

WESTSIDE JOURNAL



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West Nassau
 @
Providence
 7:00 p.m.

VOLUME XV ISSUE 10

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2018

"NOR HEIGHT NOR DEPTH, NOR ANY OTHER CREATED THING, SHALL BE ABLE TO SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD WHICH IS IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD." - ROMANS 8:39

Household Hazardous Waste & Waste Tire Amnesty Day this Saturday

This Saturday, September 8, Keep Nassau Beautiful and the Nassau County Convenience Recycle Center are teaming together for a huge clean-up!

First of all, Keep Nassau Beautiful will host a Household Hazardous Waste collection at the Northeast Florida Fairgrounds from 7 a.m. – 12 p.m. Residents are allowed to bring: pesticides, paint thinners, radiator fluid, used oil/lubricants, oil filters, pool chemicals, solvents, insecticides, gasoline/fuels, florescent bulbs, electronics, computers, TVs, paints, all batteries, fertilizers, household cleaners, corrosives, propane tanks, medications, aerosol cans and used cooking oil. These are all items many of us have had stored around our homes and didn't know what to do with them. The event will be at the fairgrounds this Saturday from 7 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Next, the Nassau County Convenience Recycle Center will hold a Waste Tire Amnesty Day, only 1-day, also this Saturday, September 8 from 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. (or until the trailer



is full) at the Convenience Center. Waste tires are not only unsightly but they are also a health hazard for our community and our environment. Proof of Nassau County residency must be provided with your tires. Residents may bring up to 10 tires for FREE disposal (10 per household), car and light truck tires only. Tires must be off the rim and FREE of debris. No commercial loads will be accepted. Tires will be accepted until the trailer is full.

This is a great time for Nassau County residents to clean up their garages and yards of hazardous waste items and also old tires. Make sure to do your part for your home and community!

CIS Teachers Recognized for Outstanding Student Scores



Callahan Intermediate School recently announced that their 2017-18 5th Grade Team accomplished something that had never been done before in Nassau County! When the scores came in from last year's Florida Standard Assessment, it showed Outstanding Student Achievement in all three subject areas: ELA 85%, Science 85%, and Math 95%!

The teachers were honored and recognized at the School Board Meeting Thursday, August 23! When you see the following teachers, give them a huge shout out! Mrs. Kim Shumate, Mrs. Alisha Whitaker, Ms. Alax Purvis, Mrs. Miranda Thompson, Mrs. Stephanie DeAngelo, Mr. Stephen Simmons, Mrs. Heather Drury, Ms. Linda Brown, Ms. Kelsey Schwertfeger, Mrs. Pat Bullard and Mrs. Elaine Ward!

Proposed Tax Increase

Justin Stankiewicz, Office of Management & Budget Director

As most of you are probably aware, the County did raise the proposed millage rate. The County has not raised the general operating millage in four years or the municipal service millage rate in over ten years. Because of this and due to the growth we are encountering, the millage increase was necessary in order to enhance level of services and perform capital projects that have been deferred for many years. Based on the current average taxable value, the impact of the increase by Commissioner District is as follows:

Commissioner District	Average Residential Taxable Value	Annual Cost to Taxpayer - Incorporated Area	Monthly Cost to Taxpayer - Incorporated Area	Annual Cost to Taxpayer - Unincorporated Area	Monthly Cost to Taxpayer - Unincorporated Area
District 1	\$ 175,000	\$ 151	\$ 13	\$ 263	\$ 22
District 2	\$ 275,000	\$ 237	\$ 20	\$ 413	\$ 34
District 3	\$ 105,000	\$ 90	\$ 8	\$ 158	\$ 13
District 4	\$ 65,500	\$ 56	\$ 5	\$ 98	\$ 8
District 5	\$ 76,500	\$ 66	\$ 5	\$ 115	\$ 10
COUNTY-WIDE	\$ 139,400	\$ 120	\$ 10	\$ 209	\$ 17

While stopping new construction is a good thought, legally there is nothing the County can do to stop it. With that being said, even if we were to stop any new construction tomorrow there is already over 33,000 approved entitlements on the books. There are two ways the County can shift the tax burden off of residential taxpayers. The

first is to have a more diversified tax base which requires recruiting more commercial and industrial companies to Nassau County. The second way is to shift the burden to developers in the way of increasing Impact Fees. By law, impact fees can't be increased to make up County deficiencies. Therefore, the County must take the necessary

steps to fill in these gaps on their own before being able to hand them off to developers. This is the reason for the tax increases.

The Board has developed a strategic plan that established their main priorities as public safety, public infrastructure, public recreation and reestablishing reserve balances. In addition, the Board developed a proposed plan on how these new tax funds will be allocated over the next five years. Please note that this plan is not final and can always, and will be, modified.

What you will see in the spending
 See 'Proposed Tax Increase' on page 2

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GREATER POWER FOR THE GREAT OUTDOORS

A Word From the Publisher

While watching the weather Monday evening, I couldn't help but watch as Tropical Storm (at the time) Gordon churned its way up the west coast of Florida and headed for the warm waters of the Gulf. It certainly brings back memories of last year at this time as we watched Hurricane Irma continue to head our way. We are again nearing the peak of the hurricane season and we as Floridians don't need to let our guard down. I think it's so neat that Channel 4 has partnered with Ace Hardware stores to 'Build a Kit' with a cool list to help you better prepare for a hurricane. We haven't done that yet, but we are. Okay, I want to just to make sure we have the most important items on the list! Roger is pretty good about stocking up items. I just want to double check the list!

We were actually in Madison, Florida last year the weekend before Hurricane Irma hit. We were sharing a weekend with my parents for their 66th anniversary. My brother, Dub (Carol), from Ft. Walton Beach and my sister, Marci (David), from Thomasville, Georgia were also there. The weather was fine but we knew Sunday, the day we were leaving anyway, that would change. We all had prayer together as we headed our separate ways except for us and my parents. I'll tell you, heading east on I-10 that day was really spooky. We were one of the very few heading that way and the interstate was sparse. We tried to talk my parents into just coming to our house to ride out the storm but they wouldn't have it. They went on to Kingsland and we headed to Hilliard.

We hunkered down and listened to the

sights and sounds. That was a scary, scary time. We did lose power but we were oh so blessed. We began to hear stories of what was happening all around us right here in our community. We all thought we were prepared but I think everyone learned some important lessons. We truly need to keep up to date on what is happening and where. If your home is not in a good location, take heed and do what you are told to do. A hurricane is nothing to play around with.

