

**Pray
to God for
Our Nation!**

WESTSIDE JOURNAL

FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

**Warriors
@ Clay
7 p.m.**

**H
Flashes
@ Branford
7:30 p.m.**

VOLUME XVII ISSUE 13

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2020

"AND DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND, THAT YOU MAY PROVE WHAT IS THAT GOOD AND ACCEPTABLE AND PERFECT WILL OF GOD." - ROMANS 12:2

Amber DeLaCruz to Release New Single Friday



Dawn S. West

How awesome it is to see a 'hometown girl' continue to work hard for her dream of singing and writing music. Amber DeLaCruz, a Callahan girl and West Nassau graduate, began her journey in 2013. To hear her talk, that has been seven long years. "I've learned a lot, I've grown a lot but there is still so much more to learn," said Amber. "I'm so pumped about what's happening in my life and my career. It's been a long time coming."

In 2014, Amber was a huge part of the Backwoods Country Jam that was held at the Callahan Speedway. The amazing outdoor concert featured the up-and-coming Justin Moore, who now is well on his way to the top! In 2015 Amber moved to Nashville to learn more about the music scene and hope to meet the right people to help her advance in the music world. She worked hard and released the Mud Digger Series, Volumes 6, 9 & 10. "Nashville is a difficult town and a hard life," continued Amber. "You have to really be careful of where you go and who you call friends. It's not like Callahan!"

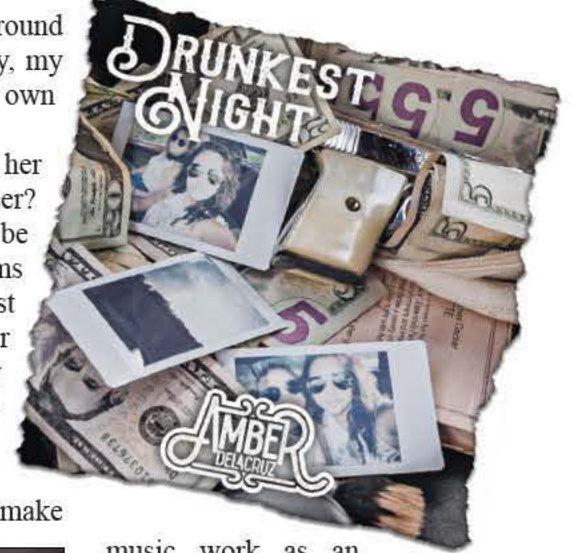
In 2019, she found a really good team to surround herself with that has really helped her tremendously. Nearing the end of 2019 Amber released I'm From the South with a video. The video was all filmed in Callahan and featured West Nassau High School, cheerleaders, her family, Callahan Speedway and more. It definitely showed that Amber is proud of where she came from and it's not likely she will forget it!

This Friday, October 9, she will be releasing a new song and new single called "Drunkest Night". She wrote the song with two successful Nashville songwriters Mark Narmore and Jamie Grooms. "I'm so fortunate to be paired with two great people like them," said Amber. "They brought out a different side of me with this song, it's kind of sassy and kind of blues. It tells a story, like most country music."

The 'Thelma & Louise' themed video for "Drunkest Night" is scheduled to premiere on Youtube, October 30th. It was also filmed here in Callahan by Amber's cousin Chris DeLaCruz, who did an amazing job. The video also features Amber's hometown childhood friend, Sarah Trump (no kin to the President!). "I would like to film all my videos here in Callahan. We have

so many cool and neat places around to do it," added Amber. "Actually, my first true passion was making my own videos. It's fun being creative."

How can we help Amber with her new single and better yet her career? On October 9th the single will be featured first on all digital platforms under 'Amber DeLaCruz' Drunkest Night at midnight. Sharing her music and streaming on Spotify and Apple Music helps her. In the music business, it's all about the numbers and how many hits the single gets! "It's really hard to make



music work as an independent artist. I want to do everything I can to make this all work to the best I can," shared Amber. "I want to do things the right way not the convenient way. My hometown has helped me so much. I'm hoping they will continue and help move this single to the top!"

Amber plans to release six more songs within the next year! Keep watching and looking...this hometown girl is going to make it big one day! Let's do our part to make it happen! Keep following Amber at: www.amberdelacruz.com!

Officer Involved Shooting Tuesday

On Tuesday, October 6, 2020 around 1:30 p.m., the Nassau County Sheriff's Office received a call in reference to a female suspect who went into her ex-husbands residence outside of Hilliard unauthorized and unannounced, where she had an injunction to stay away from. She got into an argument with another female that was there, over some domestic and custody issues she had with her ex-husband. Threats were made and the suspect left and traveled back to her father's house on Ruby Drive. The suspect lived behind this residence in a travel trailer.

NCSO initially received word that the suspect stuck a gun to her father's head in his house, but later said she stuck the gun in her mouth then left his house and went inside her trailer. Responding deputies tried to get her to come out without success. NCSO's Special Response Team (SRT) was called to take over negotiation attempts to get her to eventually come out.

While talking to the deputies on a cell phone the suspect repeatedly threatened to blow everyone away, kill law enforcement officers, as well as kill herself. Several times she came out onto

a screened porch and pointed an AR-15 rifle at the SRT vehicle where some deputies were stationed. She then made a statement that she was going to shoot a deputy that was in a wooded area. At approximately 5:30 p.m. she came out and raised her rifle toward the deputy and he shot one time striking her. She died at the scene. The suspect was a 48-year-old white female.

The shooting is being investigated by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE).

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A Word From the Publisher

How thankful I am for these last several days of fall weather. We opened up the windows in our home and were able to enjoy the soft breeze in the day and coolness in the night. It certainly was a welcome change for the extreme hot temperatures we've had this summer. Although I'm certain our warm weather is not over, I'll certainly take a refresher of God's blessings when they come. It's easy to complain about our hot weather but that's why we chose to live in Florida. We are so blessed. It only takes one look at the local news to see wildfires out of control, hurricanes, etc. Thank you Jesus, for protecting us!

This morning, as I reached for one of the pillows from our bed, I grabbed my little stuffed animal dog that resembles our little deceased dachshund Ally. It made me smile. Like all family pets, Ally was a special little dog that we dearly loved. She was spoiled rotten, of course, and sometimes a trouble maker, however she loved me unconditionally. Even when I had to discipline her for running through the neighborhood or out in the woods, she would still come right back to me and cuddle with me. Our granddaughters each have little stuffed animals that they cling to each night when they sleep. Having that little furry thing can sometimes bring all the security in the world to a child and sometimes to us adults, too. When I was a child, I was a thumb sucker. Oh, I know it drove my parents insane. I can even remember doing it so I know I was pretty old when I finally gave up the habit. Along with my thumb, I wrapped a piece of one of Daddy's shirts tightly around my forefinger. The shirt was kind of silky, a blue and gold Rambler coaching shirt that somehow I got from Daddy. I carried that shirt around everywhere and of course, slept tightly with it in my grip. I know Mama first starting taking it away from me during the day to try to break the habit and that was tough. One good thing, I was always ready to go to bed to get my comfort and security.

I think we all long to have that sense of security to hold something close and be held close. Security can be found in many things but there is only one source of true security...Jesus Christ. This has been a year of doubt and fear through all of us. Not only have we dealt with the changes that the pandemic has brought, life itself has brought so much heartache. So many people have had to deal with death under normal conditions but there have also been so many tragic deaths right here in our community. My heart

aches for the pain so many are going through, my family included. I can only pray that these families have the assurance that they will see their loved ones again in Heaven. Only God can give the comfort and peace to endure.

As I've shared before, these 'days' have been difficult to navigate through, not only with our business but also in our personal lives. Trying to watch the news can be overwhelming. Again, the only peace I can find is through Jesus Christ my Savior. As each new day begins, I am reminded of God's promise to never leave me. I'm also reminded that it is not me but through Him that I put one foot in front of the other. God is almighty and He never changes...like I do. If you haven't placed your trust in Jesus, you need to. This is the only way to find peace. I share this special verse hopefully to encourage you as it does me! *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."* Philippians 4:13

Have a blessed week!

Dawn S. West

Country Star Quilt Guild Fundraiser Quilt on Display

The members of the Country Star Quilt Guild have created this extraordinary quilt for the purpose of raising funds to allow the guild to continue offering quilting classes to the community and most importantly to continue supporting our local charities.

Measuring 84" x 84" this lovely quilt is an original custom design and custom quilted. The beautiful quilt is currently on display at the Westside Journal office. Its creamy background with small flowers and dragonflies is just mesmerizing. It's truly a work of art. The Guild looking to the community for participation in their fundraising endeavors since most of their normal venues of showing the quilt have been canceled because of the pandemic.

The Country Star Quilt Guild is an amazing group of people that meet together and quilt and sew for the benefit of others. They are one the most talented, selfless and giving organizations. The work they produce is amazing and all handmade beautiful creations.

Tickets are: \$1 per ticket; or 6 tickets for \$5. Tickets and be purchased from any Guild member, as well as from the



Westside Journal office, 450034 SR 200, Callahan. To make a donation to the Guild and receive your tickets, you can also visit: www.countrystarquilters.org and fill out the contact form. They will arrange to get the tickets to you. Those wishing to make a donation to the Guild, mail your donation to: Country Star Quilt Guild, PO Box 1374, Hilliard, FL, 32046. The drawing will be held Monday, December 14. You do not have to be present to win!

