

A Word From the Publisher

Per the calendar, the beginning of summer is actually today, Thursday, June 20. I shared with someone this week that I thought we had a really nice spring this year and when it was over... it was over. I can remember days when it was really hot in May and we are in mid-June. Thank you, Jesus, for sparing us a month before the hot temperatures arrived.

Last Sunday, we celebrated Father's Day and what a special day it was. Roger and I, my sister Marci and my brother Gus and Christie, went to my parent's house and cooked brunch for Daddy and Mama! We had such a good time. We just had a small smorgasbord! Needless to say, we had plenty to eat and lots of time to fellowship!

I am so blessed to still have my precious dad, who is 92 years old. He is such a special soul. Daddy and I are pretty tight. We can sit and talk in person or on the phone, for days. It seems we always have something to share with each other. When I was in high school, Daddy and I walked to school together. Obviously, I didn't have a car, nor did he want me to have one. Anytime we talked about a vehicle, his famous words were: A car is a dead expense! And he was right, again! I finally bought a car when I was a senior in high school.

About a month later, the car needed a new battery and I told daddy. "I'll take you to Kmart and you can buy one there." I can buy one? Yes, I bought one that day. Lesson learned. A month later I needed new tires. Yep...you guessed it. I bought those, too.

There truly are many times that I think back to those 'life lessons' that I learned from both of my parents. Some were hard but others so simple. I'm not sure why we have to sometimes make things so complicated. My parents were never complicated. Very straight forward, black or white, no guessing. They always had our best interests and safety at heart. Parenting is super-hard job and I've learned from the best. I've also learned that you never quit being a parent. I've watched my parents rejoice with us and also grieve with us.

Many times, in my life, I shared my dad with lots of other people, mainly students and players. Daddy worked as a teacher and coach, he poured into



those kids and helped to transform them into respectable adults. Many will see him today and almost tear up. It's so cool to see what a mark he has left on so many lives. Just as now, he teaches a senior men's Sunday school class. He is exhausted every Monday as he calls his members, one by one, to check on them and tell them they were missed. These men love my dad (and mom) so much. I told you I was blessed.

Now, looking back, it's amazing to see the many lives Daddy has touched...

including his own children. We were disciplined as children and knew what a belt was to be used for. To this day, we all continue to say yes ma'am/sir and no ma'am/sir. I can still remember when I was in my teens, I tried to sneak in one night, I guess from a date. I tried to tip toe through the house. Once I made it to the living room and almost to the stairs, I heard Daddy say, "Where are you going?" I completely froze in my tracks. I begged him to beat me but he just sat me down and talked to me. Once I saw how disappointed he was in me, I started crying. Lesson learned. I never want to disappoint my parents again. It was such a bad feeling.

Life goes on and I survived but that feeling still comes over me when I think of disappointing them or anyone. Life is so extremely short. Try to take one day (and one visit) at a time and enjoy it to the fullest as we don't know what tomorrow may bring! Thank you, Daddy, for the being the best dad of all!

Have a blessed week!

Dawn S. West

In the Kitchen...

- 3/4 to 1 lb. ground beef or turkey
- 1 small onion, chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 package (16 oz.) frozen Tater Tots

Preheat oven to 350°. In a large skillet, cook beef and onion over medium heat until meat is no longer pink; drain. Season with salt and pepper. Transfer to a greased 2-qt. baking dish. Top with Tater Tots. Combine soup and milk; pour over potatoes. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake, uncovered, 30-40 minutes or until heated through.

Quick Tater Tots Bake

- 1 can (10-3/4 oz) condensed cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
- 2/3 cup 2% milk or water
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

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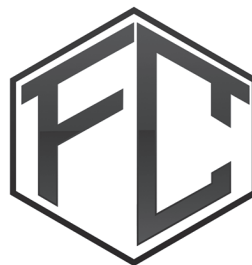


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Dawn West Publisher
Roger West Owner/Reporter
Jessie Pickett Graphic Designer

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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.

A Look at America

Dear Editor,
 One view of history tells us there are five unifying elements of civilization. One: A Common Language. In America, it is English. Business opportunists however, have sullied the commonality of English by catering to an expanding audience who, unlike earlier immigrants, don't feel it necessary to learn English. A prominent sector of our political environment has further diluted our language with 'political correctness,' an irony of our age.

Two: A Common Intellectual Life. Sadly, following the loss of a sense of community in society and governmental intrusions into our right of free speech, has shattered the intellectual atmosphere and driven major figures in literature, philosophy and science to find more favorable climates.

Three: A Common Passion for Sports and Athletics. In this area, we are probably number 1 in the world. Unfortunately, motives are mixed. In America, so many feel we are not winning in our lives, at least our teams might win for us.

Four: A Common Appreciation for Beauty Expressed in Art Forms: An estimated five to 10 percent of the population fall into this area. Truth and beauty are in short supply.

