



WESTSIDE JOURNAL

FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

Warriors vs Bishop Kenny
7 p.m.

Flashes @ Crescent City
7 p.m.

VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 10

HOMETOWN PEOPLE...HOMETOWN NEWS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

"THOU WILT SHEW ME THE PATH OF LIFE: IN THY PRESENCE IS FULLNESS OF JOY; AT THY RIGHT HAND THERE ARE PLEASURES FOREVERMORE." - PSALM 16:11

Commissioners Vote to Reduce Tax Rate

At the Monday, September 13, 2021 meeting, the Board of County Commissioners unanimously voted to lower the property tax rate and invest in our quality of life by delivering big on road, park and public safety projects.

Chairman Thomas Ford stated, "I am very proud of this Board for its in-depth review of the budget. We have worked hard to fund programs and initiatives that improve the quality of life for our residents. We have been given an opportunity to take some burden off the taxpayers by lowering the millage rate, while still having the funds needed to accomplish our goals for the next budget year."

The tentative budget includes a robust, Capital Improvement Plan with \$33 million allocated for major projects/initiatives in Fiscal Year 2021/2022, including but not limited to: 1) \$6.2 million allocation for Parks and Recreation Projects: Hilliard Ballpark improvements for new playground installation; Improvements at Holly Point Boat Ramp; Improvements at Melton Nelson Boat ramp; Tributary Community Park Phase One development which includes amenities for ballfields, concession stand, walking trails, and playground; Blackrock Cove Community Park Development for site furnishings such as soccer goals, trash receptacles and parking lot lighting; and Nassau Crossing Community Park Development which includes lighting and landscaping; American Beach Historic Park (exact activities to be determined).

2) \$900,000 allocation for the Double Chip Seal Program. Double chip seal is a paving alternative used to treat dirt roads. It is similar to asphalt but about 50% cheaper. Roads designated for Double Chip Seal include: Midway Rd.; Hagan Lane; Plum Loop; Pirates Bluff Rd.; Will Young Rd.; Durden Rd.;

Winona Bayview Rd.; DB Hicks; Sheri Lane; Ann Drive; Parks Rd.; Lance Rd.; Roy Booth Rd.; and Marlee Rd.

3) \$3.9 million allocation for the Pavement Management Plan that will allow 27 of the worst roads in Nassau County to be repaved. The roads to be repaved, in full or part, next year are: Will Hardee Rd.; South 4th Street; Susan Drive; South 5th Street; Magnolia Street; Clinch Drive; Ocean Forest Drive; Bonnieview Rd.; O'Neil Scott Rd.; Greenberry Rd.; Hendricks Rd.; Ocean Forest Lane; Cayman Circle; Arbor Lane; Barnwell Rd.; Bailey Rd.; Benchmark Ave.; Dove Rd.; Roses Bluff Rd.; Duane Rd.; Harts Road South; Harts Lane; Bill Johnson Rd.; County Road 121 (from Duval line to SR2); Musselwhite Rd.; Charlotte Drive; and Thomas Rd.

4) \$15.3 million allocation for transportation projects: Amelia Island Parkway and Buccaneer Trail roundabout design; Amelia Island Trail design (from South Fletcher Ave. to State Road 200/8th Street); Citrona Drive pedestrian safety improvements; County Road 108 repaving from Bay Rd. to Middle Rd.; County Road 108 repaving from Middle Rd. to US 17; Hendricks Rd. Extension to County Road 107 design and permitting; Hendricks Rd. Extension to Amelia Concourse design and permitting; Pages Dairy/Chester Rd. Signalization; Sunberg Rd. paving; William Burgess Blvd. Extension design, permitting and early construction from U.S. 17 to Miner Rd.

5) \$3 million allocation to replace Fire Station 90 in Hilliard.

The final hearing on the budget will take place on Monday, September 27, 2021 at 6 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Management & Budget at (904) 530-6010, option 2.

Traffic Light at Mickler Street?



Dawn S. West

The Callahan Town Council met Monday night for their final meeting of September. The first order of business was the Final Reading and Public Hearing on Resolution 2021-R09. The resolution concerned setting the millage rate at 2.2799 for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. The council approved the resolution. Also, the Final Reading and Public Hearing on Resolution 2021-R10 was approved which was to set the Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 at \$7,865,319.00.

The council also discussed making a donation to the Nassau County Council on Aging as they (council) have never donated to the organization before. The council approved donating \$500.

In closing comments, Councilwoman Ashton Bishop Vargas advised the council that after months of studies and emails, the Florida Department of Transportation has approved placing a traffic light on US 301 at Mickler Street. "I'm very excited to see this email. However, the email also says that the process can go through 3 stages," said Vargas. "So this could be sometime before it happens but it has been approved. It is definitely needed!"

Councilwoman Janet Shaw advised the council that the CSX property on the corner of Mickler and Brandies Avenue looks horrible. "Today I saw them placing a huge pile of broken up concrete on the property," said Shaw. "Isn't there something we can do to get them to clean it up?"

"The Code Enforcement Officer will send them a letter of compliance to clean it up," said Town Manager Mike Williams. "We'll see what happens after that."

"I'm also concerned about the retention ponds in town. Have they been directed to the Code Enforcement Officer to clean them up?" said Shaw.

"Yes they have and some of them have cleaned up a little," said Williams.

"Last but not least, I want us (town) to get our Christmas decorations up before the parade this year. Is that possible?" asked Shaw.

"It would be however FPL has put up almost all new poles in town and of course all our straps and connections are gone," said Williams. "We have been getting supplies together to get the decorations up as soon as we can."

The next meeting of the council will be Monday, October 4 at 7 p.m.

