

Remembering History...One of Callahan's Black Schools

Dawn S. West

Our county has so much rich history and it's interesting to explore. As Nassau County students returned to school this week I felt like there was no better time to share and discuss one of the school's history in Callahan. My dear friend Earnestine Taylor dropped by the office last week all excited. Ms. Earnestine has history with the school system herself, retiring from the Nassau County School District. She wanted to let me know that the old 'colored' school building was currently being torn down and we needed a picture. Quickly, she and I went over to the school on Historical Lane, right beside Greater Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church. When we got there half of the wood framed building was already gone. She was determined to get one of her classmates for a picture in front of the building. Ms. Earnestine and her sweet friend, Doris Walker, started school in that building and went there until around 7th grade. In 1953, Pine Forest School (now Callahan Middle School) was built by the county for the black students from Callahan and Hilliard.

I went back to the office and looked for my copy of *Yesterday's Reflections II Nassau County, Florida* and started searching for the school. Much to my delight, I found it. What a wonderful book! It is full of the rich history in Nassau County. Following is just a portion of the story about the school from the book:

A schoolhouse for black children is believed to have existed here years before the Civil War. Retired black educator Doyle Arline, himself a student of local black history, purchased the property and lived there. The old school house, known as Callahan's black elementary and junior



high school, was built way before the turn into the 20th century. This was his way of helping to preserve the community's black history. There were two buildings that were once connected by a common gable roof and walkway. One side was Helen Carter's room, believed to have taught third and fourth grade. On the other side of the building was first and second grade. Grades five through nine were in the adjoining building. At the front of the upper-grades building was a concrete slab that was at one time the school cafeteria. Water was available by carrying buckets from a well on the back side of the buildings. There were about four teachers and more than one hundred students.

In a field in the rear, was where the boys played baseball. Each school day started with the different grades lining up at the flag pole near the main double doors, where they recited the Pledge to the Flag before marching to their classes. In 1953, the old school doors were closed forever as

the Pine Forest School was completed.

On Monday, I met Ms. Earnestine and Ms. Doris over by the old school. How precious it was to see those ladies so proud of the memories they shared in that school and through the years. "The school only went through the ninth grade," said Ms. Earnestine. "After that, students had to go to Jacksonville to finish high

school and graduate. When Doyle bought the property, he completely renovated the old school and always had the property looking so nice."

As young teenagers, the ladies graduated from Pine Forest School in 1956. Just last year, a historical marker was placed at Callahan Middle School to honor Pine Forest School. And just guess who the first ladies were to take the cover off of the special marker...Ms. Earnestine and Ms. Doris! They still remain close friends today and are still enjoying their lives in Callahan!

Thank you for sharing your special memories and reminding us of the rich history right here in Callahan!



Watch for School Zones!

Students in Nassau County returned to school Monday! Here are some important reminders for everyone! Plan to experience an increase in vehicles on the roads with school buses beginning their routes as early as 6 a.m. until 9 a.m.; and again in the afternoon from 1:30 p.m. until 5 p.m.

Please watch for children waiting at bus stops in the morning or walking home after school in the afternoon. Watch for buses signaling that they are preparing to stop (yellow flashing lights), or are stopped (red flashing lights) to load and unload students. Passing a stopped school bus can cost you \$271 or a visit to the judge!

Parents dropping off and picking

up students will also add to the amount of traffic on the roads so please plan ahead to allow for ample time to get to your destination safely. Be aware of active school zone times and look for those flashing school zone lights.

Speeding in a school zone can cost you anywhere from \$156 up to \$456 or a visit to see the judge!

Also, remember that all school zones are considered hands free for mobile devices. Using a wireless communication device in a school zone, school crossing or a work zone will cost you \$166. Please put your phone down.

If you need more information please visit the Nassau County School District website, www.nassau.k12.fl.us/Page/1.



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A Word

From the Publisher

I am so excited and thankful to see our students returning to school. These children long to be with other children. That's what children are supposed to do. I am frustrated about the fact that they (and the teachers) are required to keep a mask on ALL DAY long. I have no problem with people that feel like they need to wear them or parents that want their children to wear them and the same goes with students in school. However, I don't feel comfortable with them wearing them all day. I feel like when the students are in class, they are sitting in their desk and not going anywhere. I'm concerned about the danger of sickness from wearing them all day. I honestly hope that all of the ones making these decisions are also wearing a mask all day just like our students. To me, fair is fair. I can only pray, as the weeks go on these restrictions will be lessened.

