

# RIVAL



VOLUME XVII ISSUE 6

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020

"HE COUNTS THE STARS AND CALLS THEM ALL BY NAME. HOW GREAT IS OUR LORD! HIS POWER IS ABSOLUTE! HIS UNDERSTANDING IS BEYOND COMPREHENSION!" - PSALM 147:4-5

# Vinners are...

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kathy Knight Burns



Supervisor of Elections **Janet Adkins** 



County Commissioner, District 1 John Martin



Ocean Highway & Port Authority, District 1 Miriam Rose Hill



County Commissioner, District 3 Jeff Gray



Ocean Highway & Port Authority, District 2 Danny Fullwood



County Commissioner, District 5 Klynt A. Farmer



School Board Member, District 4 Cynthia Grooms



Headed to the General Election are...

Representative in Congress, District 4



John Rutherford

Donna Deegan

County Judge Group 1



Jenny H. Barrett

John Cascone

Nassau County has 69,107 registered voters. Of those registered only 26,065 (37.72%) cast their votes on August 18, 2020. While looking over the summary of voting, several races were only separated by around 200 to 800 votes. Voters elected three new County Commissioners, one new School Board member, new Supervisor of Elections and one new Port Authority Commissioner.

As we move to the General Election in November, let's all exercise our right to vote and be informed about who and what we're voting for.

# 2020 Northeast Florida Fair Cancelled

The Northeast Florida Fair Board of Directors has unanimously voted to cancel the 73rd Annual Northeast Florida Fair that was to be held October 8-18, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The directors of the fair did not make this decision in haste. The public health safety and financial aspects of hosting the fair during this time of a pandemic have been thoroughly discussed.

Information was obtained from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Nassau County Health Department. After reviewing the guidelines and regulations set forth by the CDC, the



directors determined it would be nearly impossible to adhere to the social distancing protocols required to provide the necessary safe environment for attendees and animals.

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# Letters to the Editor

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

### Wake Up Americans!

Dear Editor,

Saturday, August 8, 2020, Phil Robertson of 'Duck Dynasty' appeared on the Jessie Watters show 'Watters World.' He appeared with guest host, Brian Kilmeade. He made a very awakening statement. He said referring to Tuesday, November 3, 2020, "November's presidential election could turn into a battle of Jesus versus the Devil and Karl Marx." He said, "The outcome will either be 'Hell on earth or Peace of mind." America, which one do you want it to be?

I am saying, citizens of the United States of America, people of any party affiliation, faith, race, culture, you need to think long and hard about what type of government you want to live under. One that rules over you or one that rules for you. This election will seal the future of America for years to come, as long as earth remains. Personally, I want a president that rules for me.

President Trump ain't perfect but, has already proven that he can whether any storm that the left throws at him. He has brought America further in four years than any president in our history. He has done more to get out economy moving at a record pace, more to promote every race of people living in America, more to protect all of our rights as Americans under the constitution of the United States of America. He has stood behind what this nation was built on, the Word of God, the Bible. He stands for freedom of 'religion' no matter what your 'religion' is.

"Wake up Uhmerika" (Earl Pitts)

If you want to live under socialist government rule with most rights stripped including freedom to worship as you please, your right to own guns, freedom of speech, etc., then go ahead. Personally, I don't, I refuse to drink the Kool-Aid!

Hank Martinez, Sr.

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### River Road Horrible!

Dear Editor,

Each time I drive down River Road/CR 108, I get all fired up. You can bet if some of our Nassau County officials and their family drove that road, especially after or during a good rain, something would be done about the condition of it. Seems like this part of the county doesn't get any money allotted in the budget for road repair, it all goes to Yulee and Fernandina. They have been working on those roads between I-95 and the beach forever, not sure just how many years.

It was also said in the paper two years ago that Crawford Road out this way would be paved in the spring. Wonder what year in the spring they were talking about. The potholes here on CR 121 just keeps getting patched making the road almost feel like you are driving on a dirt road. Maybe if we start petitions right about election time something will be done, what do you think?

Harriet Parnell

### In Response

Dear Editor,

I have never seen a blatant right wing pro trump article disguised as "My Opinion" filled with half-truths and pro trump propaganda. What about Trump running up a trillion dollar deficit on tax cuts for corporations and borrowing the money from China to pay for it? Just like he's propping up China to mortgage the future, but again this is my opinion.

Jim Halpert

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### 2020 NE FL Fair

The financial ramifications of hosting a reduced capacity Fair would be too great. The potential loss of revenue could challenge the fair's current sound financial standing and jeopardize the prospect of having a fair in the future.

