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to God for
Our Nation!

WESTSIDE JOURNAL



Tuesday, August 10th

VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 3

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2021

"THEREFORE, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED BY SUCH A GREAT CLOUD OF WITNESSES, LET US THROW OFF EVERYTHING THAT HINDERS AND THE SIN THAT SO EASILY ENTANGLES. AND LET US RUN WITH PERSEVERANCE THE RACE MARKED OUT FOR US." - HEBREWS 12:1

NCSO Hosts Teen Citizen Academy

On Wednesday, July 21 and Thursday, July 22, the Nassau County Sheriff's Office conducted their very first Teen Citizen Academy for kids 12-18. Twenty-eight kids participated in the two day academy that provided insight into the sheriff's office operations and equipment they use to help keep Nassau County safe.

The academy, taught by deputies, gave young people a look at the inner workings of the Nassau County Sheriff's Office. Activities included a study of various jobs within NCSO such as 911 dispatchers, patrol deputies, detention deputies, detectives, crime scene evidence collection, special response team, narcotics, k-9 unit, drone operations, motorcycles, civilian positions and more. Students were also able to tour the facilities and sample



some of the specialty equipment deputies utilize. The program exposes young people to what it's like to be a police officer and gives them a behind the badge look in hopes they will

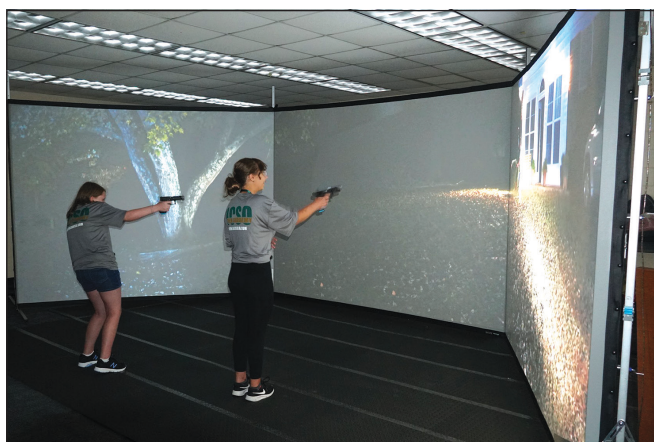
consider a career in law enforcement in the future.

"We want them to get a better understanding as to why we do the things that we do to keep our community safe. We also want to build that trust



with our youth. We want them to look at us, if they need us, they can depend on us, and trust us, and ultimately we want to continue with that partnership," said Sheriff Bill Leeper.

At the end of the class, participants were presented a certificate of completion and challenge coin from Sheriff Leeper.



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Thought of the week...

We find courage to stand when we kneel before the Lord.

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A Word From the Publisher

Just when we think things are getting back to, somewhat normal, we spoke too soon. These last few weeks have been challenging for so many including myself. I have heard of so much sadness, sickness and desperation from so many people. I think we are all looking for the answer. We're continually searching for what's right and what's wrong in a changing world. It seems everything around us is continually changing. I have learned NOT to say, "I've seen everything now" or "It can't get worse" because when I do, things change again. Much of the problem is not too many people like change anyway and now we have it all around us. Nothing really seems normal. A bit of good news... God never changes!

I wish to share that during what I thought was going to be complete turmoil for me these last few weeks, God really showed up. You know, He is always right beside me and all I have to do is ask. He filled me with such a peace and worked through me to accomplish what I needed to do. He completely stripped the fear from my mind and charged me to move forward, one day at a time. Our God remains the only normal in our lives. But it seems like some people would rather fret and worry and try to figure things out rather than enjoying the constant blessings that surround us each day.

In this world, one day at a time, is

the only way to handle it. I can't help but start each day looking inside and outside of our home at what God has blessed me with. It's truly like a breath of fresh air. Our God never changes. He is the same today, tomorrow and forever. He is the only hope for our lives. My complete trust and hope is in Jesus Christ. He took this simple lady and gives me courage and strength for each day to complete my task. Trust me, without Him I am nothing.

And prayer, oh my how prayer works. The cool thing is, all you have to do is ask. We must never forget that fear is a spirit of Satan (the devil). My mom recently shared that with me. It sure makes sense. I'm not sure if you have heard the song Fear He is a Liar by Zach Williams. If you haven't heard it the words are great. Maybe Google it to see the words printed out. All the words are great to me however just a few are: "Fear...he will take your breath, stop you in your steps, Fear he is a liar, he will rob your rest, steal your happiness." How many times can we truly say that fear has stolen our happiness...many times.

I know our world wants us to live in fear and be fearful of everything. Please remember, if you don't read anything else, God is in control! We must keep that in the forefront of our minds and hearts. Yes, God expects us to use common sense, but He certainly doesn't expect us to let fear rule our lives. This is a time to continue to pray for each other and our nation. God please help us!