This all goes back to what a horrible mess our country is in. You really don't know who or what to believe anymore. I know the virus is real and I know many people have been sick and many have passed away. I also know that we, the American people, used to have common sense. The media and others are trying so hard to scare us all to death that we don't remember that we have common sense. I'm pretty sure one of the first things my mother taught me was to wash my hands. And I still do. If I can't wash them, I have hand sanitizer. Distance...huh? I'm pretty sure most of us try to do that anyway. I'm definitely not one of those who enjoy what I call the 'Disney' lines. That's where people are so close to you in line because they're afraid you're not moving fast enough even when the line is not moving. Makes me crazy. I have never been one to

get all up on people in a line anywhere (oh yeah...I might have common sense).

The Great Physician, the Alpha and Omega, our Heavenly Father is the one who made us as unique people. There is no one else just like us. In all the people in the world, there is only one me. What a miracle and a blessing all in one! You may think you're just like someone but you're not. God made us as individuals to breathe and think on our own. I'm ashamed to say that I think many of us have forgotten that we do know how to think. We've watched and listened to so much garbage our minds have been overloaded. Take a walk down memory lane when you were a young child going to school. Did you remember seeing your friends the first day? Did anyone have a mask on? No, not unless they were sick and then they weren't at school... hmmm! I'm not trying to cause problems, just get back to normal. A better normal when we're smarter and thinking again for ourselves. Just as returning to school, I feel the same about sports. If you want to go, go. If you don't feel safe, stay home. No worries, you're decision.

I continue to pray for our teachers, faculty, administrators and our precious students. May God place His loving arms around our schools and protect and guide them through this school year. May God also give us strong smart leaders that encourage and love our children. Thank you Jesus for your guidance, protection and most of all for your love!

Have a blessed week!

Dawn S. West

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

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

When do Newly Elected Officials Take Office?

All the ballots were cast last Tuesday and the official results were posted. So, now comes the question, when do the newly elected officials take office? With a lot of help from our Nassau County Supervisor of Elections Vicki Cannon, I have the answer! Unfortunately, Mrs. Cannon is resigning this year. She has always been extremely helpful anytime I've had to call on her! She will be missed!

This year, three (3) new County Commissioners were elected: John Martin, District 1; Jeff Gray, District 3; and Klynt Farmer, District 5. These

three gentlemen will officially take their new seats on Tuesday, November 17, 2020. One new Ocean Highway & Port Authority commissioner was elected: Miriam Rose Hill, District 1, who will also take her new seat on Tuesday, November 17, 2020. One new School Board Member was elected: Cynthia Grooms, District 4, will also be sworn in Tuesday, November 17, 2020. The new Supervisor of Elections, Janet Adkins, will take her new position on Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

Each of these seats are for a four year term.

Community Dinner Needs Sponsors

Most every Wednesday (except some holidays), Gordon and Becky Gresch, organizers of the Community Dinner head to Callahan to prepare for the dinner in Callahan. The Gresches started the dinner some eight years ago at the multi-purpose building at the fairgrounds. They worked with the county to have the dinners at the building at no cost. Obviously, since the virus, all county buildings have been closed to the public. The Gresches, thinking of the families they serve, searched for a new location.

Thankfully, the First United Methodist Church in Callahan and Pastor Dan Search, opened their doors for the dinner. Now the dinner is served

walk-up and to go style. Residents and families are so thankful to have this special hot meal. Dinners are served beginning at 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

Sponsors are needed to help fund these dinners. You can sponsor 1 time; 1 time each month; every other month; once a quarter. There are many options for anyone to choose. It can be a family sponsor; business (like us); friends; a Sunday school class, etc. To sponsor the cost is \$125 to Callahan Barbecue for the meal. You may also choose to help serve during your sponsoring day, which is welcomed. To sign up and find out more about sponsoring the event email Becky at: jaxgresch@gmail.com.

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JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

I have attempted to make a list of the pros and cons of a Biden-Harris presidency (or should I say a Harris-Pelosi presidency) and as of yet I cannot come up with one single pro. However the list of cons seems to grow daily. There is a very slim chance that Biden could serve out a four year term as president, which means Harris would be the president with Nancy Pelosi serving as vice-president. If that reason alone doesn't scare the wits out of you then nothing will.

A Biden win would place America on the most socialist tract ever imagined. The first right they will go after is the Second Amendment. During Harris's short lived presidential run she openly discussed her plans on gun control. She demonstrated her plans to ban so-called assault rifles and high-capacity magazines. Harris supports gun confiscation by way of "mandatory buybacks," a distinction without a difference. She proudly proclaimed, "We're going to have to have smart public policy that's about taking those off the streets." Also during her campaign, she said she would demand gun-control legislation within 100 days and threatened executive action if Congress didn't deliver. According to Mark Oliva of the National Shooting Sports Foundation; Harris was clear when she said gun control would be an administration priority. Her platform included entertaining forced confiscation of lawfully owner semiautomatic rifles, redefining 'sporting purpose' for lawful

firearm possession, criminalizing private firearm transfers and repealing the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act. This would lead to frivolous lawsuits against gun manufacturers, ammunition manufacturers and gun shops. The goal of such a plan is to bankrupt the entire gun industry.

