

“AS THE HEAVENS ARE HIGHER THAN THE EARTH, SO ARE MY WAYS HIGHER THAN YOUR WAYS AND MY THOUGHTS THAN YOUR THOUGHTS.” - ISAIAH 55:9

## Florida Power & Light Holds Demonstration of Diagnostic Capabilities

Dawn S. West

Last Tuesday, Florida Power & Light engineers and facilitators held two demonstrations around Callahan. The first demonstration was held in the parking lot of Gray Gables Baptist Church. A canopy was set up to shade the large screen TV, while on the grass a large drone sat on its landing pad. The demonstration was to describe the year-round diagnostic capabilities and grid improvements that FPL is making. FPL has mapped out the areas of concern throughout their coverage area. Currently they have been making major improvements through Callahan by replacing poles.

FPL uses drone technology to look extensively at the poles, power lines and connections. You may have seen an FPL truck moving slowly down the road and not too far ahead of them is the drone, checking things out. During the demonstration, we watched as the drone pilot carefully directed the drone to the area on top of the pole. The particular pole we were observing was a storm-



hardened power pole. This means, this pole was replaced from wood to concrete and also the power grid was updated. From there, he could take high quality pictures of the power grid. The drone is also equipped with infrared lighting to detect and identify the type of hot spots on the grid. Through the photos you could see clearly enough to see if even a pin was missing from the



power grid.

When a power outage happens, these storm-hardened power poles are able to detect where the problem is and redirect the power so that all the homes are not affected by the outage. Where you may normally have one thousand homes on the grid, the source can make it around only two hundred homes that are affected. The other 800 homes may have a blink of the power until it is restored. By using the drone technology, it saves time and money to find out the problem quickly and get the problem resolved. I'm sure we'll be learning much more about the drone technology and its benefits. FPL conducts more than 200 drone flights every day, proactively assessing FPL equipment to avoid customer interruptions and reduce power outage times.

The next demonstration was on Vikki Road, off of Dornbush Road, in Callahan. In this area, FPL is improving reliability for customers in good weather and bad by putting neighborhood power lines underground. The overhead power lines are being replaced with more reliable underground lines in neighborhoods with a history of outages

caused by storms, trees and vegetation. Many people have been aware of trees being trimmed around the power lines. This is just one more proactive step in trying to improve our power during storms. FPL has worked tirelessly to try to get to as many neighborhoods as possible to trim trees, replace poles, etc. prior to hurricane season.

During the demonstration, we watched as the lineman removed the transformer from the pole and carefully placed in a trailer. The upper lines (FPL lines) will all be removed from the



area. The other lines on the pole are contract lines (telephone, cable, etc.). Those lines will remain active until those companies choose to remove them. The FPL guidewires will also be removed and the top of the pole cut off, to complete the project. In the Vikki Road area, all the underground lines were already in place. The transformer (completely enclosed) now sits on a large stand of concrete. You may notice some concrete stands are larger or smaller than others. This also is taken from the data received from the area



of a flooding potential. FPL has taken precautions to try and alleviate any trouble areas.

All though hurricane season is here, they remain hard at work improving the systems. Again, areas are chosen from a list of data that keeps count of power outages, lines down, etc. Their long term goal is to have all lines underground but that will take some time. Let's not forget, FPL serves more than 5.7 million accounts or more than 12 million people. Callahan is not their only customer. Thank you, to the FPL spokespeople, drone pilots, lineman and undergrounding experts for their informative demonstrations and for helping to improve our area to be more storm ready!

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## A Word From the Publisher

I must give a 'shout out' to the towns of Callahan and Hilliard for the Fireworks display held at the fairgrounds Saturday night. This was the second year that the fireworks have been held at the fairgrounds. I'm so proud of the town councils from both towns that have worked together to improve the event from last year. This year the organizers invited local food trucks and brought in some port-o-lets. Chuck Pederson also provided a trailer set up with huge speakers with music playing throughout the evening and did a great job. Right before the fireworks display began you could hear the National Anthem being played. All of sudden, there was silence around the entire parking lot with people standing tall with their hands over their hearts. It was such a great thing to see so many people, young and old, walking around talking to others and enjoying the evening. The Lord held off the rain and provided clouds to cool things off. We couldn't have asked for a better night. It really made me feel great about America again and thankful to live in such a special place. Accolades again, to both our town councils (Callahan and Hilliard) for working together to provide a great event for our residents! Can't wait until next year!

