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WESTSIDE JOURNAL

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8 p.m. Eastern

VOLUME XIX ISSUE 13

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2022

"I AM THE VINE; YOU ARE THE BRANCHES. IF YOU REMAIN IN ME AND I IN YOU, YOU WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT; APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING." - JOHN 15:5

Zaxby's Callahan Now Open!

Zaxby's®, the premium quick-service restaurant, beloved for its Chicken Fingerz™, wings and legendary Zax Sauce®, is expanding its footprint with the opening of its first restaurant in Callahan located at 450027 State Rd 200. The new Zaxby's opened Monday for dine-in and drive-thru and is operated by Callahan native Taylor Hawkins. "We are excited to finally open our doors and to start serving delicious Chicken Fingerz and wings to our friends in Callahan and the surrounding areas. It has been our dream for the past eight years to open a Zaxby's in our hometown, and to share



this opportunity with the community," said Taylor Hawkins, owner of Callahan Jasz, Inc.

Zaxby's Callahan offered a 'Deck of Deals' to the first 100 customers on Monday. On Sunday night, several people chose to 'camp out' in the parking lot to get their chance to win a deck, and they did. There were over 100 people at the location before they actually opened the doors.

The new 3,825 square-foot farmhouse-style restaurant features

Zaxby's white exterior design and has indoor seating available for up to 70 guests. Guests will experience expedited drive-thru service with a new, double drive-thru layout for faster pay and pickup. For even faster service, customers may order ahead online via zaxbys.com as

well as through the new Zaxby's app available for download on Google Play and the App Store. Customers can now also order delivery directly through the new app.

An alternative to fast food, Zaxby's serves fresh, prepared-at-order Chicken Fingerz and wings tossed in a variety of bold and spicy sauces. The menu also features the brand's famous Signature Sandwich, its iconic Fried Pickles and new Loaded Fries. To celebrate its opening, fans will enjoy a free Big Zax

Snak® when downloading or updating the app and signing up for the new Zax Rewardz program for the first time.

Callahan Jasz, Inc. is a first-time Zaxby's franchise with roots in Callahan. To give back to the local community, the franchisee group has established the Zaxby's Callahan Ashlynn Smith Scholarship to provide \$1,000 yearly to a local high school student to advance academic opportunities. The scholarship is established in memory of Ashlynn Smith, who passed away in a tragic four-wheeler accident while a senior at West Nassau high school. She was a classmate and close friend of Hawkins. "We are extremely excited to be able to open this new location and provide upwards of 50 new employment opportunities to the Callahan community," Hawkins added.

The franchisee group plans for additional growth in Nassau County in the coming years. Interested applicants may simply go to www.jaszportal.com/callahan to view and apply to all available positions.

Callahan Depot Needs Repairs

Dawn S. West

The Callahan Town Council met Monday night for their final meeting of October. Callahan resident, Randy Knagge, approached the podium to speak. "I just wanted to thank the town for the opportunity to sit on the Planning & Zoning Board for the town. I am resigning my position as I am running for Mayor," said Knagge. "I have served on the P/Z Board for about 8 years and have really enjoyed it. No matter the outcome of the election, I will always be a friend of Callahan."

The first order of business concerned the West Nassau Historical Society. "I am here representing the West Nassau Historical Society where we (WNHS) are a non-profit that continues to preserve the history of West Nassau

County," said John Hendricks, Director. "We also are in charge of maintaining and upkeep on the 141-year-old Depot. The Depot was recently inspected and is in good shape except for three main issues: 1. Imminent failure of 5 of the 12 windows. Five are in immediate danger of failure by deteriorating glazing, rotting wood or both. 2. Lack of a Fire Alarm system. The Depot consists mostly of cypress and pine lumber hand hewn decades ago from nearby forests. We have a security alarm and cameras but not fire alarm. 3. Failure of the 35-year-old HVAC system. The depot was renovated in the mid-190s and a dual zone HVAC system was installed. The



total estimated cost for repairs would be \$39,200. We are asking the Town of Callahan to help us with one or all of the costs for these repairs. We appreciate any help you could provide."

"Do we (the town) have any grants that could help with this, Mike?" asked Council President Ken Bass.

"We do still have some ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funds that could be used for that," answered Town Manager Mike Williams.

"We'll see what we can do," Bass told Hendricks.

The next agenda item was the approval of Resolution 2022-R14 which concerned a donation of \$1,000 to the West Nassau High School JROTC Program.

Resolution 2022-R15 was also approved which concerned the road closure on US Highway 1 for the annual Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 3.

See 'Callahan' on page 3

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<p>Friday, October 21 Open 5 p.m. - 1 a.m. All Day Unlimited Rides: 5 p.m. - 1 a.m. - \$30 Midnight Madness - Unlimited Rides: 10 p.m. - 1 a.m. - \$25</p>	<p>Sunday, October 23 Open Noon - 11:30 p.m. (No Livestock, Exhibits or Entertainment) Final Fling - Free Admission Unlimited Rides: All Day - \$25</p>

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Hometown Represented at NAMI Walks Your Way

The Jacksonville affiliate on the National Alliance on Mental Illness, better known as NAMI Jacksonville, successfully brought mental health awareness to the community during their Annual NAMI Walks Your Way Jacksonville 5K event held recently. NAMI Walks Your Way is the largest, most vibrant mental health event series in the country. It is presented by NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, known locally as NAMI Jacksonville. Taking place in more than 120 locations, NAMI Walks Your Way invites participants to share their stories, build community and walk together to achieve Mental Health for All. Funds raised during this event, directly supports NAMI Jacksonville's mission of education, advocacy, support, and public awareness, while providing Support Groups, Educational Programs, Helpline, and resource information at no cost to peers living with mental health conditions, their family members, caregivers and friends.