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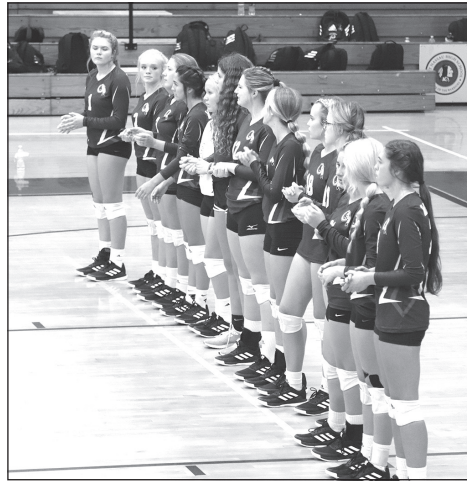
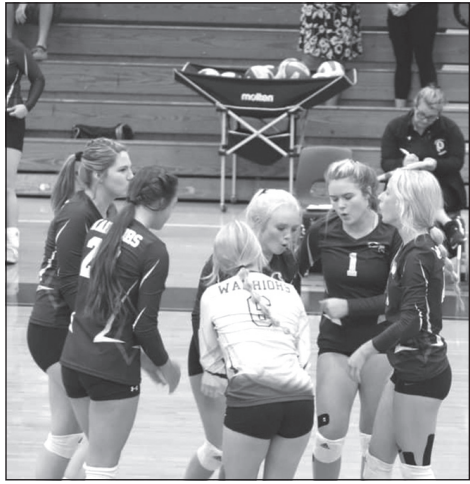
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WNHS Warriors Volleyball News



The West Nassau High School Warrior varsity volleyball team has faced a few challenging weeks. They won against Duval Charter School, but since have fought hard but not brought home a win. Our rival Hilliard High School was one of the most intense games of this season. The Warriors won the 1st and 3rd sets; and the Flashes

won the 2nd and 4th sets, pushing both teams to a fifth set with the Flashes prevailing. The gym was filled with excitement with both teams playing extremely hard. The Warrior volleyball games are exciting and fast paced. It would be great to come out and support your team at their next home game!

Hilliard Town News

Dawn S. West

The Hilliard Town Council met Thursday night for their final meeting of September. The first order of business was the Public Hearing and First Reading on Ordinance 2021-07. The ordinance concerned setting the Tax Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 at the roll back rate of 2.3554 mills. The council approved the rate. The next item was the Public Hearing and First Reading on Ordinance 2021-08 which concerned setting the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget at \$8,955,660.00. The council approved the amount. The final reading was set for Monday, October 4 at 7 p.m. for both ordinances.

The council approved the payable to Mittauer & Associates, Inc. of \$1,500 for the Oxford Park Drainage Improvements project.

The council also approved a payment for Southeast Pump Specialist in the amount of \$5,126.38 for the purchase of the Wetland Pump. The council approved a payable for Sunbelt Rentals of a bypass pump on Fourth Street for a period of 4 weeks at a total cost of \$6,345.44. The rental will continue until the Gravity Sewer Pipe Project is in service.

The next item, a payable to Smart Quality Lawn Care (bid winner for the yearly mowing contract) of \$5,500 for the month was approved with discussion. Councilman Jared Wollitz brought some of the mowing areas to the council's attention. "I've seen places where the grass and weeds are so tall," said Wollitz. "I don't know if any of you (council) have ridden around and checked things out but we need to.

I don't know who's watching them or what's happening."

"I've tried to keep up with it. We worked out zones to mow to make it easier. When he (Smart) got a zone finished I would go see it," said Public Works Director Ritchie Rowe. "Now he just mows here & there."

"I know last year they did a great job," said Councilman Kenny Sims. "Perhaps he is having personnel problems, which that is not our problem. We'll approve the payment this time but get with him and see what is going on."

Mrs. Tracy Lucas, W 3rd Avenue, Hilliard, addressed the council. "I sent out an email to the office staff and the entire council and I hope you have all have had a chance to read it. It seems every time we are ready to get our permit for our building, we have to do something else," said Lucas. "I really need a decision made on this by Tuesday by 2 p.m. We have done everything on the list that we were supposed to however each time we come to get the permit, there is something else. This is our fourth attempt to get this done."

"I would like to think that there should not be another issue but I would like to be cc'd on the email of what's happening with this issue," said Sims.

"I think we should have a workshop on this to find out what and where the problem is," said Councilwoman Callie Bishop. "I also would like to be cc'd on the email of the progress of this permit."

"Me also," added Councilman Lee Pickett.

The next meeting of the council will be Thursday, October 2 at 7 p.m.

In the Kitchen...

3/4 cup sugar
8 oz. cream cheese
1 large can crushed pineapple, drained
Mix and freeze.

Frozen Strawberry Salad

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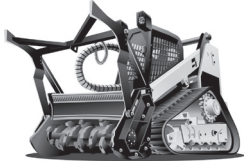
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JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

interesting and mind-blowing, God bless them.

One poor soul charges Dawn with culpable negligence as an editor for allowing my conspiracies, nonfactual, dangerous retroact, and non-science believing column to be printed each week without an opposing opinion. Well, as we have always printed opposing views in the "Letters to the Editor" section of our paper, his rant is null and void. Not that it matters to me, I own the newspaper and I will use my 1st Amendment right to write what I want. He states, "I vomit" my opinion each week and that most of it comes from the QAnon website."

It has been years since I looked at QAnon. I most definitely do not get my information from them, although

perhaps I should take a look at them again, they must be on to something. As far as me not checking facts, he states, "I was untruthful about Biden's horrendously flawed retreat from Afghanistan and leaving functional military equipment behind. Our military did not leave any operational equipment. They destroyed all of it." Nothing, and I mean nothing, could be further from the truth than his statement. Unless video evidence and sworn testimony is all make believe, there is insurmountable evidence of thousands of vehicles, ammunition, weapons, radios, computers, Blackhawks, and a list too long to place here that was left. Yes, there were some aircraft and vehicles made inoperable but there was much more that weren't. He also states, "We should be more concerned with the "Insurrection" on January 6." First off, there was no "Insurrection." There was a disgusting illegal occurrence that should have never happened. I do not condone any of the lawless acts of that day; however, it was not an "Insurrection," look up the definition.

