VOLUME XVII ISSUE 51

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2021

Our Nation!

Pray to God for

"THEN THEY CRIED OUT TO THE LORD IN THEIR TROUBLE, AND HE BROUGHT THEM OUT OF THEIR DISTRESS. HE STILLED THE STORM TO A WHISPER; THE WAVES OF THE SEA WERE HUSHED." - PSALM 107:28-29

Golf Cart Friendly Community in Hilliard?

Dawn S. West

The Hilliard Town Council met Thursday night for their first regular meeting of July. Hilliard resident Ray Schmoltz approached the podium to address the council. "I would like to ask, What would it take for Hilliard to be a Golf Cart Friendly Community?" said Schmoltz. "I am a golf cart owner and just want to know what we (residents/ council) need to do to get us there?"

"I think this would be a good workshop to discuss whether the carts must have lights, tags, etc.," said Councilman Kenny Sims. "We also need to know if there is any liability to

the town. What are your thoughts Christian (Town Attorney)?"

"I think a workshop is a great way to get the conversation started. I would see no liability to the town," added Attorney Waugh. "I also represent The Villages down state, which is a Golf Car community. There is a difference between cart and car. I also think this would be a great opportunity for the town to be able to offer this

to residents."

A workshop will be held Monday, July 12 at 7 p.m. on the subject. The public is encouraged to

The first order of business was to set up another workshop between the council, the Hilliard Planning & Zoning Board and Doug Adkins. Adkins is planning to build a mixed-use development that will be constructed and operated by Dayspring Health, LLC. The project will be Daysprings Common Planned Unit Development (PUD) proposed for 4.17 acres of property located at Orange Street

and West Sixth Street in Hilliard. The workshop will be held Monday, July 12 at 6 p.m.

The following agenda item was

recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Board to allow the re-plat of Lots 36-40 and 56-63 of the Deer Run subdivision (between Kristie Circle south &

north on CR 108), to create the SSI subdivision for the property, complying with Chapter 46 of the Town

Code. The council approved the recommendation.

The next item concerned another recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Board for the council to waive the permit fee for the relocation of manufactured homes, older than five years, from the Pine Street trailer park to other locations within the Hilliard City limits. The council approved the recommendation. Town Clerk Lisa Purvis also added, "I have been in touch with the county concerning searching for other apartments or mobile homes

for these residents plus we have had many people helping out with the relocations. We (the town) are trying to assist where we can."

The council approved Resolution 2021-15 which concerned accepting a FDOT New State Highway lighting, maintenance and compensation agreement. This agreement is for the street lighting and maintenance on US Highway 1.

In closing comments, Hilliard resident Skip Frye added, "I just want to compliment Hilliard Parks & Recreation Director Gabe Whittenberg for his great work with the recreation department. It is so great to see so many children out there playing sports and the pool being used."

"Thank you for allowing me to 'listen in' to the meeting via teleconference while we await the arrival of our baby daughter. I don't want to be too far away when she arrives," said Attorney Christian Waugh.

The next meeting of the council will be Thursday, July 15 at 7 p.m.

Women of Influence Luncheon Held

Recently, the first annual Women of Influence Luncheon was held at Wildlight Elementary School in Yulee. Women of Influence are a collaborative effort to provide opportunities for the upcoming generation of female leaders. This society emphasizes the strength that women have together and highlights the importance of a diverse group of leaders.

Women of Influence have 5 major Pillars of Influence that it seeks to focus on: Networking, Opportunity, Presence Inside of Communities, Mentorship and Leadership. This platform aims to gather women of all ages to come together and inspire one another in hopes that it will lead to new opportunities. Opportunities for mentoring and helping the community while molding the new leaders of our tomorrow. This all began as Destiny Armstrong and Lacey Libby

envisioned an organization where young women would be connected with successful women and inspire them to live out their dreams. This vision came to life as influential women from all over Nassau County spoke at the luncheon offering advice to the younger generation

of women. Lacey and Destiny reached out

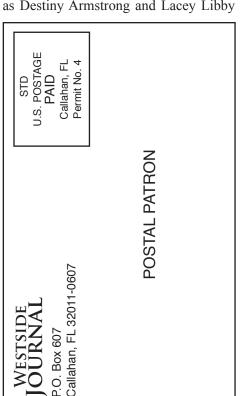
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many successful business women, judges, school board leaders, scientists. astronauts, veterinarians, 4H leaders and many more. They were honored to have such an amazing array of speakers including:

Dr. Kathy Burns, Natasha Drake, Kelly Gibson, Kelsey Irvine, Shelley Hirsch, Judge Jenny Higginbotham-Barrett, Dr. Sharon Hoffman, Dawn Lunt, Lisa Rosenblum, and Paula Suhey.

The society is very thankful for each of these speakers and the many girls who came to learn from this event. It was amazing listening to each of these young women ask questions and understand

> that they CAN become anything they want to be. The hope is that connections the made will continue on and impact the futures of these young ladies.





Let's Get Prayer Back In Schools

What does prayer mean to you? Prayer is not an expression of religion or denomination. Prayer restores hope, brings joy and renews self-worth.

Prayer Back in School is Essential!

Our children are suffering, both mentally and spiritually, starting at home, in our community, churches and schools. Prayer Back in School presents a new ideology that is a devotion necessary to advance our children.

We need people to sign the petition to return Prayer in School. The Westside Journal will be orchestrating the campaign with petitions for churches, residents, etc. to come by and pick them up, pass them around, and return completed petitions to our office. The petitions will be picked up and delivered to the Florida Secretary of State to be placed on the ballot. The Westside Journal office is located at: 450034 SR 200 (across from Callahan Dollar General), 879-4180.

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Callahan First Baptist Church 45090 Green Ave. • Callahan Thursday, July 15 • 4:30 - 6:30 pm

In the Kitchen...

