

**Pray  
to God for  
Our Nation!**

# WESTSIDE JOURNAL

**FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL**

**Warriors**  
@ Bishop Kenny  
7 p.m.

**Flashes**  
@ St. Joe  
7 p.m.

VOLUME XVII ISSUE 11

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

"TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND LEAN NOT ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING; IN ALL YOUR WAYS SUBMIT TO HIM, AND HE WILL MAKE YOUR PATHS STRAIGHT." - PROVERBS 3:5-6

## Bishop-Vargas Sworn in as New Callahan Councilwoman

Dawn S. West

The Callahan Town Council met Monday night for their final meeting of September. The first order of business was the swearing in of Mrs. Ashton Bishop-Vargas as the new Councilperson. She was sworn in to office by Mayor Matthew Davis with her husband Alex and daughter Allison by her side. Bishop-Vargas is filling the vacant seat of Mrs. Kathy Smith, who recently resigned her seat due to illness. Bishop-Vargas had actually qualified to run in the November election for a council seat. When Mrs. Smith resigned, the town placed an advertisement in the paper to fill a council seat. "I saw the ad in the paper and went and applied," said Bishop-Vargas. "Once I was chosen for the position, I dropped out of the election."

The following agenda items included second and final readings and public hearings. Resolution 2020-R08, which concerned setting the Tentative Millage Rate at 2.4723 mills for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 was approved by the council. Resolution 2020-R09, which



concerned setting the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 at \$8,064,166, was also approved.

Town Clerk Stephanie Knagge announced bids of \$575 and \$200, for a F150 Truck. The council approved selling the truck at a price of \$575. Knagge also advised the council that the town had only received 1 bid for the 1962 (possibly) American LaFrance Firetruck for a cost of \$1500. The town approved the sell. Town Manager Mike

Williams advised the council that the truck was not even running currently and none of the tanks work.

The next agenda item was whether to continue the State of Emergency in the town. Town Manager Williams advised the council that the county has not extended its State of Emergency and the Governor of Florida has canceled Florida's.

"So I don't know why we would continue ours," said Williams.

In closing comments, Mayor Davis advised the council about a couple of thoughts he has. "I have been contacted by the Warrior Boosters about the Christmas parade. They are very excited about helping with it again and wanted to make sure we were having it," said Davis. "What is the council's opinion?"

"I think it would be great to have the Christmas parade," said Councilwoman Ashton Bishop-Vargas. "I think it would boost morale for people to have something normal."

The mayor also advised the council about a grant he has been looking over called Safe Routes to Schooling. "I think this may have been something the former mayor had looked at and I like it," continued Davis. "It is a partnership with the schools concerning sidewalks, crosswalks and signals so that more children feel safe walking to school. The town would be 100% reimbursed. I also talked with Brenton Franklin, who would like to put some signage on US

See 'Callahan' on page 2



## See You at the Pole Observed Wednesday

In these challenging times, it sure does my heart good to see these young people take a stand for the Lord. The National See You at the Pole day was held Wednesday morning around the nation. Students meet at their school's flagpole and say a word of prayer (or

several) over their schools, students, faculty and administration.

Covering a school in prayer is such a blessing! Thank you to all of those who participated! Shown are students and faculty members from Hilliard Middle-Senior High School.



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## A Word From the Publisher

I know this past weekend we were in the middle of a nor'easter weather event but oh my goodness what a welcome relief it was. I opened up the windows in our house Sunday and enjoyed the coolness. We just had a slight amount of rain so we were able to open them. Any chance I get to open the windows...I take it. Living in Florida you must take every opportunity you get to enjoy a little coolness even if it is a nor'easter. However, don't forget that the first day of fall was September 23 (or 22). That's when normal places (not Florida) start feeling a little coolness in the air instead of these stifling hot and humid temperatures. I'm ready to sit by our fire pit and enjoy a cup of hot chocolate or coffee! It's very hard to do that when you're sweating!

I, for one, am so thankful that our children are back in school and the sporting events are going on. They are playing volleyball, golf, track, swimming and of course football. It's not quite back to normal but close. It doesn't matter if everything was normal...people would still have something to complain about. Some people are just not happy anytime. Children need school and friends. It's a part of life. We have some wonderful educators that are right along with them helping them every day. Is it difficult, yes, but they continue on. Children (most of them) will do what they are

told by their elders. So it's up to us, parents and grandparents, to encourage our students to work hard and enjoy their school years no matter what they have to do, we'll be there for them.

I know our minds have all been in a sort of blur during this time of pandemic. It's easy to get caught up in all of the hype from the news about the virus and lose touch with what's really important. Our world truly is in a whirlwind right now that is spiraling downward. Through Christ, I've learned to be thankful for each day and look for the good in it. It is so easy to complain and grumble and that just makes you feel worse. Just try to count your blessings as there are more than we deserve. It's time we realize that our salvation is the most important part of our lives. We do not know what tomorrow may bring as each day brings new challenges. However, if you have given your life to Jesus, changed your ways and become a follower of Christ, you have no worries about tomorrow. We will be in eternity should the Lord call us home. So are you saved or not? It's really a pretty easy question and should have a pretty easy answer: yes or no. If not, now would be a great time to ask Jesus into your heart.

Have a blessed week!

*Dawn S. West*

## Letters to the Editor

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

### Your Choice

Dear Editor,

Now that both major political parties have made their choices of candidates for president and vice president, we now have two very difficult choices.