Have a blessed week!

Dawn S. West

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Suffering and the Tribulation, and other Things Christians Disagree On

Pastor Marty Paparo, Friendship Alliance Church, Callahan



Full Disclosure: I lied; I won't be talking about "other things." But, doesn't the title "Suffering and the Tribulation" just sound sad. I think it's understood in our culture today that whenever an advertisement says "and so much more" there really isn't anything more. But I digress.

There is much disagreement concerning the order of end time events. What will come first, the return of Christ or a time of great suffering, distress and hardship known as the tribulation? One of the concerns is will Christ followers have to suffer the tribulation. One argument I find interesting is that it is not unusual for Christians to suffer on earth.

When I first heard this, I thought, really? How many of us have thought that if we come to Christ it's all rainbows and unicorns from then on? How many preachers have only mentioned the prosperity? But, when I took a closer look at the Bible, I realized that suffering and being a Christian are not mutually exclusive. In fact, in other parts of the world, suffering for the Gospel of Jesus Christ is expected.

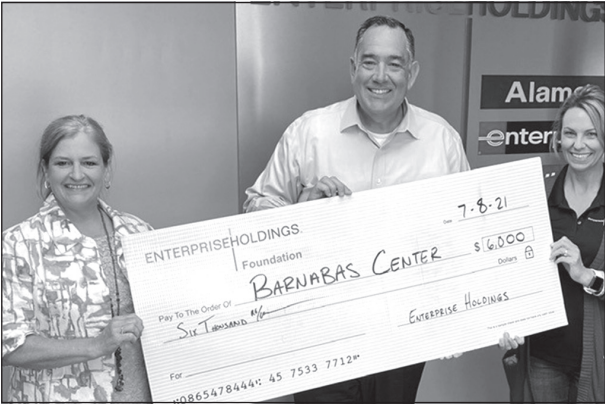
For Paul, suffering was part of the mission: "...far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches." 2 Corinthians 11:23-28

It seems like such a strange idea, to suffer for the Kingdom of God. But for Paul it was an honor. "For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake," Philippians 1:29 ESV.

Oddly enough, Paul didn't view suffering as we do today. Paul saw it as nothing when he compared it to what is to come. "For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison" 2 Corinthians 4:17 ESV. Paul's list above does not seem light or momentary to me, but in this same letter, he feels it is. The reason for this is that he is so engulfed in Jesus that not even suffering phases him. When we come to Christ, our life does not become easy. The change is that we no longer walk this path alone. We walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

I am not suggesting we need to go out and look for suffering. And thank God that we can share about Jesus in this country without fear of persecution. But, could we be more bold with the Good News of what Christ has done? Could we share more about what He has done in our lives? Could we grow closer in our walk with Jesus to the point that we don't fear what others may think when we talk about the One we love?

Enterprise Holdings Foundation Donates to Barnabas



The Enterprise Holdings Foundation recently donated \$6,000 to Barnabas Center to support programs which help people in need in Nassau County. The Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Enterprise Holdings, which, through its integrated network of independent regional subsidiaries and franchises, operates the Enterprise Rent-A-Car, National Car Rental and Alamo Rent-A-Car brands. Barnabas is grateful to the Enterprise Holdings Foundation for its generous contribution. For more information about Barnabas' programs, please visit www.BarnabasNassau.org.

Van Delinder Receives REEL Award

Jan Van Delinder, Callahan resident and teacher of Personal Financial Literacy at Yulee High School, has been awarded the Regional Economic Education & Leadership (REEL) Award by the Florida Council on Economic Education.



The REEL Awards Program honors outstanding teachers across Florida who delivers personal finance and economic education in their classrooms. The award states: "On behalf of your colleagues at Florida State College at Jacksonville, we were pleased to inform you of your nomination for a REEL award. Your nomination was based on your outstanding commitment to integrating financial literacy, entrepreneurial thinking and other appropriate economic education concepts within your course curriculum." The award was accompanied with a \$200 Amazon gift card and a scholarship to attend the CEE National Conference.

Mrs. Van Delinder said, "I love teaching this course because it has such "real-world application" for students. We cover topics such as budgeting, comparative shopping, credit, car purchasing, and college costs. We frequently have guest speakers from the community. Not only do the students enjoy learning about these curriculum components, but I frequently receive comments from parents that this is information that their students need."