According to Mark Alexander of the Patriots Post, the 2020 Democratic Party Platform declares total war on Second Amendment rights, the likes of which have never before found their way into the party's policy platform. It notes: "Democrats will ban the manufacture and sale of assault weapons and high capacity magazines. We will incentivize states to enact licensing requirements for owning firearms and 'red flag' laws that allow courts to temporarily remove guns from the possession of those who are a danger to themselves or others. We will pass legislation requiring that guns be safely stored in homes. And Democrats believe that gun companies should be held responsible for their products, just like any other business, and will prioritize repealing the law that shields gun manufacturers from civil liability."

Can you say tyranny? The definition totally describes the Democratic Party. Investigate and research their platform, this is not the Democratic Party of John F. Kennedy!

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

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How Does God Keep Us on Track?

Pastor Benjie Loyd, River Road Baptist Church, Hilliard



Chaos is a word that is used all of the time. Sometimes it is overused and spoken of in a dramatic way. These are not those times. Chaos is the order of the day. Everywhere we look, there is chaos. Every time we turn on the news, there is chaos. I have never seen anything like this before. What in the world is going on and why is there so much chaos in the world? The Bible answers this question in Romans 1:18-32. I will not quote this passage in this article, but Romans 1:18-32 reveals to us what God’s judgment looks like in the present. It is interesting that Paul never speaks of meteors or hailstorms; he speaks of God handing people over to warped thinking. The result of people being handed over to warped thinking is chaos. So what I am about to say will not be popular at all, but the reason that we see so much chaos is because of God’s judgment on people. These are not words that I use lightly, but I do believe that these words reflect the truth of the Scripture.

As you survey the Scriptures, there are four primary ways that God uses to keep people from living in chaos. This idea is not original to me, John MacArthur has spoken on this issue and Biblical theologians have written on this for years. So let’s consider each of the four safeguards that God has built into our world to restrain evil and to promote the well-being of humanity and ultimately the Gospel. For the sake of this article, I have condensed this to bullet points, but each one of these safeguards demands our attention and careful reflection.

Safeguard #1: The human conscience. Paul speaks of the conscience in Romans 2:14-15 as God’s laws written on our hearts. God has made sure that each person made in his image knows instinctively how to behave. When the conscience is suppressed or rewired in an individual’s life and this is followed up on a societal level, the result will be chaos. Almost everything in our culture is assaulting the conscience and trying to convince us that wrong is right and right is wrong. This is chaos.

Safeguard #2: Marriage and the family. Humans and society cannot flourish apart from the stabilizing force of the family. The family is designed to be the primary place of religious instruction and stability in our world. When the stabilizing factor of the family is removed, chaos will ensue. When you consider the movements that are taking place all across our country, it is safe to say that this would not exist if there were stable families.

Safeguard #3: The government. Paul says that in Romans 13 that government is ordained by God to promote good and to punish evil. This is part of God’s good design for human flourishing. Anarchy and the neutering of the government’s ability to punish those that commit evil result in chaos.

Safeguard #4: The church. The church is the most important of all of the institutions because only the church deals with eternal realities of heaven and hell. When the church is ignored, society cannot flourish. The conscience and the government may make us moral, but only the Gospel can make us new creations and give us the forgiveness of sins.

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Visit the library website at www.nassaureads.com and select the box labelled Learning Express. You will be asked to enter your Nassau County Public Library card. Once in Learning Express, all 8 Learning Centers are available for free. Need a free library card? Simple. Just apply online. Need assistance? Call your local library branch, 904-530-6500 and select the extension. Learning Express is sponsored by the Fernandina Beach Friends of the Library and is available to all Nassau County residents.

Join the Reading Challenge

Keep Nassau Beautiful and the Nassau County Library invite Nassau County students entering Grades Kindergarten through 6th to participate in a Reading Challenge. Students registered in the Challenge will read books that enhance their understanding of the importance of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle in their daily lives. The program runs August 15 through September 15. Youth are challenged to read 2 to 3 books during the four-week program or watch videos from the Library’s Storytime with Mel program. All Nassau County participants will receive a certificate and prize for completing the Reading Challenge. For Rules and Registration, https://keepnassaubeautiful.org/Programs:READING_CHALLENGE. For questions, contact knb@keepnassaubeautiful.org or 261-0165.