I am about out of room and haven't even got to the second letter. This

person doesn't understand why I was concerned about the 13 heroes that were killed in Kubal but stated nothing about the 347 COVID deaths in Florida on the same date. Easy explanation, I wasn't writing about COVID, I was writing about the senseless deaths of our heroes because of the lame-minded President of the United States. He also is confused about the despicable occurrences of January 6. Also he stated, I supported the killing of Jamal Koshoggi." I had to Google the name just to see who Jamal was. I certainly don't recall supporting what happened to him or who killed him or where he was killed. From there he went on a rant about Texas abortion laws, ok. Then he challenged me to explain to me (him) and the general public why you (me) are Pro-Life, however...can you do it without using religion or politics. Easiest challenge I have ever had, and I'll use the science as proof. It is universally recognized and accepted by science that life ends when the heart stops. Therefore utilizing that acceptance then by common sense and scientific evidence, life begins when the heart begins functioning. This means the abortion is killing a living human being if there is a heartbeat.

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

As many of you know, my mother passed away last Wednesday. Never have I felt such heartbreak. There is just something so special about a mother's love that cannot be duplicated by anyone else. I can rest assured that mama is in the loving hands of Jesus. What a devoted Christian woman she was! I already miss our talks. She was 94 years old but her mind was as sharp as a razor. She amazed me even while lying on her death bed Tuesday evening by her wit and knowledge. Oh how precious she was!

With that being said, I have not delved into my reading of current events as I normally would. I decided I would respond to the two gentlemen that submitted letters to the editor last week. If you didn't read them, look at last week's paper or go online to our website (www.mywestsidejournal.com) and read them. They both are quite

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.

Time to Act!

Dear Editor,

By now, most citizens realize that Joe Biden's Democrats are committed to the policy of 4 D's: Division, Deception, Dysfunction and Destruction. They spend our money like drunken sailors and the Republicans are too "polite" to take them on.

As a devotee of the Arts, I am regularly reminded that the Democrats are an extension of the decline of our society. The melody has gone out of the music, the story is diluted from the drama and most artistic productivity is unintelligible. Instead, increasingly large audiences would prefer to see the more furtive sports events. After watching an NFL game, I was uncertain who was more violent, the overzealous players or the raging fans.

It's not easy to be a citizen any longer because our values reflect behavior that is mean spirited, harsh and lacking respect for other people and their property. The last election seriously damaged our trust in the vote and we met it with apathy. Wanting to act, I called the local Republican Headquarters. They never returned the call. We marshal our resources in the face of natural disasters. Yet, when it comes to being robbed of a voice in our country, we

are confounded and act like we're powerless.

We spend our hard earned money on junk made in China. Most often, we are angry not happy, fearful not content and, saddest of all, nothing touches us. Is it that we have ceased to value ourselves? Our world is filled to the brim with mistreatment. We appear to have forgotten we are hard-working gut busting Americans. It's time to stop waiting for someone else, a leader, a martyr, somebody, to do it for us. Aren't we worth more than what we're getting back from the world around us? I hope so!

B. R. McConnell

Thank You!

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank the Community Businesses: Badcock & More Furniture (Matt), Schwend Insurance (Paul) and Westside Journal (Dawn) for your contributions toward the school supplies. The supplies were given out on the NDU Day of Service held August 28 at Greater Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, better known as "The Pleasant Place." Thank you again, for your contributions and continual support.

Maxine Simmons

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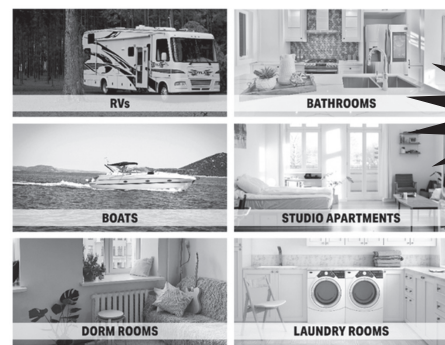
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Unintended Consequences

Pastor Benjie Loyd, River Road Baptist Church, Hilliard



I am now 46 years old. That means that I was born in 1975. I remember getting my first PC when I was a junior in high school. Our family was able to get dial up internet in my senior year of high school (1993). I got my first cell phone in 2000 and I got my first smart phone in 2007. Even if you had a first generation iPhone, the network was incredibly slow. This meant that the smart phone was about as fast as dial-up internet. As I reflect on all of this, the first half of my life was lived without high-speed internet and the second half of my life has been lived with high-speed internet. Which half of my life do you think that I preferred?

This is not a cut and dry answer for me. I am not short-sighted in my thinking. There has been much good that has come from the world being linked together through the internet. People can work from home, churches were able to go-online during the pandemic, shopping is much easier now than it used to be. Everybody has instant access to almost any information imaginable. I still remember having to use a card catalog in a library. In many ways technology has made life easier and allows people to be more productive.

In fairness, there is a definite upside to all of this technology. There is also a downside. I find it ironic, that the creator of the iPad and the iPhone would never ever let his children use them. Steve Jobs believed that this technology would destroy a child's creativity, continual usage of the technology would lead to life-long addictions, and the technology would also lead to behavioral problems. Problems with technology do not only impact children. Brett McCracken has written an excellent book called, *The Wisdom Pyramid*. I would consider his book a must read. In the first three chapters of his book, he talks about the danger of too much consumption of the internet/technology. The internet has made us information gluttons, seekers of perpetual novelty, autonomous observers. As a result of all this, chaos reigns. Expertise has been killed. Truth has become unintelligible. The autonomous self, rules. We live in an echo chamber in which wisdom and rational thought have disappeared.

So, if you ask me if I would like everything to go back to the way it used to be, I am not sure. I know that what we must do, now more than ever, is cultivate true wisdom. Wisdom does not ultimately come from the internet or the media. Wisdom comes from the Bible, the church, nature, books, beauty, and technology. This order cannot be reversed. When technology reigns supreme on the top of person's knowledge pyramid, that person will end of being very foolish.