Just as these 'hurricanes' come so do the other 'storms' in our lives. It seems sometimes that we have more 'storms' at times than sunny days. I know I've harped on this many times before but...if you start your day out on a positive note, most of the time we can work through the storms. I'm thankful for a heavenly Father that is there for us, no matter what, during the storms and sunny days. I've learned when life starts throwing too many punches my way I look up and ask God to help me. That's when I take time to walk outside and just breathe! My niece says, "Breathe in Jesus, breathe out Satan!" Now, that's a great saying! You know the harder we try to show Jesus in our lives, Satan is working overtime to change that around. He never quits. I'm thankful for a loving, merciful and faithful Father who leads me through each and every day. Without Him...I am nothing and I have nothing. As these storms enter your life, ask the Father to carry you through and He will.

Have a blessed week!

Dawn S. West

Letters to the Editor



Sad Day Tuesday!

Tuesday, Election Day, was a sad day for Nassau County. The two mail outs with lies about Commissioner Spicer were as low as it gets and shows what some people will do to get their way. Too bad more voters did not see the truth.

I am sure the people that make all the money off developments in Nassau County and think we need more people and development are celebrating.

Rocky Lynn
Bryceville

Disappointed!

I have lived in Nassau County all my life. I have always been very proud to be a citizen in this county. I have heard of awful, unpleasant, horrible, nasty, ugly politics in other places, but never thought this would come to the county I call home. Three or four days before the election I received two flyers in the mail. These flyers were very disturbing to me. Have we stooped so low that we will do anything to get elected to office. The flyers were against Mr. George Spicer.

I would like to set the record straight on the Mr. George Spicer that I know. He was the only county commissioner that fought so hard to get something done on Old Dixie

Highway. The part that I live on is not even in his district. Thanks to Mr. Spicer the road that is so dangerous in Western Nassau county will be widened and paved in the spring of 2019. We that fought so hard to get this done didn't receive any taxpayer dollars from our county. The state will fund the project.

If you have received you proposed property taxes, you will notice an increase. We will soon get a gas tax. Mr. Spicer voted against both taxes. Western Nassau will continue to have dirt roads, paved roads that need work and pot holes. Some of the county commissioners do not even know where these roads are.

If you ever needed anything or questions answered all you had to do was call Mr. Spicer. It didn't matter what district he represented. He would always return my calls. I wasn't at all the commissioner meetings, but I can tell you that Mr. George Spicer is a man of integrity. He always had the citizens interest first. Thank you, Mr. Spicer for your service to this county.

I believe that voting should go back to the way it used to be in this county. You should vote for the candidates in your district, not county wide voting.

Verna Layden

Letters to the Editor may be emailed to news@westsidejournal.net but must include a name.

Proposed Tax Increase

Continued from page 1

plan are increases to Law Enforcement positions, Fire Rescue facilities, equipment and personnel, public recreation facilities and public infrastructure. Once this plan is incrementally completed, the County can reassess and increase impact fees that we can charge. For example, if everything goes according to this tentative plan, the County would look to update their Fire Rescue impact fees next year since we would have increased level of service via a new fire station,

equipment and firefighters. The offset of this increase to developers, will be an offset to residential taxes.

While I am certain that this release won't completely ease your concerns and frustrations, I hope this at least provides some clarity as to why the increase was needed and offers an inside look at where the County is trying to go. Should you have any further questions or concerns please let me know via email at jstankiewicz@nassaucountyfl.com or my direct line is 904-530-6007.

In the Kitchen...

- 6 ears freshly shucked corn
- 1 green pepper, diced
- 2 Roma (plum) tomatoes, diced
- 1/4 cup diced red onion

Grilled Corn Salad

- 1/2 bunch fresh cilantro, chopped, or more to taste
- 2 teaspoons olive oil, or to taste
- salt and ground black pepper to taste

Preheat an outdoor grill for medium heat; lightly oil the grate. Cook the corn on the preheated grill, turning occasionally, until the corn is tender and specks of black appear, about 10 minutes; set aside until just cool enough to handle. Slice the kernels off of the cob and place into a bowl. Combine the warm corn kernels with the green pepper, diced tomato, onion, cilantro, and olive oil. Season with salt and pepper; toss until evenly mixed. Set aside for at least 30 minutes to allow flavors to blend before serving.

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Fish Talk

Still Good Fishin'!

Chris Cockerham, Reel Habit

So who else planted a dove field and hasn't taken advantage of this overcast weather? Well, probably just me from the pictures I've seen on Facebook. In the last couple of days, I've seen 50 to 100 birds at any given time sitting on the power lines. For some reason I just can't get into the hunting mode. I think it's mainly due to the changes I've seen on the water. Even though we've had a wet summer, everything seems to be line for the fall bite.

With that said, I did have a chance to get out Sunday before the rain started rolling in. There was a ton of mullet running along our ICW. Jack Crevalle and lady fish were busting on those schools nearly everywhere we went. What I didn't find early was a consistent bite on either sport fish. We threw top water at first light with minimal results and had a few fish that just wouldn't commit. Second, we moved to subsurface baits such as Rapala's twitching mullet. There we found a few trout but nothing to get excited about. Next, we decide to net a few mullet and start grinding structure.

Talbot Island gave way to a few decent flounder but nothing to be impressed about. Ryan and I targeted the creek mouths and oyster beds along the ICW. As the boat traffic picked up, we ducked into some of the deeper creeks and continued to find some decent flatties. We caught several that were chips but our biggest fish came from Mayport. The closer to the mouth of the ocean, the bigger the flounder we found. We covered a bunch of water and stayed focused. In the end, mullet on a 1/4 ounce Reel Habit jig head seemed to be the key.

The moral of the story is this. If the fish aren't biting in spots where you absolutely know they should be, move, move, move! Make things happen, don't spend a bunch of time in an area, especially if it doesn't feel right. Now that doesn't mean leave an area where the tide's not right yet. It just means find an area where all things come together. Tide, bait movement and current. If you have all three of these items, many times your chances are much greater. The bite was slow, so our presentation was slow as well. Pay attention to what's happening and follow suit, everything else will come together.

My hot spot for this week is going to be Mayport around the Atlantic dry docks. I know we have some bad weather ahead so things may change with these tropical storm fronts. I also believe this continued rain will keep fish pushed out close to the ocean. Keep an eye on these pop up storms and be safe on the water. Hope you all have a great weekend!

Visit us anytime at:

www.mywestsidejournal.com

JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

The primary elections are now history. We have to accept the winners that have no opponents in November and focus on the state and federal candidates.