We have President Trump, a business man, who got our country's economy in the best shape ever. This allowed anyone who wanted a job to have one. He also got foreign country's to start paying their way. He stopped giving our tax money to countries that hate us and got us out of some very bad deals with other countries. He has had to put up with more negative press and major problems than many men could

stand. He continues to keep America first!

With Biden, we have a career politician who now claims to have all the answers. After 8 years as Vice President and 40 plus years as a senator, why didn't he solve the problems then? He wants to change America to a country that the federal government runs everything. Just look at the other countries that are governed like that...not very good!

President Trump is not perfect but he will keep all Americans first. He will make sure we can support our self and not depend on the government. Make sure you vote!

Rocky Lynn

### Callahan

1 concerning Ewing Park and AXIS PLEX Apartments. Last but not least, are we (town) moving forward with the Out with a Boom Fireworks this year. I've been asked about it a couple of times."

Councilman David Mellecker advised the mayor that Franklin would have to bring his design to the Planning & Zoning Board for the sign. "Do we have enough people that want to donate for the Out with a Boom this year?" said Mellecker. "I don't want to put any businesses in a hardship."

Mellecker also advised the council that Mr. Jay Shirer was in the audience concerning a new cell tower, however his item was not on the agenda.

Town Manager Mike Williams advised the council that Shirer has been working with Farm Bureau since March

*Continued from page 1*

of 2019 to work out the details of placing a cell tower on their property. At that time, our ordinance allowed for towers in the Commercial/Highway District. Recently, the council changed the ordinance to not allow towers. Should the council choose to allow this tower at Farm Bureau, the council would have to add an exceptional use to the ordinance. The reason the towers are coming off of the water tower is because the water tower has some structural issues. These cell towers have been up there (water tower) for years and maintenance is a problem.

After much conversation Councilwoman Janet Shaw tabled the item until the next meeting.

The next council meeting will be Monday, October 5 at 7 p.m.

### C&C LAND PROS

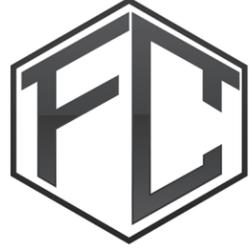
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## Foster Children Receive School Supplies



Family Support Services of North Florida (FSS) and Marauders Golf Club recently joined together to help dozens of foster children prepare for the school year during the Tee it Up for School event. The event gave 60 students the chance to shop for school supplies at no cost to their families. Local foster families met with volunteers from Family Support Services at the Staples in Fernandina Beach on August 22. Each foster child was gifted \$100 to spend thanks to a generous donation from the Marauders, a golf club of about 30 local golfers known for their philanthropy throughout the North Florida community. During the event, children were paired with a member of the Marauders to guide them through the store as they chose items specific to their wants and needs.

Forty students who were unable to attend the in-person shopping experience were provided supplies from the Marauders as well. FSS, the lead agency for family preservation, foster care and adoption in Duval and Nassau counties, coordinated with families during the event. In addition to the more than \$10,000 donated by the Marauders, Publix contributed \$200 in resources to make the day extra special for families.



## EVENTS AROUND TOWN

Mill Creek Cemetery Association will hold a meeting and clean up at the cemetery Saturday, September 26 at 9 a.m. Make sure you bring your gloves and tools to work.

West Nassau County High School Advisory Council Organization Meeting will be held Thursday, October 1 at 4:30 p.m. in the media center; social distancing will be observed.

## JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

This is the Preamble to our Constitution. The greatest document ever written other than the Bible. "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common Defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

I have been a long-time follower and contributor to Mark Alexander and the "Patriots Post". He is spot on with every column he writes. The following is a portion of a column he wrote last week. The people of America had better wake up, vote for the only candidate that loves America and wants to preserve our great Republic. People, I cannot stress enough that our country is under attack from within! This Presidential election is by far the most critical election of all time. If Donald J. Trump is not re-elected we WILL become a socialist state, period.

Mark wrote, "The Joe Biden/Kamala Harris tag team, combined with the socialist Democrat Party's collective "enemies of the people," arguably pose the greatest threat to American Liberty since 1860. Those words will sound too strident for some conservatives who haven't been paying attention, so it's high time to educate them. Historically, socialist assaults on Liberty in America have never been so well-funded and organized, nor have they had the aggressive backing of a major political party and the full force of its powerful opinion-shaping propagandists (main-stream media). Combined with their radical legions of

'useful idiots,' those who've been burning American urban centers while propagating the colossal lie that 'systemic racism' has permeated every facet of American life, the Harris-Biden legions are moving the country from uncivil discourse to civil war. For the record, yeah, as I've argued since Biden's handlers put Harris on his ticket, this is, indeed, a Harris/Biden ticket. Notably, both Harris and Biden have inadvertently (or intentionally) confirmed that this week. On Monday, in a public forum, Harris referred to a Harris administration, together with Joe Biden as the president of the United States." On Tuesday, Biden referenced 'the Harris-Biden administration.' In Biden's case, this might have been a slip of the teleprompter, but the point stands. Harris is at the helm, and she's a perilous threat to Liberty. That Liberty is forever endowed by our Creator, as affirmed in our Declaration of Independence and enshrined in our Constitution. Should Harris and Biden succeed, they will set about to undermine the First Amendment and Tenth Amendment at a pace heretofore unknown. Likewise, they will aggressively go after the only sufficient assurance and defense of all essential rights, the Second Amendment. Indeed, the "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms" is the First Civil Right.

Again I stress the absolute necessity that each and every American patriot vote in November. It is not a matter of Republican vs. Democrat; it's a matter of evil vs. good, freedom vs. socialism. At this point in our situation, I will say, you are either for President Trump or you are against America.