Roger and I enjoyed July 4th with my parents at our house. We had a great day starting off with homemade waffles and cane syrup. I sent Daddy a picture of the waffles and they headed over shortly after that. We had a great day just visiting and catching up. Roger smoked some ribs and grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, of course. We ate until we were all about to pop. It was a delicious meal.

After eating, we watched the movie

2,000 Mules. The movie was deep and very revealing of exactly what happened in the 2020 election. I am certainly not political by any means however even I know something went completely wrong during the election. As we were watching the results come in (November 2020), many of the states were red. It was getting late, I guess close to 11 p.m. as the news announced a state had stopped counting ballots. Right then, I knew something was wrong. As long as I had been a voter (since I turned 18), I had never heard of that. I encourage you to see the movie if you haven't. It's super informative and true and answered many of my questions. My parents were pretty frustrated when it was over, as we all were. Whatever you do, make your vote count the correct way, but VOTE!

I have been somewhat encouraged these past couple of weeks as I have seen a couple of interviews where the station actually let the people talk. A couple of times people said they pray for their children each day; another said I go to the Lord in prayer for direction of my life. Normally, the TV stations don't really like to share that kind of talk. In the world we live in, God is truly the only answer. Again, we can worry all the time about everything. The main thing we need to worry about is do we have Christ as our Savior? Because without Him, we are nothing. God directs our path but He also expects us to do our part. Why don't you give your troubles to the peace maker Jesus Christ? He's waiting for you!

Have a great week!

*Dawn S. West*

## OREMC Foundation Accepting Grant Applications

The OREMC Foundation is once again accepting applications for its quarterly grant awards program. All applications must be received by Friday, July 15, 2022.

Qualified organizations are invited to submit grant applications outlining their project plans and related funding requests. A nine-member Foundation Board of Trustees—one member representing each of Okefenokee REMC's districts—will review applications and award grants accordingly. Grant criteria, application and timelines are available on OREMC's website [oremc.com/foundation](http://oremc.com/foundation). The Foundation Board of Trustees will announce grant award winners in August.

The OREMC Foundation is a community development initiative of Okefenokee REMC supporting education, community health and economic development in the six Georgia and two Florida counties the co-op serves. Currently OREMC unclaimed capital credits are the primary funding source.

Since its inception in August 2021, the OREMC Foundation has awarded over \$171,000 to 48 organizations in OREMC's service area. "From food banks, arts education and reading programs to historical preservation, public safety and meeting community health/safety needs, the OREMC Foundation Trustees continue to be humbled by the people behind the organizations doing so much good for our



local communities," explains OREMC Communications/Marketing Coordinator Michele Hutchins. "Education was a cornerstone of the most recent round of grant awards" she continues, "promoting early readers, supporting at-risk youth and advancing higher education scholarship opportunities. Additionally, there were numerous health and safety needs addressed including: food, clothing and shelter, foster care support, disaster recovery and long-term care. To say the OREMC Foundation trustees are invested in helping to make a difference is an understatement."

For more information about the OREMC Foundation please review the guidelines available at [oremc.com/foundation](http://oremc.com/foundation). You can also email questions to [foundation@oremc.com](mailto:foundation@oremc.com) or call 800-262-5131 ext. 1103.

### In the Kitchen... Frozen Strawberry Salad

- |                                  |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 3/4 cup sugar                    | 1 lg. Cool Whip                |
| 8 oz. cream cheese               | 3 half pt. frozen strawberries |
| 1 lg. crushed pineapple, drained | 1 cup chopped nuts             |

Mix all ingredients together and freeze. Enjoy!



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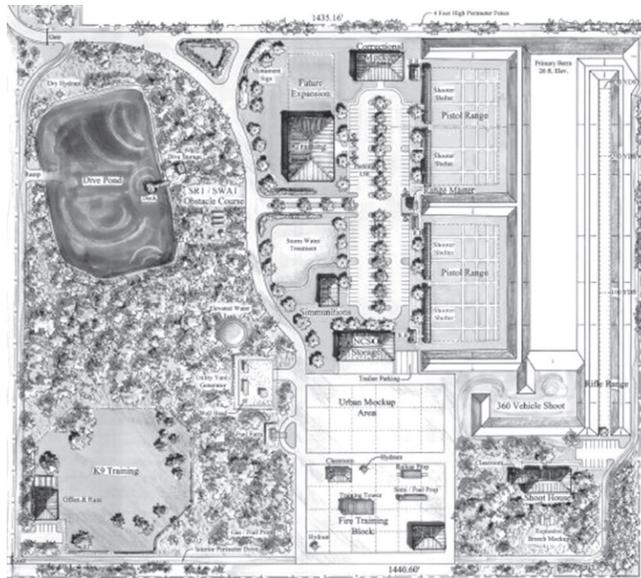
# Public Safety Training Center to Hold Ribbon Cutting July 13