Once again, the County Commission race for District 4 (west side of Nassau County) was decided by the east side of the county. Just as in 2016, the winner to represent us on this side of the county was not the winner of the majority vote count on the west side. Incumbent George Spicer received 53.9% of the votes cast at the west side precincts, whereas Thomas Ford, the over-all victor, received 46% of the west side vote. Ford does have to face a "write-in" candidate in November unless the candidate withdraws from the race. This is not intended to take anything away from Ford, but it does once again show a major flaw in our system of electing our district representatives for County Commissioner, School Board and OHPA. The east side of the county can and are telling us who they want to be our representatives and frankly that doesn't set well with me. The only difference from 2016 is that Ford did win one precinct within his district, whereas Taylor did not win any precinct in his district. Even with Ford's one precinct win, he still would not have won the election if only the votes from

District Four were the sole deciding votes. The results would have been, Spicer with 54.2 % of the popular vote and Ford with 45.6 % of the popular vote. Our system needs reviewing and revamping throughout the county.

Let me mention the Governor race. WOW! I still have a hard time believing that Andrew Gillum could actually become our Governor. He is the Florida Obama, the Florida Bernie Sanders and the worst thing that could happen to our great state. This guy is a very progressive candidate. For those who don't know, "Progressive" is the new word to describe "socialism" and "communism." He is dangerous for our state! As I stated in another column, I supported Adam Putman for governor, well since he lost to Ron DeSantis, I will certainly be a DeSantis supporter now. That's one of the great things about our primary process. We don't all have to agree during the primaries, but we can all come together and support our parties choice in the general election. Do not get complacent in November! We conservatives and lovers of our Republic have to swarm the ballot boxes to ensure that we all can continue making America great again. Encourage everyone you know to vote! It really is that important this year!

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

EVENTS AROUND TOWN

The Callahan Lions Club will be holding Turkey Shoots each Saturday at 6:30 p.m. \$3 donation for shots. The Lions Club is located on US 1 next to the fairgrounds.

The Callahan CAT (Citizens Advisory Team) meeting will be held Monday, September 10 at 6 p.m. at the Callahan County Building.

YOGA at the Callahan Garden Club! Every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., cost \$10 per class, 879-7256.

The Hilliard CAT (Citizens Advisory Team) meeting will be held Tuesday, September 11 at 6 p.m. at The Meeting Place in Hilliard.

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The Day of the Lord

Pastor Tim Carpenter, Friendship Alliance Church, Callahan



A long time ago in a land far away...I worked for a lumber company. Within two years, I became a manager of a store in Ft. Myers. It was a mess. But the Lord gave me the wisdom, discipline and some good workers to get it back into top shape. The district manager would always warn us when he would come by for a check-up visit. But a week before the owner's right hand man was to come for the annual visit, the District Manager drove in, unannounced. But that was fine with me. I ran my store by the book and kept it in good shape.

We were ready for the big visit.

Before he left, he gave me strict orders NOT to call any of the other managers to warn them. So that is why I hadn't received a warning call! Then I thought...Oh no! Bob is going to die! I was sure that he would not be ready! Guess what...He wasn't! He was leaving all the "to-dos" to the last minute. After that surprise visit, he got them done. But the owner's man wasn't fooled. He looked at him and said, "Do you think I'm stupid?"

After a moment of silence, Bob gulped, "No sir!"

Like a drill sergeant, the man barked back, "Then why does everything look like it was just done these last few days before my visit instead of maintained as they should be throughout the year?"

Bob didn't last very long as a manager after that. He just didn't take his position seriously to run the store as it ought to ALWAYS be run!

I wonder how many Christians are going to be like Bob on The Day of The Lord!

Life is, after all, about God and He is about relationships!

CHURCH NEWS

Bryceville First Baptist Church, 7732 US Hwy 301, will have special music by the Trinity River Band this Sunday, September 9 during the 11a.m. Worship Service. Please join us!

Bethany Episcopal Church in Hilliard will be selling Barbeque Pork dinners Friday, September 15 from 5-7 p.m. at the church. The cost is \$8 per dinner which includes sides and a drink.

First Human Case of West Nile Virus Found

Florida Department of Health in Nassau County (DOH-Nassau) is informing the public of a case of West Nile virus (WNV) infection in a Nassau County resident. Nassau County remains under a mosquito-borne illness advisory.

In June, DOH-Nassau issued a mosquito-borne illness advisory following confirmation of Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEEV) infection in horses in the county. Since the beginning of 2018, four cases of EEEV infection in horses in Nassau County and one outbreak of EEEV in emus were reported. Ten sentinel chickens have tested positive for EEEV in 2018, one tested positive for Highlands J Virus (HJV), and 21 tested positive for WNV. DOH-

Nassau, with support from Nassau County Commissioners, manages sentinel chicken flocks throughout the county to monitor for mosquito-borne illnesses. DOH-Nassau continues surveillance and prevention efforts.



DOH-Nassau continues to urge residents and visitors to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes and to taking precautions to help limit exposure.

To protect yourself from mosquitoes, you should remember to "Drain and Cover": DRAIN standing water to stop mosquitoes from multiplying; COVER skin with clothing or repellent; ALWAYS use repellents according to the label. COVER doors and windows with screens to keep mosquitoes out of your house.

Relay for Life Kick-Off Party!

The West Nassau County Relay for Life will hold their kick-off party next Saturday, September 15 from 12-4 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge in Callahan. The lodge is located directly behind Callahan Town Hall at 45085 Frank Brookins Drive. There will be lots of food, fun games, awards and a lucky draw! Make plans to attend this kick-off event and get your team signed up!



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Health Officials: 4 cases of Eastern equine encephalitis virus in horses in 2018.

Human cases of West Nile virus confirmed in Duval & Nassau counties. Transmission concerns increase with human cases.



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School Safety Specialist Hired

At its meeting on Thursday, August 23, the Nassau County School Board voted to hire Officer Glenn Virdin to serve as School Safety Specialist for the Nassau County School District. Officer Virdin holds a Bachelor's Degree in Education and has over 22 years of experience



Delaware Council On Police Training, which enabled him to provide training to law enforcement instructors; and, received numerous individual and platoon awards and recognitions.

