please consider how you may be able to help your neighbors and community. More information is available at naminassaucounty.org, as well as a Volunteer Interest Survey to complete to let us know what types of opportunities you are most interested in.

To reach our Help Line, call 904-277-1886 and leave a message.

Sincerely,
 Kim Clemons

the left was calling for violence to stop the overturn of Roe v. Wade, which allows the murder of millions of children each year through abortion. The left is seeking to bring back slavery to America every way they can. Enough is enough! It is time to put down their treason.

Joseph Hoover

Frustrated with Prices

Dear Editor,
 For some time now I have been disgusted with the continued price gouging of Winn Dixie in Hilliard. Now it has become ridiculous and unbearable with the constant rising of prices. We took our grocery list to Walmart to compare their prices and wouldn't you know it, we bought three times the amount of groceries (yes, 3 times) for LESS than half the price we would have spent at Winn Dixie.

Needless to say, I was outraged to see we have been robbed so bad for so long! Nassau County please give Hilliard a grocery store with reasonable pricing.

Thank you,
 Mrs. Elaine Gill

End the Treason

Dear Editor,
 My heart goes out to the families of those who lost loved ones in the school tragedy in Texas. They are the latest victims of the liberal democrats' agenda to destroy the country. By making schools "gun-free zones" they made it easy for those who do not obey the law to slaughter unarmed victims who could not defend themselves. Only when good men with rifles were able to arrive was the evil put down.

Guns are not the issue; the anti-American agenda is. The president and democrats are to blame for this violence as they attempt to defund the police, allow illegals into the country, release violent criminals into the streets, all so they can push their agenda to take away freedom from law-abiding citizens while blaming law-abiding citizens for the problems the democrats created. Further, as more details emerged, it is not by chance the murderer found an "unlocked" door while the first officers on the scene could not get in and then would not go in for over an hour and kept others from trying to stop the attack. This attack was orchestrated by the left intentionally by location and timing to undermine America further. This attack happened in a state that opposes tyranny from Washington and occurred two days before the NRA convention in Texas, not a coincidence.

Also of interest was all the orchestrated responses from the left all calling to take away freedom from the innocent and make all Americans victims. Yet just last week,

they came straight from the pit of Satan's den. Our school systems have allowed the most perverse text books ever. Teaching the most ungodly subjects ever. Subjects that should be talked about in the home by parents, one man and one woman. Mainly the questions about SEX, in any form. Teaching subjects that have very little to do with "readin', writin' and rithmatic." Completely dumbing our kids down.

Then on that same day there was a clip on the same Tucker Carlson Tonight show, that showed President Biden referring to "God" 5 or 6 times. His questions all were aimed at blaming guns and gun manufactures for these deaths. "When in God's name are we going to stand up to the gun lobbyist, doing what needs to be done?" I did not hear the president say anything about we need to turn to God seeking His will and guidance seeking direction through these horrific actions. I did not hear him calling for our House or Senate to do something to get the Bible and prayer back into our schools.

Most in our government know how to use God's name but not to call on Him to intervene to help us. What sad and pitiful bunch of leaders we have in Washington, D. C., and our state and local governments in most cases. Thank God, for Gov. Ron DeSantis!
 Hank Martinez, Sr.

CR 121

Dear Editor,
 While I have been critical of the lack of work on CR 121 in the past and the striping of the road right before the latest repair, work which covered some of the new striping, I try to give credit where credit is due. After driving down CR 121 from US 90 to the north of Horseshoe Circle during a rain storm, it was safer with less water standing in the road... still not what it should be. Hope it will last longer than the other patch work and maybe one day it will get paved correctly!

Thank you to County Engineer Mr. Companion and also Road Director Mr. Hansen.

Rocky Lynn

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JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NATIONAL FLAG DAY Tuesday, June 14th US Sanctioned Flag Retirement Ceremony at Callahan Speedway 7:30 p.m. Conducted by Local Veteran Organizations			1 PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library Callahan Garden Club 10 a.m. Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church NAMI Support 12-1:30 p.m. Hilliard Journey Church	2 Hilliard Town Meeting 7 p.m. Food Giveaway @Callahan First Baptist 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	3 NAMI Support 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging	4
5	6 Callahan Town 7 p.m.	7 Exchange Club 11:30 a.m. Fernandina Golf Club NAMI Family Support 6:30 - 8 p.m. Alachua Club, Fern. Beh.	8 Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	9	10 NAMI Support 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging American Legion & Auxiliary Post 401 Hilliard 7 p.m.	11 Callahan Farmers Market 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Callahan Depot
12	13 WN Genealogical Society 10:30 a.m. Lions Club Food Giveaway FBC Gray Gables 9:30 am - 2:30 pm Country Star Quilt Guild 6:30 pm @ The Anchor	14 Callahan Lions Club 7 p.m. Library Advisory Board 3 - 5 p.m. Hilliard Library	15 Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	16 Hilliard Town Meeting 7 p.m. Food Giveaway @Callahan First Baptist 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.	17 NAMI Support 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging	18
19  Father's Day	20 Callahan Town 7 p.m. Westside Optimists 7 p.m. Lions Club Barnabas Food Fairgrounds 12:30 - 2 p.m. Sons of Confederate Veterans 7 p.m. The Fig	21 NARFE 11 a.m. The Pig NAMI Family 6:30 - 8 p.m. Alachua Club, Fern. Beh. Bryceville Club 11 a.m. NC Young Republicans 7 p.m. San Jose Mexican, Yulee	22 Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	23 Historical Society 6:30 p.m. @ Depot	24 NAMI Support 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging	25
26	27 NC Beekeepers Association 7 p.m. Multipurpose Building	28 Callahan Lions Club 7 p.m.	29 Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	30		

EVENTS AROUND TOWN

Pine Forest Alumni will resume monthly meetings the first Monday (June 6) of each month at 5 p.m. at Bethel A.M.E. Church on Page Street, Callahan. For information call 904-707-9399.

The Youth of Hilliard First Assembly of God, will be selling Barbeque Pork Sandwiches this Saturday, June 4 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the traffic light in Hilliard. They will be raising money for Youth Camp. Pork sandwiches, chips and a drink, \$8.

In the Kitchen...

Simple Chicken

2 skinless, boneless chicken breasts
 2 1/2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
 2 tablespoons mayonnaise, or more to taste

2 tablespoons bread crumbs, or more
 1 1/2 teaspoons herbes de Provence

Preheat oven to 425°. Place chicken breasts in a baking pan. Mix Parmesan cheese and mayonnaise in a bowl; spread evenly over chicken breasts. Coat with bread crumbs; sprinkle with herbes de Provence. Bake in the preheated oven until chicken breasts are no longer pink in the center and the juices run clear, 20 to 25 minutes. An instant-read thermometer inserted into the center should read at least 165 degrees F.

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JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

You know the liberals can't let a horrific occurrence go to waste. It didn't take but a moment for Joe to turn the Texas massacre in to a political event. He totally disgusts me. Below is a portion of his message the day of the senseless killing of children and their teachers in Texas. He starts with, "I had hoped, when I became President, I would not have to do this again." Well duh! Shortly thereafter he spews the most egregious statements he could stumble through, false statements and all of a sudden, he's quoting Biblical scripture, asking for prayer and stating numerous times "When in God's name."

"Another massacre, Uvalde, Texas, an elementary school. Beautiful, innocent second, third, fourth graders. And how many scores of little children who witnessed what happened see their friends die as if they're on a battlefield, for God's sake. They'll live with it the rest of their lives. There's a lot we don't know yet, but there's a lot we do know. There are parents who will never see their child again, never have them jump in bed and cuddle with them. To lose a child is like having a piece of your soul ripped away. Scripture says, Jill and I have talked about this in different contexts, in other contexts: "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit." So, tonight, I ask the nation to pray for them, to give the parents and siblings the strength in the darkness they feel right now. As a nation, we have to ask: When in God's name are we going to stand up to the gun lobby? When in God's name will we do what we all know in our gut needs to be done? It's been 340 - 3,448 days - 10 years since I stood up at a high school in Connecticut, a grade school in Connecticut, where another gunman massacred 26 people, including 20 first graders, at Sandy Hook Elementary School. Since then, there have been over 900 incidents of gunfire reported on school grounds. Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, Santa Fe High School in Texas, Oxford High School in Michigan. The

list goes on and on. And the list grows when it includes mass shootings at places like movie theaters, houses of worship, and as we saw just 10 days ago, at a grocery store in Buffalo, New York. I am sick and tired of it. We have to act. And don't tell me we can't have an impact on this carnage. I spent my career as a senator and as Vice President working to pass commonsense gun laws. We can't and won't prevent every tragedy. But we know they work and have a positive impact. When we passed the assault weapons ban, mass shootings went down. When the law expired, mass shootings tripled. The idea that an 18-year-old kid can walk into a gun store and buy two assault weapons is just wrong. What in God's name do you need an assault weapon for except to kill someone? Deer aren't running through the forest with Kevlar vests on, for God's sake. It's just sick. And the gun manufacturers have spent two decades aggressively marketing assault weapons which make them the most and largest profit. For God's sake, we have to have the courage to stand up to the industry."