CHURCH NEWS

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.

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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.

Special Lady!

Dear Editor,

Thursday, August 20th I came home and listened to a message on my answering machine. It was the sweet voice of a lady I had not seen in several months. I remember her and her husband Mr. Ronnie, as I called him, from Callahan First Baptist Church.

Two people who would brighten up any dark room. Mr. Ronnie has been gone home to be with Jesus for many years now. But his wife has never let her light grow dim or go out. Her eyes have grown dim and her hearing has faded now. But any time she saw me she would squint her eyes and look at me for a

few seconds and say, "Hank, is that you?" The voice of an angel.

I just want to thank her for her words in that message. They really brightened my day and encouraged me to go on. I hope to see her on this earth again but if not, I am sure she and Mr. Ronnie will be some of the first that I will see on that day when we are all reunited in Heaven at the feet of Jesus.

Ms. Rosalie West, Thanks again and know that I love you.

BTW, Ms. Rosalie and Mr. Ronnie are the parents of Roger West (Just My Opinion).

Hank Martinez, Sr.

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Liz

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<p>WHOLE T-BONES Sliced the way you love!</p> <p>\$4⁹⁹ lb.</p> <p>Bundle wrapped only at this price.</p> <p>Expires 9-1-20 WJ</p>	<p>1 lb. Can CLAW CRAB MEAT</p> <p>\$7⁹⁵</p> <p>Expires 9-1-20 WJ</p> <p>1 lb. Can LUMP CRAB MEAT</p> <p>\$12⁰⁰</p> <p>With this Coupon</p>

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2020 FOOTBALL SCHEDULES



WEST NASSAU VARSITY WARRIORS

August 29	Red/Gold Game	7:00 p.m.
September 4	@ Palatka	7:00 p.m.
September 11	Yulee (Sr. Night)	7:00 p.m.
September 18	Baldwin	7:00 p.m.
September 25	@ Bishop Kenny	7:00 p.m.
October 2	First Coast	7:00 p.m.
October 9	@ Clay	7:00 p.m.
October 16	@ Fernandina Bch	7:00 p.m.
October 23	Baker County (Homecoming)	7:00 p.m.
October 30	@ Jackson	6:00 p.m.
November 6	Ridgeview	7:00 p.m.



HILLIARD VARSITY FLASHES

September 4	Bishop Snyder	7:00 p.m.
September 11	@ Paxon	7:00 p.m.
September 18	Stanton	7:00 p.m.
September 25	@ St. Joe	7:00 p.m.
October 2	@ Wolfson	TBA
October 9	@ Branford	TBA
October 16	BYE	
October 23	Fernandina Bch (Sr. Night)	7:00 p.m.
October 30	@ Halifax Academy	7:00 p.m.
November 6	Freeport High (Homecoming)	7:00 p.m.

DOING FOOTBALL DIFFERENTLY

- KEEP IN MIND:
- Schedules could change at any point.
 - Schools will be dealing with limited capacity rules - parents/guardians of football players, cheerleaders and band members will have first option of tickets. See school for details.
 - Social distancing rules will apply along with all guidelines currently under effect in Nassau County.
 - All rules and details will vary by week depending on conditions and the stadium we are traveling to.
 - Most importantly...these athletes are getting the opportunity to play. Follow the rules/suggestions and let's keep it that way!

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2020 FOOTBALL SCHEDULES



WEST NASSAU JV WARRIORS

September 10	@ Yulee	6:00 p.m.
September 17	@ Westside	6:00 p.m.
September 24	Middleburg	6:00 p.m.
October 1	@ Charlton	6:00 p.m.
October 8	Palatka	6:00 p.m.
October 15	Paxon	6:00 p.m.



CALLAHAN MIDDLE RAMBLERS

September 15	@ Yulee	6:00 p.m.
September 22	Fernandina Bch	6:00 p.m.
September 29	@ Hilliard	6:00 p.m.
October 6	Yulee	6:00 p.m.
October 13	@ Fernandina Bch	6:00 p.m.
October 20	Hilliard	6:00 p.m.



HILLIARD JV FLASHES

September 10	@ Bishop Kenny	6:00 p.m.
September 17	Episcopal (8 & 9 Grades)	6:00 p.m.
October 1	Providence	6:00 p.m.
October 8	@ Stanton	6:00 p.m.
October 22	@ Episcopal (8 & 9 Grades)	TBA
October 29	Lanier County (8 & 9 Grades)	6:00 p.m.