He most recently served as a member of the Delaware Capitol Police, where he was responsible for the safety and security of the governor, state legislators, legislative staff, and members of the judiciary, as well as for playing an integral role in the implementation of an active shooter training model for state employees. Prior to that, Officer Virdin served for over 20 years on the Dover Police Department, where he obtained the rank of Sergeant. In that position, he was appointed to the Delaware/Maryland Joint Terrorism Task Force and obtained secret level clearance with the FBI; obtained certification as a Master Instructor through the

By state law, the School Safety Specialist oversees all school safety and security personnel, policies, and procedures within the school district. Additionally, the School Safety Specialist is responsible for serving as a liaison with local public safety agencies and national, state, and community agencies and organizations in matters of school safety and security; conducting an annual school security risk assessment at each public school; reviewing policies and procedures of the school district for compliance with state law concerning school safety; providing training to students and school district staff; and, providing annual recommendations concerning strategies and activities to improve school safety and security.

A Visit with Ms. Syler's Class

Dawn S. West

Friday, I was invited to speak to the Learning Strategies Class of Ms. Natalie Syler at West Nassau. I just basically discussed how I got into my profession with the students. I discussed



how important deadlines are in my job, as we live strictly by them. I also explained that until the paper is safely at the press preparing to print, we are still on edge. Once the paper is at the printer on Wednesdays, we can enjoy some downtime. After lunch on Wednesdays, we begin the process of working on the next week's issue.

Following my presentation, the students were allowed to ask some questions of their own. The students had some great questions and I can only hope they learned a little bit more about their hometown newspaper, the Westside Journal. Thanks for having me!

Ms. Syler is welcoming any other business professionals to call 879-3461 and leave a message for her if you would like to visit the class. She is looking for several to visit this semester!

THE PRIDE OF HILLIARD FOOTBALL CLUB

Amy Overstreet

Hilliard's football program has not only added a new head coach this year, but they have a new booster club as well. The Pride of Hilliard Football Club was founded recently by Hilliard alumni, parents and coaches of middle school and 12 youth football programs. Butch Newkirk, President and founding member hopes to bring pride back to the program. His son Carson is a freshman but will play on the varsity. Vice President Daryl Coston and his wife Christal agree. Both of their boys play varsity, and they realize that the parents and community are needed to support the team and make sure they have everything they need for a winning football season.

Newkirk added, "Our goals, of course, are to restore enthusiasm in the community for Hilliard Football and within the next 4 years to be able to raise enough money to make our program among the elite in Class A football in the state. With funds and enthusiasm brings players. For kids walking the halls at Hilliard, we hope to once again get out and want to play."

"We want to include everyone's ideas and make this a supportive and collective group working together for a common goal to support the kids," stated Amy Overstreet, Director of Merchandising. "It's not easy for working parents. I am happy to be a part of this club."

Other founding members, Billy and Andrea Moore, have been pivotal in the establishment of the club. They are new Hilliard residents. They have jumped in learning State bylaws to keep our club compliant, successfully filing and establishing The Pride of Hilliard Football Club as a non-profit organization. Billy



will also be the 'Voice of Hilliard' by announcing home games with Austin McCullough. Coach Wathen, Middle School Coach and his wife, Chelsey are also Pride Members and are excited about the support they see in the program. Other members are Coach Byron and Kristen Crews, Nathaniel and Tawana Farahkahn, Austin McCullough, Coach Holden Whiton, Julia Bright and Jennifer Folliet.

A Fundraiser will be held Saturday, September 8 at Boondocks Junction Music Hall from 12-3 p.m. There will be a Corn Hole tournament and backyard barbecue Cook-Off. Dinners will be available for purchase at 11:30 a.m. Proceeds will go towards new football equipment and uniforms.

To find out more about meeting and other questions email: Prideofhilliard@gmail.com or visit their Facebook or Instagram pages.

Members will be at the Youth football games on Saturdays at Stein Tompkins Ball Park to sign up new members and sponsors, as well as home football games. This Friday, Hilliard hosts Andrew Jackson at home at 7:30 p.m. and will be the Black Out game! Come out and support the Hilliard Flashes and help bring the pride back to our town!



**Baldwin Lodge
No 217**

ANNUAL SPORTING CLAY TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6th

Registration 8:30 a.m. • Shotgun Start 9 a.m.

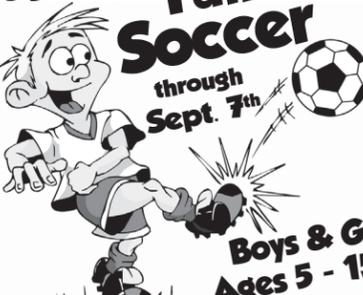
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86300 Hot Shot Trail • Yulee**

Register online by September 15 - www.BaldwinLodge217.info

\$150/person (Includes 100 sporting clays, ammo & lunch)

Raffles • Door Prizes & the Jacksonville Icemen ECHL team will be there!

Sign-up for **Fall Soccer**
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I have had the wonderful experience of having so many people work endless hours to help me get elected along with the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful people in my travels around our county.

I congratulate Mr. Bell in his victory and I wish him all the best as he serves the people of Nassau County.”

DAWN HAGEL

**Republican Candidate for
County Commissioner,
District 2**

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Dawn Hagel, Republican Candidate for Nassau County Commissioner, District 2.



New Beginnings and Milestones

Mr. and Mrs. Lovett Raulerson Celebrate 67th Anniversary



Lovett and Narine Raulerson of Callahan are celebrating their 67th anniversary September 6. The Raulersons were married September 6, 1951 in Folkston, Georgia. They were married by a Justice of the Peace in his home. Mrs. Narine remembers they had the biggest dining room table she had ever seen. The house where the two were married has been moved but is still standing.

They are both retired and enjoy spending time at home and visiting with family and friends. Their love and devotion to each other is so precious even today. They are truly matriarchs of Callahan, as they have raised their children and many others in

the love of God. Lovett is a member of the Callahan Citywide Male Chorus and loves making music with his saxophone. They are members of Greater Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Callahan. The couple plans to celebrate this special milestone with a trip to Daytona to relax and spend time with some of their family! What a blessing they are to our community!

The couple has five children: Kay (Jay) Edwards and Melinda (Willis) Aderhold, all of Callahan, Vincent Raulerson and Margie Raulerson, all of Daytona and Minister Carlton (Vanessa) Raulerson of Jacksonville. They also have 10 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Scarlett Perry Armstrong

Bryan and Natalie (Braddock) Armstrong, of Sanford, Florida, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Scarlett Perry Armstrong. Scarlett was born June 7 at 1:42 p.m. at Oviedo Medical Center in Oviedo, Florida. She weighed 6 pounds 1 ounce and measured 19 1/4 inches.



Paternal grandparents are Jack and Lynne Armstrong of Gainesville.

Maternal grandparents are Lissa Braddock of Callahan and the late Ronnie Braddock.

