



WESTSIDE JOURNAL



VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 8

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

"I HAVE SET THE LORD ALWAYS BEFORE ME. BECAUSE HE IS AT MY RIGHT HAND, I WILL NOT BE SHAKEN. I KEEP MY EYES ALWAYS ON THE LORD. WITH HIM AT MY RIGHT HAND, I WILL NOT BE SHAKEN. I KNOW THE LORD IS ALWAYS WITH ME." - PSALM 16:8

NOW, MORE THAN EVER... NEVER FORGET



SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 - 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Dawn S. West

I'm not sure that I will ever forget when I found out about the attack on America on Tuesday, September 11, 2001. I was newly engaged and had just celebrated my parents' 50th wedding anniversary with 28 of our family on a 4-day cruise. We returned Monday and most family members returned to their homes. I returned to work and my children to school Tuesday. At work, we did not have a television or even a radio. It was before high-tech cell phones. David Thompson came to the office and told us what was happening. My heart sank. Fear struck through every part of my body as the joy I had just experienced quickly turned to sadness and panic. How are my children, my parents and my sister flying to Texas on Tuesday? So many questions going through my mind... it was horrible. Immediately, churches throughout our area and in the entire country opened their doors to welcome anyone that wanted to come and pray. It was a time of reverence and deep prayer (wouldn't be a bad idea today). And people flooded to them.

However, my pain and fear was so minor compared to all those right in the middle of the attack. As I got home and began to watch the images on TV, all I could do was cry and hold my

children. Roger was working with Fire Rescue and his job quickly turned to high alert profile. Although it seemed like my entire world was crashing, the images on the screen reminded me to pray without ceasing for those people, families, first responders, our country.

It's hard to believe that 20 years have passed since that horrible day. New York, the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania will never be the same. So many tragic deaths and so many heroes. The American people were wounded and hurting. Everyone was reaching out to their friends and neighbors. There was so much good. The American

people bonded and felt each other's pain.

My how time changes things! It seems many Americans have forgotten all the pain and loss that we, the American people, went through. Everyone seems to have their own opinions about everything. Our America is quickly changing and we Americans need to find the courage to remember who we are. We are, 'One Nation Under God'.

Each one of us needs to make sure to Remember the day as the 20th Anniversary is this Saturday, September 11. If you are not attending any events,

make sure to take a moment of silence in remembrance. The first tower was hit at 8:46 a.m.; the second tower at 9:03 a.m.; the Pentagon was hit at 9:38 a.m.; and at 10:10 a.m. the final plane went down in Somerset, Pennsylvania.

This Saturday, September 11 two memorials will be held. The first, a 20th Anniversary 9/11 Tribute at 8:30 a.m. will be held at the Robert M. Foster Justice Center, 76347 Veterans Way, Yulee. The second, a Patriots Day 20th Anniversary of 9/11 Memorial Service will be held at 4 p.m. at the Journey Church, 95707 Amelia Concourse, Fernandina.

NCSO Assists in Hurricane Relief Effort

After being contacted by the Florida State Emergency Management Office, volunteers from the Nassau County Sheriff's Office traveled to Louisiana (one group left Friday another Saturday) to assist in the aftermath of Hurricane



Ida. Five NCSO deputies will be relieving law enforcement officers in Lake Charles Parrish as some of them have had their homes severely damaged or destroyed and they need to attend to their families' needs after working very long hours making sure their community gets back on track. "I'm so proud of the men and women of NCSO who have stepped up to assist after this powerful storm," said Sheriff Bill Leeper. "Other agencies would do the same if we needed help."



NCSO is also sending two deputies to assist in restoring radio communications that have been damaged. Deputies will be working 12-hour shifts for at least the next 10-14 days.

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Letters to the Editor

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

Service or Power?

Dear Editor,

"The servant-leader is servant first, it begins with a natural feeling that one wants to serve, to serve first, as opposed to, wanting power, influence, fame, or wealth." — Robert K Greenleaf

Obviously none of Mr. Greenleaf's works can be found on Dr. Burns' bookshelf. Her most recent decision, lack of collaboration and non-existent communication screams power not service. On August 17, she announced correctly at the Board Meeting, convened to discuss masks, that the mandatory wearing of masks by staff was a change in working conditions. It was subject to negotiations and Burns said that, in her conversation with Union leadership, there was no obstacle to implementing the mandate.

In the interim, Burns must have received a legal opinion that mandates of limited duration are not subject to negotiation. Does she communicate this with Union leadership

who has already submitted their proposals to other members of Burns' administration? No, she announces on the 26th that the staff mask mandate for the next 30 days is a "management right." She also instructed those who received the Unions' proposals not to respond back. Both Union Presidents heard about the mandate for the first time while in transit to an out of the area meeting. Service or power?

Rather than giving other examples of Burns failure to act as a Servant Leader, I will end with an offer. I am willing to conduct a workshop, pro bono, on Servant Leadership for Dr. Burns, her administration, the School Board and the Union Leadership. I have done this numerous times with other education leaders in my career as a K-12 senior administrator and, most recently, with the administrative team of a large local employer. All I ask is the ability to follow up with the attendees.