HILLIARD MIDDLE FLASHES

September 15	Fernandina Bch	6:00 p.m.
September 22	@ Yulee	6:00 p.m.
September 29	Callahan	6:00 p.m.
October 6	@ Fernandina Bch	6:00 p.m.
October 13	Yulee	6:00 p.m.
October 20	@ Callahan	6:00 p.m.

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Juvenile Arrested for Aggravated Assault

A video of an assault between two juveniles at Ewing Park in Callahan was posted Monday to a Facebook site. According to Nassau County Sheriff's Office reports, a 16-year-old female, juvenile was arrested Tuesday, August 25 at 10:27 a.m. at her home in Callahan for Battery.

The incident happened Monday, August 24 at 45157 Ewing Park Rd in Callahan between 5-5:20 p.m. The juvenile female victim was sitting

on a concrete block at the basketball court with her back to the suspect. The suspect walked up behind the victim and shoved her in the back and then shoved her on the ground. Once on the ground the suspect slapped the victim in the face and head area several times. She also kicked her between the legs and the rib area. The suspect said she was just having a bad day. The suspect was later released to her parents.



Baby Donations needed!

The Nest, A Women's Center is in dire need of baby items. The Nest Women's Center is a place where women can go and receive Pregnancy Testing, Ultrasound, Counseling and join a Parent Education Program (PEP) along with many other services. They also provide counseling for young mothers and provide some baby items.

The Nest has two locations, Jacksonville and in Yulee. Appointments can be made by calling 904-619-4914. The items currently needed are listed below. If you can donate any of the items from the list you may bring the items to the Westside Journal office, 450034 SR 200, Callahan. Items needed are: Diapers size 3 and 4; Pacifiers; Bottles; and any kind of Baby Formula.

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MAXINE LLOYD BROCK



Maxine Lloyd Brock, 84, passed away Friday, August 21, 2020 in Kissimmee, Florida following a lengthy illness. She was born May 25, 1936 in Hilliard, to the late Thomas Drew Lloyd, Sr. and Gertrude Haddock Klinkenberg. She was a member of Prospect Methodist Church.

In addition to her parents; she was preceded in death by her husband James Marion ‘J.M.’ Brock; and two brothers Ferrell Lloyd and James Lloyd.

She is survived by her daughters Lottie (Kevin) Powers and Jo Ann (Joe) Hinkle; step-children Nancy (Kelly) Brooks and Jimmy Brock; brothers Winston Lloyd and T.D. Lloyd; six grandchildren Christy, Sheila, Deana, Scott, Alma Diane and Kevin, Jr.; and 11 great-grandchildren.

A graveside funeral service was held Wednesday, August 26 at Traders Hill Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

JACK LELAND CARTER



Jack Leland Carter, 89, went home to be with the Lord August 21, 2020. Jack was born in Jacksonville, on September 4, 1930. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and was retired from Crowley Maritime. He was a faithful member of Gardenview Baptist Church. Jack is preceded in death by his parents John and Jenny Carter; five siblings, Ted, Alvin, Mary, Virginia and Alma; his daughter Lori (Jeff) Thomas; and grandson Harold O'steen.

He is survived by his loving wife of 43 years, Flora (Davis) Carter; children Sandy (Ronnie) Eason, Rose Jones, Julie (Tom) Apromollo and Jackie Carter;

OBITUARIES

two stepchildren Alan (Joie) James and Linda (Billy) Boone; 16 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life was held Tuesday, August 25 at Gardenview Baptist Church, 3139 Armsdale Road, Jacksonville. The family received friends prior to the service. A reception followed at the church.

Please leave words of comfort at www.hgriversidefuneralhome.com.

JAMES CURTIS CASE, JR.



James Curtis Case, Jr., 63, known to family and friends as ‘Curt,’ passed away July 6, 2020 at home. Curt was born and raised in Jacksonville. He is preceded in death by his parents J.C. Case and Carolyn Case.

Shortly after finishing high school he enlisted in the United States Navy and served his country for 20 years. He continued to serve his country and support Veterans through his membership in VEMA (Veterans Enforcers Motorcycle Association). He was also a member of American Legion, Post 9. Curt’s biggest joys in life were spending time with his family, traveling around the country and riding his Harley Davidson. He was a devoted grandfather.

Curt is survived by his wife of 32 years, Marietta Case; son Michael Minter (Sayward); granddaughter Megan of St. Johns; step-son Steven (Shellie) Boswell; two grandsons Austin and Ryan; his brother Roy (Cari) Case; two nephews Ryan and Doug Case; his sister Tanita Tuttle; and niece Paula Pagonis.

He will be laid to rest at the Jacksonville National Cemetery on September 4. Arrangements by Arlington Park

Funeral Home, Jacksonville, 904-724-6384. Condolences may be expressed at www.arlingtonparkfuneralhome.com.