Greater Mt. Pleasant Holds Dedication



Dawn S. West

Members and guests were on hand Sunday afternoon for the dedication of the renovated sanctuary at Greater Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church in Callahan. The building was full and extra seats had to be brought in to accommodate everyone. The beautiful building just radiated the presence of God. The light blue carpeting just highlighted the white pews with blue padding. The contractor left parts of the former wood ceiling on each side of the new tray ceiling and the chandeliers were so vibrant.

Several different pastors took part in the special ceremony and there was a lot of singing and praising the Lord for what He has provided! Pastor Reginald Edwards, Sr., Pastor of Greater

Mt. Pleasant gave his dedication message. You could hear the passion he has for his members for all the hard work, fundraisers and work days they have all helped with. "This has been a joint effort for everyone," said Pastor Edwards. "We have had many ups and downs through this but through it all we persevered. God is good!"

Following the service, refreshments were served in the church fellowship hall.



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THANK YOU!
I appreciate your vote of confidence and ask for your support and vote in the General Election, November 6, 2018.

Elect **THOMAS FORD**
for
County Commission, Dist 4
Pd pol. adv. paid for and approved by Thomas Ford REP for County Commission, Dist 4

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HILLIARD
Next to Okefenokee Electric
FRI., SEPT. 14TH
AND
SAT., SEPT. 15TH
8 P.M.
FOOD ★ CONCESSION
ADMISSION
\$10 Adults (13 & up)
\$5 Children (6-12 years)
Kids 5 yrs. & Under FREE
★ Calf Scramble ★
(Kids 10 & Under)

EVENTS
★ Chute Dogging
★ Calf Roping
★ Team Roping
★ Girls' Barrel Racing
★ Bull Riding
★ Jr. Barrels
★ Break-away Roping
★ Mutton Busting

Festival of Wreaths Friday at Life Care Center

Dawn S. West

If you've never been to the Festival of Wreaths at Life Care Center of Hilliard, you have certainly missed a treat and an opportunity to donate to a local charity, the Pinky Promise Foundation.

The Festival of Wreaths is a time that all kinds of wreaths are brought to the Life Care Center of Hilliard and displayed throughout the halls of the center. Everyone is invited to attend to special event! It will be held this Friday, September 7 from 4-7 p.m. The way the benefit works is you walk through the halls of Life Care and look at all the wreaths. If you find some you like, there is a paper beside each wreath for you to write your name and the bid you want to place for that wreath. You may visit your favorite wreath many times to change your bid if



necessary. At 7 p.m. the silent auction will be held to announce the winners. There will be refreshments and a photo booth. Wreaths may be taken home by the winners on Friday night.

All proceeds from the event will go to the Pinky Promise Foundation. Pinky Promise is a great place where ladies going through chemo treatments or other cancer diagnosis may visit for conversation, information, chemo bags, head wraps, wigs, sleep caps and more. It is a beautiful environment (unlike a doctor's office) to relax and ask about the items you may need. The Pinky Promise is located across from Callahan Elementary School in the Harper Rose Cottage. They are open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Warriors Beat Eagles

The West Nassau Warriors traveled to Episcopal Friday night to take on the Episcopal Eagles. The Warriors came out the victors by a score of 31-7.

The first quarter the Warriors proved they were there to play! The Warriors scored early on a 7-yard run into the end zone by Dallas Mumford. E.J. Smith added the extra point. The remainder of the quarter was defensive. The second quarter continued much of the same with both teams guarding the end zones.

Following halftime, both teams were again fighting to score. The Warriors once again moved the ball down the field and Mumford scored again from 3 yards out. The extra point attempt was no good. The Warrior defense held strong and gave the offense another shot. As they moved the ball down the field, this time it was Christian Nobles who scored from 3-yards out. This time the Warriors tried the 2-point conversion to no avail. Shortly following, Episcopal was allowed to score on a 54-yard pass into the end zone. The extra point was good placing the Eagles on the board. The fourth quarter was all West Nassau. The offense played strong and the defense held strong! The



Warriors connected on a 30-yard pass to Davian Williams from Mumford into the end zone for another score. The 2-point conversion failed. On the next possession, Warrior Damon Harris returned a 95-yard interception into the end zone for the final score of the night. The final score at the buzzer was West Nassau, 31; Episcopal 7.

Offensive players for the Warriors were: Dallas Mumford with 1 passing touchdown and 2 rushing touchdowns, carrying the ball 10 times for 38 yards and going 4 of 10 for 55 yards; receiving Blayze Padgett was 1 of 2 for 35 yards; Conner Nobles had 13 carries for 81 yards; Javon Wright had 11 carries for 73 yards; and Kaleb Crandell had 7 carries for 54 yards. Defensively for the Warriors were: Centari Mitchell with 6 solo tackles and 3 assists; Seth O'Neal had 4 solo tackles with 4 assists; and Cameran Atwater had 3 solo tackles with 1 assist.

The Warriors will travel again this week to Providence for a 7 p.m. kick-off! Go Warriors!

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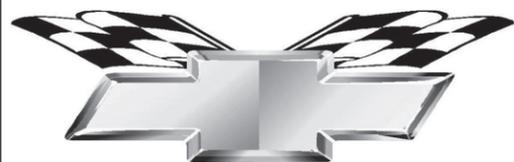
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Friday, September 7

4 - 7 p.m.



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MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2018 is the end of the extension deadline for most taxpayers who requested an extra six months to file their 2017 tax return(s). Contact **COUNTRY LAW and TAX SERVICE INC.** in Callahan at (904) 628-0635 if you need help dealing with IRS. 83018

PRO WASH PRESSURE WASHING. We pressure wash anything, hot or cold water. FREE estimates. Call 904-507-9263. tfn

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ATTENTION SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS: With the final federal extended deadline date fast approaching for filing business tax returns (in most cases it is best to e-file or file via USPS mail by or before Friday, October 12 for best results); you might also care to know that the deadline to establish a Safe Harbor 401(k) plan for 2018 is October 1st 2018. LOOK Remember: Business owners can make the maximum 401(k) contribution for tax year 2018 (\$18,500 max is standard; or \$24,500 if over age 50). Call your tax pro for help today at COUNTRY LAW and TAX SERVICE, INC. (904) 628-0635. 92718

BOOKKEEPING, PAYROLL and more. Don't wait until December to have your 2018 books updated! W2/W3 and 1099/1096 services also. We pick up and deliver. Call 912-496-1141 or 904-556-3480. 91318

