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to God for  
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# WESTSIDE JOURNAL

**FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL**

**Warriors vs  
Baldwin  
7 p.m.**

**Flashes @  
Mayo-Lafayette  
7:30 p.m.**

VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 9

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2021

"REJOICE ALWAYS, PRAY CONTINUALLY, GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES; FOR THIS IS GOD'S WILL FOR YOU IN CHRIST JESUS." - 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

## Callahan Town News

*Dawn S. West*

The Callahan Town Council met last Tuesday night due to the Monday holiday. Janice Ancrum, President and CEO of the Nassau County Council on Aging, updated the council about what's happening at the Council on Aging. "The NCCOA received a \$1.2 million grant to renovate the Westside Senior Center in Hilliard. The renovations are going great and we hope to open the facility in early 2022. Our Westside Senior Life Center will also be available for rentals for Community events," said Ancrum. "I wanted to let you know the many services we offer to our senior citizens. We have our Home Health Program in which we have 15 home health care aides and CNAs to assist our seniors with non-medical in-home services related to daily living activities such as: personal care, respite, home making, meal preparation and companion services. We offer the Meals on Wheels Program, that seniors can just call our office to get registered (845-3331). Nassau Transit is also operated through the NCCOA. This service can take seniors to and from doctor appointments or also shopping for \$1 a trip. Find out more by calling the Nassau Transit service at 904-261-0700. Last year we tallied 2,682 miles from Callahan residents. We accept and appreciate any and all donations."

The first order of business concerned the approval of two Resolutions 2021-R07, which concerned setting the millage rate for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

The council approved the rollback rate of 2.2799 mills at first reading. Also, Resolution 2021-R08 was approved which concerned setting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 at \$7,865,319.00 on first reading.

The next agenda item, Town Manager Mike Williams advised the council about the Branch Creek property. "Some time ago, Branch Creek contractor Ken Greene did a quick claim of the ownership of the Branch Creek property to the Town of Callahan. We (the town) didn't accept the ownership however it was filed as so," said Williams. "If the council chooses, you must vote to authorize Town Attorney Reba Pearce to rectify the documents to quick claim deed this property back to Branch Creek, LLC."

The council agreed to authorize the attorney to rectify the situation.

"There are five parcels: one on Martin Luther King Street; and four on Luther Street that voluntarily want to be annexed into the town limits. I'm asking authority from the council to move forward with the annexation process," added Williams.

The council approved the request.

Williams also updated the council concerning Booth Street. "Bids are now out for the milling and overlay of Booth Street with no trees removed," said Williams. "We will also be overlaying Page Street."

The next meeting of the council will be Monday, September 20 at 7 p.m.

## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 9/11 Tribute Held

Last Saturday, a 9/11 Tribute was held at the Robert M. Foster Justice Center in Yulee. Both the Nassau County Sheriff's Office and Nassau County Fire Rescue took part in the tributes. Several dignitaries also spoke on the somber remembrance of that day 20 years ago.



## Hilliard WIC Office Currently Under Renovation

The Hilliard WIC Clinic will be temporarily closed for WIC client services over the next 60-90 days. While renovations are taking place, clients will be routed to the Callahan WIC clinic for all services. The clinic schedule will continue to be offered on Wednesdays from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. during the renovation process. For more information please contact the Callahan WIC clinic: Callahan Clinic (904) 320-6010, 45377 Mickler Street, Callahan.

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## Concerned Taxpayer

Dear Editor,  
I am a concerned taxpayer, who has a vested interest in our District Schools and who vehemently opposed the County mask mandate we had in July, August and September 2020. I was very vocal in local papers and even emailed the County Commissioners as well as the Nassau County School District, Board Members and Superintendent as well. I was very disappointed in the outcome of the NCSA Special Meeting held August 17, on the policy for face masks in our District schools when ALL Board Members and the Superintendent voted to approve requiring face masks for all staff and students with an "opt-out" provision that parents are REQUIRED to sign if they do not want their child wearing one. This is appalling since you already decided that these masks were supposed to be optional for employees and students especially since school has already begun for this 2021-2022 academic year.

As educators, you of all people should understand and know that our Constitution establishes, authorizes, and limits government with specific legitimate delegated authorities. The Constitution has nothing at all to do with our rights. The position of the People and the source of our rights were settled in the earlier Declaration, specifically in the second paragraph. We, the People held it as a self-evident truth that our rights are God-given, and that the whole point and purpose of governments is to ensure they're upheld. Since government has no legitimate delegated authority to manage/rule over/require/make laws or anything else over the behavior of the People with things like face masks (or lockdowns), then the School Board certainly has NO authority at all to do so either. Since

## Letters to the Editor

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

government's purpose is to uphold our God-given rights, then this is your purpose as well. You are not medical providers and do not have ANY medical background to require face masks be worn. By requiring for staff and requiring an opt out parents MUST sign for their child or else disciplinary actions occur for the student, then you are violating the God-given rights of every single employee and student whose parents only have the authority and choice to decide IF their child wear a mask or not. You are subverting the very basis upon which our country was founded and for children subverting the authority and CHOICE of the parents to decide. YOU all need to uphold the rights of every single teacher, other staff, and the students.

Required means demanding or authorizing; the following not optional, as it says, essentially the NCSA authorizing and forcing an option rather than giving parent's or staff a choice. When each NCSA member votes for something, then that tells me each person agrees with it. As the former Chief Accountant for the NCSA from January 1989 - April 1997, I understand how it works. And I understand that District School Boards must look to the taxpayer, which I still am, for the additional funding. This means those like me and many residents like me will vote against each member regardless who voted to allow this to go forward. Any District School Board requiring them self-evidently never learned how rights and limited government work.

I was even more appalled by this vote because once again, school board members

clearly went against their convictions. As a constituent, I emailed all NCSA, members and Superintendent to say the above as well. The reply I received, "The parent letter that masks were temporarily required with an opt out for parents who do not want their children to wear them, was just emailed to us yesterday afternoon. It was different from what we discussed last week, (parents choice) which is what I told you. I apologize and understand your disappointment."

This tells me the NCSA was going to do something very different and recommend masks only but caved in. When you continue to violate the very foundational basis of our country and our God-given rights, you can expect negative consequences. The movement is on already to vote all of you out in your bids for re-elections in the coming year.

Rhonda E. Lowe

## Disappointed

Dear Editor,

As a newspaper and a journalist you are required to check your facts before you report anything and in an opinion piece you should have someone who has an opposing opinion to give a fair and balanced opinion reporting. My conclusion after months of reading Roger's opinion is that he is a conspiracist, doesn't look for the facts, doesn't believe in science and just continues the very dangerous retort and you as the Editor continue to post it making you culpable.