Callahan Christmas Parade and Vendor Information

The West Nassau Historical Society will host the 48th Annual Callahan Christmas Parade and Craft Fair that will be held Saturday, December 4. The popular annual event will consist of two events: the Parade; and the Arts/Craft Fair.

The theme for this year's parade is "Days of Christmas Past." The parade will begin at 11 a.m. and follow the same route: US 1 south from Dixie Avenue through downtown Callahan to 5th Avenue. Line up for the parade will begin at 9 a.m. on Dixie Avenue and disperse on Warrior Drive. Participants will be judged and awarded in designated categories. A visit from Santa will be held at the Callahan Train Depot following the parade. The Arts/Craft Fair will be held on the historic Callahan Depot rail bed between Dixie and Brandies Avenues and run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Entry fee for the Parade is \$45; and entry for the Craft Fair is \$40. Visit: www.wnhsfl.org for Parade and Arts/Craft Vendor Forms or for more information about the parade, call 904-879-3406.

This annual Christmas favorite is made possible in part with funds from the Town of Callahan. All proceeds will go to the West Nassau Historical Society, an all-volunteer nonprofit dedicate to promoting the rich history and culture that is western Nassau County.



Cub Scouts Clean-Up Ewing Park

Cub Scout Pack 351 held a sign-up night recently. During the event, the Cub Scouts cleaned up Callahan's Ewing Park, heard about the fun adventures available through Scouting, and experimented with the Magic of Science.



Shown (l to r) are: Cai Gentry, Nathan Davis, David Thrift, Nolan DePontes (back row), Vince Close, Tristen Williams, Kaden McClintock and Michael McClintock.

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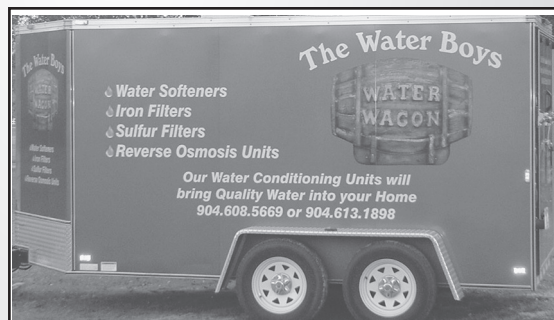
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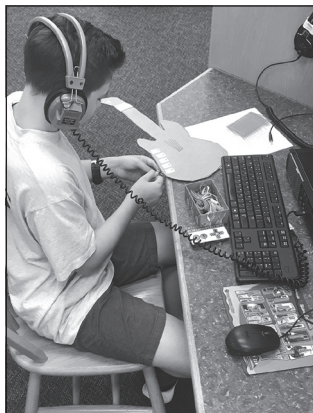
Fun at the Callahan Library

The Callahan Library rocked the stacks down! Teens learned all about our maker space Makey Makey! Thank you, Amber, for being a guitar hero and teaching the teens of Callahan how to be Rockstars through technology! Makey Makey works just like a USB keyboard or mouse, sending keyboard (WASD, spacebar, etc.) and mouse (left click, right click, etc.) signals to your computer. When the circuit is closed, the Makey Makey sends a command to your computer, just like a button pressed on a keyboard.

Last Tuesday, the Callahan Library hosted D and D for teens. We had a great turn out! Pictured are a few of the youths that participated with volunteer



Doug Gates. For the next 12 weeks these young adults will be tasked with saving the lands from the giants through imagination, bravery, adventure, and camaraderie.



Join the Busy Bee Book Club



Come and join the Busy Bee Book Club at the Callahan Library the last Thursday (September 30) of each month at 10:30 a.m. Anyone ages 18 and up are welcome to come and join us as we discuss *Where the Crawdads Sing*, a book by Delia Owens.

For more information, call the library at 904-530-6500 ext. 3.

Congratulations Tristen!

Tristen Roddenberry, a senior at Hilliard Middle-Senior High school qualified as a National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC®) Semifinalist. The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC®) announced the names of approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 67th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$30 million that will be offered next spring. Congratulations Tristen!



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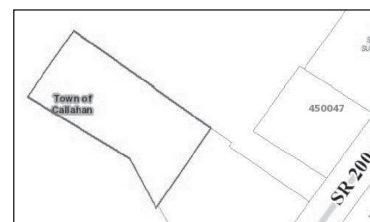


TOWN OF CALLAHAN, FL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of Callahan Town Council will have a Public Hearing for a Site Plan Review

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



Monday, October 4th at 7 p.m.

Callahan Town Hall

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Interested Persons may appear and be heard at the Hearing.
Site plan will be available for review at Town Hall.

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

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

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Janet Gilbert to Retire from UF Health

Dawn S. West

Callahan Family Practice, UF Health, has announced that Ms. Janet Gilbert, APRN, will retire from the practice October 1. Ms. Janet has been at the practice 27 years, since 1994. When I got wind of this news, I took it personally. Ms. Janet has been my primary doctor probably about that long. She is one of the sweetest, kindest persons I know. She has the most calming personalities, which is really good! I know I have been in there very frazzled many times and she just handles the situation with ease. I, for one, am really going to miss her. She will not be leaving the medical field. She will be taking a part time position with UF Health at different facilities.

She began her career as a nursing assistant. She continued to work up the ladder and achieved being a Nurse Practitioner. As her schooling continued she achieved APRN (Advance Practice Registered Nurse). She did her clinicals with Dr. William Solomon, who then hired her. "I've been so blessed. I've also



had God as my foundation and the Holy Spirit in me," said Ms. Janet. "I have depended on God. I am so privileged and blessed. I did ask one of the administrators about me moving to Jacksonville, closer to my home. He quickly told me, 'You wouldn't like it in town.' He was right."

Through the years, she has gone through entire families that are now grown and have children of their own, mine are some of them. During her time here, she went through breast cancer. Today she is a 6-year cancer survivor. "Cancer was not a negative it was enriching. I grew closer to God as he taught me," added Ms. Janet. "Life has been good to me. It's all how you view life. You must use every day you have to help others."

