

"FOR THOUGH WE LIVE IN THE WORLD, WE DO NOT WAGE WAR AS THE WORLD DOES. THE WEAPONS WE FIGHT WITH ARE NOT THE WEAPONS OF THE WORLD. ON THE CONTRARY, THEY HAVE DIVINE POWER TO DEMOLISH STRONGHOLDS." - 2 CORINTHIANS 10: 3-4

## Annual Nassau County 4-H Banquet Held

*Kelsey Irvine, 4-H Youth Development*

Annually, Nassau County 4-H reaches over 5,000 youth locally. This is only possible thanks to amazing volunteers, a supportive community, and what we believe to be the best youth in the state. At the end of the summer 4-H celebrates and recognizes the individuals who worked tirelessly to grow themselves and Nassau County. We recently held our Annual Banquet where many were recognized. Following are the many recognitions that took place!



**Leader of the Year Kelli Norstrom**

Club Leader of the Year: Kelli Norstrom, Nassau County Young Riders Club. Kelli is extremely dedicated to her club, devoting countless hours of her time to prepare, plan, and carry out multiple service projects and activities including their own fundraisers, educational workshop, and outreach events. Her club continues to be active in non-club activities and always works hard to represent Nassau 4-H proudly. In addition to quality activities, she is a prompt and reliable leader who never misses paperwork or skips out on responsibilities. She keeps her agent informed and willing to step up as a volunteer outside of club duties. She promotes 4-H loudly and proudly and believes in our mission.

Our 4-H Volunteer of the Year went to club leader, alumni and Summer Camp Champion, Madison Stevenson. This year's volunteer of the year is one that is truly special to our family. She has been an integral part of keeping Nassau County 4-H as strong as possible for years both as a youth



**Volunteer of the Year Madison Stevenson**

and now adult. She has stepped up in capacities we were unexpected, even so in ways that required sacrifice of her own commitments. She is joyful, helpful, willing, and dedicated to all things 4-H. Beyond running a club this year our winner delivered multiple summer camps independently. She has worked to support other club and program activities. Her passion and vision enabled our staff to provide wonderful opportunities for several youth that would otherwise not be possible.

The Youth Volunteer of the Year award was given to Lauren Walters. Lauren contributed to almost every single service or program activity and asked for volunteer support. Not only did they serve, but they also often led these activities. One of the primary reasons for their selection this year was volunteering for events that were 100% supportive in nature that had zero benefit to them personally. This year's winner even travelled outside of county JUST to volunteer and support other club members in their competitions. This member has never asked for any recognition for their service and is often quietly humble when thanked.

The Outstanding Community Partner was awarded to Keith Wingate and all of the Northeast Florida Fair Association. Along with great volunteers, 4-H is fortunate enough to have a wide variety of community partners who help with everything from donating supplies to sponsoring youth to go to camp. This year we are honoring an organization that has been a supporter for 4-H for as long as anyone can remember. Traditionally, but more so in the last few years they have allowed for us to broaden our opportunities and offerings for all of Nassau County 4-H. They have listened and evolved along with new policies and needs for our community.

They have celebrated our members and take pride in asking "What else can we do?" They have hosted us, sponsored us, and even lent us their skills

for events like our first auction. This is a historic and treasured partnership.

We honored a special Graduating Senior who was officially inducted into alumni status: Kaitlyn Malott. Kaitlyn has served in many leadership roles, shared most of her life in 4-H, and won countless awards for her kindness and project area expertise. She is a good human through and through and we are excited to see her on the next step of her life journey!



**Graduating Senior Kaitlyn Malott**

We had 14 youth receiving Project and Record Book Awards on subjects including photography, sheep, goats, horses, and poultry. They are: Lainey Walters, Rebecca Blalock; Raelin Tew, Emma Norstrom, Jack Norstrom, Charlie Norstrom, Kai Laurendine, Kee Laurendine, Lauren Walters, Briar Weathington, Daisy Weathington, Tristin Hanson, Annabelle Akins and Garrett Bennett.

We also recognized our many and awesome recent 4-H'ers of the Month: Garrett Bennett, Rebecca Blalock, Hope Downing, Lainey Walters, Gabriel Gierhahn, Sam Riley, Parker Tew, Savanna Riley and Charlie Norstrom.

Last but not least, Garrett Bennett was named our 4-H'er of the Year! When we think of a 4-H'er of the Year, we think of a youth who embodies both the impact and the passion our organizational mission drives. Our mission is to "Make the Best, Better" and help youth become more independent, generous, masterful, and confident through both their project and community projects.

This year's winner has served as an inspiration for our community and a glowing example of what 4-H can do for our youth. Garrett has only been a 4-H



**4-H'er of the Year Garrett Bennett**

member since March of 2020 but has already built a 4-H career the equivalency of graduating seniors.

It all started with a dairy goat donation from Farm Bureau and a local family on a rainy day. That day we promised Garrett to help him feel like he belonged and that his tomorrow's were better than his yesterdays. You have all likely heard already about Garrett. He has won many awards, been recognized by our Board of County Commissioners, stepped up to lead changes in our fair, led summer camps, and traveled the state winning awards and volunteering at fairs all over Florida. He has spoken at County and District Events, served as officers in his clubs, mentored youth, and been honored with State level winning photography. He has completed high quality record books and built a business made possible by the community supporting him. He embraces all the joy and challenges with "learning by doing" and we truly cannot say enough about this special member.

These accomplishments are what is possible when a youth feels like they belong and that they have the support to work for their dreams. When asked about his 4-H involvement, Garrett said, "Since joining 4-H I have really grown as an individual. I went from being shy and timid to a confident and forthright young man. 4-H has shown me that it is ok to open up and share your knowledge with others. But most of all I have new and lasting friendships. I really feel like I finally belong and that makes all the difference in the world to me. For the first time I felt like I am making an impact in other people's lives and I want to continue doing so."

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# Beautiful Mural in Hilliard!



Seldomridge Body Shop & Wrecker Service in Hilliard has recently added a beautiful mural to their shop. The business is located in Hilliard on US Highway 1 directly across from Hagan Ace Hardware. The mural is on the north end of the building. The mural was painted by Lee Mobley, an artist from Douglas, Georgia. It is truly a much needed statement for a broken world! So thankful for this business and for them sharing Jesus with us!



