

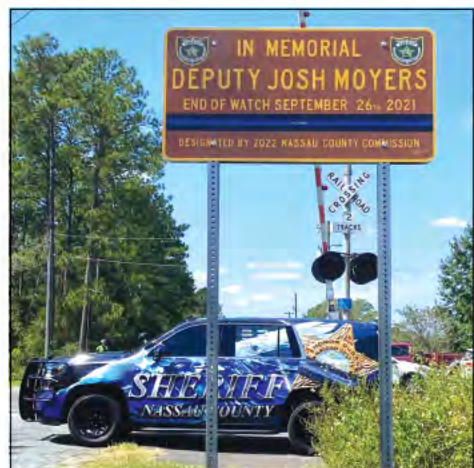


"WE KNOW WHAT REAL LOVE IS BECAUSE JESUS GAVE UP HIS LIFE FOR US. SO WE ALSO OUGHT TO GIVE UP OUR LIVES FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS." - 1 JOHN 3:16

Memorial Sign Dedicated in Memory of Deputy Moyers

Monday, a heavy police presence was seen once again on US Highway 301 and Sandy Ford Road. The scene was bittersweet, as several Nassau County Sheriff's Office deputies and many other agencies gathered to once again honor the late Deputy Josh Moyers.

Monday marked the one year anniversary of Deputy Moyers' death. On September 24, 2021, Deputy Moyers pulled over a vehicle for a traffic stop. Several minutes later the stop turned into Moyers being shot by the driver and the driver drove off. As the driver drove down Sandy Ford Road he eventually stopped the car and ran into the woods. This started a 5-day manhunt for the criminal. Callahan and surrounding areas were basically on high alert during the search. The criminal was



eventually found at the Callahan Sports Complex off of Ballpark Road in a concession building. He was arrested and is currently awaiting his trial.

Sandy Ford Road has several residents and families that live on the road that were right in the middle of all events of that tragic night and the week to follow. A



few months ago, Kathy Carter, who is a resident there, contacted Sheriff Bill Leeper asking if some kind of sign or memorial could be placed on Sandy Ford in memory of Deputy Moyers.

Through Kathy's efforts, the sign was dedicated Monday, on the year anniversary of Deputy Moyers' passing. Deputy Moyers' family was present as they unveiled the sign at the location where the incident happened. The sign reads: In Memorial Deputy Josh Moyers End of Watch September 26, 2021. "We were honored to have Josh as a deputy for six short years," said NCSO Sheriff Bill Leeper. "As seen through just this gathering, his life touched so many people."

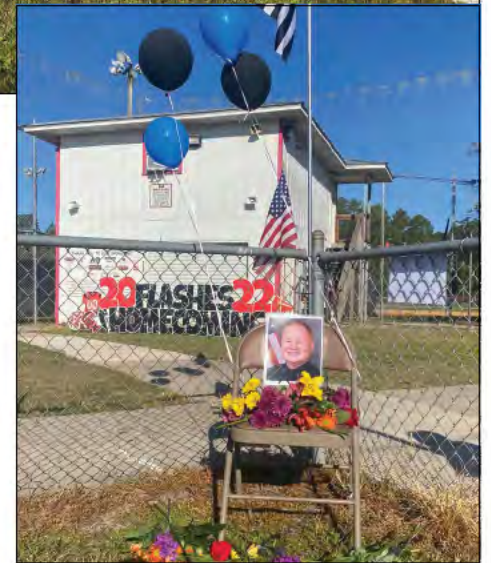


Hilliard Youth Football and Cheer Honor Deputy Moyers



This past Saturday, the Hilliard Youth Football and Cheer program held their homecoming! With much excitement over the festivities, the participants didn't let the day go by without honoring a hometown hero.

September 24, 2021, Deputy Joshua Moyers was gunned down during a traffic stop. On this one year anniversary, the organization went above and beyond honoring Deputy Moyers. A chair was set up with the best view of the field and reserved



in his honor. The field was painted with the blue line in support of law enforcement. Deputy Moyers' mother, Brenda and other deputies were there to perform coin tosses throughout the day. Teams from Hilliard and opponent, Fernandina Beach, sported blue socks and blue hairbows for the cheerleaders.

The day was dedicated to 'backing the blue' and remembering Deputy Moyers, EOW September 26, 2021.

What a great tribute to Deputy Joshua Moyers and what a great way to involve our youth in honoring a hero.

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Country Star Quilt Guild Fundraiser Quilt on Display



floral details on a white background make it perfect for every day display. The reverse side has a beautiful pastel print. As an added bonus, there are also two matching pillow shams! 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 13-23) 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 and may 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

The members of the Country Star Quilt Guild have created an 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.