Ms. Janet has certainly left her mark on this little town and we are thankful she shared a part of her life with us. Ms. Janet's last day will be Friday, October 1 so those wishing to drop off a card or a thank you can do so.

Good luck Ms. Janet!

CMS HOMECOMING



Callahan Middle School Homecoming King Marvin Wilson and Queen Julianna Graham

Local Musician to Perform Saturday

Colby Word is a 2011 graduate of West Nassau High School. Colby has been playing and writing music for 15 years. He began playing music in public here in Callahan. He went and asked the owner of Sports Page Grille (where Junior's is now) if he could come play his guitar and sing sometime. She gladly said yes and that only drove Colby to work harder.

This week he and his band, Whiskey Heart, recently won the Country Southern Rock Group of the Year at the Josie Awards in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. The group was nominated for four awards but gladly accepted this one. The Josie Awards is the world's largest independent artist awards event. "What a great blessing this was," said Colby. "Last year we were nominated and came home empty. This year we received a huge award."



Colby's band, Whiskey Heart, has performed all over the country. The band members include: Colby Word, Ren Beazley, Conor Harrison, Gary Kreiser, Robert Coleman and Colby Smith. This Saturday, the group will be performing in Callahan at SCW Liquors 2nd Annual

Block Party. The event will begin around 4 p.m. SCW Liquors is located at 44006 SR 200, Callahan. The event is being held to benefit local businesses in Callahan. There will be vendors set up to promote their businesses, bounce houses for the children, Food Trucks, Prize Giveaways and live music. The line-up for the music will be: Colby Word 4-4:45 p.m.; Casey Mitchell 5:5:45 p.m.; Allen Higgs 6-7 p.m.; Clint Anglin Band 7:15-8:15 p.m.; and Whiskey Heart 8:30-10 p.m.

The event is free but still requires a ticket. In order to be eligible for the prize giveaways, you must get your ticket by visiting: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/scw-liquors-2nd-annual-bl>.





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A Word From the Publisher

A Tribute to Mom

Last week was a very difficult week. Roger's mom, Rosalie West, passed away Wednesday, September 15. I was privileged to have her as my mother-in-law however I called her mom. She was one of the most precious, sweetest ladies I have ever known. Mom was a strong willed 94 years old. She never lost her spunk and her mind was sharp until the very end. For that I am thankful. For the last couple of weeks she continued to tell us (her family) that she was so tired. With the tiredness she also became weak. In the midst of her weakened condition she remained faithful to God. Before eating her last meal she took the time to pray to her Lord and Savior. What a saint she was.



Mom had such a great memory. She and Roger would talk many times about when they lived in Garden City (Jacksonville). She could easily remember everyone's name that lived around them and their families. Callahan has had many 'Garden City' people move here. Once several of them received our paper, they would come to see me to find out the family connection. Almost all the people first asked about mom and how she was. What an amazing life she lived.

Even though Dad West has been gone many years, she continued to attend Sunday school and church faithfully. She was one of the strongest Prayer Warriors around. Once she quite driving it was quite a change for her. That's when the children, grandchildren, cousins, friends stepped up. She would come up with a plan for the day, get a driver and off they would go. She has been to more different restaurants than Roger and I have. Someone would tell her about a good place to eat and she would go. While out, she normally had a plan to ride around a certain area after eating. She loved to ride and look at things and places. Even though her eyesight was failing she could still find the beauty in God's creation.

Roger & I have some great memories of her coming to our house to see what he had added or built since the last time

she was there. She would push her walker around the house on the porch and there they would sit and talk and look. We truly had a hard time getting her in the house because she loved the outside so much. It was always a joy to have her at our home. I remember around Thanksgiving, Roger would roast some oysters. She would get comfortable in her chair and wait for him to shuck her some. She loved her some oysters! We were blessed a couple of times to have Mom, her sister Carolee and their brother, Jake to come over at the same time. It was so cute seeing them out by the fire enjoying each other's company. I'm so thankful for the memories.

We have shared so many memories throughout the years: Special birthdays, Christmas, Thanksgiving, etc. Christmas 2019, Mom had a food truck come out to her house. First, she read the Christmas story then everyone retreated to the back yard where the food truck was. There were tables set up under her carport to eat and everyone had a great time, mom included. One summer she ordered a huge waterslide and everyone brought food. The children (young and old) enjoyed the slide and once again, we all had a great time being together.

Now, life will be very different. We won't hear her sweet voice on the phone or get to see her beautiful face and pretty hair. However our memories will last in the lives of us all. She has left a strong legacy of love, faithfulness and God's grace. Our comfort is in knowing that she is in the arms of Jesus today and we will see her again.

We covet your prayers,

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 88" x 88" (queen size) this lovely quilt is an original custom design and custom quilted. The beautiful quilt is currently on display at the Westside Journal office. With beautiful details on the white background makes it perfect for every day display. The reverse side gets you Christmas ready with a beautiful poinsettia print. It's truly a work of art. The Guild is looking to the community for participation in their fundraising endeavors. The quilt will be on display at the NE FL Fair (October 14-24) this year where you can also purchase tickets.

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 of 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 can 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 please visit: www.countrystarquilters.org and

fill out the contact form. 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 13 at the December meeting. You do not have to be present to win!

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POLICE REPORTS

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

Friday, September 10

Samantha Lynn Woodle, 31, 45657 Bismark Road, Callahan: Resist without Violence; Trafficking Fentanyl; Possession of Methamphetamine; Dealing in Stolen Property

Thomas Lee Beasley, 42, 28032 Vintage Lane, 25, Hilliard: Possession of Schedule 1-5 Substance; Resist without Violence

Sunday, September 19

Corey Wayne Hart, 31, 58104 Coopers Neck Road, Hilliard: Possession of Weapon by Convicted Felon; Violation of Probation Felony

Joseph Antonio McMannes, 36, 36105 Acorn Place, Hilliard: Battery Emergency Medical Care Provider (x 2); Felony Criminal Mischief; Theft; Possession Burglary Tools; Burglary

Monday, September 20

Katisha Ann Mullis, 44, Callahan: Trespass After Warning

Michael Chad Weyland, 49, Callahan: Battery Domestic Violence

Be the Change at the Shrimp Game

'Be the Change Northeast Florida' operated the prize wheel of the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp game and also promoted their community efforts. To get involved and volunteer, check out their Facebook page at Be The Change NE FL.