CHURCH NEWS

Celebrate National Lighthouse Day Saturday, Aug 7 at 5:30 p.m. at Lighthouse Prayer Center, 43694 Ratliff Rd, Callahan. Family Fun Night with cookout, games plus Encounter Worship with the Berry Family & more. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

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Hilliard Little League's Annual Election
Wednesday, August 11th
6:00 p.m.
Hilliard Ball Park on Bay Rd.
There are Open Board Positions that will need to be filled!
Members & Parents in Good Standing are Welcome and Encouraged to Attend

Seniors' Art Classes (55+)
at the Callahan Train Depot

- ✦ Tuesday, August 17 • 12:30 - 3 p.m. \$15 • Landscape Acrylic
- ✦ Thursday, August 19 • 12:30 - 3 p.m. \$15 • Seascape Acrylic
- ✦ Art Reception • Friday, August 20 Free Admission • 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Taught by Ed Mosher
Hosted by the West Nassau Historical Society.
Funded in part by a grant from Arts and Culture Nassau.

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• All drive through windows will remain open from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday-Friday, accepting cash and check payments. Please be advised you may experience longer lines and wait times.

• Cash payments can be made where you shop. Find locations near you by visiting oremc.sedcheckout.com. From that website, download your barcode—or use the one on the back of your paper bill—present to the cashier indicating you want to pay on your electric bill. They will scan the barcode and ask how much you want to pay. Please be advised there is a \$1.50 convenience fee that will be charged at the time of transaction.

• Credit/debit card payments can be made online through the Member Portal at oremc.com, using the OREMC App or over the phone via our automated system. Call 800-262-5131, option 2. Please be advised you may experience longer wait times due to a higher volume of calls.

• Payments can also be mailed to:
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ALDI is the Next Big Thing

Yvette Outler

I am sure by now you've at least driven by an ALDI grocery store. Years ago, when I drove by them, I was intrigued but not enough to give them a try. A good friend of mine, who is extremely frugal, eventually got me hooked! My goal is to try and be a good steward with our money and in conjunction with that try to locate the best savings. As a result, I get to tell you about my savings!

Having said that, I must tell you about my favorite grocery store! ALDI is a German based grocery store founded in 1946 by two brothers Karl and Theo Albrecht. They began with their mom's store and the rest is an ever-evolving success story.

To shop at ALDI, you can't be married to "brand names." You won't find the familiar brand-named selections you are used to, but you will have good, delicious, comparable grocery items at very affordable prices. From their freezer section to their fresh vegetables, overall, their everyday prices cannot be beat!

Here are some examples of their everyday prices:

Potato Chip 9 oz.	\$1.19
Peanut Butter 2 lb. 8 oz.	\$2.29
24 Pack Bottled Water	\$1.99
Bag of Fresh Asparagus	\$2.39
Canned Green Beans	49¢
4-pound bag sugar	\$1.99
Salad Dressing	89¢
Loaf of Bread	85¢



In every ad they have an interesting "ALDI Finds" section. I needed some mulch for a landscape project we were doing a few months ago. While shopping at ALDI, I just happened to find bags of brown rubber mulch \$5.99/each and then to my surprise discovered that they were on sale for \$3.99/each. I bought 30 bags and was able to give our flower beds an affordable face lift.

ALDI shopping tips:

1. Bring your own bags: I use an insulated bag for my cold stuff and a large TJMaxx bag for my other stuff because it is large and sturdy.

2. Bring a quarter: Their business model has you pay .25 cent to use their shopping cart and then when you're done with it you get your quarter back. Brilliant!

I applaud you in advance for giving them a try! Enjoy your savings while shopping at ALDI!

Yvette Outler is a Dave Ramsey's Solution Master Financial Coach. If you are in over your head in debt and need help, contact her for a free consultation at Fiscallyfree7@gmail.com.

Genealogy Tidbits

Claude Arpen

Genealogy is one of today's fastest growing hobbies. Those new to genealogy often make mistakes. According to Lisa Lisson, genealogist@trace.com, these are seven mistakes to avoid when researching your family tree.

1. Researching without a plan. Decide what you want to know before you start your research. This will help keep you focused.
2. Failing to ask what information your family already knows.
3. Assuming everything you need for your research is online.
4. Assuming the family tree containing your ancestors found online is correct.
5. Failing to be broad enough in the spelling (or misspelling) of surnames. Think of the various ways a name might be spelled phonetically.
6. Believing EVERYTHING you read.
7. Failing to cite your sources. Cite your sources as you go.

To learn more, come and join us at the West Nassau Genealogical Society meetings, the second Monday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Callahan Lions Club, located on US 1 north of the fairgrounds. Visitors area always welcome. Looking forward to seeing you Monday, August 9!

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Camp Sorensen Graduates



Last month, Sheriff Bill Leeper attended the graduation and awards ceremony for 30 youth campers from several different counties that attended Camp Sorensen, located just outside of Hilliard. Before the ceremony a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner was served family style to the campers by the camp counselors and staff.