Homemade Onion Burgers

1 1/2 - 2 lbs. hamburger 1 medium onion, diced salt to taste 1 egg

2 tablespoons flour garlic salt cheese, optional

Mix together all ingredients in large bowl. Make into patties, sprinkle with garlic salt and bake in oven at 400° until desired doneness. Top with cheese and place back into oven to melt cheese.



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Advertisement Deadline: Monday at 5 p.m. Classified Deadline: Tuesday at 12 p.m. WESTSIDE IOURNAL STAFF

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Bicyclist Fatally Injured Friday

According to Florida Highway Patrol reports, a vehicle driven by a 27-year-old man from Miami was traveling southbound on US 1 south of CR 108 in the left lane. A 34-year-old bicyclist from Hilliard was westbound crossing US 1 from the east shoulder. The bicycle crossed into the path of the oncoming vehicle. The front of the vehicle struck the right side of the bicycle causing fatal injuries to the rider. The accident is still under investigation.

More Nutrition Available for WIC Families

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) authorized State WIC Agencies to enhance the WIC benefit for a period of four months, expanding the vegetable and fruit voucher from \$9/month for children and \$11/month for women to \$35 per month, per participant. Florida WIC has implemented the increase now until September 30, 2021. All women and children 1 - 4 years old

who participate in the WIC Program will receive an increase in their fruits and vegetables cash voucher to \$35 per participant, per month.

For more information on enrollment and eligibility for the WIC Program call the Nassau County WIC Office (904) 875-6111. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Summer Library Fun!

The Nassau County Public Library System is happy to announce Summer Reading Events that are free and open to the public and will be different for all library locations. The Theme for this Year is "Tails and Tales". We will have special guest presentations that are fun, entertaining, and educational to promote a lifelong love of reading during the summer months while out of school.



Families may also register for Summer Reading online www.nassaureads.com or at each of the library locations in their area to receive a bag with prizes and fun activities. All registrations will be entered into a Grand Prize Drawing Basket full of goodies at the end of the summer.

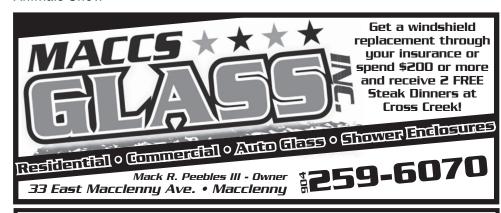
Bryceville Branch Library at 2 p.m.

Wednesday, July 14 - "Tales from Nassau County: Touch a Truck, Hear its Story"

Callahan Multi-Purpose Building at the Fairgrounds at 11 a.m.

Monday, July 12 - "Mark Alan Magic Show"

Monday, July 19 - "Pinky & Groovy Comedy Magical Stories with Live Animals Show"



Kids' Art Classes

* Saturday, July 10 • 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. \$12 • Ages 8 - 12

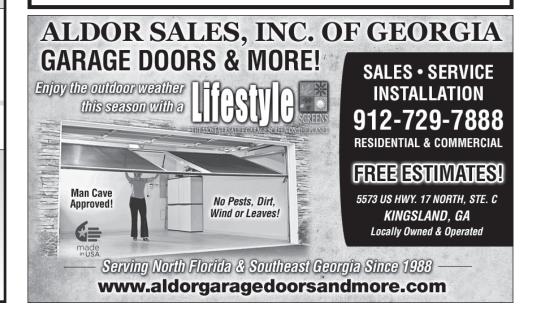
Taught by Erica Dodge Hosted by the West Nassau Historical Society.

Some classes may be combined or canceled depending on attendance.

+ Saturday, July 10 • 1 - 4 p.m. \$15 • Ages 13-17

+ Saturday, July 17 • 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. \$10 • Ages 5 - 7

Call 904-879-3406 to Register!



ST MY OPINION

Barnabas Donates Supplies to Pinky Promise

Barnabas Center has redirected resources from Gerri's Corner, a free resource center for women battling cancer, and donated its supplies to

Promise the Pinky Foundation located Callahan. Pinky Promise is a free nonprofit Resource Center ladies diagnosed cancer of any with kind. Services include distribution wigs, head coverings,

chemotherapy gift bags, sleep caps, etc. for women.

Pinky Promise is located on US Highway 301 directly across from Callahan Elementary School. Their hours are: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10

a.m. - 2 p.m., 904-626-2855.

Barnabas will continue to be used for cancer prevention services for women in Nassau County battling cancer.

> Barnabas continues to be a resource to people in need in Nassau County. Programs include health services for people without insurance, crisis assistance, and food programs for people experiencing hunger.

For more information about Barnabas and its services, visit: www.barnabasnassau.org. For more information about the Pinky Promise Foundation, visit: www. pinkypromisefoundation.org.

Pride Month has come and gone but I still fly my Pride flag at home 365

Roger R. West

he lives in.

days a year. The difference in my Pride flag and theirs is mine is red, white and blue and consists of 7 red stripes, 6 white stripes and 50 beautiful white stars! God Bless America!

While true red blooded American patriots celebrated Independence Day Sunday, the Hollywood leftists and the Democrat leftists (Communists) in Washington DC condemned our country according to the Daily Wire. Rep. Cori Bush (D-MO) vilified America on the fourth of July stated the DW. He proclaimed that blacks are still not free. "When they say that the 4th of July is about American freedom, remember this: the freedom they're referring to is for white people. This land was stolen land and black people still aren't free," Bush tweeted. I'm not sure what world

Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA) tweeted: "July 4th... and so, the Declaration of Independence says all men are created equal. Equal what? Only white men? Isn't it something that they wrote this in 1776 when Americans were enslaved? They weren't thinking about us then, but we're thinking about us now!...Further, the Declaration of Independence says we hold these truths to be self-evident...yet: 17 states have enacted voter suppression

laws; Supreme Court gutted Sec. 5 of the Voting Rights Act, George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Michael Brown, Sandra Bland and Tamir Rice...need I say more? #July4." Voter suppression is the new LIE that the Democrats are misrepresenting.