JOSEPH L. HENDERSON, JR.



Mr. Joseph ‘J.L.’ Lafayette Henderson, Jr., 85, of Middleburg, passed away on August 21, 2020. He was born May 14, 1935 in South Bay, Florida, to Joseph L. Henderson, Sr. and Anna Elizabeth ‘Betty’ Paff Henderson. He grew up in Jacksonville, and graduated from Lee High School in 1953 and was on the track team and cross country. He met and married Shirley Ann Sweat in 1954. They were married for 48 years before her passing away in 2003.

He was an avid fisherman and outdoorsman. He loved reading and studying military history. Upon graduation from high school he joined the US Marine Corp Reserve in 1953 where he attained the rank of Sergeant and worked with aircraft hydraulics and heavy machinery. He was honorably discharged in 1961. He was very proud of his service to his country as a United States Marine.

He joined the Operating Engineer’s Union #673 and worked mostly with the Auchter Company. He was involved in the construction of many buildings in the Jacksonville area such as the Times Union, Independent Life (now Wells Fargo), Southern Bell (now TIAA), St. Vincent’s Hospital, The Great Cross in St. Augustine, The Apollo Space Program launch pads, digging canals for Cape Canaveral and a large hotel project in Nassau, Bahamas, just to name a few. He was a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Freemason. He was raised to a Master Mason in 1968 and received his 50 year pin in 2018.

Mr. Henderson joins other family members in heaven his wife, Shirley Henderson; his parents; his sister Caroline Best; son-in-law Bobby Hicks; and grandson Austin Henderson.

He is survived by his current wife, Brenda Ann Hickox-Henderson; daughters Deborah Hicks and Jennifer (Gene) Champion; sons Joe Henderson, John (Theresa) Henderson and Raphard Noah (Joann) Hickox-Moody; siblings Bobby (Bettie) Henderson, Richard Henderson and Marie Jarrell; grandchildren Amanda Hicks, Bobby Joe Hicks, Jessica Hicks, Brad (Aysha) Champion, Dillon Henderson, Brittanie Henderson, Aaron Henderson, Sean Henderson, Nathan Henderson, Kaitlin Henderson, Collin Henderson, Savannah Disharoon, Dakota Henderson and Risa Henderson; and great-grandchildren Lexie, Kody, Paige, Harper, Rosie, Lila and John, III; father-in-law, Raphard Ellis Hickox; plus many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Graveside funeral services were held Wednesday, August 26 at Long Branch Cemetery, Maxville, with Brother Ben Harrell officiating. The family received friends Tuesday, August 25 in the chapel at Warren Funeral Services of Baldwin.

Please leave condolences online at www.warrenfuneralservices.com.

Warren Funeral Services of Baldwin served the family.

RAYMOND ‘EARL’ LEWIS



Lifelong Kings Ferry resident, Raymond ‘Earl’ Lewis, 78, passed away Monday, August 17, 2020 at UF Health North Hospital. Earl was born in the family farmhouse in Kings Ferry on January 26, 1942 to Mildred Crawford and Benjamin C. Lewis. One of three boys, his mother nicknamed him ‘Farmer.’ Except for a period of time away at the University of Florida as a declared Chemistry major, he really never left the farm.

Earl graduated as the Valedictorian of his class at Hilliard High School in 1960. In his working life, he started in banking in downtown Jacksonville and launched into many successful years in business from there. He spent most years as the owner of a pulp wooding outfit, R.E. Lewis Timber. In times when the timber industry was down, he drove a truck, worked as a welder, got on at a local mill or did whatever was necessary until he could get back to his love of working in the woods amongst the pine trees.

Later, he took a great interest in real estate, keeping his broker’s license active throughout many years. He really enjoyed that industry and acquired many properties, but his heart and soul remained on that same farmland where he was born. No longer planting crops as he once did very actively, he managed the family land as a tree farm and tended devotedly to his cows. Over the years, Earl was very involved at his local church, Ephesus Baptist Church. Being a man of many talents, he intermittently helped out with music by singing in or leading the choir. Earl also played the piano. He loved the old gospels of his Baptist faith.

Earl lived in houses that he built himself, owned rental properties that he mostly repaired himself, and did much of his own work on his vehicles and equipment. He was a rare person who could really do just about anything. At 78, he was still incredibly active. Earl knew no strangers. He enjoyed his life filled with days of going to town in Hilliard to hang out with buddies or take care of business, and then getting back to the farm to meet up with neighbors, stop by to visit family and feed his cows.

Earl is preceded in death by his parents; as well as his brother Benjamin ‘Bigon’ Lewis; and his grandson Casey Earl Lewis.