Deputies from Alachua County and Leon County served as counselors for the week which allowed the campers to interact and get to know law enforcement officers in a positive setting. Deputies from the Nassau County Sheriff's Office also visited the camp to provide insight on some of their special equipment that they use. The purpose of these camps is to provide a wholesome atmosphere and positive camping experience for boys and girls (ages 10-15).

At Camp Sorensen, boys and girls experience many different therapeutic camping activities. Canoeing, archery, swimming, fishing, and many other recreational activities allow them the opportunity to build basic teamwork and

peer communication skills. Additionally, they can spend the week enjoying the beautiful, tranquil outdoor environment.

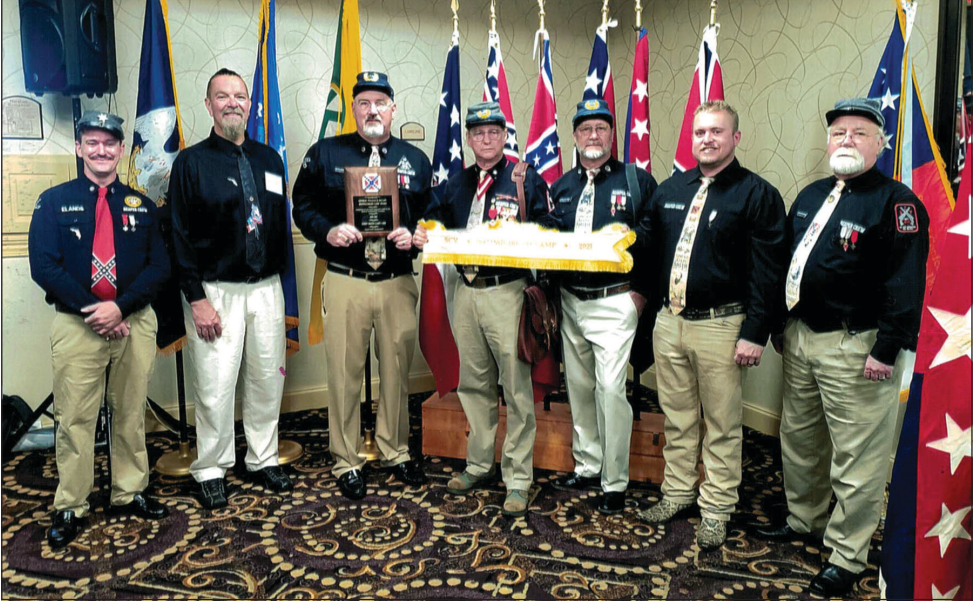
The camp also provides an opportunity for Deputy Sheriffs and other Law Enforcement volunteers to get personally involved with the youngsters to form positive, healthy relationships. Campers live among their peers, learning how to share and function properly within a group setting. Every day contains a healthy balance between work and play, proving a valuable lesson for maturing youth. Strong and devoted leadership is the key to a successful camping experience.

The staff includes college students, graduates, teachers and other professionals committed to helping boys and girls become productive, law-abiding citizens.

For more information about the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches and their camps, visit: www.youthranches.org.



SCV National Reunion



Kim Hoeffcker

The Sons of Confederate Veterans held their 126th National Reunion in Metairie, Louisiana on July 21-24, 2021. Seven members of Kirby Smith Camp 1209 in Jacksonville traveled to the event. During the awards luncheon, Camp 1209 received the General William D. McCain Distinguished Camp Award for 'Most Excellent Camp' in the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Shown (l to r) are: Chris Elands, Ron Nichols, Adjutant Rick Roberts, Commander Calvin Hart, Lt. Commander Chris Bunton, Adam Shaw and Chaplain Kim Hoeffcker.

Sheriff's Citizens Academy Taking Applications

The Nassau County Sheriff's Citizens Academy is now taking applications for county residents who would like to attend an eight week class to learn more about Nassau County Sheriff's Office. The Academy will provide attendees a transparent look at what the Nassau County Sheriff's Office does in detail by explaining our procedures and why the agency functions the way it does.

Eligibility requirements for the Civilian Law Enforcement Academy (CLEA) are: Reside in or be employed in Nassau County; Be at least 18 years of age; Have no felony convictions and no misdemeanor

convictions in the last 3 years; and Possess a valid driver's license or other form of government ID.

The Academy is eight weeks, every Thursday night starting in September. One of the classes will be held on a Saturday morning for residents to see firsthand what we do, including time at the gun range. Interested residents should contact Larry Boatwright at lboatwright@nassauso.com or 904-548-4027.

The application is posted on their website: nassauso.com, under the programs tab click Citizens Academy.