Actress Alyssa Milano (I have no clue who she is) denigrated America on the 4th by posting a tweet of herself smiling and wearing a blouse emblazoned with stars and stripes of the American flag, but captioned the tweet, "Reminder: the United States was founded on the unjust treatment of Native Americans, Africans and other people of color."

Have you figured it out yet? If not, do a little research on the rules of Marxism, Socialism and Communism. Our far-leaning leftist government along with the worthless bunch from Hollywood are bent and determined to create a race war. They are working overtime in an attempt to pit different ethnic groups against one another. I know I have commented many times here that united we stand, divided we fall, but nothing is more true.

In order to save our Republic we must turn from our evil ways, repent to God, forget and forgive past transgressions and stand side by side with one another. May God Bless America once again!

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

Genealogy Tidbits

Leaving Callahan and traveling south on Lem Turner Road going to the Jacksonville International Airport, you would most likely turn left onto Terrell Road you might wonder who the Terrells were, as all genealogist do. History tells us in the late 1880s the families of Leaston and Nathan Terrell settled in northern Duval County. They made their living logging, operating a saw mill and farming. Descendants of these families still live in the area today.

To learn more come join us at the West Nassau Genealogical Society meetings, the second Monday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Callahan Lions Club, located on US 1 north of the fairgrounds. Visitors are always welcome.





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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of Callahan Planning & Zoning Board will have a **Public Hearing for a Conditional Use Application**

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Monday, July 12th at 7 p.m. Callahan Town Hall

542300 U.S. Hwy. 1 • Callahan, FL 32011 Interested Persons may appear and be heard at the Hearing. Site plan will be available for review at Town Hall.

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

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

Prodigal

Pastor Arlie Johns, Hilliard First Assembly of God



The story of the Prodigal Son, in Luke 15, describes how this young man spent all of his inheritance on wild living and when his wealth was gone, he found himself bankrupt and desperate. He had no place to live and no money to buy food. The story tells us when the prodigal son came to his senses, he returned to his father asking for his forgiveness. With open arms the father receives the prodigal son. He puts a robe on his back, a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Then the father has his servants prepare a fattened

calf to celebrate his son's return home.

Jesus told this story to show us that God welcomes those who are lost in sin back into the Kingdom of God. I'm so thankful for the love and grace of God.

Is it possible that you have wondered away from God over this past year or so? We have all experienced a lot of change during this trial with Covid-19. Churches have had to shut down several times and we were forced to watch church on Facebook instead of in person church. Maybe you haven't been like the prodigal son who went out and spent all he had on wild living, but yet you feel like you have grown apart from God. Maybe other things have taken the place of God in your life. I want you to know that God still loves you and He cares for you.

When the Prodigal Son returned to his father there was a great celebration. The father told the older son who was jealous in Luke 15:31-32, "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'" (NIV84)

"Come near to God and he will come near to you." James 4:8

If you go back and read verse 7 in this chapter it tells us to "submit yourself to God." If you really want to restore your relationship with God, then take time to humble yourself before Him and then He will lift you up. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9 (NIV84)

I want you to know that when you give your life back over to the Lord all the angles in heaven will rejoice and there will be a great celebration. My prayer for you today is, if you are away from God, you will humble yourself and give your life back over to Jesus. God Loves You!

FREE WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY DINNER

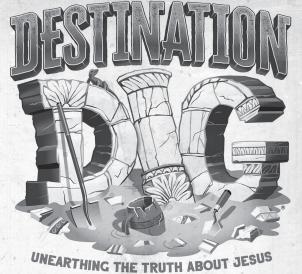
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Barnabas Volunteer Dentist Receives Award

Dr. Ken Owens, volunteer Dentist at Barnabas Center received the Public Service Award from the Florida Dental Association at an awards luncheon held Wednesday, June 25. Barnabas Center extends its congratulations to Dr. Owens.

Dr. Owens began volunteering twice a week at Barnabas' dental clinic after retiring from his private practice, the Amelia Dental Group in 2014. To this day, he continues to volunteer and fundraise for Barnabas dental services.

Dr. Owens graduated from the Emory University School of Dentistry in 1969 and then went on to serve in the Army Dental Corps until 1971. After completing his service in the Army, Dr. Owens opened Amelia Dental Group in Fernandina Beach. He and his wife, Shirley, have been married for 52 years and together they have raised two children, Scott and Kelly.

"Thank you to my wife, Shirley and our children, Scott and Kelly," said Dr.



Owens. "Thank you to the residents and patients in Nassau County, as well as Drs. Kitson, Bietenholz, Garrett and Mokris and the team at Amelia Dental Group. Finally, thank you to Dr. Jamadar, Melissa, Pam, Ivis, Carrie and Jenna and the Barnabas Dental Clinic."

Barnabas is grateful to Dr. Owens for his years of service to its dental services. The Barnabas dental program provides affordable dental services for low-to-moderate income adults

who have no health insurance including exams, extractions, cleanings and more. Barnabas provides help and hope to individuals and families in need in Nassau County to improve their stability, health, and well-being.

For more information about Barnabas' programs, visit www. BarnabasNassau.org.



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Happy Birthday to you, America...



Douglas C. Pearson Sr.

...Or, to what is left of you. Are you shocked? I was, when those lyrics were part of a new song, introduced by a well-known country music star, for Independence Day, 2021. But in reflection, after what has happened since a year ago July 4th, I'm not all together critical of that sentiment. America is burning, being invaded, turning its attention to the law-breakers and away from the law-abiding. In doing so, the American Dream is being eroded and the amount of people that believe that this is the "Land Of Opportunity" are fading fast.

With national polls indicating a loss of nearly 20 percent in the number of people that take pride in America, a national network interviewed eight students from Georgetown University, a private institution in Washington D.C., asking if they were proud to be an American. To the person, not one said that they were and most all acknowledged that, to varying degrees, they were embarrassed to be Americans.