## Westside Journal Visits Tennessee

The Mayer, Higginbotham and Owens families enjoyed a trip together along with their children, Dallen, Alivia and Annistyn Mayer and Eli and Karalyne Higginbotham, to the Great Smokey Mountains! The families went horseback riding, tubed at the River Rat, rode the Alpine Mountain Coaster and swam at Tellico Lake! They took along a copy of the Westside Journal on their fun trip!

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## A Word From the Publisher

Well, by the time this paper is printed, students have made a full week of school. Some of them are really happy and some are already singing the blues. Parents, this is the time to encourage your students and let them know even though they are in school working and learning, they have had a full two plus months out of school. Enjoy your school days because reality comes way too quick!

This Friday night, each of our high schools will begin their football seasons with their Kick-Off Classics. It's always a great time for me to take a walk down memory lane. I am, what many would call, a football fanatic. In fact, I think my entire family is sports fanatics. I enjoy watching the game, going to games and cheering for my teams. Growing up as a child of a football coach was a wonderful life. Obviously, we went to all of the home games and I think, most of the away games. Now that I think about that, as my dad coached, my mom had five children at home. Somehow she made it work.

As the baby of five, I was just along for the ride, you might say. But as each year passed, I grew to learn more about the game but mostly how important it is to be a part of a team. My dad is a devout Christian who loves the Lord with all his heart. Somehow, with God's wisdom, he managed to not only coach the sport but also coach life lessons. To this day, he continues to have players and students that come up to him and thank him for being their mentor. Football is a great sport and there are many life lessons to be learned from it. As in life, we don't always win but we give our all and do our best in everything we do.

Home game Friday nights, my

mom would somehow cook enormous amounts of chili and have most of the team at our house. Everyone would gather at the house, eat, laugh, talk and just be together. It was a time of fellowship with teammates and friends. The cheerleaders even came. There was no arguing, pointing fingers at each other, no demeaning each other, just fellowship among friends.

In the world we live in today, there are way too many distractions with cellphones, iPads, video games, Facebook, etc. People have forgotten what it is like to get together and just fellowship. It is very rare to see people out eating together and having a conversation. Most are sitting across the table from each other with their cellphones. Roger and I have made a practice of not even taking our phones in a restaurant. It's a really good practice to have. Our children are much worse than we are with phones, but it's only because we have allowed it.

I pray for all of our athletes to have a fun and safe season, free of major injuries. I pray that we have coaches that will be the leaders of these young men and teach them tough life lessons. Play your heart out, but also play with respect for others. Be a team player and do your part. I'm excited and ready for the season to begin. I still get teary eyed every time I hear 'Cherokee' on Warrior field, as I am a proud West Nassau High School Alumni. My school years have long passed, but I still have the heart of a Warrior!

Have a blessed week!

*Dawn S. West*

## JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

It has been over a week now since the KBG, I mean the Gestapo, oops, I mean the DOJ and the FBI raided President Trump's home at Mar-a-Lago. What they did was a wonderful thing for America. Yes, I said they did a wonderful thing by raiding the President's home. They have awakened the silent majority as never before. Many people have now realized the corruption within the halls of Biden's (Obama's) DOJ and FBI. People are now clearly seeing the two-tier justice in America. There is a justice system, and I use that term very loosely, for the Democrats (Socialists) and another justice system for Republicans (Conservatives). The unprecedented raid of the President's home is nothing more than a continuation of the socialist's attempts to find something they can prosecute Donald Trump on. This charade has been going on since 2016.

They, the socialists, have such hatred for the man that they will break laws, conjure up lies, attempt entrapment for one reason: they are scared to death of him. President Trump is not a politician and he is beholden to no one. He knows about the corruption within our Federal Government and they know he knows. Donald J. Trump is the most vetted person ever in America, and every attempt thus far has failed for the Socialist Party and I'm sure this witch hunt will fail also. President Trump had made it very clear that he had declassified the documents in his possession prior to leaving office. The DOJ failed in recording the declassifications. Their failure, whether intentional or oversight, does not make Trump guilty of anything. The DOJ knew where the documents were stored, had previously inspected the location and requested another lock be placed on the holding area. Trump adhered to their request. Trump has been working with the DOJ, openly providing them any documents they requested.

So why all of a sudden do they make an unannounced raid? They say because

of top secret nuclear documents. The search warrant was issued on a Friday however, they waited until Monday to break in to the residence. If it were such a danger to America, one would think the raid would have happened immediately upon receiving the search warrant. Another puzzling aspect is the timing. Trump has been away from Washington for over 18 months. Why, just now, are they concerned about these so-called dangerous and illegal documents in Trump's possession? It's just another Socialist Party's attempt to ruin Donald Trump. Another kangaroo court in a dire attempt to cover-up the left's corruption.

Have you witnessed any such raid on Hillary Clinton's illegal servers that was proven to have classified material stored? Have you seen any raids on Obama's home even though the DOJ admits he took over 30 million records with him when he left the White House? No, and you never will as long as the corrupt keep policing the corrupt.

On a different note, I find it amusing that the Starbucks Corporation now claims that mail-in ballots are susceptible to fraud and misconduct. In an ironic twist, Starbucks was one of many corporate entities that signed onto a statement opposing election integrity in Georgia and other states. Now, however, they have found possible fraud with mail-in ballots concerning the unionization of Starbucks employees and United Workers are desperately attempting to cover up their illegal acts. So, Starbucks opposes legislation that would put restrictions on the ability of fraud-prone voting methods for America, but wants to enact restrictions on fraud-prone voting methods for its own employees who have to decide whether to join unions. Things that make you go, hmmm.

This is a crazy world we are living in! Keep looking upward, for it can't be too much longer before Jesus will be seen.