In his latest "Opinion" he talks about the 13 soldiers that were killed in Afghanistan last week however where is the outrage for the 20 soldiers killed each week over the last 20 years. Even family members of the 13 killed have asked not to be used as political pawns. It's ridiculous that he vomits his opinion every week and most of it comes from the QAnon website. Our military did not leave any operational equipment. They destroyed all of it. Secondly, Biden was not the one that let out 5,000 Taliban from prison and did not negotiate the peace departure deal without the Afghan government. These were all things that

occurred under Roger West's "God", Trump. We should be more concerned with what happened on January 6th when the insurrection took place. Trump should be placed on trial for Treason! Roger West should be more concerned for the terrorists that were created by the untrue retort of the past administration. Trump is a con-artist and cult leader. He doesn't care about any person but himself. But yet people like Roger West just keep giving to him as he laughs his way to the bank at your cost Roger. Tell a lie enough times you and the people will begin to believe it—a play out of Hitler's own playbook. Have we not learned anything? This opinion piece without an opposition is unethical in any newspaper.

Disappointed in the Editor,  
Robert Gideon

## In Response

Dear Editor,

While I take nothing away from the 13 service personnel who died, senselessly in Kabul, I am curious as to why you show zero concern about the 347 Covid deaths in Florida alone, on the same day? You say you would like to see Biden imprisoned for treason, yet you stand behind the insurrectionists from January 6? Trump and his "followers" have committed treasonous acts and you praised them, even applauded them. You, my ignorant friend, are hypocrisy personified. You supported white, armed, masked men storming Capitol buildings including the D.C. Insurrection, you even supported the killing of Jamal Khashoggi and you don't even see the hypocrisy that spews from your misguided mouth.

If you're upset with "The socialist fly-trap, alienate a certain segment of the population for not following what the Government tells you to follow" then let's discuss the new Texas anti-abortion law, which includes a bounty "Residents of the state can sue clinics, doctors, nurses and even people who drive a woman to get the procedure, for at least \$10,000." How is this not infringement on the Rights of a woman? I challenge you, Roger West, to explain to me (and the general public) why you are Pro-Life, however...can you do it without using religion or politics?

Longevity,  
Matt Yates

## In the Kitchen... Scalloped Potatoes with Cheese

5 large potatoes, sliced  
1 (8 oz.) pkg. shredded cheddar cheese  
1/2 cup milk

1 large onion, sliced  
1 tsp. salt  
1/2 tsp. pepper

Boil potatoes and onion slices until tender. Drain about 1/2 water, place in casserole dish. Sprinkle cheese throughout, add milk, salt and pepper. Bake at 400° for 20 minutes. Serves about 6.

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## EVENTS AROUND TOWN

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Chapter 2273 meet on the third Tuesday of each month at The Pig at 11 a.m. This organization looks out for earned benefits at the national and state level. There are numerous federal employees and retirees that live in West Nassau County. Not all are members, but all are welcomed to the meetings.

ARMS (Abuse Recovery Ministry Services) offers classes in your area where women will learn how to recognize, understand, and heal from issues of domestic abuse. We use biblical principles to encourage beliefs and behaviors that heal. Call 503-846-9284 or 866-262-9284 for specific locations and time.

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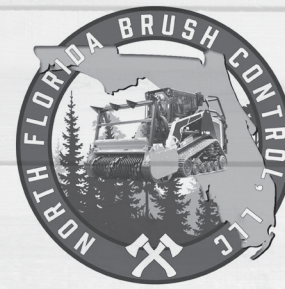
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# Amelia Island Book Festival Kick-Off

*Diana Frank, Communications Director for Amelia Island Book Festival*

The Amelia Island Book Festival, now in its 20th year, is getting an early start with a kick-off luncheon at Courtyard by Marriott, Amelia Island, scheduled from 11 to 2 p.m. on Thursday, October 21. This brand-new venue provides a spacious dining area with reduced occupancy and distanced seating. To be vigilant against still-surfacing Covid outbreaks, the Courtyard follows CDC and corporate guidelines that include rigorous cleaning protocols, purifying systems effective against viruses in the air and on surfaces, hand sanitizing stations and masks for members of staff. The AIBF has reduced the number of tickets by 20% to allow for social distancing.

For this first in-person event of the year, the keynote speaker, New York Times best-selling author Kristy Woodson Harvey, will debut her newest novel Christmas at Peachtree Bluff. This is the fourth novel in the Peachtree Bluff series, but it can be read as a stand-alone. It features a tightly knit family threatened by a hurricane before Christmas. Publisher Simon and Schuster has arranged for pre-release to luncheon guests. There is still time to go to [ameliaislandbookfestival.org](http://ameliaislandbookfestival.org) to order a signed copy. Also, unsigned copies will be made available for purchase at the luncheon by Story and Song Neighborhood Bookstore Bistro.



Harvey received praise as a major new voice in Southern fiction. She cohosted the Friends and Fiction, a live show on Facebook with Mary Kay Andrews, Kristin Harmel, Pattie Callahan Henry and Mary Alice Monroe. Her work has been optioned for film and television, and she has received numerous awards and accolades including Southern Living's Most Anticipated Beach Reads, Parade's Big Fiction Reads, and Entertainment Weekly's Spring Reading Picks. She has written nine novels and makes her home in North Carolina where she is working on her next novel.

A recent addition to the festivities will be violinist Philip Pan, concertmaster of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra for 32 years. He began studying piano at age six, took up violin at eight, and received a Master of Music degree from Juilliard School. Versatility defines his varied career. He was a member of indie bands Canary in the Coalmine, Folk is People, the Firewater Tent Revival and currently plays in The Swell and Mariachi Prima Costa. His music will contribute to the ambiance before the luncheon.

Also featured will be a scrumptious lunch by Chef Nico Anagnosotu, a cash bar, free parking and easy access. Visit [ameliaislandbookfestival.org](http://ameliaislandbookfestival.org) to purchase tickets.

# JUST MY OPINION

*Roger R. West*

Can you hear it? The silence is almost deafening. I am referring to the supposed 84 million people that voted for Biden/Harris. Where is all the hoopla for the man that received more votes than Hillary Clinton did, more votes than Barack Obama? I can tell you part of the reason, first off the man did not receive 84 million legitimate votes...he didn't even come close. Secondly, there are millions of misguided individuals that regret voting for this fraud and are too embarrassed to openly support his radical careless plan of destroying America. You know he's sick, I know he's sick and that's why he acts as if his brain is fried from the drugs Hunter Biden has partaken in. Hunter just loses laptops where old Joe loses his way from the helicopter to the door of the White House. Sadly a video shows Biden walking toward the White House with Secret Service actually using hand signals, as the police would do in directing traffic, to guide him to the door. As the Secret Service Agent thought Biden was going to make a right turn on the sidewalk to the entrance, the agent turned around and proceeded to walk away on the grass. Biden failed to turn right and just followed the agent walking in the grass. He was eventually corralled and led back to the door.

This past Friday he and Jill were making an indoctrination talk at an elementary school, Jill was speaking when Joe just wandered off the stage for who knows what. A few minutes later he wanders back on stage and stands by his wife again.

My point here is: this is the man that is supposedly running our nation. I don't think he could run a paper route let alone the most powerful nation on Earth. If this administration doesn't scare you, then you better wake up. America is in distress!

Now, the man is over-reaching his boundaries by mandating millions of citizens receive the vaccine that's not really a legitimate vaccine as far as definition goes. He is literally forcing citizens to receive a medical procedure or else lose their jobs. What is next, railcars for the ones who defy his orders? Now, guess who his executive order excludes, members of federal employees in the legislative and judicial branches, including members of Congress, their staffers, as well as federal judges and other court employees!