You don't know how glad I am that my father is not alive to hear that. A Veteran of WWII, and the father of two sons that served during some of the most contemptuous times in our nation's history, he was thrilled to not only enjoy the celebration of the Fourth of July, but also include friends and relatives in on that joy.

Due to the dreamed up political (Lie) climate, we have law enforcement officers retiring or resigning at an alarming rate. Law Enforcement Officers are being encouraged to NOT wear their uniforms as they travel to and from work, so as not to create a potential hostile atmosphere in their travels. I recall the same instructions by our base commander, during the Viet Nam Conflict, advising us to not wear our uniforms off base so as to avoid being targets for the protestors. Even to the point that we, who lived off base, were advised not to stop going to our homes or anywhere along the way, until we changed clothes. I was very proud of that uniform and of my

Nassau County Teen Court is Back!

Nassau Teen Court is back and celebrating 23 Years with Nassau youth! Join us for Teen Court! Real teenage offenders...real crimes...real court sanctions handed down all by Teen Attorneys, Jurors and Court Officers.

The next session will be Tuesday, August 31. We need YOU to volunteer to serve on our jury today! Stay in touch by

phone or emails! Sign in between 5:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. Jeans and collared shirts are required for boys and modest dressed for girls. Court begins Promptly at 6 p.m. and is over by 7 p.m. Students get 3 hours 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!

For more information, nbeasley@nassaucountyfl.com or call Nancy at 904-548-4611.

accomplishments during that time of

Now the Military is being included in the ignorant and miss-guided effort to identify those of value based upon the color of their skin and religion. (Weren't laws passed to prevent this sort of thing?) This will do nothing but lay the foundation for those treasured members of our national defense teams to begin to wonder if their worth and value is now a reason for their early retirement and/or resignation. If the military ever begins to experience the rates of personnel leaving its ranks, like the Police and First Responders, this nation will truly be in trouble. We

already have a majority that refuse to "Take the Oath" and sacrifice, as it is determined by them that it is not worth it. When that disease begins to infest those that have taken the Oath, your "Bill of Rights" won't be worth the paper they are written on.

In closing, I recall something that I saw posted, on a placard, in The Old North Church in Boston, MA, during a trip to that hallowed hall a few years ago: "Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court can save it." Ref: Judge Learned Hand, May 21, 1944.



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Westside Journal Visits Sebastian!

Nick and Becky Mirando, of Hilliard, took a copy of the Westside Journal along on their recent trip to Sebastian, Florida. The couple was celebrating their 23rd wedding anniversary with a special trip away. They stayed in Melbourne and biked all around. Sebastian is such a beautiful small community with friendly locals and a great place to bike!





Westside Journal Visits Ft. Walton Beach!

Mark and Jenny Thompson, of Callahan, along with their children Hunter, Brystol and Michael, enjoyed a fun filled week at Ft. Walton Beach. During their trip they rented a boat to enjoy the popular Crab Island among other fun things! Somehow they remembered to take along a copy of the Westside Journal on their trip!

Make sure to take the Westside Journal along with you as you vacation this summer! Photos may be emailed to news@westsidejournal.net.

New Beginnings and Milestones

Ms. Wilson and Mr. Peterkin Announce Upcoming Marriage



Timothy and Tammy Wilson, Sr. of Bryceville are pleased to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter April Nichole Wilson to Davion Lloyd Peterkin, son of Gregory and Tameka Peterkin of Jacksonville.

The bride-elect is employed with Pat Rhodes Accounting Service and Jacksonville Printing Service.

The groom-elect is employed with the US Air Force.

The wedding will be held July 10 at 6 p.m. at Venue 841 in Jacksonville.

Congratulations Chalee!



Congratulations to Chalee Strickland, daughter of Eric and Erin Temple of Callahan, for being chosen for the Evans Delivery Jordan Agostini Memorial on Angels Wings Book Award Scholarship.

The scholarship was named after Jordyn Agostini who was one of the original scholarship recipients in 2007. Jordyn was studying Aviation Management, Flight Option at the Florida Institute of Technology. She dreamed of being a pilot. Jordyn

excelled in her major! She was set to graduate a semester early in December 2010. Sadly, Jordyn passed away on November 11, 2010, in a tragic aviation accident. Jordyn made a difference in this world and the Evans organization wants to ensure that her legacy lives on.

Chalee will receive \$1,000 towards the purchase of her textbooks. We are all very proud of your accomplishments and know you will excel in everything you do. We love you!

Love,

Your Evans Delivery/Bennett's Cartage Family

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Mike Nye Celebrates Retirement



Mike Nye, owner of Nye's Auto Sales in Callahan, officially announced and enjoyed his retirement Thursday, July 1. Mike decided to close his business after 40 years in business in Callahan. Mike has always been the one to go to when you needed a good used car. He always had several vehicles to choose from making the purchase easy for the buyer. He also handled much of the financing which truly helped out many of his customers. "It was a hard decision however the used car industry has really changed over the years," said Mike. "For one thing, it's much harder to get cars now. I felt like this was a good time and the right time. I have enjoyed every minute of it. I've made some great friends through these years and had some good customers and many return customers. Now we can just enjoy our lives."

Mike's wife, Tammy, just couldn't let the day come and go, so she secretly planned a retirement celebration at

the car lot Thursday, much to Mike's surprise. Once he arrived, she had the lot decorated inside and out. He was greeted with a huge sign saying, "Happy Retirement Mike!" The inside was decorated with banners and streamers and all kinds of food. Several family and friends visited throughout the day to share stories and well wishes.

Congratulations Mike!