Over 400 individuals participated in the walk, raising over 86% of NAMI Jacksonville's goal of \$85,000. When planning this year's walk, NAMI Jacksonville envisioned local school groups, cheerleaders, drumlines and bands to join in on providing, music, entertainment and support for the participants. This plan stemmed from NAMI Jacksonville's plans to provide more support, programs and resources for the youth in the local community in

the near future.

Deanna Brown, the Family Navigator for NAMI Jacksonville, was raised in Hilliard and was excited for this event and wanted to have our local community come together to participate in this event; to have the opportunity to represent our Hometown/Nassau County while bringing mental health awareness to our local rural community. Hilliard and Callahan were greatly represented at this year's NAMI Walks Your Way Jacksonville event, securing LeAnn Purvis from Callahan singing the National Anthem at the Opening Ceremony, Hilliard Middle-Senior High School cheerleaders providing support and entertainment to the walkers at the Memorial Park Location, where they were joined by other students from surrounding Duval and Clay County schools and organizations. HMSHS 7th grader Gage Brown ran the Kid Zone activity for the day! Local businesses also represented our hometown during the walk such as Smith Party Rentals, who provided photo op signage for this event, as well Dayspring Village Inc. and The Daily Tea, Inc., who became a NAMI Walk Sponsor this year. "I am



Deanna Brown

highly grateful for our local community to come together for a cause I hold near and dear, and truly believe in. Working together to end the stigmas around mental health and creating a better tomorrow with the vision of mental health for all," said Deanna. "I want to personally thank these individuals, programs, and businesses for their support and participation this year, they have represented our local community



well! I am proud to have had the opportunity to have them join us this year."

Although the walk has been completed there is still time to donate to valuable cause, donations can be made at <https://www.namiwalks.org/jacksonville>. For more information on NAMI Jacksonville please visit <https://www.namijax.org/>.

In the Kitchen...

- 1 1/2 cup chopped nuts
- 1 1/2 cup coconut
- 1 pkg. German chocolate cake mix

Spray sheet cake pan with Pam. Sprinkle nuts and coconut in bottom of pan. Mix cake mix according to directions and pour over nuts and coconut. Mix next 3 ingredients and drop by spoonfuls over cake and bake at 350° until done.

Earthquake Cake

- 1 stick margarine
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- 1 (8 oz.) cream cheese

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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.

Do We Keep Silent?

Dear Editor,

I just finished reading a book, "Letter to the American Church" by: Eric Metaxas. In the book, Mr. Metaxas refers back to when the German Church, The Lutheran Church of the 1930's leading up to WWII, as Adolf Hitler was just starting his rise to power was "silent in the face of evil." In the book Metaxas refers to a Christian martyr, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who tried to warn the church of the oncoming inhalation of Christianity (the Church of Germany). Metaxas explains how Mr. Bonhoeffer tried to convince the church leaders to stand up against what was over the horizon for the destruction of the church. Mr. Metaxas wrote that in 1935 there were roughly 18,000 Protestant pastors in Germany and that only about 3,000 actually stood strongly up against what the Nazis were planning for the church, complete inhalation, which we know from history, they successfully accomplished.

Will the leaders (Pastors) of the Christian Church in America today do as those approximately 15,000 pastors in Germany did back in 1935, cow down and be "silent in the face of evil?" Or will they do what they, and I might add, we as Christians today who are called into service of the Lord Jesus Christ to do and stand up to this "face of evil" in our country today?

Friends, we are on the cusp of a very serious change to our country, the United States of America. I realize that God is in control. But do you think that He expects us to just sit back and rest on the free gift of mercy and grace that He has so freely given to us, and stay silent? How would that have worked for the likes of Stephen (the first Christian martyr), or Peter, John or Paul, to name a few back in the New Testament when the Christian Church was in its infancy?

PRAY FOR AMERICA & VOTE...RED!
Hank Martinez, Sr.

Callahan

During closing comments, Councilwoman Ashton Bishop Vargas advised the council that she had heard from FDOT concerning the traffic light at US 301 and Mickler Street. "Per the email which states, we appreciate your email concerning the traffic light however we do not have funding for that project but will look at it again in July 2023," said Vargas. "So we'll still wait!"

"I just wanted to see if the council

Continued from page 1

wanted to move forward with helping the Historical Society or not," asked Williams. "You didn't really discuss it."

"How much money do you still have of ARPA funds?" asked Bass.

"We received \$683,000 of ARPA funds. We gave \$50,000 to Barnabas," answered Williams. "I suggest for you (council) to place this on the next agenda."

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

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JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

According to William Blum (former U.S. State Department employee), no matter how paranoid or conspiracy-minded you are, what the government is doing is worse than you imagine. In actuality the government has been evil from the very beginning and has progressively continued to decline to the pit (swamp) we have today. The more you know about the government the less likely you will trust government. Everyone knows the common assumption that it was hunters and settlers from Europe who wiped out the bison population in America, right? Wrong, it was actually the United States Government who went in and slaughtered 50,000,000 Bison. Why? In order to drive the Native Americans off their land and push them on to reservations and take the land by force. Control the food; control the people. Now ask yourself, what is going on with the food today and does somebody have an incentive to control the food today? This was a question brought forth by @heresyfinancial. You can bet your last dollar they do, but who and why?

The answer is socialist/communists, period. Our very own socialist ruling party and China are two main culprits. Foolish you may think, but look around our country and see what's happening on a frequent basis. Dozens of food processing plants have "accidentally" caught on fire and burned to the ground. Thousands of cattle destroyed. A sudden supply chain problem to distribute food and perhaps worse of all is that China is buying American farm land at a staggering pace. Once again, control the food and you control the people.