"People who are not governed by God will be ruled by tyrants." -William Penn

As always...that's just my opinion! God Bless America!

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# Looking for God in All the Wrong Places

Pastor James MacFarlane, First Alliance Church, Hilliard



Who am I? What is the purpose of my life? Where can I find comfort in an uncaring world? These are questions that we ask ourselves every day. Yet far too many people struggle with these questions alone.

I had the recent and unfortunate opportunity to spend a few days in the hospital. During that time, I was exposed to a ridiculous and disturbing window into the cultural heartbeat of the world around us. I watched television. I have long since stopped watching it in my own home and was curious as to what television looks like since I last viewed. The sheer glut of "in your face" programming was overwhelming and more than a little sad. It left me feeling dirty and depressed. Most of all it left me asking myself "why?"

As I lay there asking myself this I felt the Holy Spirit answer. Why so surprised James, people are just looking for worldly things to fill up their lives and give them meaning. You are looking to be comforted through mind-numbing entertainment. People want to escape their situations if only for a little while. The answer to why we do this felt clear as day. We are always looking for a surrogate god. Instead of looking to the world as the source of meaning and definition for our lives, we need to look to Jesus Christ. Instead of looking for comfort in hollow imitations of God, we need to seek the comfort that can only be found in His Holy Spirit.

God did create us for a purpose. That purpose is to live in relationship with Him. In Acts 17 the apostle Paul is speaking to the people of Athens about this very thing. The philosophers of the time were searching for meaning just like we do today. They looked to their idols for answers, just like we do today. In verse 27 Paul tells them that God created them so that they may seek Him. God wants you to be in relationship with Him. He desires this so much that He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on a cross and pay the price for our sins by the shedding of His blood. Jesus not only died but was resurrected on the third day so that those who have come to a saving knowledge of Him would have the hope of His promise of eternal life. Further Jesus ascended to heaven in order that the Holy Spirit would come and be our Comforter.

Look to God the next time you ask yourself who you are. Look to God the next time you are looking for meaning in this life. Look to God's Holy Spirit when you are looking for comfort. God is the only true answer to these questions.



# NAMI Introduces New Board Members

Nancy Bell, President of NAMI Nassau County, is happy to announce three new board members to the NAMI Board. NAMI is an organization that provides advocacy, education, support and public awareness so that all individuals and families affected by mental illness can build better lives. The three additions to the organization's board are Corky Hoffman, Jon Hooper and Ramiro (RJ) Sicre.

Corky Hoffman, Board Treasurer, is a retired forensic accountant who has past involvement with Take Stock in Children, Barnabas and the Guardian ad Litem program. Corky's assistance as Treasurer is of great value to our all-volunteer 501c3 non-profit organization.

Jon Hooper, Undersheriff, Nassau County Sheriff's Department, has been with the department over 23 years and has served in dispatch, undercover narcotics, and law enforcement administration. Given the strong, unfortunate link between mental illness and law enforcement, NAMI is especially honored to have access to his experience and insight.

Ramiro (RJ) Sicre, Government Relations Manager, Florida Public Utilities, is Past President of the Optimist Club, a supporter of Light

Up Amelia, and a long-term resident of Fernandina Beach. His personal commitment and the support of "good neighbor" FPU is most welcome.

As we all know, mental health is in the forefront during these challenging and unprecedented times. Even under the best of circumstances, mental illness has often been invisible. Now, with lockdowns, pervasive fear, and a confused and conflicted internet, it is crucial to hear and believe NAMI's slogan, "You are Not Alone."

NAMI Nassau County offers free, confidential, peer-facilitated support groups in a judgment-free environment to all adults 18 and over. Our Family Support Group meets the first and third Tuesdays from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Alachua Club, 32 North 3rd Street, Fernandina Beach.

Our Connections Group for those with mental health challenges meets every Friday from 11-12:30 p.m. in the Game Room at Council on Aging, 1901 Island Walkway, Fernandina Beach. For more information, please check out our updated website at [www.naminassauflorida.org](http://www.naminassauflorida.org), telephone 904-277-1886 (leave message), contact [naminassauflorida@gmail.com](mailto:naminassauflorida@gmail.com) or attend one of our meetings.

## CHURCH NEWS

KIDZ JAM will be held on Wednesdays through Sept. 29 at 6:30 p.m. at Friendship Alliance Church, 44491 Sauls Road, Callahan. Children ages 5-11 can enjoy games, crafts, Bible fun and more!

Bethany Episcopal Church will be selling Barbecue Dinners this Friday, September 17 from 5-7 p.m. for \$8 each. The church is located on CR 108 in Hilliard across from Hilliard Town Hall.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints will hold a FREE Fish Fry Dinner & Open House, Friday, September 17 from 5-7 p.m. The church is located at 3741 Heavenly Way, Hilliard. FREE Family Community event!

*Attend the church of your choice this Sunday.*

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## JV Flashes Win Overtime Thriller

Holden McMillen

The Hilliard JV Flashes played host to the Paxon JV Golden Eagles last Thursday. The Flashes used the run game to march down the field. Prestin O'Quinn ended the series with a 4-yard touchdown run. After the 2-point conversion was no good, the Flashes sprung out to an early start with a 6-0 lead. In the second quarter, after being gifted with prime field position at midfield, the Flashes' offense went right to work. Brandon Matthews found daylight on the right side and rumbled down the near sideline for a 39-yard touchdown. After a failed 2-point conversion, the Flashes extended the lead 12-0. However, the Golden Eagles found a way to bounce back, and they relied on the ground game to do so courtesy of a 40-yard touchdown run. With a failed 2-point conversion, the Flashes suddenly saw their lead sliced in half as they went into halftime with a 12-6 lead.

As the third quarter began, the Flashes defense recovered nicely when safety Brogan Johns intercepted another underthrown ball and bolted down the near sideline untouched for a 60-yard pick six. With the 2-point conversion good, the Flashes stretched the gap a little bit further with the score 20-6. However, the Golden Eagles countered the Flashes score with one of their own, relying on the run game again this time with a 43-yard touchdown run. The Flashes went from a potential route to suddenly in a heavyweight fight as the score was 20-12 as both teams entered the fourth quarter.

In the fourth quarter, the theme of the night was defense. The Flashes defense struck first when the Golden Eagles had the snap catch serious hang time and found defensive tackle Blake Ray on the bottom of the pile with the pigskin. Hoping to capitalize on the freshly baked turnover, the Golden Eagles stripped the ball and returned the fumble 78 yards for the touchdown.

With the 2-point conversion good, the game was caught in a stalemate as the score was even at 20. After the Flashes offense stalled on the ensuing drive, the Flashes took advantage of another self-inflicting mistake from the Golden Eagles as a botched snap was recovered again by Ray. But, the Flashes failed to capitalize on the turnover as the overtime button was pressed, sending the contest to an extra quarter.