There's not enough room here to list all of his atrocities, however one response to his political speech from a friend on social media is perfect: she stated, "Seriously? You, the supposed leader of our country, dare to say "when in God's name?" when God isn't allowed to be a part of our country. No prayer in schools, but, yet, "when in God's name?" You want to know "when in God's name?" When YOU, J.B., and your people in D.C. go back to the basics on which our country was founded - God!

It is not guns, it's people! Did anyone blame the airplanes on 9/11, did anyone blame the car when an idiot drove past barricades and ran over people in a hometown parade? There is no difference. Oh, there is so much more to say but no room to say it all. Never allow the governments to take our only line of defense from the tyrants.

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



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What's Different?

Pastor Marty Paparo, Friendship Alliance Church, Callahan



When it comes to the term, Christian, some may have differing definitions. But I believe God's Word will give us a clear understanding of what a Christian is. For those who claim to be a Christian, the question must be asked, what's different? What is different about you now compared to before you became a Christian?

Let's start by coming up with a working definition of Christian. Merriam-Webster gives us a theologically poor definition: One who professes belief in the teachings of Jesus Christ. You could believe in His teaching without knowing Him. Dictionary.com also fails us theologically: A person who believes in Jesus Christ. This definition would include Satan and every demon, but I'm pretty sure they are not Christians. I think Focus on the Family gets it right with: The term 'Christian,' as we understand it, refers to anyone, man, woman or child, who trusts in Jesus Christ as his or her Savior and Lord and who strives to follow Him in every area of life.

So, let's say for the purposes of this article that you are a Christian. What's different? If we have had an experience with the Creator of the universe, shouldn't we expect that we are now different? Isn't that how interactions with powerful things work? If, for example, you found a downed live power line and decided you were going to touch it. I can guarantee that you would not be the same after. The same is true of 18-wheelers. You can't walk up to me and tell me you were standing out on US1 and got hit by a tractor-trailer. Because I know when you are hit by something as powerful as an 18-wheeler, you are changed.

When we experience the God of this universe, the Beginning and the End, the almighty Creator of everything, we are changed. So, what's different now? What has Christ done in your life? What does He want to do next?

Lastly, getting back to our definition of a Christian, I think these verses speak to the term: "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." 1 Peter 2:9, ESV

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10, ESV

"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20, ESV

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV

"Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9, ESV

Memorial Day

Continued from page 1



reading the names as a bell was rang following each name. The members then placed a small wreath, meaning courage, that these past comrades possessed; a white flower, meaning purity of their lives; a blue flower in memory, of their lives; a red flower, meaning eternity, life everlasting; followed by a silent salute in their honor. The ceremony ended with the playing of taps, by veteran David Buchanan.

The ceremony wasn't long however,

truly meaningful. Falling on the last Monday of May each year, Memorial Day honors the men and women who died while serving in all branches of the U.S. military—more than 1.1 million military personnel in all conflicts from the Revolutionary War to the war on terror (from National Conference of State Legislators NCSL). Our thanks and gratitude to the VFW Post 10095 for providing this ceremony each year. Thank you, for your continued service to our country.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS

First Baptist Church of Hilliard
 June 5th - 9th • 5:30 - 8 p.m.
 15850 CR 108 • 845-3614
 Ages 4 - 5th Grade

Callahan First Baptist Church
 June 6th - 10th • 6 - 8:30 p.m.
 45090 Green Ave. • 879-2172
 Ages 4 - 5th Grade

CHURCH NEWS

North Hilliard Baptist Church, 552823 US HWY1, would like to invite all men to our Men's Prayer meeting held the first Monday of each month, June 6 at 6 p.m.

The Youth of Hilliard First Assembly of God will be selling Barbeque Pork Sandwiches this Saturday, June 4 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the traffic light in Hilliard. They will be raising money for Youth Camp. Pork sandwiches, chips and a drink, \$8.

SUMMER FAM JAM! - 1 1/2 hour Fast-paced, multi-media live action event experience for the entire family! Lighthouse Church, 43694 Ratliff Rd., Callahan, Friday & Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

North Hilliard Baptist Church INDOOR YARD SALE, Friday, June 3 & Saturday, June 4 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 552823 US Highway 1, Hilliard.

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It's Very Simple!

Douglas C. Pearson Sr.

Our entire lives right now are broken down into two words. Contradict and Contradiction! To understand that we must first comprehend their meanings. This is an exercise that the current administration in Washington has yet to undertake. Turning to the dictionary we find: "con-tra-dict": vt 1: to deny the truth of (as a statement); "Con-tra-dic-tion" n 1: a statement that contradicts another 2: opposition existing between things."

I guess my train of thought here began recently, during an annual doctor's appointment following up on a procedure I endured over 10 years ago. The procedure I had is irrelevant to this line, but the circumstances are central to the entire logic. Upon arrival at the office and checking in, I completed the customary paperwork (with ID and insurance cards) to go forward. This included the offensive confirmation that I now identify as a male and that I have identified as a male ever since birth. (I was born during that less than enlightened time when there were only two genders. The third one, that we'll call convertible, came long after my date of arrival.)

After this fire drill, and while waiting, I noticed several signs posted throughout the office, all of which have become routine over the most recent two years. "Please wear facial coverings (masks) at all times. If you are opposed to masking you are free to re-schedule your appointment with another physician." "There will be no shaking of hands in this office and we request everyone to be mindful of social distancing requirements."

Observing this I excused myself with the receptionist to return to my vehicle and retrieve a mask, which honestly, I have not used in over 12 months, with the exception of my last doctor visit. The receptionist advised that it was not necessary and promptly handed me a disposable substitute to use while there. Thankful that I didn't have to make that trip back to the car, I sat back down and awaited my directions.

Not long afterward (a novel idea for a doctor's office) I was directed to an exam room and very shortly my doctor appeared. You can imagine my surprise as to how efficient this was being handled.

But you cannot believe my shock at what happened next. My doctor was unmasked and the first thing he did was extend his hand in a greeting to me in a most welcoming gesture for a handshake. Contradiction? You bet! How refreshing it was to see this medical professional flaunt this standard rule that our government has unconstitutionally mandated upon our persons. I wish Dr. Fauci had been there to see it.

But to carry this further, and demonstrate the terms, we are spending billions of dollars to help a nation protect its sovereignty against an invader, while at the same time spending billions to disregard that sovereignty of our own nation. We are spending billions of dollars to protect and defend our nation against all enemies, foreign and domestic, while ignoring the atrocities that our own administration is inflicting upon our populace. We have spent billions investigating a false accusation of a former president, all the while ignoring the compromising position that the current president, and his family, have put all of us in.

And to close out the point, we have spent billions of dollars, at home and abroad, to ensure the equal rights for all, while spending an equivalent amount taking away those rights of the majority that make up our own communities.

Now the private sector is stepping in to make corrections, because the public sector has insisted that no corrections are needed. Simple phrases demonstrate the hypocrisy. Nancy Pelosi is getting to the bottom of the Steele Dossier. Senator Schumer will investigate the Trump Business Dealings. The Attorney General will not interfere with the Hunter Biden family business dealings. The Department of Homeland Security will secure the border and President Biden will hold those responsible for the racist actions of the Border Patrol.

Ronald Reagan said it best, "Government's first duty is to protect the people, not run their lives!"

By the way, I thank God every day for giving my doctor/surgeon his gifts and skills and sharing them with me those many years ago. I'm still cancer free!