Five: A Common Religion: Early settlers who founded this country were primarily Christians who fled from other countries in search of religious freedom. Their days are gone forever. In fact, organized religious

observance is in decline. The most valued spiritual currency is currency.

B. R. McConnell

Climate Change

Dear Editor,
 I view ignoring the science and data collected, as it relates to climate change, somewhere between an ostrich burying his head in the sand and the naysayers who were around Noah while he was building the ark. There is no denying that the population explosion on planet earth and the changes we are seeing being related. The earth's population was 1.6 billion in 1900 and today stands at a little over 8 billion.

Beyond consuming more of the earth's resources, mankind has invented new ways to pollute the land, sea and air. Plastic bottles and internal combustion engines come to mind. I cannot also ignore how people who live in or around the Amazon Rainforest, the earth's radiator for heat, are actively cutting down the trees and farming the land until it is no longer productive. I read the other day that the overall temperature around the globe broke the all-time record for in 2023 and this year is on track to beat that one.

If it were not for all of the facts that are building towards the argument for climate change, I might also agree with a recent former president who wrote on Twitter on a Sunday morning, as the eastern half of the country endured super cold, how climate change could be real if it was so cold outside.

Tom Taylor

JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

I cannot even remotely keep up with just a portion of what is going on in the world we now live in. From the war in Gaza, to the war in Ukraine, to the invasion of our country at the southern border, to a failed American acting President, along with a corrupt Justice Department a corrupt FBI, corrupt Senate and House and on and on! Our world is in shambles!

I recently listened to Scott Galloway on a pod cast and his perspective of Israel was right on target. He says that when you look at the number of fatalities of civilians relative to enemy combatants, Israel is being more targeted or what we would call less inhumane, than American forces were in World War II. So, with all these cries of inhumane treatment, this Is War. War by virtue is inhuman. When you go into another nation that has a superior military infrastructure and you commit the type of slaughter that was committed on October 7th by Hamas, you are inviting war and all its inhumanity. Israel is the only country that has been told or the rest of world just assumes they're not allowed to win a war. When Japan took that risk and killed 2,200 service people in Pearl Harbor, we went out and killed 2.5 to 3 million Japanese including 100,000

in one night, and the condition wasn't people calling to protect the hospitals of Hiroshima or Nagasaki. The conditions were simple, unconditional surrender or we keep killing your people. That's called war!

History, when we are smart enough to study it, instead of tearing it down because it hurts one's feeling is very compelling. William J. Federer points out that Lenin said socialism is a transition between individual capitalism and communism. Capitalism empowers the individual, to go earn a living and make stuff and sell it which empowers the individual. Socialism is the transition phase to take it all away until finally the government owns it all and you own nothing. The method they use is deconstruction, which is a sale technique. They convince you that life's current situation is not good anymore, that they have a better way of serving you. Now they have put you in a neutral mindset. It separates people from their past and they don't remember where they came from. Then it's simple to brainwash them into the future. You/we have planned for them. That is exactly where we as a nation are right now. We are planning our own demise.

As always...that's just my opinion!
 Trump 2024

EVENTS AROUND TOWN

Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) meets every Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the Hilliard Library. PAL provides hope through education and support to parents of addicted loved ones. Visit: www.palgroup.org to learn more. Free educational support group for parents and families.

By opening your heart and home to a youth in Foster Care, you can help forge a lifetime of success and happiness for a child right here in Nassau. Your support can open a world of possibilities. Are you ready to learn more? Contact recruiter@fssnf.org or 904-421-5864 for information.

CLASS REUNION

West Nassau High School Class of 1974

The WNHS Class of 1974 will celebrate their 50th year reunion October 26 at 1881 Occasions at 6 p.m. in Hilliard. The event will be \$30 per person.

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Don't Shoot the Messenger

Pastor Adam Pierce, Liberty Baptist Church, Callahan



Funny thing about the delivery of information today... everyone wants to "shoot the messenger." I believe it is mostly because we, as a society, have become fixated on the messenger rather than the message. It used to be the world was civil and that a firm, but polite "I agree to disagree" would leave everyone friends. I blame social media. Information delivered to us today is treated the way we treat what we see on social media...we

swipe away what we do not care to see.

No one enjoys, nor wants, to get news that is bad, negative, or hurtful. It does not make the truth any less true. I have mentioned in previous articles that people in the world today, and especially America, are making up their own truth. This too is a contributing factor.

I see people "shooting the messenger" every day. Take our own, beloved Roger West. He shares an opinion and the "Letters to the Editor" section is full of responses. I support the free speech of everyone. This quid pro quo is entertaining to say the least. But it is certainly evident of the fact that people stand ready to "shoot the messenger."

It is also interesting who folks are willing to tolerate hearing truth from as they deliver information that is other than pleasant. A good Samaritan yelling fire. A polite golfer yelling fore. A doctor delivering the news of cancer. But...preachers delivering the truth of eternal damnation in Hell is too much, too far. I suppose in the case of the fire, golfer and doctor these truths were outside of your control. However, in the case of Hell, you have an opportunity to change the outcome in an equally urgent circumstance.