This year, the Northeast Florida Fair will provide a modified plan for the Annual Youth Market Sale. Because of the expense of raising a market animal, 4-H and FFA youth who weighed in market animals in July, will be allowed to sell them with assistance from the

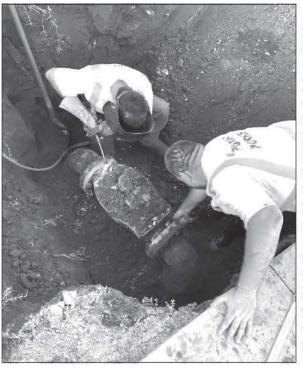
fair association. Our youth invest their time, funds and skills to raise market animals to sell at the annual fair and we acknowledge their hard work and determination to complete their project.

Continued from page 1

Northeast Florida Association is looking forward to welcoming guests back when it is safe for us to continue to host our most treasured tradition.

The 2021 Northeast Florida Fair is scheduled for October 14-24.

# New Meters Going in Around Hilliard



The AMI Project, SUEZ Metering system, has begun in the Town of Hilliard. The Hilliard Public Works Department is shown changing out the 6" Meter at Hilliard High School. The Public Works Department will be responsible for all the larger meters; and SUEZ, the company the meters were purchased from, is responsible for changing out 2" and below.

Every resident and business within the town limits of Hilliard will have a new SUEZ Meter installed. The huge project is expected to take approximately 4-months to install the new meters throughout the town.





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

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# Students Donate to Foster Children

Two Callahan Middle School girls, Emma White and Kiley Fralick, of Callahan, are doing their part to make a difference in the lives of children being taken into foster care. They came up with the idea to design a cup and sell raffle tickets to raffle both cups off to raise money. The girls came up with a custom cup that says "Fostering Love, One Kid At A Time" and had Rita Pippin of Flying High Kreations design them. She also donated both cups free of charge for the raffle.



Emma and Kiley held their Facebook Live raffle on the Fostering Love's

Facebook page on June 30. Because of the raffle as well as donations, the girls raised close to \$400! With the money, they purchased book bags, fleece blankets, stuffed animals, toothpaste, toothbrushes.

loofahs, snacks and books. People also generously donated 24 copies of the



book "Foster Care, One Dog's Story of Change" by Julia Cook, in which handwritten messages were put into each book to place into the bags.

Due to COVID-19, the girls are unable to deliver the bags to Family Support Services themselves, but they were given to the organization for them to be passed out to children who are

> brought into foster care so that they have something of their own to help with the transition. We are all so proud of these girls and their love of others for wanting to plan and execute this fundraiser on their own.

Thank you to every single person who donated money or items!

Roger R. West

I cannot understand why the DNC chose Kamala Harris as Joe Biden's running mate for President. The once acclaimed first Indian-American to be elected to Congress, now claims she is the first African-American woman to run as Vice President. Whoever and whatever she is, one thing is for certain, she is definitely a lying liberal. What is it with these liberal democrats and their identities? Elizabeth Warren said she was a Native American which was proved false, many others claim they are a specific gender that they aren't. Wow, it must be a mind boggling world to be a socialist liberal, bless them.

According to "The Patriot Post" Harris has come out of the gate living up to the left's false narrative. In her first speech as Biden's running mate she placed truth on the back burner and began stating so many untruths, better none as lies. Harris stated, "The president's mismanagement of the pandemic has plunged us into the worst economic crisis since the great depression." National Review's Kyle Smith responded calling the statement False. Smith said, "The pandemic and its associated lockdowns, not the president, are responsible for the economic contraction." He went on to question how our economic crisis of today even with the pandemic as questionable.

Two months ago the Wall Street Journal pegged the Democratic scheme by posting, "The state lockdowns are starting to ease and the U.S. economy should slowly begin to recover. But it is worth noting that the states opening most slowly are big states run by Democrats. This means slower recovery for those states and the U.S."

Then Harris said, "Just look where Trump and Mike Pence have gotten us, millions of kids who cannot go back to school."

Smith stated, "Wrong again, it is not Donald Trump's decision whether kids go back to school, because the federal government does not run schools." President Trump has urged schools to reopen. The main reason some are not is because of the National Teachers Union. This liberal union is baulking at reopening strictly for partisan political purposes.

Then the cherry on top of the cake, Harris bolstered, "Six years ago, in fact we had a different health crisis. It was called Ebola. We all remember that pandemic." According to the CDC, only 11 people in the entire United States were treated for Ebola during Harris's imaginary pandemic.

Harris is rated the most liberal U.S. Senator according to a 2019 GovTrack Analysis, she actually beat out Bernie Sanders, yet the media is attempting to portray her as a somewhat conservative choice. I swear the DNC and the mainstream media would rather lie than breathe.

As always...that's just my opinion! One last thing, do you know the name Cannon Hinnant?

# FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

Callahan First Baptist Church - Thursday, August 20 • 4:30 - 6:30 pm Barnabas @ Bryceville Baptist Church - Wednesday, August 26 • 10 am - 12 pm



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# Storms of Life

Pastor Ted Heglund, First Alliance Church, Hilliard



We are in the middle of hurricane season. We are inundated with news of weather patterns, supplies and safety measures. Having been born and raised in South Florida I have seen my share of these mighty storms. The first one that really sticks out in my mind is, as a little boy, watching through the cracks of the shutters my newly built tree house torn apart by the winds! Yes, hurricanes are part of life if you live in Florida and especially along the coast.