Living Financially Free

It Pays to Shop Movie Theatre Prices

Yvette Outler

My husband and I were planning a movie date night. We landed on our movie of choice. I looked at the AMC theatres to find a time that would suit our availability. I did not find a suitable time slot for the movie. I then looked at Regal Cinemas. I found the same thing, not a great available time slot. Lastly, I investigated Kings Bay Cinemas, the same distance from us in the other direction. I was thrilled to find the perfect timeslot available.

As I went to purchase our tickets and check out online, I noticed that the price was less than what I saw advertised via the other two theatres. I saved a total \$13.76. The remarkable thing was that I found the savings by default as I was simply trying to find a good available time slot for us. I drilled down a little deeper to compare the local pricing.

Here is what I found:

AMC Regency 24: Jacksonville, 2 Adult Tickets \$32.76 (online)

Kings Bay Cinemas: St. Marys, Georgia, 2 Adult Tickets \$19.00 (online)

Regal Cinemas: Jacksonville, 2 Adult Tickets \$27.50 (online)

Who knew that the same exact movie could have such a varied price point? I was so amazed that I needed to share this information with you in



hopes to save you money too. It pays to shop movie theatre prices! If you do not mind letting go of your favorite theatre for a night you may save a substantial amount of cash.

If you are still not going into theatres post covid, my other favorite movie savings is streaming AMC on demand. If you wait just a little bit after the in-house theatre time you can rent a semi-current movie for \$5.99 at home. Their current movie rental price is \$19.99. Side note: I enjoy popping my own fresh popcorn in our Whirley-Pop. It makes savings taste even better! You save time, gas money and the high-priced concessions. That is a triple win!

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

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ABWA Presents Four Scholarships to WNHS Seniors

Representatives from the American Business Women's Association presented 4 Scholarships at the West Nassau High School awards program held May 20. The scholarships included: 3- \$5,000 Influencing the Future Scholarships; and a \$2,000 Steven Bufton Memorial Education Fund Scholarship. All the scholarships were awarded based on academic achievement and leadership.



Shown (l to r) are: Lisa Rosenblum, ABWA Treasurer, and WNHS student Scholarship winners Kaitlyn Malott, Diamond Brown, Laura Cullen and Marie Rizzo Fenn, ABWA Mentorship chair. ABWA and the Women of Influence (WOI) student club raised funds through the ABWA-WOI Influencing the Future scholarship fundraising event held on March 25. The fundraiser's goal was multi-pronged--help club members gain confidence, hone their organizational

and presentation skills, raise awareness of the program, and raise money for scholarships. Thanks to the community's generosity and support, the evening surpassed their goals. It allowed the local chapter of the ABWA to present three \$5,000 Influencing the Future scholarships to the winning members of the WOI student club they mentor.

Also, ABWA presented a \$2,000 Steven Bufton Memorial Education Fund (SBMEF) award to Trinity Armstrong, a WNHS senior. The award funded by the local Eight Flags Chapter of the national organization of American Business Women is in memory of the Founder of ABWA.

Shown below (l to r) is: Trinity Armstrong, presented by Judge Jenny Higginbotham, ABWA's president-elect, and Lillie Marie Rogers, ABWA president, presented the award.



Van Delinder Named VFW Florida High School Teacher of the Year

On May 14, Jan Van Delinder, teacher at Yulee High School and Callahan resident, was honored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars as the Florida High School Teacher of the Year. Presented by State Adjutant/Quartermaster Gene Perrino, Sr., the VFW annually recognizes an exceptional teacher from the state on the elementary, middle school and high school levels for their outstanding commitment to teaching Americanism and patriotism to their students. Van Delinder was the honoree for the high school level for Florida.

Nominated by Post 4351 in Fernandina, Mrs. Van Delinder also received \$850 from the Post, District and State. A speech, debate, dual enrollment and English teacher at Yulee High School, she initiated and coordinates an annual "Valentines for Veterans" campaign in which the students write letters to veterans and send them to the V.A. Hospital. Her



students also interview veterans as a class assignment, then summarize their interviews and write character sketches of the interviewees.

In accepting the award, Van Delinder said, "I'm very appreciative of this recognition because I really want to encourage the students to honor and appreciate those who have defended our freedoms." In her 48 years in education, she has taught on the college, high school and elementary levels, as well as having been a school principal.

Leadership Nassau Class Applications Available

Over the course of 21 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 county and 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 340 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 22 application, contact Leadership Nassau Coordinator Lynne Starling at Lynne@NassauCountyFLChamber.com or call (904) 261-3248. Interested parties may also download a copy of the application on our website at www.NassauCountyFLChamber.com. The deadline to apply is Thursday, June 30, by 5 p.m.

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Where Is Your Faith?

Yvette Outler

Perspective can be a game changer. It can mean the difference between hopelessness and hope. It can navigate you through a storm unscathed or tear you a part, depending on how you see things.

"...Let us go over to the other side of the lake. So, they got into a boat and set out. As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger. The disciples went and woke him, saying, 'Master, Master, we're going to drown!' He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. 'Where is your faith?' he asked his disciples." Luke 8:22-25 (NIV)

Like the disciples, Jesus may ask us to go from where we were to another place. In our modern vernacular that could mean to change jobs, to sell and buy a different home, marry again, move to a different city, or to trust Him in the journey of your grief.

Perspective directly affects your faith. What can we learn from this powerful story? Your circumstance does not dictate your reality. I have heard it said, "Just because you are in the garage doesn't mean you're a car." Get to know the Truth. He is a person. (John 14:6) He will change your perspective from being inward and circumstance(s) to focus on Him. He sees your tomorrow. Jesus saw their destination before they arrived on the other side. The disciple's perspective was fear. Jesus' love for them relinquished all fear. "...Perfect love cast out all fear..." (1 John 4:18)

Your circumstance does not dictate your future. The disciples saw the boat filling with water. They saw the waves crashing overhead. They saw death. Immediately, as Jesus spoke to the winds and the waves there was peace, tranquility and hope restored. No matter how bleak your current circumstance may seem Jesus Christ wants to help you. He wants to speak life to it! He wants to usher you to the other side of healing and wholeness. Because of Him you do not have to live "there" anymore. Wherever your "there" is He wants to set

you free.

Your circumstance is surrounded by God. At the time, the disciples were unaware that the very Creator of the winds, rain and storm was asleep just a few feet away from them. They were unaware that the answer to their problem was already with them. Let that sink in. (pardon the pun) Like the disciples, your answer is already with you. He is omnipresent, all-knowing, all-seeing. Salute this Truth by believing and living as though He is already there.

Your circumstance requires Faith. Do not allow a storm to cover up your faith in Christ. Do not allow your circumstance to rattle you so badly so that you cannot think sober mindedly. The Lord wants you to be like a tree planted by the water, where your roots grow deep and are established. When the winds of life blow your way, "Where is your faith?" Have your own. Do not rely on other's faith like the disciples had to do.

Your circumstance does not have to swallow you up! There was a storm. The boat was filling with water. Danger is mentioned. The highlight of this story is not that danger existed, but the way Jesus calmly and peacefully reacts to it. That same fortitude is within us, His believers, by the power of the Holy Spirit living inside of us.

Some of you are living in a very real storm right now. You have been asking for help. You have been asking for direction. The good news is that He is already there. Trust Him. Allow your faith to be established in Him.

Pray this prayer: Father, you know the pain I have been dealing with in my life. You know the heartache that overwhelms me to the point that all I can do is cry. You know exactly where I need the greatest help right this very moment. Lord, come in and help me to have my faith established only in You. You will never leave me, nor forsake me. You will always have my best interest in mind. Lord, I want to glorify You with my life. Bring your will on earth as it is in heaven and establish it in my life today. In Jesus Name. Amen.

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New Beginnings and Milestones

Mr. & Mrs. Gage Turner



Adriana Finelli and Gage Turner were united in marriage Saturday, March 5, 2022 at The Hunter Barn in Waynesville, Georgia.

The bride is the daughter of Leann and Charles Hirschman of Jacksonville; and Gino and Elise Finelli. She is employed by Coastal Vision Center in Callahan.

The groom is the son of Teresa and Bryain Williams of Bryceville; and Bryan Turner of Jacksonville. He is employed with Southeast Toyota Westlake.