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Deputy McCumber Mentors Graduates



Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) hosted the 2021 D.A.R.E. Officer Training in Ft. Lauderdale, graduating 27 certified law enforcement personnel. The 80-hour training course was mentored and facilitated by 5 certified law enforcement personnel who have graduated from the course and taught the D.A.R.E. program in their local schools for at least 5 years. One of the mentors was Nassau County Sheriff's Office Deputy Lisa McCumber who has taught the D.A.R.E. program in Nassau County for 10 years as well as assisted mentoring the D.A.R.E. Officer Training through FDLE for 3 years.

The D.A.R.E. curriculum is evidence based and provides students the knowledge and skills to make

good decisions for safe and healthy living. D.A.R.E.'s keepin' it REAL elementary and middle-school curricula are based on Socio-Emotional Learning Theory which identifies basic skills and processes needed for healthy youth development. Beyond this, D.A.R.E.'s enhancement lessons include bullying, cyber security, a supplemental marijuana lesson, family talks, and the recently launched K-12 Opioid & Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention lessons.

The Nassau County Sheriff's office looks forward to a continuing partnership with Nassau County Schools to provide education which supports healthy growth for our youth. For further information on the D.A.R.E. Curricula visit: <https://dare.org/>

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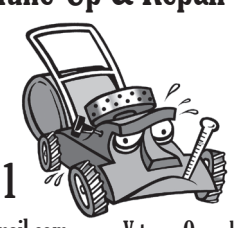
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POLICE REPORTS

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, July 26

William Cleve Hash, 54, 241878 CR 121, Hilliard: Possession of Methamphetamine

Tuesday, July 27

David Perry Minton, 47, Callahan: Violation of Probation Community Control

Wednesday, July 28

Donald Lee Jordan, Jr., 34, Callahan: DUI with Minor in Vehicle; Driving While License Suspended with Knowledge

Friday, July 30

Amanda Cristina Braswell, 31, Bryceville: Out of County Felony Warrant

Callahan Sets Tentative Millage Rate

Dawn S. West

The Callahan Town Council met Monday night for their first meeting of August with three council members present and two councilpersons teleconferencing, along with the mayor and attorney. The only order of business on the agenda was to set the tentative millage rate for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. Town Manager Mike Williams advised the council concerning the options on deciding what rate to choose. "The rollback rate from last year was 2.2799 with a taxable value of \$104,123,126," said Williams. "The other option is an operating millage of 2.4723 mils that would increase the taxable value to \$112,909,268 for the upcoming year."

Councilman David Mellecker made a motion to set the tentative millage rate at 2.4723 mils and Councilwoman Ashton Vargas made the second. "This way if we need to go down we can, but now we have something to go by," said Mellecker.

In closing comments, Mellecker

requested to have the Fireworks placed on the next agenda just to get the council's feedback from what they thought of the fireworks display.

Council President Ken Bass requested to set a workshop to discuss Ace Hardware. Mellecker advised the council that he would prefer to discuss Ace in a regular meeting.

Mayor Matt Davis added that he joined a meeting with Williams, Bass and Brandies owners concerning offering the town the first option to purchase their building. "Brandies wanted the town (Callahan) to have the first option to purchase the building and properties," said Davis. "I think they have had many people inquiring about what will happen to the building. They (Brandies) just need to know as soon as possible if we (council) are interested in all or just some of the property."

The council requested to have Brandies added to the next agenda.

The next meeting of the council will be Monday, August 16 at 7 p.m.



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JAMES LARRY ANDERSON
James Larry Anderson, 74, of Hilliard, passed away July 30, 2021 at his home. He was born July 17, 1947 in Starke to the late Ressie Buddy ‘Andy’ Anderson and Anna Mae Thompson Anderson Sapp. He proudly served his country in the US Army during the Vietnam conflict from 1965-1967, earning the Good Conduct Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. He retired from the Forestry Division of the State of Florida. He was a member of the Hilliard Volunteer Fire Department where he once served as Chief. He also served on the Nassau County Sheriff’s Reserve and the Nassau County Fire Rescue where he served as an EMT.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by a brother Howard Anderson; and his step-father Rudolph Sapp. He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Hope Sikes Anderson; three children James M. (Brittney) Anderson, Jody (Matthew) Davidson and Daniel Jacob Anderson; five grandchildren Macy White, Blayze Davidson, Bryce Davidson, Sarah Anderson and Josie Anderson; three sisters Gloria ‘Sis’ Lee, Shirley Mobley and Donna Sue Hildreth; two brothers Phil Anderson and Alvin Anderson; and a number of nieces, nephews and other family members. The family will receive friends Sunday, August 8 from 2-4 p.m. prior to the funeral service at 4 p.m. at Hilliard First Assembly of God with Rev. Arlie Johns officiating. Memorialization will be by cremation. Due to Covid-19, the family requests that attendees please follow the rules of social distancing and face masks are recommended at the service. Also, anyone that does not feel comfortable with attending the service, the family would like you to know they understand and covet your prayers. Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