God Bless America Signs for Sale!



The AMVETS of Nassau County have lost about 95% of their fundraising events due to the pandemic. Rather than giving up, AMVETS of Nassau County Post 2007 Commander Randy Zakrzewski came up with a plan for a fundraiser. The 'God Bless America' yard signs are \$10 and come with the yard stake. The signs are available at the Westside Journal office, Brandies Ace Hardware, Callahan Barbecue and the American Legion Post 401 in Hilliard.

The AMVETS are very active in taking care of Veterans' needs, as they are a service organization. They help with medical bills, food, transporting Veterans

to and from doctor appointments, build much needed ramps, etc. "We try to help in any way we can to support our Veterans," said Randy. "The community has already supported us by purchasing the signs. It's great to see that people realize that we need God to continue to bless America."

AMVETS, which is also known as American Veterans, is the most inclusive Congressionally-chartered veterans service organization open to representing the interests of 20 million veterans and their families. We are veterans serving veterans since 1944.

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OCTOBER 17



Celebrate America Day
10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Honoring our Military and First Responders!

OCTOBER 24



FARM HERITAGE DAY
10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
We put the "CULTURE" in Agri-culture with fun farm exhibits from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

OCTOBER 30 & 31



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OCTOBER 31



FALL FAMILY FUN DAY
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NOVEMBER 7



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NOVEMBER 13



PRAISE IN THE MAZE
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Callahan Christmas Parade & Out with A Boom Fireworks Confirmed

Dawn S. West

The Callahan Town Council met Monday night for their first regular meeting of October. The first order of business was the appointment of a new Planning & Zoning Board member. Current member Ryan Haugh is moving out of Callahan and resigning his position. The council appointed Mr. Thomas Blue, III, to fill the vacant seat. Mr. Blue has been a Callahan resident for 25 years and lives on Dutton Way. Blue included in his letter of intent to serve, "...he will yield his time, skills and talents to assist in planning the future of our township."

The next item was a discussion of whether the council wishes to join the Chamber of Commerce again. Immediately, Councilman David Mellecker replied, "I say no. I don't know what they ever did for us."

"The mayor (who was absent) requested that we consider joining," said Town Clerk Stephanie Knagge. "Mayor Davis said we should consider joining as the current president is from the west side."

"I say no," said Councilwoman Shirley Graham. "I don't see any benefit to joining."

"The benefit is the chamber would be looking out to help the businesses," added Knagge. "We have to step up and do our part."

"I'll call over there and have the president come to our meeting," said Council President Ken Bass. "Then I'll ask him what are you going to do for us?"

The council agreed to table the discussion until the mayor is present.

The following agenda item concerned a change ordinance for the new cell tower. Back history on this issue: Shirer & Associates are currently contracting with T-Mobile concerning the cell tower on the top of the Callahan Water tower. Through some engineering surveys, it was decided that the tower can no longer stay on the tower due to structural issues with the water tower. Jay Shirer and his father Robert Shirer began working with Farm Bureau Insurance in Callahan since December 2019 concerning purchasing a parcel of property from them to place a new stand-alone tower for T-Mobile. At the time, the Callahan code allowed towers in the Highway Commercial zoning. The zoning has since been changed to Commercial which does not allow towers. Shirer was before the council again concerning whether they will change the

ordinance or not. "The council has to decide whether you want to do nothing," said Town Attorney Jeb Branham. "Or if you choose to have me (attorney) draft an ordinance to allow this."

"I would prefer the tower look like a tree if possible," said Bass. "I think it would look better."

"Could you maybe make it look more like a palm tree?" said Councilwoman Bishop-Vargus.

"I certainly understand what you're saying. However, when you have a tower that is 160' high and you put branches on it...it will stand out," said Shirer. "The reason we have chosen this location is because this is where the signal is the best. If we move further out of town the signal is weak. Adding branches to the tower can also make it weak. This tower would make cell service so much better for residents and businesses. The bottom area would be completely enclosed by wood fencing and would be landscaped."

"I don't care what it looks like at the bottom," said Graham. "I care what it looks like in town. And you are taking money away from the town."

"All the cell towers are going to be removed due to the structural issues. I don't think we have any choice," said Mellecker. "I make a motion to have the attorney draw up an ordinance to allow the new tower."

The council agreed by a vote of 3-1 with Graham voting no (Councilwoman Shaw was absent).

The final item concerned whether or not to sign the contract for the Out with a Boom Fireworks display for this year. After much discussion, the council agreed to sign the contract with Fireworks by Santore at a cost of \$10,000. The council plans to have donations from local businesses to help pay at least half the cost and the town will pick up the remainder. Out with a Boom will be held Sunday, December 27 and the fireworks will be shot off from West Nassau High School.

The council also agreed to allow the Callahan Christmas Parade with the West Nassau Band Boosters handling the parade and entries. Town Clerk Stephanie Knagge will make contact with the school personnel that handled the vendors from last year and confirm that they will do it this year. The Christmas Parade is scheduled for Saturday, December 5 at 11 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the council will be Monday, October 19 at 7 p.m.

JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

There are six Constitutional Amendments on the ballot in the upcoming election. All too often, voters have no clear information as to the ramifications of these amendments. We should all take these amendments very serious do to the simple fact that they are changing our Constitution. Once approved, it is almost impossible to reverse the amendment, unlike a law passed by our elected Legislatures that can be removed by a majority of votes later down the road. I normally research who supports the Constitutional Amendments and make my decision based upon their recommendation and my personal opinion. When I research, I go to liberal websites. Normally, if they support the amendment, then I am against it. The two main sources I utilize are the ACLU and the League of Women Voters, two very liberal organizations. I also use the Florida Democrat Parties recommendation as a guide.

The following is what my opinion is on the six amendments:

Amendment 1: Citizenship Requirement to Vote in Florida Elections. Basically this is already in place but the amendment rewords it to be more definite. My vote is YES.

Amendment 2: Raising Florida Minimum Wage. I am against any government body telling business owners what they must pay employees. This will eventually shut down many small businesses and increase prices for consumers on many different fronts. My vote is NO.

Amendment 3: All Voters Vote in Primary Elections for State Legislature, Governor and Cabinet. This basically does away with the party system. In actuality we could end up having two Republicans or two Democrats to choose from in the general election. My vote is NO.

Amendment 4: Requires all proposed amendments or revisions to the state constitution to be approved by the voters in two elections. Excellent amendment, it allows for long term consideration as to whether or not the amendment is

truly an advantage for Florida. My vote is YES.

Amendment 5: Limitation on Homestead Property Tax Assessments: This gives home owners three years to utilize their Save-Our-Home benefits to be transferred from a prior homestead to a new homestead. I am for any benefit for tax paying homeowners. My vote is YES.

Amendment 6: This gives Ad Valorem Tax Discount for Spouses of Certain Deceased Veterans Who Had Permanent, Combat-Related Disabilities. This grants the spouse the same benefits as when their spouse was living. It ends upon the spouse remarrying or selling the homestead. I support anything that benefits our wounded veterans and their spouses. My vote is YES.

Also on the 2020 ballot, is 1 State Supreme Justice; and 6 District Court of Appeals Judges. My choices are: Supreme Court Justice Carlos Muniz, appointed by Governor De Santis. My vote is YES.

District Court of Appeals: Joseph Lewis, Jr., appointed by Governor Bush, my vote is YES; Scott Makar, appointed by Governor Scott and highly endorsed by Pam Bondi, my vote is YES; Rachel Nordby, appointed by Governor De Santis, my vote is YES; Tim Osterhaus, appointed by Governor Scott, my vote is YES; Clay Roberts, appointed by Governor Crist, my vote is NO; Adam S. Tanenbaum, appointed by Governor De Santis, my vote is YES.

And of course my vote is for Donald J. Trump for President!

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

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

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

God Is Still In the Healing Business

Pastor Arlie Johns, Hilliard First Assembly of God



Back on August 28, I tested positive for the Coronavirus. At first it started out as a low-grade fever and a little cough. By the third day it felt like the fever had broken and everything had passed. I knew I had to quarantine for ten days, so I started making a list of things that I would like to do around the house. But two days later the fever returned and I was starting to feel like I had flu-like symptoms. I had no energy, all I wanted to do was sleep and it was a chore just to move from the bed to the recliner. On my last day of quarantine, I still had fever and just didn't feel good at all. That next morning, I was struggling to catch my breath even when I wasn't trying to walk around in the house. I just didn't feel right and I thought that this sickness should have been over by now. I told my wife that I felt like I needed to go to the ER and get checked out. She called 911 and Rescue came and checked me out. They determined that my blood oxygen level was low. Rescue did a great job getting me on some oxygen and then rushed me to the ER. Once at the ER they found out that the coronavirus had given me pneumonia and my kidneys were starting to fail. The doctors at the ER said it was good that I came in because I was in bad shape. They put me in the ICU on a high flow oxygen machine and started their treatment.