Serving as her sister's maid of honor was Alie Finelli. Bridesmaids were Grace Royal, Emily Delano, Heather Taylor and Milianah Williams. Flower girl was Audri Ayres.

Serving as his brother's best man was Colby Turner. Groomsmen were Garrett Delano, Dalton Delano and Alec Pope. Ring bearer was Brayden Hirschman.

Following a honeymoon trip to Gatlinburg, Tennessee the couple is residing in Callahan.

Nolan David Scott

Jacob and Jessica Scott, of Jacksonville Beach, are proud to announce the birth of their son Nolan David Scott. Nolan was born March 31, 2022. He weighed 7 pounds 13 ounces.

Paternal grandparents are Holly and Eric Lowe of Callahan.

Maternal grandmother is Chely Borges of Jacksonville Beach.

Proud great grandmother is Bettie Thompson of Jacksonville (formerly of Callahan); and great Pop Pop Buddy Lowe of Callahan.

Nolan was welcomed home by his siblings Ethan and Adriana!



Freddie Presented with Donations!

Dawn S. West

About one month ago, the Westside Journal shared a story about Freddie Walker. Freddie has been a faithful employee of Callahan Dollar General for around eight years. One morning, in March, while riding his bicycle to work on US 301, Freddie was hit by a vehicle. He was rushed to the hospital with critical injuries. Following a long hospital visit, Freddie was transferred to a rehabilitation center.

During this time, we did the story about Freddie and how he could use our help, as his medical bills were adding up fast. Freddie called me when he was on the way home and he was thrilled.

We met last Wednesday at Callahan Dollar General. It was great to actually meet him in person and see how he was doing. He is wearing a back brace but walking pretty good. I told him he was pretty skinny and needed to start eating



Shown are Freddie and his Dollar General family (l to r): Dot, Dollar General Manger; Freddie Walker, Paula, Associate; and Shelby Assistant Manager.

some good food! We presented him with over \$2,000 in cash and checks and also several sealed cards that, I'm sure also included money. I told him he really made an impact on many of his customers with his sweet helpful spirit. "I am so happy to receive this gift and surprised that so many people wanted to help," said Freddie. "I'm working hard to get back to as normal as I can be. I hope to be able to work again. Thank you to everyone that contributed to help me out. It means so much!"

Junior Beta Enjoys Pizza from TOH



The Town of Hilliard was happy to sponsor the Hilliard Junior Beta with a Pizza Party at the end of the school year! Council President John Beasley was happy to bring the pizza and visit with all the students and encourage them to keep pursuing and promoting the ideals of academic achievement, character, service and leadership!



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Spring Sports Recognized at HMSHS

Hilliard Middle-Senior High School invited all the students to the gym the last week of school to celebrate several teams from the Spring Sports! HMSHS athletes have done GREAT things this year and the faculty and administration were glad to recognize them! Honored were: Middle School Girls Softball - County Champs; Middle School Boys Basketball - County Champs; Track - 4x100 Relay Team Class 1A District 4 Champs; Varsity Baseball - District Runner Up; Weightlifting Colton Conner, State Champion; Nate Vroman, 6th Snatch and 3rd Traditional; Seth Moore, 5th and Cole Holland, 9th. Way to go Flashes!



Varsity Boys Baseball



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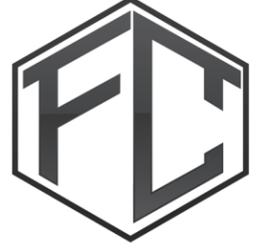


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Life Care Center of Hilliard now hiring **RNs and LPNs**, must have FL License. Please apply in person to: 3756 West 3rd Street, Hilliard or fax resume to 904-845-9487, or email to: Loren_Reddish@lcca.com<mailto:Loren_Reddish@lcca.com.tfn

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Unison Behavioral Health is seeking a full time **CASE MANAGER** in our Charlton clinic to provide a broad range of social services to clients and their families. Participates in treatment team planning and performs crisis intervention. Assists in dealing with personal and social problems. Serve as a liaison for social services. Perform case management duties, education and skills building. Required Minimum Qualifications: HS Diploma and three years experience in social services. Prior case-management experience preferred. Bachelor's degree and one year experience preferred. tfn

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EMPLOYMENT CONT.

Unison Behavioral Health is seeking a full time **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDER** in our Charlton clinic to manage and direct the clinical activities and daily operations of a comprehensive behavioral health program. Oversees the program's policies regarding participant involvement, requirements and staff expectations. Supervise, plan and evaluate work activities of assigned staff. Provides group therapy, individual therapy and assessments for Charlton program clients. *Free Clinical Supervision and sign on bonus of \$1000* Required Minimum Qualifications: Master's degree and pursuing licensure, and 1 year experience in a Social Services related position. (LMFT, LPC, LCSW) Full licensure preferred. Application at <http://www.unisonbehavioralhealth.com> (Join Our Team). tfn

WANTED LANDSCAPE LABORERS, no experience or license needed. Call Danny at 904-251-4963. tfn

JOURNEYMAN LINEMAN POSITION - Okefenoke REMC is now accepting applications for an open Journeyman Lineman position in Hilliard, Florida. A complete job description and application are available online at oremc.com or picked up at any of our offices Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Friday, June 3, 2022, at any of our offices or emailed to jobs@oremc.com. The Co-op reserves the right to cancel any and all bids. Okefenoke REMC is an Equal Opportunity Employer/ Drug Free Workplace. 60222

YARD SALES

FREDDIE VANZANT ESTATE SALE! Saturday, 9 a.m. until? 37495 First Street West, Hilliard. Everything must go! CASH ONLY!

SATURDAY, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. VFW Post 10095, across from Hilliard Airpark. Lots of new donations, very nice baby clothes, paintings and other items. Come support your Veterans!

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., north Hilliard to Andrews Road. Follow signs! Crafts, clothes, scroll saw and lots more!

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE: Friday & Saturday, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., 85071 Amhurst Oaks Drive, Callahan. Baby items, household items, clothes & more!

BIG SALE, Friday & Saturday, 8 a.m. until? 35075 Nancy Road (off River Road), Callahan. You name it I got it! My junk is your treasure! Some furniture, glassware, odds and ends, some plants. Priced to sale! Rain cancels!

SATURDAY ONLY! 7 a.m. - 3 p.m., 31326 Knight Road, Hilliard. LOOK FOR SIGNS! Everything must go! Name your Price! ALL reasonable offers accepted! Flat screen TV, fireplace TV stand, Farmhouse décor, boutique jewelry, clothing, 1000's of blank tee's, duck decoys, lift chair, mini fridge, microwave, standing popcorn machine, school supplies, hat press, mannequins, shoes, display racks, suitcases, TN Volunteer bedding décor, other miscellaneous items!

BIG, BIG GARAGE SALE, Thursday, Friday & Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., across from Kelly's RV Park on US 1. Quality craft sale, many handmade items.

North Hilliard Baptist Church **INDOOR YARD SALE,** Friday, June 3 & Saturday, June 4 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 552823 US Highway 1, Hilliard.

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Home Values in Nassau County Reach Record Appreciation Levels

Mike Hickox, NC Property Appraiser

In my forty plus years in the real estate and appraisal industry, I have never experienced a real estate market like the current one. There are a record number of people migrating to Florida from other states due to previous lock downs, lower taxes, better schools, and the ability to work remotely. This has created a shortage of available housing for sale and inflation has driven building cost to record levels, making existing homes more attractive. For the second year in a row, almost all properties offered for sale are receiving multiple offers within the first few days, resulting in bidding wars and sales prices above the original list price. 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 speculative building. This market is being driven by buyers with cash looking to improve their quality of life by relocating to the Great State of Florida. The record level of appreciation is a direct result of limited supply and increased demand, which is simple supply and demand economics. Tracking and trending sales into the first quarter of 2022 indicate some neighborhoods on Amelia Island have seen a 50% or more annual appreciation.

The supply chain issues, staffing, fuel prices, and inflation have hurt many small businesses and commercial properties. Our job is to measure what, if any, the loss of business had on the value of the real estate as of January 1, 2022. 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 in 2020 and 2021, many income producing properties, such as hotels, restaurants, and movie theaters, lost value due to a forced shutdown. Most made a comeback in 2021, but the full-service hotel industry, for example, is not expected to reach 2019 income levels until 2024. Even after considering the reductions in value to some commercial properties because of the pandemic, value in Nassau County has once again reached record levels.

