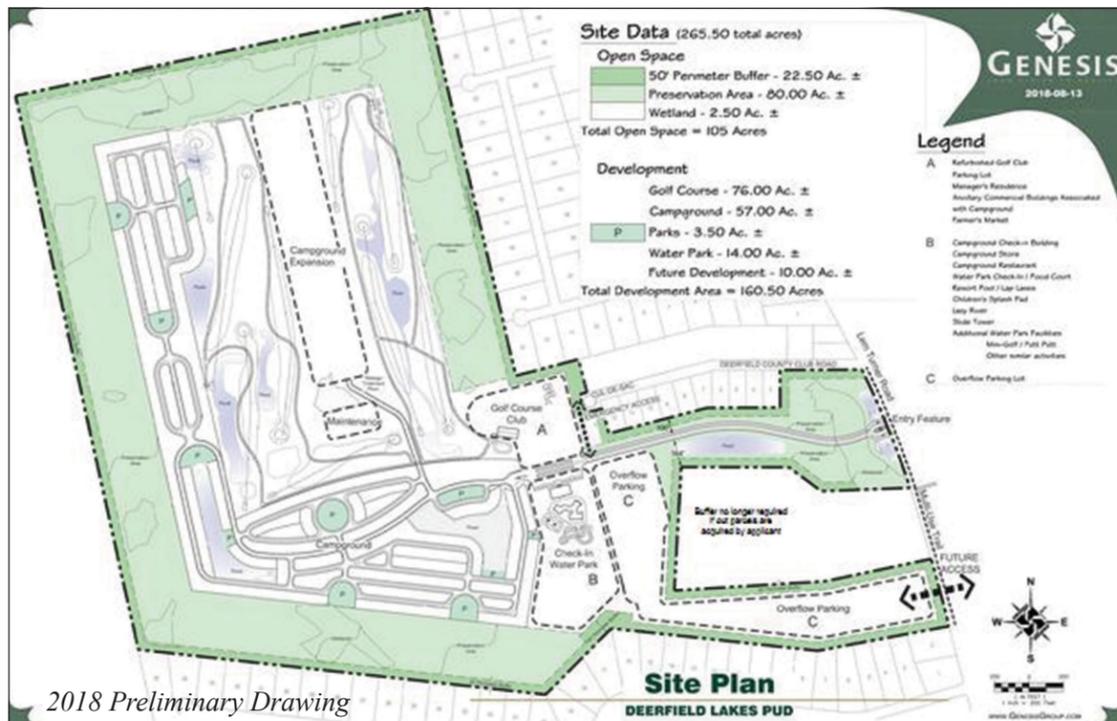


"AS FOR GOD, HIS WAY IS PERFECT: THE LORD'S WORD IS FLAWLESS; HE SHIELDS ALL WHO TAKE REFUGE IN HIM." - PSALM 18:30

Callahan Country RV Resort & Water Park Gets Approval

Callahan Country RV Resort & Water Park is officially on the way! The Nassau County Board of County Commissioners met last night and voted unanimously to approve the plan. "After three years of planning, meetings and plans, we have finally received the full support of the Nassau Board of County Commissioners with a favorable vote last night of 5-0," said Kenny Greene, owner. "I want to thank all of the county staff that worked so diligently with us on this project. I also want to thank the Planning and Zoning Board, the Board of County Commissioners, and specifically Commissioner Justin Taylor for taking the time to come to the site and see our vision for himself. I could not have done this without my awesome team of Wyman Duggan of Rogers Towers, Attorneys at Law, and President of AVA Engineers Henry Vorpe. Without them on my side, this would never have come to pass."

Greene has been fighting this battle for three years to accomplish his long-time dream of building a park that everyone will be proud of! He has a strong Facebook following that has



2018 Preliminary Drawing

supported his cause with phone calls and emails, for which he is thankful!

The construction process is set up in three phases:

Phase One:

- 150 RV parking spaces and/or

cabin sites

- Construct the main entrance road and new turning lanes from Lem Turner
- Refurbish and reopen nine holes of Deerfield Lakes Golf Club and clubhouse

• 1st phase of the water park which includes the pool

• 1/2 of a public walking path along Lem Turner

Phase Two:

- 150 RV parking spaces and/or cabin sites
- 2nd phase of water park, to include a splash pad/water playground, lazy river and/or water slide

• Complete public walking path along Lem Turner

Phase Three:

- 150 RV parking spaces and/or cabin sites
- Farmers market, camp convenience store and restaurant

Greene has until 2030 to complete all three phases but the plan is to finish much earlier than that! You can follow the progress on their Facebook page, Callahan RV Resort & Water Park.

Charges Filed in Juvenile Fatal Shooting

Sheriff Bill Leeper

On February 24, 2020, a shooting occurred at the intersection of Spring Lake Drive and Deer Run Road in Callahan. The victim, 16-year-old Trenton Fort, was shot and killed by a single gunshot. After Fort was shot, he was driven from the scene to 4th Avenue and Warrior Drive in Callahan, just outside of West Nassau High School. He was then transported by Nassau County Fire/Rescue to UF Health in Jacksonville where he was pronounced deceased.

The shooter, 17-year-old Gaven Smith, from Callahan, was originally charged at the time of the shooting with Possession of a Firearm by a Juvenile Delinquent, and placed in custody at Duval Regional Juvenile Detention



Gaven Smith



Ashton Riggs

Center in Jacksonville. He has since been charged as an adult with 3rd Degree Murder and transferred to the Duval County Pre-Trial Detention Center and is being held with no bond.

A second suspect, 16-year-

old Ashton Riggs, from Callahan, was originally charged at the time of the shooting with Battery on a Person 65 years of age or older; and Tampering with Evidence; and placed in custody at the Duval Regional Juvenile Detention Center in Jacksonville. He has since been charged as an adult

with Accessory to Murder and placed into Duval Pre-Trial Detention Center and is being held with no bond.

This is still an active investigation and there is a strong possibility that other suspects will be charged.

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Mask Mandate

Dear Editor,
The mask mandate has sparked discussion and that is a good thing for both sides. I disagree with the mandate but the BOCC is following instructions from officials. Are those officials correct? Do they have their own agenda? Does the science support their statements?

I encourage you to: 1. Do your own research and decide for yourself. 2. Email your commissioner. Let us use logic and facts to make sound decisions.

My research is posted publicly on a Google document for those that want to arm themselves with facts. Key exactly this in your browser address bar: <https://bit.ly/mask-research>. If you have facts to add, please post in the document comments.

Do you want to continue to live in a free country? Please do your part and register to vote! Decide for yourself (be free from outside opinion). Decide for yourself (be objective in your conclusions). Decide for yourself (be true in your own beliefs). Decide for yourself (be open to following the facts). Decide for yourself (be strong in defending your beliefs).

Tammy Czigan

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.

Honor, Oath, Convictions

Dear Editor,
As residents of this county and nation, our representatives must understand they serve US and we do not serve THEM! They also take an oath to uphold and honor their oaths of office and our Constitution, the Supreme Law of the Land and all founding documents the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights. This means they are our servant representatives and do not have the authority to just do whatever they want because the People delegated legitimate authority to them in our Constitution and not to rule over, manage, or control our behavior. This is done by our Creator, God and His Son Jesus because they instilled in each of us right from wrong, morals, ethics, honor and all these qualities.

I understand two of the Board of County Commissioners actually were against the recent mask requirement but "caved in" to pressure from others. When they fail to honor their oaths to the Constitution and their own office, they fail US ALL. If they do this once, they can do it again on anything. I find this even more disappointing because when they say they are believers in God and His Son Jesus, and yet they opt to dishonor their convictions, then they dishonor what they do. After all, as Christians, aren't we supposed to stand by our convictions even in the midst of travail, difficulties and "pressure"? Otherwise when we decide our convictions do not matter

so much because of whatever reason or excuse we create, we fail ourselves and all those to whom we are held accountable as well as our God.

Remember this because it is time to vote and this does not set a good example to those like me. I can only wonder what reason I have to vote someone in to some office when that person's convictions will not count when push comes to shove and again are bought out for any reason at all next time!

Rhonda Lowe

Study Candidates!

Dear Editor,
Soon, voters will be heading to the polls to cast their votes in the Nassau County Primary. It's exciting because some races in the county have stiff competition where candidates are competing for votes and this is democracy in action. Thankfully, Nassau County residents are blessed with resources such as: this wonderful local paper, that provide avenues for candidates to communicate to voters about their positions on issues through paid ads, announcements and editorials. Also, today, Social Media, as well as podcasts, etc. give candidates a way to reach voters, as well. Likewise, the Supervisor of Elections office has been most helpful.