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JOSEPH MERRILL BROWN



Joseph "Jerry" Merrill Brown, 65, of Homeland, Georgia, passed away Sunday, September 19, 2021 in Jacksonville. He was born September 2, 1956 in Houma, Louisiana to the late Amos Merrill "Pete" Brown and Sara Elizabeth Stuart Brown. He proudly served his country in the Army National Guard. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother Frederick Houston "Ricky" Brown.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Janet R. Brown; his children Tresca Brown, John "IB" Brown and Danielle (Bill) Musgrove; a sister Becky (Pete) Salko; his grandchildren Kara Prescott, Bryan (Emmalee) Brown, Kyler Prescott, Andrew Brown, Lucas Brown, Brayden Musgrove, Wesley Musgrove and Bryce Brown; a great grandson Mason Mainor; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives.

The family will receive friends Thursday, September 23 at Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home from 6-8 p.m. Funeral services will be held Friday, September 24 at 1 p.m. in the Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in Homeland Cemetery.

Due to Covid-19, the family would like to ask all attendees to please follow the rules of social distancing and face masks are recommended at the service. Also, anyone that does not feel comfortable with attending the service, the family would like you to know they understand and covet your prayers.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

DALE EDWARD BURKETT



Dale Edward Burkett, 62, passed away September 21, 2021. Dale was born May 24, 1959 in Jacksonville to Robert Burkett, Sr. and Peggy Faith

OBITUARIES

Geiger Burkett. He was a West Nassau High School Class of 1977 graduate. His life's career was spent with the Nassau County Road and Bridge Department until he retired as an Administrative Operational Supervisor. Dale was an avid and very skilled hunter and fisherman. His greatest joy was being with the love of his life, Judy Burkett, for 37 years and with his children and grandchildren. Dale is predeceased by his parents Robert Sr. and Peggy Burkett; and his brother Robert Burkett, Jr.

He leaves behind his wife Judy Burkett; his three children Shawn (Tiffany) Newhoff, Chad (Erin) Burkett and Casey (Austin) Burkett; and his five grandchildren Anna, Nathan, Raylan, Easton and Rhyder.

The family will receive friends Thursday, September 23 from 6-8 p.m. at Callahan Funeral Home. The funeral service will be held Friday, September 24 at 11:30 a.m. at River Road Baptist Church in Hilliard with Pastor James Conner officiating.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, 879-2336, www.callahanfh.com.

RANDALL TRAVIS LANGLEY

Randall Travis Langley, 76, of Hilliard, passed away peacefully September 14, 2021 in Jacksonville. Born in Albany, Georgia, January 1, 1945 to Travis Jackson Langley and Hester Irene DeBerry, Randall was the first of three children. After the family moved to Jacksonville, Randall graduated from Terry Parker High School in 1963. He and Mary Sue Mercer were married in 1966, with who he raised two children, Melody Suzette and Richard Travis. He followed in his father's footsteps by entering into the shipyard trade as a welder, pipe fitter and warehouse manager. Later on in life, he fulfilled a dream of seeing the country as a long haul trucker with Werner Enterprises.

In 1978, he married Leslie Ann Laidman.

They lost their son Adam Paul shortly after birth in May 1979 before being blessed with the birth of his youngest daughter Amanda Jean in September 1980. Randall was active in all of his children's lives and activities, perhaps most of which being the baseball and softball teams of all three children. An avid outdoorsman, he taught his children all things fishing, hunting and shooting.

On lucky 7/7/7 Randall married Debra Jean Peterson, whom he remained happily married until his passing. They lived a quiet, peaceful life on their property in Hilliard with their happy family of dogs, cats and chickens. Their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren greatly enjoyed the visits to the homestead and will miss his presence terribly. May God bless and welcome you home, dad. Randall was predeceased by his parents Travis and Hester; brother Stephen Merritt; and son Adam Paul.

He is survived by his wife Debra; children Melody (Terri), Richard (Tammy) and Amanda; step-daughter Alyce (Nathan); grandchildren Christie, Adelle, Joseph, Shane, Brandi and Nate; 11 great-grandchildren; sister Sandra (Buzzy); and countless nieces, nephews, cousins and family.

The funeral service was held Tuesday, September 21 at Callahan Funeral Home.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, 879-2336, www.callahanfh.com.

HALEY MARIE PRICE



Haley Marie Price, 20, passed away Saturday, September 11, 2021 at Baptist South Medical Center in Jacksonville. She was born May 15, 2001 in Jacksonville, to her mother Heather Marie Price. Haley grew up in St. Augustine, where she graduated from

Bartram High School in 2020. After high school she attended St. Johns River College in St. Augustine where she was a junior pursuing a teaching degree. She worked as a counselor coordinator for St. Johns County before and after school childcare program.

Haley loved working and being with children. She had an infectious smile and laugh that spread everywhere she went. If you knew her you were blessed and loved by a very kind and generous person.

Haley is survived by her mother Heather Price; grandparents Wendy (Nana) and Charles (Mr. Bryant) Simpson and Mike (papa Mike) and Danielle (Granny D) Price; great-grandmother Anna (Nanny) Jones; brother Noah Price; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Haley was preceded in death by her great-grandfather Jessie (Papa) Jones; cousins John Paul Ladson and Rachel Jones; great-great-grandparents David and Rose Nell Price and Charlie and Elsa Simpson.

The family received friends Saturday, September 18 prior to the funeral service followed by a Funeral Service at 11am at Faith Community Church, 3450 County Road 210 W, St. Johns Florida 32259.

Flowers are graciously accepted or donations may be made to the American Heart Association.

Craig Funeral Home-Crematory-Memorial Park is in charge of arrangements.