Richard Lamken
Fernandina Beach

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Hilliard to Increase Water/Sewer Rates

Dawn S. West

The Hilliard Town Council met Thursday night for their first meeting of September. Town resident Christina Morgan addressed the council concerning changing or amending a town ordinance. "The ordinance allows chickens in the town limits but no roosters. I want to have a rooster on my property," said Morgan. "The ordinance also says I must have a survey of my property and get a permit. That would all be around \$1,000."

No comments were made to Ms. Morgan following her statement.

The first order of business was to revisit the opportunity for the town to have first option on purchasing the Boondocks Junction property. Jennifer Mezara, the realtor handling the property, addressed the council with some strong points about the property with a working venue on site. "I just wanted to refresh your memory about this valuable property that has a 3,780sf multi-purpose venue with adjacent three parcels," said Mezara. "The growth from this business, which brings people from all over, can boost a small town's community development and offer for more economic development. With it being a working venue, booked into 2022, the town could profit right off the bat."

"We're just not set up for running this type of business. We would need someone fulltime to handle it," said Council President John Beasley. "It's a tough sale for me."

"Parking is a huge issue for this

property," added Councilman Jared Wollitz.

"I just don't think it's a good thing for the town to do," said Councilman Lee Pickett. "This would be using the taxpayers money and I don't see it."

The council chose not to look any further into purchasing the property.

Following business included the council approving for Mayor Floyd Vanzant to sign the American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Agreement.

The council approved Resolution 2021-22 which concerned amending Resolution 2020-10, changing the Schedule of Fees for Streets, Sidewalks and other public places. Due to the cost of steel, this would include a 60% increase on culvert pricing. The prices will go into effect October 1, 2021.

The council also approved Resolution 2021-23 which concerned amending Resolution 2020-08, amending Water and Sewer Usage Rates. The rates will increase 1.08% based on the Municipal Cost Index as stated in the Town Code Chapter 58 Utilities Sec. 58-86, annual increases tied to inflation. The increase for residents will be around \$2 per month.

The council approved paying \$5,484.74 to CPE (Coastal Pump & Equipment, Inc.) for the Main Lift Station Pump.

The final business item was the approval of the hiring of Hannah Nicks Bray for the Administrative Assistant position. Bray began the new position Tuesday, September 7 at a cost of \$17/ per hour.

The next council meeting will be Thursday, September 16 at 7 p.m.



JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

This week is going to be a hodgepodge of thoughts and what I deem facts. First, let's look at the murder of Ashli Babbit. On January 6, 2021, Ashli, a U.S. Air Force veteran was murdered by Lt. Michael Byrd of the Capital Police Department. Byrd has been exonerated from the killing of Ashli Babbit, being declared justifiable homicide. Of all the disappointing acts that occurred that day, why was Babbit the only one killed and why was Byrd the only Law Enforcement officer to discharge his firearm at a person? In an interview with Lester Holt on NBC news, Byrd recalled that day stating that where he was left no way to escape. Byrd shot Babbit as she crawled through a window. Byrd said he repeatedly yelled orders to step back that went ignored by the crowds. He stated the shot was a "last resort."

Attorney Johnatan Turley says Byrd's interview confirmed the worst suspicions about the shooting. Byrd stated in the interview, "I could not fully see her hands or what was in the backpack or what the intentions are." So Byrd admitted he did not see a weapon or an immediate threat from Babbit beyond her trying to enter through the window. Now turn the tables taking into account recent high profile police shootings. If a white police officer shot and killed a black female under the exact same conditions, what do you think the outcome would have been? Personally, I think there would have been outrage with 24/7 news coverage.

Second, I received an email that depicted where we are as a nation that we better learn from history! It says, "It didn't start with gas chambers. It started

with one party controlling the media. One party controlling the message, One party deciding what is truth, One party censoring speech and silencing opposition, One party dividing citizens into "Us" and "Them" and calling on their supporters to harass "them", It started when good people turned a blind eye and let it happen!" Sound familiar?

A new Rasmussen Poll resulted in the following: 32% say Biden should resign now. 40% say Biden should be impeached, 33% say Harris is not qualified to be President. All of these figures are "exclusively" from Democrats. This is the most intriguing poll I have ever seen.

Words from Columnist Benny Johnson, "Your American government and military will abandon you in a terrorist prison-state to be hostages of barbarians armed to the teeth with billions in lethal, sophisticated weapons that you paid for with your own American tax dollars, enjoy the ride." I never thought I would see or hear this about America but sadly he's right.

Lastly, normally I do not respond back to people that disagree with me. However, this is to the gentleman who thought my remarks concerning Ivermectin use was crazy. Per Steve Deace (@SteveDeaceshow) "Ivermectin won the Nobel Prize in 2015 for its outstanding results treating HUMANS. Anybody on here claiming this is strictly a drug for livestock, horses, or animals of any kind is either woefully uninformed or a total liar."