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

Gabriel Albert (Hawaii), Jacob Ash-Medina (Japan), Jewel Rene Barron (Virginia), Timothy Beasley (Cuba), Cody Beaver (Virginia), Jessica Bell (Hawaii), Chad E. Black (South Carolina), Kevin & Brooke Blanton (Georgia), Sgt. Caleb Bohannon (Oklahoma), Israel Marcos Bonilla (Missouri), Derek Borden, Benjamin Black (Iraq), Hunter Brannon (Africa), Conrad Brauwn (Afghanistan), Ryan Brooks (Connecticut), John Brookshire (North Carolina), Aaron Brown (Japan), Branden Brown (USS Nimitz), Anthony Broekema (Virginia), Ethan Bulford, (Virginia), Calen Burnette (North Carolina), Thomas W. Burnette (North Carolina), Ahmad Butler (Japan), Brayden Lamar Carroll (North Carolina), Allen L. Carter (Alaska), John Coltrane (NAS Jax), Scott Cooper, Dustin Corum (Texas), Trevor Corum (Nebraska), Charlie I. D. Cox (South Korea), Quinn Coxwell (Georgia), Gavin Crews (Germany), Tison J. Crews (Korea), Charles 'CJ' Cribbs, III (Washington, DC), Dennis L. Davis II (Alabama), Joshua M. Davis (New York), Shannon Davis (Nevada), Johanna Diaz (Nevada), Clif Dixon (Iraq), Robert Dodson (Florida), Devin Michael Dowling (Kansas), Christopher Downs (Arizona), William Clay Dryden (South Korea), James Dale Evans (Baghdad), David Farhat (North Carolina), Christen Fernandez, Clinton Fouraker (Virginia), Medford Foskey (Arizona), Jeremy Francisco (Mayport), Jennifer D. Frederick (Colorado), Kevin J. Gahris (United Arab Emirates), Michael E. Garcia (Afghanistan), Marcus Gee (Iraq), Samantha Gee (Korea), Tabetha Gee (Korea), Chadrick Gibson (Iraq), Charles Gibson, Darrell Goodwyne, Jr. (Iraq), Sgt. Daniel Graves, Jr. (North Carolina), Eric Greene (Georgia), Branden R. Griffis (Florida), Wendy Griffis (Afghanistan), Phaylyn Griffith (California), Kandis Guyton (California), Hunter C. Guzman (Georgia), Micah Hall (Georgia), Michael Hall, Michael Hallman (Key West), Ronnie Hammer (Colorado), Todd W. Hanner, Jr. (Texas), Andy Harper, Harley Henderson (Texas), Nathan Hess (Japan), Jeff Higgs (Spain), SPC Hodge (Iraq), Josh Hoyle (California), Levi Hren (West Point), AT2 Brian Hughes (Bahrain), Bryan K. Jeffers II (Iraq), Jacob Jensen (Middle East), Cade Johns (Virginia Beach), Aaron L. Johnson (Colorado), Carlus Johnson (Texas), Donald Johnson (North Carolina), Jamaal Jones (Hawaii), Bradley Justice, Brian J. Kerns (Virginia), Joseph A. Kidd, IV (Iraq), Kayla King (Germany), Scott Kirkland (California), Joshua Knight, PO3 Travis E. Kornacki (North Carolina), Jordan Kriner (Italy), Victoria LaMontagne (Florida), Tyler Landreville (Florida), John C. Larkin (Iraq), Thomas Layden (North Carolina), Chase M. 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Travis Morris, Climart 'CJ' Moses (Afghanistan), Michael Murphy (Iraq), Aaron Musgrove (Afghanistan), Stephen Myers (Korea), Jonathan Neeve (Texas), Gary Nelson (Kuwait), Michael Nettles (Iraq), Lee Nickola (Iraq), Ryan Norton (North Carolina), Jesse O'Berry (England), Daniel O'Dell, Shannon O'Dell, David Oppfelt (Florida), Steven A. Oxfurth (Connecticut), Walter Oxfurth (New Mexico), Chase Parden (Kansas), Michael Park (South Korea), Danielle Parker (North Carolina), Jeremy Pelkey (Georgia), Christopher Phelan (Virginia), Darren Phelan (Washington State), Kyle Pipkins (South Carolina), Joshua Poirier (Georgia), Austin Potochnik (California), Dusty Price (Iraq), Michael Price (Germany), Kenneth Pullum (Washington, DC), Kyle Pullum (Louisiana), Jeffery Rapadas (Kuwait), Justin Reed (North Carolina), Kasie Richardson (North Carolina), Jeffrey Rigdon (Kentucky), Camilla Roberts (Alaska), Sydney A. 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Vickers (California), Daniel Vroman (North Carolina), Jonathan Vroman (California), Brett Wade (Florida), Reece Wade (Arizona), Jeff Walters (Iraq), Shawn Ward (Texas), Brian Waring



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

(Iraq), Daniel Waters, David Watson (California), Jacob Wesson (Japan), James D. Whitman, Carson Williamson (North Carolina), Earl Youman, Jr. (Virginia)

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Shots Fired...Arrest Made

On Friday, July 2, 2021 around 1:45 a.m. shooting incident occurred at the Circle K convenience store at US-17 and Harts Road in Yulee. A male suspect, identified as Ernest Mitchell Bannister, Jr., 31, from Callahan, was in the parking lot of the



Circle K looking around a vehicle that was parked there. As he was looking inside the vehicle, the male owner (victim 1) who had parked the vehicle there earlier in the day and two other males (victim 2 and 3) drove into the parking lot. Victim 1 asked Bannister what he was doing around his vehicle and he stated that he was looking for his girl.

As the suspect got back in his vehicle he drove through the parking lot and fired several rounds from a semiautomatic hand gun in the direction of the three victims. The business was also struck by the bullets. The suspect then fled north on US-17. The victims were standing by their vehicle when the

attendant, who also heard the gunshots and glass breaking, came out. They told her they had just been shot at and she called 911. Deputies arrived to gather more information about the incident and put out a description of the suspect's vehicle. The investigation revealed

that one of the bullets went through the front glass window of the business and penetrated the soda machine in the back

At approximately 2 a.m. a Nassau County Sheriff's Office deputy was traveling on CR-108 west of I-95 and observed an abandoned vehicle fitting the description of the suspect's vehicle (white with large rims) in the ditch near the wood line on the north side of the

Other deputies responded as well as our drone unit to search the area for the suspect. As the drone flew over a dark heavily wooded area on the south side of the road the suspect was observed hiding approximately 200 feet from

> the roadway. Deputies called for the suspect to come out and he complied. The handgun used in the incident was found in the ditch near the vehicle.