A fellow concerned patriot sent me a write up on the China connection which is so compelling, I wish I could

share the entire article but it is just too long. It states, in the near future, China will employ millions of American workers and dominate thousands of small communities all over the United States. China's acquisition of US businesses set a new all-time record last year. It is on pace to shatter that record this year. The Smithfield Foods acquisition is a prime example. Smithfield Foods is the largest pork producer and processor in the world. It has facilities in 26 US states and employs tens of thousands of Americans. It directly owns 460 farms and contracts with 2,100 others. Now a Chinese company has bought it for \$4.7 billion. Last year a Chinese company purchased AMC Entertainment, one of the largest movie theater chains in America for \$2.6 billion. They have also purchased land for copper processing; they are now in Detroit manufacturing car parts for American cars. General Motors, even when bailed out of financial troubles with our tax money, have joined China in 11 joint adventures. They are even mining our coal in Tennessee. This information is just the tip of the iceberg as to their financial invasion of America. Control the food, control the people, control the money and control the people! With that said, we as a nation are being invaded by China, as well as our southern border. No nation can survive what is happening in America.

If we the people don't come to terms with our runaway government that cares nothing for us, only their own profits, we are going to lose our country. Our sustainability is at great risk. As the sign in my front yard states, "Vote Republican, they're not perfect, but the other side is insane."

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

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Trust

Pastor James MacFarlane, Hilliard First Assembly of God



What are the things we place our trust in? Governments? Authorities? Institutions? Family? Friends? Ourselves? None of these will ever prove trustworthy. Why? Because every one of these are dependent on people. Don't get me wrong, people often have good intentions. Yet, they are fallible. Ulterior motives, selfish ambitions, agendas and groupthink are inevitable when we depend on others. There is only one source where we need not worry about the rightness of cause or truthfulness and trustworthiness of word. There is only one source where the impossible becomes possible. That source is Jesus Christ our LORD.

God's Word is trustworthy, true, does not come back void, and is the only way we can be reconciled to the Father. 2 Peter 3:9 reads, "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance." This is God's will for us, and His will is perfect as He is perfect. In facing this absolute truth, why do we as humans have so much trouble trusting God's will? If we think about it, several reasons start with fear. Fear of lack of control, fear of the unknown, fear of judgment, and fear of inadequacy are just a few examples. No matter the reason, God has demonstrated through His Word that He is trustworthy, and nothing is impossible to Him. God created the heavens and the earth. The seas and the land. The plants and the animals. He created us. Why then is it so hard for us to believe that God can do anything He wills? Our faith in God must reflect these simple facts. We can trust God to do absolutely anything. We can also ask God in prayer for anything that glorifies Him and is for our good. In Mark 11:20-25, Jesus tells us that we can ask anything of God in prayer and believe that we have received it. Jesus tells we must have faith in God.

When we think about different heroes in the Old Testament scriptures, what do they have in common? Is it amazing courage? Is it great strength? Is it unshakable faith? It is true that some of the heroes of the Bible have one or two of these traits. Yet, the common denominators in every one of these heroes is that they all had weaknesses and they all trusted in God. We cannot help but wonder why God willed this. The answer is simple. God chose to work through imperfect people and their imperfections to demonstrate His perfection. God used these situations to show us that nothing is impossible to Him and that we could trust in Him. In light of this truth, there is but one question we need to ask ourselves. Will you place your trust in the LORD Almighty, in whom nothing is impossible?

CHURCH NEWS

Bethany Episcopal Church will be selling Barbecue Pork Dinners Friday, Oct. 21 from 5-7 p.m. for \$8 each. Eat-in or Take-out! The church is located on CR 108 in Hilliard across from Hilliard Town Hall.

North Hilliard Baptist Church, 552823 US HWY1, will celebrate Homecoming Sunday, October 23 at 11 a.m. followed by dinner on the grounds.

Making a Difference



Sunshine Christian Academy students, families, faculty, support staff and administration teamed up with their sponsoring church, Crossroads, to help the victims of Hurricane Ian in South Florida. The school raised over \$1,000 in one day. All of the funds raised will be combined with Crossroads Church donations to be sent directly to Convoy of Hope. Shown are Sunshine Christian Academy Kindergarten classes and teachers.

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Nassau Schools Rank 2nd in the State

Dr. Kathy Burns is proud to announce that the A rated Nassau County School District is currently ranked 2nd in the state out of Florida's 67 public school districts. Coming in 1st in Exceptional Student Education (ESE), Math, 5th Grade Science and ESE Math. The School Board Attorney, Mr. Brett Steger,

helped put this outstanding achievement in perspective by saying, "According to the Florida Department of Education, there are approximately 2.91 million students enrolled in Florida K-12 public schools, not private, but public schools; we are the second highest rated school district in the entire state."

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North Hilliard Baptist Church Homecoming

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Local Residents Volunteer in Relief Effort

Local members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Hilliard Branch recently spent a weekend, volunteering in areas that were severely impacted by Hurricane Ian. Their cleanup efforts were challenged by flooded streets, power outages, unreliable cell service and other obstacles, which is just the beginning of response efforts. "We helped a lady named Charlotte. She needed her pool deck screening to be broken down and removed and 3 bedrooms mucked. There was standing water in a few of them. She was so grateful for the help," said Stephanie Grantham, a Callahan resident who assisted with cleanup efforts. "Her entire roof came off and created damage from the ceiling through 75% of the house. She got emotional several times for our gratitude. She



didn't have home insurance, so the work we did was so appreciated."

Local volunteers like Stephanie spent the weekend sleeping in tents and working long hours from the command center set up in Port Charlotte, Florida. "Our hearts go out to those who have lost so much, in some cases literally everything, as a result of Hurricane Ian," said Elder Victor P. Patrick, Area Seventy. "Our service feels like a small sacrifice compared to what our neighbors have suffered."

Local leaders will continue to ascertain needs for response efforts. The church has invited other faiths to work with them. Community volunteers looking for ways to help in the area can visit: www.JustServe.org to find projects listed by organizations in need.



HILLIARD LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

10/27 Movie Night at the Library: Come join us for Movie Night at the Hilliard branch library on Thursday 10/27 at 5pm. We will be showing The Addams Family. Refreshments will be provided thanks to the Friends of the Hilliard Branch Library.