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

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# I Want What I Want

Pastor James MacFarlane, First Alliance Church, Hilliard



When we think about our things that we want, are they always good for us? When we know that they may not be, does that thought always stop us? When we know for certain that what we want is obviously bad for us, how often do we do it anyway? Justifying our desires is a slippery slope. Thoughts like “I want what I want” or “The heart wants what the heart wants” are far too commonplace in these situations. I think we can all identify with these justifications in our lives. The world wants us to think like this. How often have we made decisions based solely on emotions? How did this work out for us? Yet, if we look at popular culture, there are a multitude of voices crying out to justify this very behavior. These voices will go as far as to demand that we accept their desires as legitimate even when we express to them that they are blind to fallout of these desires. We are not immune to this ourselves. We need to ask ourselves this question as well. What if what our hearts want will hurt or be destructive to someone else? The world will give us excuses to justify this as well. The world wants us to follow along and rely on our feelings and our desires, to follow our hearts. This is a trap.

Jeremiah 17:9 reads, “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?” The simple truth is we cannot trust where our hearts want to lead us. We cannot trust the world’s leading either. Our hearts and the world will fail us. Yet, there is a leader we can trust. There is a leader that will never fail us nor forsake us. His name is Jesus Christ. One of the most misquoted Scriptures is Psalm 37:4, “Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.” This does not mean that God will give us whatever we want. This means that by following God He will change the desires of our heart to the things that will glorify Him and work for our good. These desires that God changes will never be harmful to ourselves. Jesus will never lead you to hurt others with these God given desires.

Beware the slippery slope of desire. Seek God and His leading. Jesus is the only firm foundation that we can trust. Do not be mistaken, faith in Jesus Christ does not make us immune to temptation or bad decisions. However, it does mean that His Holy Spirit will live inside us and help us through these trials and temptations. It also means we will never have to go through difficult times alone ever again.

## CHURCH NEWS

BETHANY EPISCOPAL CHURCH will be selling Barbecue Pork Dinners Friday, August 19 from 5-7 p.m. for \$8 each. Eat-in or Take-out! The church is located on CR 108 in Hilliard across from Hilliard Town Hall.

Community Bible Study at Amelia Baptist Church starting Sept. 7 – May 3, 9:45-11:45 a.m. for all ages, nursery provided. Register at: [ameliaisland.cbsclass.org](http://ameliaisland.cbsclass.org). For more information, call Kathleen at 561-704-4871.

## Callahan Christmas Parade Information

The West Nassau Historical Society will host the 49th Annual Callahan Christmas Parade and Craft Fair on Saturday, December 3. The parade entrees will line up on Dixie Avenue and proceed south on US 1 through downtown Callahan at 11 a.m. The Arts/Craft portion will be held from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the historic Callahan Train Depot and adjacent railroad bed.

More information on the parade and arts/craft fair will be announced in the coming weeks. For parade and arts/craft vendor information, visit [www.wnhsl.org](http://www.wnhsl.org). The West Nassau Historical Society is looking for sponsors and volunteers to help make this yearly community tradition a huge success. Contact the Historical Society office at 879-3406 to donate or volunteer.



## NCCOA to Host FREE Senior Expo & Health Fair



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Mark your calendars for Nassau County Council on Aging’s (NCCOA’s) 8th Annual Senior Expo & Health Fair – FREE to the general public – on Friday, September 9 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Atlantic Recreation Center, 2500 Atlantic Ave., in Fernandina Beach.

We are back – after a 2-year pandemic hiatus – with more than

60 exhibitors providing useful information and resources. There will be giveaways galore, and many free programs and services...including medical equipment and supplies, hearing tests by Jacksonville Speech & Hearing Center and health screens provided by Baptist Health, including blood pressure and body mass index. Exhibitors will include local, state and federal agencies, as well as local businesses and organizations geared toward seniors. For more information, call the NCCOA at 904-261-0701.



## Shoes Needed for Homeless

Be the Change NE FL is in need of your gently used shoes for their homeless outreach in August! Shoes may be dropped off at 14244 Pace Road in Jacksonville anytime. Email: [joelpacepiano@gmail.com](mailto:joelpacepiano@gmail.com) for more information.

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# Future Sidewalks for MLK Avenue?

Dawn S. West

The Callahan Town Council met Monday night for their final meeting of August. Town Manager Mike Williams advised the council about the opportunity to apply for a \$50,000 FRDAP (Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program) Grant. "The deadline to apply is August 31 if the council chooses to do so," said Williams.

"Where would be put the money to use?" asked Councilwoman Jacquelyn Fleming.

"The 5 & under playground really needs an upgrade of equipment," added Williams. "We can also look to renovate the tennis courts."

Resolution 2022-R07 was approved which concerns the submission of the application to apply with the state of Florida for the FRDAP Grant.

The next agenda item concerned a response from a land owner that had received a code violation letter. Town Clerk Shawna Gugliuzza advised the council that a letter had been received from the homeowner at 449555 US Highway 301. The property is the two story house at the corner of US 301 and Mickler Street. The letter stated the person is requesting an extension due to a hardship, health issues and a death in the family. The homeowner wants to

retain a structural engineer to see if the home strong enough to be renovated.

The council approved allowing a 90 day extension for the homeowner.

In closing comments, Williams advised the council that he had been communicating with the Nassau County School Board and Transportation Department concerning students walking along Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue due to bus shortages. "We will be trying to engineer a sidewalk on MLK, however it will not take place until the construction of Hagan Ace Hardware is complete.

Councilwomen Fleming and Ashton Vargas both discussed applying to the Safer Routes to School Program. Town Clerk Gugliuzza advised the council that she had already been looking in to the program and has already done some of the preliminary webinars.

Gugliuzza also advised the council that she had received calls from citizens about not having any speed bumps on Page Street.

Williams advised that he is working on having one speed bump/ramp added to the road at some time.

The next regular meeting of the council will be held Tuesday, September 5 at 7 p.m. due to the Monday Labor Day holiday.

# Barnabas & Community Help Children for School

A quick search on the internet cited several polls from 2021 estimating the cost of sending a child back to school in the fall to wildly range from just under \$500 to near \$1,000. Nassau County parents know back-to-school costs can stretch an already tight budget. For the parents of an estimated 400-plus children in Nassau County who are housing insecure, back-to-school costs are beyond reachable. Who can they turn to help fill the budget gap?