Not all storms though are hurricanes but we still see strong afternoon storms that can cause a lot of damage. We know that depending on how the high and low pressures develop and the winds shift, a hurricane might have a big impact on our area - and then it might not! But we must always pay attention and be prepared for not only the summer storms that sweep through our area but the hurricanes also. For the big storms, do you have food for several days? If you have a generator, do you have fuel? How much drinking water do you have? These and many other things are necessary.

The next question is, are you prepared for the storms and sometimes hurricanes of your life? These storms come in various degrees and strengths. They can blow in from any direction. We often define them as issues or problems like family relations, job stress, economic crisis, death of a loved one, etc. Yet, most of the storms we face are internal struggles with self-worth, being loved, confidence and direction in our lives.

Just as there are warnings and instructions for preparing for weather related storms, God also has given us warnings and instructions for our daily lives. God does not promise a storm-free life but He does promise to provide strength and never to leave us. What are these warnings and instructions from God?

The first major storm of life is realizing and admitting that we are a sinner. We don't like to admit that but the Bible says in Romans 3:23, "...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Because we are sinners we must ask for forgiveness and be saved from our sin.

Remember God's promises and instructions when these other storms begin to affect your thinking and actions:

- When times are difficult you still have to work and do your part, God promises, "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19 (ESV)
- When you are not sure how to serve, you make a life choice to "Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!" Psalm 100:2 (ESV)
- When you are faced with a path/decision to follow, you remember God has instructed you, "so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;" Colossians 1:10 (ESV)
- When you are wondering about the way you are thinking, the Lord is clear about what we are to practice. "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you." Philippians
- And finally, when that storm is upon you and you are still unsure how to react, ask am I doing everything to give God the glory and not myself? "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31 (ESV)

In the midst of the storms of life that will come, "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty." Psalm 91:1 (ESV)

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- Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays at 5 am, 6 am or 6 pm
- Location: Ewing Park, Callahan
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Sunday, August 23 @ 2 p.m.

As the pandemic continues to be present, now more than ever, it is imperative that we all come together as a community to pray for our schools as they return August 24. Each year, for the past three, a Prayer Walk has been held at each of the schools to cover them in prayer. There will be many changes and challenges for our administrators and students. We serve a God that is bigger than these changes and challenges and we must send our requests to Him. We are asking pastors, church leaders, church members, teachers, administrators, faculty, parents, students, grandparents, etc., anyone that wishes to join us this Sunday, August 23 for a Prayer Walk at each of our schools. If you've ever been passionate about anything, this is a great cause to pour your passion into. Please make it a priority in your day

to make this divine appointment. There is nothing stronger than the power of prayer.

Pastor Jeff Carter of The Anchor Church sent out this email to several pastors and leaders: We will be meeting Sunday, Aug. 23 at the different schools to pray over the grounds and cover them in prayer. Due to COVID-19 we are still not able to get inside of the schools like normal but we ask you to save the date for this Sunday as we come together as a community in prayer. Visit the school(s) you wish starting at 2 p.m. and go to all if you like.

As you all know we are living in strange times and the pressure on the school leaders, teachers, and students are like never before and it is vital that we pray corporately. We appreciate your willingness to help make a difference. See you at 2 p.m. Sunday!

Our local schools are:

West Nassau High School, 1 Warrior Dr., Callahan Callahan Middle School, Old Dixie Highway Callahan Intermediate School, 34586 Ball Park Rd. Callahan Elementary School, US 301 Hilliard Middle-Senior High School, 1 Flashes Ave. Hilliard Elementary School, 27568 Ohio St. Bryceville Elementary School, 6504 Church Ave. Lighthouse Christian School, The Anchor Church, Callahan Sonshine Christian Academy, 45082 Frank Brookins Drive, Callahan

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# Callahan Town News

Dawn S. West

The Callahan Town Council met Monday night for their final meeting of August with only three council members (Shaw, Mellecker and Graham) joining the teleconferenced meeting. Council Pro Tem Janet Shaw directed the meeting. "I first want to advise the council that Councilwoman Kathy Smith plans to resign her seat on the council due to health issues," said

Later in the meeting, Town Clerk Stephanie Knagge advised the council that the town will need to advertise for the open seat which will continue through 2022. She also reminded the council that qualifying for the November election continues through August 20 at 4 p.m.

The first order of business was the approval of Ordinance 2020-O08 which concerned an emergency referendum for the November ballot. The town plans to let the citizens decide whether to make the town clerk an elected position; and also whether to do away with the mayor position and hire a town manager for town business. Town Attorney Jeb Branham advised the council after talking with the Supervisor of Elections, the towns referendum for the November ballot could cost the town in upwards of

\$17,000. "With this ordinance, it gives us (town) another option to get the referendum out by mail versus paying that extreme cost," said Branham. "A mail ballot would be much cheaper."