Due to the migration of out of state buyers and increased demand for residential properties, the total market value for the County has reached a new record high of over \$20.5 billion, which is an increase of over 18% from the previous year. The taxable value has surpassed the previous year exceeding \$12.6 billion, almost 14% above last year.

The City of Fernandina Beach is projected to see a taxable value increase of 12.5%, bringing their taxable value to about \$3.37 billion.

The Town of Callahan is estimated to have its taxable value increase to \$137 million, up by over 10% from last year.

The Town of Hilliard is expected to see about an 11.3% increase in taxable value, bringing that value to over \$129.5 million.

The primary responsibility of the Property Appraiser's office is to produce a tax roll which is fair and equitable. Florida Statutes require we 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. I am often asked, "How do you determine the just or market value of my property?". Florida is a 100% assessment state. This means each year we are required to estimate the "fair market value" of a property based on the most probable price it

would have sold for if offered for sale in an open market. Consequently, we run sales and statistical analysis for different neighborhoods, markets, and property types to determine a sales ratio. These ratios reflect a comparison of a property's sales price and its current just or market value. We make changes to values based on the sale ratio for their property types and market. Because we mass appraise, 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 values are based on last year's sales. With market values increasing at record levels, we were required by the Department of Revenue to time trend sales that happened in 2021 to account for appreciation. This means if you purchased your home in the early part of 2021, it would most likely sell for more than your purchase price by January 1, 2022.

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, 2022. 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. The assessed value of homestead properties

can increase no more than 3% or the consumer price index (CPI), whichever is lower. Because the CPI is well in excess of 3% for 2022, previously homesteaded properties assessed values will increase the maximum 3% this year. Non-homestead properties have an assessment cap of 10%.

We provided the 2022 estimated values to the taxing authorities on May 27th so they may 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 for this tax year. Property Appraisers in Florida have NO control over the actual amount of taxes levied. The amount of the taxes levied is controlled by the taxing authorities and is determined by the millage rate needed to support their annual budgets each year. I would encourage you to participate in this process. Increases in taxable values will result in higher taxes "IF" taxing authorities increase their current tax rate or keep their millage rates the same as last year.

The "official" preliminary tax roll is expected to be released to the taxing authorities and the Department of Revenue by July 1st. Property owners are encouraged to visit the Property Appraiser's website at www.nassauflpa.com in late July to review their 2022 property values. We will send out Truth in Millage (TRIM) Notices in mid-August, which will advise you of your estimated value, exemptions, and proposed taxes for 2022. 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.



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JACKIE ANNETTE DANIELS



Jackie Annette Daniels, 66, of Jacksonville, passed away on May 9, 2022. She was born in Banks County, Georgia on April 20, 1956, to the late Roy Daniel and Maggie Lou Carson Young.

Jackie and the love of her life, Daniel Daniels shared 50 beautiful years of marriage. She enjoyed fishing on their Jon boat, playing games on the Wii, relaxing on the porch and eating chocolate covered cherries, but more than anything she loved spending time with her family. Jackie had a heart of gold and was passionate about taking care of her family. She will always be remembered as a nurturer. Jackie was a loving and devoted wife, mother, sister, grandmother and great-grandmother. She will be missed by all who knew her, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Jackie was preceded in death by her parents; and son Daniel Daniels.

Jackie leaves behind her loving husband Daniel Daniels; daughter Misty (Henry) Land; siblings Diane Tison, Annie Ruth (Freddy Landrum), Syble (Ralph) Jackson, Lorain Hardy (David Compton), Roy (Julie) Daniel, Jr. and Lester (Joy) Daniels; grandchildren Cody (Serie) Reynolds, Angela Mosley and Kathleen Daniels; great-grandchildren Braxton, Ryder, Hudson and Kane; brother-in-law Lloyd Daniels, Darrel Daniels and Henry Daniels; sister-in-law Betty (Louis) Lawrence; and niece Lawana.

A celebration of Jackie's life was held on May 12 at Nassau Funeral Home.

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

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

DONIE WYVONNE GEIGER



Donie Wyvonne 'Liz' Geiger, 88, of Hilliard, passed away on Thursday, May 26, 2022. She was born in Waycross, Georgia on March 29, 1934 to the late Jakie Carter and Mamie Carter. She was currently a member of First Baptist Church of Boulougne and previously a member of Cedar Creek Baptist Church in Jacksonville. In addition to her parents; she is preceded in death by her husband of 66 years, Franklin Geiger; and a son Jerry

OBITUARIES

Geiger.

She is survived by her two sons Rick (Kathy) Geiger and Danny (Cath) Geiger; her grandchildren Amanda Geiger, Jeremy Geiger, Jana (Chris) Ellis, Stacy (Chadd) Wilson, Crissie (Forrest) Butler, Lee (Kristen) Mock, Dustin (Megan) Mock, Jason (Erika) Geiger and Deanna (Adam) Arowood; 17 great-grandchildren; and numerous other relatives.

The funeral service was held Saturday, May 28 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home with Rev. Greg Jones officiating. Burial followed at Buford Grove Cemetery. The family received friends prior to service.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

EMERSON "GARY" LILLY



Emerson "Gary" Lilly, 69, of Callahan, entered into eternal rest on May 21, 2022. He was born June 8, 1952 in Oceana, West Virginia. After the death

 of his father Cecil Lilly, he moved to Florida with his mother Lucy (Wayne) Eller and siblings. Gary grew up in historic Springfield and spent the majority of his life in Jacksonville, before retiring to Callahan. He is preceded in death by his father Cecil Lilly; and mother Lucy Eller.

Gary leaves behind his children Shannon (John) Green of Plant City, Adam Lilly of Jesup, Stephanie Lilly of Kentucky and Jessica (David) Nicks of Wyoming; grandchildren Mason Green, Levi Green, Raina Lilly, Daegan Lily, Jordon Lilly, Zoe Lilly and Brayson Nicks; siblings Mary Marr, Rhett Phillips, Roger Lilly and Richard Lilly; and several nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held Tuesday, May 31 at Jacksonville National Cemetery where Military Honors were rendered.

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

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

CHARLES LEE McLEMORE



Charles "Pap" Lee McLemore, 81, of Hilliard, went home to be with the Lord on May 23, 2022. He was born on April 29, 1941, in

Berrien County, Georgia to the late Eddie Barney McLemore and Rachel Maxie May McLemore. Charles and the love of his life, Evelyn, wed on Good Friday, April 15, 1960, and it truly was a "Good Friday." He worked as a Press Operator for Rex Packaging and Malnove for over 45 years. Charles was a hardworking man, whether it be on his daily job or in his yard and pond, he took pride in his work. When he wasn't working, he enjoyed fishing, listening to Elvis and Johnny Cash, aggravating his family, and playing Skip Bo. Charles was very competitive and did not handle losing very well. More than anything he loved spending time with his family. A special memory that his grandchildren will treasure is "Pap" singing to them. Charles was a loving and devoted husband, father, and grandfather who will be missed dearly.

Charles leaves behind his wife of 62 years, Evelyn Hogan McLemore; children Edward (Lisa) McLemore, Winifred McLemore, Michael (Shannon) McLemore and Cameron McLemore; grandchildren Brad Fordham, Kyle McLemore, Peyton McLemore and Keith McLemore; and great-grandchildren Weston McLemore and Embry McLemore.

A celebration of Charles's life will be held privately by his loving family.

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

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

JONATHAN RAY PARKER



Jonathan Ray Parker, 38, of Jacksonville, passed away on May 22, 2022. He was born on February 21, 1984, in Jacksonville. Jonathan moved to Callahan when he was 6 years old. He graduated from West Nassau High School in 2002. He enjoyed all genres of music and playing the guitar in the Second Chance Band in high school. Jonathan continued to

play the guitar for the rest of his life. He also enjoyed playing video games, going to concerts and spending time with his friends. Jonathan will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Jonathan leaves behind his mother and father Donna and Michael Shouse of Callahan; father Billy Ray Parker of Nahunta; grandparents Wanda and John Haga of Callahan and Charles and Aline Highsmith of Nahunta; sisters Brandi Parker of Jacksonville and Christene (Travis) Ogle of Missouri.