This lovely queen-sized quilt is an original custom design and custom quilted with beautiful and colorful appliques. The quilt is currently on display at the Westside Journal office, where you can purchase \$1 tickets for your chance to win the quilt. The colorful



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

A Word From the Publisher

I know everyone is in Hurricane preparedness mode at this point. Let's try to remember, there is no need to panic. Panic doesn't help anything. Yes, we should have already stocked up on supplies and if you haven't it's probably too late. Take a breath and look through your pantry and see what you have. Our favorite stocking item is peanut butter and we have lots. Don't forget canned soups, ravioli, tuna, canned chicken, etc. Most people have that in your pantry anyway. Let's not hoard our food as some really may not have anything. Be courteous of others and don't panic.

About a month ago, we began our 19th year of publishing the Westside Journal. It's really hard to believe. What an incredible journey this has been. As I have stated before, our paper is truly a 'God' thing. I really didn't have a clue about publishing a newspaper, much less a weekly paper. God placed so many people in my path to learn from. And trust me this has been a learning experience every week. Just when I think I have it all figured out something happens to change things. Have I said before that God has a great sense of humor? After all, He has entrusted me with this task...and that sometimes is overwhelming.

When publishing a weekly paper, there are so many factors that come into play that I never considered. Let's see, like a hurricane, holidays, illness, a pandemic, etc. We work on a pretty strict deadline. We have ad deadlines that can vary and print deadlines that are pretty much set in stone. Then we have postal deadlines also. At this point, I am used to the deadlines and work better with having them. But when surprises come up, both Jessie and I have learned to pull the load for the other. It is difficult but only with God's help can we handle

it. Oh yes, I've tried doing it on my own but then the Lord reminds me, "I'm here. Why are you struggling? Just ask for My help."

There are no words to thank the many advertisers that have been so faithful to our publication. Obviously, without them, we would not still be publishing. God has truly blessed our business to allow us to continue this work in our loved community. Trust me, if I didn't love this community it wouldn't be as fun as it is to come to work every day! Thank you again, to all our advertisers, and to you our readers that support our advertisers and use them for your needs!

You all make us what we (Westside Journal) are today!

Hurricanes, deadlines, schedules are all so important to keep us on track, however no matter how hard we try to stay in control we can fail. This is why we need to turn our control over to the Lord. Never forget that He is the maker and creator of All things. God is in control but we must allow Him to be. I have struggled many times to handle 'things' on my own. It's those times that God will shut me down and remind me who is in control and that it's not me! As we continue through these strange times in our world I can't stress enough that there is only one decision that is of utmost importance in our lives. That decision is to trust Jesus as your Lord and Savior. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins (be sincere) and to come into your life and please save you! Jesus is the only answer and the only one that can give you strength and courage for each day. Won't you ask him in today?

Have a blessed week!

Dawn S. West

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OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p style="text-align: center;">Northeast Florida FAIR October 13-23</p>						1
2	3 Callahan Town 7 p.m.	4 Exchange Club 11:30 a.m. Fernandina Golf Club NAMI Family Support 6:30 - 8 p.m. Alachua Club, Fern. Bch. Callahan Town 7 p.m.	5 PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library Callahan Garden Club 10 a.m. Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church NAMI Support 12-1:30 p.m. Hilliard Journey Church	6 Hilliard Town Meeting 7 p.m. Food Giveaway @ Callahan First Baptist 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	7 NAMI Support 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging	8 Callahan Farmers Market 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Callahan Depot
9	10 Food Giveaway FBC Gray Gables 9:30 am - 2:30 pm Country Star Quilt Guild 6:30 pm @ The Anchor	11 Callahan Lions Club 7 p.m.	12 Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	13	14 NAMI Support 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging American Legion & Auxiliary Post 401 Hilliard 7 p.m.	15
16	17 Westside Optimists 7 p.m. Lions Club Barnabas Food Fairgrounds 12:30 - 2 p.m. Sons of Confederate Veterans 7 p.m. The Pig Callahan Town 7 p.m.	18 NARFE 11 a.m. The Pig NAMI Family 6:30 - 8 p.m. Alachua Club, Fern. Bch. NC Young Republicans 7 p.m. Gator's Dockside, Yale	19 Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	20 Hilliard Town Meeting 7 p.m. Food Giveaway @ Callahan First Baptist 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.	21 NAMI Support 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging Festival of Wreaths Life Care Center Hilliard 5-7 p.m.	22
23	24 NC Beekeepers Association 7 p.m. Multipurpose Building	25 Callahan Lions Club 7 p.m.	26 Free Community Dinner 5 p.m. Callahan Methodist Church PAL 6 p.m. Hilliard Library	27 Historical Society 6:30 p.m. @ Depot	28 NAMI Support 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Fernandina Council on Aging	29
30	31 Happy Halloween!					

JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

A lie doesn't become truth, wrong doesn't become right and evil doesn't become good just because it's accepted by a majority. In our country it doesn't even have to be a majority that accepts a lie or wrong or evil. All it has to be is a few lunatics and the main stream media. They will plaster every broadcast minute they can to push their agenda on the American public.

Did you think the desecration of Confederate history was over? Well, it's not! Earl Johnson, Jr. (a disbarred attorney) from Jacksonville has just added more to his lawsuit against public funding of anything associated with the Confederacy. This time his desires are focused upon the names of five counties in Florida. Johnson's amended suit is asking a federal judge for a "declaratory judgment" confirming Johnson's charge that the law has been broken. Johnson is quoted saying, "The budgetary enactments challenged herein burden the liberty of the Plaintiff (Johnson) based upon race and color. This sets the stage for efforts to rename Baker, Bradford, Hendry, Lee and Pasco counties. All named after men who served the Confederate government. Oh, but he doesn't stop there. He added 46 more examples of tributes ranging from Confederate monuments at courthouses in Hernando and Putman counties to a Confederate flag outside a Marion County government building even street names. He also is targeting the ancient "Confederate Oak" in a Volusia County Park. He is also disgruntled with Alachua County's Sidney Lanier Center, a school named for the poet who served as a private in the Confederate army. Johnson's complaint also stated,

"Plaintiff (Johnson) is deeply repulsed, disheartened and intimidated by the governmental celebrations of white supremacy against him as a Black American."

He also states that the law requires a guarantee of "full and equal enjoyment" of public accommodations. It takes a very insecure person to be intimidated by a street name, but also a misguided individual who thinks history should be erased. History is a great learning mechanism to prevent us all from repeating mistakes of the past. Utilizing his beliefs, we should erase any and all things concerning slavery. Let's forget it ever happened then the world will be merry and bright because there was nothing in our past that was wrong. I will also argue that never in a million years will a law that guarantees "full and equal enjoyment" of public accommodations be met. As the saying goes, you can satisfy some of the people some of the time, but you can never satisfy all the people all of the time. My suggestion to Mr. Johnson would be, grow up, get over it and move on with life. He enlists white supremacy all the while invoking what could be viewed as black supremacy.

The sooner this nation accepts the past as the past and refocus on the present and that we are all Americans regardless of race or color of skin, the better we all will be. One can be proud to be black and one can be proud to be white or any other color. There is nothing wrong with being proud, but it should not cause divisiveness. We are Americans! Be proud of that for a while and watch this nation prosper.

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

EVENTS AROUND TOWN

Pine Forest Alumni will resume monthly meetings the first Monday of each month at 5 p.m. at Bethel A.M.E. Church on Page Street, Callahan. For information call 904-707-9399.

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>>> **OCTOBER 11, 2022** <<<

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Should a Christian be Concerned About Climate Change?

Pastor Adam Pierce, Liberty Baptist Church, Callahan



It is difficult to find any part of life that is not affected by the concern called "Climate Change." Many companies have been forced to market as "green" to stay relevant. Almost all legislation includes some acquiescence to the "Green New Deal." As promised, I will not interject my opinion into this article. I will, however, share with you what God has to say about climate change or what some refer to as global warming.

There is not a large number of direct verses that address the topic. I will challenge you with the question: How many times does God need to speak on any topic for it to be true?

The first clear statement that God makes on climate change is found in Genesis 8:22, "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." The definition of climate change is the longterm shifts in temperatures and weather patterns. The definition then goes on to suggest that human activities have been the main driver of this effect. The idea that we can somehow change weather patterns by the use of fossil fuels, for example, is an affront to God who clearly promised man it "...shall not cease."

The next position God takes on the issue deals with the first statement He made in Genesis 8:22, "While the earth remaineth..." You see, God tells us of a coming eternity. II Peter 3:13 tells us, "Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."

Following the Great White Throne Judgement, God will change the climate as He promised in Revelation 21:1, "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea." God accomplishes this by "fervent heat" as found in II Peter 3:10-12.

A believer in Christ understands that God is in control of all things, even the climate. A lost world however should see a coming judgement and know, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promises, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." II Peter 3:9

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| <i>20 Minute Break (Arena Open)</i> | | |
| 7. JR Western Walk Trot 12 & under | 25. JR Trail Walk Trot 12 & under | |
| 8. SR Western Walk Trot 13-18 | 26. SR Trail Walk Trot 13-18 | |
| 9. JR Western Pleasure 12 & under | 27. JR Trail 12 & under | |
| 10. SR Western Pleasure 13-18 | 28. SR Trail 13-18 | |
| 11. JR Ranch Pleasure 12 & under | <i>15 Minute Break</i> | |
| 12. SR Ranch Pleasure 13-18 | 29. JR Pole Bending | |
| 13. JR Walk Trot Horsemanship 12 & under | 30. SR Pole Bending | |
| 14. SR Walk Trot Horsemanship 13-18 | 31. JR Texas Barrel Weave | |
| 15. JR Western Horsemanship 12 & under | 32. SR Texas Barrel Weave | |
| 16. SR Western Horsemanship 13-18 | 33. JR Arena Race | |
| <i>20 Minute Break (Arena Open)</i> | | |
| 17. JR English Walk Trot 12 & under | 34. SR Arena Race | |
| 18. SR English Walk Trot 13-18 | 35. JR Cloverleaf | |
| 19. JR English Pleasure 12 & under | 36. SR Cloverleaf | |