In January 2017, the Board of County Commissioners dedicated 40 acres of County-owned property for a Public Safety Training Center to be used by public safety personnel. Long term plans for the center include gun ranges, training rooms, a mock jail, K-9 training area with kennels, an SRT training obstacle course, shoot house, dive-team training pond, Fire/Rescue training area (with classroom, training tower, railcar prop, semi/fuel prop) and other possibilities as future needs develop.

A Groundbreaking Ceremony was held on March 21, 2021, to celebrate the commencement of construction. The first phase of the Public Safety Training Center consisting of gun ranges and temporary parking is now complete. To celebrate, the Board will host a Ribbon Cutting for Phase One and Firing of the First

Shot Ceremony on Wednesday, July 13 at 11 a.m. at the site's location at 153322 CR 108, Yulee. The public is invited to attend.

Phase Two of the project will commence in the very near future and will include construction of the classroom building with airnaseum, a storage building, and resurfacing of the parking lot.



# JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

If you didn't attend the fireworks Saturday night at the fairgrounds then you missed a fantastic display courtesy of the towns of Callahan and Hilliard. I truly love that our two west side towns are working with one another to provide everyone a wholesome atmosphere to celebrate our independence.

We are blessed to live in America, even though it is a far cry from the America I grew up in. I wonder if any liberal socialists celebrated their freedom this past weekend, and if they realized that our freedom was made possible by the fact that citizens had weapons. There wasn't a huge unified army to fight the British forces, it was every day citizens just like you and me who finally had enough of the excessive burdens being place on them from the British Government. If our patriotic forefathers were here today, they would be totally ashamed and irate at what we have let our country become. If there were men and women today that had the passion for freedom and morality as the settlers had 246 years ago, we would take our country back. Socialism/communism would not have a chance if we still had that long-forgotten passion that the authors of our Declaration of Independence and our Constitution had at the birth of our nation. Somehow, we lost that passion and are watching our country collapse right before our eyes. Instead of passionate patriots marching in unison we have BLM terrorists, Antifa terrorists, LBGQT+ people marching in our streets. We have drag queens invited into elementary schools to indoctrinate our children with their perversion. We have 75 different genders (so they think) that demand we recognize them for what they think they are. Even in our two high

schools, West Nassau and Hilliard, there are students who identify as dogs and cats. Some wear collars around their necks and friends lead them around school with a leash. Sick is what they really are and it makes me wonder why the schools tolerate such behavior. As far as I know, animals are not allowed in classrooms. If I were a teacher, I would soon be fired, because when the roll is called and one answered with a meow or a bark, out of my classroom they would go!

Is there an answer for our country? Is there any hope left at all to restore our Republic? I have great doubt we will ever be as great as we were. Our entire political system is corrupt, and I'm talking Republicans and Democrats. We first have to stop electing career politicians, people like McConnell, Pelosi, Schumer, Nadler, Feinstein, Waters and the list goes on and on. We now have a career politician from our county that's running for Congress. I don't care if he is a home county boy; Aaron Bean needs to get a real job and survive in this world like we all have to do. He needs to get off the years and years of taxpayers' money he has lavishly made. We need new blood in the vast majority of elected positions from our local government all the way to Washington. We need term limits on every elected position.

However, what we really need the very most is to welcome God our Father back into America's classrooms and in the Halls of Congress and in the White House and every government building along with every home. Then, and only then, will we see what America used to be and actually enjoy the freedom of being an American! God Bless America!

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

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# It's Not Out of Reach

Pastor Marty Paparo, Friendship Alliance Church, Callahan



Have you ever felt like the fullness of God is out of reach? Have you ever felt like there are some Christians who experience the presence of God in incredible ways, but it's just out of reach for you? Have you ever wished you could know God like others do, but don't know what that looks like? What if I told you that it is possible for anyone and not just a select few.