As always...that's just my opinion! And as always...**In God We Trust!**

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One of my favorite passages of scripture is Psalms 91. The reason that I find it so encouraging to me, is that when I'm going through a rough or difficult place in my life, I can turn to this passage and it reminds me that I'm not alone. This passage lifts up my spirit and reminds me that God is there to help me and keep me in times of trouble. This passage tells us that if we dwell in the shelter of the Most High (God), that He will be our refuge and shelter. That God would protect us from the attacks of the enemy and the storms of life that pass our way. Psalm 91:1-2, "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, *'He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust.'*"

I want you to notice that in verse one, that it say's "He who 'dwells' in the secret place." This promise is for those who "dwell" in that secret place. The word "dwell" means to reside, to live, or to stay in his presence. The intent here in this passage is that we continually live in the presence of God. Unfortunately, many have made it a habit to run to God when they get in trouble but after God rescues them they drift away from His presence until they need His help again. Wouldn't it be great if we could learn to continually abide in His presence? Ever since the creation of man, that's what God has desired from us. He just wants us to have that continual fellowship with Him. If we will learn to make the Most High (God) our dwelling, then he promises to protect us. Psalm 91:9-11, "*Because you have made the Lord, who is my refuge, Even the Most High, your dwelling place, No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways.*"

If ever we needed God's protection, it's now. Let me encourage you to take a few minutes and read all of Psalm 91, and then take a few minutes and renew your relationship with the Lord. He loves you and desires your fellowship.

I'm so thankful for God and His Word that give me Hope. I pray that you will put your trust and hope in Him.

Celebrate Recovery Ministry at Callahan First Baptist

Callahan First Baptist is excited to announce the formal launch of its Celebrate Recovery Ministry! The first service will be held Monday, September 13 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Celebrate Recovery is a biblical and balanced recovery program helping people of all walks to overcome their hurts, habits and hang-ups.



CelebrateRecovery

Dr. Lynn Hyatt, Senior Pastor at Callahan First Baptist, has a heart for this ministry and as a pastor, he knows too well the hurts, hang-ups and habits that so many suffer from in our community and beyond. He wanted to make Celebrate Recovery and Callahan First Baptist a safe place for those looking for the freedom that is only found in Jesus Christ. Dr. Hyatt states, "We are excited God has led us to offer Celebrate Recovery to our community! We are looking forward to how He will use the power of the Gospel and unconditional love to transform lives. This is just another way Callahan First Baptist can fulfill God's calling to be 'For the Community' and For the Gospel."

Celebrate Recovery is being led by Ministry Leaders Brad and Vicki Pickett. Celebrate Recovery is a program that is very near and dear to their own heart. "I am passionate about Celebrate Recovery as it is unique to other successful recovery programs in that it is foundationally based on the actual words of Jesus spoken in the Beatitudes, rather than some psychological theory," said Brad. "Celebrate Recovery is a place for EVERYONE!"

Brad believes that God allows hurts and hang-ups to come into our lives not because he is punishing us but because there is something that he is trying to teach us. Nothing in our lives is wasted with God. He is either trying to grow us closer to Him or he is ready to use these trials to be able to more effectively minister to someone that is currently facing the very trials that God has allowed us to overcome. How much more credibility is

there than talking to someone that has experienced and overcome the exact issues you may be dealing with, whether it's personally or a loved one?

Vicki is equally excited about this new life changing ministry. "It's forward looking and focuses on personal responsibility instead of having us dwell on the past and blame others for our failures," said Vicki. "If we are honest, almost everyone has experienced a hurt, hang up or habit or have a spouse, child, sibling or a parent that has. Celebrate Recovery is for ALL of us that has experienced any of them."

You may be reading this and thinking that you don't have a problem with drugs or alcohol so this is not for me. Although drug and alcohol addiction are a serious problem, they make up only 30% of the people that come to Celebrate Recovery. This life changing ministry is for people that have experienced physical, emotional or sexual abuse as a child or as an adult, people with sexually related addictions, anxiety or eating disorders. Celebrate Recovery reminds us how God sees us and not how others see us, or how we think others see us.

Celebrate Recovery will begin next Monday, September 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel of Callahan First Baptist Church and will meet each Monday at the same time. Each meeting will begin with a time of worship with our very own Celebrate Recovery band, a time of teaching or testimony, followed by Open Share small groups. These small groups are the lifeblood of the Celebrate Recovery ministry. They are a safe place where we can share our struggles in complete anonymity and confidentiality. If you struggle with things in your life or know someone who does, we pray that you will come or invite others to come. We hope to see you there. If you have questions or want more information about Celebrate Recovery, contact the church office at 904-879-2172.

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Public Works Department

The Town of Callahan is soliciting bids from qualified vendors for the AB2021-01 Milling and Resurfacing Project for the Public Works Department. It will be the responsibility of the Contractor to measure and verify the project areas. Please submit bids by **Bid Number**. The following roads proposed for bidding are:

- Bid #1 – Page Street (Approx. 1,000 ft.)**
From Page Street to Dixie Avenue (Approx. 825 ft.)
Total Footage Bid #1 – (Approx. 1,825 ft.)
- Bid #2 – Hartford Court with cul-de-sac (Approx. 200 ft.)**
- Bid #3 – Booth Street at Green Avenue to US Hwy. 301 (Approx. 400 ft.)**
Booth Street at US Hwy. 301 to Fifth Avenue (Approx. 2,050 ft.)
Total Footage Bid #3 – (Approx. 2,450 ft.)