Not long after I was at the hospital, word got out that I was admitted to the ICU and needed prayer. I'm told that a prayer request was sent out on the church email prayer list and before long it was all over Facebook that I needed prayer. The hospital had me on antibiotics and the oxygen machine doing all that they could for me in the natural, but at the same time the Saints of God (the Christian Believers) were offering up prayers on my behalf. There were people all around the world, people that I don't even know that were praying for me. I'm so grateful for all the prayers that were offered up on my behalf. On the eighth day they began to wean me off that oxygen machine to see how I would respond. All the time people were still lifting me up in their prayers. Three times that day they turned the oxygen flow lower and lower. Later that afternoon the nurse said that she wanted to see how I would do without the help of the extra oxygen flow. I was doing so good that they decided to leave the extra oxygen off all night and see how I would do (that was the first night that I had any sound sleep). The next morning the doctor was amazed at how well I was doing (I believe it was because God was responding to all the prayers). Before the doctor left the room that morning he said, "If you can walk down the hallway and back that I'll send you home."

Praise God, the Lord gave me the strength to make that walk without any problems. That morning they had me discharged from the hospital before 11 a.m.

God is so good! He is a miracle working God. He still answers Prayer, and He is still in the Healing business. Because of all the prayers and the healing hand of God I am getting stronger every day. This past Sunday morning I was able to preach His word for the first time in over a month. It was like a "Fire shut up in my bones and I had to let it out."

As I close today let me share a couple verses of scripture that I have put my faith in especially during this time: Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." James 5:15, "And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up." Isaiah 53:5, "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed." NKJV

I am so glad that God's word never changes. He is my healer! And I thank each of you who took time to lift me up in your prayers! I've been home now from the hospital for just a little over two weeks and my strength is not where it was, but I'm getting stronger each and every day. I pray God's Blessings on each of you.

Block Party at this Month's Quilt Guild Meeting

Lori Fredrick

Fall is finally here! It has been wonderful to have the windows open and the breezes blowing through the house. Pumpkin spice is popping up in the stores, and my home is decorated for this glorious season. What about you? What is your favorite part of the Autumn season?

I always feel like Autumn is a season of preparation and bounty. A time to prepare for the months ahead and a time to share the blessings we have enjoyed. I am asking each member of the Country Star Quilt Guild to bring an item to be donated to a local food bank to our meeting Monday, October 12. Non-perishable, non-food items and boxes of cereal are often what the food banks run short of. Also think of toilet paper, paper towel, cleaning products, detergents, dish soap, bar soap, diapers you can bring as many items as you choose.

This month our meeting will be titled "Block Party." We will find the owners of the Heart and Home Blocks, see the finished items made from last year's BOM Blocks, reveal the first row of the Row by Row Challenge and the Plus One Challenge. Show and Tell should be spectacular this month and there will be a 4 item per person limit so everyone can have a chance to show off their efforts of the past 6 months.

Also, in keeping with the Spooky month, we will have a mask contest. The mask can be decorated, present a theme, or portray a character, but should only cover your nose and lower

portion of your face. Add a costume to compliment your mask for even more fun! You won't have to wear the mask the entire time you are at the meeting.

We do have some important business to discuss, and an exciting opportunity to examine and determine how we would like to proceed. Please get your dues in and pick your fundraiser tickets. Sue will be taking retreat payments as well.

We have two sit-n-sews (SNS) scheduled for Friday, October 9 and 23, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. They will be held at the Masonic Lodge in Callahan. All are welcome! Bring your UFOs, WIPs and your lunch. Stay for an hour or only a few minutes. There is no planned agenda for the SNS!

We are off to a great start with ticket sales, but we've got a ways to go. We have every confidence we can match and even exceed the amount we raised last year. Keep our picture and information current on your Facebook page. Exciting times are ahead for our guild and you don't want to miss anything! Make sure to mark your calendars for the Country Star Quilt Guild October meeting, Monday, October 12 at the Anchor Church of God in Callahan. As always, visitors are welcome and members are loved. We are socially distanced and proactive in taking precautions regarding your health. Please visit our website at: www.countrystarquilters.org to contact us with questions or to find additional information.



FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

Callahan First Baptist Church
Thursday, October 15 • 4:30 - 6:30 pm
Barnabas @ Greater Mt. Pleasant Church
Saturday, October 17 • 9 - 11 am

First Baptist Church of Bryceville is planning a

CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY!

For this event, they are looking for DONATIONS of new or gently used clothes for all ages, toys, housewares, etc. Call Tammy at 904-400-1296 to arrange for pick-up of donations! Be on the lookout for an early December event date!

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Fleming Announces Candidacy for Callahan Council

My name is Jacquelyn Fleming and I am excited to run as a candidate for Callahan Town Council this election cycle. I am a conservative with strong family values and I enjoy living in Callahan because I appreciate the small town values and family life that this community provides. I am a primary school teacher in Nassau County and my husband is a Financial Advisor in Callahan. Our entire lives are embedded in this community, so I will be a strong advocate for helping this town be the best that it can be.



My goals for Callahan will be to

preserve the integrity of our small town, while also encouraging conscious growth and defending the attacks on our suburbs. I want to serve the citizens of our town by working towards policies and services that will help Callahan thrive in this rapidly growing county, but that is also in line with the vision that we all hold for our small community.

The Callahan election is open only to Callahan residents, which are residents that live in the Callahan city limits. Please go to the polls and vote before or on Tuesday, November 3 and vote FLEMING 2020! Thank you!

Local Election Information Callahan and Hilliard Elections

Both the Town of Callahan and the Town of Hilliard are holding elections for council persons for the November 3 election. Obviously, the names will appear on your sample ballot that you have recently received from the Supervisor of Elections office. To vote in either of these elections, you must live within the town limits of the town.

Callahan will be electing three (3)

council seats. Those running for election are incumbents David Mellecker, Shirley Graham and Ken Bass; and newcomer Jacquelyn Fleming.

Hilliard will also be electing three (3) council seats. Those running for election are incumbents Lee Pickett, Kenny Sims and Jared Wollitz; and newcomer James King.

Genealogy Tidbits

Claude Arpen

Continuing our drive down Lem Turner Road from Callahan, we come to Braddock Road, which runs east to west from Lem Turner Road to Dunn Avenue. The Braddocks are another Florida Pioneer family. According to Pioneers of Florida's First Coast Volume II, the widow of John Braddock, Lucia, came to Amelia Island from Georgia sometime between 1794 and 1796 with four children. Soon, after arrival, Lucia married William Fitzgerald, a native of Virginia who lived on Amelia Island.

Three of her children would marry into the Christopher family who owned Talbot Island. The Braddocks would marry into other Florida pioneer families as Mizell, Vanzant, Haddock, Wingate, Pickett, Geiger and many others.

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

Our normal meetings of the West Nassau Genealogical Society is the second Monday of each month. Hopefully, we can meet together again soon!

Ribeye Steak Dinner Saturday!

Saturday, October 10 • Beginning at 5 p.m. • \$15 Each
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37405 Henry Smith Road

Sponsored by the Sons of the American Legion

Dinners will include: Ribeye Steak, baked potato, green beans and a dessert. This will be a family event and the public is invited to attend. There will also be a Comedy Show featuring three (3) comedians beginning at 7 p.m. Pre-order dinners may be ordered by texting Darien Smith at 904-235-0429.

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Hilliard Selects Whittenburg as Parks & Recreation Director

Dawn S. West

The Hilliard Town Council met Monday night for their first meeting of October. This will be the only regular meeting during October, as the October 15 meeting will only be to take care of payables and will be done by conference call.

The first order of business was a presentation by Tim Norman, representing the engineering firm of Mittauer & Associates, Inc., concerning the engineering and design to place an overflow pipe on 4th Street and replacing old underground sewer pipes. "There have been some problems of water back-up near the Franklin mini-mall. We have videoed the pipes that are currently 8" pipes and need to be replaced with 12" pipes," said Norman. "With the large amounts of rain we have been having the pipes are unable to handle the water. Many of the pipes are 40-50 years old. The entire replacement job would be around \$663,000. Hopefully, we can secure some grants to help with the costs. Placing an overflow pipe will help tremendously until we can do the entire job. The cost of the overflow would be \$8,600."

The council approved the recommendation for the overflow valve.

The next item concerned appointing the new Parks & Recreation Director. There were six applications received and 3 made it to the final cut. The council had a workshop Monday to discuss the applicants. Thursday, prior to the meeting, the council interviewed the 3 candidates. During the meeting, the council chose Gabe Whittenburg as the new Director. Whittenburg is a

lifelong resident of Hilliard and a 1995 graduate of Hilliard Middle-Senior High School. Whittenburg will begin the position October 19, 2020.

The gymnastics program was the next item discussed. Jenni Bradley, gymnastics instructor, for the Parks & Recreation Department, advised the council that she and the girls in the class, along with their parents, would like to have a drive-thru Halloween event. "During the event, girls would be given an information paper about the gymnastics class that will have a coupon to invite them to come and enjoy two free nights of the class to see if they like it," said Bradley. "We currently have 16 girls in the class and they are good. These girls are so talented. We hold our classes in the gym and it is

miserably hot. We have been trying to do fundraisers to try to get some fans to cool us off. Can we continue with our fundraisers?"

"The reason it is so hot in the gym is because the big exhaust fans at the ends of the building are not working," said Councilman Lee Pickett. "It would feel much better if that problem is fixed."

Bradley was given approval to continue her programs as she has been, however after October 19, she will be directing questions through the new director Gabe Whittenburg.

The council approved the request by the Historical Recovery Association of NE Florida to use metal detectors first in the field beside the recreation department.

The council approved Resolution

2020-13, which concerned allowing FDOT to upgrade the school signals near Hilliard Elementary School.