I heard a preacher say once, "Hell is not a Biblical motivator to salvation." Let me ask, does anyone need saved from Heaven? People misrepresent God as only a God of love. But Romans 11:22 tells us, "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness..." "Thee" in that verse is addressing those who made the decision, by faith, to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior. Romans 11:5 states, "...according to the election of grace." We are in a political election year, a big one. But you are also in an eternal election where you must make a choice...electing your outcome. Do nothing with the truth (in essence vote no), because you do not like it, and receive Hell. Choose the truth of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Heaven is guaranteed yours. A true victory in Jesus!

CHURCH NEWS

Bethany Episcopal Church, located across from Hilliard Town Hall, will be selling Barbecue Dinners Friday, June 21 from 5-7 p.m. for \$8 each.

North Hilliard Baptist Church, will hold a BBQ Dinner and Bake Sale this Saturday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., beside Hagan Ace Hardware in Hilliard. Pulled Pork or Chicken with sides for \$10.

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Auditions for Gilligan's Island

St. Marys Little Theatre (SMLT) Founder Barbara Ryan Harris announced that auditions for SMLT'S 15th season opener, "Gilligan's Island: The Musical," will be held Saturday, June 29, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Theater by the Trax in downtown St. Marys. Roles to be filled include: Gilligan, the Skipper, the Millionaire and his wife, the Movie Star, Professor, Mary Ann and an Alien. "St. Marys Little Theatre is proud to bring this funny, nostalgic musical to life," said SMLT Chair Gloria Hurley. "We know it will attract lots of families as they relive the simpler times of the 60s when this story was televised as a popular weekly television series."

Those interested in auditioning should prepare a one-minute monologue, be prepared to read from a cold script and will also be asked to sing a song of their choosing. Karaoke versions of the song can be used and theater will supply a Bluetooth speaker,

but auditioners should know the words to their chosen song. Auditioners are also invited to attend a one-hour Auditioning Workshop to be held at Theater by the Trax on June 22 at 11 a.m. Hurley said the free workshop is optional but might be especially helpful for those auditioning for the first time. Auditioning for Gilligan's Island is not required to participate in the workshop. Anyone who cannot attend the June 29 auditions may send in a short video audition that must be received before June 25. Send video auditions to Barbara@stmarysmagazine.com.

Gilligan's Island: The Musical showings are October 11, 12, 18 and 19 at 7 pm and October 13 and 20 at 2 p.m. Those dates are mandatory for all cast members. Theater by the Trax is located at 1000 Osborne Street in St. Marys. For more information, email Barbara@stmarysmagazine.com or call 954-290-9873.



'JUMP ON THE STUMP' CANDIDATE FORUM SATURDAY

SATURDAY, JUNE 22 • 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.



Nassau County Farm Bureau will host a 'Jump on the Stump' Candidate Forum at the NE FL Fairgrounds Livestock Pavilion in Callahan. This non-partisan event aims to connect local candidates with the community.

During the forum, each candidate will deliver a 3-minute 'stump speech'. There will not be a Question & Answer session, however you will have the chance to engage with candidates afterward. Plus, the first 300 adult attendees will receive a \$5 voucher for food trucks. Join us as we celebrate democracy and enjoy good food and fellowship.

For additional information, call 904-879-3498.

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Over \$40,000 in Grants Awarded by OREMC Foundation

The OREMC Foundation is pleased to announce second quarter grant awards presented to 10 organizations and totaling \$40,200. The next OREMC Foundation grant application deadline is Friday, July 12, 2024. Qualified organizations can apply for grants on a quarterly basis that support programs and initiatives approved by the OREMC Foundation trustees in accordance with the Foundation's charter. Applications are available, and can be downloaded, at oremc.com/foundation.

Among the grant recipients in Nassau County are:

Barnabas Center, \$3,000: The grant will support the Center's Food For Families program in Nassau County, through mobile distributions sites that provide food insecure families access to healthy, fresh foods.



Shown (l to r) are: OREMC Foundation Trustee Ramona Jones, Barnabas Center Case Manager Priscilla Elijaiek, Development Director Tania Yount and Receptionist Joyce Knox.

Pinky Promise, \$5,000: A resource center for women who have been diagnosed with cancer and strives to offer them products: wigs, sleep caps,

scarves/head coverings, camisoles for mastectomy patients, chemo gift bags, etc., Free of charge, to help them feel beautiful inside and out.



Shown (l to r) are: Pinky Promise Board Director Dawn West, Founder Sybil Purvis and OREMC Foundation Trustee Ramona Jones.

The Storehouse of Northeast Florida, \$5,000: The grant will help stock the shelves of its food pantry, serving more than 300 families with a twice-monthly food distribution. The Storehouse ministry helps feed families primarily in Nassau County, but also Camden and Charlton counties in Georgia.