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Okefenoke REMC is now accepting applications for a **CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE** - Nahunta Office. Applications can be printed from the website: OREMC.com or picked up at any of our offices Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Applications will be accepted until Friday, September 7 at 5 p.m. at any of our offices or emailed to: customer.service@oremc.com. The Co-op reserves the right to cancel any and all bids. Okefenoke REMC is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Drug Free Workplace. 90618

MAINTENANCE POSITION AVAILABLE at Callahan First Baptist Church, now accepting applications, fulltime position. If interested, please apply in person at the church office at 45090 Green Avenue, Callahan and fill out the application. 91318

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ANIMAL SHELTER MANAGER: Nassau County has an opening for an Animal Shelter Manger in the Animal Care and Control Department at \$17.8865 - \$22.3380 hourly plus benefits. Applications will be accepted until filled. Additional information and application can be obtained in the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797, or at www.nassaucountyfl.com. Equal Opportunity Employer. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 90618

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YARD SALES

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 7 a.m. - 1 p.m., 27041 Pawnee Trail (off Andrews Rd.) Hilliard. Myself, my daughter & my mother have consolidated our 3 homes into one. Too much stuff! Pictures, lamps, clocks, kitchen items, speakers, frames, decorations, boots, aqua globes, new pillows, yard tools, must sell!

SATURDAY ONLY: BIG SPACE MULTI-FAMILY garage sale going on 45456 American Dream Drive, Callahan. Men, women clothing, horse trailer, tack, fishing gear, tools, antiques, coins and a lot more! Y'all come! Call Rick at (904) 502-5217.

ESTATE SALE: Saturday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 27253 W. 14th Avenue, Hilliard. Solid wood dining and bedroom suites; lighted curio; Depression glass and other items.

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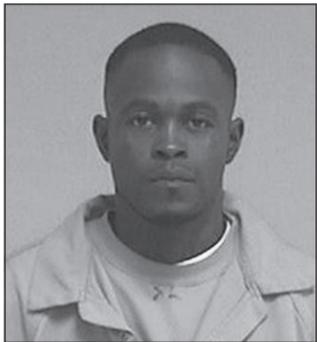
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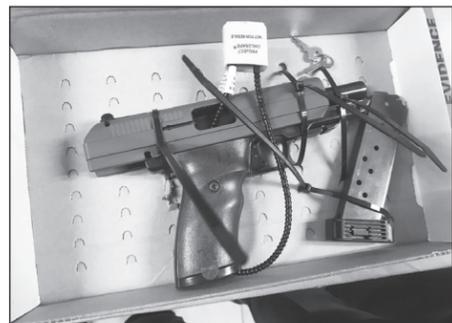
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Traffic Stop Nabs Attempted Murder Suspect

On Saturday, August 25, at approximately 9 P.M., a Nassau County Sheriff's Office deputy observed a Chevrolet Equinox traveling westbound on Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue in Callahan. The vehicle failed to stop at the stop sign located at Page Street. The vehicle also displayed an expired Florida license plate.



Upon making contact with the driver,



the deputy could smell the odor of burnt marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. The right front passenger, James Aurther Hill, admitted to smoking marijuana. A search of the vehicle revealed a loaded .45 caliber handgun in the floorboard inside a backpack, with additional ammo inside. Two small baggies of marijuana were also located in the backpack. Hill also had a warrant for his arrest out of Duval County for Attempted Murder and Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon.

James Aurther Hill, 36, from Jacksonville, was arrested and charged with Possession of a Weapon by a Convicted Felon, Carrying a Concealed Weapon, Possession of Marijuana Less than 20 grams, as well as the outstanding warrant for Attempted Murder.

Genealogy Tidbits

Claude Arpen

Driving south on Lem Turner Road from Callahan you pass road after road named after pioneer families of Florida such as Ogilvie, Braddock, Terrell, Dunn, Broward and more. Other roads just off of Lem Turner such as Wingate and Leuders are also named after pioneer families.

Some of these families came in the late 1700's when the population of Florida was only about 4,000, including slaves and Indians. I will be writing more about these families in future articles.

I believe Lem Turner Road could have a historical marker designating it as a pioneer road.

Our program for the Monday, September 10 meeting will be Native American Heritage, presented by Jamie Nemeth, Vice Chief: Cherokee of Georgia.

To learn more, come join us at the West Nassau Genealogical Society Meetings, the second Monday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Callahan Lions Club, located on US1 north of the fairgrounds. Visitors are always welcome!

Visit us anytime at: www.mywestsidejournal.com

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POLICE REPORTS

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

Monday, August 27

James Edwin Gustin, 57, 366630 Patsy Lane, Callahan: Duval County Warrant Writ of Bodily Attachment

George Wartha Branch, 35, 36630 Patsy Lane, Callahan: Duval County Warrant DUI

Martie Max Owens, 32, 44097 Cushman Road, Callahan: Failure to Appear Driving While License Suspended/Revoked with Knowledge; Fraudulent Use of Credit Card; Credit Card Fraud; Utter Forged Instrument (x 2)

Tuesday, August 28

Jefferson Wade, 52, 15641 CR 108, Hilliard: Possession of Marijuana less than 20 grams; Possession Drug Paraphernalia with Residue

Christine Yvette Rojas, 51, 44001 Whipporwill Lane, Callahan: Possession of Marijuana less than 20 grams

Wednesday, August 29

Samantha Lynn Woodle, 28, 45857 Bismark Road, Callahan: Sale of Controlled Substance

Thursday, August 30

Dion Patrick Stricklin, 45, 45090 Airstream Avenue C, Callahan: Possession of Methamphetamine

Randy Michael Tharpe, 33, 3765 Finch Drive, Hilliard: Failure to Appear Domestic Battery

Friday, August 31

David Russell Mann, 39, 14534 CR 121, Bryceville: Hillsborough County Warrant Dealing in Stolen Property; False Information on Pawnbroker Form

Clayton Michael Keen, 27, 56189 Nassau Oaks Drive, Callahan: Possession of Cocaine; Driving While License Suspended with Knowledge

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WILLIE MAE ALLEN



Willie Mae Allen, 92, of Hilliard, went home to be with the Lord on August 29. She was born on December 30, 1925 in St. Augustine to Louie and Eva Thomas. She was a member of Believers Tabernacle in Hilliard. She was a loving Mama, Grandma, Great-Grandma and Great-Great-Grandma.