After some discussion about asphalt & concrete repair on Georgia Street, Assistant Public Works Director Greg Grooms advised the council that their (public works) department could handle the asphalt repair. "We have the new dump truck and we can go get hot asphalt and repair it ourselves," said Grooms. "We can't do the concrete work though." The council approved the department to do the asphalt repair.

Grooms also advised the council that the department needed another load of culverts (bulk) at a cost of \$12,805.24. The council approved the request.

The next regular council meeting will be November 5, 2020.

Relay for Life Thank You!

Wanda Nichols, Event Lead Chairperson

The 2020 Relay was scheduled for April 25, 2020. However, due to COVID-19 our relay looked quite different as we were not able to meet in person. We treaded through unknown waters and held a virtual relay. Although our fundraising was halted and events cancelled, we were still able to raise approximately \$16,000 for the 2020 Relay for Life of Nassau County.

We would like to take a moment and thank and recognize our sponsors for the 2020 relay: NuStar Energy, 1st Place; Callahan Cruisers, 2nd Place; and Callahan Soccer Club, 3rd Place; Mark's Automotive; Brandies Ace Hardware; Franklin Properties; Feys II (McDonald's Callahan); Conner & Conner,



Inc.; Paul Clark Ford; 1-800-Radiator & AC; Jackson Hewitt Tax Services; Town of Hilliard; Hagan Ace Hardware Hilliard; Davis Dodge Chrysler Ram Jeep; Gibson McDonald Furniture & Mattress; R & R Wings; Northeast Florida Fairgrounds; Florida Sun Printing; Town of Callahan; Five.5 Grille; Badcock Home Furniture & More; and Lulu's BBQ. We would like to thank and recognize those who supported our relay for life with in-kind donations: Westside Journal; Meridian Waste; Nassau Record; Blues Dog 66; Callie Kay's; and Wise Guys Pizza.

Plans have already begun for the 2021 Relay for Life. The theme is a Hawaiian theme, Re-Lei for a Cure. We will have our

first event, the 3rd Annual Crock Pot-Pot Luck, Saturday, October 24 at the Callahan Masonic Lodge from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. We will have crock pots of food for sell for \$3 per bowl and \$5 per plate. All proceeds go to the Relay for Life of Nassau County.

We would like to encourage everyone to sign up a team and join our relay that will be held Saturday, March 20, 2021 at the Northeast Florida Fairgrounds. Visit our website at: www.relayforlife.org or visit our Facebook page at Relay for Life of Nassau County to sign up, donate and look for upcoming events.

For more information, call or text Wanda at: (904) 294-2088. If you know someone with cancer, needing information or support please call the support helpline 24/7 at 1-800-227-2345.

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Boy Scouts Hold Court of Honor Ceremony



On Thursday, September 24, 2020, Callahan Boy Scout Troop 351 celebrated their successes for 2020 at their Court of Honor, a formal recognition ceremony. Over the past months, the Scouts collectively earned 42 merit badges (mostly virtual) and 3 earned the National Outdoor Awards Camping Segment.

Six of the Scouts advanced their rank, including four that achieved the rank of Life Scout. Life Scout is the last rank to achieve before Eagle and is expected to be a role model and leader in the troop, providing guidance to new scouts and helping the troop however possible.

As community service is a huge part of scouting, Callahan Troop 351 also worked with Joel Pace and Be

the Change of NE Florida program in helping to clear brush and assist with clothing donations.

They also worked 112 total combined hours of community service during the summer and all during a pandemic! For more information on Troop 351 visit: <http://callahantroop351.com> or visit us on Facebook at: Callahan Boy Scout Troop 351.



WN AFJROTC Receives National Awards

The start of school has also meant the West Nassau Air Force JROTC is back in full swing. Color Guards are performing at football games and in community events, Orienteering and Raider teams are competing, student life is getting back to normal.

Earlier this month, the WNHS AFJROTC Unit recognized 13 cadets that earned National Level Awards from the VFW, Special Forces, Daughters of the American Revolution, and several other national charters. Every year in May, WNHS AFJROTC holds an Annual Award Ceremony however due to COVID-19 it was canceled. With the start of the school year, they were finally able to present these well-deserved awards.

Congratulations to the following cadets for their hard work, patience and dedication: Devyn Lambert, Daughters of American Revolution; Abigail Vienneau, American Legion Scholastic



Award; Ramsey Krolak, American Legion Military Award; Alan Stewart, Reserve Officers Association; Dylan Terry, Veterans of Foreign Wars; Destiny Rose, United States of 1812; Dravyn Hill, National Sojourners Award; Carter Lundquist, Scottish Rite Award; Alyssa Stiern, Military Order of Purple Heart; Ethan Nipper, Sons of American Revolution; Allen Register, Military Order of World Wars; Tala Mellecker,

American Veterans; Clarice Collins, Air Force Sergeants Association; Trinity Bryce, Tuskegee Award; Alexandria Decker, Tuskegee Award; Chloe Whaley, The Retired Enlisted Association; Sarah Lucovsky, Celebrate Freedom Foundation; Donovan Jones, Air Commando Award; and Cole Miller, Special Forces Award.



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Conner's Amaize-ing Acres Opens

Dawn S. West

Last Saturday, Conner's A-Maize-ing Acres opened to the public. They couldn't have asked for a better day, overcast skies, nice breeze and lots of fun for everyone. It was great to see people and lots of families walking around laughing and having fun. The Conners have added several new food options along with lots of games throughout the area. Don't forget about the petting zoo and also taking pictures around the beautiful sunflower area. Wagon rides take visitors out to the actual corn maze, but you get a chance to stop and feed the cows on the way. This year's corn maze is themed and designed as Charlotte's Web, and what an a-maize-ing job they did with the maze.

Conner's Amaize-ing Acres is a 125 acre working family farm. The farm is open to the general public in October; select days in November for their Fall Farm Days; and in the spring for Sunflower Daze and Easter Egg-stravaganza. The maze is designed on



7.5 acres. What a fun place to let the kids have fun on the playground, visit the barnyard animals, ride the horses, stop by the pumpkin patch and most of all make precious memories with your family that will last a lifetime.

Their Mission: To provide a wholesome, Godly environment where families can come together and enjoy good, clean fun on the farm. We strive to educate the public on the importance of agriculture and the American Family Farm through various events.

Online tickets may be purchased for a cheaper

price (\$12.99 per person) than at the gate (\$15.99 per person). Visit: www.connerscommaze.com for tickets. The hours are: OCTOBER 3 through 31: Thursdays, 1-8 p.m.; Fridays, 1- 10 p.m.; and Saturdays 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. In November 1 through 13: Select Thursdays 1- 8 p.m.; select Fridays 1-10 p.m.; and select Saturdays 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. Conner's Amaize-ing Acres is located at 19856 County Rd. 121, Hilliard, (904) 879-5453.



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Hilliard Youth Football and Cheer Honors Picketts

Hilliard Youth Football and Cheer board members and President Hal Keene were happy to honor Jody and Jessie Pickett during the halftime of their evening game Saturday night.

"Tonight we want to honor Jody and Jessie Pickett for their tireless efforts to bring Hilliard Youth Football back to Stein Tompkins Sports Complex," said Keene. "We are dedicating and naming the press box, Pickett Press Box, in their honor. The Picketts were instrumental in leading the charge to get the field re-sodded and get the lights in working order. It had been over 20 years since any team played here prior to their hard work. This is just a small token of thanks from the entire Hilliard youth program!"

In 2017, the program hosted their first home game on the newly revamped

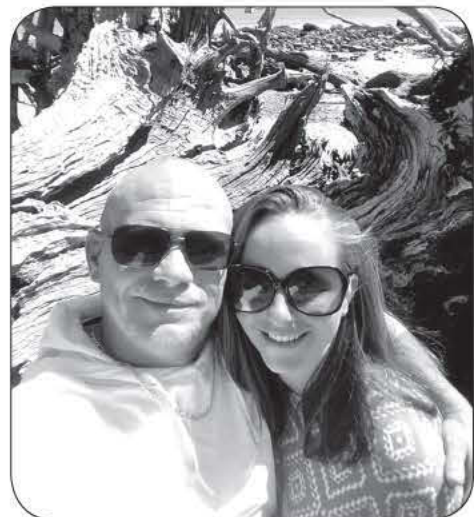


field complete with a sprinkler system and a new scoreboard. Since then, the program has continued to grow, having 6U, 8U, 10U and 12U teams, cheer teams and a competition cheer team.

Saturday, the 12U Hilliard Flashes hosted the 12U Callahan Warriors and won the game in a tough battle, by a score of 21-19.

New Beginnings and Milestones

*Ms. Smith and Mr. Dixon
Announce Engagement*



Our children: Nic, Sean, Gracie, Stratton, Carson and Collin would like to announce the engagement of their parents Carolyn Smith and Jamie Dixon.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Paula and Sam Gill of Waycross and the late Joseph Smith. She is employed as an Office Assistant with Fire Sprinkler Services FL, LLC in Jacksonville.

The groom-elect is the son of the late Fern Dixon and Toby and Amy Dixon of Hilliard. He is employed as a Maintenance Supervisor with Stericycle in Jacksonville.

The wedding is planned for June 5, 2021 in Fernandina Beach.