ROBERT PHILLIP STUDDT



Robert Phillip Studt, 70, of Callahan passed away Sunday September 12, 2021. He was born on April 30, 1951 in Omaha, Nebraska to George Phillip Studt, Sr. and Alice Darline Robinson. He was married to Cindy Studt who preceded him in death in 2012. He was also preceded in death by his brother George Studt, Jr. in 2014. Coach Studt was very involved with Callahan Little League and Pop Warner Football. He coached many of the community children and enjoyed every moment of it. In his later years he spent all of his free time with his grandchildren, whom he adored more than anything.

In Loving Memory of
Vickey Jean Moore
December 23, 1943 – September 28, 2020

Your loving family and friends miss your sweet smile. We miss your viola, dulcimer and piano music, your kindness, good cooking and hospitality. Your loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren miss their Nanny. We are happy you are in Heaven with the Lord Jesus and no longer in pain. Sing with angels and praise God. We will look for you in Heaven and rejoice with you.

Love,
Phil and family

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Robert is survived by his children Josh (Michelle) Studt of Jacksonville and Kadie Studt (AJ Jackson) of Callahan; three grandchildren Kaleb Studt, Kaitlyn Studt and Kayla Jackson; sisters Karen (Tim) Barr and Debbie Rhoden.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Callahan Little League.

BERTIE FLOWERS TANNER



Bertie Flowers Tanner, 84, of Callahan, went home to be with the Lord on September 14, 2021. She was born on July 15, 1937 in Moultrie, Georgia, to Chase Flowers and Ludie Mae Tucker Flowers. Bertie was a very faithful member of First United Methodist Church of Callahan and the Treasurer of her church. She took pride in being a Master Gardener, was a member of the Callahan Garden Club and Treasurer for many years. Bertie was one of a kind, one that never put herself first, one that was willing to help anyone who was in need. No matter what it took, Bertie came through and made it happen. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Marshall Tanner; and brother Charles Flowers.

Bertie leaves behind her sister-in-law Patricia Flowers; niece Teresa Flowers; and a multitude of extended family members that will miss her dearly.

A celebration of Bertie's life was held Saturday, September 18 at First United Methodist Church of Callahan with Rev. Dan Search officiating. Interment will follow at Jones Cemetery. The family will receive friends prior to the service.

A dinner was held following the service at Callahan Garden Club.

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

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

OBITUARIES

ROSALIE McALLISTER WEST



Rosalie McAllister West, 94, of Bryceville, passed away September 15, 2021, at Northeast Florida Hospice in Fernandina Beach. She was born April 28, 1927, to Carl and Blanche McAllister in Terre Haute, Indiana and came to Jacksonville as a baby. She was married to her Andrew Jackson High School sweetheart, Ronald "Ronnie" for 62 years. Growing up in Garden City on Jacksonville's Northside, Rosalie and her siblings worked in their father's grocery store on weekends. The store, at the corner of Lem Turner Road and Dunn Avenue, had the only phone in the area; therefore, many in the community would come there to make their phone calls. She loved to share the memories of her childhood with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren each year at Christmas.

Rosalie was the Assistant Postmistress at the Garden City, Florida Post Office for several years, along with working at the voting poll in the log cabin which was known as the "Community Club." She worked at Duval County Farm Bureau Insurance on Dunn Avenue for 23 years. The love she had for her Lord showed with her love for missions, her family and her church family at Callahan First Baptist where she was a faithful member.

She was preceded in death by her husband Ronald, in 2008; their son Richard, in 2009; and grandson John Paul Ladson, in 2004.

She is survived by four children Regina and Iben Phillips of Jacksonville, Rhonda Bennett and Granville "Drummer" Shoots of St. Marys, Georgia, Roger and Dawn West of Hilliard, Ray and Donna Gail West of Callahan and daughter-in-law Jeanette

West of Jacksonville; 12 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren Brian and Sandy West (Cameron & Peyton), Kenny and Crystal West (Austin), Erika and Aaron Dale, Justin and Erin Phillips (Luke & Beau), Marisa and Doug Rife (Garrett, Ethan & Bryson), Erin and Jason Milligan (Kyle), Steven and Lynn West (Madison & Hannah), Teresa and Bryain Williams (Gage, Colby & Milianah), Jenny and Mark Thompson (Hunter, Michael & Bristol), Jessie and Kristen Ladson (Emilie), Levi and Summer West (Jayden & Harper) and Jacob and Kirby Ladson (Annalee); sister Carolee Geiger and brother and sister-in-law J. W. "Jake" and Martha McAllister and nieces and nephews.

The family received friends Sunday, September 19 prior to the funeral service at Callahan First Baptist Church with Pastor Doug Rife, grandson-in-law and Pastor of Temple Baptist, Fort Worth, Texas, officiating along with Pastor Lynn Hyatt. Burial followed at Jones Cemetery, Callahan.

Arrangements by Cedar Bay Funeral Home, Jacksonville, 714-1110.

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

WALTER RITCHIE WHIPP



Walter Ritchie Whipp, 81, of Callahan, passed away on September 12, 2021. He was born on May 23, 1940 in Callahan, to Shannon Leslie Whipp and Elizabeth Turner Whipp. Walter and the love of

his life, Carolyn, wed on July 24, 1965 and shared 56 beautiful years together. Two of Walter's accomplishments in life were serving in the United States Navy; and pursuing a career as a truck driver for 45 years. He was proud of his 2 million miles, no accident record. Walter was an avid farmer who enjoyed fishing and gardening. He was a godly man and long-time member of Glen Hill Primitive Baptist Church in Glen St. Mary. Walter was a loyal and devoted husband, father, brother and grandfather who will be missed dearly. He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter Kelly Whipp Nelson; son Jason Whipp; sisters Maedean Scarbrough and Helen Cooper; and brothers Shannon Whipp and Leslie Whipp.