Shown (l to r) are: OREMC Foundation Trustee Ramona Jones and The Storehouse Vice President Carrie Mizell.




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New Beginnings and Milestones

Ruby Howard Celebrates 92nd Birthday



Ms. Ruby Howard, of Callahan, celebrated her 92nd birthday on June 5. She received this special gift (pictured) from some of her friends that know she loves the USA! Ms. Ruby is a great friend of the Westside Journal staff, as she stops in often to visit, brings us a recipe and sometimes goodies. She is one amazing woman, as she has eight tandem jumps out of an airplane, under her belt, and all of them were done in the past 9 years! She enjoys going to the Woodbine Opry on Saturday nights and has numerous friends there. She enjoys thrift shopping and glitzy caps! She probably has over 100 caps,

most that were given to her by friends!

Ms. Ruby has four children Janet Johnson of Callahan, and Robert, Fred and Ronald Howard (all deceased). She also has numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren!



Tess Alena Moats Duarte

Jennifer Duarte, of Callahan, and Derrick Moats, of Jacksonville, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Tess Alena Moats Duarte. Tess was born May 10, 2024 at Ascension St. Vincent's Hospital in Jacksonville at 6:34 p.m. She weighed 7 pounds 5 ounces and measured 19 inches.

Paternal grandparents are Kirk and Patty Moats of Jacksonville.

Maternal grandparents are Grady and Diane Kelley of Yulee.

Tess was welcomed home by her sisters Tatum, Taylin and Tinley.



Dolores Long Celebrates 95th Birthday

Dolores Long, of Callahan, celebrated her 95th birthday June 19. Mrs. Long is a long-time resident of Callahan and a retired teacher. She enjoyed her special milestone with a birthday luncheon, held in her honor, at her home with a few close friends.

Callahan Burger King Just Repaired

Dawn S. West

The Callahan Town Council met Monday night for their final meeting of June. The first order of business was to discuss the town's comprehensive plan that was recently updated due to a Senate Bill passed by Governor Ron DeSantis. The updates included changes to: the development of Affordable Housing; Resiliency Facility allowing for the use of natural gas for the town water supply during a system outage or natural disaster; Town Water Supply Facility Work Plan, the plan was updated to comply with the recent Regional Water Supply Plan; and Private Property Rights Elements, the town will seek to include this element in its Comprehensive Plan.

The final order of business was replacement window estimates for both Town Hall and the Fire Station. "These are quotes from Window World, who provided a couple windows a few years ago," said Town Manager Mike Williams. "There will be 7 windows

replaced in the Town Hall building; and 8 windows in the Fire Station. All of the windows are in rough shape. The total cost is \$16,190 for all."

The council approved the purchase and installation of new windows.

In closing comments, Councilman Matt Davis asked, "What is going on with Burger King? Are they planning on reopening?"

"Repairs were being made on the Burger King building only. Currently there are no plans to reopen the business," said Williams. "At this point, I think it is bank owned."

"Could we contact them about maintaining the area? Like mowing the grass," asked Councilwoman Janet Shaw. "It looks horrible around there."

"We'll have our Code Enforcement person to contact them about the maintenance," added Williams.

The next meeting of the council will be Monday, July 15 at 7 p.m. due to the July 4th holiday.

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Fernandina Beach Realty Celebrates 50 Years!



This year, Fernandina Beach Realty is proudly Celebrating 50 Years of serving our community. Founded in 1974, the company has grown from a modest operation into one of the most trusted names in local real estate. Over the past five decades, Fernandina Beach Realty has helped thousands of families find their dream homes, providing personalized service and a deep understanding of the Amelia Island and Nassau County market. The company's commitment to excellence and integrity has remained steadfast, earning it a loyal client base and a reputation for reliability.

At the helm of Fernandina Beach Realty is Steve Simmons, a seasoned broker who has been instrumental in the company's success. Steve has always emphasized, "If we provide the needs

for others, then our needs will also be met." This philosophy has guided the firm's approach to business, fostering a culture of empathy and customer-centric service. Under his leadership, the firm has navigated the ebbs and flows of the real estate market, consistently adapting to changing trends and client needs. Steve's vision and dedication have been pivotal in maintaining the company's standing as a pillar in our community. As they celebrate this significant milestone, Fernandina Beach Realty looks forward to continuing their legacy of exceptional service for many more years to come. They now have offices in Fernandina Beach (904-261-4011), Yulee (904-261-5011) and Callahan (904-879-3011).

NCSO's Patterson Completes National Academy Training

Alicia Tarancon,
Director of Public Affairs

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office is thrilled to congratulate Director Robin Patterson, on her recent graduation from the prestigious FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. She was part of the 290th session, which consisted of law enforcement professionals from 46 states, the District of Columbia, 24 countries, five military organizations, and six federal civilian organizations.