"Can we get more information on the ballot if we mail it out?" asked Councilman David Mellecker. "I just want to make sure our citizens understand what we're doing."

Mayor Matt Davis advised the council about the concerns of the safety of Town Hall for both the employees and the citizens coming to the office. "I've thought about if we constructed a 3' x 5' vestibule for people to come in, with a glass window and a slot for payments," said Davis. "I don't think it would be that expensive to do. It's just a thought."

"I think we should get some quotes on that idea and see what we can do," said Mellecker. The council agreed with getting quotes.

"I have sent out the trim information with the date September 7 on it," said Town Manager Mike Williams. "I realize that is Labor Day but the information has already been sent out. We have to meet on that date."

With that being said, the next meeting for the council will be Monday, September 7 at 7 p.m.

# Prayer Warriors at CES Friday! Calling all Prayer Warriors! As teachers, staff and parents are preparing for school

to start Monday, we believe that prayer is needed more than ever! Come join us as we pray over all teachers and staff, pray over the building, and hold up encouraging signs while singing worship songs!

> Callahan Elementary School Friday, August 21, from 7 a.m. – 8 a.m.

Hosted by CES See You at the Pole Prayer group Visit the CES See You at the Pole Facebook Page for more information.

## FREE Fish Dinners Saturday

Hilliard First Assembly of God would like to bless our community. We will be giving out 1,250 Free Fish Dinners on Saturday, August 29 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., or until all dinners are 矣 gone, whichever comes first. These will be handed out drive thru style, pick-up at the church, 550920 US Highway 1 in Hilliard. These are trying times for our friends and neighbors in our small community and we would like to bless them. Hilliard First Assembly of God is located on US Highway 1, a quarter of a mile south of the caution light at Eastwood Road in Hilliard.



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North Hilliard Baptist Church will hold a School Supply giveaway for children in need, Saturday, August 22 from 10 a.m. - noon or until supplies last.

Bryceville First Baptist Church will open their Clothes Closet every Thursday through September 10 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the church. Clothes for every member of the family! In October the closet will be open once a month, October 8 will be the first, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Attend the church of your choice this Sunday.

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Tasha Shattuck, 7th Grade ELA; Miriam Lee, 7th Grade ELA; Robert Herndon, 7/8th Grade Math; Johnathan Liby, 8th Grade Algebra; Jocelyn Lasley, 6th Grade ELA; Erica Newton, 6th Grade Math; Sarah Curtright, 7th Grade ESE Math; Ali Hartman, 6th Grade ESE Math; Jessica Larrick, 7th Grade Math; Debra Gustafson, 8th Grade Math; Sheryl Stevenson, 7th Grade US History; Mairead Geary, 7th Science; and Sunrise Jaramillo, Art (not pictured)





Tammy Smith, Principal; Michele McDonald, 1st Grade

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Kayla Taylor, 3rd Grade; Nancy Joy Hill, 4th Grade; Suzanna Pruett, 5th Grade; Jody Fenhoff, 3rd Grade; Amanda Chesser, 3rd Grade; Megan Campbell, 3rd Grade; Makayla Davis, 3rd Grade; Diana Wilson, 3rd Grade; David Harris, 5th Grade; and Michelle Thompson, Assistant Principal



Kristie Baldwin, ESE Support Facilitator; Alisa Jackson, 4th Grade; Stephanie Fortier, 4th Grade; Madison Norman, 3rd Grade; Jacquelin Sims, Assistant Principal; Danielle Loudermilk, Principal; Teresa Gamble, Psychologist (not pictured); Makayla Oldham, Speech Therapist (not pictured)



Ryan Haugh, HOPE/PE; Faith Sims, Business Entrepreneur; Ashton Whaley, Interior Design; Marlee Phillips, Agriscience; Emily Sammons, English; Lauren DeBolt, English; Lisa Stubbing, Math; Gabrielle Graham (Kuehn), Math; Bryce Rhoden, Math; and Amber Gemeinhardt-Tibble, English

Misty Black, 4th Grade and Carson Thompson, 6th Grade

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MULTI-FAMILY Yard Sale, Friday & Saturday, Aug. 21-22, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., 10293 Ford Rd., Bryceville. Let's try this again! 4 FAMILIES, 1 big yard. We will have a little bit of everything. Baby chicks for sale many breeds available. FREE pond plants (bring a bucket), FREE fresh egg samples (while supplies last), You won't regret coming back THIS weekend!