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



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Or email your information to the Clerk at: [clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov](mailto:clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov)

All letters of interests/resumes must be in Town Hall NO later than 3 p.m. on **October 2, 2020.**

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 Knagge, at (904) 879-3801 or [clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov](mailto: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 and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

# Building the House

*Pastor Benjie Loyd, River Road Baptist Church, Hilliard*



For the last three months, I have been building a house. That may sound boring to you, but this is coming from a guy who has no background in building houses. No exaggeration, I could not even construct a wall. So how does a guy who has no background in building, get a house built in three months? The answer is simple: you call people that know what they are doing and you hire subs that know what they are doing. Then you have a house.

This whole process has taught me so much about building. This is a pastor's article, so I am more aware than ever how important it is to build the church with the people that God has placed in the body of Christ (I Corinthians 12). When I think about all of the subs that went into building this house, I think about all of the different people that God has gifted to build the local church. When I think about the workers that I have had the privilege of spending time with over the last three months, I am profoundly grateful for the giftedness. It is all started with the dirt work, then the plumbing, the slab, the framers, the roofers, the AC people, the electricians, the trim people, the sheet rockers, the tile people, the painters, etc. The simple fact of the matter is that for the house to be built, everybody had to do their part. All of the workers were so incredibly valuable. Through teamwork, the house got built. The workers made up for the weaknesses of the builder/owner.

I never thought that the construction of a home would make me appreciate the construction of the church. So to the people that I get to pastor, thank you for all that you do. In many instances, the pastor gets too much credit for what gets done in the church. I am so fortunate to get to pastor River Road Baptist Church. I have many weaknesses and limitations, but God has graciously placed in the church the people that are needed with the gifts that are needed to build the church. All of the jobs matter. The church is not all that it could be when everybody is not contributing with their gifts. We all need each other to continue to build up the body of Christ.

## CHURCH NEWS

Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church, 541668 US Hwy. 1, Callahan, FALL GARAGE SALE, Saturday, September 26 and Saturday, October 3 from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Church parking lot. There will be garage sale items and bake goods for sale. For more information call (904) 879-3662.

Lighthouse Church on Ratliff Road is hosting The Return, a global day of repentance and return to God on Sat., Sept. 26. Be a part of millions of believers across the globe in prayer that day by experiencing this simulcast at Lighthouse, 9:45 a.m. with the Prophetic Message to America from Jonathon Cahn at 11 a.m.

Bryceville First Baptist Church will open their Clothes Closet every Thursday through September 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.

Bethany Episcopal Church in Hilliard will be having its annual Blessing of the Animals service this Saturday, September 26 at 3 p.m. in the church parking lot. All members of the community are invited! All pets are welcome (but must be on a leash or under control).

# Fire Bible Golf Tournament Postponed

The Hilliard First Assembly of God Fire Bible Golf Tournament has been postponed. The Fire Bibles will still be purchased. If you had planned to play or sponsor for the tournament, you may still do so by mailing in your donation to: Hilliard First Assembly of God, PO Box 670, Hilliard, FL 32046.

# Barnabas Receives Support for Dental Program

Barnabas Center was recently awarded a Delta Dental Community Care Foundation grant of \$25,000 to support the agency's efforts in the fight against COVID-19, related crises and to advance efforts to provide access to care for those in need.

The Barnabas dental program provides affordable dental services for low to moderate income adults who have no health insurance including exams, extractions, cleanings and more. Barnabas provides help and hope to individuals and families in need in Nassau County to improve their stability, health and well-being. For information about Barnabas' programs, visit [www.BarnabasNassau.org](http://www.BarnabasNassau.org)

For more information about Delta



Dental Community Care Foundation, visit the company website at: [www.deltadentalins.com/about/community/philanthropy/](http://www.deltadentalins.com/about/community/philanthropy/).

# Food Giveaway Next Thursday



Callahan First Baptist Church Food Pantry will hold their drive-thru distribution Thursday, October 1 from 10 a.m. – noon at the church gym parking lot. Feeding Northeast Florida will be providing a truck full of meat, vegetables, dry goods and dairy products for our community!

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## Congratulations Mary Bates!

Congratulations to Mary Bates on her retirement from the Nassau County School Board at Callahan Intermediate School. Mary began her career at Callahan Intermediate as a Custodian in 1999. She finished her career as a Paraprofessional in 2020. CIS celebrated her 20+ years in education with a retirement party on August 19. Her presence will be greatly missed by the CIS Warrior family.



## 4-H'er of the Month Kee Laurendine



Kee Laurendine has been in 4-H for 8 years. He is a member of the Nassau County Young Riders, serving as the club photographer/reporter for the past 2 years. He shows sheep, horses and chickens in the fair. Kee has participated in County Events with speeches and in the talent show for 4 years, including virtually this past year. Kee has also competed in poultry judging, multiple community service projects including petting zoos at a church and cleaning and planting flowers in Callahan. Kee was asked to serve as a 4-H youth representative and give a speech at Farm Bureau about what 4-H

has done for him. Kee rides his horse to represent our club in the Christmas parade almost every year and even participated in the Intentional Riding Challenge. Kee is always seen at the fair talking to people about his animals and teaching them about livestock and 4-H, always willing to share everything 4-H has taught him.

Great job, Kee!