OBITUARIES

shepardfh.com. Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

BARBARA LYNN CHESSE
Barbara Lynn Chesser, 77, of Folkston, passed away Saturday, July 31, 2021 at the Life Care Center of Hilliard. She was born January 1, 1944 in Jacksonville, to the late Elisha McEdward Thomas and Retty Lavada Vincent Creel. She was a loving mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. She was a member of Victory Baptist Church. Mrs. Barbara was a life-long resident of Charlton County. She never met a stranger and always had a kind word for everyone she met. Barbara loved God, enjoyed singing, sewing and good bluegrass music. She will be deeply missed by all of her family and friends. In addition to her parents; she was preceded in death by three sisters; three brothers; and a niece. She is survived by her children Sherry Davis (Mark Heyne), Brenda Burgess, Johnny Davis, Sr., Matthew Davis and Mark (Daffyne) Davis; two sisters Kathryn Young and Kay Thomas; 12 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and a number of nieces and nephews.

The family received friends Monday, August 2 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston. The funeral service was held Tuesday, August 3 in the chapel of Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home with Rev. Ray McMillan officiating. Burial followed in Homeland Cemetery. Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com. Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

VERNON WAYNE HARRELL
Vernon Wayne Harrell, 68, of Callahan, passed away on August 2, 2021. He was born on February 12, 1953 in Jacksonville, to Fred E. Harrell and Earlene Hester Crozier. After meeting the love of his life, Lona and Vernon wed on February 28, 1972 and later had two beautiful daughters. Vernon was an all-around great man who loved his wife and family dearly. He was a hard worker and you’ll never find someone more honest. In Vernon’s spare time, he enjoyed fishing and eating good food. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lona Harrell. Vernon leaves behind his daughters Wendy McClanathan and Krystle (Jonathan) Rocca; brothers Jimmy Harrell and Mark (Ginger) Harrell; sister Peggy (David) Gibson; grandchildren Jonathan Rocca, Jr., Nicholas Rocca and Landen McClanathan. The family will receive friends at 10 a.m. Monday, August 9 prior to the Celebration of Vernon’s life at 11 a.m. at Nassau Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Jones Cemetery. Arrangements by Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 904-879-1770. Visit www.nassaufh.com to sign the family’s guest book.



BOBBY HEAD
Bobby ‘Papa Bob’ Head, 69, of Hilliard, passed away on July 28, 2021 in Jacksonville. Bobby was born on February 23, 1952 in Newnan, Georgia to Robert Mark Head, Sr. and Doris Jackson Head. He was raised in the small town of Moreland, Georgia and had a very special

close relationship with his Granddaddy Jackson (Mr. Will). Bobby never met a stranger and was affectionately known as ‘Papa Bob’ around town. He was the life of the party, a jokester, a comedian, had a huge heart, loved everyone he encountered and leaves behind numerous precious memories for his family and friends. In addition to his parents and grandparents; Bobby was predeceased in death by his daughter Amy Leigh Head; and two brothers-in-law Anthony Barnes and Eugene Burks. Bobby is survived by his children Sheila (Stevie) Lee, Nikki (Jeff) May and Mark (Alicia) Head, all of Hilliard and Lisa Warren of Hogansville, Georgia; stepdaughter Arlinda (Dale) Clark of Hilliard; sisters Joy Burks and Terri Barnes, both of Luthersville, Georgia; grandchildren Destiny (Brandon) Pooser, Lee (Crystal) Pickett, Crystal (Justin) Todd, Cody (Jonni) Pickett, John Johnson, Jr., Mariah (Dean) Degener, Danielle (Anthony) Head, R.T. (Kennedy) Pickett, Aaron (Brooke) Johnson, Cadie (Austin) Pickett, Jeremy Head, Mystik Warren, Marley Head, Clyde Head and Jonathan (Aubree) Lee; adopted granddaughter Brianna Nelson; great-grandchildren Lane, Bentlee and Kailey Pickett, Emily Pooser, Henry Head, Raya and Noah Degener, Griffin, Kinsleigh and Ansleigh Todd, Paislee, Aspy, Alyssa and Brayden Johnson; niece and nephews Toby Bowden, Wilson Fuller, Amanda Burks and Quenton Barnes; mother of his children Sharon Gardner; his faithful canine companion Lil Bit; special friends Wilhelm Wakely and Cole Wheeler; additional nieces, nephews and cousins along with a large circle of friends. The family will receive friends Friday, August 6 from 2-4 p.m. prior to the Celebration of Bobby’s life service at 4 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home. Arrangements by Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 904-879-1770. Visit www.nassaufh.com to sign the family’s guest book.