Walter leaves behind his loving wife Carolyn Jones Whipp; sons Shannon (Robyn) Whipp and John (Cassandra) Whipp; grandchildren Jason Whipp, Nathanael Whipp, Jeremiah Whipp, John Michael Whipp, Allesandra Whipp, John Nelson, Eric (Kristen) Nelson and Brittney (Michael) Adams; and three great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Jason Whipp, Nathanael Whipp, Jeremiah Whipp, John Michael Whipp, John Nelson, and Eric Nelson. Honorary pallbearers are Steven Bennett and Ricky Handley.

A graveside service was held Thursday, September 16 at Jacksonville National Cemetery. The funeral service followed at Glen Hill Primitive Baptist Church in Glen St. Mary, with Elder Arnold Johns and Ted Crews officiating. The family received friends September 15 at Nassau Funeral Home.

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

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

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Flashes Sting Hornets in Defensive Duel

Holden McMillen

As Hank Williams, Jr. would say before every Monday night game, "Are you ready for some football?" That's what we had in store on Monday. Due to the Friday game being postponed to Monday night due to transportation, the Hilliard Flashes traveled to Lafayette Mayo High School to take on the Hornets in a clash of unbeaten teams and a rematch from the first round of last year's playoffs.

The Flashes opened the game with the ball, but couldn't gain much headway. After forcing the Hornets to punt, the Hornets used a combination of both the run and pass to march down the field. The Flashes rose tall and prevented any more advancement from the Hornet offense and the first quarter ended scoreless.

In the second quarter, as the Hornets were in the process of punting, Walker Avera bolted into the backfield untouched and blocked the punt that set up the Flashes from inside the Hornets 5 yard line. Two plays later, Lyle Bennett faked the handoff and found the end zone from 3-yards out. With the extra point good, the Flashes jumped out to an early 7-0 lead. The Flashes defense stepped up when Carson Newkirk



forced a fumble on a tackle attempt that led to Avera emerging from the bottom of the pile with the pigskin. On the ensuing drive, the Flashes offense took full advantage of the turnover when Bennett found Newkirk for a 30-yard touchdown pass. After the extra point bounced off the bottom crossbar, the Flashes went into halftime with a 13-0 lead.

After the offensive showcase, both defenses stepped up in the second half. The third quarter was scoreless. As the Flashes offense was trying to dig out of a hole with field position, the Hornets forced a turnover. The Flashes defense countered the turnover with a turnover of their own by Newkirk. The Flashes emerged from the ashes victorious over the Hornets to remain undefeated with the final score being 13-0.

Offensively, it was a struggle for the Flashes all night as they generated only 136 yards of total offense with 80 of them on the ground. DJ Coston had 16 carries for 70 yards; and Walker Avera had 4 carries for 7 yards. Lyle Bennett went 6/12 for 56 yards, a touchdown and two interceptions. On the receiving end was Carson Newkirk with a 30 yard touchdown; and the Coston brothers with 2 catches for 12 yards.

Defensively, the Flashes made a

Warriors Lose to Indians

Kyle Pipkin

The West Nassau Warriors lost a close one Friday night to the Baldwin Indians. It is the third loss for the Warriors starting the season 0-3. After the first blow-out loss to Bolles, the team has been able to keep the score close in the last two games. Friday night, on Warrior Field, the Warriors lost to the Baldwin Indians 21-13 in a non-district match up. Hopefully they will be able to turn it around in district play coming up. They have to win these close games in order to make the playoffs.

Friday night was a tale of two halves for the Warrior defense, giving up 21 points by halftime. In the first quarter, the Indians scored quickly on a 85-yard touchdown on their first play. Brooks Miller was able to snag an interception but the Warrior offense was unable to capitalize on the turnover. The Indians were able to add another score making the game 14-0. Finally, the Warriors were able to get on the scoreboard following a huge interception from Prentiss Davis to give the Warriors the ball back. Conner Nobles was able to punch it in making the score 14-7. Nearing the end of the second quarter, the Warrior defense gave up a 64-yard rushing touchdown before the half ended, bringing the score 21-7.

The Warrior defense did not force turnovers in the first half to help stop this prolific passing attack that Baldwin is known for. It was the big play that changed

this game. In the second half, the Warrior defense shut out the Indians. Stiffing up and not giving up these long touchdown plays, which ultimately was the difference in this ball game. In the third quarter, the Warrior offense drove down the field and Nobles scored the second touchdown for the Warriors with 8:05 left in the quarter. The Warriors were unable to score the rest of the way making the final score Baldwin 21; West Nassau 13.

Senior Conner Nobles lead the way for the Warrior offense with 21 carries for 117 yards, and two touchdowns; AJ Miller 8 carries for 80 yards, 9 yards receiving, and he led the team in all-purpose with 146 yards for the game. Quarterback Brady Wright had 41 rushing yards, and was 8 of 19 attempts for 55 yards. The Warriors ran the ball for 244 yards on the night. Defensively, Brooks Miller had 8 tackles and 4 assists; Conner Nobles had 7 tackles and 3 assists; Michael Thorn had 5 tackles and 5 assists; James Alderman had 5 tackles and 3 assists; and AJ Miller 3 tackles and 1 assist and had two passes defended.

During halftime, West Nassau High School celebrated Wyatt Butler's State Championship in Weight Lifting; and also celebrated the Final Four appearance of last year's Warrior basketball team.

This Friday, the Warriors will take on Bishop Kenney at Warrior Field at 7 p.m. in a non-district match up. Go Warriors!



living in the Hornets backfield, forcing 2 turnovers, sacking the quarterback 4 times, 6 quarterback pressures, and pitched a shutout. Leading the charge was Tucker Pickett with 7 tackles, 2 sacks, and 3 quarterback pressures; Avera had 5 tackles and a fumble recovery; Newkirk had 4 tackles, a sack, 2 forced fumbles and a

recovery, and 2 quarterback pressures; Nathan Wilson had 4 tackles, a sack; and DJ Coston had 4 tackles.

The Hilliard Flashes continue the road trip as they take on the Crescent City Raiders Friday night with a 7 p.m. kickoff.

Go Flashes!



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