The Golden Eagles began the period with the football, but the Flashes defense rose up using back-to-back crucial tackles from Ray. The Golden Eagles scored on 4th down, but the play was negated courtesy of an offensive holding penalty. On the ensuing play, the Flashes defense buckled down and rose tall, denying any advancement when Johns broke up a pass that would've resulted in a touchdown. Needing a score to win, the Flashes marched down the field. On 4th down at the 1 yard line, O'Quinn called his own number as he carried Golden Eagle defenders on his back and struck pay dirt, ending the game with the Flashes on top with a thrilling 26-20 victory in overtime.

Offensively, the JV Flashes produced 221 yards of total offense with 184 of them coming on the ground. Brandon Matthews led the charge with 9 carries for 78 yards and a touchdown; Brogan Johns had 19 carries for 73 yards; and Prestin O'Quinn had 11 carries for 33 yards and 2 touchdowns including the game winner. Rocco Miranda went 5/14 for 37 yards and had a carry for 4 yards. On the receiving end was Troy Adams with 2 catches for 26 yards; and Johns with 2 catches for 5 yards.

Defensively, the Flashes forced 4 turnovers including Johns' 60-yard pick six; O'Quinn led the charge on defense with his 4 tackles; Blake Ray had 3 tackles and 2 fumble recoveries; and Chase Silcox had 3 tackles. Thursday, September 23, the JV Flashes will travel to face the Interlachen Rams with a 6:30 p.m. kick off.

## Hornets Beat Warriors

Kyle Pippin

Last Friday, the West Nassau Warriors traveled to Yulee to face their county rival and lost in a close battle. This is not the way we want to see our home town team start the season. Although it is a hit to the overall record it was not a district game so there is still hope for the playoffs. Hopefully Coach Armstrong and the boys can get it turned around before district games start.

West Nassau got on the board first with a 3-yard touchdown run from Conner Nobles followed by a missed extra point with 6 minutes left in the first quarter. Yulee got the ball and went down the field and scored to tie the game at 6. The extra point was good putting the Hornets in the lead, 7-6. With under a minute to go in the first quarter, AJ Miller broke loose for a 45-yard touchdown run to retake the lead for the Warriors. The two point conversion was successful and the Warriors extended the lead to 14-7. The Hornets were able to tie it up in the second quarter with a passing touchdown. They converted on the extra point before halftime, leaving a tie at the half.

The third quarter saw scores from both squads. Yulee went up on the board first with a field goal taking the game

17-14 over the Warriors. Yulee scored another touchdown and successful extra point to stretch the lead to 24-14. Brady Wright brought the game closer by rushing for a touchdown followed by a failed extra point attempt. At the end of the third quarter Yulee lead the Warriors 24-20 with neither team scoring after that.

It always hurts losing a rivalry game especially to those in the county. In this one, we saw some good things come out of this loss. The Warrior defense on third down was lights out not giving up one conversion the entire game. The Hornets were 0-8 on third down conversion. Conner Nobles lead the Warriors with 10 total tackles, one for a loss.

The Warrior offense was able to score against Yulee after being shutout against Bolles. AJ Miller lead the team in almost every offensive category finishing the night with 75 rushing, 27 receiving, and another 59 yards in the kick returns. The offense had a total of 161 yards for the game. The Warriors had two fumbles that need to be cleaned up before next week.

This week the Warriors will be at home to host the Baldwin Indians at 7 p.m. Over the last few years, this matchup has been a lot of fun to watch.

Go Warriors!



### Local Covid Testing Sites

A site will be set up Fridays at The Journey Church in Hilliard (across from Hilliard Winn Dixie) from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.; and at The Journey Church in Yulee on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

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## Buy the Kids an Experience... Not More Stuff!



Are you tired of giving your kids the same old stuff that they don't want or need, only to have it forgotten within days? Why not buy them an "experience" that will create a memory for a lifetime?

On Saturday, October 16, Extreme Outdoors will host a "Children's Outdoor Adventure Day." This event will take place in Jacksonville and introduce your child/grandchild to a variety of outdoor activities, while learning in a non-competitive, safe, fun, outdoor environment.

The event will offer beginner classes in: Archery, Kayaking, Fishing, Beekeeping, Camping, Outdoor Photography, Pie Iron Cooking, Outdoor

Crafts, and an Air Gun Range. Your child will pick 4 classes he/she would like to participate in. The event begins at 9 a.m. and ends at approximately 3:30 p.m. Children between the ages of 6 -14 years old are welcome. We require a parent to attend with the child throughout the entire event. The cost is \$45/per child and includes lunch and a drink. Parents can buy their lunch for an additional \$10. Smokey the Bear and NRA's Eddie Eagle will be there to talk to the children about fire and gun safety.

Pre-registration is required for this event. Please contact Patty Foster at (904) 210-1110 to register and select the classes your child would like to attend.

## Buyers Information Dinner

The Hilliard FFA Program is hosting a 'Meet the Student Grower: A Buyers Dinner' on Friday, October 1, 2021 at the Multi-purpose Building at the Fairgrounds at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are required so that adequate food can be prepared! This is a no cost dinner. Please RSVP by Tuesday, September 24 to: <https://FAIR2021.RSVPIFY.com>. The event is open to all Nassau County students who



are raising market animals. The purpose of this dinner is to invite all prospects looking to fill their freezer with farm fresh local meat. We are also looking for local businesses and/or families that are looking to support these entrepreneurs in their endeavors. We have so many young advocates for agriculture who look forward to sharing their stories of stewardship and sustainability.

## NCFR Firefighter Rescues Man from Drowning

Last Friday, Nassau County Fire Rescue employees were returning back to Nassau County from transporting a patient to the hospital. While still in Jacksonville, they noticed a group of people on the side of the road looking at a pond. They stopped to see what was happening. The people saw a truck in the pond and stated they saw a person in the truck. NCFR Joshua Berglin, 26, immediately sprang into action to save the person. While entering the water, one of the bystanders yelled there's an alligator in the water. Berglin, focused



on his mission, got to the vehicle and saw the person bobbing up and down. Thankfully, the windows of the vehicle were down so Berglin grabbed the victim's arms and started pulling him. As he got to land, his partner had already called for a Jacksonville unit to assist. They loaded the patient and took him to the hospital, where he was expected to be okay. "This is why I love my job," said Berglin. "I'm here to help people, no matter where that may be."

## Callahan Sheik Honors the Fallen

The Sheik Callahan owner Louie Salameh and his staff set up a table in the restaurant first thing Friday morning, September 10 to honor and remember the 13 military personnel killed in Afghanistan. The memorial table remained throughout the weekend. What a great tribute to show our American pride. God Bless America!



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# Sage & Nest Offers Workshops



Dawn S. West

If you haven't had a chance to stop in and visit Sage & Nest in Hilliard, now is a great time to do so. They now have their fall collection out and it is beautiful. Fall is one of my favorite times of the year so it didn't take much for me to be thrilled with the décor. Sage & Nest is a wonderful shop with



a wide range of items. There are several vendors that have their 'personal touch' items displayed for purchase. We certainly have some very talented people around. There are lots of home décor (my favorite), some furniture, jewelry, pillows, dish towels, candles, honey and lots of wood crafted items and much more.