Bid packet will be available on Town of Callahan website at www.townofcallahan-fl.gov after September 9, 2021. Questions may be submitted to Public Works Director, Mike Williams at pwd@townofcallahan-fl.gov until 4:00 pm on Wednesday, September 22, 2021. Bids will be accepted until 4:00 pm on Wednesday, September 29, 2021, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. For more information regarding the request for proposal, please contact Mike Williams, Public Works Director, 904-838-8724 or by e-mail at pwd@townofcallahan-fl.gov.

Bids should be submitted to:
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Bids should be submitted in duplicate in a sealed envelope clearly marked **AB2021-01 Milling and Resurfacing Project** with the name of the bidder, date, and time of the bid opening. EOE

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 ext. 203 or clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov at least seventy two hours in advance to request such accommodation.
If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

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Callahan Boy Scouts Organize an Adopt-A-Road Litter Cleanup

Following safety guidelines for the safe collection of litter, Callahan Boy Scout Troop 351, under the leadership of Christine Waltman, completed their 3rd quarter Adopt-A-Road cleanup event on Saturday, August 28.



Troop 351 has adopted Warrior Road as their cleanup location, however their enthusiasm for a clean, green and beautiful environment often leads them to clean additional areas. Saturday's event was no exception. The Troop cleaned Warrior Drive, Brown Street and the student parking lot of West Nassau High School removing two large bags of litter and several bulk

items. "Callahan Boy Scout Troop 351 sets a great example for all partners in the Adopt-A-Road program," said Lynda Bell, Keep Nassau Beautiful Executive Director. "We appreciate their service to the community by helping keep areas in Callahan clean, green, and beautiful."

Board Adopts New Pavement Management Plan

In September 2020, the County secured RoadBotics, an enterprise firm specializing in road and infrastructure assessments, to conduct an unbiased survey of all the County's existing 437 miles of paved roads and to provide feedback on current conditions. This information was used to develop a new, robust Pavement Management Plan that will guide the County in preventative maintenance.

The firm utilized their interactive, online platform and advanced data collection tool to record virtual imagery of each of the existing paved roads. The imagery was then uploaded to their RoadSense app which used an algorithm to identify deficiencies in the roadways. The roadways were then scored based on condition, with the best roadways scoring a 1.00 and the worst scoring a 5.0. The projects with the highest scores are typically placed with the highest priority in the Pavement Management Plan. However, roadways classified as Collector Roadways (low-to-moderate capacity roads which serve to move traffic from local streets and arterial roads) will be given priority over local roadway classifications where condition scores tie.

At the August 22, 2021 meeting, the Board adopted the new Pavement Management Plan utilizing a 22-year cycle for ranking, prioritizing, and budgeting purposes. The Plan is expected to require a minimum of \$3.9 million annually (in today's dollars), however this amount may fluctuate based on the value of the U.S. dollar, prevailing wages, and cost of raw

material. Based on current maintenance purview and previous funding, each paved County roadway could only be resurfaced every 86 years. However, under the new Pavement Management Plan, the County will be able to resurface an estimated 18-20 miles of roadway annually.

Another exciting feature of this new Plan is that the County can now utilize the RoadSense app to reassess roadways periodically and update plans for maintenance as needed. The interactive mapping software can determine if a roadway condition score is dropping notably and whether or not it requires resurfacing sooner than originally anticipated.

Upon approval of the new Pavement Management Plan, County Manager, Taco Pope, stated, "This Plan not only improves quality of life by having the roads resurfaced more frequently, the County benefits from a fiscal sustainability standpoint as well. One of the biggest problems jurisdictions face is the inability to maintain their infrastructure. You all (the Board) should be very proud that you have a proactive approach to pavement management. Nassau County is moving in a very positive direction."

A complete list of roadways and their ranking on the Pavement Management Plan can be found on our official website at www.nassaucountyfl.com. Select Engineering from the departments tab and then select "Capital Improvement Projects."

Cub Scouts to Hold Sign Up Night



Cub Scouting is designed to be a fun experience for the whole family. To find out more about the Scouting journey and how fun the Cub Scout Pack 351 program is, visit us at Sign Up Night:

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New Beginnings and Milestones

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Stearn Celebrate 70th Anniversary



Jim and Julia Stearn celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary September 8. They attended high school together and fell in love. Following high school graduation in 1950, Jim joined the US Air Force. He gave Julia about a week's notice that he was going to be on leave and come home. She quickly planned the wedding on September 8, 1951 at the First Baptist Church of Arkadelphia, Arkansas. Her parents couldn't get there however her uncle and

aunt were there along with Jim's parents and sisters. Following the wedding they spent their honeymoon on the lake in Hot Springs before Jim left again. They spent several years traveling the country while serving and attending college. Their five children were born in a span of seven years. They're not really sure how they made it but they know the Lord was with them all along. They attribute their lasting love and faithfulness to each other to the Lord. "He directed our paths and we just followed. We have been, and still are, so blessed!"