> Ernest Mitchell Bannister, Jr. was arrested for Aggravated Battery with a Deadly Weapon; Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon; and Felony Criminal Mischief.

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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.

Tuesday, June 29

Virginia Dale Long, 42, Hilliard: Violation of Probation; Failure to Appear Wednesday, June 30

Ashley Rene Moore, 32, Callahan: Failure to Appear

Allan Albert Simmons, 56, Callahan: Failure to Appear (x 4)

Friday, July 2

Michael Patrick Mahan, II, 38, Callahan: Resist without Violence; Possession of Methamphetamine

Saturday, July 3

Ernest Mitchell Bannister, Jr., 31, Callahan: Aggravated Assault with Deadly Weapon (x 3); Felony Criminal Mischief; Improperly Exhibiting Deadly Weapon; Shot/Threaten Deadly Weapon into Dwelling

Coby Mitchell Spencer, 22, Callahan: Theft Over Gun of Farm Building; **Burglary Armed**

Jason Allen Waddell, 42, Callahan: Resist without Violence; DUI Normal Faculties Impaired; Felony Driving While License Suspended with Knowledge; Felony Flee/Elude with Light and Sirens





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TOMMY GENE ANDERSON



Tommy Gene Anderson, 75, of Callahan, passed away on June 29, 2021. He was born in Eagle Lake, Florida to the late Dennis Anderson and

Ruth Adams. He graduated in 1965 from Wayne County High School in Georgia. Tommy proudly served in the United States Marine Corps from 1966-1972. During that time, he received 2 Purple Hearts and he was honorably discharged at the end of his enlistment. He then went on to be a Foreman for many years at Milton J. Wood Construction. Tommy had many hobbies including, hunting, fishing and being outdoors. He also had a passion for music and enjoyed playing the guitar and harmonica. Tommy was preceded in death by his parents; and sister Dora.

Tommy is survived by his loving wife, Rillar Anderson; daughter Denise (David) Sutton; son Chris (Kathrine) Anderson; grandchildren Kayla (Justin) Siegmand, Kyle (Mandy) Raulerson and Nathan Sutton; great-grandchildren Damon, K.J. and Kayson; brothers Leon (Alice) Anderson, Albert (Sandra) Anderson and Velmer Anderson; sisters Nancy Minchew, Karen Bennett, Bet (Ken) Ellis and Alice Michelin; and several nieces and nephews.

Tommy's Celebration of life ceremony was held Wednesday, July 7 at Nassau Funeral Home with Pastor Jeff Carter officiating. The family received friends prior to the service. Interment followed at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

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

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

OBITUARIES

William 'Bill' Meredith, II



William 'Bill' Meredith II, 42, of Callahan, passed away unexpectedly June 17, 2021 from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident in

Jacksonville.

He was the primary supporter and caretaker for his household and worked hard to provide for his family. Bill loved helping his friends and family and always put others before his own needs. He had many interests and became an avid motorcyclist traveling all over the Southeast while enjoying the fresh air and company of others. When home, he spent his free time taking care of his grandchildren, working with his sons on various projects, helping his daughter and loving his wife. He attended Garden City Church of God with his wife and children where he gave his life to the Lord on Mother's Day this year.

Bill worked many years at moving companies and eventually earned a commercial driver's license. He found a way to combine his love of mechanics and semitrucks by becoming a trailer mechanic. His final place of work was with SAIA where he enjoyed success, friendship and a sense of pride with an ever growing collection of

He is survived by his loving wife, Heather Fountain Meredith; daughter Marcella 'Marcy'; sons Braden 'Bam' and Andrew 'AJ'; grandchildren Noah and Elaina Hess; father William Meredith; and sisters Araina Eber. Noni Meredith and Mamie Hirsh. He was preceded in death by his mother Kimberly Arnold Sandefur.

The family received friends prior to the funeral service held Friday, June 25 at Garden City Church of God, 10765 Lem Turner Road, Jacksonville.

Donations are being accepted for the family at Garden City Church of God (address above) or Garden City Revival & Outreach through https://giv.li/u90yqd, add a note to indicate donating to the Bill Meredith family.

ROBERT H. NUNN

Robert H. 'Bob' Nunn, 89, of Hilliard, passed away July 4, 2021 at Community Hospice Riverside Center. He was born February 16, 1932 to Collier and Claudia Nunn in Kinston, North Carolina. Bob graduated from Grainger High School and joined the U.S. Navy and retired 22 faithful years of service as a Chief Hospital Corpsman (HMC). After retirement Bob worked in Medical Office Management and Medical Equipment Sales. Mr. Nunn was an active member and Sound Engineer at Live Oak Baptist Church over 21 years. He was also a member of Callahan Masonic Lodge #32, Morocco Shrine, West Jax Shrine Club (President 1982), and Ballyhoo Buggy Parade Unit. He is predeceased by his parents; and his first wife Cecile Yvonne 'Bonnie,' the mother of his three children.

Survivors include his wife Mary Nunn of Hilliard; two daughters Robbi (Jerry) Amos of Hawthorne and Bonni Nunn of Interlachen; two sons Lamar Kiser of Land-O-Lakes and David (Wendy) Nunn of Phelan, CA; four grandchildren; five great-

grandchildren; sister Carol Sugg and her sons Ernie and Reagan; sister Paula Garris and her daughter Johnna; and a special cousin Judy (Roy) Holton.

The family will receive friends at 10:30 a.m. Friday, July 9 prior to the funeral service at 11 a.m. at Live Oak Baptist Church, Callahan.