Let's start with a few truths about God. Sometimes we wonder if God is on our side. According to His word, He is. "Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free. The Lord is on my side; I will not fear..." Psalm 118:5-6, ESV. "It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed." Deuteronomy 31:8, ESV. "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8:31, ESV. God is on our side, the question that needs to be asked is: "Are we on His side?"

Before we meet Jesus, we are not on God's side. His word describes us as His enemy. But even as His enemy, He loves us. He died for us. God made a way for us to go from enemy to Child of God. When Jesus died on the cross, the way is made. Our part is to accept Christ as our Lord and Savior. Now we can access the Father, through His Son, Jesus.

Even after this event of our being saved, we hinder our relationship with Him. We put distance between Him and us. And we feel as though He is out of reach. God's word warns us, "Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil." 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22, ESV. When we stop holding on to what is good, when we engage in any form of evil, we quench (extinguish) the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We feel distant from God. But we don't have to.

Ephesians 3:14-21 says God is able to do far more than we can even dream of because of His power. We can be strengthened by the power of His Holy Spirit. Our job is to seek Him. Our job is to confess (agree with Him that we were wrong) what we have done to Him. Our job is to bring it before Him. "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you..." James 4:8, ESV.

If you feel distant from God, it's time to draw near to Him. He is for you. Keep in mind the following passage, that he is not out of reach: "For this reason I bow my knees before the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of His glory He may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen." Ephesians 3:14-21. ESV

# Callahan Methodist Church Welcomes New Pastor

The First United Methodist Church of Callahan is excited to welcome Pastor Bodie Riddle and his wife, Robin, to our church and community! Pastor Bodie was born in Alexandria, Louisiana, in a military family. His family finally settled in Panama City, Florida, where he earned a high school diploma and then joined the US Navy. Pastor Bodie came to know Jesus in June 1978 and felt the calling to ministry, but it was not until later in life that he finally answered that call.

Bodie is married to his bride, Robin, who is from Franklin, Pennsylvania, where they were serving a three-point charge, before following God's will to Callahan. He and Robin have eight children and 14 grandchildren who live in various parts of the country. Robin is currently the caretaker of her sister-in-law, Sheryl, and brother-in-law, Erik, who are dealing with traumatic brain injuries from separate accidents.

Pastor Bodie and Robin are entirely committed to doing God's will first in their personal lives, their marriage, and the ministry, proclaiming the name of Jesus to those who have ears to hear and a heart to receive. They are eager to get to know our town and the people of Callahan



and to see what God has in store for this new journey in their lives!

The Callahan First United Methodist Church is located on US 301, beside Callahan Elementary School. The church office number is 879-3877. OLD friends, NEW friends, and the COMMUNITY are invited to our 10:30 a.m. Worship Service this Sunday, July 10, as we officially welcome Pastor Bodie and Robin. Immediately following the service, join us for a Fellowship Meal and bring a favorite dish to share. All are welcome! Your presence would be a blessing, as we celebrate Robin and Pastor Bodie joining our ministry!

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## CHURCH NEWS

KIDZ JAM ADVENTURE will be held Wed. nights July 6-27 at 6:30 p.m. at Friendship Alliance Church, 44491 Mary Sauls Rd., Callahan. All children ages 5 - 5th grade. For more information call 879-1907 or email KIDZ@Friendshipcma.org.

North Hilliard Baptist Church, 552823 US Hwy. 1, will host a one day VBS & Community Fun Day Saturday, July 16 at 10 a.m. Parents must stay with their children. Games, activities, food, snow cones, popcorn & prizes. For questions, call 845-2515.

Register now for Community Bible Study programs. Bible curriculum for all ages preschoolers to adults, men and women, couples, nursery available. Register at: [www.Ameliacbsclass.org](http://www.Ameliacbsclass.org) for adult and children's classes beginning September 7. For more information, call Mary Hunt 904-775-8611.

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Yvette Outler

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**1. Stay Home:** Your friend calls and says, "Hey, let's go shopping!" You know that you just paid bills and only have \$50 until your next paycheck, and you have not even bought groceries yet. You are tempted to go. You tell yourself, "I won't buy anything, I'll just look." Statistically the odds are against you. If you know that you legitimately cannot afford to go shopping with her then maybe put a spin on the invitation and say, "How about come over to my house for coffee and hang out?" or simply ask for a raincheck.