I recently attended a Chalk Art Transfer workshop with a group of ladies (Gina, Debbie, Teresa, Darlene and



Trish) that graciously welcomed me to join in. We had a great time and lots of fun. Tammy was patient and extremely good with directions of what to do and when. I had a few errors but Tammy quickly showed me how to fix them. We were all excited and pleased with our creations. "We are now offering walk-in craft time,"

said Sage & Nest co-owner Tammy Moses. "We have several kits to choose from to do your own craft. Many people think they can't do crafts. This is a fun time to try it out."

Workshops are available by calling and setting up the time you would like to come. Tammy will try to accommodate your schedule by offering day or evening and Saturday classes. It's a fun time to get together with a few friends and do something different while supporting our small businesses. Tammy feels like a group of eight would be a comfortable group for a fun workshop.

Sage & Nest is located north of Hilliard at 552093 US Highway 1, right beside Zan's Bazaar and the hours are Tuesday - Saturday from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Make sure to call 629-6231 to set up your workshop today! They can also be reached on their Facebook page @ sageandnest where they regularly do Facebook live videos.



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**SATURDAY, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.,** 45158 Mickler Street, Callahan. Household, linens, toys, cookbooks, books, pillows, crafts, children's, floral, vintage chairs, décor, miscellaneous!

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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) or [Loren\\_Reddish@lcca.com](mailto:Loren_Reddish@lcca.com). tfn

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# It's Bad, and May Be Too Late!

Douglas C. Pearson Sr.

How bad is the current administration in Washington? I had to do some very troubling research along those lines and I found, with the limited restrictions required by this publication on length of letters/articles, it cannot be accurately described herein. But yet, there aren't enough adjectives in the dictionary to adequately describe the ineptitude, dementia ridden, stupidity that has embodied the current president and his group of brain dead "Yes Men."

For decades candidates, of both parties, promised to make this country energy independent. The previous administration achieved that goal. Then, with the swipe of an irresponsible pen, the current administration wiped that all out.

For decades candidates, of both parties, promised to stabilize the economy. The previous administration achieved that, with incomes out pacing inflation. With the swipe of an uneducated pen, giving away Trillions of dollars to those who don't work, inflation now out paces the incomes of the American worker.

For decades candidates, of both parties, promised to secure our borders and improve our immigration laws. The previous administration was well on the way to achieving that with increased border security and requiring the laws to be enforced. With the swipe of an unknowledgeable pen, the current administration has permitted an excess of 1.5 million Illegal Aliens to invade this country without so much as knowing who they are or what their motives are for being here.

For decades we have been fighting a "War on Terrorism". The culmination of previous administrations' efforts (both Democratic and Republican) had put us on sound footing to provide stability to the world and the U.S. in that war. By ignoring all the efforts that have gone on before, the current administration, in the dead of night, put into place a series of actions that in less than 30 days wiped out all the efforts for national security that had gone before them. The results are another 120,000 people have been "rescued" from a collapsing country and spread out around the world, without knowing who they are or what their motives are for being "rescued".

Now, the White House wants members of an Advisory Board to the Military Academies, appointed by the previous administrations, to all resign. Why? According to the White House Press Secretary because the president perceives they are not qualified. When further pressed, the response was that he wants to appoint "qualified people that are more aligned with the administration's views".

In short, he will appoint people that he, subjectively and not objectively, believes are qualified and that will agree with him. Some of the governments that exist today that have that are the Communist Chinese; The Cuban Dictatorship; The North Koreans; The Vietnamese; and the country formerly known as The Soviet Union, just to name a few.


In my nearly 34 years in the work place every time I got a new supervisor, whether by changing jobs or by promotion, my first communications with that person was to let them know two things. I was on board and supportive of the mission and that if I saw something was wrong I would let them know and not hold back. Even if the concern was their doing, or lack of doing. In addition, I always wanted those who worked with me, or for me, to be equally as honest and candid with me. Only then could responsible decisions and actions be implemented.

Now, the current administration has stood fast as it has abandoned American Citizens to an invading government that has sworn to destroy our way of living. This is the same organization that fostered the group that created the only attack on the United States that was successful, in our entire existence since the Civil War. I cannot hold back and I will let everyone know that since I was born, I have never experienced such fears against my homeland. My entire comfort of having a place where I can continue my objective to enjoy Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness has, for the first time in my lifetime, been compromised by a totally inept and irresponsible person that is completely out of touch with reality.

Finally, for decades presidents have scheduled hours in prime-time to address the nation to ensure adequate coverage of their messages. For the first time, since radio or TV development, our current administration continuously picks time slots for messages that will avoid confrontation with the American Public. Then, when doing so, he ignores the inquiries that are relevant to the times of the day. He evaded having to explain himself during the election, and has continued to evade the questions during his administration by thinking if he refuses to answer the hard questions he will not lose his support.

In closing, I will provide a quote from our enemies that have appeared in all too many historical documentaries and movies over the decades. "Papers Please?" is the usual question. Failure to provide them resulted in being incarcerated and tried as enemies of the state. Are you ready for that? It might be too late to choose!

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## TOWN OF CALLAHAN, FL

### INVITATION TO BID

#### FY 2020-2021 MILLING AND RESURFACING PROJECT

Public Works Department

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

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

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

**Bids should be submitted to:**  
 Office of the Town Clerk  
 Attn: Stephanie Knagge  
 TOWN OF CALLAHAN  
 542300 US Hwy. 1 (in person)  
 P.O. Box 5016 (by mail)  
 Callahan, Florida 32011

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

Individuals with disabilities needing a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the program or activity should contact the office of the Town Clerk, Stephanie Knagge, at (904) 879-3801 ext. 203 or [clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov](mailto:clerk@townofcallahan-fl.gov) at least seventy two hours in advance to request such accommodation.  
 If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

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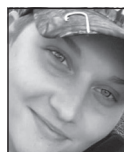


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**TRISTEN JEANI GAY**



Tristen Jeani Gay, 30, of Jacksonville, passed away Friday, September 3, 2021. She was born in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina and was a Jacksonville resident since she was 2-years-old. Although Tristen's time here on earth was cut short, she lived fearlessly and loved deeply. She had a smile as bright as the sun and eyes as blue as the ocean. Her personality, sense of humor, confidence and ability to always see the good in even the worst situations made her unforgettable. She never met a stranger and went out of her way to be kind, even to people she never met, in hopes that she would make a positive difference if even for just a moment. She loved good conversations, partly because she liked the sound of her own voice but mostly for the good banter and connections made through them. She was a writer and a poet who could reach even the deepest part of your soul with her words. She was a music lover of all genres and all those who knew her, has a song that immediately makes them think of her. She was stubborn, strong willed and a fierce protector of her family and those closest to her. Tristen was the kindest, sweetest, most sensitive, soft-hearted person one could ever meet. She was one of a kind to her core and there will never be anyone else like her. Her absence will be felt deeply by so many as her presence was larger than life and deeper than words. She will be loved always.