As voters, we must elect the most qualified candidates with integrity, dedication and commitment. More importantly, we must elect candidates who believe in the Constitution and believe in liberty, freedom and our bill of rights. For example, if we have opinions and beliefs about our right to bear arms, we must know where candidates stand on the second amendment, and where they stand on the right to peacefully assemble, and where candidates stand on suspending the Constitution in emergencies. Elections have consequences and we must know who our elected officials are by monitoring their work, attending meetings, reading the local news, following agendas, minutes, and viewing videos on their perspective websites to understand who they really are. Not only are local elected officials important, our elected officials in Tallahassee and in Washington are critical. While most state offices have term limits, members of Congress do not. This remains a serious concern.

In closing, I encourage you to learn about the candidates on the ballot for the August Primary. Remember, every elected official takes an Oath of Office to defend and protect the United States of America from all enemies foreign and domestic. Ronald Regan stated "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction." Today, more than ever, the voter must choose candidates who believe Freedom and Liberty matter. Choose wisely and exercise your rights as American Citizens and cast your votes. See you at the polls!

Respectfully,
Dr. Erick Aguilar

Mask Mandate

Dear Editor,
And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark of the mask in Nassau County.

William C. Cantrell

In the Kitchen...

- 2 cups cooked and drained squash
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 small chopped onion
- 3 eggs
- 4 slices toasted bread

Beat eggs. Mix all ingredients except bread. Place in buttered dish. Cover with buttered bread crumbs. Bake at 350° until set or light brown.

Squash Soufflé

- 1 can cheddar cheese soup
- salt and pepper
- 1/2 pkg. herb stuffing
- pinch Italian seasoning

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A Word From the Publisher

Our world continues to be a changing place. Each and every day brings something new. I can't help but stress how important it is to have Jesus in your life. Through Him, is the only way I can make it through each day! The world has an agenda of its own, however, my Lord makes the final call. It's time for us, as Christians, to stand up and speak up about our convictions. As socialism continues to creep its ugly head into our country we cannot be silent. What is socialism? Socialism is a form of government in which most forms of property, including at least the major means of production and natural resources, are owned or controlled by the state. The aim of public ownership is to ensure that production is responsive to the needs and desires of the general population and that goods and services are distributed equitably (Britannica.com). America is at risk. God's values never change nor should ours. It seems that very few people have values today. Through our government, we have completely lost our common sense, due to the fact we are told what we need to do. When this started, we had common sense but were still told to wash our hands and don't touch our faces (I think we knew that already). It was something I normally did all the time. Then came wear a mask all the time, don't go to church, don't be with loved ones at the hospital (no matter how young or old), don't go to work and no more school.

It's all about the numbers and my how the numbers have spiraled out of control all of a sudden. Now we hop from one extreme to the other continuing to make the American people doubt what we are really all about. I'm not sure how we lost the 'Life, Liberty and Pursuit of Happiness' so quickly and how we let a small few quickly take it away from us. I'm so thankful every day to be a follower of Christ first and a proud American. God certainly didn't promise us a perfect life when we accepted Him, however, He does expect us to be Christians and stand strong on our beliefs. Everyone is created equal in God's law, which is the upmost. And yes, there are only two types of people the saved and unsaved (just and unjust). I was raised to be a respectful, responsible person.

That brings a lot of discipline with those two words, which my daddy taught me to firmly believe in. I can't help but assume that many of the people that are causing such torment in our country must not have a job. If they do, how do they have so much time to do the things they are doing?

I know it is time (past time) that we Americans get on our knees every day and pray to God our Father to save our country. He is ultimately in control of everything. What can we do? Stand up for what we know is right. Do some research on some of these people in Washington D. C. and voice your opinions to our leadership in Washington. We, the people, vote them in and we can certainly vote them out. Our government leaders are trying to make sure we don't think too much. If we think, we can make decisions on our own and that's not what this game is all about. The government wants to make decisions for us. It's not just the government in Washington, it's right here in our 'little' county also! It's so sad to know (which we have for a long time), that our colleges and universities are filled with professors filling the minds of our children with garbage. I can remember years ago my pastor talking about his daughter (who was in college) dealing with professors challenging her beliefs. That was years ago and it has progressively gotten worse. What an amazing history our country has and why all of a sudden is it horrible? I can't believe it. So frustrating! It is past time that we stand up for our rights as children of God and Americans! I don't mean acting crazy and being disrespectful, just stand up for our rights and convictions. It seems nobody has any anymore!

I pray for our country! I pray for strength each day because I truly need it. I ask you to also pray for our country. We have a loving, caring, never-changing God that loves us completely. He is the same today, yesterday and tomorrow. He is the only answer to this world. If you don't know Him there's no better time than today to accept Him. He's waiting.

Have a blessed week!

Dawn S. West

JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

I have made a bold decision in my life. I am now officially pro-choice. I know that may shock some of you but I felt this was the proper time to stand on my convictions. Now to set the record straight, it has NOTHING to do with abortions. I am still 100% pro-life on that subject. I'm talking about wearing a mask. It's my body and if I don't want to wear a mask it should be my choice! Or does that only work in the liberal world? There are many reasons that I am against wearing a mask, some have to do with my dislike and distrust in the government telling me I have to play by their rules (not laws) when there is very credible arguments against what they demand. I don't like a business telling me I can't shop there unless I play by their silly rules. They're not hurting me because I can and will find everything I need at small mom and pop stores and/or the internet. I don't need Wal-Mart, I don't need Publix, I don't need CVS and I surely don't need Target. Am I being radical, perhaps, but that's my choice, my God given right to make decisions about my body and my money.

There are many proven reasons not to wear a mask but you will not hear that from liberal news media or the liberal government run institutions, it doesn't fit their agenda, and yes mask mandates are a liberal agenda. Our bodies need oxygen for the trillions of cells to survive. Wearing a mask decreases the oxygen to our cells. This is easily proven by wearing a mask and using an oximeter. Multiple studies have proven that continuously breathing in your own carbon dioxide is harmful. Mandatory mask wearing

creates stress! Stress causes our bodies to release a hormone called "Cortisol". Cortisol suppresses the immune system which makes us more susceptible to all illnesses including COVID-19.

A COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) particle is 0.125 micrometer. All of the cloth masks and materials have zero efficiency due to particles as large as 0.3 micrometers can penetrate and escape through the cloth. The virus can go through masks like a mosquito goes through a chain link fence. Even the N95 respirators we heard so much about only blocks 95% of particles. If cloth masks were effective then why don't they use them in the medical field? It would be much more cost effective due to the ability to wash them and reuse them. The answer is simple; they are not effective in preventing the spread of airborne particles.

The best way for us to rid ourselves of this over dramatized fear mongering is to stop all testing. If you are asymptomatic, why are you getting tested? If you went to your doctor and asked to be tested for disease "abc" and the doctor asks what symptoms do you have and you tell him none, you just want to be tested just in case, He/she is going to look at you as if you are crazy. Yet that is exactly what is going on with this COVID testing. If you have no symptoms, live your life. If you feel ill, stay home, if you begin feeling worse then seek medical attention. It's called "Common Sense."

Stop letting the government run health community rule your lives. As always...that's just my opinion!

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What is Wrong with the World?

Pastor Benjie Loyd, River Road Baptist Church, Hilliard



I invite you to go back with me to the beginning of human history. I invite you to join me on a journey to understand what is wrong with the world today. In order to do this, we are going to have to look to the pages of sacred Scripture. Imagine the scene, the first couple was in a garden paradise and an intruder came emerged. The first couple had the God-given responsibility to tend the garden and keep the intruders out, but they allowed the intruder in and began to converse with the intruder. The conversation centered on what God had already said. To get more specific, the intruder questioned the word of God. In fact, the first words out of the serpent's mouth were: "Did God really say" in Genesis 3:1.

This was a conversation that never needed to be had. God had already said all that needed to be said in Genesis 2:16. God was already crystal clear about what his expectations were. Eve never needed to engage in the conversation. Adam should have never allowed the conversation to ensue, but he did. There is so much that can be learned as we consider the first words of Satan in the Scripture. Satan is a master deceiver and manipulator. He always attacks what God says. He appeared to be humble by asking questions that he already knew the answers to. After he got Eve to doubt God's word, he had her. After he questioned God's word, he flat out denied God's word. The serpent so played the first couple that he made death seem more desirable than paradise and life. Satan promised that the day you eat of the tree, you will not die, but you experience enlightenment and emancipation. He promised that you will be able to see clearly and you will be liberated from an oppressive God who has an inferiority complex.