## JV Flashes Rally to Beat Eagles

Holden McMillen

Looking to get the sour taste of defeat out their mouths, the JV Hilliard Flashes traveled to Jacksonville to battle the Episcopal Eagles. After trailing 12-0 at halftime, the Flashes started to fight back and respond with back-to-back scores by Braydon Holley. And with a flick of a light switch, the Flashes stormed back to even the score at 12. But, the Eagles responded with an explosive play and busted out a long touchdown run. With a failed 2-point try, the Eagles reclaimed the lead 18-12.



Heading into the 4th quarter, the Flashes needed to respond with a score of their own. With a potentially good drive going, the Eagles defense rose up and caused a turnover inside their own 5 yard line. But, the Flashes defense made a much needed play when Chase Chavarria intercepted a pass on the very next play and returned it for the touchdown. With a successful 2-point conversion, the Flashes took their first lead of the night up 20-18. The Eagles responded going down the field and scoring. With a successful 2-point try, the Eagles regained the lead 26-20. The Flashes answered the call when Chavarria made a tackle in the end

zone for a safety. And just like that, the Flashes cut the deficit down to 4, trailing 26-22. The Flashes relied on their offense to orchestrate a much needed scoring drive when Rocco Mirando found Nathaniel "Slick" Vroman for a 8-yard touchdown pass. Using the Mirando-to-Vroman connection again on the 2-point try, the Flashes retook the lead 30-26. Needing a much needed stop on the ensuing Eagles drive, the Flashes answered the call when Andrew Brown intercepted a pass to seal the fate of the Eagles. Using the running game to run out the clock, the Flashes capped off a huge comeback with a back-and-forth battle to defeat the Episcopal Eagles 30-26.

This Thursday, the JV Flashes will play at home to host the Interlachen Rams. Kickoff is at 6 p.m on Flashes Field. Come out and support your hometown team. Go Flashes!



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# Hilliard Flashes Dominate on Senior Night

Holden McMillen

In times of uncertainty, nothing brings communities together like Friday night lights. But, once a year, the spotlight shines on a handful of student athletes and their parents for Senior Night. Friday night, the Hilliard Flashes honored 15 seniors and their families while hosting the Stanton Blue Devils.

The Flashes opened the game with one mission: to start strong and finish strong. That certainly was the case on their first drive, as the Flashes marched down the field 80 yards and capped the drive off with a 10-yard touchdown strike from Lyle Bennett to Jason Sheffield. With the extra point good, the Flashes jumped out to an early 7-0 lead. This is where the Flashes began to take control of the game. After a quick defensive stop, the Flashes offense kept rolling, this time relying on the ground game when Tywuan Lee found pay dirt from 10-yards out. With a successful extra point, the Flashes extended the lead to 14-0 at the end of the 1st quarter. It continued to get better for the Flashes. The Flashes offense kept

the momentum rolling with another score. Using good, fundamentally sound blocking by the offensive line, Lee found daylight and scorched the Blue Devils' defense with a 57-yard touchdown run. With a botched snap on the extra point attempt, the Flashes continued to grow their lead to 20-0. Then, the Flashes followed that score up with one of their own. After dropping the snap under center, Bennett decided to take matters into his own hands and run it up the middle for a 5-yard touchdown run. With a missed extra point, the Flashes added another score to grow the lead to 26-0. But, after getting kicked around, the Blue Devils decided they wanted no more of the abuse and decided to go down the field with a drive of their own. The drive was capped off with a 4-yard touchdown run. With the extra point good, the Blue Devils cut the deficit down to 26-7. But, the Flashes defense prevented any other big plays, forcing back-to-back negative plays to end the half with a 26-7 lead.

Things continued to get better for the Flashes heading into the second half. The Flashes built on the momentum using their aerial attack when Bennett connected with D.J. Coston for a 30-yard touchdown pass. With a failed 2-point conversion, the Flashes



extended the lead to 32-7. To make things even better, the Flashes caused havoc on special teams when Carson Dixon blocked the punt and recovered it deep in Blue Devil territory. The Flashes capitalized using the ground game when Brayden Holley scored his first career high school touchdown with a 5-yard run. With a failed 2-point try, the Flashes ended the third quarter with a commanding 38-7 lead. The scoring came to a halt, but the Flashes defense still made plays. Cameron Chavarria crushed the quarterback and forced a fumble recovered by Josh Johnson. On a night honoring the seniors, the Flashes dominated the Stanton Blue Devils 38-7 and improved their record to 3-0.

Offensively, the Flashes put up 448 yards of total offense and achieved balance with 28 runs and 21 passes. Lee led the charge on the ground with 12 carries for 191 yards and 2 touchdowns; Holley joined in with 5 carries for 35 yards and a touchdown; D.J. Coston had 5 carries for 17 yards; and Bennett

had 4 carries for 10 yards, and a touchdown. Bennett had a good night throwing, going 11/21 for 198 yards and 2 touchdowns. On the receiving end were Jason Sheffield with 5 catches for 115 yards and a touchdown; Coston had 3 catches for 37 yards and a touchdown; Malik Farahkhan had a catch for 28 yards; and Lee had a catch for 20 yards.

Defensively, the Flashes only allowed 38 total yards and -6 yards rushing, along with 3 sacks, a fumble recovery and a blocked punt. Leading the charge was D.J. Blake with 8 tackles and a sack; Josh Johnson with 6 tackles, a sack, and a fumble recovery; Huntley Moore with 5 tackles; Michael Small with 4 tackles and 2 forced fumbles; and



Lane Beasley had 4 tackles. Cameron Chavarria had 3 tackles and a sack; Nick Campbell had 3 tackles; and D.J. Coston, Farahkhan, Angelo Benjamin, Brantley Hengerer and Damon Kibler all recorded 2 tackles.