The FBI National Academy offers an intensive 10-week residential program focused on advanced communication, leadership, and fitness training. Participants are carefully selected based on their proven track records as professionals within their respective agencies, boasting an average of 21 years of law enforcement experience. The graduation ceremony was graced by the presence of FBI Director Christopher Wray, who delivered remarks honoring the accomplishments of the graduating class.

The training at the FBI National Academy is provided by highly qualified instructors, including FBI special agents and subject matter experts with advanced degrees. Many



of these instructors are internationally recognized in their fields. Notably, since 1972, students have had the opportunity to earn undergraduate and graduate credits from the University of Virginia, which accredits all courses offered at the Academy. Established in 1935, the FBI National Academy has produced

a remarkable 55,186 graduates to date. The Academy is housed within the FBI Training Academy in Quantico, the same facility where the Bureau trains its new special agents and intelligence analysts.

Director Patterson began her career with NCSO 28 years ago and we extend our heartfelt congratulations to her on this remarkable achievement and look forward to the positive impact her enhanced leadership skills will have on our organization.



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THE TOWN OF HILLIARD is seeking a highly motivated, qualified individual to serve as an **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** to perform specialized administrative work under the general direction of the Town Clerk. Qualified applicant will assist with professional and administrative work such as: customer service, cash collections, utility system, proofreading and editing, having effective oral and written communication skills, ability to complete assignments within stringent deadlines, excellent follow-up skills, ability to be sensitive to political issues, responding to citizen inquiries regarding official actions; knowledge of Public Information and Records Laws, and have the ability to take on additional municipal duties as required. High School Diploma or equivalent required, associate degree in business preferred and at least two years' experience in the public sector or equivalent work experience required. Individuals must be proficient in Microsoft Word & Excel computer programs and have knowledge of Florida Statutes. This is a non-exempt (hourly) full-time position. The Town offers extensive benefits programs. Salary is Grade 3: ranging from \$16.23 - \$24.36. The Town of Hilliard is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug Free Workplace. Post-offer physical required. Applications and a complete position description may be picked up at Town Hall located at 15859 West County Road 108, Hilliard, Florida from 9am until 5pm Monday through Friday, or printed from the Town's website www.townofhilliard.com. Applications with resumes will be accepted until the position is filled. 62024

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EMPLOYMENT CONT.

THE TOWN OF HILLIARD is seeking a highly motivated, qualified individual to fill the part-time temporary position of **CLERICAL ASSISTANT** to perform specialized administrative work under the general direction of the Town Clerk. Qualified applicant will assist with professional and administrative work such as: customer service, cash collections, research, general clerical office duties and providing support within the Town Clerk's Office. A High School Diploma or equivalent required and at least two years' experience in the public sector or equivalent work experience. Individuals must be proficient in Microsoft Word & Excel computer programs and have knowledge of Florida Statutes. This is a non-exempt (hourly) part-time temporary position that will be scheduled to work Monday through Friday, 20-30 hours per week. This position is for a period not to exceed six months at which time will be evaluated for the need to move into a regular position status. While part-time positions do receive all legally mandated benefits (such as Social Security and workers' compensation), they are ineligible for all the Town's other benefit programs. Salary is Grade 2: ranging from \$13.96 - \$20.94. The Town of Hilliard is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug Free Workplace. Post-offer physical required. Applications and a complete position description may be picked up at Town Hall located at 15859 West County Road 108, Hilliard, Florida from 9am until 5pm Monday through Friday, or printed from the Town's website www.townofhilliard.com. Applications with resumes will be accepted until the position is filled. 62023

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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.

Sunday, June 9

Cody Robert Bartell, 19, Callahan: Unlawful Carry of Concealed Firearm (x 3); Felony Flee and/or Elude with Lights and Siren; DUI; Possession of Driver's License with Altered Date of Birth

Jennifer Leigh Crumpton, 39, Hilliard: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia with Residue; Loitering and Prowling; Trespass on Real Property; Possession of Methamphetamine

John Martin Carroll, 63, Hilliard: Battery Touch or Strike Domestic Violence; Aggravated Assault with Deadly Weapon

Monday, June 10

Edward Mark Wade, Jr., 42, Hilliard: Sale of Methamphetamine within 1000ft of Church

Tuesday, June 11

Jacqueline Jazzmine Rosas, 35, Callahan: Trespassing Structure or Conveyance; False Name While Detained

Wednesday, June 12

Tyrone Lavon Lee, Jr., 33, Hilliard: Loitering and Prowling

Friday, June 14

Michael Sean Back, 43, Hilliard: Possession of Methamphetamine; Possession/Use of Weapon Community Felony

Saturday, June 15

Steven Lathel Jones, 58, Callahan: Violation of Probation/Community Control Felony

Trevis Kyle Robinson, 37, Bryceville: Violation of Probation Community Control

Sunday, June 16

Jacob Tyler Kirkwood, 21, Hilliard: Out of State Warrant Felony

Joel Lindy Lovitt, 50, Bryceville: Trespassing Structure or Conveyance

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ELOUISE DILLHYON



Elouise Dillhyon, 78, of Bryceville, passed away peacefully June 11, 2024. She was born March 3, 1946, in Savannah, Georgia, to the late Orien Gordon and Marjorie Elliott. Elouise married the love of her life Terry, on July 7, 1964. Together they shared 55 wonderful years of marriage. Elouise was a loving wife, mother, sister and grandmother, who will be dearly missed. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband Terry Dillhyon; and sister Shelbia Gillian.