A celebration of life service was held Tuesday, May 31 at Nassau Funeral Home.

In Jonathan's honor, please make donations to Riverside Tradition House, 2911 Riverside Avenue, Jacksonville, Florida 32205, <http://thjax.org/>.

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

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

ISABEL T. SCIORTINO

Isabel T. Sciortino, 87, passed away May 26, 2022. She was born on April 16, 1935 in Buffalo, New York, to Russell and Dorothy Sciortino. Isabel worked in retail and was a stay-at-home mom. She was an active member of First Baptist Church of Gray Gables and sang in the choir for many years. She also volunteered in the Cup Ministry and shared the love of Jesus with everyone she met. In addition to her parents; she is predeceased by her son Russell Forcine; and siblings Don Sciortino and Anthony Sciortino.

Survivors include her daughters Margaret (Allen) Cook, Dorothy Forcine and Christina (William) Cook; grandchildren Kimberly (Matthew) Dalton, Jessica (Joshua) Hannah, John Cook and William (Lisa) Cook; and a great-grandchild Ronin Cook.

The family received friends Tuesday, May 31 in the Chapel of Callahan Funeral Home. The funeral service was held Wednesday, June 1 also in the chapel.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

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

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OBITUARIES

GARY EDWARD WADE



Gary Edward Wade, 79, of Hilliard, passed away May 23, 2022 at the Life Care Center of Hilliard after a lengthy illness. The Hilliard native was born on November 30, 1942 to Marion E. and Ruth Milligan Wade. Gary was a US Navy Veteran and was retired from the Nassau County Road Department as a Mechanic. Gary was very active and a hard worker. He enjoyed planting and gardening and was very good at it. He would spend hours getting the ground ready plowing away and never got tired. His favorite thing to do was share what he grew with family and friends. Gary also enjoyed walking and would walk everyday rain or shine. He was passionate about music and often listened to Jimmy Rodgers or Hank Williams, Sr. with his foot tapping. He had a sweet tooth and always had several Hershey candy bars and loved giving them away just as much as he enjoyed them. He had lots of hobbies to include photography, reading, swimming, cooking, baking, collecting old coins,

stamps, books, records and much more.

Gary was an absolute treasure to his five grandchildren. He had special relationships with each of them and was very involved in their lives. He only had one rule for them, they must call him Granddaddy, nothing else ever, it had to be Granddaddy no matter what. It was something all the grandchildren had in common, and they were much obliged to do so. In addition to his parents; he is predeceased by his beloved sister Patricia Henderson.

Survivors include his three children Jeff, Greta and Amy Wade; five grandchildren Damien Wade, Anthony Wade, Cody Cawley, Mallory Wade and Kellie Marshall; seven great-grandchildren; brother Leland Wade; and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held Saturday, May 28 in the Chapel of Callahan Funeral Home.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

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

Ribbon Cutting for New Cooperative Extension Office

Friday, June 10 at 2 p.m., the Board of County Commissioners will host a Ribbon Cutting in celebration of the completion of the new County Extension Office located at 85831 Miner Road, Yulee. The Board of County Commissioners broke ground on this project on May 15, 2019. All construction work has been done in-house by Facilities Maintenance staff consisting of over 1,800 man-hours and resulting in significant savings to the County.

Upon completion, this new 2,000 square foot facility will serve as the administrative office for the County Extension staff and will feature classrooms for horticulture, natural resources, agriculture, 4-H Youth Development, and family consumer classes and training rooms for the master gardener volunteers and extension agents. The property will also feature demonstration gardens, a nature trail with learning stations, an orchard, and an aquatic pond for pond maintenance training.

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NOTICE OF ELECTION

Potential Candidates can apply for one (1) of the following positions:

- Mayor
- Two (2) Council Seats
- Treasurer
- Four (4) seats on the Town Council

The four qualified candidates for Town Council that receive the highest number of votes in the General Election on November 8, 2022, shall be elected to serve a four-year term.

Petitions Deadline is Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at 4 p.m.

Qualifying for the Town of Callahan Town Council will begin on Monday, August 1, 2022 at 8 a.m. and will conclude on Thursday, August 12, 2022 at 3 p.m.

Any person desiring his or her name to be printed on the Official Ballot as a candidate for any of the above offices shall file with the office of the Town Clerk according to the qualifications set by the Town of Callahan Charter which are on file in the Clerk's Office or available online at: <https://www.townofcallahan-fl.gov/>.

Qualifying packets may be picked up at Callahan Town Hall located at 542300 US Highway 1, Callahan, FL 32011, during normal business hours Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For more information, please contact Town Clerk, Shawna Gugliuzza at 904-879-3801, ext. 203.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony.

Navy Vet Aguilar Announces Bid for Congress

Erick Aguilar, Republican candidate for Congress, announced today that he will be running in the newly drawn and approved Florida Congressional District Four.

To date, Erick and the campaign have raised \$1,012,685.31 and have \$812,000 cash on hand.

Erick has drawn in over 20,000 unique contributors generating donations from all 50 states with 80% of those donations coming from the Free State of Florida.

Erick was born in San Pedro Sula, Honduras in 1975. At the age of seven, moved with his family to Brooklyn, NY. It was a challenging time for he and his family growing up in the "rough" area of Brooklyn during the catastrophic epidemic of drugs and crime, education and economic crisis, and lack of public trust. Yet, he overcame the struggles and applied those lessons to pursue a better life.

This pursuit led him to joining the United States Navy. Erick has served his country proudly all over the world for over 20 years. He joined challenging deployments in the Persian Gulf during operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. "I retired from the Navy in 2016. I thought I was going to spend that time with my kids. Then I started seeing that it wasn't the country that I defended," said Aguilar. He continued, "still today, we need to have more action and leadership. I understand things get political, I understand things happen, but we need to see results... I am an



outsider and a leader."

But Erick's call to public service is not yet complete. His vision for Florida's Fourth is to structure "America First" policies that will increase the quality of life for everyone- especially our families. He says, "I am

a husband and a father to young children. It is imperative that we work hard now to ensure a bright and prosperous future for the next generation." He continues, "whether it is in the classroom and being a part of the conversation surrounding their curriculum, pushing back against "woke" ideologies, or working with other leaders to protect them from threats abroad, it is up to us to keep the American Dream alive for them. I look forward to continuing to cast my vision and share my thoughts with all of the new constituents of District 4 over the next several months."

Erick Aguilar, Candidate for Congress, Florida District Four 13450 Stanton Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32225. Visit: www.erickforcongress.com.

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Remember to Pray for Our Troops

The Westside Journal would like to pay tribute to all the brave servicemen and women. Please take time to remember each of these service members in your daily prayers.