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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES now available at LIFE CARE CENTER OF HILLIARD- Now Hiring FL Licensed CNAs-Great starting pay rate! We offer a team-oriented environment along with a great benefit package. Please apply in person at 3756 West 3rd Street, Hilliard, (904)845-3988 or fax resume to (904) 845-4456. tfn

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SEEKING EXPERIENCED LAWN TECHNICIAN, must have clean valid driver's license, transportation and be dependable. Call (904) 879-6709 for an interview. tfn

DIETARY AIDE, part time evenings. Prior food service experience preferred. Please apply online at www.lifecarecareers.com. LCC/Hilliard/904-845-3988. tfn

NEW POPEYE'S COMING SOON! Seeking employees to join our team for surrounding areas: Callahan and Duval Station Rd., Jacksonville. **OPEN INTERVIEWS** Tuesday - Thursday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Popeye's in Callahan. Apply at https://recruiting.talentreef.com/popeyes-sailormen-inc. or contact 904-306-6112. 102920

Callahan First Baptist Church is now accepting applications for a **MAINTENANCE POSITION.** This is a full-time position. If you are interested in this position, please come by the church office at 45090 Green Avenue, Callahan and fill out an application. 102920

CDL CLASS A DRIVER, run Southeast, home most nights, \$800-\$1200/week. Call 904-955-4889. tfn

HELP WANTED: CHICK PROCESSORS. Cal-Maine Foods, Inc. in Callahan is taking applications for steady part-time employment. We are located in a hatchery that has been in Callahan for over 80 years. The position is working with day old baby chicks in an air conditioned environment. The workdays are ONLY Monday and Thursday from 6 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. the hours for this position range from 15 to 25 weekly. Applicants must be able to work closely with others with minimal talking. This is a production position with minimum production numbers required to maintain employment. No experience needed as all training is provided. Starting pay is \$11 per hour. For applications, please call 904-879-4710 and ask for Janet and Erica. 100820

MECHANIC NEEDED: Fulltime in Callahan. Monday-Friday. \$10/hour, call 904-626-4504 or apply in person, Conner's Service Center, 449645 Highway 301, Callahan. 102920

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VETERINARY TECHNICIAN. Nassau County has an opening for a Veterinary Technician in the Animal Care & Control Department at \$14,1907 - \$21,5932 hourly plus benefits. Applications will be accepted thru October 15, 2020. To apply please visit www.nassaucountyfl.com or for additional information contact the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida, 32097. Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 10820

LIBRARY ASSISTANT II. Nassau County has an opening for a Library Assistant II in the Library at \$15,6097 - \$23,7524 hourly plus benefits. Applications will be accepted thru October 15, 2020. To apply please visit www.nassaucountyfl.com or for additional information contact the Human Resources Department located at 96135 Nassau Place, Suite 5, Yulee, Florida 32097, Telephone (904) 530-6075 or Fax (904) 321-5797. Drug Free Workplace. This position is eligible for Veterans' Preference in accordance with applicable laws. 10820

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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.

Trump Versus Biden

Dear Editor,

Biden has a political ad on TV where he's saluting the American flag. I've only seen it twice. I'm thinking that maybe his political advisors advised him not to publicize that anymore because it was of poor taste. He specifically left out 'Under God.' He claims to be Catholic, but I've never heard him say, he's a Christian. Christian means 'Christ like'. With Biden leaving out Under God tells me he's unlearned at what Christianity is. "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God." Psalm 9:17. "Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance." Psalm 33:12.

Anyone who doesn't believe in God/Jesus doesn't have any standards. With them, anything goes! They just roll with the flow! If anyone comes up with an idea, whether it's good or bad, they jump on the band wagon, so to speak, and anyway it turns out, it's okay. Biden speaks well, but it's just soothing talk. He's been in politics for 47 years; drawing a large salary. He's been there long enough to be friends with his political cronies, rolling with the flow. Now he wants to be president and enjoy more taxpayer money and accomplish very, very little.

President Trump doesn't accept any salary for being Commander in Chief and has accomplished in 3 1/2 years more than Biden could ever do. Remember, Biden's had his chance during his years of rolling with the flow. The Trump ticket is what America needs! Trump gets the jobs done! Just thought I would vent my feelings!

Jack Lewis

Dangerous Lem Turner Rd.

Dear Editor,

Since I sent this letter in 2015 (Date: May 18, 2015; To: Florida Department of Transportation; From: Steven Nickell; Subject: 18 Wheelers on Lem Turner Road) all the information has increased significantly.

My name is Steven Nickell, I live at 54426 Lisa Drive, Callahan. In the past six months, I have witnessed several problems resulting

from tractor trailers moving north and south on Lem Turner Road. The stretch of Lem Turner Road is between I-295 north to US 1 approximately 8 miles of 2 lane road with very little shoulders and heavily covered with trees in sections. Along with the aforementioned issues, there are a growing number of semi-trucks using part of Lem Turner Road. Let me first say that the only business that may require semi service is Nutri-Turf.

The only reason I am mentioning this is because all the other semi-trucks on Lem Turner are using it strictly to avoid having to go to US 1 north at I 295. This road is used primarily for residential traffic other than the trucks which mixes with commercial traffic, this poses huge issues. Lem Turner Road is 2 lanes now with 80,000 lb. trucks along with an aging community of drivers now having trucks stopped in the road waiting for people to turn into their driveways. So I think everyone knows that it is not an issue whatsoever on US 1 which is four lanes (2 each way).

Lem Turner Road also has several blind curves. It is just a matter of time before someone is going to be in a disabled vehicle and these trucks moving 60 mph are not going to be able to stop. We have mail delivery and garbage pickup (curbside) which poses all kinds of other issues.

Lem Turner Road as a whole has very little to offer as a main thoroughfare for commercial traffic when I don't know to be the fact but seems to be used more frequently by semi-trucks than US 1 at least between I 295 and Callahan. I believe that these trucks going down 2 more exits to be on a four lane road with no obstructions at all, versus potential stop and go which we all know causes accidents is a small price to pay.

I have personally seen way too many accidents and potential situations that have persuaded me to write this. My hope is for someone to at least look into this situation. Just remember every time a resident has to turn into their driveway and a semi-truck is behind them. They have to come to a complete stop if there is oncoming traffic. They also have to go through the gear changes to get back to speed.

Also, all residents and anyone who travels Lem Turner Road should call FDOT about the trees falling on the actual roadway. The phone

Bonnie Green Celebrates 30 Years!

John Drew, NC Tax Collector

Over the past 30 years, the Nassau County Tax Collector's Office has undergone a lot of changes. One thing that has remained constant in our office is Bonnie Green! Nassau County citizens have had the pleasure of having Bonnie serve them since 1990 when she started as a Tag and Title Clerk in the Callahan office.

Over the past 15 years, her leadership experience has blossomed. She has been the Callahan Branch Manager, the Hilliard Branch Manager, the Tax Manager and is currently serving as the Manager of Branch Services (overseeing the Callahan, Fernandina and Hilliard offices).

In 2016, Bonnie was one of the first five Tax Collector employees in the state to receive her Certificate of Firearms Proficiency to hold a Statewide Firearm License. After 160 hours of intense training by the Florida Department of Revenue, Bonnie also earned the statewide designation of "Certified Florida Collector Assistant" in 2018. I am most happy to report that Bonnie IS NOT retiring! She plans to continue serving our community for several more years.

I know that I made the right decision to promote Bonnie into a leadership position shortly after I was elected. She has not let me down and even more importantly, she has not let the Nassau County taxpayers down. Her customer service comes from a place deep within her as a genuine desire to help her community. I am honored to call her my friend!



number is 904-360-5200 or 904-360-5400, which is the Maintenance Department, for them to clean up and cut some of the trees on Lem Turner Road.

Steven Nickell

look behind the curtain, they would see, in the Organization's own writing, exactly what this diabolical organization stands for. Amazingly, they are not hiding anything because it's all there for everyone to read on their website! They are admittedly a Marxist organization with goals to bring this great Country down by ANY means necessary.

That includes capitalism, freedom of speech, freedom of religion and much more of what we have all cherished for hundreds of years. UNBELIEVABLE!

WAKE UP AMERICA! Look behind the curtain and do not be deceived. Lastly, you need to speak out like Mr. West does...and LOUDLY!

Buddy Newman

Way to go Roger!

Dear Editor,

I wanted to let Roger know that his Letter is not "Just" his opinion only. Me and millions more Patriotic Americans feel exactly the same way he does. The words, Black Lives Matter, standing alone in that three-word context, might be admiral and perfectly meaningful.

However, if these "supporters" would just

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EVELYN SMITH BAYER



Mrs. Evelyn Smith Bayer, 89, went home to be with her Lord on Sunday, September 13, 2020. She was a native of Jacksonville and daughter of the late Jesse Lee and Myrtle Gilley Smith. Evelyn was a longtime member of the Church of God and had been very devoted and faithful for many years. On November 1, 1947, she married Adam James Bayer, Jr. and they would have celebrated 73 years in November.

She is preceded in death by her parents; two sisters Catherine Prescott and Inez Roberts; and four brothers Lewis Smith, Melvin Smith, Harold Smith and Edwin Smith.

Surviving family include two daughters Judy Sweat and Carol (Mason) Logan; one granddaughter Kimberlee Whiting; one great-granddaughter Morgan D. Maxey; and one brother Jimmy (Alecia) Smith. A graveside funeral service was held Monday, September 21 at Jacksonville National Cemetery with Sister Sarah Team, officiating.

Peebles Family Funeral Homes served the Bayer family.