They celebrated their special milestone with a drop-in celebration, hosted by their children, on August 29 at Plantation Oaks Farms in Callahan. The celebration was attended by lots of family and many friends sharing smiles and memories all afternoon.

They have five children Dub (deceased) and Carol Stearn of Ft. Walton, Marci and Dave Scott of Amelia Island, Mark (Stephanie Titus) Stearn of Callahan, Gus and Christie Stearn of Fernandina Beach and Dawn and Roger West of Hilliard. They also have 12 grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.



Annistyn Lee VanTassell

Ryan and Alicia VanTassell, of Callahan, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Annistyn Lee VanTassell. Annistyn was born June 11, 2021 at 8:18 a.m. at St. Vincent's Medical Center in Jacksonville. She weighed 6 pounds 14 ounces and measured 19 inches.

Paternal grandparents are Rosemary VanTassell and Dan Phillips of Hilliard; and Ray VanTassell of Yulee.

Maternal grandparents are Joe and Dorothy Nettles of Callahan.

Proud great-grandmother is Aleen Webber of Wildwood, Florida.

Annistyn was welcomed home by her siblings Austin, Kiley and Annslee!



Mr. and Mrs. Caleb Daugherty



Brooke Lindsey Gordon and Caleb Tyler Daugherty were united in marriage Sunday, June 13 at 5 p.m. at Plantation Oaks Farms in Callahan.

The bride is the daughter of Rathel and Amy Gordon of Callahan. She is employed with her family's restaurants.

The groom is the son of Nicole and Ricky McConnell; and Adam Wilson, all of Hilliard. He is employed with Lindsey's Pest Control.

Serving as Maid of Honor was Karissa Clark. Bridesmaids were Oriana Arends and Morgan Wilson. Serving as Best Man was Ricky McConnell, and groomsmen were Chase Gordon and Jordan Conaway.

Following a honeymoon to St. Augustine, the couple is residing in Callahan.

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G. Bennett

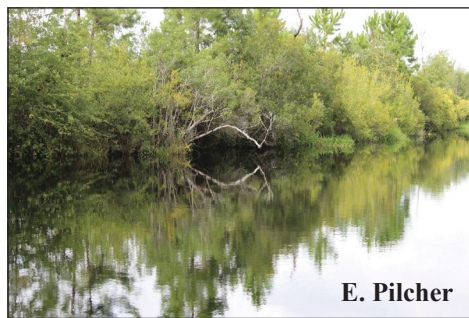
Call Ms. Laura at 904-530-6353 or email her at: llaroche@ufl.edu for details on how to become a member of Zooming in Photography Club.

To keep youth engaged and learning we change our photo shoot locations every month and set aside designated classroom time to work on their prints, portfolios and project books. Our hope is to provide a safe, social environment where youth can learn to engage with others and enjoy themselves while still learning.

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82nd Annual Meeting
Saturday, September 11 at 10 a.m.
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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.

Tuesday, August 31

Harley Wade Frost, Jr., 29, 3768 Hawk Drive, Hilliard: Resist without Violence; Habitual Traffic Offender; DUI with Property Damage Injury; Flee & Elude Police Officer

Wednesday, September 1

George Anthony Pressel, 65, 44105 Pinebreeze Blvd., Callahan: Resist with Violence Simple Assault; Reckless Driving

Thursday, September 2

Jody Lee Cook, 22, 27210 Kara Circle, Hilliard: Battery on Law Enforcement Officer

Malcom Swain Shuman, 56, 27182 Kara Circle, Hilliard: Possession of Methamphetamine; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia with Residue

Saturday, September 4

Andrew Steven Taylor, 42, Callahan: DUI Normal Faculties Impaired

Sunday, September 5

Johnathan Bradley King, 23, Hilliard: Reckless Driving; Leaving a Crash with Property Damage; Driving While License Suspended with Knowledge, 2nd Conviction

Genealogy Tidbits

Claude Arpen

History and genealogy always walk hand in hand. As the world around us many times dictates the decisions we make, as to our professions, where we live, and the battles we may be called on to fight. Here are four Historic events that changed America (and maybe your ancestors lives) forever.

According to Family History Daily they are:

1. The Homestead Act of 1862 and the opening of the American West, post Civil War. You can find records of people who took advantage of the promise of land through the Bureau of Land Management.

2. The 1875 Supreme Court Decision in Henderson vs. Mayor of the City of New York. This transferred control of immigration from the States to the Federal Government for the first time. This helped bring about Immigration Centers such as Castle Garden, Ellis Island and Angel Island, where immigration records are consolidated.

3. The 1918 Flu Pandemic, which claimed more lives than in WWI.

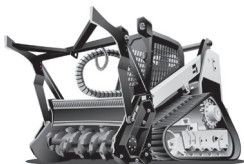
4. The Great Depression and the formation of the Works Progress Administration, WPA and the Civilian Conservation Corps, CCC. These programs created inventories, indexes and transcripts of historical records that can be located in the US National Archives and Civilian Conservation Corps Legacy.

Hope this information will help you in your research. Our meetings have been postponed indefinitely due to the virus. Hopefully, we will return to our normal scheduled meetings soon. Pray for our country, be safe and don't forget to support your local businesses.