Gabriel Albert (Hawaii), Jacob Ash-Medina (Japan), Jewel Rene Barron (Virginia), Timothy Beasley (Cuba), Cody Beaver (Virginia), Jessica Bell (Hawaii), Chad E. Black (South Carolina), Kevin & Brooke Blanton (Georgia), Sgt. Caleb Bohannon (Oklahoma), Israel Marcos Bonilla (Missouri), Derek Borden, Benjamin Black (Iraq), Hunter Brannon (Africa), Conrad Braawn (Afghanistan), Ryan Brooks (Connecticut), John Brookshire (North Carolina), Aaron Brown (Japan), Branden Brown (USS Nimitz), Anthony Broekema (Virginia), Ethan Bulford (Virginia), Thomas W. Burnette (North Carolina), Ahmad Butler (Japan), Brayden Lamar Carroll (North Carolina), Allen L. Carter (Alaska), John Coltrane (NAS Jax), Scott Cooper, Dustin Corum (South Korea), Trevor Corum (Nebraska), Charlie I. D. Cox (South Korea), Quinn Coxwell (Georgia), Gavin Crews (Germany), Tison J. Crews (Korea), Charles 'CJ' Cribbs, III (Washington, DC), Dennis L. Davis II (Alabama), Joshua M. Davis (New York), Shannon Davis (Nevada), Johanna Diaz (Nevada), Clif Dixon (Iraq), Devin Michael Dowling (Georgia), Christopher Downs (Arizona), William Clay Dryden (South Korea), James Dale Evans (Baghdad), David Farhat (North Carolina), Christen Fernandez, Clinton Fouraker (Virginia), Medford Foskey (Arizona), Jeremy Francisco (Mayport), Jennifer D. Frederick (Colorado), Kevin J. Gahrns (United Arab Emirates), Michael E. Garcia (Afghanistan), Marcus Gee (Iraq), Samantha Gee (Korea), Tabetha Gee (Korea), Chadrick Gibson (Iraq), Charles Gibson, Darrell Goodwyne, Jr. (Iraq), Sgt. Daniel Graves, Jr. (North Carolina), Eric Greene (Georgia), Branden R. Griffis (Florida), Wendy Griffis (Afghanistan), Phaylyn Griffith (California), Kandis Guyton (California), Hunter C. Guzman (Georgia), Micah Hall (Georgia), Michael Hall, Michael Hallman (Key West), Ronnie Hammer (Colorado), Todd W. Hanner, Jr. (Texas), Andy Harper, Harley Henderson (Texas), Nathan Hess (Japan), Jeff Higgs (Spain), SPC Hodge (Iraq), Josh Hoyle (California), Levi Hren (West Point), AT2 Brian Hughes (Bahrain), Bryan K. Jeffers II (Iraq), Jacob Jensen (Middle East), Cade Johns (Virginia Beach), Aaron L. Johnson (Colorado), Carlus Johnson (Texas), Donald Johnson (North Carolina), Jamaal Jones (Hawaii), Bradley Justice, Brian J. Kerns (Virginia), Kayla King (Germany), Scott Kirkland (California), Joshua Knight, PO3 Travis E. Kornacki (North Carolina), Jordan Kriner (Italy), Victoria LaMontagne (Florida), Tyler Landreville (Florida), John C. Larkin (Iraq), Thomas Layden (North Carolina), Chase M. Lewis (North Carolina), Katelyn Lewis (Japan), Nicholas Louese (Spain), Jason Lovejoy (Colorado), Patrick Lynagh (Nevada), Gatlin Mackie (Virginia), Kevin Marshall (Germany), Canisha Martin (Georgia), Tony Martin (Georgia), Anthony Mastrogiovanni (Georgia), Stacey McDaniel (Virginia), Caleb McGee (Virginia), Noah E. McKinnon (Iraq), Michael McQuaiz, Matthew McRae (North Carolina), Russell Mellroy (Afghanistan), Ivory Melton, Jr. (Kuwait), Brian Middleton (Afghanistan), Steven Miner (Germany), Chase Allen Mitchell (Colorado), Britt Mizell (South Carolina), Dillon Mock (Florida), Joshua Monds (Virginia), Anthony Moore (Afghanistan), Anthony Moore (South Carolina), Roland Moore (Iraq), Chris Morehead (North Carolina), Sgt. Travis Morris, Climart 'CJ' Moses (Afghanistan), Michael Murphy (Iraq), Aaron Musgrove (Afghanistan), Stephen Myers (Korea), Jonathan Neeve (Texas), Gary Nelson (Kuwait), Michael Nettles (Iraq), Lee Nickola (Iraq), Ryan Norton (North Carolina), Jesse O'Berry (England), Daniel O'Dell, Shannon O'Dell, David Oppfelt (Florida), Steven A. Oxforth (Connecticut), Walter Oxforth (New Mexico), Chase Parden (Kansas), Michael Park (South Korea), Danielle Parker (North Carolina), Jeremy Pelkey (Georgia), Christopher Phelan (Virginia), Darren Phelan (Washington State), Kyle Pipkins (South Carolina), Joshua Poirier (Georgia), Austin Potochnik (California), Dusty Price (Iraq), Michael Price (Germany), Kenneth Pullum (Washington, DC), Kyle Pullum (Louisiana), Jeffery Rapadas (Kuwait), Justin Reed (North Carolina), Kasie Richardson (North Carolina), Jeffrey Rigdon (Kentucky), Camilla Roberts (Alaska), Sydney A. Robinette (Florida), Michael Robinson (Alabama), Jason Rodgers (Texas), Douglas Raymond Roth, Marc Rowe (Georgia), Dillon Rozar (Louisiana), Brian M. Sartain, Jr. (North Dakota), James Sanders (Germany), Tressie Scott (Afghanistan), James Scully (Georgia), Marcus Sharpe (Michigan), Donald Shaw (Iraq), Michael Shearer (Illinois), Jesse D. Silcox (Bahrain), Daniel Singley, Corey Slayton (California), Christopher E. Smith (Iraq), Michael J. Smith (North Carolina), David Stallings (Kuwait), Bill Starling (Iraq), David Starling (North Carolina), Larry V. Starratt, III (Korea), Scott M. Stephens (Hawaii), Caleb & Jordan Stoner (North Carolina), James 'Mike' Stringer (Iraq), Joseph R. Taylor (Texas), Luke Thomas (Germany), Michael Thomas (North Carolina), Crystal Thompson (Iraq), Terry Thompson (Virginia), Tiffany Thompson (Washington), Sarah Tindell (North Carolina), Corey M. Turner (Kuwait), William Varner (California), Shawn W. Vickers (California), Daniel Vroman (North Carolina), Jonathan Vroman (Georgia), Brett Wade (Florida), Reece Wade (Arizona), Jeff Walters (Iraq), Shawn Ward (Texas), Brian Waring (Iraq), Daniel Waters, David Watson (California), Justin Webb (Japan), Jacob Wesson (Japan), James D. Whitman, Carson Williamson (North Carolina), Earl Youman, Jr. (Virginia)

It is our honor to recognize our local Armed Service members. We would like to update our 'Pray for our Troops' list, adding those who have recently joined our Armed Services or removing those who no longer serve. Please read over the list. If you need to make a correction, addition or deletion, just give us a call, 879-4180. You may also email changes to news@westsidejournal.net.

God Bless our Troops!

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.

Saturday, May 21

David Earl Edwards, 57, 54877 Church Road, Callahan: Arson at Occupied Residence

Sunday, May 22

Rolando Plata, 35, 45049 Marvin Street, Callahan: Dealing in Stolen Property; Grand Theft over \$5 less than \$10,000

Monday, May 23

Floyd Eugene Barron, 34, 54695 Sheffield Road, Callahan: Possession of Schedule 1-5 Substance; Possession of Methamphetamine; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia with Residue (x 2)

Taylor Jenelle Fine, 32, 54697 Sheffield Road, Callahan: Possession of Schedule 1-5 Substance; Possession of Methamphetamine; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia with Residue (x 2)

Tuesday, May 24

James Leroy Wright, 40, 44002 Charwood Drive, Callahan: Felony Habitual Traffic Offender; Tag not Assigned on Vehicle

Wednesday, May 25

Bryan Keith Hyers, 48, 56269 Colby Drive, Callahan: Sale of Delivery of Controlled Substance (Fentanyl); Possession of Schedule 1-5 Substance

Free NAMI Nassau County Mental Health Support Groups

NAMI Nassau County FL offers free support groups for those with mental health challenges and for the family and friends of those with such challenges.

Friends and Family Support Groups:

- First Tuesday – 6:30 to 8 p.m., Alachua Club, 32 N 3rd Street, Fernandina Beach

- Third Tuesday – 6:30 to 8 p.m., Journey Church, 95707 Amelia Concourse, Yulee

- First Wednesday – 12 to 1:30 p.m., Journey Church, 550974 US-1, Hilliard

Peer Support Groups (for those with mental health challenges):

- Every Friday – 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Council on Aging, 1801 Island Walkway, Fernandina Beach

Anyone 18 years or old is welcome. Meetings are structured, confidential, inclusive and led by trained facilitators. For more information, please e-mail us at contact@naminassauflorida.org, visit our website at www.naminassauflorida.org, or call our Help Line at 904-277-1886, leaving a message.