ALTON LEE CONNER



Alton Lee Conner, 73, of Hilliard, went home to be with the Lord on October 1, 2020. He was born on February 21, 1947 in Jacksonville, to

the late Alfred Lee and Emily Conner. Shortly after graduating high school, Alton enlisted into the United States Marine Corp to serve and protect his country. He took great pride in his military service and had an unbreakable passion towards America. One of the greatest gifts this country gave back to Alton was meeting and marrying the love of his life, Brenda. They married on December 23, 1968 and

OBITUARIES

enjoyed 51 wonderful years together raising their family. Through his career in marine construction, Alton and Brenda were able to travel all over the world. Before Alton passed away, he was able to mail in his vote for the 2020 presidential election. So, in honor of Alton, he would urge every registered voter to exercise their right to vote and Keep America Great! Because of men like Alton, we all have the freedom to vote.

Alton is preceded in death by his parents; son Alan Lee Conner; granddaughter Kayla Edwards; and his brothers and sisters.

Alton is survived by his loving wife, Brenda Conner; daughters Angie Lee (Chuck) Edwards and Autumn Lee (Brad) Dover; grandchildren Conner Edwards, Baylee (Brenton) Franklin, Calee Edwards, Emilee Dover and Hallee Dover; his best friend Daniel Lawson; his nephew Ronald Crawford; and many loved ones that know him as "Pops" and Uncle Alton.

A Celebration of Alton's life was held Tuesday, October 6 at New Life Baptist Church in St. George, with Pastor James Conner officiating. Interment followed at Jones Cemetery in Callahan. The family received friends Monday, October 5 at Nassau Funeral Home.

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

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

BONNIE BOWMAN CRANDLE



Bonnie Bowman Crandle, 87, passed away September 30, 2020, at her home in Hilliard, following a lengthy illness. She was born May 16, 1933 in Harrisonburg, Virginia to Thomas

Elwood and Velma Bowman. The United States Military played a major role in Bonnie's adult life. She was inducted into the USAF in 1952. She began her career in telecommunications that carried her to many new places such as the Pentagon and eventually to Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii. In 1955, she returned to the mainland to work at Fort McPherson in Atlanta and then to Hunter Air Force Base near Savannah. When Hunter closed in 1970 Bonnie accepted a position with the Jacksonville Air Traffic Control Center at Hilliard, where she served until her retirement in 1990.

During her busy civilian career, Bonnie managed to find time to pull three tours in the National Guard. She spent one tour with the Army Guard and two with the Air Guard. She retired from the Guard in 1984 when her FAA duties conflicted with her Guard Duties. She retired at the rank of Tech. Sergeant, just 18 months short of making Master Sergeant.

In retirement, Bonnie returned to her roots on a little farm in the Kings Ferry area of Hilliard where she raised blueberries, beautiful flowers and a bountiful garden with the help of her sons. She also tried her hand at a Fabric and Craft store in Hilliard and Folkston. She spent many weekends traveling to craft shows to sell her handiwork. She loved to cook and bake. No one ever left her house hungry and many know about her famous oatmeal raisin cookies, brownies and other goodies.

She was predeceased by her three sons Thomas, Mark and James Crandle; and her siblings Marlene Bowman Shifflet, Keith M. Bowman and Sheila R. Foster.

She is survived by her brothers Charles Bowman and Gary Bowman; and her sisters Jeanie Prouty and Deborah K Hunnicutt.

Bonnie will be laid to rest next to her sons in Hilliard's Oakwood Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

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

DAVID CARROLL HARRIS



David Carroll Harris, 64, of Callahan, is finally at rest in his eternal home, wrapped in the arms of his Lord and Savior following a long and extremely difficult battle with cancer. He was born in Jacksonville on August 24, 1956 and graduated from Robert E. Lee High School Class of 1974. David made Callahan his place of residence for 45 years; building his home right out of high school and remaining there until the day he transitioned to his eternal home. He was family oriented and believed in putting down roots and remaining there until his time on earth was finished. David enjoyed a lifelong illustrious career with Flowers Baking Company. His work ethic was second to none and his 45 years of loyalty and dedication to the company were unparalleled and further proof that David was never one to give up on anything.

David spent many years as an umpire for the Callahan Little League and enjoyed being around all the children who were beginning to discover their individual talents. Several years later he found that golf could be equally as enjoyable and he went on to become a member of Deerfield Golf Course. He was president of the Men's Association for a number of years but loved playing a round of golf with the high school kids more than anything else. Those days were some of his most exciting and the stories from those encounters have become legendary.

His greatest joys in life were his family and he took great pride in his children and grandchildren. He loved hunting and golf, dancing with his wife, watching all kinds of sports; but the times spent laboring in his yard were some of the most rewarding. He never met a flower or a plant he did not like.

His father, Eddie Harris, Sr. preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife, Kelley Carnes Harris; two children Melissa Harris and Justin Braddock; three grandchildren Dylan, Dawson and Reese; mother Bobbie Harris; one sister Linda (David) McDugald; two brothers Eddie (Karen) Harris, Jr. and Robert Harris; extended family Terry Harris, Scott (Pam) Carnes, Tracey (Kenny) Gallant, Kristi Carnes and Haul and Loretta

The Water Boys

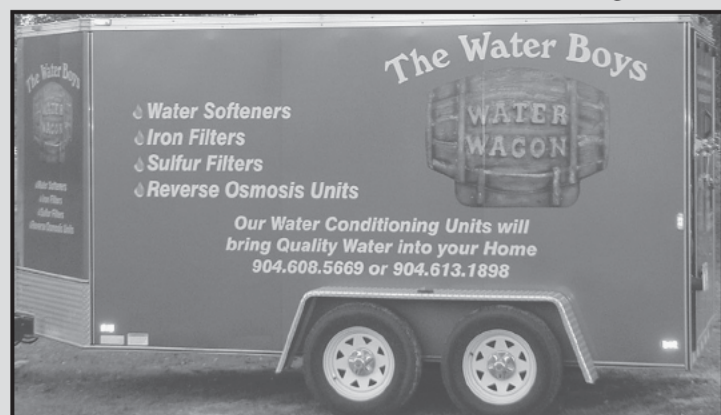
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Carnes; a number of nieces, cousins and very special friends.

A celebration of life service will be held Saturday, October 10 at 1 p.m. at Peoples Event Center, 14165 N. Main Street, Jacksonville, with Pastor Roger Stark officiating. The family will receive friends prior to the service from 12-1 p.m.

Condolences may be expressed at: www.peoplesfamilyfuneralhomes.com.

Peoples Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements, (904) 764-2542.

DOROTHY ELLEN JOHNS



Dorothy Ellen Frost Johns, 90, of Hilliard, passed away September 12, 2020 in Jacksonville. She was born May 6, 1930 in Buffalo, New York to the late Elmer Bryan Frost and Eugenie Ehmann Brown Frost. She retired as a Cosmetology teacher from the Tampa Bay Vo-Tech High School. She was a member of the Hilliard First Assembly of God and the Hilliard Silver Sneakers.

Dorothy loved her family wholeheartedly and always put those around her first, whether it was family, friends or even strangers. She was always more than willing to help those in their time of need. Dorothy consistently placed others above herself and sacrificially loved her family. Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband, Arlie W. Johns, Jr. They were married for 67 years before his death in 2013.

She is survived by her daughters Donna and Ronald Hough and Delilah and Edward Spivey; her son Rev. Arlie W. and Donna Johns, III; 2 sisters Elizabeth Boyd and Mary Bryson; a brother Elmer Frost; seven grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life service will be held Sunday, October 11 at 5 p.m. at Hilliard First Assembly of God with Rev. Joshua Johns and Rev. David Manning officiating. Burial will be held Friday, October 23 at 1 p.m. in the Garden of Memories Memorial Park in Tampa.

In lieu of flowers, you can donate to Dorothy's granddaughter Rebecca Johns who is serving as a Missionary in Thailand. Donations should be made to: Hilliard First Assembly of God, for Rebecca Johns Missions, PO Box 670, Hilliard, FL 32046.

Due to the COVID-19, the family would like to ask all to follow the rules of social distancing and face masks are recommended at the service. Also, anyone who does not

OBITUARIES

feel comfortable with attending the service, the family would like for you to know they understand and covet your prayers.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

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

ANNIE LAURIE NOLAN



Annie Laurie (Page) Nolan, 89, passed away on September 13, 2020 in Los Angeles, California. She was born August 23, 1931, the daughter of James Peyton Page and Etna Louranah Ogilvie. She was diagnosed with Covid-19 on August 22, 2020.

Annie Laurie was the fifth child in a family of eight children. They had a busy and colorful childhood on the farm in Callahan. She spoke fondly of her mom and dad, working in the many family businesses, and helping to raise her younger siblings. She left home to attend Florida State University. Ann's sense of adventure would lead her to National Airlines and New York City where she traveled and worked as a flight attendant on the Havana, Cuba route. In New York she met her future husband, Peter J. Nolan, at the ice rink in Central Park. They were married and shared a wonderful life together for 60 years raising their five children in Auburn and Albany, New York.

Ann's sunny disposition aided her in her successful real estate career and in her many volunteer commitments through church and various women's organizations. Giving back to her community and helping those less fortunate were a driving force in her life; be it donating time to the Girl's Club of Albany; reading with students in elementary schools; hosting Welcome Wagon parties; or helping with food drives. Ann liked to golf, dance and bowl. She also was a true partner to her husband and his long struggle with Parkinson's disease.