He is survived by his brother Jack (Barbara) Lewis; his children Kimberly (John) Clemons, Eric Lewis and Cynthia

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OBITUARIES

Hicks; six grandchildren; a growing number (literally) of great-grandchildren; and many others including nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

A celebration of Earl's life was held outside on the grounds of Ephesus Baptist Church Tuesday, August 25 with Bro. Marvin Lee officiating. Earl was laid to rest in the Kings Ferry Cemetery. The family received friends Monday, August 24 at Nassau Funeral Home.

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

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

BRENDA JEAN PATRICK



Brenda Jean Patrick, 67, of St. George, Georgia, passed away at her residence on August 19, 2020. Brenda was born in Callahan, on July 11, 1953 to the late C. E. "Red" Womac and Jessie May Womac. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She will be dearly missed. She is preceded in death by her parents.

Brenda is survived by her loving husband, Adrian Lee Patrick, Jr.; her son Adrian (Heather) Patrick, III; her sister Sissy Womac; her brother Warren Womac; her seven grandchildren; and her great-grandchild.

Brenda will be interred at St. George Community Cemetery in St. George.

Condolences may be expressed at www.nassaufh.com.

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

EDDIE ARNOLD RAY



Eddie Arnold Ray, 70, of Hilliard, passed away Tuesday, August 18 in Jacksonville. He was born March 10, 1950 in Adel, Georgia, to the late Arlie 'Bige' and Essie Mae Rogers Ray. He retired from the Nassau County Road Department. He was of the Primitive Baptist Faith.

In addition to his parents; he was preceded in death by his brothers Jimmy, Virgil, William and Clayton; and a sister Virginia Dales.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Liz Ray; children Doug (Judy) Ray, Cindy (Jimmy) White and Kevin (April) Ray; sister Betty Jean Summerlin; grandchildren Jason (Lydia) Ray, Travis (Kali) Ray, Hunter (Brianna) Ray, Brad White, Chad White, Anniegail Ray, Blake Ray, Ethan White, Devin Ray, Julie Ray and Guner Ray; and a great-grandson Dawson Ray.

The family received friends Friday, August 21 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston. A graveside funeral service was held Saturday, August 22 at Pigeon Creek Cemetery with Lester Nelson officiating.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

ANN MARIE WILLIS



Ann Marie Willis, 58, of Jacksonville, passed away peacefully Monday, August 17, 2020. She was born to the late AFCM (NAC) Leo Robert Beliveau USN Retired and Sylvia Beliveau on July 27, 1962. Ann graduated from Edward H. White High School in 1980 with honors. Ann passionately worked for the City of Jacksonville as a Property and Casualty Compliance Administrator for 7

years. She loved work and always gave her all in what she did. Ann was a loving wife, mother and grandmother. Ann battled and fought the good fight to cancer. She was a selfless woman and will be greatly missed!

Ann is survived by her husband of 34 years, AO2 Danny Willis; three children Jessica Leeann Bowers, Ashley Marie Bean and Hunter Lee Willis; six grandchildren Hannah Gail Bean, Nevaeh Maryann Bowers, Hailey Marie Bean, Michael Howard Bowers, Luke Isaac Bean and Adalynn Grace Bowers; brother AOC (NAC/AW) William Joseph Beliveau USN Retired.

The family received friends prior to the funeral service held Friday, August 21 at Garden City Church of God, 10765 Lem Turner Road, Jacksonville, with Pastor Jerry Daniel officiating. Interment followed at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

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

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

FAITH ELAINE ZOLLER



Faith Elaine Bittner Zoller, 86, passed away peacefully at her home on August 17, 2020 and is now with our Lord and Savior. It's no coincidence that her name was FAITH, as she certainly lived up to her name as a wonderful, godly woman and was a great role model for all of us who knew her. She taught us the real meaning of family and the importance of keeping God and family first in everything we do.

She touched so many lives especially at Victory Christian Academy where she worked for several decades as the Registrar and at Victory Baptist Church where she faithfully attended and worshipped God for over 50 years. There's no doubt that she was a woman of God and there's no doubt that she's singing and dancing in heaven with Jesus and the loved ones who have gone before her. While we are heartbroken to lose our beloved mom, we are steadfast in our faith (Forsaken All I Trust Him) that we will see her again.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Herman and Helga Bittner; and her two sisters Hope Agostini (Bittner) and Charity Bittner.