The original tactic of Satan is still working today. Satan deals in lies and deception. Satan's lies result in enslavement and death. We can still see this same scenario being repeated throughout our world today. Jesus spoke to the issue of truth and freedom in John 8. Jesus said that you will know the truth and the truth will set you free. What is happening right before our very eyes is that people are using Scriptural vocabulary, but they are changing the definitions. All around us, the concepts of justice, love, and equality are being high-jacked. In order to fight this battle, we need to have our minds renewed (Rom.12:1-2). People are being duped and they don't even know it, because they are biblically illiterate. Our culture is finding out that questioning God's word and denying God's word is not delivering freedom but bondage and chaos. When God is ignored there is immense fall-out. This should come as no surprise to anyone who is familiar with truth. The place that we should be looking for answers has never changed. This may sound old and archaic, but if you want to know what is wrong with the world, the answer is sin.

Attend the church of your choice this Sunday.

Hodges Addresses Hilliard Council

Editor's note: At the Hilliard Town Council meeting Thursday night, Bo Hodges, a 2019 HMSHS graduate, addressed the council and full chamber with his words. His presentation follows. Makes me really proud of a young man to stand before a crowd and share his opinion.

My name is Bo Hodges. I am a proud law abiding citizen of Hilliard and Nassau County. When we last met on July 2, the County Commissioners held a vote on an executive order on the mandate to wear a mask or face covering in all places open to the public, where social distancing couldn't be practiced. I would like to read part of the order for you: "...Nassau County's Emergency Management Plan authorizes the County Manager to issue orders that are deemed to be in the best interest of the citizens based upon the declared emergency; Nassau County finds that it is necessary to take additional steps to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in response to the recent spikes in positive COVID-19 cases and hospital admittances; and WHEREAS, Nassau County believes that requiring individuals serving the public to wear cloth face coverings will significantly help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and lessen the positive cases in Nassau County; WHEREAS, Nassau County finds that there is a public health benefit to wear face coverings in all places open to the public; every operator, employee, customer or patron, over the age of six, of a business establishment must wear a face mask or covering at all times while indoors effective for 30 days from July 3, 2020 to August 1 unless extended."



has nothing to do with COVID-19 and everything to do with power hungry politicians promoting fear and a society in which we law abiding citizens bow down before the elite ruling class.

Our founding fathers once found themselves in a similar situation, how did they respond? They threw some tea in the harbor; they fought the tyrant oppressor King George and his mighty army, and established the greatest nation this world has ever seen! When Thomas Jefferson said, "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness" I believe he meant it. Liberty is the state of being free within society

from oppressive restrictions imposed by authority on one's way of life, behavior, or political views. Our liberties and our freedoms are under attack. I never believed that this would be an issue in Nassau County, but our weak, spineless, incompetent county commissioners and county manager made it a reality.

As Americans and as citizens of Nassau County we must make a stand for our rights and our liberties. We are only one generation away from all of our freedoms and liberties being stripped away from us. It won't happen all at once, but they will be taken one by one until we no longer have the ability to fight back. We cannot allow ourselves to be put into that position and it's time we start fighting back now.

Let's start with the county manager: who is also the county attorney, a man who was appointed to a position of authority, a man who wrote the very order as the attorney which grants him the power to act in these situations; a man

who widely abuses the power of both his offices and who makes more than \$400,000 a year between his two county jobs. This county manager is corrupt, arrogant and hungry for power. This is not about a face mask and it's not about the coronavirus, it's about control and power. We must stand up and fight! Thank you.



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What is the Nassau County Value Adjustment Board?



John A. Crawford, Clerk to the VAB

What is the Value Adjustment Board (VAB)? The VAB was created to provide citizens with a forum in which to address complaints when their property is, improperly denied an exemption or classification, under certain circumstances regarding a change in ownership or control or a qualifying improvement; disabled first responder discount; or that the Tax Collector improperly denied a tax deferral. The VAB is an independent entity not affiliated with the Property Appraiser or the Tax Collector. Citizens may also institute legal action in circuit court.

Each Florida county has a VAB which consists of five members: two appointed from the Board of County Commissioners, one appointed from the School Board and two citizens: one appointed by the Board of County Commissioners who owns homestead property and one appointed by the School Board who owns a business that occupies commercial space located in the school district of Nassau County.

Pursuant to Florida Statutes, many county VABs hire qualified special magistrates to conduct hearings and recommend decisions to the VAB, but it is the VAB that makes all final

decisions.

The Nassau County Clerk of Court is also the VAB Clerk. He or his designee plays a ministerial role in this process with such duties as receiving and processing petitions, scheduling and coordinating hearings, maintaining all records in the process, and providing assistance to the public, board members, VAB attorney, and special magistrates.

For convenience of online filing of value petitions, the VAB Clerk has implemented a software service which will be activated upon the Property Appraiser's mailing of the Truth in Millage (TRIM) notices to taxpayers which occurs in mid-August. In



the meantime, to obtain more comprehensive information regarding the VAB hearing process, you may access the Clerk's website at www.nassauclerk.com, click on Clerk's Office, then click on Board of County Commissioners Services,

to obtain local administrative procedures. There is also a link to the Florida Department of Revenue Taxpayer Oversight Program website to access the statewide Uniform Policies and Procedures manual, detailed reference material, and official forms used in the process.

Additional questions regarding the VAB may be directed to VAB@nassauclerk.com or by calling 904-548-4662.

Poole Announces Candidacy for County Court Judge Group 1

I, Harrison Wesley Poole, am proud to announce my candidacy for County Court Judge for Nassau County for the 2020 General Election. The position is presently held by the Honorable Wesley R. Poole, my father, who plans to retire at the end of his term.

As a fourth generation resident of Nassau County, this is my home and my wife and I are raising our three young boys here. I feel a strong calling to serve our community and ensure that it remains the safe place we love and that justice is served to all with fairness, compassion, and equality. My legal career has exposed me to virtually all of the types of cases that are handled by the County Court, and my prior experience as both a State prosecutor and criminal defense attorney will allow me to bring a unique and balanced perspective to the bench. I often reflect on the Oath I took the day I was admitted to the Florida Bar, and my vow to employ "such means only as are consistent with truth and honor." I have the knowledge, experience, and skills to handle all of the duties of the County Court Judge, and am eligible to serve on the bench for the next thirty-plus years, lending stability and continuity to the position.

I was raised in Fernandina Beach. I am happily married to Debra and we have three sons. I graduated from Fernandina Beach High School. I attended Florida State University for my undergraduate studies and received a Bachelor of Science in Business Management.

I received my Juris Doctorate from the Florida State University College of Law. During law school, I studied a semester abroad at Oxford University, was an Associate Justice on the Florida



State University's Student Supreme Court. Upon graduating law school, I worked as an Assistant State Attorney in Florida's Second Judicial Circuit. After about a year as a misdemeanor prosecutor, I was promoted and assigned a felony caseload in Quincy, Florida, where I handled hundreds of felony cases ranging from drug possession to second degree murder. My jury trial experience as a prosecutor includes cases involving Second Degree Murder, DUI, Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer, Armed Burglary, Aggravated Battery, and Failure to Register as Sex Offender.

In 2009, I returned to Nassau County to join the family practice, Poole & Poole, P.A. Giving back to the community has always been a major focus for me. I served on the Board of Directors for the Nassau County Volunteer Center for nearly nine years; Management Team for the Katie Ride for Life; volunteer coach for Nassau County Teen Court Mock Trial Competition Team. Starting in 2010, I began filling in as Judge for the Nassau County Teen Court, a diversionary program for teens that is near and dear to me. I took over full-time responsibility as Teen Court Judge in 2018.

I would be honored to have your vote and to serve our great community as its next County Court Judge.

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Fullwood Seeks Re-Election

I, Danny Fullwood, a Nassau County native, filed to seek the District 2 Seat for the Ocean Highway and Port Authority. As the current Chairman of District 2, Ocean Highway and Port Authority, I would like to take this opportunity to announce my re-election bid for Commissioner. I was born in Fernandina Beach and graduated from Fernandina Beach High School in 1965. I joined the US Army in 1966, serving three years of active duty. I served with the 87th Engineer Battalion in Viet Nam from 1966-1967. After my military service, I attended the University of North Florida where I graduated with honors with a B.A. Degree in Education. I was a teacher in the Nassau County school system for 27 years teaching Science at Callahan Jr. High and then Physical Education at Fernandina Beach Middle School. I also coached baseball and football at FBHS and volleyball at FBMS. I was also a Faculty Sponsor for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at FBMS, retiring in 2013.



now and what we must focus on, or what our "vision for the future" should be.