Elouise is survived by her three children Lori Romero, Michelle Wilkerson and Shannon Tollick; brother William Gordon; she was Grandmom to Cheryl, Victoria, Payton, Jason, Carl, Jr., Terry and Bayleigh and GiGi to Brandon, Olivia and Cayde.

A graveside service will be held Friday, June 28 at 9 a.m. at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

Arrangements by Nassau Funeral Home, 541720 US Hwy. 1, Callahan, 904-879-1770.

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

MANDA PRESCOTT JOHNS



Manda Lee Prescott Johns, 92, went to be with her Lord June 11, 2024. She was born April 21, 1932 in Charlton County, Georgia, to the late John Everett Prescott and Leetie Virginia Crews Prescott. She is preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, J.E. Johns; her parents; one brother Everett Britton (Brit) Prescott; two infant sisters; two infant brothers; and son-in-law Rev. E.C. Crews.

Manda Lee worked with the Charlton County School System as a substitute teacher for 13 years; and was a receptionist at the Board of Education for three years.

OBITUARIES

She coordinated the Migrant Program in the school for 13 years. Manda Lee retired to be at home with her sick husband. After he went to be with the Lord, she worked at Charlton County Public Library for two years. She then worked at the Charlton County Health Department for seven years. In her spare time, Manda Lee authored a book about her mother being raised in the Okefenokee Swamp. Manda Lee leaves a large family and a host of friends she worked with over the years. Family and friends were precious to her.

She is survived by four children Charles E. (Lena) Johns and Joan Johns (Donnie) Conner, all of Hilliard, James Britton (J.B.) Johns of Folkston and Carolyn Johns Crews of Alma; ten grandchildren Kevin (Joann) Johns, Rev. Jason (Nancy) Johns, Tara Conner (Bobby II) Franklin, Gannon (Amy) Conner, Erin Conner (Rev. Ted) Owens, Rev. Garrett (Lara) Conner, Tiffany Johns, Jessica (Wesley) Knight, Charity Crews (Shannon) Flowers and Chad (Mandy) Crews; 27 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; special niece Myra Johns (Steve) Glisson; two sisters Janie Ruth Voight and Linda Kilis; and a host of nieces and nephews and friends.

The funeral service was held Monday, June 17 at Riverside Baptist Church in Brantley County, Georgia. The family received friends prior to the service. Burial followed at Riverside Church Cemetery. Officiating were her grandsons Rev. Jason Johns and Rev. Garrett Conner, grandson-in-law Rev. Ted Owens and her pastor, Rev. Randy Wainwright.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston, 912-496-7388.

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

EMANUEL ANTHONY TASSO



Emanuel Anthony Tasso, 92, of Callahan, was called to God June 16, 2024, surrounded by his family. He was born February 22, 1932



in Paterson, New Jersey and moved to Jacksonville, with his family when he was 11 years old. In 1953, Emanuel married the love of his life, Edda Capparelli, and settled down in Callahan, where he lived for over 70 years. Emanuel graduated from Robert E. Lee High School, enlisted in the United States Navy Reserve, and was mobilized to active duty in 1952. During the period of the Korean War, he served on the Haskell-Class Amphibious Attack Transport Ship, USS Rockbridge (APA-228) which was assigned to the Amphibious Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

Following his honorable discharge from the U.S. Navy in 1953, he spent the next nine years married with children, working full time, and attending Jacksonville University, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Accounting (Magna Cum Laude). His accounting career began at the American Oil Company, later with the U.S. Rubber Company, and then continued at Harry Evarts, CPA. Next, Emanuel joined the Internal Revenue Service as an Agent. After 25 years of commendable service, Emanuel retired from the Department of the Treasury where he served as the International Examination Group Manager in the southeast region. He was highly regarded by his subordinates, fellow International Group Managers, and the Office of the Assistant Commissioner (International) for his hard work ethic, expertise, and knowledge of both domestic income tax law and international tax law and was recognized as an expert in these areas by the service and Department of Justice. Known throughout the district as "Mr. International," Emanuel was awarded both the Albert Gallatin Award and the District Director's Award for his performance, commitment, and dedication to the mission of the Department of the Treasury.