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NEW 3BR/2BA APARTMENTS in Callahan! \$1,175/ month; \$500/deposit; no pets. Visit: www.AxisPlex. com or call 904-879-5495. tfn

STORAGE UNITS AVAILABLE for \$99.99/month at AXIS PLEX in Callahan, to residents and the public. Call 879-5495 or email info@axisplex.com. tfn

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FURNITURE: loveseat and chair with electric reclining, medium brown, great condition, \$275, OBO. Call 904-879-7392. 82020

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

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HELP WANTED: CHICK PROCESSORS. Cal-Maine Foods, Inc. in Callahan is taking applications for steady part-time employment. We are located in a hatchery that has been in Callahan for over 80 years. The position is working with day old baby chicks in an air conditioned environment. The workdays are ONLY Monday and Thursday from 6 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. the hours for this position range from 15 to 25 weekly. Applicants must be able to work closely with others with minimal talking. This is a production position with minimum production numbers required to maintain employment. No experience needed as all training is provided. Starting pay is \$11 per hour. For applications, please call 904-879-4710 and ask for Janet and Erica. 90320

Hendry Electrical is looking for a qualified & experienced ELECTRICAL FOREMAN. Pay based on experience. Opportunity for profit sharing. Email resume to: chendry@hendryelectrical.net or call 904-314-2544. 82020

Callahan First Baptist Church is now accepting applications for a MAINTENANCE POSITION. This is a full-time position. If you are interested in this position, please come by the church office at 45090 Green Avenue, Callahan and fill out an application.

MECHANIC NEEDED: Fulltime in Callahan. Monday-Friday. Call 904-626-4504 or apply in person, Conner's Service Center, 449645 Highway 301, Callahan. tfn

OPTOMETRIC TECHNICIAN NEEDED! Busy optometry practice is looking for an experienced optometric technician who is friendly and energetic with good interpersonal skills. In this small office our employees are expected to help out in all areas needed but core dutires will include patient pretesting, visual fields, scribing, contact lens training and other patient care responsibilities; 35-40 hours/ week; with no weekend hours. Fax resume to (904) 879-6401 or drop off at 542069 US Hwy. 1, Callahan.

EXPERIENCED WELDER, FITTER, MECHANIC needed for Metal Fabrication and Repair Shop. ONLY experienced need apply! If interested, contact Bill at Jackson Equipment, 904-845-3696. 82720

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# POLICE REPORTS

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

### Monday, August 10

Lucas Dean Bullard, 44 27427 W. First Avenue, Hilliard: Violation of Probation Felony Resisting with Violence; Count 1, Aggravated Assault; Count 2, Aggravated Assault; Count 3, Carrying Concealed Firearm

### Tuesday, August 11

Dennis Partrick Skay, 20, 1 Crawford Lane, Hilliard: DUI Normal Faculties **Impaired** 

### Wednesday, August 12

Conner Wayne Perry, 21, 38040 Elsie Lane, Hilliard: Theft of Motor Vehicle; Habitual Traffic Offender

### Thursday, August 13

David Cecil Scheider, 32, 17380 Liller Road, Hilliard: Driving while License Suspended with Knowledge

### What Is the 2020 Census?

The 2020 Census counts every person living in the United States and five U.S. territories. The count is mandated by the Constitution and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. The 2020 Census counts the population in the United States and five U.S. territories.

The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads and other resources based on census data.

The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts. It's also in the Constitution: Article 1, Section 2, mandates that the country conduct a count of its population once every 10 years. The 2020 Census will mark the 24th time that the country has counted its population since

Participating in the census is required by law, even if you recently completed another survey from the Census Bureau. A complete and accurate count is critical for you and your community, because the results of the 2020 Census will affect community funding, congressional representation, and more. Census results affect your community

The results of the 2020 Census will help determine how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding flow into communities every year for the next decade.

Think of your local schools: Census results help determine how money is allocated for the Head Start program and for grants that support teachers and special education. The list goes on, including programs to support rural areas, to restore wildlife, to prevent child abuse, to prepare for wildfires, and to provide housing assistance for older adults.

If you haven't filled out your Census form, visit: www.2020census.gov and complete it online.

# Ferst Readers 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Coin Drive

Back in March, the elementary schools partnered with Ferst Readers of Nassau County by participating in the 2nd Annual

Coin Drive, during Read across America Week. For the second year in a row, the children, families, faculty and staff went ABOVE AND BEYOND with their generosity by raising over \$8,000! Your donation allowed us to mail books to over 900 Nassau County

children, from birth to five years old, throughout the pandemic! Top Class was Ms. Nelson at Wildlight Elementary School that raised enough for 80 books! Top School was Hilliard Elementary that raised enough for over 800 books!

None of this would have been possible without the Nassau County School Board and Dr. Kathy Burns, Superintendent's approval and support. We also want to recognize Brenda Murphy, the principals, reading coaches, librarians, teachers and of course the students who were ALL instrumental in making this fundraiser a huge success. We hope our mission will make their mission a lot easier.

This is Ferst Readers of Nassau County's 5th Year Book-aversary. Since 2016, over 1,400 children have received over 25,800 books across the county! This means those 1,400 children have a better chance of being ready to read or reading by the time they enter kindergarten.