The Flashes begin their three week road trip when they visit historic St. Augustine and face St. Joseph's Academy Flashes. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.

Go Flashes!

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## Fatal Plane Crash Near Hilliard

Monday afternoon ended in tragedy for a 74-year-old Palm Coast man. He was flying his single engine aircraft when it suddenly crashed north of Hilliard near the intersection of Trinity Lane and Sunberg Road. Nassau County Fire Rescue personnel declared the pilot deceased at the scene. The pilot was the only person in the plane. The plane, according to the FAA, was a single engine Van's RV-8, which is a kit aircraft that can be built. The Van line of kit aircraft has an outstanding safety record.



According to Sheriff Leeper, witnesses said the plane's engine seemed

to be sputtering and it appeared the pilot was attempting clear the tree line to land in an open field about 200-300 feet away. Unfortunately, the plane struck the trees and crashed. Upon impact the plane caught fire. The Florida Highway Patrol along with the FAA and NTSB are investigating the crash.

## Nassau County 4-H Kickoff!

Register and join us for a fun virtual kickoff for all current or potential 4-H members and their families, hosted through ZOOM Thursday, October 1 at 6:30 p.m.!



Activities and educational segments will be led by your 4-H staff: Kelsey Irvine, Ted Karsch and Laura Laroche, alongside our youth leaders and current volunteers. We will discuss exactly what 4-H is; what activities you can do; and the specialty programs that Nassau 4-H offers. We will also play interactive games and have time to just have fun again.

4-H is open to all of Nassau County's youth ages 5-18 and has projects available in art, leadership, agriculture & animal sciences, environmental science, emergency preparedness and so much more! With a project for everyone, a supportive network of caring individuals and limitless possibilities as your family's interests grow...

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- US Declaration of Independence, Paragraph 2 (1776)



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Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church, 541668 US Hwy. 1, Callahan, **FALL GARAGE SALE**, Saturday, September 26 and Saturday, October 3 from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Church parking lot. There will be garage sale items and bake goods for sale. For more information call (904) 879-3662. 100120

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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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**NEW POPEYE'S COMING SOON!** Seeking employees to join our team for surrounding areas: Callahan and Duval Station Rd., Jacksonville. **OPEN INTERVIEWS** Tuesday - Thursday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Town Hall. Apply at https://recruiting.talentreef.com/popeyes-sailormen-inc. or contact 904-306-6112. 92420

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. 102920

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**SHELTER/CENTER ATTENDANT:** Nassau County has an opening for a Shelter/Center Attendant in the Animal Care & Control Department at \$12.5252 hourly plus benefits. Applications will be accepted thru October 1, 2020. To apply please visit www.nassaucountyfl.com or for additional information contact the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 92410

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## Armed Burglary Suspect Arrested

On Friday, September 18 at approximately 1:40 a.m., the Nassau County Sheriff's Office was notified that an alarm was going off at Casey's Lounge located at 852426 US-17 in Yulee.



When an NCSO deputy arrived he went around to the rear of the building and noticed a door that was open and he heard a loud banging noise coming from inside. As the deputy looked inside the building with his flashlight he observed the suspect trying to steal merchandise. After giving orders to show his hands, the suspect began to run further inside the building. As the deputy gave chase the suspect threw a bar stool at the deputy striking him in the leg. The suspect then fled out of the building with the deputy chasing him. The deputy attempted to TASE the suspect, but was

unsuccessful, however the deputy eventually got close enough to tackle the suspect and eventually handcuff him. Once the suspect was detained a search of the building was conducted. A sledge hammer was found that the suspect used to bash in the rear door as well as other locked cases inside the building in an attempt to steal alcohol and other merchandise. The suspect also had an outstanding arrest warrant from the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office for burglary.

Darron Deshawn Hicks, 28 from Jacksonville, was arrested for Armed Burglary; Felony Criminal Mischief; Resisting Arrest without Violence/Simple Assault; and Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer.

## FSCJ Receives Services Grant

Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) was recently awarded a \$261,888 grant from the United States Department of Education for the TRiO Student Support Services (SSS) STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) program. The project is intended to provide academic and other related support services for low-income, first-generation or disabled college students to increase retention and graduation rates, facilitate transfers from two-year to four-year colleges and universities, and to foster an institutional climate supportive of their success. The grant is expected to renew for four additional years following the initial yearlong budget period, totaling \$1,309,440 over five years.

FSCJ's TRiO SSS-STEM is part of a larger network of TRiO programs, whose objective is to expand educational access and opportunity in higher education. Areas of study include Health Sciences, Information Technology, Engineering Technology/Advanced Manufacturing,

Biotechnology and other STEM-related programs. Participants can pursue STEM certificate programs, STEM Associate in Science degree programs and the Associate in Arts degree, leading to STEM and pre-med programs. While financial aid programs help students overcome financial barriers to education, TRiO helps students overcome other obstacles, whether social or cultural, through academic/career/personal advising, tutoring, mentorship, and various other hard and soft-skill development initiatives.

"FSCJ's TRiO program has been a valuable asset for our College and the many student participants over the past 10-plus years," said FSCJ President John Avendano, Ph.D. "With this additional funding from the U.S. Department of Education, we will now be better positioned to recruit and retain even more students who could benefit from this added layer of support to progress through their pursuit of a postsecondary degree in STEM."

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# OBITUARIES

## ROBERT MELVIN DAVIS, Sr.



Robert Melvin Davis, Sr., 83, of Hilliard, passed away Sunday, September 20, 2020, in Fernandina Beach. He was born January 31, 1937 in the Kings Ferry Community of Nassau County to the late Joe and Ruby Godley Davis. He retired from Callahan Timber Company and was a member of the First Baptist Church of Boulougne.