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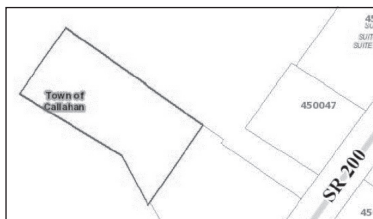


TOWN OF CALLAHAN, FL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of Callahan Planning & Zoning Board will have a Public Hearing for a Site Plan Review

CALLAHAN COMMERCE CENTER
PARCEL #29-2N-25-0000-0010-0000



Monday, September 13th at 7 p.m.

Callahan Town Hall

542300 U.S. Hwy. 1 • Callahan, FL 32011

Interested Persons may appear and be heard at the Hearing.

Site plan will be available for review at Town Hall.

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

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

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TAMMY FAYE AUSTIN



Tammy Faye Austin, 60, of Callahan, passed away peacefully August 30, 2021, due to complications of COVID in Jacksonville. She was born May 15, 1961, in Jacksonville, to the late James and Alice Roberson. Tammy was one of nine children. She was the oldest of five daughters, and like a mother to all her siblings. Tammy grew up in Florida and spent most of her childhood helping her family on a Dairy Farm. She attended West Nassau High School and in 1979 she decided to move to Houston, Texas to live with family. Tammy loved Texas, especially line dancing on Friday nights. While in Texas, she took classes including a 10-key typing class that would later help her in her job at Baptist Medical Center in the accounting department. She later moved to Bakersfield, California, where she gave birth to her daughter, Jennifer. She ultimately decided to return to Jacksonville in 1986. She soon met her next-door neighbor, Tommy, and they ended up falling in love after Merry, her little sister, set them up. Tommy loved her and her cooking and they married February 21, 1987. Together, they had their daughter, Brittney.

Tammy relished the role of stay-at-home Mom and homeschooled her children Jennifer and Brittney through elementary school. She was energetic full of life, a prayer warrior, a woman of faith and loved God. In 1996, Tommy and Tammy decided they wanted to make more of a difference in life, so they chose to become houseparent's at the Baptist Home for Children. At any given time, Tammy would have 8-10 extra daughters to love and care for until they were either adopted or transitioned back into the arms of their family. Tammy has kept up with a lot of the girls that are now women from the Baptist Home and was fortunate to be "Granny Tammy" to their children. Tammy was the ideal role model for all her children to look up to and the epitome of strength. A testament to her

strength is being an ovarian cancer survivor in 2007.

Most recently Tammy worked at Frontier Airlines, as the friendliest ticket agent and had a second job at Publix, a job in which she loved so much. People were drawn to Tammy because of her friendly disposition and kind spirit that was sprinkled with fun and laughter. She had a way of making everyone feel special, a gift that made the lives of everyone who knew her better.

Tammy had an entrepreneurial spirit and was always thinking of her next adventure. One of her biggest accomplishments was when she started a clothing and gift boutique, in Callahan, called Haley Caroline and Co. She most enjoyed getting to meet new people in her community. She initiated her own YouTube channel, called Forever Tammy Faye, and had well over 1,000 subscribers. On her channel she shared her love for southern cooking, crafting and shopping.

Tammy is preceded in death by her parents; sister Jean Forbes; brothers Terry Roberson, Timmy Roberson and Tony Roberson.

Tammy is survived by her loving husband of 35 years, Tommy Austin of Jacksonville; daughters Jennifer Crawford and Brittney (Bobby) Boyce; grandchildren Jacob Bowler, Levi Bowler and new grandchild due in February 2022; and her siblings Rocky Roberson, Jerry Roberson, Merry (Kenneth) Carroll and Sherry (Michael) Bates.

The family will receive friends Wednesday, September 8 at 5 p.m. prior to the celebration of Tammy's life at 6 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.

OBITUARIES

MICHAEL R. COLLINS



Michael R. Collins, 62, of Hilliard, passed away on September 4, 2021. He was born on June 9, 1959 in Jacksonville. Mike was the owner of M & M Marine. He was a member of Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church on Callahan, and Fourth Degree of Knights of Columbus. Mike loved to hunt, fish, reload ammo and Cerakote guns. He was preceded in death by his brother Richard N. Collins.

Mike is survived by the love of his life, high school sweetheart, and wife of 40 years, Michele Hartley Collins; son Brandon Michael Collins; parents Nancy DeArmon and Jerry D. Howell; sisters Beth (Alberto) Martinez and Christie (Gus) Stearn; nieces Ashley Rawls and Paige Thrower; nephews Luke Stearn, Chase O'Quinn, Tyler Collins, Billy Ruth and Patrick Ruth; and his beloved dog Weenie.

The family will receive friends Sunday, September 12 from 5-7 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home. A Catholic Mass will be held for Mike Monday, September 13 at 3 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church. Interment will follow at River Road Baptist Church Cemetery in Hilliard.

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

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

THOMAS B. EDWARDS



Thomas B. "Tommy" Edwards, 68, of Callahan, passed away Wednesday, September 1, 2021. He was born in Pensacola, Florida and was the son of the late Richard D. Edwards and Yvonne Hickox Edwards.