11/3 Resume and Job Search Assistance: Join us on Thursday, November 3rd at 6pm at the Hilliard Branch Library. Get help writing your resume or applying to jobs. Be sure to bring information such as job history and reference contact information that you may wish to add to your resume. Registration is recommended as space is limited. To register call 904-530-6500, option 4.



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SPRJ55189

HEALTHY LIVING: TIPS FOR HEALTH OPTIMIZATION FROM YOUR LOCAL HEALTH CONSULTANT



It is a common suggestion; if you want to improve your health, you need to lose weight, eat better and exercise. I want to focus on three separate topics that play a major role in your health maintenance. They will also help you to eat better, lose weight and get the energy needed to exercise.

Proper, restorative sleep helps with energy production, mental focus, helps to manage your weight, can increase your libido and improves your moods by reducing anxiety and depression symptoms. Aim for 7-9 hours of sleep...EVEN ON THE WEEKENDS. Set a bedtime and wake up time and try to stick to it every day. It also helps to have a bedtime routine. Maybe some herbal tea, a relaxing bath, reading a book or journaling.

Hydration is very important and unfortunately many are dehydrated. Being hydrated can help with better sleep, better moods, less headaches, better focus and concentration, and less constipation. Hydration also helps to keep organs, like the liver and kidneys, functioning properly and is a great way

to help your body to detox. Provided you are not on a fluid restriction, aim for at least ½ your body weight in ounces a day. So, if you weigh 150lbs. then aim to drink 75 oz. of water daily.

Elimination, like hydration, is another way to help to detox the body. Eliminating waste through regular bowel movements keeps your gut healthy and thus your brain healthy. Focus on good sources of fruits and vegetables as well as high fiber foods such as beans, flax seeds, chia seeds and whole grains- if you can tolerate them.

Getting better sleep, better hydration and regular bowel movements are areas I focus on with my clients. This helps to achieve their health goals whether it is to lose weight, reduce chronic disease or improve annoying symptoms.

Keydella Fuller is a nurse practitioner and the health consultant at Fuller Health & Wellness, a functional medicine based virtual practice and is currently accepting clients. To discuss your goals and challenges, call 904-479-4696.

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New Beginnings and Milestones

Elliott Jones Celebrates 99th Birthday

Mr. Elliott Jones, of Callahan, celebrated his 99th birthday October 14. He was born October 14, 1923 in Callahan. He currently lives next door to the home he was born and raised in. Mr. Jones is a WWII US Navy Veteran. He makes it his priority to ride his electric bicycle in the Callahan Christmas parade each year. He can often be seen riding around Callahan on his bike. Mr. Jones is one of Callahan's best historians. He can tell you many stories of years past and how things were. He is one of the friendliest people in town and always has a smile on his face.



Mr. Jones celebrated his special milestone with a huge birthday celebration, around 100 people, Saturday held at his home. His daughter Debbi organized the great event and made sure many of her dad's favorite foods were there. His son Scott helped park all the cars in the yard. The large gathering was mostly made up of family members but there were also some close friends that also dropped by. He was showered with lots of cards and gifts. Everyone



enjoyed lunch, which was a smorgasbord of a variety of foods, very similar to an ole' fashion dinner on the ground. Of course, the dessert table was much of the same. Mr. Jones walked around to each one making sure to thank them for coming to his special party.

Mr. Jones has three children Debbi Alden, Scott (Donna) Jones and Danny (Debbie) Jones.

Grayson Scott Kumm

Brandon and Shelby Kumm, of Hilliard, are proud to announce the birth of their grandson Grayson Scott Kumm. Grayson was born October 5 at 2:53 a.m. at Baptist Hospital downtown. He weighed 8 pounds 9 ounces and measured 22 inches.

Maternal grandparents are Keith and Teresa Nazworth of Hilliard.

Paternal grandparents are Scott and Tracey Kumm of Nocatee.



Luna Raine Pruett

Cody and Suzanna Pruett, of Hilliard, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Luna Raine Pruett. Luna was born July 6, 2022 at 8:36 p.m. at UF North Jacksonville. She weighed 8 pounds 15 ounces and measured 20 3/4 inches.



Maternal grandparents are Travis and Zandra Tison of Callahan.

Paternal grandparents are Libby and Korey Puckett of Hilliard; and Shane and Debbie Pruett of Orange Park.

Proud great-grandparents are Gerald and Irene Purvis of Tifton, Georgia; and Charlotte and Mike McIntyre of Sanderson, Florida. Extra proud great-great-grandmother is Patricia Wright of Lake Alfred, Florida.

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Hilliard

Festival of Wreaths this Friday

The Life Care Center of Hilliard is proud to host the Festival of Wreaths this Friday in the dining room of the center. The event will be held from 5-7 p.m. Friday. Guests are encouraged to enter through the dining room entrance. The Festival of Wreaths is a collection of donated wreaths of all kinds and occasions to be on display. Guests may place the amount on a particular wreath (or more) that you hope to purchase. Everyone will place their bid and you may continue to go back and bid again. Proceeds from this event go to the Pinky Promise Foundation.



The Pinky Promise Foundation is a non-profit resource center for ladies diagnosed with cancer. The foundation offers wigs, head coverings, chemo gift bags and sleep caps plus a lot more. The Pinky Promise boutique is staffed by volunteers and everything is confidential. Many of the volunteers are actually cancer survivors and have dealt with these difficult times in their own lives. The boutique is located in the Harper Rose Cottage, directly across from Callahan Elementary School. They do ask that you supply them with a pathology report and a photo ID. We offer our services to any lady currently diagnosed with any type of cancer and undergoing treatment. The hours of the Pinky Promise are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. They can be reached at 626-2855.

Are you passionate about volunteering and helping others in need? The Pinky Promise is always looking for volunteers to help make our vision a reality. They'll help you find a way to volunteer that is best for you. Just give them a call for more information. Perhaps you just want to donate to this great organization. That's easy too! Just visit their website at: www.pinkypromisefoundation.org or mail a check to: Pinky Promise Foundation, 449595 US Hwy. 301, Callahan, FL 32011.