Along with his parents; he was preceded in death by three sisters Beatrice Lloyd, Alma Powers and Mary Brooks; and two brothers James Davis and Lester Davis.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Joyce Armstrong Davis; two children Robby (Latasha) Davis and Marlene Smith; grandchildren Jason Lee, J.D. (Jessie) Smith, Ben (Jennifer) Smith, Adam (Amber) Smith, Kristina (Ken) Douglas and Robert Davis, III; seven great-grandchildren; and a number of nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, September 24 at 11 a.m. at the First Baptist Church of Boulougne with Rev. Greg Jones officiating. The family will receive friends an hour prior to the service. Burial will follow in Oakwood Cemetery in Hilliard.

Due to the COVID-19, the family would like to ask all to please follow the rules of social distancing and face masks are recommended at the service. Also, anyone who does not feel comfortable with attending the service, the family would like for you to know they understand and covet your prayers.

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

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston, Georgia.

## LENA EVELYN JORDAN



Mother Lena Evelyn Jordan, 90, a lifelong resident of the Kings Ferry Community, transitioned peacefully on September 14, 2020 at Life Care Center of Hilliard. She was born January 12, 1930 in Kings Ferry, to the late John Hardy Thompson, Sr. and Ernestine

Baker. She received her early education in Nassau County. She accepted the Lord as her personal Savior at an early age, joining and baptized at the Mount Olive Baptist Church; where she attended faithfully until her relocation to West Jacksonville Rehabilitation Center, Jacksonville.

Mother Jordan was united in holy matrimony to the late James C. Jordan, Sr. for 46 years. To this union they were blessed with six children. She was a very quiet individual with a loving heart, who enjoyed working outside with her flowers and plants, listening to gospel music and loving on her grandchildren. She was a great mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend and her presence will be greatly missed by her loved ones.

Preceding her in death along with her parents and husband are: one son Michael Jordan; three brothers James Thompson, Eddie Thompson and John Hardy Thompson, Jr.; one sister Bernice Elaine Thompson; and two grandchildren Maria Jordan and Daniel White.

She leaves to cherish and love her memory, a loving and devoted family; children Leatrice (William) Moses, Ann Mitchell, James Jordan, Jr., Faye (Ralph) White and Carol Jordan; sisters Dorothy Richo, Edna Brown, Thelma Albertie, Jereline (Lawrence) Williams, Grace (Charles) Mitchell, Willie Mae (John) Ewing and Katrina (Granderson) Davis; brothers George (Elizabeth) Thompson, Sammie (Kay) Thompson, Willie (Eva) Thompson and Calvin (Erin) Thompson; grandchildren Sonya (Issac) Davis, LaTasha Moses, William A. Moses, Latoria Jordan, Keith Jordan, Nicolas Jordan, Marci Jordan, LaShunda Mitchell, Jovan (Mia) White, Donovan Lofton and Destiney Spatcher; 17 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; sister-in-law Verdell Thompson; nieces, nephews, a host of cousins, other relatives and sorrowful friends.

Graveside services will be held Saturday, September 26 at 11 a.m. at Mt Olive Baptist Church Cemetery, 49165 Mt. Olive Road,

Kings Ferry with Rev. Lorenzo Watson, Pastor, officiating. Visitation for family and friends will be held Friday, September 25 from 5-7 p.m. at the Northside Chapel of Sarah L. Carter's Funeral Home, 6665 New Kings Rd, Jacksonville.

Sarah L. Carter's Funeral Home Northside is serving the family.

## DONALD LEROY LAWRENCE



Donald 'Pearl' Leroy Lawrence, 64, of Brunswick, Georgia, passed away at his residence September 13, 2020.

He was born April 23, 1956 in Jacksonville. He lived in Callahan with his parents and siblings. He was a 1974 graduate of West Nassau High School. Shortly after graduation, he joined the military and served 6 years in the United States Army with an honorable discharge. Upon his return home, Donald was employed with Container Corporation in Fernandina Beach. He moved to Brunswick in 1990, where he lived out the rest of his earthly life.

He is preceded in death by his mother Willie Mae Jones Lawrence; three sisters Mildred R. Grant, Mary R. Walker and Edith C. Jones.

He is survived by and leaves to cherish his memories his children, Kimberly (Karlos) Gardner of Atlanta, Derrick (Tanya) Davis of San Antonio, Texas, Donald J. Lawrence of Fernandina beach, Alana (Lance) Reed of Jacksonville and Desmond (Brittany) Byrd of Hilliard; father Eddie (Elease) Lawrence of Callahan; brothers Billy Reese and Charles (Francis) Lawrence; sister Avis L. Kemp of Callahan; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

A military inurnment for Donald will be held Monday, September 28 at 10 a.m. at the Jacksonville National Cemetery, 4083 Lannie Road, Jacksonville.

The family thanks everyone for your prayers and condolences. Due to restrictions, the military burial is limited to 20 family members.

L.W. Jackson & Family Mortuary, Brunswick assisted the family, (912) 248-9028.

## SHIRLEY J. MCCALLISTER



Shirley Jacobs McCallister, 82, of Folkston, passed away Saturday, September 19, 2020, at Folkston Park Nursing Home. She was born May 2, 1938 in Folkston, to the late Fred S. Jacobs and Iona Highsmith Jacobs. She attended the Folkston Church of God.

In addition to her parents; she was preceded by her son Wayne McCallister; a granddaughter Priscilla McCallister; a brother Lamar Jacobs; and two sisters Sara Smith and Frances Carter.