Again, this year, Barnabas Center collected school supplies from community members and local businesses in an effort aimed directly at delivering these essential supplies to over 100 newly-enrolled Nassau County students qualifying under the district's FIT (Families in Transition) program. With donations from nearly 50 businesses and individuals, Barnabas collected 620-plus pounds of supplies (backpacks, pencils, paper, pens, headphones, erasers, etc.) in the weeks leading up to school opening. "Two full pallets of backpacks and school supplies were delivered. We cannot thank Barnabas or our community enough for the support that has been shown for our families experiencing homelessness," said Mollie Cressey, the school district's program manager for the FIT programs. "FIT volunteers spent all week packing bags (early this month) and students shortly after began picking up their backpacks to be ready for the first day of school," added Ms. Cressey.

Jamie Reynolds, President/CEO at Barnabas Center cited the backpack



donations to FIT students as an example of the organization's mission "... to provide help and hope to individuals and families in need throughout Nassau County to improve their stability, health and well-being."

Barnabas is the comprehensive service center in Nassau County that helps our neighbors in crisis with a compassionate helping hand, so they can become healthy, productive citizens, strengthening our entire community. Through our partnerships, we reach even more people and maximize resources. We address critical issues facing our community, such as hunger, affordable health care and prevention of homelessness.

Our mission is to provide help and hope to individuals and families in need throughout Nassau County to improve their stability, health and well-being. Our vision is every individual has an opportunity to lead a healthy and productive life, thereby strengthening our entire community. For more information about Barnabas' programs, please visit [www.BarnabasNassau.org](http://www.BarnabasNassau.org).

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# Letters to the Editor



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

## Christians... Live Like Christians!

Dear Editor,

One Sunday a few weeks ago, I heard a TV preacher/pastor, Dr. David Jeremiah, say a truth that I want to share. He said, "If every Christian in America today would live like Christians, we would not have the problems in America that we are having today."

What does it take to live like Christians? Let's look at what Jesus says about that in Mark 12:30-31: 30, "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. 31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou, shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."

Who is your neighbor? In Jesus' day, neighbor was not just next door or even down the street. In Luke we read about the good Samaritan. Luke 10:25-37 tells us the story. For lack of space, if you are not familiar with this story look it up!

Also, in Matthew 5:44, we see another example of Christians living like Christians: "But I say unto you, love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." Love should expand over cultural boundaries and ethnic and political lines.

So, how should Christians live? Look around America as a whole. Who hates us Christians more than anyone? Who fits the description in the verse above? We need to pray for those in our government, those who protest against us as Christians and hate us. After all, Christ died for them also. The message here? LOVE because God is LOVE. Who is your neighbor? Christians live like Christians! Remember, God did not command us to "like" them but to "love" them, As Christ loves us." One of Jesus' last commandments, "Go ye into all the world...." PRAY FOR AMERICA!

Hank Martinez, Sr.

P.S.: Keep up the good work Roger.  
Truth will prevail!

## Candidates

Dear Editor,

As we go to the polls to vote, I am reminded that over the last couple of years, two elected officials have been detained for Driving Under the Influence, which is a politically correct legal phrase for Drunk Driving. Maybe the process to run for office should include that candidates for office take a breath-o-lizer test after lunch. Odds are, it would probably reduce the candidate population.

B. R. McConnell

# New Beginnings and Milestones

## Ms. Reid and Mr. Roberts Announce Engagement



Mary Reid and Kerk Roberts are pleased to announce their engagement. The bride is the daughter of David and Coretta "Corkie" Reid of Callahan.

The two met through their love of animals while working at a Pet Paradise Resort seven years ago. They have been best friends ever since. They currently are both employed at the Coach warehouse.

The couple will have a private ceremony at Balis Park in San Marco.

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# New Beginnings and Milestones

## Mr. and Mrs. George Spicer Celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



George and Marilyn Spicer, of Callahan, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary August 9. They were married August 9, 1972 in Jacksonville, both at the age of 18! George began in the apprenticeship program with the boilermakers in 1974 and retired following 35 years of service. Marilyn worked as a homemaker and later for the Mosquito Control in Jacksonville. They have lived in Callahan for 32 years. They are both very active



in the community volunteering in all kinds of activities. They celebrated their special milestone with a special dinner together!

They have four children; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

## Frank Kearns, Sr. Celebrates 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday



Mr. Frank Kearns, Sr., of Callahan, celebrated his 90th birthday August 16. He was born August 16, 1932 in Memphis, Tennessee. Frank was a State Champion Track high schooler. He is a Veteran of the US Navy. He worked in the insurance industry and retired from AOL.

He was married for 49 years to Madonna Kearns before her passing in 2004. He is a proud supporter of athletics, at all levels, especially the Warriors! He has been a member of Crossroads Assembly of God since the original church was founded in 1972. He has always been a fine Christian example to all he comes in contact with. He is a blessing to many! He celebrated his special milestone Saturday with a celebration held in his honor with family and friends.

He is the father of five children, Sandy, Phyllis, Buddy (deceased), Beverly and Frank, Jr.; grandfather to Deidra, Justin, Jacob (Meghan), Stephanie (Jamie), Frank, III (Sarah) and Faith; and great-grandfather to Faith, Laila, Clara, Jace, Noviack, Cooper, Lucas, Logan and Landon.

## Holden David Bruno

Davie and Alexis Bruno, of Callahan, are proud to announce the birth of their son Holden David Bruno. Holden was born April 5, 2022 at UF Health North at 6:34 a.m. He weighed 7 pounds 1 ounce and measured 19.5 inches.

Paternal grandparents are David and Arlene Bruno of Callahan.

Maternal grandparents are Joseph and Patricia Holden of Callahan.

Holden was welcomed home by his big sister Sylvie!



## Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday Sonora James Wright

Sonora Wright celebrated her first birthday August 18. She will celebrate her special milestone with a party held in her honor at her home on Saturday with lots of family and friends and her sweet dog, Claire, joining in the fun! Her proud parents are Nathan and Taylor Wright of Callahan.

Proud grandparents are Tanya and Scooter Barr of Jacksonville; Gail Wright of Callahan; and Chester Wright of Jacksonville.