Quilt Fundraiser



\$1 Tickets

Tickets may be purchased from any Guild member, as well as from the Westside Journal office, 450034 SR 200, Callahan.

The quilt is currently on display at the NE FL Fair (through October 23) where you can purchase tickets. Following the fair, it will be on display at the Westside Journal office.

The drawing for the quilt winner, will be held Monday, December 12 at their December meeting. You do not have to be present to win!

DEA NATIONAL RX TAKEBACK 

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25
4 - 7 P.M.

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St. Marys Haunted History Tour

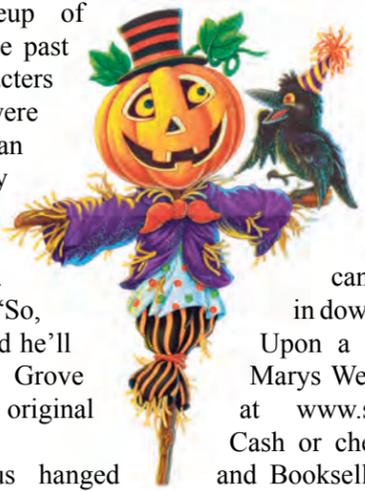
Some of St. Marys' most chilling and historical figures will be out and about again on October 28 as St. Marys Little Theatre presents the 13th Annual St. Marys (Georgia) Haunted History Tour. This year's lineup of storytellers includes some past favorites and new characters as well. "People were fascinated by the 'last man hanged in Camden County a few years ago,'" said Barbara Ryan Harris, founder and chair of St. Marys Little Theatre. "So, we brought him back, and he'll be hanging around Oak Grove Cemetery near where the original hanging tree was."

Joining the infamous hanged man are historical figures like a Union soldier from the Civil War, an old salt shrimp boat captain, Mrs. Archibald Clark, and the beloved Goat Man. Crowd favorites like the Resurrection Angel, a Gullah woman, and Little Jane at Orange Hall will make appearances

as well. Melding legends of local spirits and authentic historical events, stories will be enacted by fully-costumed actors from St. Marys Little Theatre at eight venues in a four-block area of downtown St. Marys. Ticket holders can start the tour at any venue, and golf cart rides will be provided for those who would rather not walk.

Tickets for the tour can be purchased in advance in downtown St. Marys at Once Upon a Bookseller and the St. Marys Welcome Center, or online at www.stmaryslittletheatre.com. Cash or check at Welcome Center and Bookseller. Advance tickets are \$8 and \$10 on the day of the event for all ages. Call 912-729-1103 for more information.

The Haunted History Tour is sponsored by K-Bay Radio, St. Marys Magazine and St. Marys Little Theatre.



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Medicare's Annual Enrollment Period
starts on Oct. 15th

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.

Wednesday, September 28

Martie Max Owens, 36, 45164 Stratton Road, Callahan: Possession of Cocaine; Possession Drug Paraphernalia with Residue; Driving an Unregistered Motor Vehicle; Tag Not Assigned Vehicle

Wednesday, October 5

Alex Jay White, 34, 54455 Point South Drive, Callahan: Possession Schedule 1-5 Substance

Saturday, October 8

Frank Gilliard Allison, 43, 44366 Keme Road, Callahan: Attempted Murder

Wednesday, October 12

Monte Franklin Johnson, 56, 27426 W. Tenth Avenue, Hilliard: Possession Schedule 1-5 Substance; Possession Drug Paraphernalia with Residue

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Barbecue Fundraiser for Injured Law Enforcement Officers

A Barbecue Fundraiser, presented by the Blue Shield Family Foundation, will be held Thursday, November 3 from 6-10 p.m. at The Barn at Cottonwood Ranch, 452039 Old Dixie Highway, Callahan. The event will have silent and live auctions, barbecue and live music by Amber DeLaCruz. Make sure to bring cash for the auction! For more information on being a sponsor or to purchase tickets, please visit: www.blueshieldfamilyfoundation.org. All proceeds raised will benefit the injured law enforcement officers.

The Blue Shield Foundation is a non-profit organization that was established in 2020 by Douglas Oliver and Bret Coulson in memory of First Responders Nassau County Eric James Oliver and Buena Park Police Corporal Tyler Matthew Pinchot, both of whom died in the line of duty.

Deputy Oliver was a U.S. Navy



Veteran and had served with the Nassau County Sheriff's Office for seven years. He is survived by his 10-year-old daughter, parents and siblings.

Corporal Pinchot had served with the Buena Park (CA) Police Department for 23 years, and was survived by his wife, three stepchildren, parents, and five siblings.

Our responders need assistance more than ever before. We are here to support families enduring significant financial hardships due to injury and loss of a family member in the line of duty. Blue Shield Family Foundation, Inc. also supports, promotes, and facilitates educational activities and programs created and operated by law enforcement and firefighting organizations whose purpose is to benefit children or the community at large. Blue Shield Family Foundation, Inc. was created for this purpose.

DEA Take Back Day Tuesday

Danielle Holland

Nassau County will be hosting the DEA National Medication Take Back Day next Tuesday, October 25 from 4 - 7 p.m. This event will take place at 3 locations around the county and provides an opportunity to safely dispose of any old, expired, unused, or unneeded medications with no questions asked.

Hilliard Pharmacy • 551770 US 1 • Hilliard
Winn Dixie Callahan • 450078 State Rd 200 • Callahan
First Federal Bank Yulee • 463845 State Rd 200 • Yulee

The majority of opioid addictions start with prescription pills obtained from a family member or friend. Disposing of these medications helps to prevent them from being misused or ending up in the wrong hands. Help us keep Nassau County a safe and healthy place by cleaning out your medicine cabinets from old and unused medications.