She is survived by her children Jerry McCallister, Dennis (Ginger) McCallister, Ricky (Cynthia) McCallister and Regina (Kenny) Mahoney; grandchildren Jerry McCallister, Jr., Misty Doenges, Doug (Kim) McCallister, Tyler (Jamie) McCallister, Bethany (Steve) Conner, Devin (Nikki) McCallister, Nicholas McCallister, Trint Mahoney, Reese Mahoney and Lynnsie Mahoney; and a number of great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 23 in the Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Ricky Knox and Rev. Rob Gillis officiating. The family received friends prior to the service. Burial followed in Sardis Cemetery.

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

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston, Georgia.

## LENARD MCKINZY



Mr. Lenard McKinzy, 97, was born March 1, 1923, in Lake City, Florida to the late Jerry McKenzie and Louise Robinson. He was one of five children. Lenard attended the local schools in Lake City. He lived a full life. Lenard transitioned this life Sunday, September 6, 2020.

Lenard relocated to Kings Ferry, where he met and married the lovely Virginia Holzendorf. They relocated to Jacksonville and were blessed to have 13 children. He loved to work and was an entrepreneur. Lenard was a Tile Setter by trade and taught his children to be entrepreneurs and tile setters as well. As time went on, Lenard became a truck driver and was employed by Ryder Truck, Inc. He worked for them for many years until he got hurt on the job and had to retire from the company. Afterwards,

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Lenard became a seasonal cook at a hotel for many years because he loved to cook. He also loved to go fishing; it was one of his most favorite hobbies through the years.

Lenard was preceded in death by his parents; his second oldest son Larry McKenzie; three brothers Paul Ford, Jerry McKenzie and Jimmy Robinson; and one sister Caribelle Bailey.

He leaves to cherish his memory, seven sons, Leonard (Rita) McKenzie, Anthony McKenzie, Jerry H. McKenzie, Henry (Melvia) McKenzie, Billy (Erica) Williams, Robert Williams and Dan McKinzy; five daughters, Annie M. Paulhill, Joselena (Melvin) Green, Wilma Hicks, Lanita (Tony) Johnson and Davanie M. (Eric) Green; a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren; sisters Jean Smith Golden and Elvena Bryant Bailey; daughter-in-law Belinda McKenzie; loyal and faithful caregiver/nephew Withie (Shirley) Ford; nephews, nieces, cousins; a host of relatives and friends.

The graveside service for Lenard McKinzy was held Saturday September 12 at Mt. Olive Cemetery, Kings Ferry with Pastor Author L. Jordan, Sr. officiating. The family received friends Friday, September 11 at the Soutel Chapel of J.E. Fralin & Sons Funeral Home.

Arrangements entrusted to J. E. Fralin & Sons Funeral & Cremation Services.

**CIARA ELIZABETH MULLINS**



Ciara Elizabeth McInturff Mullins, 35, of Yulee, peacefully entered into the arms of her Lord and Savior Friday, September 18, 2020 with her family by her side. She was born September 4, 1985 in Jacksonville, to her loving parents, Wayne and Kay McInturff. Ciara was a true example of what a warrior is. Ciara was a believer, overcomer, miracle and most of all our blessing because she was supposed to go 10 years ago but God said, "No, your mansion is just not ready for you yet sister." She was something special that beat all the odds and the doctors were always in shock with the way she would knock on death's door and say, "Not Today!" God won His battle and so did Ciara and we are all stronger because of her.

Ciara was preceded in death by her grandfather Edward Hall Murrhee; and her nephew Collin Helms.

Ciara was survived by her son Gavin Mullins; parents Wayne and Kay McInturff; grandmother Margery Murrhee; grandfather Jay Dean Stokes; sisters Brandy McInturff (Christopher McCue) and Sabrina (Joey) Helms; brother Dustin (Cassandra) McInturff; nephew Liam Helms and nieces

**OBITUARIES**

Heavenly McInturff and Ansley McInturff; and several aunts, uncles, cousins and other relatives.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held Saturday, September 26 at 4 p.m. at Yulee Baptist Church with Rev. Doug Size officiating. The family will receive friends an hour prior to the service. Memorialization will be by cremation.

Due to the COVID-19, the family would like to ask all to please follow the rules of social distancing and face masks are recommended at the service. Also, anyone who does not feel comfortable with attending the service, the family would like for you to know they understand and covet your prayers.

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

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston, Georgia.

**GLADYS MATTLEE PERPALL**



Ms. Gladys Mattlee Perpall, 88, of Callahan, passed away Tuesday, September 15, 2020. She was born in Bryceville to the late Jeffery Albert and Ruby Estell Greene Batten. Ms. Perpall, along with her husband Leon, owned Perpall's Sinclair Service Station and Automotive Service in Callahan for many years. She also worked at various other businesses throughout Nassau County during her life. She loved raising her children and later spending time with her grandchildren and loved them all unconditionally. A woman of strong faith, Ms. Perpall was a member of North Jacksonville Baptist Church. She enjoyed gardening, going to the movies, eating out and spending time with her family at the beach. She will be remembered as a loving mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend.

She is survived by her daughters Sherma Lepley of Bogart, Georgia and Cathy Wasdin of Baldwin; son Leon (Shawna) Perpall, III of Bryceville; grandchildren Phillip Lepley, III, Kelly McLanahan, Shelly Lee, Ashley Freeman, Sean Wasdin, Ali Perpall and Cameron Perpall; great-grandchildren Kelson Irwin, Lexy Lee and Michael Lee; and sisters Bertha "Toots" Privette of St. George and Carolyn Crawford of Lakeland. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Leon Perpall, Jr.; son Michael Perpall; and a brother Horace Batten.