My wife, Joann Banks Fullwood, and I have been married for 49 years and have been members of the North 14th Street Baptist Church in Fernandina for the past 48 years. There are many issues that we face as a County. Having lived here all my life, I have a unique perspective of where, as a county, we came from, where we are

The tremendous growth we have seen in recent years has had an effect on all of us and we must work hard to maintain a good quality of life for ALL citizens of Nassau County. I began by attending port meetings two years before I was elected to my first term. I have the Knowledge, the Experience, and the Leadership Ability to make sure YOUR Port continues to grow, prosper and provide jobs for ALL of Nassau County. I am the most qualified candidate for this position and have several goals that I will work hard to accomplish in my next term. I will be discussing those at length in the coming weeks. As your Port Commissioner, I promise to work diligently toward these goals and not violate the trust that you have placed in me. I look forward to serving you four more years as your Commissioner for the Ocean Highway and Port Authority, District 2. I encourage you to contact me if you have any questions or concerns and I earnestly ask for your vote to elect me as your Commissioner for Ocean Highway and Port Authority, District 2.

Please be sure to cast your vote for Danny Fullwood in the upcoming Primary in August. Thank you for your support and God Bless.

Passport Application Processing Resumes at the Library

The Fernandina Beach Branch of the Nassau County Public Library System will begin processing passports by appointment only. New safety measures are in place which include only those needed for the application may be present, and all present must wear a face mask and gloves. The desk and all equipment will be sanitized after each visit. Passport applications must be completed before the appointment, and please bring your own black ink pen. Applicants will enter through the Library main entrance at the designated appointment time. For appointments visit the library website, www.nassaureads and click on the Passport tab or call 904-530-6508. Walk-ins are not accepted at this time.



FSCJ to Host Virtual Events

Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) will hold live, virtual events to help new and interested students as they prepare to enter college. Form Your Future and the Virtual Open House events will cover a variety of topics from safety measures to financial aid and scholarships.

The first live, virtual event, Form Your Future, Jump-start to College, will be held on Thursday, July 23 at 6 p.m. In partnership with Earn Up/JAXUSA, the University of North Florida, Duval County Public Schools, Nassau County School District, Year Up Jacksonville, and City Year Jacksonville, Form Your Future is designed to help students prepare for the transition to college.

Virtual attendees will:

- Discover how to select the right college
- Identify scholarship opportunities
- Learn how to pay for college
- Hear from student panels
- Explore work-based learning experiences

Attendees can access the event at fscj.edu/future on Thursday, July 23 at 6 p.m.

On Saturday, July 25 at 10 a.m., the College is hosting a Virtual Open House to help incoming and future students learn about FSCJ's academic programs, admissions information and valuable tips to help prepare for college in the fall.

FSCJ President John Avendano, Ph.D., and other College leaders will share updates on the upcoming term, including safety measures being taken to help maintain the wellbeing of our students, faculty, staff and community. Participants will learn about the application and admissions process, advising options, individual students' success stories and how to make the most of their own college experience. Admissions representatives will also be in attendance to share more helpful information, interact with event participants and answer any questions they may have. Register to attend and learn more at visit.fscj.edu.



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Hilliard Council Questions Parks & Recreation Director Malucci

Dawn S. West

The Hilliard Town Council met Thursday night for their last regular meeting of July, however a Special Workshop and Meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, July 21 at 6 and 8 p.m. respectively. The first order of business was the public hearing and approval of Ordinance 2020-04 which concerned modernizing Chapter 62 of the Zoning and Land Development regulations to add Section 62-286. The addition will allow for wireless telecommunication facilities within the town of Hilliard. "The company that currently leases a spot on top of the water tower for telecommunications has found a piece of property to build their own tower," said Town Clerk Lisa Purvis. "We (the town) have nothing in our ordinances pertaining to towers." The council approved the ordinance on first reading.

Building Inspector Larry Hogan addressed the council concerning his quarterly report. "From April – June 2020, 45 permits were pulled and the town collected \$9,795 in building permit fees," said Hogan. "Things are booming here in Hilliard."

Code Enforcement Officer Del Miley addressed the council concerning his quarterly report. "From April – June 2020, there were 8 lien letter inspections; 2 signs removed; 6 pool permits; 3 shed permits; 1 demo permit; 7 miscellaneous inspections; 2 vehicles removed by the owner; 1 noise complaint; and 2 sign inspections," reported Miley.

Purvis made mention that political signs cannot be placed on public property or they will be removed.

From that point of the meeting, the questions began for Parks & Recreation Director Kyle Malucci and lasted for close to two hours. Council President and

Parks & Recreation Commissioner John Beasley added this item to the agenda concerning the Parks & Recreation Department & Director Discussion. "First of all, I want to ask you (Malucci) about the issues with plumbing and roof leaking at the Annex building and also rotten wood at the gym," said Beasley. "The council has had multiple complaints on you as a director."

"I'd like to address them all. The roof has been repaired many times at the joint where it was put together. I've talked with Mrs. Purvis about it and the previous PW Director," said Malucci. "Recently, a professional plumber was called in about the Annex plumbing and found that the joints were not properly connected causing the issue."

"Don't we have a workshop set up for next Tuesday to discuss the issues and problems at the department and with Kyle?" said Councilwoman Callie Kay Bishop. "I make a motion that we table this until we have our workshop Tuesday and then make a decision."

There was no second on the motion and the questioning continued. Beasley continued with questions from teaching new members about equipment to lifeguards following rules to why the concessions were never opened. "I've been looking over your timesheet and seeing that you are here only 3-5 hours a day," said Beasley. "How can you be a department head and not be here very much? I also see that you were only here 15 days out of 56."

"I had two weeks of vacation that I took but I also had lots of other time built up," said Malucci. "It was mine to take so I did."

Three of the lifeguards and one swim instructor that works for the Hilliard Public Works Department also spoke

before the council about their grievances. They were: Hailey Thornton (swim instructor), Lexi Barber, Carter Knoll and Courtney Hengerer.

Councilman Kenny Sims asked, "You have reprimanded the lifeguards for everything. You're complaining about everybody but yourself," continued Sims. "You're a department head and your department is falling apart. There's a lot going on over there (PR) and it's not good. What about the refrigerator and the air conditioner in the breakroom at the pool? The town never received a work order or a quote?"

"I know I'm limited to spending and we're always talking budget," said Malucci. "There is a refrigerator in the annex building and I know I've discussed with public works about taking a small AC unit from somewhere else and putting it here."

"So you're worried more about the revenue than the comfort of these employees? We went through a lot to take care of these employees," said Councilman Jared Wollitz. "You're a leader and a director. Your budget has not changed in 4 years. What I see is a lack of attention for his department and deficiencies."

"I make a motion to call a special meeting Tuesday for Parks & Recreation Department Director employment," said Beasley.

"Has Malucci been written up for anything before? Again, I think we should discuss this in a workshop before we make a decision about employment," said Bishop. "Has he been sat down and talked to about any of this and had time to correct anything? I feel like this is unfair?"

The motion was made to have a workshop Tuesday, July 21 at 6 p.m. to discuss; and then have a special meeting

at 8 p.m. for a decision.

The next agenda item was a septic tank exception for Wayne Bishop for his property on 12th and Kentucky Streets. The council approved the exception.

Following several dates were set for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 TRIM and Budget workshops.

The next item, the council agreed to meet one time each month, the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. until the pandemic is over. The council also agreed to possibly leave it that way until further notice.

Public Works Director Ritchie Rowe advised the council of the need to purchase a new ice maker. "Ours has been worked on numerous times and has quit working again," said Rowe. The council approved the purchase of a new industrial ice maker for a cost of \$3,720.

Rowe also advised the council about the drainage repair needed at US 1 and 1st Street beside the old restaurant and TD Nails. "Two hundred sixty foot of 24" pipe along with 2 catch basins for the repair," said Rowe. "I'm recommending D.T. Services, Inc. (David Taylor) at a cost of \$38,665." The council approved the capitol purchase repair.

In continuing, Rowe also advised the council that the town did not receive the DEP grant for the grit chamber clean-out at the WWTP. "I've talked with the representative and they agreed to do the job for a cost of \$41,386 in which DEP will cover half of the cost," said Rowe. "The job will be \$17,000 lower than before." The council approved the cost.

A workshop was held Tuesday, July 21 to discuss the Parks & Recreation Department and Director; followed by a special meeting and decision on the issue. The final outcome from the meeting is on page 16.



"As an attorney, I've always tried to remember that, while the case I'm working on probably isn't the most important case in the world, it is most certainly the most important case in the world to that particular client, and should be treated accordingly."

COMMUNITY:

Harrison has shown his dedication to his community by volunteering as the Nassau County Teen Court Judge and serving on the Board of Directors for the Nassau County Volunteer Center, Jacksonville Area Legal Aid and Trinity Love Hoblit Foundation. He has also dedicated countless hours of pro bono legal services to needy individuals in our county with a particular passion for representing veterans facing foreclosures.