These medications can be dropped off at any of the Take Back Day sites for anonymous and safe disposal. The sites will also have free Narcan and Narcan education, an important, lifesaving addition to any First Aid Kit, and free Deterra at Home Medication Disposal Bags. Contact communitycoordinator@ccafl.org for any additional information or questions.



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Veterans Appreciation Festival & Car Show
Sat., November 5

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Car Show 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
at the Historic Callahan Train Depot
hosted by the West Nassau Historical Society

Arts & Crafts • Kids' Area

Live Entertainment
Veterans Appreciation Ceremony 10:45 a.m.

Kids Area Hosted by
Joel Pace Piano
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For Arts & Crafts Vendor or Car Show Entry Info, call 879-3406

Car Show portion presented by Cochran's Collision and Callahan Cruisers. All proceeds from this event goes to the non-profit West Nassau Historical Society.
For more information, visit www.wnhsfl.org.

YARD SALES

MAN CAVE SALE CONTINUES! 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily through Saturday, October 23! Mark downs daily ending with 50% off select items Saturday & Sunday. 45695 Zidell Road, Callahan. Look for the Man Cave Sale sign on US 1 before the fairgrounds.

YARD SALE, FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 8 a.m. until? 44743 Swallowfork Ave., off US 301, about 1 mile down Swallowfork on the right, Callahan. Rain or Shine! Tools, toys, walkers, bar stools, pots & pans, heater, dishes, men's, women's, children's & baby clothes, Precious moments dolls, cabbage patch dolls. Lots of miscellaneous; way too much to list!

YARD SALE, THURSDAY - SATURDAY, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., 450683 SR 200, Callahan, located behind the big gray garage! Blouses, shirts, \$1; boys nice jeans, (size 10-12) \$3; shirts \$2; tools, shoes, collectible cars, etc. BoFlex M7 & Treadmill, both for \$1,000.

2 FAMILY GARAGE SALE, 37600 Pratt Siding Road, between Callahan & Hilliard off US 1, Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Household items, boys clothes (size 4-5); shoes (size 11-13); girls 2-3; women's (S-XL); tent, tools and toys!

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 20125 CR 121, near Conner's Amazing Acres. Over 20 oil painting, 300 Beanie Babies, lots of other small stuff, Pride Go-Go Scooter, like new, \$1400, Disney movies VHS & DVDs, 40 Hummel figurines, wheel chair.

Bethany Episcopal Church Bazaar will be held Sat., Nov. 12 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. **VENDORS NEEDED!** Parking lot spaces for \$20 each or 2 spaces for \$30. Contact: windthrutetrees@gmail.com; nmager32046@gmail.com; joyce.gardenour@juno.com. 102722

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Life Care Center of Hilliard now hiring **RNs and LPNs**, must have FL License. Please apply in person to: 3756 West 3rd Street, Hilliard or fax resume to 904-845-9487, or email to: Loren_Reddish@lcca.com-mailto:Loren_Reddish@lcca.com. tfn

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CLIENT ADVOCATE, Women's Help Center, Callahan. Provide life-affirming options and assistance to women facing unexpected pregnancies. 20-25hrs/week, including some Saturdays. Full training provided. Call 904-401-6865 or email trivera@whcjax.com. 102722

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NONA LEE GRAY



Nona Lee Carter Gray, 74, of Hilliard, passed away at St. Michael's Medical Center in Silverdale, Washington, with her loving family by her side.

Nona was born on July 9, 1948 in Jesup, Georgia to the late Henry Macon Carter and Nancy Naomi Edenfield-Carter. Nona married the love of her life, John Crockett Gray, Sr. on April 13, 1964, and they lived life to the fullest in those 58 years together. Nona had been a resident of Hilliard for the past 21 years. She worked as a paraprofessional at Paxon Jr. High School for 13 years and retired from the Duval County School Board May 1, 1994. She continued to have a number of her former students that loved to visit her. She was a faithful member of Hilliard Pentecostal Full Gospel Church and enjoyed singing in worship to her Lord and Savior. Nona spent all of her life singing and really enjoyed singing harmony. She sang with the family's bluegrass gospel group called the Sunnyside Bluegrass Gospel Singers. Nona enjoyed Bible study with the sisters of the church and would always share what she had learned to anyone who would listen. As some of you may know, Nona enjoyed dancing, too. As a child she and her brother Henry would dance and entertain family and friends! She and John enjoyed traveling, and Lordy did they travel, with pictures to prove it. Just ask Jan and Justin! Nona enjoyed her time in the yard with flowers and plants. She also enjoyed late night conversations with her many sisters and friends. Nona, also known as Mema by her grandchildren, enjoyed playing games on her phone and even got her great grandson Tucker hooked on playing Bingo.

Nona is predeceased by her husband, John Crockett Gray, Sr.; parents Henry Macon and Nancy Naomi Edenfield-Carter; brothers Hubert, David, Mitchell and Everette Carter.

She is survived by her children Jan

(Aldean) Hodges, Johnny (Shelly) Gray and Joey (Melissa) Gray; grandchildren Cole Hodges (James Wronowski), Trenton Hodges (Mat Stillwell), Justin and Kyle Gray, Tyler (Mindy) Gray, Mindy Turner, Chelsea (David) Baker, Sydney (Jason) Tollick, Bradley Reynolds, Heather (Chris) Carter and Hannah (Michael) Bowie; great-grandchildren Kelilah, Jackson and Tucker Gray, Liam and Stella Carter, Brandon and Olivia Tollick, Jade, Olivia and Levi Bowie; siblings Gracie Lee Turner, Euna Faye Williams, Emma Jane (Robert) Bogers, Marion (Velma) Carter, Henry (Diane) Carter, Tommy (Wendy) Carter and Quitman (Linda) Carter; and sister-in-law Olivia Carter; along with many nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be: Cole Hodges, Tyler Gray, Justin Gray, Kyle Gray, Trenton Hodges and John Claxton. Honorary pall bearers are Mark Parker and Drane Parker.