Funeral services will be held privately. Warren Funeral Services served the family, [www.warrenfuneralservices.com](http://www.warrenfuneralservices.com).

**ROBERT GRADY THAGARD**



Robert 'Bobby' Grady Thagard, 82, of Callahan, went home to be with the Lord on September 19, 2020. Bobby was born in Quitman, Georgia to the late Shirley Lee Thagard and Claudia McGiboney Thagard. Bobby enjoyed his longtime career as an ironworker and was a member of the Iron Workers Union Local No. 597. Bobby was also a member of New Life Baptist Church and enjoyed attending church services there. Bobby loved the outdoors and his animals but more than anything, Bobby loved his family and friends and enjoyed spending time with them. Bobby had a heart of gold and will be dearly missed. Bobby is preceded in death by his parents; and brother-in-law Henry J. Kinard.

Bobby is survived by his loving wife of 28 years, Alexis Courson Thagard; his sons Dink (Rhonda) Thagard of Jacksonville, Kelly (Shawn) Thagard of Callahan; step-daughter Lisa (Stephen) Peebles of Carrollton, Georgia; chosen daughter Melissa (Michael) Stokes of Bryceville; brother Bennett (Patricia) Thagard; sisters June Kinard and Ruby Jean (Tommy) Maloch; grandchildren Kristen (Micah) Gentle and Kourtney (Kirk) Richeson; several great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Active pallbearers were Mark Purvis, Clark Purvis, Jeff "Decky" Purvis, Chuck Brown, Michael Stokes, Lee Kinard, Scott Malloch and Dean Thagard.

A Celebration of Bobby's Life was held Wednesday, September 23 at New Life Baptist Church in St. George with Pastor James Conner officiating. Interment followed at Jones Cemetery in Callahan. The family received friends Tuesday, September 22 at Nassau Funeral Home.

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

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

**ROLAND E. VANGORDER, JR.**



Roland (Ronnie) Ernest VanGorder, Jr., 62, went to his heavenly home on September 16, 2020 following a lengthy illness. Ronnie was born September 23, 1957 in Byron, Michigan to the late Roland and Genevieve Henry VanGorder. He served 4 years in the United States Army as a Diesel Mechanic. He had a love for classic cars and motorcycles, but his passion was serving the Lord. He was a faithful member of Calvary Baptist Church where he served in many areas, but mainly in the Awana program as a leader and then a Commander. If you asked Ronnie what his greatest accomplishment was in his life he would say "Accepting his Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior" and his family. He always said his family was his life.

He was preceded in death by his stepmother Bessie Herrick; sister Cindy VanGorder; brother Terri Thayer; son Shawn Pettyjohn; and daughter Amanda VanGorder-Golob.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Effie VanGorder; four sons Ryan VanGorder, David (Ellie) Pettyjohn, Roland (Kim) VanGorder, III and Matthew (Alexis) VanGorder; daughter Alicia VanGorder (Dylan) Wiggins; daughter-in-law Rosanna (Robbie) Pettyjohn; brothers Mike (Dee) Thayer and David (Lisa) VanGorder; sister-in-law Marie (Eddie) Harris-McKinney; several grandchildren; nieces and nephews that he cherished more than life.

A celebration of his life service was held Wednesday, September 23 at Calvary Baptist Church with Pastors Jason and George Kratochvil officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to be made in his memory to: Calvary Baptist Church to forward to Gideon Bible Ministry or to Wreaths Across America for the National Cemetery.

Arrangements by Integrity Funeral Home & Cremations, 904-654-4110.

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# Warriors Suffer Loss to Baldwin

Kyle Pipkin

West Nassau fell to Baldwin's passing attack Friday night by a close score of 36-31. In what should have been a home game for the Warriors, they ended up traveling to Baldwin because of the field conditions at home. While this game was another offensive show down, it showed a difference in styles. Baldwin likes to throw the ball, while West Nassau likes the ground and pound.

The Warrior defense tends to struggle against teams that throw the ball. They have one of the best run defenses in the area but not the same when it comes to stopping the pass. This past Friday was no exception, giving up 244 passing yards and 3 touchdowns through the air. Hopefully the defense can get back to their dominant ways next week when they travel to Bishop Kenny.

The Warriors put the ball in the air more this week because they were behind most of the game. Devin Law went 7 of 9 through the air for 120

yards and 2 touchdowns. Brady Wright went 7 of 14 with 1 touchdown. On the receiving end, it was the Chaz Davis show. He brought in 9 receptions with 144 yards and 2 touchdowns. He did turn the ball over once with a fumble. Leondrel Whitley also had a touchdown reception.

Rushing, the Warriors had six different ball carriers for a total of 81 yards. Again, Davis lead the team in rushing with 7 carries and 81 yards. Brady Wright did put the ball in the end zone once. They couldn't run the ball the way they normally do because of falling behind in the half. The offensive line did have a total of 10 pancake blocks as a unit.

This week on offense the Warriors did put up points, but turnovers killed them. Hopefully this will get cleaned up before next week. It would be nice to see them throw the ball more on a regular basis. On defense the Warriors did have a total of 6 tackles for loss; and 3 sacks in the game. They were stout

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against the run but not so much against the pass. Next week I'm sure they will get this cleaned up and get back to their

winning ways. This week the Warriors will travel to Bishop Kenny for a 7 p.m. kick off!

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