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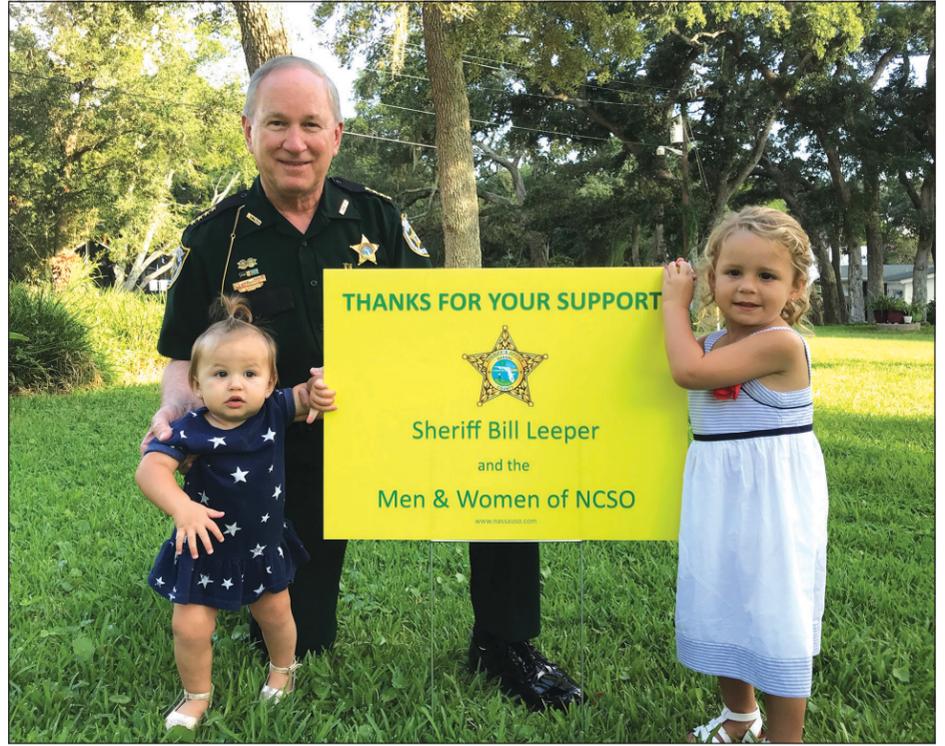
Get the Skitter Walks out! Mullet are running in huge schools and you know what that means. Although we caught the tail end of the minor feed, I was fortunate enough to get out with my good friend Brad Dover. We focused on creek mouths with faster moving water and pinch points. Everywhere we went it was like the water was alive. The problem is that it just wasn't that productive. We could see the signs of feeding fish but only had a few short fish fall victim to our artificial baits.

Brad and I waited out the high tide and decided to try for some sheepshead. I'm sure glad we did, as luck would have it, we set the hook for a solid thirty minutes. Brad caught multiple sheepshead and black drum. We were also able to keep a few fish for the table. If I had anything to add in the aid of helping you catch fish it'd be, pay close attention to that major feed. The window was only an hour and a half long but it was nearly spot on! Also, don't let anyone tell you that sheepshead can only be caught in the winter. Buy some fiddler crabs and head to your favorite structure. You might be surprised with the outcome.

With that said, turn off the news, grab the wife, load up the kids and get out there! Until next time guys, good luck and be safe on the water!



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The Nassau County Sheriff's Office is offering their "Thanks for Your Support" sign to Nassau County citizens on a first come first served basis. They have about 100 of these signs free to the public. During the pandemic they wanted to say thank you to those who have been working tirelessly, whether you're a healthcare worker, first responder, teacher, small business owner, you name it.

If you would like a sign for your home or business please email aaspicer@nassauso.com with your name, address and phone number. Sheriff Bill Leeper and his granddaughters Memphis and Harper Moore are shown with a sign!

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Political advertisement paid for and approved by Danny Leeper, Republican for Nassau County Commissioner, District 1.

Steamboat Lilly's Re-Opens with Style!

Dawn S. West

During this pandemic many of our local eateries have struggled to figure out the best way to keep their businesses going and somehow still make a profit. Many went to curbside pick-up, drive-thru or delivery. Steamboat Lilly's in Hilliard was not really set up to do those options. New 'Steamboat' owner and Hilliard resident Shawn McClinton made the decision to use this time to renovate the entire restaurant. In March, the renovation project began. "We decided to start in the dining room, as none of the restaurant had ever been updated," said April Lee, General Manager. "We started pulling down the ceiling and begin to see the problems with wiring, insulation, etc. It was then that we knew this was going to be a total gut."

Shawn and April worked together on the design, which has been added to a few times, and the work began. The actual building has been there since around 1954 when the restaurant was a Steak N Burger. April and Shawn, who went to school together, remember walking up to the window of the building and placing their order. A 1954



building that had just been added on to several times, you can imagine some of the issues they found.

The inside renovations are complete and beautiful. Everything is trimmed in cedar and the smell is amazing. Unfortunately, Shawn had to have a large cedar tree cut down on the property where he planned to build his outdoor eating area. Once the tree was cut, it was taken to a local woodsman to have the wood planed. From there the beautiful cedar



was used to trim windows and doors inside the dining room and to wrap the beams. The dining room has beautiful new tables, chairs, and nice booths that coral the room. It's a very cozy country feel. The kitchen area has been done with diamond plate on the walls with all new stainless refrigerators and appliances. Currently,

April and staff are following all the guidelines during the pandemic which only allows a 50% capacity for the restaurant. "But we're doing fine and we're gonna get through this," continued April. "We're so happy to be open again and to see our customers."

More additions are being done on the back of the building where they have added a large metal building that will eventually be screened in. They plan to add beautiful barn doors to enter the outside area which will host a big screen TV! Hopefully, the outside will be finished in another month or so.

Keep watching for details for a big Grand Opening!

Steamboat Lilly's is known for its country cooking including: Fried Chicken, Hamburger Steak with onions and gravy, Pork Chops and sweet tea. They do offer specials each night that includes the meat and two sides: Mondays, Pork Chops; Thursdays, Fried Chicken; and Fridays, Fish & Shrimp. They also have a killer breakfast with eggs and bacon, omelets, pancakes and French toast, just to name a few. They do plan to update the menu a little to accommodate the outside eating area.

If you want to try something new, now is the time to check out Steamboat Lilly's and their newly renovated restaurant. Steamboat Lilly's is located at 551429 US Highway 1, Hilliard, directly across from Hilliard Meats. The hours are: Monday – Saturday, 6 a.m. – 9 p.m.; and Sundays 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.



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NCSO Helps Crack Fraudulent Drug Prescription Operation

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office, working with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and Jacksonville Sheriff's Office helped investigate, arrest and convict several people for prescription drug fraud involving thousands of narcotic pills.

This investigation started in 2016 when a Walgreens Pharmacy technician in Jacksonville contacted the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office in reference to a fraudulent prescription from Jon'Quill Holmes, who was not a patient under a doctor's care. After she was arrested by JSO it was discovered that several fraudulent prescriptions were being issued in multiple counties. The investigation was then given to the DEA task force to investigate. A detective from NCSO is assigned to the task force and took the lead along with JSO detectives.

Investigators discovered that Rhiannon Rader, 34, from St. Marys, Georgia, was the ringleader of the operation. She was employed as a medical assistant at a doctor's office in Jacksonville Beach. Without the doctor's knowledge she stole pads of blank prescription forms and then developed a scheme to sell fraudulent prescriptions for controlled substances for cash. She also filled fraudulent prescriptions for drugs in her own name.

Rader also posed as a "mobile doctor" who conducted home visits in Nassau County and Duval County where she would write fake prescriptions with the stolen pads and was paid \$100 - \$300 cash for each one. Christopher John (CJ) Bates was the head organizer in Nassau County and he was assisted by Christopher Martinez who was Rader's boyfriend. They acted as "Recruiters" in Nassau County while Rader's right hand man, Otis Kirkland, worked as a "Recruiter" in Duval County. These three individuals would recruit new patients to meet the "mobile doctor" at various homes to get the fake prescriptions and then go get them filled at area pharmacies. The recruiters would assure those new patients that Rader was a real mobile doctor and everything was legal so they would feel more at ease while getting the prescriptions filled. Once the prescriptions were filled those new patients would be allowed to keep some of the pills for their own personal use, but had to give the rest back to the recruiters so they could then sell them on the street.

Approximately 116 fraudulent prescriptions were issued and over 7,000 hydrocodone, oxycodone and Xanax pills were obtained between March and September 2016 at 44 different pharmacies located in Duval and Nassau County. Pharmacies in Nassau County included Walmart in Yulee and Fernandina

Beach, as well as CVS and Walgreens in Fernandina Beach.

When a fake prescription was written and taken to the pharmacy, the pharmacy tech would sometimes call the doctor's office to verify if the person was a patient. Rader's sister, Sara Yokum, worked as a receptionist at the doctor's office and would answer the phone. If the person was actually a patient she would confirm that, but if the person was not a listed patient she would refer the pharmacy to Rader who would then confirm the person was a patient.