Interment with Full Military Honors will take place in Jacksonville National Cemetery at 1:30p.m.

Condolences may be expressed at www. callahanfh.com.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, Inc.

SARAH GAINEY SAMMONS



Sarah Gainey Sammons, 86, of Callahan, passed away on July 3, 2021. She was born on March 20, 1935 in Nicholls, Georgia, to Lloyd F.

Gainey and Rita Mae Tanner Gainey. Sarah was the oldest of six children making her the primary caretaker of her brothers and sister while her mom and dad worked the family farm. She excelled in academics, graduating with honors from Nicholls High School and used her experience caring for her younger siblings to begin her career in administration and accounting. Looking for adventure after spending the bulk of her life in a small town in South Georgia, she soon moved to the big city of Jacksonville, where she began her career in business by working for several major companies in the area including Prudential Insurance, Moore Dry Kiln and Kelly Services.

She met the love of her life Harvey Sammons in their hometown of Nicholls. After they were married, they moved to

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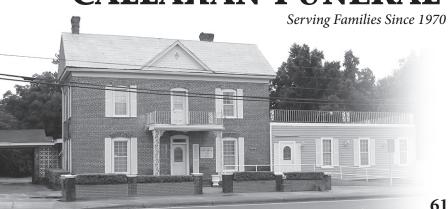
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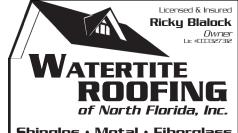
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In Loving Memory of DALTON ED NETTLES

December 22, 1995 **♥** *July 10, 2009*

Dalton,

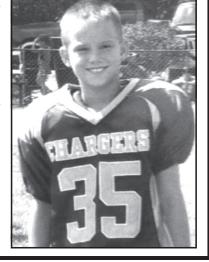
Dalton this is the 12th year that you went to your Heavenly home. There isn't a second we don't miss you and wish you were here with us. We miss the hugs and the talks and all the things about you. We wish we had more time to see what things you would have accomplished in life. We can only imagine how you would have been. You were an amazing young man and touched so many hearts. Our hearts will forever love and miss you.

> Love always and forever, Daddy and Mama

Twelve years have come and gone so fast. I wish I could call you or see you in person at least one more time. I miss you and I love you forever and always...

I can't wait until I see you again, Bubba. Love,

Heather



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Savannah, while Harvey was in the Air Force but soon returned to Jacksonville, where Sarah was able to resume her career in business. In addition to her work outside the home, Sarah was also a devoted mother and household manager. Her ability to balance work, family, hobbies and giving back to the community is unparalleled. Hobbies Sarah enjoyed included sewing, bluegrass jamborees, and traveling. Sarah was a member of Callahan First Baptist Church where she participated in many activities benefiting the community around her. What she treasured the most was being a faithfully dedicated Sunday school teacher for over 50 years. Her charitable pursuits included membership with the Big Sisters Program, the Red Hat Society and the Women's Club of Jacksonville.

Sarah was preceded in death by her parents; brothers Charles Gainey, Daniel Gainey, Guy Gainey and Gene Tanner; and her sister Iris Yeager.

Sarah leaves behind her beloved husband of 64 years Harvey Sammons; daughter Paige (Daren) McMillen; son Patrick (Teresa) Sammons; grandsons Jeremy (Amanda) Golden and Quinton Sammons; granddaughters Emily Sammons and Lindsey (Ben) Southwell; great-grandson Jase Golden; and her brother Harvey (Ereveene) Gainey. The greatest gift Sarah leaves behind to everyone still here on earth is her love. Love survives death and Sarah's love survives her in the hearts of those she leaves behind.

A Celebration of Sarah's life will be held Friday, July 9 at 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Callahan with Pastor Lynn Hyatt officiating. Interment will follow at Jones Cemetery in Callahan. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the church.

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

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

OBITUARIES

Ingeburg J. Stevens



Ingeburg J. Stevens, 92, of Callahan, was called home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, June 30, 2021. She was born on January 9, 1929 in Heidelberg,

Germany. She was a member of Lighthouse Prayer Center in Callahan.

She is survived by her four daughters Pat (Mike) Thompson, Chris (Gary) Gideon, Mary Bates and Sue Rivard; one son Jim (Kathy) Stevens; three grandsons; and three great-grandchildren.

A Memorial service will be held Saturday, July 17 at Lighthouse Prayer Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in her name made to Community Hospice & Palliative Care, 4266 Sunbeam Road, Jacksonville, Florida 32257 or Lighthouse Prayer Center, PO Box 2118, Callahan, Florida 32011.

Please visit the online Tribute at www. quinn-shalz.com.

Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home, Jacksonville Beach.

SCOOTER' WILCOX, JR.



Edward 'Scooter' Wilcox, Jr., 50, of Yulee, passed away June 25, 2021 at UF Health River City in Jacksonville. Scooter was born September

13, 1970 in Jacksonville. He grew up in Yulee and was a member of the 1988 graduating class of Fernandina Beach High School.

He was a Veteran of military service and retired from the U.S. Army with 20 years of service in 2017. During his Army career he was twice deployed to Iraq and while stationed in Hawaii, he was involved in the recovery and repatriation of deceased U.S. military veterans from Vietnam and Laos.

Scooter loved woodworking, board games and online games. He had a deep faith in God and enjoyed studying the Bible and other religious materials. He was a former Boy Scout leader and enjoyed being a mentor to Boy Scouts and to young

soldiers during his military career. While being stationed in Germany, Scooter and Cora enjoyed traveling throughout Europe and Africa.

He is survived by his wife of 18 years, Cora Wilcox; son Liam Wilcox of Yulee; his parents Edward and Betty Wilcox of Callahan; his mother-in-law Inge Ottmar of Nagold, Germany; his sister Rhonda and Tim Callahan of Callahan; nephews Trey (Joni) Durrance and Bobby (Jennifer) Durrance; and niece Danielle (Bradley) Callahan of Yulee.