After retiring in 2001, Ann and Peter moved cross-country to L.A. so they could help raise their grandchildren. She was a strong, compassionate even tempered mother who enjoyed a laugh, a beer and a good book. She was lovingly referred to as "Ann from Callahan" and will be sadly missed.

She is survived by her brothers Marvin, Ronald and John Page; children Amy, Peter, Laurie, Jeff and Maureen; 15 grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Visit www.lafuneral.com to send the family messages and share memories.

DANIEL WESLEY YOUNG, JR. & JAMIE ANDERSON YOUNG



Daniel Wesley Young, Jr., 54, and Jamie Michelle Anderson Young, 55, both of Jacksonville, passed away Saturday, September 26, 2020 from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident. They both loved the mountains and were returning to Jacksonville from their anniversary get away when the accident occurred.

Dan was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee on June 15, 1966 and raised in Waycross, Georgia following his adoption. He was employed with Swisher in Jacksonville; and served as President of the Westside Syndicate Motorcycle Club of Jacksonville. Jamie was born September 5,

1965 in Folkston. She was also employed with Swisher in Jacksonville. They attended Camp Pinckney Baptist Church.

Dan was preceded in death by his parents Daniel Wesley Young, Sr. and Sara Carolyn Davis Young; a brother Tony Satterfield; and his god mother Lorine Robinson. Jamie was preceded in death by her father James Anderson; and her step-father Jake Blalock.

They are survived by their children Michael (Melisa) Spurlock, Sara Kaitlyn (Trey) Young Hickox and Madison Jade (Joey) Daniels; Dan's birth parents Bill (Renee) Satterfield and Betty (Mike) Henderson; Jamie's mom Myra Anderson Blalock; their grandchildren Alexis Spurlock, Brenten Rhoden and Grant Spurlock; Dan's sisters Krista Satterfield, Blakely Satterfield, Kate Grow and Valerie Silva; Jamie's sisters Robin Anderson, Lynn Anderson Nazworth, Teresa Guinn and Ginny Thomas; Jamie's brothers Billy Anderson and Jimmy Anderson; and their loving puppies A.J., Darlin, Rex and Gracie.

The family received friends Thursday, October 1 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home. Funeral services were held Friday, October 2 at Camp Pinckney Baptist Church. Memorialization will be by cremation.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

Help for Seniors with Electric Bills

If you are 60 years of age or older, and a resident of Nassau County, you may receive help with a past-due electric bill through Nassau County Council on Aging (NCCOA) and the Emergency Home Energy Assistance for the Elderly Program (EHEAP).

EHEAP funds are available to qualified seniors in Nassau County. Funds are based on need, Nassau County residency and other factors that a NCCOA case manager or agency representative will be happy to discuss with applicants. EHEAP is provided through ElderSource and the State of Florida Department of Elder Affairs.

To schedule an appointment, please call NCCOA at 904-261-0701 (Fernandina Beach Life Center) or 904-845-3331 (West Nassau/Hilliard Senior Life Center).

IN LOVING MEMORY OF R. NIEL HAMPTON, JR.

November 17, 1984 - October 11, 2003

It's hard to believe that it's been 17 years since the tragic day you left us. What a legacy you left with us. It's only through God's grace and strength that we continue every day. Until we meet again...

Love,
Mama and Daddy



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Remember to Pray for Our Troops

The Westside Journal would like to pay tribute to all the brave servicemen and women. Please take time to remember each of these service members in your daily prayers.

Jewel Rene Barron (Virginia), Timothy Beasley (Cuba), Cody Beaver (Virginia), Jessica Bell (Hawaii), Chad E. Black (South Carolina), Kevin & Brooke Blanton (Georgia), Sgt. Caleb Bohannon (Oklahoma), Israel Marcos Bonilla (Missouri), Derek Borden, Benjamin Black (Iraq), Hunter Brannon (North Carolina), Conrad Brauwn (Afghanistan), Ryan Brooks (Connecticut), John Brookshire (North Carolina), Aaron Brown (Japan), Branden Brown (USS Nimitz), Anthony Broekema (Virginia), Ethan Bulford, (Virginia), Calen Burnette (North Carolina), Thomas W. Burnette (North Carolina), Ahmad Butler (Japan), Brayden Lamar Carroll (North Carolina), Allen L. Carter (Alaska), John Coltrane (NAS Jax), Scott Cooper, Dustin Corum (California), Trevor Corum (Nebraska), Charlie I. D. Cox (South Korea), Quinn Coxwell (New Mexico), Gavin Crews (Washington State), Tison J. Crews (Kuwait), Charles 'CJ' Cribbs, III (Washington, DC), Dennis L. Davis II (Alabama), Joshua M. Davis (New York), Shannon Davis (Nevada), Johanna Diaz (Nevada), Clif Dixon (Iraq), Robert Dodson (Florida), Devin Michael Dowling (Kansas), Christopher Downs (Arizona), William Clay Dryden (South Korea), James Dale Evans (Baghdad), David Farhat (Kuwait), Christen Fernandez, Clinton Fouraker (Virginia), Jeremy Francisco (Mayport), Jennifer D. Frederick (Colorado), Kevin J. Gahrns (United Arab Emirates), Michael E. Garcia (Afghanistan), Marcus Gee (Iraq), Samantha Gee (Korea), Tabettha Gee (Korea), Chadrick Gibson (Iraq), Charles Gibson, Darrell Goodwyne, Jr. (Iraq), Sgt. Daniel Graves, Jr. (North Carolina), Eric Greene (Georgia), Branden R. Griffis (Florida), Wendy Griffis (Afghanistan), Phaylyn Griffith (California), Kandis Guyton (California), Hunter C. Guzman (Georgia), Micah Hall (Georgia), Michael Hall, Michael Hallman (Key West), Ronnie Hammer (Colorado), Todd W. Hanner, Jr. (Texas), Andy Harper, Harley Henderson (Texas), A.L. Henck (Middle East), Nathan Hess (Japan), Jeff Higgs (Spain), SPC Hodge (Iraq), Josh Hoyle (California), AT2 Brian Hughes (Bahrain), Bryan K. Jeffers II (Iraq), Jacob Jensen (Middle East), Cade Johns (Virginia Beach), Aaron L. Johnson (Colorado), Carlus Johnson (Texas), Donald Johnson (North Carolina), Jamaal Jones (Hawaii), Bradley Justice, Brian J. Kerns (Virginia), Joseph A. Kidd, IV (Iraq), Kayla King (Germany), Scott Kirkland (California), Joshua Knight, PO3 Travis E. Kornacki (North Carolina), Jordan Kriner (Italy), Victoria LaMontagne (Florida), Tyler Landreville (Florida), John C. Larkin (Iraq), Thomas Layden (North Carolina), Chase M. Lewis (North Carolina), Katelyn Lewis (Japan), Nicholas Louese (Spain), Jason Lovejoy (Colorado), Patrick Lynagh (Nevada), Gatlin Mackie (Virginia), Kevin Marshall (Germany), Canisha Martin (Georgia), Tony Martin (Georgia), Anthony Mastrogiovanni (Georgia), Stacey McDaniel (Virginia), Noah E. McKinnon (Iraq), Michael McQuaiz, Matthew McRae (North Carolina), Russell Mellroy (Afghanistan), Ivory Melton, Jr. (Kuwait), Brian Middleton (Afghanistan), Steven Miner (Germany), Chase Allen Mitchell (Colorado), Britt Mizell (South Carolina), Dillon Mock (Florida), Joshua Monds (Virginia), Anthony Moore (Afghanistan), Anthony Moore (South Carolina), Roland Moore (Iraq), Chris Morehead (North Carolina), Sgt. Travis Morris, Climart 'CJ' Moses (Afghanistan), Michael Murphy (Iraq), Aaron Musgrove (Afghanistan), Stephen Myers (Korea), Jonathan Neeve (Texas), Gary Nelson (Kuwait), Michael Nettles (Iraq), Lee Nickola (Iraq), Ryan Norton (North Carolina), Jesse O'Berry (England), Daniel O'Dell, Shannon O'Dell, Steven A. 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Silcox (Bahrain), Daniel Singley, Corey Slayton (California), Christopher E. Smith (Iraq), Michael J. Smith (North Carolina), David Stallings (Kuwait), Bill Starling (Iraq), Larry V. Starratt, III (Korea), Scott M. Stephens (Hawaii), Caleb & Jordan Stoner (North Carolina), James 'Mike' Stringer (Iraq), Joseph R. Taylor (Texas), Luke Thomas (Germany), Michael Thomas (North Carolina), Crystal Thompson (Iraq), Terry Thompson (North Carolina), Tiffany Thompson (Washington), Sarah Tindell (North Carolina), Andrew N. Turner (Alaska), Corey M. Turner (Texas), William Varner (California), Shawn W. Vickers (California), Daniel Vroman (North Carolina), Jonathan Vroman (California), Brett Wade (Florida), Reece Wade (Arizona), Jeff Walters (Iraq), Shawn Ward (Texas), Brian Waring (Iraq), Daniel Waters, David Watson (California), Jacob Wesson (Japan), James D. Whitman, Earl Youman, Jr. (Virginia)

It is our honor to recognize our local Armed Service members. We would like to update our 'Pray for our Troops' list, adding those who have recently joined our Armed Services or removing those who no longer serve. Please read over the list. If you need to make a correction, addition or deletion, just give us a call, 879-4180. You may also email changes to news@westsidejournal.net.