It all unraveled when Rader quit the doctor's office and her sister was off sick one day. That's when Holmes went to get her prescription filled before anyone could notify her not to. That's when it was confirmed by the doctor's office that she was not a patient there.

The investigation was very lengthy and tedious, which included interviewing numerous witnesses and suspects, gathering pharmacy records, researching prescriptions in Nassau County and Duval County, and obtaining copies and reviewing video from inside pharmacies to look for those who filled the fraudulent prescriptions. A Federal Grand Jury was also convened and indicted them for their crimes.

Rader and ten other suspects have been arrested, convicted and sentenced for their part in the operation. Five of those lived in Nassau County at the time. The case is still under investigation and further arrests are expected.

Arrested and sentenced were: Rhiannon Rader, 34, from St. Marys, Georgia, sentenced to 5 years in Federal Prison for Conspiracy to Distribute Oxycodone, Hydrocodone, and Alprazolam (Xanax); Otis Kirkland, age 33, from Jacksonville, sentenced to 63 months imprisonment; Christopher Oquendo Martinez, age 28, from Yulee, sentenced to 51 months imprisonment; Christopher John Bates, age 27, from Fernandina Beach, sentenced to 42 months imprisonment; Sandra Arnold, age 35, from Yulee, sentenced to 24 months imprisonment; Reginald Ray, age 34, from Jacksonville, sentenced to 19 months imprisonment; Carleigh Wilson, age 25, from Bryceville, sentenced to 4 months imprisonment; Christopher Lee Calhoun Jr., age 25, from Fernandina Beach, sentenced to 3 years' probation including 6 months home detention; LaRhonda Lukes, age 32, from Jacksonville, sentenced to 3 years' probation, including 2 months of home detention; Jon'quill Holmes, age 31, from Jacksonville, sentenced to 3 years' probation; and Sarah Yocom, age 30, from Kingsland, Georgia, sentenced to 1 year probation.

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.

Monday, July 13

Ramiro Rene Cortez, 39, 27333 Georgia Street, Hilliard: Possession of Methamphetamine; Tamper/Destroy Evidence

James Casey Waters, 25, 34564 Old Baldwin Road, Callahan: Clay County Warrant Violation of Probation Leaving his County of Residence without First Procuring the Consent of Probation Officer; Failing to Live without Violating any Law by Being Charged with a Criminal Offense of Domestic Battery Causing Bodily Harm

Angel Garcia, 57, 45854 Dixie Avenue, Callahan: Failure to Appear Violation of Probation Battery Domestic

Tuesday, July 14

James Allen Anderson, 36, 56105 Nassau Oaks Drive, Callahan: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia with Residue

Tara Geneene Whittier, 37, 53347 Clear Lakes Drive, Callahan: Theft Under Retail

Saturday, July 18

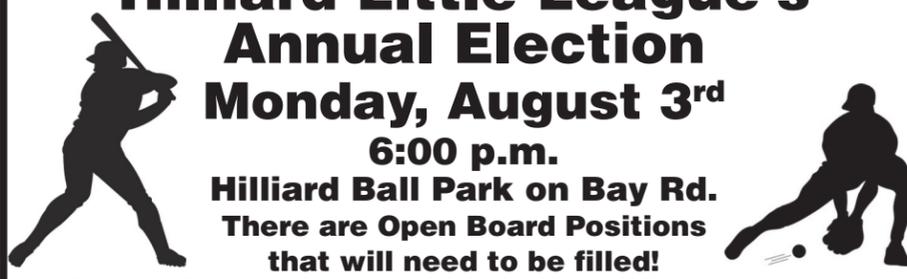
Katherine Michelle Pickett, 47, 27301 Kara Circle, Hilliard: Failure to Appear Failure to have Motor Vehicle Insurance

Sunday, July 19

Bryan Keith Hyers, 46, 3725 Arnold Drive, Hilliard: Habitual Traffic Offender

FREE WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY DINNER
 5 p.m. • Callahan Methodist Church • Walk up
 Located beside Callahan Elementary School

Hilliard Little League's Annual Election
Monday, August 3rd
6:00 p.m.
Hilliard Ball Park on Bay Rd.
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RITA D. BRADDOCK



Rita D. Braddock, 90, of Jacksonville, passed away on July 9, 2020. She was born in Haines City, Florida on February 10, 1930 to the late Wright Davis and Elise Sloan. She married the love of her life, Charles Braddock, on August 15, 1958, and they spent many happy years together. Rita was an entrepreneur and during her life she owned a clothing store, a flower shop, and a jewelry shop. However, her true passion in life was education. She became first woman to ever be a part of the Nassau County School Board and she worked as a secretary for Bryceville Elementary and Callahan Elementary. During her time off, Rita liked to travel and spend time with her family. She was a devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Most of all, Rita loved to serve others. She was very giving and was always taking care of others. She touched many lives with her kindness and will be dearly missed. Rita is preceded in death by her husband Charles Braddock; and her daughters Janis Braddock and Kimberly Braddock.

Rita is survived by her sister Geraldine Carlson of Texas; her grandchildren Trey Melvin, Alexa Melvin, Nicolette Cuthrell and Charlie Patton; and her six great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Rita's life will be held Friday, July 24 at 10 a.m. at Jones Cemetery.

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

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

OBITUARIES

PATRICIA LYNN BUTLER



Patricia Lynn Butler, 75, passed away July 17, 2020. She was born September 1, 1944 in Ohio but spent the majority of her life in Jacksonville and Callahan. She worked for Avis Car Rental for many years, but her main passion was spending time with her family. She also loved to spend time in the kitchen and in her younger years enjoyed gardening. A passionate football fan, she loved rooting for the Georgia Bulldogs and Jacksonville Jaguars.

She is predeceased by her husband of 29 years, George Butler; her parents Tracey and Edith Hoewischer; her brothers Arnold, Norman and Larry; and sisters Gloria and Donna.

She is survived by her four daughters Lynn Snow, Shannon (Matt) McNeese, Rhonda (Dave) Fox, Connie (Bryan) Ward; 12 grandchildren Donnie (Ashley) Snow, Mandy (Wesley) Thrift, Mallory (Devin) Pesata, Zachary (Madisen) McNeese, Molly McNeese, Todd (Kayle) Yarbrough, Kimberly (Ryan) Shavers, Jacklyn Ward, Ricky (Amber) Bryant, Connor Bryant, Jason Ward and Adam (Athena) Ward; great-grandchildren Preston Thrift, Raelynn Thrift, Anniston Pesata, Karev Pesata and Jaxen McNeese; and 20 additional great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. She was also grateful for the care given to her by Taylor Manor, Karen Gibson and Memorial Hospital (nurse Stephany).

JEFFERY LEE HARTMAN



Jeffery Lee Hartman, 45, passed away July 12, 2020 at Baptist Medical Center in Jacksonville after his battle with COVID-19. Jeff had such an enthusiastic mannerism about him. He always lived life to the fullest in every aspect. In any event, he engaged in there would always be a story to tell about afterwards that would bring laughter to a crowd. Jeff's charismatic personality drew people to him and his generosity towards others was always visible. He always wanted to help someone regardless of who they were.

Jeff met the love of his life, Melinda, in high school. He cherished everything about her and provided unconditionally for their family. Together they have four beautiful children Cole, Kennedy, Caden and Collin. His family was his life and most valuable treasure! He worked side-by-side with his best friend, his son Cole, each and every day. He referred to his daughter Kennedy as his princess, he was so proud of her being a senior this year at the University of Florida. He loved coaching and watching Caden and Collin play baseball every weekend throughout the year. Jeff lived for their vacations, time at the Hunting Club in Kentucky, and being together all six as a family. Jeff worked as a Master Electrician for the IBEW Local 177.

He is preceded in his death by his by father-in-law Fred Armstrong; grandmothers Louise Hartman; and Bessie Bishop; and grandfather Frank Johnson.

He is survived by his wife Melinda; their four children Cole, Kennedy, Caden and Collin; mother Virginia Johnson of Yulee; mother-in-law Linda Armstrong of Fernandina Beach; brother-in-law Johnny Armstrong; brother-in-law Jimmy (Traci) Armstrong of Callahan; Kimberly (Clay) Peterson of Yulee; Michael (Jennifer) Armstrong of Chiefland; brother Frank Hartman; many aunts, uncles nieces, nephews, cousins and close friends.

The family will have a private funeral service and a "Celebration of Jeff Parade" that will be posted on social media once finalized.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the "Please support The Hartman Family" Go Fund Me campaign.

The family received friends prior to the funeral service held Thursday, July 23 in the chapel of Hardage-Giddens Rivermead Funeral Home, Jacksonville, officiated by Steven Miner. Burial followed in Jacksonville Memory Gardens.