Tommy lived most of his life in Nassau County. He was a 1973 graduate of West Nassau High School. He retired from Ryder

Truck Rental Company after 23 years of service. He then began a second career with Arctic Air of Northern Florida where he was the Service Manager. From an early age, he was a diehard Florida fan. Some believed he would bleed Orange and Blue if he were cut. His avid following of all things UF was probably the only excess in his life. He was a man of simple things.

Tommy loved Jesus and had an undying devotion to his church, Yulee Baptist Church. He served as a Deacon and was faithful in his church life. He could be found helping at the community Thanksgiving meal, wheelchair ramps or any other task around the church. Tommy was a faithful man who dearly loved his family. He doted on his grandchildren and always did what he could for them. He will be remembered for his unconditional love, his simple ways and his heart of Gold.

In addition to his father Richard Dean Edwards; Tommy was predeceased by his sister and brothers, Debbie Armstrong, Ricky Edwards and Davy Edwards.

He leaves behind his children, Kellie (Nick) McLeod of Hampton and Kyle (Brandy) Edwards of Keystone Heights; his mother Yvonne Edwards of Callahan; his sister Phyllis (Chris) Lathorp, his brother Mike (Marty) Edwards, all of Callahan; his five grandchildren, Mykayla McLeod, Nick McLeod, Jr., Mykenzie McLeod, Kai Edwards and Kinsley Edwards; as well as several extended family members.

The funeral service for Mr. Edwards was held Saturday, September 4 at Callahan First Baptist Church with Pastor Doug Sides of Yulee Baptist Church and longtime friend, Pastor Edward Dixon officiating. The family received friends prior to the service.

He will be laid to rest beside his father, sister and brother, in Hickox Cemetery near Hoboken, Georgia.

Those desiring may make contributions in Tommy's memory to: Yulee Baptist Church, 85971 N. Harts Rd., Yulee, FL 32097.

Please share your memories and condolences at www.oxleyheard.com
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LUCY WESCH GRIFFIN



Lucy "Maxie Lou" Maxine McKendree Wesch Griffin, 86, of Callahan, passed away on August 30, 2021. She was born on March 6, 1935 in Carrabelle, Florida. As a young child, Maxie Lou relocated to Callahan, where she grew up. She was a housewife, mother and wonderful cook. Maxie Lou and her first husband, Hugo, we married for 42 years and had three children. Sometimes Hugo would surprise her, bringing home a train crew for supper and she would just throw extra plates on the table and make extra biscuits. Several years later, Maxie Lou married Jasper Griffin, who was her neighbor when she was growing up.

She was preceded in death by her parents Luther (Mildred) Herman and Agnes (Amos) Cook; first husband Hugo Wesch; grandson Christopher; great-grandson Baby Boy; half-brothers Gene Herman and Jackie Herman.

She is survived by her husband Jasper Griffin; daughters Debbie (Tommy) Riggins and Tina (John) Lessard; son Chip (Lisa) Wesch; half-sisters Betty Ann Chambliss, Sandra Goldsberry and Patsy Quaille; half-brothers Jimmy Herman and Mike Cook; step-daughter Angie Smith; step-son Jay Griffin; grandchildren Mandy (Mike) McCue, Jenny (Tommy) Peake, Jonathan (Lauren) Lessard, Adam (Jennifer) Wiggins, Jordan (Chelsea) Wesch and Jeremy Wesch; several great-grandchildren; and many

nieces and nephews.

We would like to extend heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the staff at Life Care Center of Hilliard who took wonderful care of our mother the last several years of her life.

A private graveside service will be held Wednesday, September 8 at Jones Cemetery with Pastor Ken Barney officiating.

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

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

WILLIAM RUFUS HALL



William "Sonny" Rufus Hall, 75, of Callahan, passed away on August 31, 2021. He was born on December 12, 1945 in Jacksonville, to James Rufus Hall and Annie Clyde Johnson Hall. Sonny started working at the age of 15. Not only did he have a gift but was also the true definition of a craftsman carpenter and put his heart and soul in everything he built. Sonny built the home him and his wife, Barbara lived in. Other accomplishments were serving in the US Army National Guard and being a Mason. A devoted family man and friend,

Sonny would do anything for anyone. He had a big heart and was always quick to help someone in need. Sonny loved the Lord and enjoyed attending services at Live Oak Baptist Church where he was also a member. He was truly the greatest person who loved his family, friends and dog Baby Precious dearly. Sonny will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister Annie Ruth Fountain; a special uncle Charles "Gene" Johnson; and a twin brother James Eugene Hall.

Sonny leaves behind his wife Barbara Hall; children Cathy Lynn (Michael) Davis of Mayday, Georgia, James Robert (Wanda) Hall of Warner Robbins, Georgia and

Rhonda (Clay) Sadler of St. George, South Carolina; bonus son Darrell Hickman; brother Ronnie (Angie) Hall of Bryceville; sister Margaret (Donald) Williams; grandchildren Sara Catherine (Trey), Mitchell (Taylor) Ethan Cole Davis, Ashley Lynn Hall, Austin Sadler, Garrett Sadler, Keith Foster, Hillary Kitchens, Steven Rice and Tonya Hutchinson; great-grandchildren Brennen Parker Davis and Addilyn Rae Davis; step-children Chris Preston Foster and Kenneth Lee Foster both of Callahan.