**2. Unsubscribe:** This eleven lettered word is powerful. It is time that you took the power back! When you do online shopping, you are immediately put into that store's permissible "send" data base. The next thing you know you are bombarded with electronic adds in your inbox. Let's face it, it is fun to check out the deals, bargains, and clearance! It dawned on me one day after spending 30 minutes on one of my favorite online store websites that I would have never started browsing if the electronic add had not popped up in my email in-box. By unsubscribing I am saving myself time and money.



**3. Make a list and stick to it:** Whether you are going to the grocery store, PetSmart, or to the farmer's market. Lists are like a handheld budget. You know how much money you have to spend. You know what you need. Before you leave your home figure what the items on your list will cost and make sure you have enough money for your purchases. Don't blow it by going "off list." This is easily done if you do not make up your mind before you leave your house. Use your phone calculator and add things up as you put them in your buggy to keep you on budget. Avoid the aisles that do not have what is on your list. And most importantly, just because "it" is marked down does not mean that you should buy it.

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

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# New Beginnings and Milestones

## Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Beck Celebrate 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Sidney E. and Sylvia C. Beck, of Callahan, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary June 16. They were married June 16, 1962 in Nahunta, Georgia. Sidney retired from American National after 28 ½ years. He later acquired his real estate license and worked 17 years with Nassau Realty. Sylvia recalled, she was born in St. Luke's Hospital, graduated from Nursing School at St. Luke's Hospital and retired after 31 years as a Registered Nurse from St. Luke's Hospital! The Becks are faithful members of Gardenview Baptist Church. Since both have retired, somewhat, they enjoy traveling by car, van, RVing, bus trips

and most of all taking cruises since the late 1990's. They also enjoy volunteering for various groups and associations since retiring. They plan to book a cruise later this year to celebrate their special milestone!

They have two children: Sidney E. and Barbara Beck, Jr. of Rockledge, Florida and Shana and David Kramer of Callahan. They also have four grandchildren Doc (Lizzy), Nathanael (Halie), Joan and Jason; and one great-grandson Gabe!



## Lucas Edward Dean Raulerson



Austin and Erica Raulerson, of Callahan, are proud to announce the birth of their son Lucas Edward Dean Raulerson. Lucas was born April 9, 2022 at 1 a.m. at UF Health North in Jacksonville. He weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces and measured 20 inches.

Paternal grandparents are Marianne and William Raulerson of Jacksonville.

Maternal grandparents are Gus and Marilyn Lively of Callahan.

Lucas was welcomed home by his siblings Addison and Connor Null.

## Coach Allen Kirk Celebrates 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Coach Allen Kirk, longtime Callahan resident, celebrated his 85th birthday June 29. Coach Kirk celebrated his special milestone with a party/gathering held at The Pig restaurant in Callahan with lots of friends and former students stopping in to share well wishes!

Coach Kirk moved to Callahan in 1962. He began his teaching and coaching career at Callahan High School, teaching math and coaching basketball. He had a passion for coaching and always got his teams and the students 'fired up' for the games. Former students shared some of their memories: I can still remember him leading the Pep Rally at Callahan Middle School with 'ROLL RAMBLERS ROLL' and Run a Mile!

After retiring from teaching and coaching, Mr. Kirk began working at Sam's. He also officially celebrated his retirement from Sam's! Congratulations Mr. Kirk!



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## R. Niel Hampton, Jr. Scholarships Awarded

Dawn S. West

These past two years have been very difficult times for everyone including people planning events and fundraisers. The 16th Annual R. Niel Hampton, Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament was canceled in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic. In April, the tournament was finally held at Laurel Island Golf Course in Kingsland, Georgia. The annual golf tournament is held in memory of R. Niel Hampton, Jr., whose life was taken much too soon. His parents, Niel and Sandy Hampton began the Scholarship Foundation in 2004, with the help of the Florida Baptist Foundation and their church, River Road Baptist Church. Since the beginning of the tournament, they have given out 325 scholarships which totaled over \$630,000. The scholarships are given to students who apply, that are going into some type of ministry or attending a Christian college or university.



so great. Everyone hugging and talking to those they haven't seen in a while, smiles everywhere. The tournament went off without a hitch and the players enjoyed a nice dinner once they finished. The winners for this year's tournament were: 1st Place: FNB South Team, Ricky Gilliard, Sarah Gilliard, Grant Gilliard and Dawson Dyle; 2nd Place: Bunting Team, Cody Bunting, Garrett Bunting, Jud Bennett and Chris

Nash; and 3rd Place Callahan Tire & Lube, Brett Green, Ryan Haugh, Austin Carr and Clint Conner.