JESSE CLAUDE GROOMS



Jesse Claude Grooms, 92, of Fernandina Beach, passed away Thursday, July 16, 2020. He was born September 1, 1927 in Folkston, Georgia to the late Ralph Waldo Grooms and Mary E. Robinson Grooms. Claude was one of six children.

Following high school, Claude joined the US Marines and proudly served his country during World War II. After the war, he returned to Florida where he married the love of his life Netha Dean (Smith) Grooms. Claude and Netha had one daughter, Laurie Grooms McCollough. Claude worked for Rayonier Advanced Materials, Gillman Paper Company, and retired from Owens-Illinois Paper Company (Orange, TX). Claude retired young and he and Netha enjoyed spending time with family, beach vacations and traveling in their motorhome. Claude was quite the athlete and enjoyed numerous sports including pool, ping pong, tennis, softball, basketball and golf! Claude and Netha would travel near and far to watch Laurie and all their grandchildren play sports. He was also an active member of the Men's Golf Association in Orange, Texas.

He is preceded in death by his parents Ralph Waldo Grooms and Mary Robinson Grooms; his sister Hazel Grooms Aliffi; and brothers Ralph, Jr., Ross, Donald and Billy.

He is survived by his daughter Laurie Grooms McCollough; two grandchildren Michelle McCollough Lansford and Marti McCollough; two great-grandchildren Mandy Lansford and Molly Lansford; brothers Ronnie Grooms and Larry Grooms; sister Joann Grooms Stokes; and sister-in-law Catherine Smith Johnson.

The family received friends prior to the funeral held Wednesday, July 22 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home. Burial followed in Oakwood Cemetery in Hilliard.

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations to the Alzheimer's Association in Claude's memory.

Condolences may be expressed at registry at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston.

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Dear Sweetheart, Dad, and Papa,

We miss you so much. Not a day goes by that we don't think about you. Life will never be the same. But we know that you would want us to keep on going. Enjoy Heaven! We will meet you again one day.

We love you always and forever,
Jean, Jason, Sherri, Jill, Greg, Mackenzie,
Harrison, Blake and Chase (Addison)



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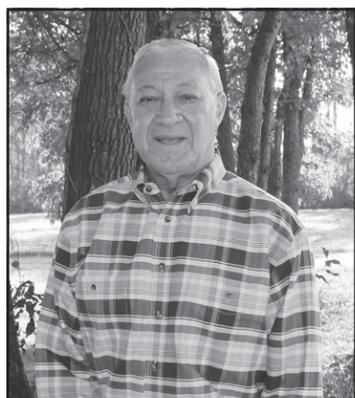


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DORIS LUCILE PERONA



Doris Lucile 'Nanny' Perona, 84, of Callahan, passed away on July 19, 2020 at St. Vincent's Medical Center Riverside in Jacksonville. Nanny was born in Peoria, Illinois on September 15, 1935 to the late William Guth and Carrabell Hewitt Guth. She was raised in Peoria, Illinois where she graduated from high school. Shortly after graduating, Nanny married the love of her life, Ronald Eugene Perona on June 30, 1955. In 1968, Nanny and Ronald relocated to Jacksonville, where they resided most of their life.

For the past 22 years, Nanny has lived with her best friend and granddaughter, Stephanie, in Callahan. Her true passion in life was her family. She loved being a homemaker, raising her seven children and tending to their needs. Nanny was a devoted wife, loving mother, Nanny, and great Nanny who loved her family dearly. She enjoyed shopping, coloring in her coloring books, and drinking coffee, but more than anything, she enjoyed spending time with her family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her loving husband of 47 years, Ronald Eugene Perona; son Anton Perona; daughter-in-law Charlotte Perona; brothers Dick, Herbert and Bill Guth, Jr.; and brother-in-law Richard Schertz.

Nanny is survived by her loving children Rhonda (Darrell) McClure of Bradenton, Peggy (James Miller) Taylor of Jacksonville, Beverly (Mark) Pearson of Ocala, Dawn (Michael) Scott of Angleton, Texas, Brenda (Ed) Dunwoody of Middleburg and Ronald Eugene Perona, II of Jacksonville; her sister Marilyn Schertz; 20 grandchildren; 55 great-grandchildren; 10 great-great-grandchildren; along with her best friend Stephanie Elizabeth (Randy) Knagge of Callahan.

A Celebration of Nanny's Life will be held Saturday, July 25 at 2 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor John Kasper, Sr. officiating.

Arrangements by V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services at Beaches Memorial Park, 904-249-1166.

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

OBITUARIES

NANCY JETER PHILLIPS



Nancy Jeter Phillips, of Callahan, passed suddenly on July 8, 2020 in Jacksonville. Nancy worked in hospitality for many years, was a humanitarian, cared for many pets and animals throughout her life and was famous for her pecan pie.

She is greatly missed by her parents Herbert and Alma Deen Fournier; her only child Andrea Phillips; her three grandsons Alexander, Jaylen and Aidan; her brother and best friend Garey Jeter; as well as a large extended family of aunts, uncles and cousins and her dapple dachshund, Missy. She was preceded in death by her father Norman Jeter; and her sister-in-law Linda Jeter.

A private memorial will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers the family asks that you donate to the Humane Society.

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

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

'GENNIE' ROBINSON

Genevieve 'Gennie' Robinson, 87, of Callahan, passed away on July 10, 2020 in the comfort of her home after a lengthy illness. She was born on August 28, 1932 in Jacksonville, Florida. She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother.

Gennie is survived by her husband of 72 years, James Harold 'Robbie' Robinson; her son Hal (Marcia) Robinson; her daughters Elaine (Marvin) Leininger and Diane Miller; her grandchildren Melissa Robinson and Miles Millar; her great-granddaughter Megan Robinson; and her sister Yvonne (Jim) Reid.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Community Hospice and Palliative Care.

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

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

DONNA WILKIE STEVENS

Donna Gale Wilkie Stevens, 66, went home to be with the Lord July 10, 2020, at Hospice St. Vincent's Riverside, following a lengthy illness. She was born May 18,

1954 in Atlanta, Georgia. She graduated from Ribault High School in 1972. She was of the Baptist faith and loved the Lord.

She is survived by her mother Nancy Wilkie of Callahan; sister Helen Shirley; brother Charles Wilkie, Sr.; two children Chris Stevens of Callahan and Melissa Chance of Indiana; five grandchildren; and many family members and friends.

Callahan Funeral Home assisted the family, 879-2336.

REV. A.L. SWEAT



Rev. Alex Loren 'A.L.' Sweat, 78, of Hilliard, went home to be with his Lord and Savior Friday, July 17, 2020, in Jacksonville. He was born

April 2, 1942 in Atkins, Georgia to the late Loren and Commey Trowell Sweat. He was a true warrior in God's Army and Pastor of Hilliard Pentecostal Full Gospel Church. He was a talented minister through music and singing.

In addition to his parents; he was preceded in death by sons Wayne Thomas and Glenn Oren Sweat; and a son-in-law William Powers.

He is survived by his wife Linda Smith Sweat; children Ernest (Gracie) Sweat, Alex Loren Sweat, Jr., Connie Powers, Pam (Roger) Murphy, Loren Thomas, Linda (Glenn) Baumuller, David (Angel) Thomas, Danny (Ellie) Thomas, Zeldia Thomas and Dustin Sweat; 30 grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

Graveside funeral services were held Tuesday, July 21 at 11 a.m. at Peoria Cemetery in Doctor's Inlet.

Condolences may be expressed by signing the guest registry at www.shepardfh.com. Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston, Georgia.

HARRIET JANE WHITE



Mrs. Harriet Jane O'Steen White, 79, passed away Friday, July 17, 2020 at Community Hospice Warner Center in Fernandina Beach, after an extended illness. She was a native of Waycross, Georgia and graduated from Wacona High School. She remained close with many of her classmates and always looked forward to their gatherings. Harriet was a charter member of Deenwood Baptist Church in Waycross and she was a current member of Gray Gables Baptist Church in Callahan. Harriet loved spending time with her family and always lit up when the great-grandchildren visited.

Harriet was preceded in death by her parents Harold James "HJ" O'Steen, Sr. and Hazel Ruth McInnis O'Steen; her sister Lorraine O'Steen (Charles) Carter; and her brother John McInnis O'Steen.

Survivors include her husband of 61 years, Jimmy Lone White, Sr. of Callahan; her two children Marsha White (Ernie) Cole and Jimmy "Jimbo" Lone White, Jr., all of Callahan; two grandsons Ernie (Dana) Cole, Jr., Jake (Karisa) Cole, all of Callahan; five great-grandchildren Drake Nolan Cole, Madison Grace Cole, Breylee Nicole Higginbotham, Brinlee Faith Cole and Addilynn Kelly Cole; two siblings Mary O'Steen Beverly (late W.R.) and Harold James (Gloria) O'Steen, Jr.; sister-in-law Bunny Dowling Howell; and numerous nieces and nephews.