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2022



# FOOTBALL SCHEDULES


## WEST NASSAU VARSITY WARRIORS

August 19	Preseason Santa Fe	7:00 p.m.
August 26	Zarephath Academy	7:00 p.m.
September 2	@ Charlton County	7:00 p.m.
September 8	@ McIntosh County	7:00 p.m.
September 16	@ Episcopal	7:00 p.m.
September 23	Bishop Kenny	7:00 p.m.
September 30	@ Baker County	7:00 p.m.
October 7	PK Yonge (Homecoming)	7:00 p.m.
October 14	@ Fernandina Beach	7:00 p.m.
October 21	@ Baldwin	7:00 p.m.
October 28	Yulee (Sr. Night)	7:00 p.m.
November 4	BYE	



## HILLIARD VARSITY FLASHES

August 19	Preseason Fernandina Beach	7:00 p.m.
August 26	@ FAMU	7:00 p.m.
September 2	University Christian	7:00 p.m.
September 9	@ Paxon	7:00 p.m.
September 16	Mayo-Lafayette	7:00 p.m.
September 23	Crescent City	7:00 p.m.
September 30	Beachside (Homecoming)	7:00 p.m.
October 7	Providence (Sr. Night)	7:00 p.m.
October 14	@ Hamilton County	7:30 p.m.
October 21	@ Destin Charter	8:00 p.m. Eastern
October 28	BYE	
November 4	@ Christ's Church	7:00 p.m.




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## Nassau County School Board, District 3





# Thank You!

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU**  
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He will:

- Bring Accountability to the School Board
- Work hard to improve communication/dialogue with our diverse communities
- Improve planning/collaboration with County Commissioners & the Sheriff's Department on localized safety concerns
- Bring 18 years of educational & problem solving experience to find unique solutions for our unique communities.

**Vote Albert J. Wagner for School Board, District 3**

**Vote Albert J. Wagner, School Board for Problem Solving, Communication and District Accountability.**

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2022

# FOOTBALL SCHEDULES



## WEST NASSAU JV WARRIORS

August 25	@ PK Yonge	6:00 p.m.
September 1	Charlton County	6:00 p.m.
September 15	Episcopal	6:00 p.m.
September 22	@ Bishop Kenny	6:00 p.m.
September 29	@ Ridgeview	6:00 p.m.
October 6	@ Yulee	6:00 p.m.
October 13	Fernandina Beach	6:00 p.m.



## CALLAHAN MIDDLE RAMBLERS

August 30	@ Bolles	5:00 p.m.
September 6	Trinity	6:00 p.m.
September 13	@ Fernandina Beach	6:00 p.m.
September 27	@ Hilliard	6:00 p.m.
October 4	University Christian	5:30 p.m.
October 11	Yulee	6:00 p.m.
October 18	Episcopal (Homecoming)	6:00 p.m.



## HILLIARD JV FLASHES

September 1	@ Paxon	6:00 p.m.
September 8	@ Providence	6:00 p.m.
September 29	@ Baldwin	6:00 p.m.
October 6	@ Brantley County	6:00 p.m.
October 20	Episcopal	6:00 p.m.
October 27	Fernandina Beach	6:00 p.m.



## HILLIARD MIDDLE FLASHES

August 23	Cedar Creek	6:00 p.m.
August 30	Fernandina Beach	6:00 p.m.
September 13	Providence	6:00 p.m.
September 27	Callahan	6:00 p.m.
October 4	@Yulee	6:00 p.m.
October 11	@ Episcopal	TBA

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## POLICE REPORTS

Names, Addresses and all information appearing in the Police Reports are taken from the Sheriff's Department files and do not necessarily indicate guilt, only that arrests were made or charges were filed.

**Sunday, July 31**  
John Trave Carter, Jr., 39, 45245 Bismark Road, Callahan: Burglary; Possession of Burglary Tools

**Sunday, August 7**  
Steven Swain Shuman, 28, 1100 Mulberry Landing Road, Hilliard: Possession of Methamphetamine; Giving False Name While Detained

**Tuesday, August 9**  
Joshua Stanley Alford, 38, 54167 Marsh Road, Callahan: Possession Schedule 1-5 Substance; Possession of Marijuana less than 20 grams

**Wednesday, August 10**  
Gloria Sylvia Tyler, 61, 37130 Canterbury Drive #30, Hilliard: Battery on Health Service Provider

**Thursday, August 11**  
Alexis Louise Wilson, 24, 44112 Pinebreeze Circle, Callahan: Theft by Employee

## SAVE THE DATE

### Retired Navy Seal to Speak



Captain Patrick Toohey, U.S. Navy SEAL (Ret.) will speak at the 8th Annual Patriot Day Luncheon hosted by Amelia Island Charity Group from 12:30 - 2 p.m. on Sunday, September 11 at the Fernandina Beach Golf Club on Bill Melton Road. All proceeds from the event will benefit the Navy SEAL Foundation. Visit: [www.ameliaislandcharitygroup.org](http://www.ameliaislandcharitygroup.org) or call Carol Carter at 904-261-9193 for tickets and information. Registration deadline is September 5.

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EOE, Apply by sending a resumé to: [tom@flsunprinting.com](mailto:tom@flsunprinting.com) or apply at 54024 Cravey Road, Callahan. No phone calls.



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# BERNARD ODELL FOUNTAIN

Bernard Odell Fountain, 61, of Callahan, transitioned on August 10 2022, at the home of his brother with his family by his side, following a long battle with cancer. It would be an understatement to say he passed without a fight. He was born January 4, 1961, in Augusta, Georgia to Jack R. Fountain, Sr. and Patrica Fountain. The family moved to Florida in 1966.

He loved riding his motorcycle, Bike Weeks and shopping for t-shirts for all his grandchildren. He held a few jobs but his favorite was his work as a tile layer. You can see his work at JIA, all Jacksonville fire stations and UNF Hospitals. His only bigger love was his cats. He loved and cherished all his friends and family and never let a phone call, a text message, or visit end without his famous... "LOVE YA -LATER." He was preceded in death by his father Jack Fountain, Sr.; and brother Jack Fountain, Jr.

He is survived by his mother Patricia Fountain of Starke; his sister Gail (Barry) Digett of Live Oak and brother Joe (Tammy) Fountain of Callahan; three children Roland Fountain, Eugene Fountain and Diane Senterfit, of Oceanway; eight grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; and several extended family members and friends that will miss him dearly.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, August 20 from 2-3 p.m. at Callahan Funeral Home, 617365 N. Brandies Ave. with a celebration of life to follow. Memorial donations can be made in his name to Community Hospice.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, 879-2336.