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"Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

WILLIAM 'BILL' KEARNEY

William 'Bill' Kearney, 79, passed away on Monday, July 26, 2021 in a local hospital. Bill was born in Union Grove, Alabama and was son to the late James and Laura Kearney. He lived in the Jacksonville area most of his life. He was a graduate of Terry Parker High School and University of North Florida. Bill was a Veteran of the US Air Force and served in Vietnam. He retired in 2004 from Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, after 35 years of service. He was a member and past president of the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 5-30. Bill loved playing golf, spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ and spending time with his family, especially his wife Debra. Bill was an active member and deacon of the Journey Church.

Bill is survived by the love of his life Debra Kearney; four children Billy (Kim) Kearney, Cathy (Mark) Corbin, Samantha (Kenny) Elwood and Tony Herrera; brother Phil (Pam) Kearney; sister Bobbi Eide; 11 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

A memorial service will be held Thursday, August 5 at 11 a.m. at the Journey Church, 95707 Amelia Concourse, with Pastor Darryl Bellar officiating. His family will receive friends prior to the service. Burial will follow at Jacksonville National Cemetery (Lane #2) at 2:30 p.m. with Police Honors and Military Honors.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to the Journey Church.

Peoples Family Funeral Home is serving the Kearney Family.

MELVA 'GRACE' MOORE

Melva 'Grace' Moore, 89, of Callahan, went home to be with the Lord on July 29, 2021. She was born on July 15, 1932 in Ambrose, Georgia. Grace enjoyed cooking with love for others. In her spare time, she enjoyed rocking her grands and great-grands and spending time with her girls. Grace was passionate about tending to her family. She was preceded in death by her mother Emma McLendon; husband John Allen Moore; brothers Junior McLendon and Carlis McLendon; sister

OBITUARIES

Florine Harper; and a grandson Joshua Simms.

Grace leaves behind her daughters Patty (Jack) Simms of Taylorsville, North Carolina, Shelian (Del) Olsen of St. Augustine, Jackie (Tony) Musselman and Debbie (Alan) Brown, all of Callahan; grandchildren Del (Rhonda) Olsen, Robbie Olsen, Timothy Simms, Matthew (Deidra) Simms, Amanda (Carl) Schumacher, Erin (Chris) Voss, TJ (Nichole) Copeland, Kaitlyn (Justin) Mercer, Lindsey (Cody) Drury, Erica (Ricky) Loring, Ashley Brown and Christopher Brown; and 23 great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends Wednesday, August 4 from 6-8 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home. A Celebration of Grace's life will be held Thursday, August 5 at 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Gray Gables with Pastor Cody Page officiating. Interment will follow at Jones Cemetery.

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

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

BRANDON KEITH SMITH

Brandon Keith "Meathead" Smith, 44, of Hilliard, passed away July 23, 2021, in Fernandina Beach, following a courageous battle with COVID.

He was born in Douglas, Georgia, May 25, 1977. He was employed by Jax Utilities Management. He was a member of Orange Bluff Hunting Club. Brandon enjoyed

cooking great BBQ while hanging out with friends. He spent most days working on cars or projects outside in his shed and really enjoyed having his daddy by his side for the last several months. Georgia Bulldogs, Keith Whitley, the St. Mary's River, friends and family were his favorite things in life.

He was preceded in death by a daughter Erica Noel Smith; a brother Bryan "Hotfish" Hopkins; and his grandparents King and Bernice Gee, Herman (Catherine) Smith and Hazel (John) Cowart.

He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Deanna Moody Smith; two daughters Emmalee (Bryan) Brown and Elena Smith; a son Nickolas Smith; parents Wallace and Virginia Smith; sister Beverly (Scott) Hand; brother Thomas Smith; brother by choice Jody Pickett; sister-in-law Amanda (Ben) Proffitt; special nieces and nephews Kory (Autumn) Bryant, Kylee (Dalton) Thompson, Scotty Hand, Jr., Olivia Proffitt, Levi Proffitt, Connie (Matt) Bennett and Jordan Hand; honorary grandsons Waylon and Nelson Bryant, Maddex Thompson and Matt Bennett, Jr.

The family received friends Friday, July 30 at the First Baptist Church of Boulougne. The funeral service was held Saturday, July 31 at the First Baptist Church of Boulougne with Pastor Paul Lucas officiating. Burial followed in Jones Cemetery in Callahan.

Pallbearers were Scott Hand, Kory Bryant, Troy Parsons, Chris Cravey, Jason Cravey, Jorge Perez, Aleshia Smith and Bryan Brown.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

MALANA DE'NY VAZQUEZ

Malana De'Ny Henderson Sullivan-Vazquez, 17, of Callahan, passed away unexpectedly on July 26, 2021. She was born on April 15, 2004 in Fernandina Beach.