She is survived by her loving and devoted husband of 69 years, Arnold Zoller; and her six children, Bruce (Jan) Zoller of

Phoenix, Arizona, Judy (Tom) Morris of Jacksonville, Eric Zoller of Jacksonville, Tom (April) Zoller of Bethlehem, Georgia, Philip (Christina) Zoller and Daryl (Sharon) Zoller, all of Jacksonville; 20 grandchildren, Brandi, Brandon, Ashley, Emily, Kaila, Dylan, Logan, Heather, Jordan, Holly, Noah, Kristen, Chelsea, Kaitlyn, Hannah, Caleb, Preston, Alexis, Amber and Ashlyn; and 14 great-grandchildren, Jade, Camden, Gracie, Brayden, Brantley, Andrew, Samuel, Ruth Anne, Daniel, Jax, Thora, Sommer, Dawsyn and Drake; three nieces, Vicki Reinhardt, Sandi Marek and Kristi Krampe.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Corey Kerlin with a private graveside service for family members. Her final resting place will be the Jacksonville National Cemetery.

A celebration of life service will be scheduled and communicated to family and friends in the coming weeks, when it's safe to do so.

In lieu of visiting the family during this time, please feel free to send condolences and sympathy cards to: Zoller Family, 45121 Stratton Rd, Callahan, FL 32011.

Rest in peace, mom, we will always love you!

MIRANDA 'MANDY' ZORTEA



Miranda 'Mandy' Grace Zortea, 32, of Jacksonville, passed away unexpectedly on August 16, 2020. She was born in Jacksonville, to Huey Griner and Ethel Anderson. Mandy was an inspiration to many. She had a troubled past, but it gave her the strength and wisdom to help others change their lives for the better. Her kindness will be remembered by all who knew her. Mandy is preceded in death by her late husband Robert Dwight Zortea.

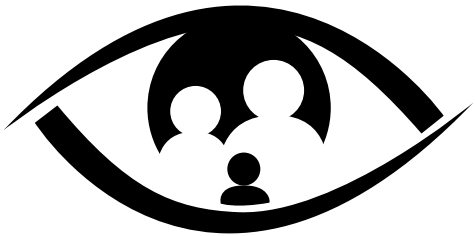
Mandy is survived by her parents; her son Jaidyn Zortea; her sister Terri (Kevin) Duett; her grandmother Louise Rogers; her aunt Evelyn Jacobs; her nieces Hope, Breyana and Gracie; her great-nephew Colin; her great-niece Isla Rose; and numerous other family members and friends.

A Celebration of Mandy's life will be held Friday, August 28 at 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Gray Gables, Callahan, with Pastor Cody Page officiating. The family will receive friends prior to the service at 10:15 a.m.

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

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

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BEHIND THE BADGE: Meet Detective Tim Beazley

Nassau County Sheriff's Office Detective Tim Beazley, has been with the Sheriff's Office for approximately 10 years. He started in 2011 and works in the investigations division, investigating burglaries, frauds and thefts. Training is a huge part of the NCSO. Beazley was actually interviewed when he was training. "This training is called Project Lifesaver. It is a program that the sheriff's office has which will be implemented for someone perhaps that has Alzheimer's and they wander off from the home," said Beazley. "It's basically a tracking device, for that person, that comes in the form of it looks like a watch. It's about as small as a watch but it'll be on that person and so if they wander off or go missing we're able to track them with that device and we can get them back to their family as soon as possible."

Beazley feels like in this job, it's very important to remain humanized and not allow what we deal with on a daily basis or a weekly basis to affect our personalities. "We have got to be able to connect with the public because frankly we are still the public. I try to find the best in everyone and use that motto to go by. I credit that a lot to my three years when I was working in the jail," continued Beazley. "I have seen the transformation of people who had been arrested, say on drugs, and they would come into the jail. They may



have been high when they came in but after months and months of being in jail they had sobered up and I've met the real person that had been arrested and it made me see that obviously as citizens when we make mistakes it shouldn't define us for the rest of our life. So I ask myself, how can I use that when I'm out here as a detective or as a patrolman?"

Beazley met his wife (Samantha) at West Nassau High School. She was the cheerleading captain, at the time, and I was a lineman (playing football) for West Nassau Warriors. Beazley went into US Navy following high school; however, the two continued dating. While overseas, he signed to the fifth fleet for anti-terrorism force protection. After getting out of the Navy in 2007, they got married and now have two children. The children, who are 11 and 7, attend Nassau schools. Beazley followed the plan he had for his life: to graduate high school, join the military, come back to Callahan and get married and raise his family here in Nassau County. "If I wasn't a police officer, I actually think I would be on stage as a comedian or perhaps in the movies," said Beazley. "I'm often confused with Kevin James from the King of Queens, which I understand and I see that connection. But I just like making people laugh and making people feel comfortable. I think it still may be in my cards actually."

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