Recently, scholarships were awarded at River Road Baptist Church to 15 students. Only six of the recipients were available to attend. Those attending were: Kaleb Dillyhon and Violet Knight,

Baptist College of Florida, Kaitlyn Schwander, Southern Baptist Seminary; Jenny Beth Ard, Liberty University; and Makayla Vroman and Melissa Vroman, Pensacola Christian College. The other recipients were: Rhett Dillyhon, Shorter University; Davie Ferraro, Ashbury Seminary; Sarah Branter, Boyce College; Lydia Hodges, College at Southeastern; Dawson Troutt, Emily Robinson, Kevin Honeycutt, Anthony Williams (Reagan), Baptist College of Florida; and Enise Louis Jean, Houston Baptist University.



Some of Niel, Jr.'s classmates who faithfully participate each year.



The Hamptons were a little concerned about players signing up for the tournament since it had been two years since they hosted it. God showed up and showed out, with plenty of players for the event and great weather. There were many of the former players and also several new ones. The comradery at the tournament is always



First Place Team



Second Place Team



Third Place Team



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

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# 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, June 30**

Laci Nicole Lloyd, 39, 27103 Kara Circle, Hilliard: Trafficking Fentanyl; Possession of Methamphetamine; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia with Residue  
 Morgan Hugh Oliver, 39, 27103 Kara Circle, Hilliard: Trafficking Fentanyl; Possession of Methamphetamine; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia with Residue

## Spicer Announces Run for Commissioner District 4

George Spicer has filed his papers to run in the August election for the Nassau County Commission District 4 seat. Citing rising property taxes and the struggles of people living in the county's far west side, George decided to run. "When my opponent announced a run for commissioner in 2018, he said, '...as a fiscal conservative, I believe in small and efficient government.' However, what we have seen out of the commission are high taxes, larger budgets and more spending. Times are tough right now," said Spicer. "Gas and groceries are through the roof. We need commissioners who listen to people and respond to people. We need someone to not just support smart growth, but smart spending. As your commissioner, the needs of my constituents are my priority."

During his time as commissioner in 2018, Spicer secured funding to widen and resurface CR 121. George also created the county's double-chip seal program to pave dirt roads at a lower cost. Because of his strong support for law enforcement, George voted in favor of the new Sheriff's Administration Building with existing funds creating no new debt for taxpayers. "Despite



intense political pressure, I held the line on voting for more taxes," added Spicer. "Whether you are struggling to pay your bills in rural Nassau County, or a retired CEO on the plantation those tax increases hit your pockets hard. When making spending decisions, let's spend less time focusing on dollars and cents and more time focusing on common sense!"

George Spicer will be on the August 23rd primary ballot. To learn more about George Spicer and his run for Nassau County Commissioner, visit: [www.votespicer.com](http://www.votespicer.com).

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**MARY H. GRANDY**

Mary H. Grandy, 98, passed away peacefully June 5, 2022, at the Life Care Center of Hilliard. She was born March 4, 1924 in Thomson, Georgia to Harvey W. Hall, Sr. and Mary Ruth Hall. In addition to her parents; she is predeceased by two brothers Jamie Hall and Harvey W. Hall, Jr.; and her husband of 50 years, Victor H. Grandy.

She is survived by her daughter Ruth G. (John) Dunlap of White Oak, Georgia; a granddaughter Mary D. (Marc) Rowe of St. Mary's, Georgia; and three great-grandchildren Hunter, Ruthie and Tommie Rowe.

A graveside service was held June 8 at Jones Cemetery in Callahan.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, 879-2336.

# OBITUARIES

**ALGEN LAVERNE JONES**



Mr. Algen Laverne Jones, 58, of Callahan, book of life closed Tuesday, June 28, 2022.

The family will receive friends Thursday, July 7 from 1-2 p.m. prior to the graveside service at 2 p.m. at Callahan Community Cemetery, SR 200, Callahan.

Sara Carter Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements, 765-4150.

**AUNITA JENKINS WILSON**



Aunita Lucinda Jenkins Wilson (Nita Baby, NeetNeet, Nete the Pete, MyNete), 67, went home to be with the Lord, Friday, June 24, 2022.