Where do we start...Malana was one of a kind, had a heart of gold, was full of life, loved helping others, loved animals, was very funny, never met a stranger and had a sweet voice like an angel, loved the Alabama Crimson Tide and even Tupac Shakur. In her spare time, she enjoyed writing songs, drawing, and playing video games. Malana loved working at The Sheik but most of all she loved spending quality time with her family and friends. Many will tell you that she was a Mama's girl. Malana touched so many lives and will be dearly missed by all who knew her. She was preceded in death by her great-grandmother Claudette "Memaw" Jones; grandmother Paula "Gangy" Jones.

Malana leaves behind her parents Showna Henderson and Jonathan Sullivan; biological father Lucio Vazquez; siblings Jessa Henderson, Keegan Henderson, Lantz Sullivan, Brianna Faith Vazquez, Hayden Bret Vazquez, Vivika Mireya Vazquez, Priscilla Renee Vazquez and Josphyne Ivette Rios; grandparents, Billy Thigpen, David and Debra Smith, Janet "Granny" Perez, and Joel "Abuelo" Martin Vazquez; aunts Michelle Hulbert and Ana Gonzalez; uncles Sean Hughes, David (Dana) Smith, Justin Hogg and Mauricio Perez; extended aunts and uncles; and countless special friends including Amy Dolan and Sydney Skipper.

The family received friends Wednesday, August 4 prior to the Celebration of Malana's life at Nassau Funeral Home. Interment followed at Buford Grove Cemetery in Hilliard.

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

Obituaries are published free of charge.

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

All positions are open for the 2022 season. Must be a member in good standing with the league to run for a position or vote.

Monday, August 16
6:30 p.m. @ the CLL Pavillion

Check our Facebook page for a link to participate via Zoom.

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Amelia Island Book Festival Returns

Diana Frank,
Director of Communications

The Amelia Island Book Festival is back in full swing. The annual luncheon will be a kick-off to the 20th Anniversary of the AIBF celebrating 20 years of enriching lives with literacy. The luncheon will be held on Thursday, October 21, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Courtyard by Marriott Amelia Island.

For the first in-person event of this season, a spectacular luncheon is planned. The keynote speaker will be Kristy Woodson Harvey, New York Times bestselling author of nine novels including *Under the Southern Sky*. One reviewer said this book “is more than sweet Southern fiction. It packs a punch and leads in unexpected directions.” Harvey received praise as a major new voice and rising star in southern fiction. Her work has been optioned for film.

A Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude graduate of University of North Carolina’s school of journalism, she has received numerous awards and accolades. Harvey cohosts Friends and Fiction, a weekly live web show with Mary Kay Andrews, Kristin Harmel, Patti Callahan Henry and Mary Alice Monroe. She blogs with her mom Beth Woodson on Design Chic about creating a beautiful home.

When asked about Harvey, Sue Nelson of the Book Loft said, “She is delightful, and everyone will be charmed.” Many of her books, including *Under the Southern Sky*, will be made



Speaker Kristy Woodson Harvey

available for purchase by Story and Song at the luncheon.

Last year’s in-person events were cancelled, but AIBF continued its mission to connect students, authors and books for lifelong learning while conforming to health guidelines from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Despite limitations including cancelling the luncheon, the gala and the author expo, Nassau County students’ lives were enriched with the short story writing contest for students with 50 winners participating in a Q and A writers’ workshop on Zoom with David Baldacci, publication of those stories in an anthology, a \$5,000 scholarship award and book distribution to Nassau County students.

A unique take on southern seafood cuisine or a choice of a vegetarian option will be offered by Chef Niko Anagnosotu. Expect free parking and easy access to the dining room. Visit ameliaislandbookfestival.com to purchase tickets.

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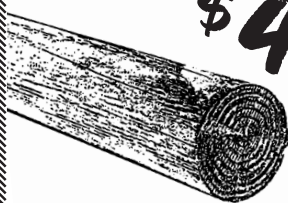
\$13⁸⁸

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PRESSURE TREATED FENCE POSTS

2 1/2" - 3" x 6 1/2' Long

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Need Community Service Hours?



Be the Change NE FL held a community clothing giveaway Saturday! The nonprofit is always in need of volunteers to help with organization and outreach.

This is a great opportunity for high school students needing community service hours! Contact Joel on Facebook at: Be The Change NE FL.

What's cool for back-to-school?

FREE Backpacks for TRU•FI Kids Club Members*!

If you're an existing TRU•FI kids club member, or if you open a kids club account 8/2/21 - 8/6/21, you're in for a treat from the credit union. We want to give you a FREE backpack so you can be back-to-school cool when the school bell starts ringing.

Stop by your local branch
Monday, August 2, 2021 - Friday, August 6, 2021
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