Emanuel was a wonderful, strong, loving, and devoted father and husband. He was always supportive to his family and friends during the many accomplishments and difficulties in their lives. Throughout

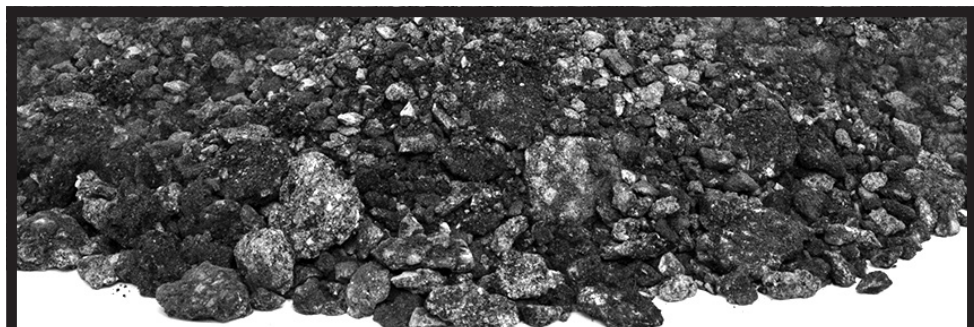
his life, he cherished his family above all else. Even with all the tremendous things he achieved in his professional career, he felt like his biggest accomplishments were his five children and seven grandchildren. His priorities were his Catholic faith, his wife, children, grandchildren, other family members, friends, and helping those at his church, and in the community.

One of Emanuel's greatest passions was music, and he had a wonderful singing voice. He always loved singing at church, with family, and with friends. He found great enjoyment in working outdoors. While employed full time, going to college and raising his five children, he felt great pride that he and his father-in-law (Benny Capparelli) simultaneously designed and built the family home by hand from the ground up. Emanuel and his wife Edda were founding members of Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church in Callahan, and served the parish for over 57 years. He served the church as the President of the Parish Council, Lector, Eucharistic Minister, and Catechist. Always an active part of the Parish Council, he assisted numerous pastors over the years in planning and organizing church activities. Emanuel was preceded in death by his wife Edda (Capparelli) Tasso (64 years of marriage); mother Lucy (Guarino) Giardino; stepfather Angelo Giardino; and father Carlo Tasso.

He is survived by his five children: Lucy Tonette (Charlie) Carroll, Bernadette (David) Luce, Ben Tasso (Margaret deceased), Angela (Joe) Hoff and Anthony (Natalie) Tasso; seven grandchildren Angela Marie Schaefer Nightengale, Marissa (Biniam) Carroll, Sophia Hoff, Shafer (Phylisha) Tasso, Andrew Tasso, Emily Catherine Tasso and Mitchell Tasso; sisters Theresa McGonagle (Joe deceased) and Lucy (Mario) Cortese and brother Angelo (Michelle) Giardino.

The family will receive friends Monday, June 24 from 5-7 p.m. at Jacksonville Memory Gardens, 111 Blanding Boulevard, Orange Park. The funeral mass service will be held Tuesday, June 25 at 10 a.m. at St. Matthews Catholic Church, 1773 Blanding Boulevard, Jacksonville.

While flowers are appreciated, those who wish to express their love through memorial donations, may contribute to Community Hospice & Palliative Care, 4266 Sunbeam Road, Jacksonville, FL 32257, or give online at support.communityhospice.com.



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OBITUARIES

CHRISTOPHER KARL WILAND



Mr. Christopher Karl Wiland, 44, of Hilliard, passed away Monday, June 17 from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. He was born August 5, 1979 in Cumberland, Maryland. He was a member of River Road Baptist Church. He was an avid Jacksonville Jaguars fan and enjoyed playing fantasy football with his church friends. Chris was employed with International Flavors and Fragrances and was a former employee of St. Johns River Power Park. Most of all, he loved his family and friends.

He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law Lindsey and Turner Cameron of Ellabell, Georgia; son Lucas Avery Wiland of Jacksonville; parents Walter Robert and Mary Jane Hetz Wiland; sister Melissa (James) Finley of Waycross;

grandchildren Everly and Crew Cameron; uncles Bob Hetz and Sylvan Wiland; niece and nephews Nathan Seth Finley, Jacob Ian Finley and Anna Jane Finley; and special fur baby Poody.

The family will receive friends Friday, June 21 from 6-8 p.m. at River Road Baptist Church in Hilliard. The funeral service will be held Saturday, June 22 at 3 p.m. also at the church, with Rev. Benji Loyd and Rev. Hal McIntosh officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Pallbearers will be James Finley, Turner Cameron, Nathan Finley, Jacob Finley, Jason Lemka and Richard Pearce.

Condolences may be expressed at www.srfhcallahan.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home-Callahan Chapel, 617365 Brandies Avenue, Callahan, 904-879-2336.