Condolences may be expressed at: [www.callahanfh.com](http://www.callahanfh.com).

# OBITUARIES

## EUGENE (GENE) MCKENDREE



Eugene (Gene) McKendree, passed away peacefully at home August 8, 2022. He was born December 30, 1935 in Yulee to the late H. S. (Herb) and Bernice Howard McKendree. He joined the U.S. Army in 1956, serving in the Army/Army Reserves for 8 years in Infantry, Armor 672nd Tank Battalion and Military Police. He married the love of his life, Joyce, on June 21, 1958 and they lived in Yulee. They moved to the northside of Jacksonville in 1960, where he worked for Orkin Exterminators. He then started a partnership business, Action Exterminators. After moving back to Yulee in 1977, he split the partnership (on great terms) and began his own business, McKendree Pest Control, which he owned until he sold it to his daughter and son-in-law (Teri & Phil) in 2000.

He served in the Nassau County Sheriff's Reserve from 1976 - 1998, and then worked full time in "civil" from 1998 - 2000. He enjoyed fast cars, racing go carts and stock cars, as well as beach buggies. He watched westerns all day, every day! His overall passion however was hunting! He'd be one of the first ones ready to head out to hunt every morning! With his red Ford truck, dropping a tailgate, opening up a box full of dogs and getting a hot buck chase going was what he lived for. He had a saying, "I love the smell of gunpowder in the morning!" For hours on end he would tell you memories made with his hunting club family and what they meant to him. He loved his family and friends and was a

man of his word, honest and dependable. He loved his Lord and is now reunited with the love of his life (who he called "my lady") once again in heaven!

His preceded in death by his parents H. S. (Herb) and Bernice Howard McKendree; and his wife Joyce Lippard McKendree.

He is survived by his daughter Teri (Phil) Davis; granddaughters Sabrina (Jody) Thrift and Cheyenne (Corey) Carroll; great-grandchildren Tucker and Tara Thrift and Hayden and Carter Carroll.

The family received friends Friday, August 12 prior to the funeral service at First Coast Christian Center of Jacksonville, with Pastor Perry Fruscella officiating. Interment followed at Hughes Cemetery in Yulee.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Community Hospice.

## CAROL SCOTT MURRAY



Carol Scott Murray, 89, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family on August 9th after a 12-year battle with Alzheimer's.

Carol was born on June 19, 1933 in Atlanta, Georgia, to Edna Mae (Hawkins) Scott and James Lloyd Scott. She was raised by her mother and step-dad, Harold Harris, who absolutely adored her. She attended the University of Georgia, Atlanta when she ventured out with girlfriends one night and met the love of her life, Larry Neal Murray, at a Georgia Tech Fraternity social. They were married, December 23, 1954 and spent 67 years in love. They moved through several states, including some time

in Germany, before settling the family in Fernandina Beach in 1979.

She was a strong Christian, a member of the Memorial United Methodist Church since 1979 and loved her Church home. She spent many years volunteering at Council on Aging delivering Meals on Wheels to many in need who loved her as soon as they met her. She was also involved in the family restaurants as a bookkeeper, loved rolling wontons for years at Western Sizzlin in Callahan and never met a stranger at Murray's Grille. She was a member of the Red Hats and also enjoyed Tai Chi. Her favorite past-time was being with her family. She had the biggest heart and was immediately loved by everyone she met.

In addition to her husband Larry, Carol is survived by her children, Danny (Kathy) Murray, Mitch (Doreen) Murray, Scott (Cameron) Murray and Amanda (Daniel) Middleton; her grandchildren, Amie Murray, Carrie Murray, Morgan Gould, Ashton Hunter, Paige Murray, Destiny Waldo, McKenzie Pickle, Graison Murray, Emily Hall and Austin Middleton; eighteen great-grandchildren; and her first great-great-grandson due any day. She was greeted at the gates by her mother and many family and friends who have been waiting for this special day.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to Alzheimer's Association NE FL Chapter [www.alz.org/cnfl](http://www.alz.org/cnfl) or the Memorial United Methodist Church of Fernandina Beach.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, August 20 at 2:30 p.m. at the Memorial United Methodist Church in Downtown Fernandina Beach.

Arrangements by Green Pine Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed at [www.greenpinefuneral.com](http://www.greenpinefuneral.com).

Obituaries are published free of charge.

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

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# OBITUARIES

## GRADY CALVIN MURRAY, JR.



Grady Calvin Murray, Jr., 68, passed away August 12, 2022, near his home in Yulee. He was born December 15, 1953 in Charleston, South Carolina to the late Emma Mae and Grady Calvin Murray, Sr., and grew up in nearby Grover. He proudly graduated from Clemson University, where he played in the Tiger Band. Calvin's professional life brought him to Nassau County, where he served as an Air Traffic Controller for the West Area and Traffic Management Unit. Following 28 years of dedicated service, he retired to Yulee and filled the subsequent years tending to his beloved garden and spending cherished time with his family. The latter often including plates of his signature smoked meats and salmon and low country cooking. He was an avid sportsman, playing golf, fishing and hunting, and never missed a day of the Tour de France every year. He will likely be remembered most for his colorful wit and witticisms, such as: "Bought sense is the best kind."

Calvin is survived by his wife Lynne Murray; children Daniel (Kadie) Murray and Emily Jane (Jon Simon) Murray; and step-daughter Sarah (Mike) Wanzo; as well as grandchildren Aaron, Kayla and Joseph; his ex-wife Selina; brothers Emmett (Candy) Murray and Sammie (Kelli) Murray; and lots of nieces and nephews. He may be missed most by his cat Gabby, who he always had lots of treats for!

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, August 20 at 4 p.m. at the Amelia Walk Clubhouse.

## ETHEL LEE PATTERSON



Ethel Lee Patterson, 80, of Callahan, passed away on August 11, 2022. She was born on December 16, 1941, in Burkeville, Virginia to George Mooney and Eula Stewart Mooney. Ethel

enjoyed cooking and fishing but more than anything she loved spending time with her family. She is preceded in death by her parents; and husband Bobby G. Patterson.