Willie Mae is survived by her children Barbara (Jack) Lewis, Robert (Joyce) Rankin, Caroline (Elmo) Harris, Edward James Allen, Jr. and Timothy Allen; 14 grandchildren; 42 great-grandchildren; and 17 great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Louie and Eva Thomas; her husband Edward James Allen, Sr.; seven brothers Louie, Arley, Cecil, Woodrow, Ira, Lowell and Ellsworth Thomas, Sr.; seven sisters Vera Raulerson Suggs, Gladys Vanzant, Erma Thomas, Elmo Higdon, Violet McQuaig, Helen McQuaig and Lucile Fischer.

The family received friends prior to the funeral service held Saturday, September 1 in the Nassau Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Glen Dyal officiating. Interment followed in Brickyard Cemetery, Hilliard.

Pallbearers were David Lewis, Greg Harris, Jamie Allen, Brandon Wilson, Chase Lewis, Zach Harris, Zane Harris and Jamie Braum. Honorary pallbearers were Robbie Ramsey, Jesse Rankin, Ricky Ray Rankin, Bryce Wilson, Jeff Burkett, Robert Carver, Trey Wolfe and Bubba Joiner.

Condolences may be expressed at www.nassaufh.com.

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

WILMER STEEDLEY BYRD

Wilmer Steedley Byrd, 85, of Folkston, Georgia, passed away September 3. She was born February 3, 1933 to the late Lester Wilbert Steedley and Pearl Rita Boatright Steedley. She was of the Baptist faith.

Along with her parents; she was preceded in death by her husband Marvin Flemings;

OBITUARIES

and Parnell Byrd; and her brothers Homer, Johnny, Rommy, Russell, Royce, Ronnie and James Steedley.

She is survived by her three sisters Thelma Nichols and Geraldine Vanzant and Christine Knox; two brothers Wilbert Steedley, Jr. and Marvin Steedley; and a number of nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends Friday, September 7 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home from 6-8 p.m. Funeral services will be held Saturday, September 8 at 4 p.m. at the Racepond Church of God with Rev. Lyn Graham officiating. Burial will follow in Kettle Creek Cemetery in Waycross.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home in Folkston.

MARY GERALDINE PARKS



Mary Geraldine "Mary Gerry" Parks, 81, passed away Sunday, September 2, surrounded by family and friends in her home. Gerry was born in Live Oak, raised in Hilliard and made Pensacola her home. She thrived as a local real estate agent and never met a stranger. Gerry's talent was playing the piano by ear, painting and Japanese floral arranging. She had a zest for life, loved to travel, laugh and enjoyed her life to the fullest.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Fred Lamar and Mae Ollie Bray; her brother James "Jimmy" Austin Bray; as well as her grandson Harry Ray "Tripp" Wagner, III.

Gerry is survived her son Shelden Scott (Kathy) Parks; daughter Erin Brandi (Ray) Wagner; three granddaughters Crystal Nicole (Caleb) Murray, Mackenzie Ray Wagner and Annabelle Ray Wagner; great-grandchildren Taylor Pinto and Alex Pinto; brothers Billy Lamar (Sue) Bray and Robert Elliot (Barbara) Bray; as well as several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Visitation will be held Saturday,

September 8 at 10:30 a.m. prior to the memorial service at 11 a.m. at Olive Baptist Church, Passmore Hall, Pensacola.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Olive Baptist Church, 1836 E. Olive Rd., Pensacola, FL 32514 or (mp.olivebaptist.org).

The family wishes to extend special thanks to Covenant Care Hospice and three angels Dede Groh, Tracey Colasono and Lisa Paulson for their loving care and support.

Harper-Morris Memorial Chapel in Pensacola is in charge of arrangements.

EARLENE YVONNE SIMS



Earlene Yvonne Sims, 69, of Callahan, passed away August 31 at Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville. She was born May 11, 1949 to the union of the late Earl Smith, Sr. and Ruth Smith Dawkins. She was the oldest of two children and she graduated from New Stanton High School, class of 1966. She furthered her education and graduated from Nova Southeastern University. For 26 years, she was a successful elementary school teacher, retiring from Fort Caroline Elementary School. As a member of the Second Baptist Church of Callahan, she had a loving relationship with the Lord and her church family. Earlene was preceded in death by her mother, Ruth and her father Earl Smith.

She is survived by her loving husband, Deacon James Clifford (J.C.) Sims, who thinks of her as his guardian angel; her son Brian Raines of Boca Raton; her daughter April (Webert) Lovencin of St. Augustine; a brother Earl Smith, Jr.; a sisters Madeline Thomas and Earlene (Timothy) Grant; her grandchildren Brain, II, Brandon, Carmen, Raven, Samuel, Jamica, Whitney, Dewayne, Tianna, Deonna and K'Von; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and many devoted friends and extended family, Dewayne and Rhonda Hart-Sparks,

Christian sister Winnie Sparks and special friends Colin and Wila Perry.

The family will receive friends Saturday, September 8 from 3-5 p.m. at Sarah Carter's Funeral Home, Inc., 6665 New Kings Road, Jacksonville. The funeral service will be held Monday, September 10 at 11 a.m. at the Second Baptist Church of Callahan. Final resting will follow the service immediately at the Jacksonville National Cemetery on Lannie Road.

CARL JULIAN THOMPSON

Carl Julian Thompson, 59, of Callahan, passed away on August 23 surrounded by his family. Carl was born October 24, 1958 in Duval County. He was preceded in death by his mother, Betty Jo Strickland and his father, Carl Julian Thompson, Sr. Carl was an avid outdoorsman. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and spending time with his loved ones.

He is survived by his wife Dian Thompson; his sons Shawn Thompson, Shane Thompson, Dale Lewis and Jason Lewis; daughter Rebecca Arrington; his nine grandchildren Cody, Cassidy, Courtney, Lizzie, Gracie, Lucy, Ridge, Jansyn, and Savannah; his two great-grandchildren Briar and Jace; his brothers Darrel Thompson, Tommy Thompson and Jerry Hamlin; and his sister Linda Chapman.

A Memorial honoring Carl's life will be held Sunday, September 9 from 2-4 p.m. at Pirate's Wood Clubhouse, 97542 Blackbeard Way, Yulee.

Floral deliveries may be sent to 540821 Lem Turner Rd. Callahan.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of Callahan Funeral Home, Inc.

WILLIAM DONALD WILKIE, JR.

William Donald Wilkie, Jr., 61, passed away on September 3. Mr. Wilkie was born July 11, 1957 in Jacksonville to William Donald Wilkie, Sr. and Nancy B. Wilkie. He is predeceased by his father (2015).

Donald was a member of the West Nassau High Class of 1975.