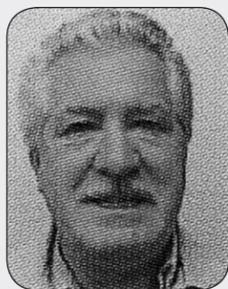
The family received friends Sunday, July 19 at Music Funeral Home in Waycross. The funeral service was held Monday, July 20 at the funeral home. Burial followed in Oakland Cemetery.

Sympathy may be expressed at www.musicfuneralhome.com.

Music Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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

IN LOVING MEMORY OF ROBERT 'BOB' TITUS
NOVEMBER 28, 1939 - JULY 22, 2005



It's been 15 years since we lost you however, your memory is still with us. You were taken before your time. All who knew you loves and misses you now and always. Rest in peace, Daddy...

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Terri, Stephanie, Ginny and your grandchildren

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Callahan Town News

Dawn S. West

The Callahan Town Council met via phone conference on Monday night. This is the first meeting that the council has met since Mayor Marty Fontes resigned his position. Interim Mayor and Council President Ken Bass along with Town Manager Mike Williams led the meeting.

There were four people wishing to address the council. Emily Bomgardner, representing the West Nassau Historical Society advised the council of the upcoming dates for the rescheduled Railroad Day and Hobos & Hot Rods Festival for Saturday, November 7, 2020. Both events will be celebrated that day.

Mr. Tom Hawthorne spoke to the council concerning his dislike for the mask mandate. Mr. Hawthorne explained to the council how dangerous wearing masks can be to a person.

Urban Fleming advised the council that he has emailed the council in Hilliard concerning fireworks. "I understand Hilliard had to cancel their fireworks so I thought the town (Callahan) could put some money with theirs (Hilliard) and we could have a huge show perhaps at the Callahan Speedway," said Fleming.

"It's something to think about." Fleming also advised the council that his wife is running for one of the available council seats. "If she should win, I would like to resign my position on the Planning & Zoning Board and I wanted to give you all a heads up."

Mr. Ricky Darby advised the council that he had been contacted by the Code Enforcement Board about a broke down vehicle on his property. "I moved back to Callahan because I had this property and my car broke down. I've been trying to get it fixed. My plan is to fix the car and start working on my land to get me a house here," said Darby.

"The Code Enforcement officer checked the property and the car and realized Mr. Darby was living in his vehicle," said Town Attorney Jeb Branham. "He was given time to stop living in the vehicle and didn't comply so he was served a notice to leave by July 25."

"Mr. Darby, I know that you do not really understand so please come by Town Hall tomorrow (Tuesday) and we can talk about what you need to do with your property," said Williams. "You cannot live in your vehicle on the property."

The first agenda item was a discussion by Sherri Mitchell, representing the Nassau County Economic Development Board. "We have been going through quite some changes with Laura and Ta' Nashia both leaving. The board asked me to move in the position until they found someone else and I took it," said Mitchell. "We really appreciate the town's support of the NCEDB and hope it continues."

In other business, Interim Mayor Bass advised the council that the contract with the town and Nassau County concerning rent on the fire station expires in September. "The only change I wish to make is to change the rent from \$1800/month back to \$2100/month," said Bass. "I'm not really sure why it changed but it needs to be where

it was. The light bill itself is over \$800/month."

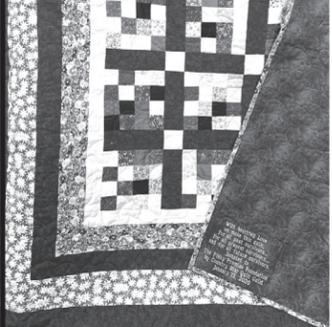
The council approved the change in the contract.

The council approved Resolution 2020-R05 which concerned signing the traffic light agreement with Florida Department of Transportation.

The council approved setting the tentative millage rate at 2.6079, which was last year's roll back rate.

Williams updated the council concerning the DEO grant. "The bid was awarded to TB Landmark Construction, Inc. on July 10, 2020," said Williams. "It will probably take 3 months for the engineering phase to be completed before the work can begin."

The next meeting of the council will be Monday, August 3 at 7 p.m.



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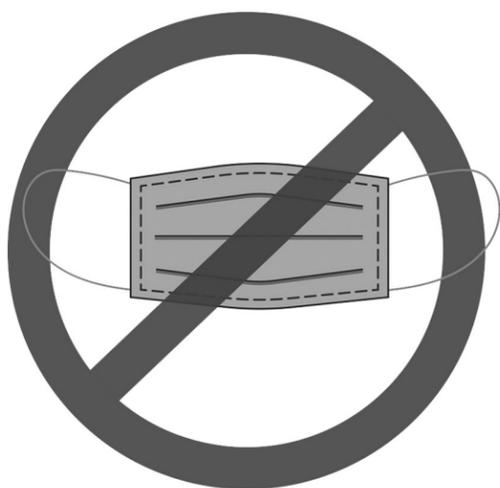
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PEACEFUL MASK PROTEST

SATURDAY, JULY 25

FROM 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

@ WINN DIXIE PARKING LOT IN CALLAHAN (SR 200)



A quick way to read up on the dangers and ineffectiveness of masks, visit:
The Association of American Physicians & Surgeons at
<https://aapsonline.org/mask-facts/>

For more sources and deep research, visit:
<https://bit.ly/mask-research>

QUICK MASK FACTS:



A COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) particle is 0.125 micrometers.



All of the cloth masks and materials had near zero efficiency at 0.3 micrometers, a particle size that easily penetrates into the lungs.



Moisture retention, reuse of cloth masks and poor filtration may result in increased risk of infection.

We know that wearing a mask outside a health care facility offers little, if any, protection from infection.

COVID-19 FACTS

- **FACT:** The Covid-19 death rate is falling while government is increasing restrictions
- **FACT:** Dozens of Florida labs have falsely reported 100% positive results
- **FACT:** Cloth mask pore size are 570+ times larger than a Covid-19 particle
- **FACT:** The CDC does NOT require a positive test to classify as a COVID-19 death
- **FACT:** It is legal for the US Government to create propaganda in the form of motion pictures, films, video, audio, and other materials
- **FACT:** Google is manipulating your search results to show you biased content in favor of one political party



"PEOPLE ARE VERY SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE INFLUENCE OF NARRATIVES OVER TIME"
- D. Bongino

Town of Hilliard's Malucci Placed on 90 Day Probation

Dawn S. West

The Hilliard Town Council held a workshop Tuesday night to discuss the Parks & Recreation Department and its Director Kyle Malucci. The council actually discussed the same issue at last Thursday meeting (see page 7) for two hours and moved to make a decision however the agenda item was set up for discussion only. Council President and Parks & Recreation Department Commissioner made a motion to have a special meeting (this one) for Tuesday night. The council already had a workshop set up for Tuesday on the issue so the workshop was held from 6-8 p.m.

As the special meeting began, Councilman Lee Pickett made a motion to place Malucci on a 90 day probation period with zero tolerance,

issues or problems. Councilman Jared Wollitz made a second but also added to the motion to have 30/60/90 day benchmarks on Malucci's work.

Town Attorney Christian Waugh directed the council to give direction of what the council was looking for in the 30/60/90 day probation such as: the Parks & Recreation Director is expected to comply with everything in his job description. The council agreed.

"The budget is coming up, be prepared. It's up to you (Malucci) to keep things up in your department," said Wollitz talking to Malucci. "If this approves this is your second chance. We expect you to man up to this position."

"You have to step up if this (motion) passes. If there is a problem let us know," added Pickett. "Make management decisions. Tonight is different from a regular meeting. This is your written complaint."

"So much has been discussed in these meetings. You know there are many weak areas to be addressed," said Councilwoman Callie Bishop to Malucci. "It shouldn't be hard for us to see if things are better after all the complaints we've heard. You have to be here to manage your department."

"You have to be a department leader not just an employee. You have to set yourself apart and be a leader," said

Councilman Kenny Sims.

"I feel like he's (Malucci) been given enough chances to prove himself," continued Councilman John Beasley. "In 56 days, since April, he's worked 15 days. You can't run a department like that."

Again, public comment was welcomed which included lifeguards, parents, residents and a public works employee; both for and against Malucci. After much discussion, Mayor Floyd Vanzant called for the vote.

The vote passed in a 3-2 vote with Councilman Sims and Councilman Beasley voting no.

From this point, Malucci is on a 90 day probation period with meetings with the council at the 30, 60 and 90 day periods.



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