Ethel leaves behind her son Bobby (Amy) Patterson, Jr.; sister Margie; grandchildren Wyatt Patterson and Morgan Patterson.

A graveside service for Ethel was held Thursday, August 18 at Jones Cemetery.

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

Visit [www.nassaufh.com](http://www.nassaufh.com) to sign the family's guest book.

## WILLIAM W. SHEFFIELD, JR.



William "Woodrow" Sheffield, Jr., 81, affectionately known as Cowboy, passed away peacefully August 3, 2022. He was born on January 31, 1941 in Jacksonville to William Woodrow Sheffield, Sr. and Martha Magdalene Daniel Sheffield. Woodrow was a Custom Tile Setter by trade and in his leisure time liked building furniture, fast cars and riding horses.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters Clydie Geraldine Sheffield VonDolteren and Maude Kathleen Sheffield Huey; and one brother James Richard Sheffield.

He is survived by three children Valerie (Mike) Babcock of Indiana, Michael (Stephanie) Sheffield and Angie (Scott) Newman, all of North Carolina; 13 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; six great-great grandchildren; and one brother Jeff Sheffield; along with many other family members. Also, a special thanks to Dewey and Susie Maddox for their loving support over the last 10 years after Woodrow returned back home to Florida.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Arrangements by Affordable Cremations, Jacksonville.

# SEG Launches Low-Cost Meal Program to Fight Child Hunger

Southeastern Grocers Inc. (SEG), parent company and home of Fresco y Más, Harveys Supermarket and Winn-Dixie grocery stores, together with the SEG Gives Foundation, has launched a new "Break from Hunger" program to provide accessible, healthy meal options to ensure no child goes hungry. Now through Labor Day, customers and associates ages 17 and younger can purchase a specially prepared "Student Summer Lunch Pack" meal box at any Harveys Supermarket or Winn-Dixie deli department for only \$2.

According to Feeding America®, 1 in 6 children across the United States may experience food insecurity. As students return back to school, it is crucial to help alleviate this issue as insufficient nutrition can damage a child's growth and development and can negatively impact their ability to thrive in academic and social situations.

Offering the "Student Summer Lunch Packs" at a low cost through its "Break from Hunger" program allows SEG to expand its support for combating hunger in the Southeast and provide relief to customers at a time most needed. The nourishing meal boxes will include either a ham or turkey sandwich, chips, a fresh fruit item and a bottle of water. Customers can simply request a "Student Summer

Lunch Pack" from the deli at any local Harveys Supermarket or Winn-Dixie store. The SEG Gives Foundation will also donate \$1 to Feeding America for each purchase of a "Break from Hunger" meal with the goal to donate the equivalent of one million meals into the community in partnership with Feeding America network food banks.

The five Southeastern states SEG serves, including Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi, rank among the top 20 for highest child poverty rates in the country with three states falling within the top five. These disheartening numbers highlight a critical need, and SEG is committed to partnering with organizations that focus on creating equitable, long-term solutions to food insecurity.

SEG and the SEG Gives Foundation remain steadfast in their commitment to giving back to local communities in great times of need. Recently, the grocer and its charitable arm donated \$140,000 to seven Feeding America network food banks in the Southeast to directly help fund hunger-relief initiatives. Additionally, last year alone, SEG and the SEG Gives Foundation donated more than \$700,000 back into local communities to help alleviate food insecurity.

## BENSON FAMILY THANK YOU

The family of Joe Benson would like to thank everyone for the kindness and thoughtfulness during the time of our loss. Thank you for the visits, food, cards and plants. Please remember us in your prayers in the upcoming months as we navigate through our new normal.

Patti, Shirley & Randy, Ray & Alisa, Shane & Rachael and grandchildren

# The Water Boys

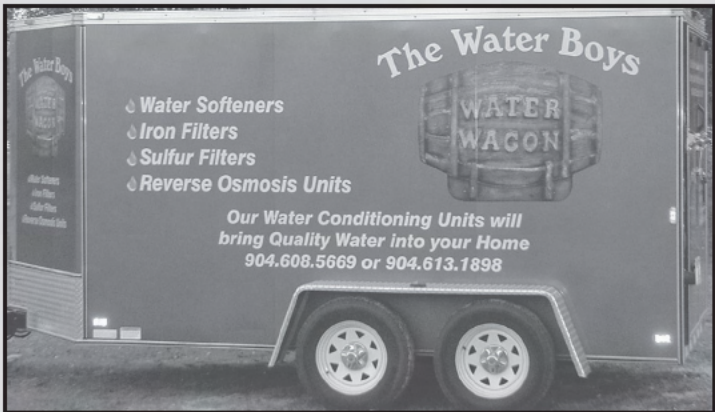
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# We Were Warned 63 Years Ago

Douglas C. Pearson, Sr.

On September 29, 1959, the Soviet Premier, Nikita Khrushchev, outlined how Communism would replace our Democratic Republic “Without Firing a Shot.” It would evolve through more and more socialism, until such a time when we actually have “Communism.”

Following are those steps:

**Healthcare:** Control healthcare and you control the people. (Medicare and its development started in the early 1960’s, followed by more Obamacare later)

**Poverty:** Increasing the poverty level, as high as possible. Poor people are easier to control and will not fight back, if you’re providing everything for them. (The “Great Society” by Lyndon Johnson, put us on this road)

**Debt:** Increase the debt to an unsustainable level, that way we’re able to increase taxes and this will produce more poverty. (Every administration, except one, has added to the debt limit since the Korean War. The only one that did not was the Clinton Administration, when the republicans took control of the House with the “Contract with America.” Bill Clinton proudly announced that “The era of Big Government is over!” He lied.)

**Gun Control:** Remove the ability of the people to defend themselves from the government. That way the government can create a Police State. (The second Amendment has been under attack since Hillary Clinton indicated she would come for our guns.)

**Welfare:** Take control of every aspect (Food, Housing, Income) of the people’s lives because that will make them fully dependent on the government. (No wonder we can’t get people back to work.)

**Education:** Take control of what the people read and listen to and take control of what children learn in school. (Jimmy

Carter started this with the creation of the Department of Education. It was forecasted then and few listened as to what would happen.)