Aunita was born to the late Oscar Simon and Evelyn Isabelle Jenkins in Fernandina Beach. Soon after her birth, the family relocated to New York City, where she spent her childhood and adult years. Over the last 10 years, she relocated to Callahan to care for her mom.

Aunita attended Thomas Jefferson High School in Brooklyn, NY and Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University (FAMU) where she received her Bachelors of Science Degree in Home Economics. In October 1983, she married Earle W. Wilson and they had three sons, Earle Jerreau, Marlon Tobias and Isaiah Jahleel. While in New York, she was employed by the Newburgh Public School Systems as a Home Economics Teacher where she retired.

Aunita was a dedicated member at Springfield Baptist Church in Beacon, NY. Upon relocating to Callahan, she attended Greater Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church and was the VBS Arts & Crafts instructor. Aunita enjoyed holiday cooking, baking, decorating and home shopping for gifts

and accessories. She absolutely loved arts & crafts, sewing for herself, family and the community. Every holiday, she personally designed gifts and packaged them with love. Aunita enjoyed oldies but goodies and dancing to disco music. She was a devoted wife, mother, sister, grandmother, auntie, cousin and best friend to many.

She is survived by her three sons, Earle Jerreau Wilson, Marlon Tobias Wilson and Isaiah (Meleasa) Wilson; two grandchildren Eiden Wilson and Emerson Wilson; sister Rev. Dr. Alicia LaRaine (Rev. Kevin) Middleton; niece Alema Isabelle; nephew Ahrayalab Simon; special daughter Liz Wilson; special son David Hibbler, Jr.; goddaughter Lakeisha Harris; godson Tirrell Kibler; special cousins Betty Holland, Damien Long, Sandra Stewart, Gwendolyn Kibler and Maxine Simmons; and a host of family and friends.

The family will receive friends Friday, July 8 from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Northside Chapel of Sara Carter Funeral Home, 6665 New Kings Road, Jacksonville; and Saturday, July 9 from 9 a.m. until the homegoing service at 11 a.m. at the True Believers Church of God by Faith, 45083 White Road, Callahan, with Elder Byron Ramseur, Pastor and Dr. Reginald R. Edwards, officiating. Burial will follow at Callahan Community Cemetery.

Services from the Northside Chapel of Sarah L. Carter's Funeral Home, (904) 765-4150.

**Obituaries are published free of charge.**

Email: [news@westsidejournal.net](mailto:news@westsidejournal.net).

## Be the Change Continues Ministering



Be the Change of NE FL recently gave out clothes, food and hygiene items to the homeless people in Jacksonville. Volunteers are always needed! To be a part of this ministry, visit: Be the Change NE FL on Facebook for more information!



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### Phillips Family Thank You

We want to express our appreciation for all the cards, food, flowers and love that has been shown to our family during the unexpected homegoing of our mother, Loita 'Ivy' Phillips. We are so thankful for the support of our church families at Liberty Baptist Church, Gray Gables Baptist Church and Callahan First Baptist Church. We also want to thank Nassau County Fire Rescue and the Nassau County Sheriff's Office for their compassionate care.

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## Speed Limit Temporarily Reduced on County Road 121

Sabrina Robertson, PIO

At the June 13, 2022 meeting of the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners, the Board approved Resolution No. 2022-125 temporarily reducing the speed limit on County Road 121 from the Duval County line to SR 2 to 45 mph. This is being done at the recommendation of Engineering Services and the Florida Department of Transportation in an effort to improve motorist safety due to current road conditions and higher than average truck traffic. New speed limit signs are already in place.

As previously announced, the State awarded the County \$9 million in Legislative funding during the 2021 Legislative Session for repair and resurfacing of the southern most portion of County Road 121. Project design is anticipated to begin in late summer/early fall 2022. Construction is anticipated to begin early 2023 and will take six to nine months to complete.

Given the approximate two-year

process to complete repairing of the southern half of the CR121 corridor, the Nassau County Road Department has been working diligently to make temporary asphalt repairs to the road by removing loose asphalt and debris; recompacting the base; filling the holes with tackifier, a compound that increases stickiness; filling the holes with a new asphalt mix; and then tamping it into place, and packing it tightly before leveling it to the surrounding road. The Road Department has also worked to remove the accumulation of soil along portions of the roadways' shoulders to allow rain water to drain away more quickly from the paved surface.

Following completion of the repair and resurfacing project, the roadway will be re-evaluated to reimplement the 55 mph speed limit.