> We would also like to thank the following businesses for their support:

> Vystar Credit Union: Branches in Callahan, Yulee and Fernandina Beach for allowing us to use their coin counting machines. You are AMAZING!

Walmart in Yulee: Mr. Johnson, Store Manager, for providing a \$50 gift card to the Top Class Collector. Chick-Fil-A in Yulee: Mr. Doug, Manager, for providing 150 food gift cards for the winning classes at each school. Circle K in Hilliard: For collecting coins for Ferst Readers! We also want to thank Building Blocks and Kidz Island in Callahan for being our Callahan coin collection spot! Their classrooms will be receiving books to build their classroom libraries!

Finally, thank you to our volunteer Community Action Team who donated their time to organize, deliver, collect and count the materials and coins all for the children in Nassau County.

To volunteer or donate contact us at: nassaucounty@ferstreaders.org.



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### CLARENCE DEWITT CARTER



Clarence "DeWitt" Carter, 73, of Callahan, passed away on August 14, 2020 at the Warner Center for Caring in Fernandina Beach. He was

born in Georgia on October 10, 1946 to the late Paul and Edith Hand Carter. DeWitt was raised in Georgia before moving to Jacksonville at the age of 13. Shortly after school, DeWitt joined the United States Army and proudly served his country. After his honorable discharge from the military, DeWitt started his longtime career as a Truck Driver. DeWitt met the love of his life in 1968, Gertrude Edwards, and they were happily married on October 9, 1971. They resided in Jacksonville for many years where they started raising their 4 sons and relocated to Callahan in 1984. After dedicating over 20 years as a Truck Driver, DeWitt was a Carpet Installer with Troy Petty Carpets for 10 years before finally retiring. DeWitt was a devoted husband, loving father, grandfather and greatgrandfather who loved his family dearly. He was known for his story telling, making cat noises, and his jokester personality. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and passing his learned skills on to his family and friends. More than anything, DeWitt was a family man and will be missed by all who knew him. DeWitt was preceded in death by his parents; his son Allen Gene Anderson; six brothers; two sisters; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Dewitt is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Gertie Carter of Callahan; his sons Dennis (Catherine) Anderson, Kenneth (Christie) Anderson and Richard (Rosemary) Carter, all of Callahan; his sister Evelyn Carter of Callahan; his grandchildren Terisia (Shaun) McKelvy, Elyse (Robert Wiemann) Anderson,

# **OBITUARIES**

Cameron (Amber) Anderson, Brittan (Nick) Scott, Kolby Anderson, Kaylia (Justin) Locke, Allen Carter, Abby Carter, Alley Carter, Madison Wheeler, Michael McSwain and Megan McSwain; and his great-grandchildren Dallas, Nolan, Hannah, Addison, Elliott, Abby, Case, Landon, Journey, Gracie and Olivia.

A celebration visitation to honor DeWitt Carter's Life was held Tuesday, August 18 at Nassau Funeral Home Chapel.

In lieu of flowers, a donation box will be setup to assist with future expenses.

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

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

### Jamie Lee Gasey

Jamie Lee Gasey passed away on August 10, 2020. She was born in Bluefield, West Virginia on March 15, 1986. She was preceded in death by her biological father Grover Eldridge. She will be loved and missed by all forever and a day.

Jamie is survived by her mother Connie Hess of Brunswick; father Richard Gasey of Asheboro, NC; a brother Chris Gasey of Waycross; three sisters Linda Gasey, Catherine Gasey and Ashley McCormick; her boyfriend David Summers of Jacksonville; and Daniel 'Jake' Miller whom she thought of as a father; special sister-in-law Joy; two nieces and 3 nephews.

Visitation was held Friday, August 14 in the Chapel of Callahan Funeral Home.

Condolences may be expressed at www. callahanfh.com.

### BERNICE G. GEE



Bernice Gee, 87, took her leave from this earth Tuesday, August 11 at the Life Care Center of Hilliard. She is now resting in the arms of

her heavenly Father. Bernice was born on September 14, 1933 to Joseph W. Gibson and Lucy Mae Ellerbee Gibson in Williamson, Georgia. She was the youngest of five girls and three boys who have all passed on before her.

Bernice was predeceased by her parents; brothers and sisters; her devoted husband of 42 years and our daddy King M. Gee; grandson Bryan M. Hopkins; greatgranddaughter Erica N. Smith; and two sons-in-law Chuck and Walter.

She is survived by her three daughters whom she loved dearly, and was very proud of all three, Virginia Smith of Hilliard, Linda Green (Frank Costanza) of Jacksonville and Sue (Billy) Minshew of Callahan; grandchildren Beverly (Scott Sr.) Hand, Brandon (Deanna) Smith, Jan Capps (Shad Johnsen), Jody (Jessie) Pickett, Kelly (Russell) Stevens and Kasey (Samantha) Minshew; 19 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews with favorites to include Margie, Mary, Hazel, Charlie, Ricky, Billy, Bobby and Gary.