God Bless our Troops!

CES Warriors of the Month

Shown are the Warriors of the Month for the Month of September at Callahan Elementary School. Our character trait for the month of September was Responsibility. Students were chosen by their teachers by displaying accountability for their actions and words.



Kindergarten: Audrey Higginbotham, Kamryn Love, Layla Brown, Ryleigh Selvera, Gracie Vaden, Jaelyn Watkins, Paisley Cole, Benjamin Monds, Evan Powell and Mason Wheeler (not pictured Kamryn Love, Nicholas Holmes and Olivia Valoroso)

Pre-K: (no photo) Cohen Word and John Prytle

1st Grade:
Sophia Urbina,
Keaton Johns,
Madison Smith,
Victoria Erias,
Taytum Bennett,
Rogue Griffin,
Khristian Davis,
Paityn Fulford,
Kynleigh McBeth and
Addison Higginbotham



2nd Grade:
Lilliana Morrissey,
Jenson Blackshear,
Olivia Walden,
Kimber Fletcher,
Gage Shott,
Adley Eddy,
Julie Watkins,
Jordyn Strawn and
Rebecca Nunn

Warrior Band Fundraiser

The Warrior Band is hosting a BBQ Fundraiser Saturday, October 31 from 12-2 p.m. at the West Nassau High School parking lot next to the football field and gym. The band will be selling the food that everyone knows and loves that you normally purchase at the NE Florida Fair.

To preorder online, please visit the Warrior Band Facebook Page at: West Nassau Band Boosters or the links: <https://givebutter.com/WarriorBand>. For more information email: wnbtreasurer@gmail.com. BBQ orders will be able to be placed now until October 24, please bring proof of purchase for pick up. We will have everyone's favorites: BBQ fries, Pork Plates, Rib Dinners, Chicken Dinners and Sweet Tea. All plates and dinners include French Fries and Baked Beans. Donations can be mailed to: WNBB, PO Box 1308, Callahan, FL 32011.

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JV Flashes Shut Down Stallions

Holden McMillen

Looking to add to their two game win streak, the Hilliard JV Flashes returned home to Flashes Field as they hosted the Providence Stallions. The game got off to a good start when Trenton Haddock intercepted a pass on the first play of the game. The Flashes then used the turnover and turned it into points when Brayden Holley ran up the middle for a 2-yard touchdown run. With a failed 2-point conversion, the Flashes jumped out to an early 6-0 lead. The defense continued to create turnovers when Chance Morgan got an interception. The Flashes couldn't capitalize on the turnover and the Flashes went into halftime with a 6-0 lead.

While the game seemed weird with reduced quarters, it was for good reason. Because the majority of the Stallions players are needed for their varsity squad, the game was played with reduced quarters, or 2 halves. However, that did not stop the Flashes from scoring. The Flashes relied on their rushing attack with the one-two punch. Morgan got the first of two scores with



a 10-yard touchdown run, and Holley found the end zone gain, this time from 27 yards. After two failed 2-point conversions and a defensive stop, the JV Flashes have now won their 3rd game in a row, defeating the Stallions 18-0.

Offensively, the Flashes generated 141 yards of total offense with 115 of those yards on the ground. Brayden Holley led the charge with 13 carries for 91 yards and 2 touchdowns; and Chance Morgan had 4 carries for 22 yards and a touchdown. Rocco Mirando went 2/7 for 26 yards; with Braden Matto having a catch for 25 yards.

Colton Conner led the charge on defense, which caused 2 turnovers and 3 sacks as a team. Conner had 5 tackles and 2 of those sacks; Trenton Haddock had 3 tackles and an interception; Chase Chavarria had 2 tackles and a sack; Brent Leung and Billy Moore had 2 tackles. Chance Morgan had a tackle and an interception; Chase Cravey, Tucker Pickett, Matthew Goolsby, Andrew Brown and Seth Moore each shared a tackle a piece.

The next game the Hilliard JV Flashes will play is a rematch with the Episcopal Eagles, this time at home on Flashes Field on Thursday, October 22. Come out and support your hometown team. Go Flashes!



Warriors Fall to the Bucs in a Close Battle

Kyle Pipkin

Last Friday night the West Nassau Warriors fell to the First Coast Bucs, on their home turf, in a close game. Down 21-0 at half time the Warriors did not give up and kept on pressing to make a comeback but came up just short. The deficit was too much to overcome and the Warriors ended the game losing 28-21.

Turnovers hurt in this one. The offense turned the ball over three times all of them fumbles. This is something that needs to be corrected if they want to get back to winning ways. This was the third loss in a row for the Warriors. Even though they were not able to get the win it was good to see such a comeback out of the team. Hopefully they can build off of the second half and carry this in to this week.

Chaz Davis continued to be the leader on offense by leading the team in both rushing and receiving this week. Rushing, Davis had 61 yards on 8 carries

and a touchdown; receiving he had 2 catches for 52 yards and a touchdown. He continues to play well at every facet of the game. Jesse Rochay had 49 yards on 11 carries rushing. As a team, they had 275 yards of total of offense. Overall the offense looked good, just need to clean up the turnovers.

Defensively Carson Murray lead the team in tackles with 16 total tackles and two of those were for loss in the back field. Conner Nobles had another big game with 13 total tackles with two for loss; plus he had one rushing touchdown. James Leonard had an interception in the game; and Grayson Ables had a pass defended also.

This has been a rough three game skid for the Warriors. Right now they are 2-3 on the season. This week the Warriors have a tough test on the road when they take on Clay High School at 7 p.m. Friday night.

Go Warriors!



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Visit the Salvation Army Hope House at 410 South 9th St., Fernandina Beach; or call 904-321-0435. Application deadline is Friday, October 23.

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Flashes Win a Defensive Battle on the Road

Holden McMillen

The Hilliard Flashes are on a roll. They looked to keep their winning streak going as they traveled to Jacksonville last Friday to battle the Wolfson Wolfpack. The Flashes began the game with the ball and worked on a drive that featured two critical fourth down conversions. The drive was capped off with a 10-yard touchdown



run. With a successful extra point, the Flashes jumped out to an early 7-0 lead in a drive that took up almost 9 minutes of game clock. The Wolfpack got a drive going but the drive stalled as the quarter came to a close. Heading into the 2nd quarter, the Flashes were in a good position to add to their lead. They were able to get a good break when the Wolfpack punter had the snap sail over his head and was tackled at their own 5 yard line. One play later, the Flashes leaned on the running game as Tywuan



Lee punched it into the end zone from 5 yards out. With a missed extra point, the Flashes extended the lead to 13-0. Both teams struggled to gain any more traction offensively and the first half ended with the Flashes still holding on to a 13-0 lead.

The entirety of the second half was all about defense. If you are a fan of an old school, defensive battle, then this is the game you enjoyed seeing. The Flashes defense made some critical plays in the 3rd quarter when Cameron Chavarria came into the backfield, got the sack and forced a fumble. But, the Wolfpack was lucky enough to recover the ball. The Wolfpack stood tall and got a critical stop on 4th down to end the Flashes drive. In the 4th quarter, the momentum began to swing in favor of the Wolfpack. Thanks to unforced errors and personal fouls by the Flashes, the Wolfpack marched down the field and the capitalized on the opportunity with a 2-yard touchdown run. With the extra point good, the Flashes suddenly saw their lead dwindle down to 13-7. Facing

the most pressure packed situation, the Flashes offense needed to get something going offensively. The drive got off to a good start when the Wolfpack got called for a 15-yard penalty for a facemask. But, the Flashes couldn't do much else with it and were forced to punt. Needing a crucial defensive stand, the Flashes got what they wanted and forced the Wolfpack inside their own 10 yard line. Pinning their ears back, coiled and ready to strike, the Flashes got the stop they needed as well as a much needed score when D.J. Blake forced a fumble and his running mate Jason Sheffield recovered for a 1-yard touchdown. With a failed 2-point try, the Flashes got a much needed break to extend the lead 19-7. After a much needed stop, the Flashes broke the spirit and will of the Wolfpack and escaped with a 19-7 victory in an old-fashioned, defensive slugfest.

Other than the opening drive and the touchdown off the short field, the Flashes struggled offensively with 129 yards of total offense and 87 yards on the ground. Lee led the charge



with 14 carries for 45 yards and 2 touchdowns; D.J. Blake with 2 carries for 13 yards; and D.J. Coston with 3 carries for 11 yards. Lyle Bennett went 5/13 for 42 yards and 3 interceptions. On the receiving end, Jason Sheffield had a catch for 17 yards; Coston with 2 catches for 13 yards; and Lee with 2 catches for 12 yards.

Defensively, the Flashes held the Wolfpack to 17 yards rushing and 47 yards of total offense. The Flashes sacked the quarterback 5 times and held the Wolfpack to just 7 points. D.J. Blake proved to be unblockable



and made a home inside the Wolfpack backfield. Blake led the charge with 13 tackles, 2 sacks, and a forced fumble; Jason Sheffield had 8 tackles, a sack, and a fumble returned for a touchdown; Carson Newkirk had 7 tackles; Cameron Chavarria had 5 tackles, a sack, and a forced fumble; and Huntley Moore had 3 tackles.

This Friday the Flashes travel to Branford to face the Buccaneers with a 7:30 p.m. kickoff! Go Flashes!

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