Survivors include his mother Nancy B. Wilkie of Callahan; a son William D. Wilkie, III; a daughter Amanda D. Wilkie; seven grandchildren; his brother Charles W. Wilkie, Sr. of Maxville; two sisters Helen Shirley and Donna Steven, both of Jacksonville.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

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HHS PLAYER OF THE WEEK



Hagan ACE Hardware in Hilliard donates a Yeti cup to the Hilliard High School Player of the Week. This week, Reece Wade won the honor. On defense, Wade made a game changing interception that was returned for a touchdown to give the Flashes a 14-0 lead over Fernandina Beach going into halftime. Hilliard went on to beat the Pirates 14-7. Shown is Garrick Crosby of Hagan ACE Hardware with Reece.

Quilt Guild to Hold Open House

The Country Star Quilt Guild of northeast Florida and southeast Georgia will celebrate the start of their 4th year with an Open House on Monday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Hilliard Fellowship Hall. The Guild is inviting everyone that is interested in quilts and quilt making to come and learn what the Guild is all about. They will also explain what programs are planned for the coming year, what charities and projects the Guild members will support and what fun gatherings are being organized for the coming year. Refreshments and fun activities are planned for the evening.

The Country Star Quilt Guild meets

on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. with conversation and refreshments. The meeting/program starts at 7 p.m. and ends around 9 p.m.

Members of the group also meet every other Friday for Fun Friday Sewing sessions when they work on individual as well as group projects. There are other chances to learn new techniques, be guided through sewing new quilt patterns and always getting motivated through seeing all kinds of beautiful quilts, old and new and hearing the stories behind them. Upcoming meetings and activities are posted on the group's website CountryStarQuilters.org.



Gold Out vs. Hilliard

The West Nassau Warrior cheerleaders have a campaign going to raise money for St. Jude Children's Hospital. The WN Warriors will play



They hope to have a friendly competition of the Battle of the Bleachers to see which side, West Nassau or Hilliard, can raise the most money! Join in the fun and order your t-shirt today!

the Hilliard Flashes Friday, September 14 at Warrior Field. The cheerleaders are currently selling gold t-shirts with the slogan 'Dude, It's for St. Jude' on the front. The shirts are \$10 now until September 13 when they will be \$15. All you have to do is go to the front office of West Nassau High School and order/pay for yours!

At the game, cheerleaders will be walking around the stadium asking people to donate to fill their megaphones!

The West Nassau cheerleaders will also host a Community Cheer Clinic to raise money for St. Jude. The Cheer Clinic will be held Sunday, September 16 from 1-5 p.m. at West Nassau for children ages 4-13. The cost is \$25 per child, cash only. To register your child, please email: WNcheer@hotmail.com.

ALL proceeds from both events will go to St. Jude Children's Hospital!

Remembering 9-11 on the Court



Tuesday, September 11 the Hilliard Flashes volleyball teams will take on West Nassau at home. They urge fans to dress in their patriotic attire to pay tribute to the horrible tragedy that took place 17 years ago. All active duty or retired military and first responders who present their ID will earn free admission to the games as well as a free meal!

The JV game begins at 5:30 p.m. and the varsity game will begin at 6:30 p.m. Come out and support these girls and honor the historic date.



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Flashes Raid the Pirates



Holden McMillen

Football is back with open arms embracing a warm night on the eve of Labor Day weekend. Faithful fans, alumni and passionate students flocked to Flashes Field to witness their hometown Hilliard Flashes attempt to "tie down" their rival from across the bridge, the Fernandina Beach Pirates on tie dye night.

With the atmosphere electric and the players amped up, the Flashes officially kicked off the 2018 football season. In the 1st quarter, it showcased the strength both defenses have. Both teams' offenses struggled to gain traction and the 1st quarter ended scoreless.

In the 2nd quarter, both teams' offenses started to gain traction. After the defense generated a stop, the Flashes' offense set up shop with prime real estate from their own 41 yard line. The Flashes' offense marched down the field on a 6-play, 66-yard drive capped off with a 63-yard touchdown run by sophomore running back Tywuan Lee. With a successful 2-point conversion,

the Flashes leapfrogged to an early 8-0 lead. But that's not all folks! The Flashes' defense wanted to contribute to the scoring spree and they did, courtesy of a 44-yard pick-six by senior safety Reece Wade. With the extra point attempt no good, the Flashes extend the lead to 14-0 heading into the half.

The Flashes look to add fuel to the fire however, the tide started to turn. After their defense forced a 3-and-out, the Pirates marched down the field on a 6-play, 56-yard drive, and capped off the drive with a 1-yard touchdown run off the quarterback sneak. With a successful extra point attempt, the Pirates cut the Flashes' lead in half, 14-7. But, the Flashes' defense stood tall and forced another turnover courtesy of cornerback Ty Lane's interception, and a sack from sophomore linebacker Jason Sheffield. Both offenses struggled to gain traction as the 3rd quarter came to a close.

The 4th quarter, the Flashes found

themselves clinging to life trying to hold on to their 14-7 lead. They got off to a good start when sophomore cornerback Malik Farahkhan recovered a fumble off a muffed punt by the Pirates. Both defenses ruled with an iron fist. However, the Flashes defense dug their feet in the ground and stood tall with a clutch sack by freshman defensive end Carson Newkirk on 4th down. Having to come back onto the field, the Flashes' defense needed to generate another stop. Thanks to Sheffield's diving interception on 2nd down on the Pirates' final drive of the night, the Flashes delivered the knockout blow and indeed "tied down" the Fernandina Beach Pirates 14-7 in a heart-pounding, low scoring start to the season.

On offense, sophomore running back Tywuan Lee was the catalyst to the Flashes' ground attack with 11 carries for 86 yards and a touchdown; wide receiver Ty Lane and senior wide receiver Chas Bryant, both had 2 carries for 14 yards; and junior running back Cody Bright had 2 carries for 12 yards.

The Flashes' defense, was dominant from the initial kickoff, to the final buzzer. Sophomore linebacker Jason Sheffield led the team with 7 tackles, a sack, and an interception; Tywuan Lee had 6 tackles; Tanner Morgan and D.J. Coston each had 5 tackles; Reece Wade had 4 tackles, 2 pass break-ups, and a 44 yard pick-six; Hunter Revill had 4 tackles; Ty Lane racked up 2 tackles, 2 pass break-ups, and an interception; Malik Farahkhan had a tackle and a fumble recovery; and Carson Newkirk had a sack.

The Hilliard Flashes look to defend their home field as they attempt to "black out" the Andrew Jackson Tigers this Friday at 7:30 p.m. on Flashes Field. Come out and support your hometown team. Keep calm and go Flashes!



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