'Jump on the Stump' Candidate Forum Saturday



Nassau County Farm Bureau will host a 'Jump on the Stump' Candidate Forum Saturday, June 22 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the NE FL Fairgrounds Livestock Pavilion in Callahan. The non-artisan event aims to connect local candidates with the community.

During the forum, each candidate will deliver a 3-minute 'stump speech.' There will not be a Question

& Answer session, however you will have the chance to engage with candidates afterward. Plus, the first 300 adult attendees will receive a \$5 voucher for food trucks. Join us as we celebrate democracy and enjoy good food and fellowship.

Florida-Friendly Landscape Program

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ (FFL) is the state of Florida's premier Extension program that promotes sustainable alternatives to "conventional" landscaping, providing guidance on low-impact, environmentally friendly, science-based landscape practices that use less water and reduce pollutant loading to Florida waters. Since 1993, FFL has served Florida as a partnership between the University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Extension (UF/IFAS Extension) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

The FFL Program is centered around

nine principles: 1. Right Plant, Right Place; 2. Water Efficiently; 3. Fertilize Appropriately; 4. Mulch; 5. Attract Wildlife; 6. Manage Yard Pests Responsibly; 7. Recycle; 8. Reduce Stormwater Runoff; and 9. Protect the Waterfront.

Do you have an FFL? Our office does offer FFL Recognition for different landscapes. Reach out to our office if you are interested. Want some fun inspiration? Check out the FFL Example landscapes from around the state here: www.ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/about-ffl/ffl-examples/. For more information contact: Taylor Clem at 904-530-6351 or email taylorclem87@ufl.edu.

Emily's Promise Announces Scholarship Winner

Emily's Promise, a nonprofit foundation working to raise awareness of the danger of blood clots, is pleased to announce Leah Kasper as the recipient of the 2024 Emily Adkins Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to support students with goals of positively impacting Florida's health care industry.



Emily's Promise in memory of their daughter Emily, an aspiring health care professional who tragically died at the age of 23 from a fatal blood clot caused by a fractured ankle. The foundation aims to honor Emily's legacy of kindness and compassion while raising awareness about blood clots and pulmonary embolisms.

Leah plans to use the \$5,000 scholarship to support her education at Florida State College of Jacksonville, where she will major in dental hygiene in hopes of becoming a Dental Hygienist. Leah's passion for health care and helping others is apparent, as she is already a Certified Nursing Assistant with 300 hours of community service.

"Education is the one gift that no one can ever take away. I firmly believe this is true," said Doug Adkins, Emily's father and CEO of Emily's Promise. Janet, Emily's mother, added, "During my time on the School Board and my subsequent eight years in the Florida House of Representatives, I have seen how education can transform lives and open doors of opportunity. Of the many applicants, Leah rose to the top due to her values, dedication, and commitment to health care as a vocation."

Douglas and Janet Adkins established

Leah, a 2024 graduate of Yulee High School, has demonstrated outstanding academic and extracurricular achievements. During her high school career, Leah was involved in various organizations, including the Beta Club, Student Government, Girl Up, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. In her free time, Leah enjoys going to the beach, playing pickleball with friends, trying new coffee shops and restaurants, and playing with her dogs.

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Take Stock Nassau Graduates 31



Take Stock in Children of Nassau (TSICN) is thrilled to congratulate our 31 scholars on their recent high school graduation. We are proud to announce that all 31 graduates have successfully enrolled in a college or university and are set to begin their higher education journey in the coming months. Half of the students will be living on campus at the University of Florida, University of Central Florida, Florida State University and the United States Military Academy at West Point. Collectively, the class of 2024 has an impressive 4.04 weighted grade point average. This achievement is a testament to their hard work, dedication, and commitment to their academic success.

TSICN with a 100% match from the Florida Prepaid Foundation is proud to contribute more than \$700,000 to award a four-year tuition scholarship to these impressive students. Graduates attending a school where dorm assistance is needed also receive a dorm scholarship from Take Stock Nassau. The dorm scholarship program is another way the organization is

helping to ensure students are successful in earning their degree.

TSICN class of 2024 accumulated more than 3,000 mentoring sessions with their dedicated volunteer mentors. During the Take Stock graduation ceremony, mentors placed the Take Stock medallion on their students and helped them celebrate their accomplishments. Take Stock Nassau is grateful for the hours mentors poured into their mentee's success.

Recently, the graduates received their "Senior Starter" gift of either a laptop, dorm supplies or funds applied to their school account to cover textbooks and other ancillary school costs. Graduates filled their carts at the Yulee Super Walmart with all the supplies they needed to get started. The store provided a \$3,400 grant in January to help fund this special gift to the graduates.

Congratulations to the graduates and sincerest gratitude to the families, teachers, mentors, staff and countless others who have contributed to their success. TSICN is excited to see all that they will accomplish in the future!

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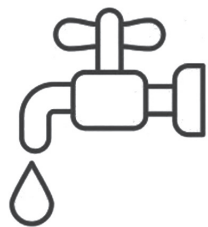
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