The family will receive friends at 10 a.m. Friday, October 21 prior to the celebration of life service at 11 a.m. at Hilliard Pentecostal Full Gospel Church, 551835 US Highway 1, with Pastor Ike Mohler officiating. Interment will follow at Riverside Memorial Park Cemetery.

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

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

SANDRA MICHELLE JACKSON



Ms. Sandra Michelle Jackson, 51, of Hilliard, passed away Monday, October 10, 2022 at Baptist Medical Center, Jacksonville. She was born in Albany, Georgia. She lived in Hilliard for the past 20 years. She was employed with

the Florida Department of Corrections as an Assistant Director for SHISA House East pre-work release center in Jacksonville for 10 years. She was a Georgia Bulldog fan that enjoyed anything to do with her grandchildren and spending time with all her family. She was preceded in death by her father William S. McLeod; and step-father Frank Gordon Harris.

She is survived by her daughter Lydia Nicole (J.D) Hyatt of Hilliard; two grandchildren Jayden Perdomo and Jordyn Hyatt with one on the way; her mother Lydia (Frank) Harris of Sylvester, Georgia; two bonus daughters Bobbie Grimes and Angie Williamson; three sisters Lori (Gene) Carroll, Brandy (Lewis) Eulano and Jennifer McLeod; two brothers William S. "Billy" McLeod, Jr. and Andrew Harris; mother-in-law Nancy Ruby of Hilliard; two nephews Michael (Meagan) Carroll and David (Brittany) Carroll; along with many other beloved nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, October 29 at 1 p.m. in the chapel of Guerry Funeral Home, US Highway 90 East, Macclenny. Visitation and gathering with the family will be held from 12-1 p.m. prior to the service.

Guerry Funeral Home, Macclenny, is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be expressed at: www.guerryfuneralhome.net.

OBITUARIES

Jax leaves behind his parents Will Lowery and Destiny Deen; grandfather Jeff Baskin; grandmothers Melissa Deen and Rita Pearson; great-grandfather Charles Deen; and several other extended family.

A celebration of Jaxyn's life was held Thursday, October 20 at Garden City Church of God with Pastor Ken Henderson officiating. Interment followed at Keen Cemetery in Callahan. The family received friends prior to the service.

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

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

STEPHANIE MARIE SELPH



Stephanie Marie Selph, 40, of Hilliard, passed away on October 11, 2022. She was born on July 16, 1982, in Jacksonville to Jimmy C. Selph, Sr. and Mary Smith Selph Boyette. Stephanie was a member of Hilliard Baptist Church and enjoyed attending services there. She loved to worship and serve her Lord and Savior. Stephanie adored her puppy, Missy. She enjoyed going to the beach and spending time with her family and friends, especially her children. Stephanie was preceded in death by her Grandma Mary Smith and Granny Boots Walker; and several cousins.

She is survived by her mother Mary Selph Boyette; father Jimmy Selph, Sr.; fiancé David Boyd; children Casey Hooper, Heath Wayne Hooper, Delyla Marie Faith Hooper, Mary Grace Hooper and Maximus Cole Boyd; siblings Amanda S. (David) Strickland, Jimmy "Jimbo" (Casey) Selph, Jr. and Dustin L. (Elizabeth) Selph; niece Kalie Strickland; nephews Matthew Strickland, Linkin Selph, Dustin "DJ" Selph, Jr. and Remington "Remy" Selph; best friends Dev Donovan and Crystal Carroll.

The family will receive friends Thursday, November 3 at 6 p.m. prior to the celebration of life service at 7 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home.

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

JAXYN DEEN LOWERY



Baby Jaxyn "Jax" Deen Lowery, of Callahan, went home to be with the Lord on October 13, 2022. This precious angel was born on

June 11, 2022, in Jacksonville to Will Lowery and Destiny Kiristen Deen. Jax was a happy baby who was always smiling and laughing and loved to cuddle. He is loved by so many and going to be missed dearly. Jax was preceded in death by his great-grandmother Carole Deen; and grandmother Shelly Deen Baskin.

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OBITUARIES

ROY LEWIS STOKES



Roy Lewis Stokes, 79, of Hilliard, passed away Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at his home following a lengthy illness. He was born November 11, 1942 to the late Herbert A. Stokes, Sr. and Irene Mary Sikes Stokes. He proudly served his country in the United States Coast Guard after he graduated from high school. He was the owner of Stokes Sanitation in Hilliard for over 50 years. In addition to his parents; he was preceded in death by his sister Rhoda Stokes Jackson.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Loretta Henderson Stokes; his sons and daughters-in-law Clint and Mechele Stokes and Raymie and Leslie Stokes; a brother A.J. Stokes; grandchildren Cody (Lisa) Stokes, Shelby (Reed) Lloyd, Chelsea (Chris) King, Tye (Emily) Stokes and Justin (Kim) Carroll; nine great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

The family received friends Sunday, October 16 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home. A graveside funeral service was held Monday, October 17 in Mill Creek Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardrobersonfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

come up and help out at the restaurant. You could find Dutch in the kitchen peeling potatoes or cutting up other vegetables. After the death of Lee, Dutch married a classmate from high school, Gwendolyn King. They enjoyed travelling and visited all 48 states. They were always up for a road trip, and even served on mission trips with their church. Dutch had a servant's heart and was always willing to give to others. He was a faithful member of Climax Baptist Church, and you could find him on the left side back pew. Dutch would greet you, saying, "I don't want a handshake, I want a hug." Another favorite saying of his was "gettin' old ain't for sissies" and he proved he wasn't one.

Dutch didn't back down from hard work, and at the age of 93, he was still mowing his own grass. "Papa," as he was known to his grandchildren, had a sweet tooth and he never turned down a piece of cake or pie. You could always find a bag of candy beside his chair, usually containing Snickers or M&M's but if you asked him if he needed anything, he would always say, "cool water and kind words." "Be careless and unconcerned" was how he would say goodbye as you left. Those that knew him never doubted his love for his family. Dutch was preceded in death by his parents; wives Lee Wingate and Gwen Wingate; and a son Paul Hogan.