The family received friends Sunday, August 16 prior to the graveside service at Jones Cemetery in Callahan. A luncheon for family and friends followed the service at Boondocks Junction in Hilliard.

The family of Mrs. Gee would like to thank all the staff at the Life Care Center of Hilliard for your tender loving care for the past 5.5 years. We also would like to say thank you to Terri and the staff of the Nassau Funeral Home, Pam and Danny of Callahan Barbecue and the Guynn family at Boondocks Junction.

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

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

### JOHN W. McCoy



John W. McCoy, 78, of Callahan, passed away on August 11, 2020. He was born on December 6, 1941 in Harrisburg, Illinois to

Frederick and Yvonne McCoy. After graduating high school, John enlisted in the United States Air Force and served his country for 24 years. John married the love of his life, Beverly, on June 1, 1963 and enjoyed 57 wonderful years together. They lived all over the country before settling down in Callahan, in 2005. John was an avid reader and loved science fiction the most. He was always on top of the latest technology trends. John made sure to share his experiences with his grandchildren and to "Hail the Traveler." He is preceded in death by his parents; brothers; and son Daniel Wayne McCoy.

John is survived by his wife Beverly McCoy of Callahan; daughters Kimberly (Timmy) Summers of Pennsylvania, Barbara (Mike) Waldron of North Carolina, Veronica (John) Mowl of Callahan and Kathy (Virgil) McClurken of Kansas City, MO; son Daryl McCoy; 10 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. Always "Hail the Traveler".

A Memorial Service for John will be held Tuesday, September 1 at 10:30 a.m. at the Jacksonville National Cemetery.

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

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

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

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### DELORIS MARLEEN MILLIGAN



Deloris Marleen Milligan, 85, of Callahan, went home to be with the Lord on August 16, 2020. She was born on July 12, 1935 in Bristol, Georgia

to the late Edward and Lizzie Drury Amette. Marleen moved to Callahan, from Woodbine, Georgia, in 1961. Marleen was a member of Callahan First Baptist Church. She loved and enjoyed her Sunday School Class. Marleen enjoyed cooking, gardening and collecting fine china and glassware. Marleen and Rufus were happily married for over 62 years. She loved her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren with all of her heart. She is preceded in death by her parents; and husband Rufus Garrett Milligan; and granddaughter Melanie Milligan Watkins.

Marleen is survived by her children Debbie (John) Lynn of Gainesville, Ronald (Jeanne) Milligan of Hilliard and Timothy (Donna) Milligan of Callahan; sisters Peggy (Elton) McLain and Barbara Sidwell (Carlton-deceased); seven grandchildren Lorrie (Wayne) Bell, Sherri (Jeffrey) Milligan, Jodi (John) Nuszkowski, Staci (Kenny) Shorten, Amy (Mike) Bradbury, John (Trey) (Ann Marie) Lynn and Melissa Lamperelli; 20 beautiful greatgrandchildren; and two great-greatgrandchildren.

A private service was held Wednesday, August 19 at Nassau Funeral Home with Pastor Lynn Hyatt officiating. A graveside service and interment followed at Pinecrest Cemetery & Mausoleum in Vidalia, Georgia. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the First Baptist Church of Callahan Missionary Fund.

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

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

### SHARON CONNER TISON



Sharon Conner Tison, 72, went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, August 13, 2020 after a 12 month struggle with cancer. She was born on

March 17, 1948 in Folkston, Georgia and daughter of the late Carlile L. Conner, Sr. and Dorothy Hassel Conner. Sharon was a

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# **OBITUARIES**

retired employee with the Nassau County School System serving for 28.5 years. She was an active member at First Baptist Church Jacksonville and was a member of the Gideons Ladies Auxiliary - Northwest Jacksonville Camp. Sharon was a great Christian witness to her many friends and relatives.

Surviving family include her husband of 22 years, Robert Tison; two children Michele (David) Spencer and John (Aimee) Higginbotham; two step-daughters Pauline Rozier and Paulette (Rey) Gutierrez; 10 grandchildren William, Grayson, Adyson, Genevieve, Wayne, Bradley, Jacob (fiancé Summer), Sabrina, Keanna (fiancé Chris) and Rey; four great-grandchildren Caylin, Danielle, Mary and C.J.; one brother Carlile L. (Fay) Conner, Jr.; and many nieces, nephews and host of friends.

Graveside funeral services were held Wednesday, August 19 in Tison Cemetery on Dunns Creek Road with Mr. Terry Davidson officiating. A celebration of Sharon's life will be held Friday, August 21 at 11 a.m. at Peeples Family Funeral Home, 14165 N. Main Street, with Dr. Heath Lambert officiating.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Sharon's memory to Community Hospice website: https://www. communityhospice.com/give/ or to Johnson University Florida, Robert & Sharon Tison, 1011 Bill Beck Blvd., Kissimmee, FL 34744 https://johnsonu.edu/donate/florida/.