**Religion:** Remove the belief in God from the government of schools because the people need to believe in only the government knowing what’s best for the people. (Prayer and God were removed from the schools decades ago and now the “Separation of Church from State” is under attack. It will only be a matter of time before privately run schools will be dictated to by the Department of Education. Many are already succumbing to those dictates merely through peer pressure and threatened reduced charitable donations.)

**Class Warfare:** Divide the people into wealthy and the poor and eliminate the middle class. This will cause more discontent and it will be easier to tax the wealthy, with the support of the poor. (The middle class has drastically been reduced over the last three decades, with more and more families unable to live from paycheck to paycheck. More than 60% do not have any savings, to speak of, in order to deal with unexpected emergencies.)

**Control the Media:** Not much left for our comrades, in the White House, to do here. The mainstream media have already become a parrot for the White House, as more and more stories are merely quoting from the Press Secretaries Office. Just a few independent news outlets are left to report the facts so the public may be informed.

As we review each point, we realized just how far we have followed that road! It is really quite devastating. We’ll leave all this to you, as you will ultimately decide.

## COVID Vaccinations

St. James Baptist Church, located off of CR 108 in Sandhill, will host a COVID vaccination event. The event will be held Friday, August 26 from 12-2 p.m. at the church. Those receiving vaccines will receive a \$25 Walmart gift card.



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## Callahan Little League's Annual General Assembly Meeting & Board Elections

All positions are open for the 2023 season. Must be a member in good standing with the league to run for a position or vote.

**Monday, August 22**  
6:30 p.m. @ the CLL Pavilion

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# Island Art Association Mural Project with 4-H



Marla McDaniel,  
IAA Communications and Marketing

Island Art Association (IAA) and 4-H students created a second summer mural project at IAA's Education Building in downtown Fernandina Beach. Chris Partleton, exhibiting artist member, developed this year's project. Her career was corporate, and in retirement, has returned to her passion, the arts. Partleton's early childhood education and art degrees served the students well this year. She enjoys working in collage, which made putting the project steps together a fun task.

Several IAA exhibiting members assisted, including longtime member and past president, Barb Wylie. Barb paints in a variety of mediums and has worked as a muralist, both residential and commercial.

Students participating included Kaitlin Burke, Lily Burke, Preston Knagge, Zora Margretta, Damian Munshower, Richard Owens, Mina Shippey, Rocco Volino and Chellie Whaley. Youth counselors were Garrett Bennett and Sam Riley. Assistants from 4-H were Madison Stevenson and Natalie Stevenson.



The Diversity of Nassau, Land, Air and Water, was the chosen theme. Students developed idea boards, and from individual art pieces, created a coordinated mural. The mural will be displayed at the extension office in Yulee, presently under construction. 4-H is the nation's largest youth development organization.



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# Sheriff's Teen Citizen Academy Held



Recently, the Nassau County Sheriff's Office hosted 35 teenagers as part of the Sheriff's Teen Citizen Academy. During this three day event, teenagers were able to help solve a mock murder case by utilizing Nassau County Sheriff's Office agency-wide resources.

Day one started with a live scenario featuring an "active murder case" acted out by NCSO employees. Afterwards, the students visited the Nassau County Courthouse to meet with the Honorable Judge Foster and the Assistant State Attorney's Office Susan Haag to learn the process of obtaining an arrest warrant.

Day two began with processing evidence with the AG/Marine Unit and Dive team, a scent track

from our K9 Handlers and K9's Rogue and Kylo which led them to the suspect's vehicle. We ended Day Two with a presentation by Nassau County Sheriff's Office Explorers where information was passed out regarding the Explorers program with information on how to apply.

Day three the students met the NCSO Hostage Negotiation Team, Special Response Team and the Mobile Command Unit. Then the Cadets were awarded their Certificate of Completion from Sheriff Bill Leeper.

A special thanks for our food/transportation donations from McDonald's in Callahan, Townie's Pizza and the Nassau County School District Nutrition and Transportation Departments. We would also like to thank Donna Martin and her staff at the FSCJ Betty P. Cook Nassau Center for allowing us the outdoor space needed during Day Three.



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## WHY VOTE FOR CURTIS GAUS?

**The people who know him best give their reasons for supporting Curtis Gaus in the upcoming election:**

"I have known Curtis Gaus for more than five years. First, as a member of the church where I am the Executive Pastor. Second, in a professional context with him being the former Principal of West Nassau High School. Third, Curtis is someone that I call a close friend. As a Pastor, I have personally witnessed the love that former students have shown him by the way they interacted with him off campus. I have seen Curtis show tough love when needed to students as an Administrator and also love them through tragedies that they have endured in our community. As a friend I have been with Curtis behind closed doors when no one else was around and he mourned over students and faculty that were tragically lost. Why am I supporting Curtis Gaus for School Board? My answer is this: Curtis Gaus has shown throughout his career that he can make the right decisions for the best interest of our students when the time comes."

Pastor Jeff Carter

"I am supporting Curtis Gaus in his candidacy for school board. I have worked alongside Mr. Gaus on many school/community projects when he served as Principal of West Nassau High School. I saw firsthand his sincere concern and care for each student. His experience in the classroom and in high school administration has prepared him to be an asset on the Nassau County School Board. Please join me in supporting my friend Curtis Gaus."

Paul Schwend, Business Owner,  
Life-long resident of Nassau County

"As my choice for Nassau County School Board District 3, Curtis Gaus checks all the boxes: gifted classroom teacher, dedicated proponent of career education, and highly effective building principal. His knowledge, experience and commitment to providing our children with outstanding educational opportunities will be a welcome addition to our School Board."

Jane Arnold, FBHS Principal, Retired

"I have known Curtis Gaus for a number of years as an administrator at West Nassau High School and have worked closely with him. I know Curtis to be a person of great integrity, compassion and fairness. He has always shown the utmost care towards the students, staff, parents and the community. He is always engaged with the educational process in Nassau County. I know that Curtis Gaus will do a great job representing Nassau County School Board."

Yvonne Donley, NCSB Employee, Retired,  
Life-long resident of Nassau County

**Vote  
Curtis Gaus  
School Board Dist. 3  
August 23**