A celebration of Sonny's life was held Thursday, September 9 at Nassau Funeral Home. Sonny will laid to rest beside his parents in Vienna, Georgia.

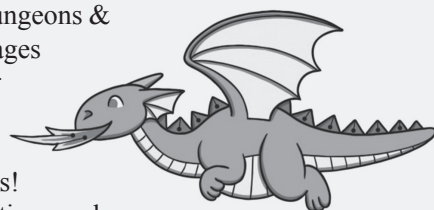
Arrangements by Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 904-879-1770.

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

Dungeons & Dragons at the Callahan Library

The Callahan Library is happy to present Dungeons & Dragons Storm 'King's Thunder' for students ages 13-17. The event will start Tuesday, September 14 from 4-6 p.m. and will be held once a week (on Tuesdays) for 12 weeks. Join a group of adventurers to help save the land from the giants!

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Flashes Trample Stanton

Holden McMillen

As we celebrated Labor Day over the weekend, the Hilliard Flashes also celebrated Friday night on the road against the Stanton Blue Devils. It was picture perfect football weather as we transitioned into the month of September with a sunny and breezy Friday night.

The Flashes received the opening kick and went right to work on offense, moving the ball methodically down the field using the run game to their advantage. Their hard work paid off as quarterback Lyle Bennett kept the ball and found daylight for an 8-yard touchdown run. With a good extra point, just like the flip of a light switch, the Flashes sprung out to an early 7-0 lead. The Flashes defense got in on the action, causing a fumble that was recovered by defensive tackle Travis Sapp. The offense set up with prime field position deep into Blue Devil territory and took full advantage of it when Bennett connected with Bradyn Matto for a 19-yard score. With the extra point good, the Flashes extended the lead to 14-0. After the defense forced the Blue Devil offense to get off the field, the Flashes then relied on the ground game to add to the score board. This time it was Walker Avera finding pay dirt from 19-yards out. With the extra point good, the Flashes closed the first quarter with a comfortable 21-0 lead.

The Flashes kept up the momentum in

the second quarter by continuing to rely on the ground game with DJ Coston getting in on the action as he shed through would be tacklers like he was lathered in butter for a 5-yard touchdown run. With the extra point good, the Flashes added on to the lead, 28-0. But, the tide began to shift. The Blue Devil offense began to march down the field with help from a roughing the punter penalty and a pass interference penalty from the Flashes defense. They used the battering ram to bust the castle doors open to get into the end zone, but the Flashes defense bent but didn't break and kept the Blue Devils out of the end zone. On the next play, the Flashes found trouble with a fumble on the handoff that led to a recovery by a Flashes player in the end zone, allowing the Blue Devils to get on the board with a safety. The Flashes defense was able to create another turnover to help steal the momentum back with an interception by Dylan Coston. The Flashes cashed in on the turnover when Dylan's brother, DJ, caught a check down pass from Bennett and kicked on the nitro for a 45-yard touchdown. And with the extra



point good, the Flashes went into halftime with a comfortable 35-2 lead.

After the Blue Devils had a safety to get them on the board, the Flashes countered the move with a safety of their own. The Blue Devils mishandled the kickoff and was pinned at the 1 yard line. The Flashes defense denied any further advancement when Colton Conner made a tackle in the end zone for the safety, thus adding 2 more points to their score. On the ensuing punt, the Flashes special teams got in on the scoring fun when Braydon Holley found some space, put on a series of jukes and used his speed to return the kick 60 yards for the score. With the extra point good, the Flashes extended the lead 44-2. Even when

the game went to running clock, the Flashes still managed to find the end zone one more time thanks to Avera's 12-yard touchdown run. And just like that, the Flashes continued to roll with a 51-2 beat down against the Blue Devils as they improve to 2-0.

Offensively, the Flashes generated 284 yards total with 180 of those yards coming on the ground. Walker Avera led the charge with 5 carries for 63 yards and 2 touchdowns; DJ Coston had 12 carries for 60 yards and a touchdown; Lyle Bennett had 2 carries for 37 yards and a touchdown; and Braydon Holley had 2 carries for 21 yards and a 60 yard punt return touchdown. Bennett went 5/9 for 99 yards and 2 touchdowns; Coston had 2 catches for 54 yards and a touchdown; Dylan Coston had 2 catches for 28 yards; and Bradyn Matto had a catch for 19 yards and a touchdown.

Defensively, the Flashes forced two turnovers that led to 14 points. Avera was in front on defense with 5 tackles; Carson Newkirk had 3 tackles and a pass breakup; Travis Sapp had 3 tackles and a fumble recovery; Coston had 2 tackles and an interception; and Brogan Johns, Klayton Bright and Colton Conner each had 2 tackles.

The Hilliard Flashes return home this Friday to host the Paxon Golden Eagles with a 7 p.m. kickoff. Come out and support your hometown team. Go Flashes!

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