If you have any questions, please contact Deputy County Manager/County Engineer, Robert Companion at (904) 530-6225 or via e-mail at rcompanion@nassaucountyfl.com.

## Sustainability Through Composting

David M. Hebert, UF/IFAS Extension

Composting has been around since agriculture began. Ancient civilizations like the Chinese, Hindus, and Indigenous Americans utilized manures and other organics to enrich their soils and increase plant growth – long before the invention of synthetic agrichemicals. Composting can be described as human-initiated and accelerated decomposition of plant tissue. It is the intentional act of breaking down organic material to feed plants. In other words, it is the rearrangement of essential elements from one molecule to another and it is the foundation of sustainable agriculture because it recycles waste from one

process into useful material for another process. Learning to do this successfully will increase farm profitability, achieve crop growth, and compound value on your land.

Throughout his career, George Washington Carver taught that composting was vital to soil fertility, urging farmers to make their own fertilizers, as it could be done with little labor and practically no cash outlay. Immediate Benefits of Composting: Reduction or elimination of outside fertilizer inputs; Increased water-holding capacity and moisture regulation; and Establishment of beneficial soil microbes and fauna.



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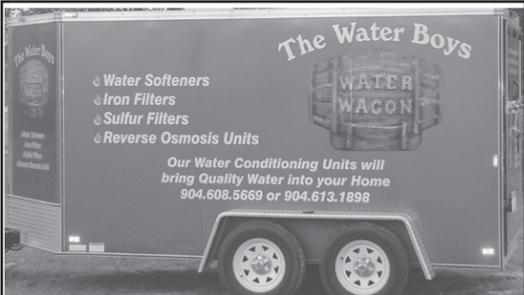
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## NCCOA Activities in Hilliard

Plan to join us at NCCOA's newly refurbished Westside Senior Life Center, 37002 Ingham Road, Hilliard, for afternoon activities in July. Activities are free, but require registration by contacting Missy Snead, Activities Coordinator, at 904-675-9533.

- **Monday, July 11** – Game Day (Checkers, Connect 4, Memory Games), 2-4 pm
- **Tuesday, July 12** – Crocheting Class with “Hilliard Hookers,” 1-3 pm
- **Wednesday, July 13** – Line Dancing with Tonya, 1:30-3:30 pm
- **Thursday, July 14** – Book Club with Amber, MLIS Branch Librarian, Nassau County, 4-4:45 pm
- **Friday, July 15** – “Father of the Bride 2” (with popcorn and cookies!), 1:30-5 pm
- **Monday, July 18** – Game Day (Checkers, Connect 4, Memory Games), 2-4 pm
- **Tuesday, July 19** – Crocheting Class with “Hilliard Hookers,” 1-3 pm
- **Wednesday, July 20** – Line Dancing with Tonya, 1:30-3:30 pm
- **Monday, July 25** – Game Day (Checkers, Connect 4, Memory Games), 2-4 pm
- **Tuesday, July 26** – Crocheting Class with “Hilliard Hookers,” 1-3 pm
- **Wednesday, July 27** – Line Dancing with Tonya, 1:30-3:30 pm



## Nassau County Teen Court

Join us for Teen Court! Real Teenage offenders...Real Crimes...Real Court Sanctions handed down, all by Teen Attorneys, Jurors and Court Officers. We need you to volunteer to serve on our Jury!

**The next Session will be held Tuesday, July 12.**

Stay in touch by phone or emails. Sign in between 5:30 - 5:45 p.m. Jeans and collared shirts required for boy and modest dressed for girls. Court begins promptly at 6 p.m. and is over by 7 p.m. Three hours of community service for each Court Session! We are always seeking new students to serve as Attorneys in Court. Anyone wishing to learn and serve in this position, just serve on the jury and speak to the coordinator about joining the team. The Court meets at the Robert M. Foster Judicial Center in Yulee. Simply show up, sign up and serve on the Jury. Call Nancy Beasley, Coordinator at 904-548-4520 or email: [nbeasley@nassaucountyfl.com](mailto:nbeasley@nassaucountyfl.com).



## SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVE-A-WAY

The Concerned Citizens of Hilliard will hold a School Supply Give-A-Way this Saturday, July 9 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Oxford Street ballpark in Hilliard.

Visit us anytime at:

[www.mywestsidejournal.com](http://www.mywestsidejournal.com)

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