A memorial service with Full Military Honors will be held Wednesday, July 14 at 11:30 a.m. at Jacksonville National Cemetery. Those attending should arrive a half hour early and assemble in lane number three.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to the Wounded Warrior Project at: https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org.

Arrangements by Green Pine Funeral Home, Yulee, 904-261-0876.

Condolences may be expressed at www. greenpinefuneral.com.

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

Meals for Veterans

Yulee resident Ashley Schmelling, Vice President of the Vaughan-Latham Society Children of the American Revolution, recently presented a case of MREs to Carol Carter, representing American Legion Auxiliary Unit 54. Members of the Fernandina Beach based Vaughan Latham Society purchased the military field rations as part of the society's Service for Veterans program. American Legion Auxiliary Unit 54 will distribute the meals to veterans in

need.

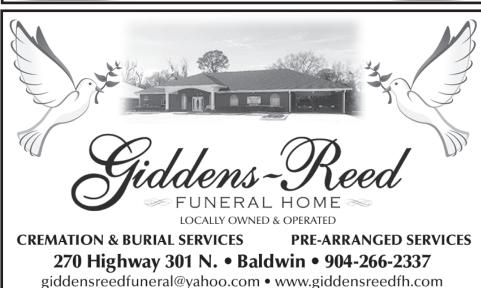
National Society Children of the American Revolution is the country's oldest (1895) and largest patriotic youth organization. Membership is offered to anyone under the age of 22 who is a direct descendent of a veteran of the Continental Army or served in a support role during the American Revolution.

For more information about C.A.R., visit: www.nscar.org. The American Legion Auxiliary was founded in 1919,

and has nearly one million members. It was organized to assist the American Legion, and its mission remains to enhance the well-being of America's veterans and their families, as well as our military and our communities. Over 10,000 units are in every state and several foreign countries.

Visit American Legion Auxiliary Unit 54's Facebook page to learn more about the Fernandina Beach unit.





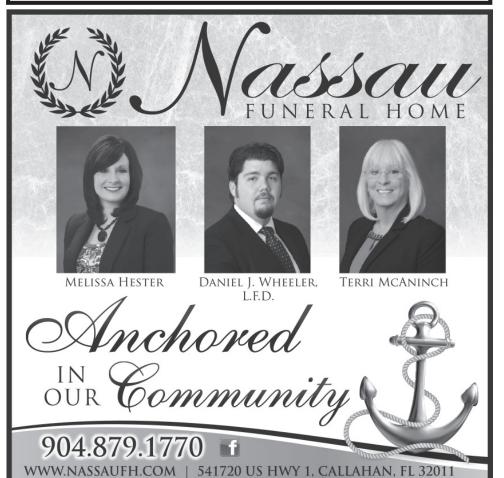




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Naturally Nassau: Vacations Change Us

Nancy Lee Bethea

We have been on vacation in Montana and Wyoming for a couple of weeks now. After visiting Yellowstone National Park, we stayed in Great Falls, Montana. As I write this, my family and I are enjoying Glacier National Park in northern Montana.

Great beauty surrounds us here. Aspen trees shimmer in the sunlight, wildflowers bloom where they will highlight hiking trails, mountain goats roam through the park and sunlit skies stretch wide over the mountains. We are in "big sky" country, after all. One day last week, Hayden and I rode horses in Yellowstone National Park. Seeing the park from horseback gave us a



Vacations can change our perspectives, too. Taking a break from the routine offers a much-needed break from our schedules and habits. Vacations also cause us to reflect on our lives from a distance. Being away can help us focus on how we spend our time and resources at home. Time away can also cause us to appreciate home more than we did before.

For example, the temperature has exceeded 100 degrees a few days here in Montana. Hot? Yes! But the heat is dry and dusty. It feels different from high temperatures in Florida. Our chapped lips and dry noses have actually caused us to

miss, and maybe even appreciate, Florida's humidity and summer rainstorms!

We have also met new friends on vacation. We have chatted with people from Kentucky, Washington, Wisconsin and California. All of them want the same thing from

their vacations - time for relaxation in our country's beautiful national parks. Our talks have been invigorating and fun. One woman and I exchanged phone numbers and we plan to stay in touch. Yet, meeting new people has caused us to appreciate and miss the friends and family we have at

Finally, taking a vacation can change perspectives on our jobs. As a teacher, I highly value the time off I have each summer. The time is precious and it passes

> so quickly. Being on vacation 2,000 miles from home has helped me disengage from the busy year we just completed so I can fully recharge for next year.

As I write this column, I am sitting near Two Medicine Lake in Glacier National Park. Though now a national park, the land here is part of

the Blackfeet Indian Reservation. We think of this area as a national park, but to the Blackfeet Indians, it is their ancestral land. It is all a matter of perspective.

I am so thankful we have had time this summer for such a wonderful vacation. When we return home next week, we will see Nassau County with new eyes, appreciating its people and places more than we did before.

Nancy Lee Bethea is a Callahan resident who teaches Creative Writing at LaVilla School of the Arts in downtown Jacksonville. She is also a freelance writer.

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Hampton Scholarships Awarded



The R. Niel Hampton, Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament has been canceled for two years in a row due to the pandemic. Even though there was no tournament fundraiser, faithful donations were still received in honor of Niel, Jr. Sunday, June 27, Pastor Hal McIntosh was able to award 14 students scholarships at River Road Baptist Church.

The scholarships were awarded to these students: Shawn Branham, Jacob Jackson, Rhett Dillhyon and Kaleb Dillhyon, all for Baptist College of Florida; Charles David Ferraro, Jr., Asbury Theological Seminary; Savannah Crews, Southeastern University; Steven Harris and Anne Pucciarelli, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Paul Samson, Trinity Baptist College; Jeremy Large, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary; Morgan Graham, Gardner Webb University; Jenny Beth Ard, Liberty University; Melissa Vroman and Makayla Vroman, Pensacola Christian College. Not all of the recipients were able to attend the service.

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