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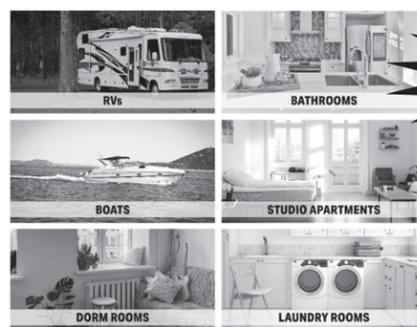


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BCS Nassau Annual Blood Drive/Fish Fry a Success

Mike Mekara

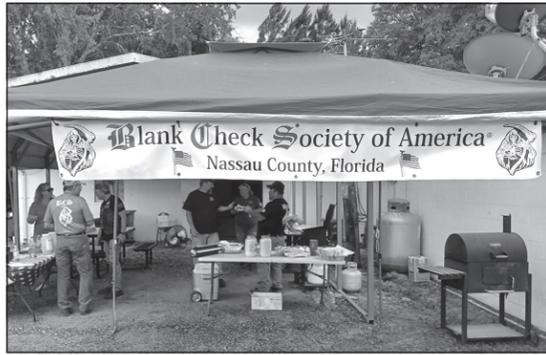
With the support of the Hilliard VFW Post 10095, the Blank Check Society (BCS) of America, Nassau County Chapter, recently held their Annual Blood Drive/Fish Fry. The Blank Check Society (BCS) of America Honors our National Hero Veterans who served to ensure we enjoy our daily freedoms.

The BCS proudly supports/sponsors community Blood Drives, the VA Facility in Lake City, Wreaths Across America, Boots-on-the-Ground, funeral escorts for Veterans, assistance with home health needs of Veterans and support of ALL Veteran Organizations.

There were 21 Units of Blood collected and over 90 Fried Fish dinners served. The BCS also gave out free dinners to those who donated blood and to our community first responders. Money received from dinner purchases and donations will be used to purchase Flags that will be placed upon our Veterans Graves in NE Florida and South Georgia, and to assist with the purchasing of Christmas Wreaths for the Jacksonville National Cemetery.

We want to thank the community for sharing the power to save lives! The recent blood donations are vital to our community and will likely be transfused into a patient within the next two to three days. The turnaround is that fast, the need is constant. We ask our community to please give when you can.

On average, the BCS monthly visits at least 4 cemeteries, and conducts quarterly cemetery clean-ups. Another



portion of the proceeds will purchase Christmas Wreaths to be placed upon Veterans Gravesites at the Jacksonville National Cemetery (JNC). Over 18,000 Christmas Wreaths are needed for 2022. Please donate to the BCS or any Veteran Organization. Each day of the year is an opportunity to show our respect in the year-round mission to honor those who served and sacrificed. Every wreath placed becomes a catalyst for bringing together different generations of Americans in one mission of remembrance and appreciation. On National Wreaths Across America Day each December, volunteers place wreaths on individual veterans' graves



in over 1,100 locations throughout the U.S., with ceremonies at sea, and at each of the national cemeteries on foreign soil.

Wreaths Across America would not be successful without the help of volunteers, active organizations and the generosity of the trucking industry, which offers invaluable support to WAA's mission to remember the men and women who served our country, honor our military and their families, and teach our children about our freedom and those who protect it. Wreaths Across America partners with like-minded organizations that share common missions and goals to build awareness for the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform, and that of their families. Through collaborative outreach on both the local and national levels, Wreaths Across America and its Partners are expanding the network of supporters, volunteers and donors while helping other organizations do the same. Community support is needed. Please contact the Wreaths Across America, Blank Check Society (BCS), Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), American Legion or any other local veteran organization about how to help.

We are very thankful to the community for coming together and supporting this



event. Please seek for opportunities to help our community. A special THANK YOU to Callahan Barbecue (the Chicken House) for providing us with their Famous Cole Slaw.

Please save the date for Tuesday, June 14th for our National Flag Day. Local Veteran Organizations will be conducting a US Sanctioned Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Callahan Speedway. The Honorable Ceremony will commence at 7:30 p.m.



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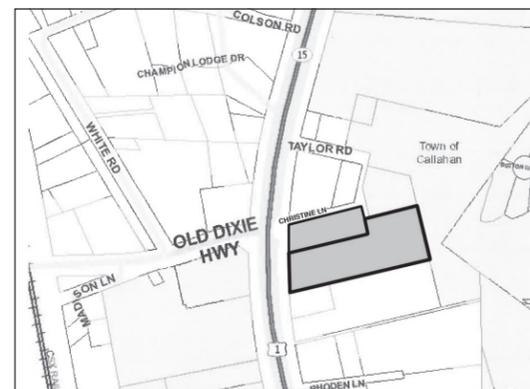
REQUEST FOR VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION

VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION OF THE FOLLOWING PARCELS:

PARCEL # 51-2N-25-4190-0009-0000

PARCEL # 51-2N-25-4190-0014-0000

ACRES: 2.92



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, June 6th at 7 p.m.

Callahan Town Hall

542300 U.S. Hwy. 1 • Callahan, FL 32011

Interested Persons may appear and be heard at the Hearing.

Individuals with disabilities needing a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the program or activity should contact the office of the Town Clerk at (904) 879-3801 or clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov at least seventy-two hours in advance to request such accommodation.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Callahan Intermediate School Reading Challenge Held

Students at Callahan Intermediate School were given a reading challenge at the beginning of school. The challenge was that students would be invited to a Reading Rally if they could reach 100 AR points by the end of the year. Over 90% of the school met the challenge! Congratulations students!



Congratulations Callahan Mudcats!



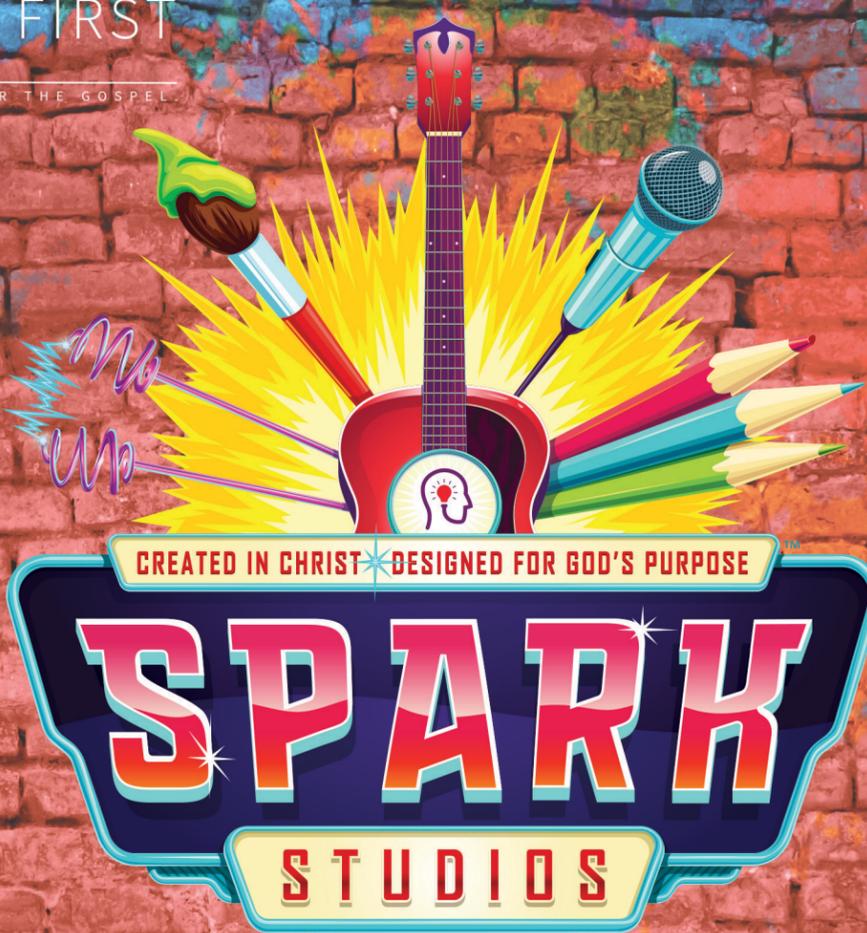
Congratulations to the Callahan Mudcats baseball team for finishing 1st in their 2022 spring season in the Callahan 50/70 League. They also won the championship in-park tournament. The teams batting average totaled .575!

Shown top row (l to r) are: Head Coach Keith Boston, Assistant Coach Mike Overturf, Grayson Hill, Bryton Beazley, Drake Cole, Dayton Wilson, Anthony Holmes, Assistant Coach Tom McAnallen, Gunner Ashley, Christopher Carter and Assistant Coach Waylon Boston. Bottom row (l to r) are: Antonio Smith, Tanner McAnallen, Jackson Overturf, Hank Boston and Mason Getzlaff. (Assistant Coach Jeremy Holmes not pictured)

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