She leaves behind her mother and stepfather Tonya (Michael) McClain; her father and stepmother John (Michele) Gay; sisters Darienne Pantry and Leslie Boswell; brothers Jonathan Gay and Jackson Gay; grandmother Cindy Rowland; grandfather Phillip Bailey; nephew Aiden Pantry; godmother Tonya Jennings; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, and close friends who loved her dearly. Tristen gave a huge part of her heart to three beautiful little girls, Nevaeh, Kyndal and Kaileyana, who she made sure all knew they were loved and supported. Tristen is preceded in death by her grandmother Evelyn Gay.

A celebration of Tristen's life was held Thursday, September 9 in the chapel of Warren Funeral Services of Baldwin. Her family received friends prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to <https://hope.drugfree.org/memorials/TristensTribe>.

Warren Funeral Services of Baldwin served Tristen's family.

Please leave condolences at [www.warrenfuneralservices.com](http://www.warrenfuneralservices.com).

# OBITUARIES

**BILLY TERRANCE GROOMS**



Billy Terrance "Terry" Grooms, 79, of Folkston, Georgia, passed away peacefully September 7, 2021 into the loving arms of Jesus, surrounded by his family, at Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville. Terry was born on July 20, 1942, at McCoy Hospital in Folkston, and was the oldest child of Evelyn Hinson Grooms and Ralph Waldo Grooms, Jr. who preceded him in death. Terry's Folkston heritage dates to his paternal great-grandparents Jesse Shepard Grooms and Elvinie Riggs Grooms, who were some of the first settlers in Charlton County, Georgia.

Terry graduated from Hilliard High School in 1960. He was awarded a Basketball Scholarship to Georgia Southern College where he played for the Georgia Southern Eagles. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Health and Physical Education in 1965. Terry was inspired to be a basketball coach when he noticed a group of young boys playing basketball in a recreation league at Georgia Southern, and he knew he wanted to be a basketball coach! Terry had the opportunity in 1966-1967 to coach basketball under his high school coach, Rodger Wrench, in Fort Pierce. In 1967, he moved to Folkston, and was the Charlton County High School Head Basketball Coach for 10 years. He also coached football, track and field, and tennis and taught many students driver's education and mathematics.

After coaching, Terry was employed with Gilman Paper Company in the Building Products Division. He later worked at White Oak Plantation and East Coast Concrete where he retired. Terry had a kind and humble spirit, and his influence on young people helped them reach their potential "on and off the court." Terry loved and adored his children and was proud of their accomplishments. He especially enjoyed fishing, hunting, being with his friends to "replay" basketball plays and games. Terry accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior as a teenager and was a baptized member of Hilliard First Baptist Church until he passed away.

Terry is survived by his children Teresa Grooms (Scott) Bradley, Tamara Grooms (Bobby) Baker, Terra Grooms (Joe) Ziolkowski, Terrance Gowen (Ariel) Grooms; his grandchildren Justin (Brittany)

Bradley, Davis Bradley, Brandyn, Olivia Belle and Nathaniel Banks Baker, Thomas and Amelia Ziolkowski, Gowen and Laney Grooms; and great-grandson Knox Bradley; his sister Karen Grooms Conner; two uncles Ronnie (Ann) Grooms and Larry Grooms; and his aunt Joann Grooms Stokes.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to Charlton County High School Basketball Team, as Terry loved coaching and teaching young people. If making a donation, please note "In memory of Coach Terry Grooms." Checks may be mailed to: Charlton County High School, 994 Indian Trail, Folkston, Georgia 31537.

The family of Terry Grooms cherishes the community of wonderful friends and family and appreciates your love, thoughts and prayers. A special thanks, to Danny Pulido, MD, and Paula Salas, MD, who took great care of Terry during his last years.

A graveside service was held Sunday, September 12 at Oakwood Cemetery, Hilliard with Bro. Ray McMillan officiating.

Pallbearers were Brandyn Baker, Justin Bradley, Davis Bradley, Kenneth Grooms, Larry Grooms, Robert Grooms, Ronnie Grooms and Thomas Ziolkowski. Honorary Pallbearers were Billy Bray, Jesse Crews, Fran Florian, Dewey Hulsey, Robert Jones, E.G. Meybohm, Danny McCoy, Steve McQueen, David Patton, Robert Phillips, Edwin Pope, Paul Ross and Roy Stewart.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

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

**ANITA M. HIGGINBOTHAM**



Anita Marie Higginbotham 55, of Hilliard, was received into the loving arms of Jesus on September 2, 2021, at Shands Hospital Jacksonville.

Anita was born the second of three children to William and Rita Chiovero on January 28, 1966 in Morris, Illinois. After graduating from high school, Anita moved to Jacksonville, and started a family with her previous husband Michael Ciccone who was stationed at Naval Station Mayport. Together they were blessed with four children who were the greatest joys of her life. After 13 years of marriage, Anita and Mike parted ways and she relocated to

Hilliard, accepting a position as Leasing Manager at Eastwood Oaks apartments.

There she met and married Leland (Scooter) Higginbotham. Together they built a wonderful life and just celebrated 15 years of marriage in April. Together they would spend time on the St. Marys River fishing, as Anita LOVED to fish. Often saying, "She wasn't leaving till she caught one more fish." She was a fierce cook with the skills of an amateur chef unafraid to try new things for her family and friends. They would all gather around and fully enjoy the fruits of her labor. As her children grew so did her family. Each of her children finished school and started families of their own. Anita became a grandmother (Nana) of 14 starting in 2007. Anita loved being a Nana. She would often express how proud she was of her children and grandchildren. Anita often joked that she had enough grandchildren to start her own baseball team. Anita had a laugh and smile that could lift your spirits and light the darkest room. If you heard her laugh you knew without a doubt Anita was close by. She was the best daughter, sister, wife, mother, nana and friend anyone could ever have. We will all forever miss and love her.

She is survived by her parents William and Rita Chiovero; husband Leland "Scooter" Higginbotham; daughter Brittany (Shaun) Sullivan, grandchildren Logan, Noah, Nicolai and Angelo; son Christopher Ciccone, grandchildren Carter, Crystal and Ella; daughter Lasea (Joshua) Rodriguez, grandchildren Cooper, Lennyn Kate and Sophia, Isaiah; son Michael (Rachael) Ciccone, grandchildren Aubree and Raegan; step-daughter Brandi (Tyler) O'Hara, granddaughter Lilith; sister Jenette (Paul) Rochnowski and nephew Paul; brother William (Bill) Chiovero, Jr. and nieces Stephanie and Tabitha; along with many other family and friends.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date at the St. Marys River.

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

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

**JULIETTE LEWIS LOVVORN**



Juliette "Judy" Lewis Lovvorn, 101, of Callahan, passed away on Monday, September 6, 2021 at Hilliard Life Care Center surrounded

by family and many loved ones from HLC where she had resided for several years. She was born on June 8, 1920 to Cleo and William Hopper, the youngest of eight girls and one boy, on a farm in Washington, Georgia. Judy loved the farm life and every aspect of it including gardening, flowers and canning. She worked alongside the love of her life Tex, whether it was making sausage and baking biscuits on their wood cook stove, enjoying their farm life together! Judy also loved to sew and made baby quilts for each of her great-grandchildren. At the close of every day, they could be found rocking on the front porch watching their farm animals and enjoying the sunsets together. Judy was a secretary, bookkeeper, in several schools until her retirement from

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# OBITUARIES

Callahan Elementary. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, J.D. (Tex) Lovvorn; eight siblings; daughter Carolyn Hollis; son-in-law Harold Haynes; and granddaughter Kathi Parish.