Peeples Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

ESTHER LEE TYLER

Esther Lee Tyler, 81, was

born on February 16, 1939

in the community of Kings

Ferry, Florida to Mrs. Cora Lee

Timmons and the late George

In her early years she was a member of

Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Kings Ferry,

under the leadership of Rev. J. L. Hall where

she served on the Deaconess Board and the

Usher Board. In later years she served as

Callahan

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Esther received her education in the Nassau County School System where she attended Pine Forest Community School and graduated in the class of 1957. She

she was Usher Board #2 President. In 1986,

God did something special for her one night

in a tent revival led under Bishop Tomlin

at the home of Rev. Jerald J. Thomas. She

received Salvation and fire for doing the

will of the Lord.

was employed through the state of Florida working for Welcome to Florida Center in Yulee for 22 years. She also worked in her spare time as a housekeeper for many families in the Hilliard Community and First Baptist Church of Hilliard. Esther was well known for being a hardworking woman, a phenomenal gardener who loved flowers, and testifying about the saving power of Jesus Christ. She was loved by everyone in the community.

Esther was preceded in death by her father the late George Timmons, Sr.; and brother John Lewis Timmons.

She leaves to cherish in memory her children Kenneth Tyler, Sharon Tyler-Mitchell, Charlene Mainor and Josetta (Robert Sr.) Lawson; stepson Lewis Tyler; grandchildren Tieish Mitchell, Michael Taylor, Jr., Robert Lawson, Jr.; one greatgrandson Knox Lee Rea; mother Cora Lee Timmons; two brothers George (Mercedes) Timmons, Jr. and Jerry (Anita) Timmons, Sr.; sister-in-law Anna Timmons; her friends who were like sisters Agnes Scipio, Dorothy Richo, Altamease Thompson, Thelma Albertie, Gwen Wright, Gracie White, Edna Brown and Fran Guill; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, coworkers and many sorrowful friends.

Her homegoing service was held Saturday, August 15 at Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Hilliard, Rev. Lorenzo Watson, Pastor. Interment followed at Mt. Olive Church Cemetery.

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

#CAC057369

### HOWARD WADE WYATT, JR.

Howard Wade Wyatt, Jr., 68, of Jacksonville, passed away on August 5, 2020. He was born on December 22, 1951 in Jacksonville, to Howard Wade Wyatt, Sr. and Carra Frances Croft. Howard moved to Gainesville in 2010 from Pavo, Georgia. Howard worked for the City of Jacksonville, City of Beaumont, Texas and was an Intel Specialist for the United States Army. While serving in the Army, Howard received an Expert M-14 medal, National Defense Service medal, Marksman M-16 medal and an Armed Forces Expeditionary medal. In his spare time, Howard enjoyed reading, fishing, catching up on the news, visiting with friends, tinkering with electronics, watching western movies, Jacksonville Jaguar football and NASCAR. Howard also enjoyed volunteering as a cook server and mentor at many Missions across the southern states. Howard donated his holidays to serving food to many people. Howard was a great son, brother, nephew and friend that will be missed dearly. He is preceded in death by his parents; and stepfather Marlie Tillman.

Howard is survived by his daughter Susan (James) Culpepper of Braselton, GA; brothers Joseph (Jeane) Wyatt of Fernandina Beach, Daniel (Peggy) Wyatt of Orange, TX and David Wyatt of Orange, TX; sister Jean (Ronnie) Hodges of Hilliard; grandchildren Abby Cates, Katy Culpepper, Emma Culpepper and Luke Culpepper.

A Celebration of Howard's life will be held at a later date. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Wounded Warrior Project.

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

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

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# WN Building Dedicated in Carrie Higginbotham's Memory

Destiny Armstrong

Last Friday, August 14, numerous faculty, friends and family gathered at West Nassau High School for a dedication ceremony in memory of Ms. Carrie Higginbotham. Principal Dan Snyder dedicated building 13 as Higginbotham Hall. "Carrie was a West Nassau graduate, band member and a teacher. She has touched so

many lives throughout her life," said Snyder. "She was not only a teacher to her students but mentored so many teachers."

In addition, Principal Snyder announced a new scholarship in honor of Carrie Higginbotham for deserving students going into the STEM field. WNHS is excepting donations at this time for anyone interested in supporting this scholarship.

Brother Todd Carr, of the Exchange

Church, and Carrie's pastor, said a few words at the ceremony. "Carrie built so much character into her students. She had an A.I.M. program," said Bro. Todd. "A-She Affirmed every student in God's hands; I-She Invested in these students; and M-She Maintained a calm confidence as teacher and person."

Ms. Higginbotham was a



well-loved teacher graduate WNHS. Throughout her years as a teacher WNHS Ms. Higginbotham started a long held tradition celebrating day with each of her mathematics classes. She invited students to add beads to a preexisting strand to commemorate each digit of the number Pi. These strings, with

dates of the years, have been hung along the halls of Higginbotham Hall and will be continued on in her memory.







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- Gabryelle T.

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