Dutch leaves behind his daughters, Sherry (Billy) Wheat and Nina (Roger) McMillan; grandchildren Valorie (Danny) Beam, Melanie Kelly, Justin Williams, Blair Williams and Abigail (Tyler) Beaty; great-grandchildren Kayla, Jason, Amber, Ryan, Corey (April), Summer, Emma, Thomas, Adriana, Lucas, Brian and Gracelyn.

Pallbearers will be Jason Wheat, Corey Chaney, Justin Williams, Tyler Beaty, Ryan Lazzaro and Jeff Suttle.

A celebration of life service was held Wednesday, October 19 at Nassau Funeral Home with Pastor Steve Poppel officiating. The family received friends prior to the service. Interment was held Thursday, October 20 at Riverside Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to: Samaritan's Purse, PO BOX 3000, Boone, North Carolina 28607.

Arrangements by Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 904-879-1770, condolences may be expressed at: www.nassaufh.com.

JAMES E. WINGATE



James E. "Dutch" Wingate, 93, of Callahan, passed away October 14, 2022. He was born on August 23, 1929, in Decatur County, Georgia to Ed and Ellen Wingate. Dutch was a graduate of Climax High School, Class of 1947. He proudly served in the United States Navy during the Korean War on the USS Washington in 1948-49. After leaving the service, Dutch worked in Civil Service at NAS Jax, and retired in 1990.

From a little boy, he was always known as "Dutch," and he said he almost got in trouble when he joined the Navy because they called "James," and he didn't know who they were talking about. Dutch married Lee Pitts in 1952, and they made their home in Jacksonville. He enjoyed visiting his cousin Jack at Lake Seminole and would

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Warriors Fall to Pirates

Kyle Pipkin

Friday night the West Nassau Warriors traveled to play the Fernandina Beach Pirates, a county rival. The Warriors suffered another disappointing result losing to the Pirates 42-14. The loss put the Warriors 2-6 for the season. It has been a very rough season for the Warriors however, they are a very young team. This is a rebuild season for the team. The game started out good until the 28-point scoring fest in the second quarter for the Pirates.

Freshman Pryce Arnold went 4 of 9 for 56 yards and one interception. Skyler Freeman led the team in rushing the ball for 70 yards on 12 carries and one score. Josh Bruton also chipped in on the ground running for 36 yards on 9 carries. Earl Moore led the team in receiving catching 2 passes for 54 yards and a touchdown. The Warriors fumbled the ball twice losing one of the fumbles. Earl Moore was the offensive



Kathy Carter

leader for the Warriors Friday night.

Defensively, Sam Coxwell again led the team in tackles with 13 total, 9 solos and 4 assists, three of them being for a loss; and Earl Moore had 8 tackles and 1 for a sack.

It was not the results we wanted to see especially against one of our rivals. It has been a very disappointing year for our home town team.

This Friday night the Warriors travel to Baldwin to take on the Indians with a 7 p.m. kick off. This game is a district match up for the Warriors. Baldwin comes into the game 6-1 on the season.

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Flashes Blank Trojans in Road Battle

Holden McMillen

After enjoying the luxury of four straight home games, the Hilliard Flashes traveled on the road to Jasper to face the Hamilton County Trojans. The last time both teams faced off against each other was in 2014 in the playoffs, when the Flashes lost 34-21. The Flashes began the contest with the pigskin first. They drove the ball down the field using their run game. The drive was later capped off with a 4-yard touchdown run by quarterback Lyle Bennett off a quarterback sneak with a tremendous surge from the interior offensive line. With the extra point no good, the Flashes opened the game with an early 6-0 lead to close the first quarter.



The Flashes began to strengthen their grip on the game in the second quarter. It started with the Flashes doing their usual ground and pound that led to a 10-yard score from Bennett off a zone read keep. After a missed 2-point conversion, the Flashes stretched the lead to 12-0. The Flashes defense got involved in the festivities when Malcolm Howard intercepted a pass to set the offense up with good field position. The Flashes offense took advantage with another Bennett score from 8-yards out. With the extra point good, the Flashes strengthened their lead to 19-0. The Flashes' passing game was able to contribute to the scoring spree as well. After orchestrating a strong drive, the Flashes offense capped it off with points when Bennett connected with Bradyn Matto into the end zone. The Flashes continued rolling as Bennett connected with Braydon Holley for a 24-yard score. With the extra point no good on both, the Flashes closed out the first half with a commanding 25-0 lead.

The scoring spree

slowed down for the Flashes, but it did not stop them from finding the end zone one last time. After a nice drive pinned deep inside their 5 yard line, the Flashes drove the length of the field, gashing the Trojans defense. The drive was later capped off with a 4-yard touchdown run from Chance Morgan. With the extra point good, the Flashes added to their lead, 38-0. As the final buzzer sounded, the Flashes pitched a shutout and improve their record on the road to 4-0 with the final score 38-0.

Offensively, the Flashes had 492 yards of total offense, with 272 of those yards coming on the ground. Bennett had a productive night, going 14/17 for 220 yards and 2 touchdowns and running the ball 4 times for 39 yards and 3 touchdowns; Walker Avera led the team in rushing with 13 carries for 112 yards and 2 receptions for 42 yards; Holley had 8 carries for 107



yards, 7 receptions for 117 yards, and a touchdown; and Matto had 4 receptions for 48 yards.

Defensively, the Flashes pitched a shutout, forced a turnover, and sacked the quarterback 3 times. Damon Kibler led the team with 10 tackles and a sack; Tucker Pickett and Klayton Bright both had 8 tackles and Pickett recorded a sack; Billy Moore and Howard both tallied 4 tackles and Howard recorded an interception; and Brandon Matthews had 3 tackles and a sack.

This Friday, the Flashes travel to face the Destin Charter Sharks. Kickoff is at 7 p.m. Go Flashes!

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