Judy is survived by her daughter Marjie Haynes of Callahan; grandchildren Keith (Linda) Vincent of Utah; Keri (Grant) Skousen of Utah, Joni Vincent of St. Thomas, V.I., Terry Wingate of Callahan, Janet (Cleve) Cheshire of Hilliard and Tom Parrish of Monticello; nine great-grandchildren; 11 great-great grandchildren (and 2 on the way); several nieces and nephews; and many friends and neighbors.

Much to the family's delight, the entire staff of Hilliard Life Care Center was above and beyond loving and caring and a very special thank you to Renee Gibson for her daily dedication and love for Judy. We are forever grateful. Judy always knew she was loved by her!

A celebration of Judy's life was held Monday, September 13 at Nassau Funeral Home with Rev. James Conner officiating. Interment followed at Jones Cemetery. The family received friends prior to the service.

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

## CHERYL IRWIN MANER



Cheryl Irwin Barren Maner, 69, passed away Thursday, September 9, 2021. Cheryl was born on October 16, 1951 in Jacksonville. She was predeceased by her parents Al and Bette Irwin; and a brother Bobby Irwin.

Cheryl loved spending time with friends and family, traveling, fishing and was an avid Florida Gator fan. She is dearly loved and will be greatly missed.

She is survived by her loving husband Brad Maner; daughter Jeni Johns; grandsons Keegan, Ethan and Brogan Johns; brothers Randy Raybon, Don (Shonnie) Irwin and Rick (Sol) Irwin; along with numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and a multitude of friends who loved her dearly.

The family will receive friends Friday, September 17 at 1 p.m. prior to the funeral service at 2 p.m. at Westside Baptist Church, Teahcey Chapel, 7775 Herlong Road, Jacksonville.

Fraser Funeral Home assisted the family.

## DWIGHT MILLER



Dwight Miller, 56, of Callahan, passed away on September 10, 2021. He was born on October 4, 1964 in Folkston, Georgia. Dwight was a lifelong resident of Callahan, and a member of Live Oak Baptist Church. He worked in land management for 20 years. In his spare time, Dwight enjoyed saltwater fishing, taking annual trips to the Keys, and having family gatherings. He was preceded in death by his father Clarence Miller; and brother James Miller.

Dwight leaves behind his loving fiancé, Glenda Prinzi; mother of their two children Amy Miller; mother Mert (Sam) Turner of

Callahan; children Autumn (Tyler) Horne of Yulee and Austin Miller of Callahan; brothers Randy Miller and Dwaine Miller (Tanya Norris), all of Callahan; sister Tammy (Joe) Lee of Callahan; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

The family will receive friends Friday, September 17 from 5-7 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home. A celebration of Dwight's life will be held Saturday, September 18 at 11 a.m. at Live Oak Baptist Church with Pastor Jeff Carter officiating. Interment will follow at Live Oak Baptist Church Cemetery.

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

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

## EUGENE RAYMOND NOLES



Eugene Raymond "Ray" Noles, 83, went home to Heaven on Friday, September 3, 2021. He was born in Nashville, Georgia on April

18, 1938, and was the son of the late L. Vaughton Noles and Alice Frances Avery Tatum. Ray enlisted in the U.S. Army on May 6, 1955 and served 26 years in the Army and Army Reserves, achieving the rank of Master SGT. Ray was also a civilian employee of the U.S. Navy for 24 years. He enjoyed being involved with the community and was a member of the Moose Lodge, the San Mateo Little League and San Mateo Women's Athletic Association. His greatest accomplishment was getting saved in June 1977 and being ordained as a Deacon at Vision Baptist Church in January 1998. He was currently a member at Dinsmore Baptist Church, where he and Betty attended regularly.

Surviving family includes the love of his life, Betty Knight Noles, having just celebrated their 63rd anniversary; three children Greg Noles, Mike (Janet) Noles and Lori Noles Fletcher (Doug Pahnos); seven grandchildren Ryan Noles, Justin (Christal) Noles, Cassie (Dennis) Evans, Heather (Andy) Brinkworth, Lexi (John) Goodwin, Aaron (Savannah) Noles and Ashley (Chad) Overstreet; and 10 great-grandchildren Braiden, Payton, Hudson, Jacob, Emma, Cody, Victoria, Haley, Nolan and Gage and two more due this year (Jensen in September and Miles in October).

Pallbearers will be Ryan Noles, Justin Noles, Aaron Noles, Dennis Evans, Andy Brinkworth and Victor McFalls; with Randy May as an Honorary Pallbearer.

The family will receive friends Friday, September 17 from 5-7 p.m. at Peoples Event Center. A celebration of life service will be held Saturday, September 18 at 11 a.m. at Peoples Event Center, 14165 N. Main Street, with Rev. F. Ray Turner and Dr. E. Winson Butler officiating. Burial will follow with U.S. Army Military Honors at Buford Grove Cemetery in Hilliard.

Peoples Family Funeral Home is assisting the family. Condolences may be expressed at: [www.peoplesfamilyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.peoplesfamilyfuneralhomes.com).

## MARION LEE PICKETT, SR.



Marion Lee Pickett, Sr., 81, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 in Jacksonville. Marion was born an identical twin on August 14, 1940 to Earl C. Pickett, Sr. and Velma "Crystal" Pickett in Pickettville, a close, family neighborhood in Jacksonville.

Marion and his nine siblings grew up surrounded by family in Pickettville and attended school there. He proudly served his country in the United States Army and served in Korea. Upon his return, he worked as a welder at Pillsbury Alloy Fabrication as well as a Volunteer for the Pickettville Fire Department. Marion was a true self-taught engineer and had many talents for building things he dreamed up or drew including a fish cleaning barrel, smokers, grills and an underground drain system in his back yard.

If you stopped by the old homestead, he would be in his swing on the porch with something for sale in his yard "on the corner of Lane Avenue by the park". He loved talking to people and had stories to share with everyone. He made an impression on everyone he met and had a reputation as big as his fishing and hunting stories. He was an amazing singer, loved to dance and could play the guitar, harmonica, spoons and even a comb. He enjoyed being the life of the party. Marion loved being married so much, he married 13 times.

Marion is survived by his six children Randy (Janice) Pickett, Gary Pickett, Lee (Denise) Pickett, Lisa Pickett, Jan (Shad) Johnsen and Jody (Jessie) Pickett; 10 grandchildren, Randy Pickett, Jr., Lil Lee Pickett (Crystal), Cody (Jonni) Pickett, R.T. Pickett (Kennedy), Tiffany (Levi) Holton, Tabbatha (Devin) Dowling, Lane Capps, Tucker Pickett Amber Capps, and Abigail Pickett; six great-grandchildren; his siblings, Earl "Bubba" (Marie) Pickett, John Thomas "JT" Pickett, Harold (Evelena) Pickett, twin brother Merrill Pickett, Shirley Pickett Leuders and sister-in-law Linda "Lena" Pickett.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Earl Christopher Pickett, Sr. and Crystal Velma Pickett; sisters, Geraldine Pickett Walker, Betty Pickett Gilmer, one sister-in-law Joyce Pickett, brothers Laverne Pickett, William "Bill" Pickett along with brothers-in-law, Ken Walker, Dan Gilmer and Howard Leuders and a granddaughter Krista Pickett.

During the time he spent at Life Care Center of Hilliard he was loved by another "family" of staff throughout the years there. He loved them as well and we thank each and every one of you who were so good to him. The family wishes they could name all of you but the list is just too long. You

know who you are and we "thank you" on his behalf.

Memorialization will be by cremation and a graveside service will be held at a later date at Westview Cemetery (known as Pickettville Cemetery) in Jacksonville.

## WILLIE MYRL SHARP

Willie Myrl Sharp, a Florida native, went to join our Lord on Sunday, September 5, 2021. She was a dedicated and faithful wife to Richard B. Sharp; loving mother to Debbie Willey, Karen Koloniotis, Terri Lynn, Jeff Cooper and Kim Thompson (preceded in death); and grandmother to five granddaughters. She was a devoted member of Otis Road Church of God, Pastor Stephen Thomas. Her faith never faltered. She was called home and is whole again. We will see her again one day.

The family will receive friends from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Monday, September 20 at Callahan Funeral Home prior to the funeral service at 12:00p.m. Interment will follow at Jacksonville National Cemetery at 2 p.m.

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

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, 879-2336.

## DENNIS MELVIN YOUNG



Dennis Melvin Young, 81, of Bryceville, passed away on September 3, 2021. He was born on October 9, 1939 in Forest Hill, Louisiana

to Benjamin Young and Alice Austin Young. After receiving an honorable discharge from the United States Navy, Dennis went on to pursuing a career at JEA as an Electrical Engineer while remaining in the military reserves for the US Air Force. He then retired from both. In his spare time, Dennis enjoyed watching Western movies, traveling to the Smokey Mountains and spending time with his family. Dennis was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Anne Young.

Dennis is survived by his children Angela (Don) Slone, Patty (Jim) Austin, Denise (Billy) Howard, Vernice (Michael) Sykes and Elizabeth Young; brother Richard (Madge) Young; grandchildren Daniel, Jonathan, James, Bryan, Matthew, Sarah, Christina, Emily, Rebecca, Malcolm and Katelyn; and 12 great-grandchildren.

A graveside service for Dennis was held Saturday, September 11 at Restlawn Memorial Park with Pastor Deryle Adkison officiating. The family received friends prior to the service at Nassau Funeral Home.

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

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

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## Flashes Roll Past Paxon

Holden McMillen

The Hilliard Flashes returned home last Friday to welcome the Paxon Golden Eagles on Youth Football appreciation night. The game also comes on the eve of the 20th anniversary of the devastating attacks from September 11, 2001 as both teams paused for a moment of silence honoring the many lives lost on that tragic day.

After winning the coin toss, the Flashes elected to receive the opening kickoff. The offense wasted no time as they used their dominant ground game to march the ball down the field. Quarterback Lyle Bennett found DJ Coston on a check down pass for a 9-yard touchdown. With the extra point good, the Flashes sprung out to an early 7-0 lead. The Golden Eagles were able to counter the attacks from the Flashes offense with a scoring drive of their own that was capped off with a 15-yard touchdown pass. After a missed extra point, the Flashes found themselves clinging to a slim 7-6 lead. The Flashes found a way to regain the lost momentum. On the ensuing kickoff, Coston found daylight on the right side and used his speed for a 75-yard pick six. With the extra point good, the Flashes extended the lead to 14-6. The Golden Eagles came close to scoring as the first quarter came to a close.

The Golden Eagles offense continued as they capped off the drive from the previous quarter with a 12-yard touchdown run on the left side of their offense. With a failed 2-point conversion, the Golden Eagles cut into the deficit 14-12. The momentum continued to point in favor of the Golden Eagles as they caught the



Flashes napping and recovered the onside kick. The Flashes defense stole the momentum back and they used their defense to do so as Dylan Coston instinctively intercepted a pass, setting the offense up from their own 30 yard line. The Flashes offense used a big play from DJ Coston's 41-yard run that set up an easy 13-yard touchdown run by Walker Avera. With the extra point good, the Flashes strengthened the lead to 21-12. The Golden Eagles marched down the field; but the Flashes forced a crucial stop on 4th down and went into halftime with a 21-12 lead.

The Flashes defense continued to tighten their grip on the Golden Eagle offense and forced another turnover on downs. As the Golden Eagle defense started to dig their cleats into the ground to force a stop, the Flashes used a strong surge from their offensive line to help pave the way for Coston to waltz into the end zone from a yard out. With the extra point good, the Flashes

continued to flex their muscles as they extended the lead to 28-12.

As they entered the money quarter, the Flashes started to gain the sense that they can win this game. Their offense helped with that thinking; as they were pinned deep at their own 9 yard line. On 3rd and 14, DJ Coston took the handoff, found some daylight outside on the left side of the offense and scorched the Golden Eagle defense for a 91-yard touchdown. With the extra point good, the Flashes strengthened their grip on the lead as they went up 35-12. After the defense forced another stop, the Flashes offense continued to roll. This time using the passing game as Bennett dropped a pass into the waiting arms of Dylan Coston, as he rode a tight rope down the near sideline for a 66-yard house call. Even though the extra point was missed, and the Golden Eagles scored a garbage time touchdown, the Flashes continued to reign supreme as they took a would-be shootout and

turned into a blowout with a final score of 41-20 and to improve to 3-0.

The Flashes generated 334 yards of total offense with 245 of those yards coming on the ground. DJ Coston lead the way on offense with 12 carries for 194 yards, 2 touchdowns, and a 75-yard kickoff return; and Walker Avera had 2 carries for 17 yards. Lyle Bennett had 3 carries for 31 yards and went 4/10 for 89 yards and 2 touchdowns. On the receiving end were Dylan Coston with 2 catches for 78 yards and a touchdown; and Braydon Holley with a 2-yard reception.

Defensively, the Flashes forced 1 turnover, 2 turnovers on downs, and produced 2 sacks. Leading the charge was Avera with 10 tackles; Carson Newkirk, 9 tackles and a sack; Angelo Benjamin and Klayton Bright with 5 tackles each; and Damon Kibler with 4 tackles.

This Friday, the Flashes will travel to play the Lafayette-Mayo Hornets with a 7:30 p.m. kickoff. Come out and support your hometown team.

Go Flashes!



# Save the Date

## September 23, 2021

# Laughs for Life

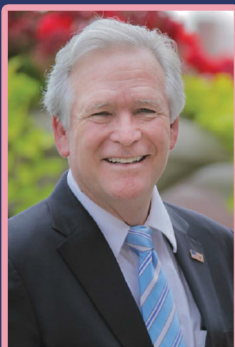
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