For questions or more information, contact Crystal McLain at mclainperformancehorses@gmail.com

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CHURCH NEWS

North Hilliard Baptist Church, 552823 US HWY1, would like to invite all men to our Men's Prayer meeting held the first Monday of each month, October 3 at 6 p.m.

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Southeastern Bank Announces New CFO

Southeastern Bank is pleased to announce the appointment of Robert M. Eidson, Jr. as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Eidson was also elected to serve as Treasurer of the Bank's parent company, Southeastern Banking Corporation (OTCBB: SEBC), effective September 15, 2022. "We are extremely pleased to bring Robbie on board at Southeastern Bank," said Jay Torbert, President & CEO. "His experience and skill set will be a welcome complement to our team."

Eidson is a Certified Public Accountant, licensed in Georgia and South Carolina, and a Certified Internal Auditor. He previously served as CFO for Pineland Bank and brings a combined 16 years of professional experience in public accounting with Nichols, Cauley & Associates and WebsterRogers LLP. He is a graduate of Georgia Southern University where he received both a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting and Master of Accounting. "Having known and respected the Southeastern Bank team for over a decade, I am proud to be part of such a talented group and honored to join their tradition of excellence in serving our customers,



communities and shareholders," stated Eidson.

Eidson and his wife Holly, along with their dog Patch, recently moved to Savannah from Fernandina Beach. He has completed local and national leadership programs and served through numerous professional and community organizations, most recently serving as Board Chair of Fernandina Beach Main Street and as a member of the Accounting Advisory Committee for Georgia Southern University.

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The Emperor Has New Clothes

Douglas C. Pearson, Sr.

On the very day that Wall Street tanks, our Comrade-in-Chief throws a party to celebrate his "Inflation Reduction Bill". A bill that actually won't provide any reductions until well after 2030, according to the Office of Management and Budget, and in fact increases the deficit by over 3,000,000,000,000 dollars. On that same day, the consumer Price Index comes out and demonstrates that inflation continues to be on the rise, to heights not seen since early in this century. In essence, this was the cause of the drop on Wall Street. If the current rate of inflation continues, those benefits of reduction won't amount to a hill of beans, as by then we'll all be on subsistence and we won't have to worry about working from home anymore. First, none of us will have a home and second, no one will care if we work or not.

The very next day Uncle Joe flies to Detroit for a public appearance at the Detroit Auto Show, where many new models are previewed and shown to the public for the first time. His purpose was to highlight the new Electric Vehicles and do another victory lap over destroying the public's right to select and choose. Then, after doing his photo opportunity in an EV, he promptly sits in a brand new, gas guzzling, Corvette, making such remarks as to how cool it was and that it looks like fun. Another rich elitist telling us that the rules are for thee and not for me! "Let them eat cake..." is what I believe Marie Antoinette said, in advance of losing her head. And all this on the very week that Ford Motor Company begins surveying

their dealers, to inquire if they want to continue selling EVs.

Now we turn the page toward the unlawful entry of the millions of 'who knows what' that enter the country on our "Closed" southern border. Surprise among surprises, all those "sanctuary cities" are now crying foul, as less than 1% of the numbers are beginning to show up on their door steps. An Illegal Immigrant, dropped off outside the "Border Czars" house, acknowledged (in perfect English) that the border is wide-open and there are no problems crossing.

All of this, and more, has triggered my mind back to a Hans Christian Anderson folktale, where a vain emperor gets exposed before his subjects. Dissatisfied with his tailors, he demands they design a new wardrobe for him to dazzle and impress his subjects. The designers put together his new wardrobe, at the public's expense, but during the fittings the emperor noticed that everyone could see him, and his shortcomings.

Contradicting the king, the tailors informed him that those visions were his alone and that everyone else would be impressed and properly in awe with admiration of his new wardrobe. The emperor was thrilled and promptly paraded out in his "New" outfit, strutting his new garments so as to draw more and more attention to the new designs.

The public was in awe alright, but failing to let the emperor know that he was naked, for fear of upsetting the king. Today, the 46th President is walking around naked and more and more of his "Subjects" are noticing it

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.

See How It Feels!

Dear Editor,

Hooray, Governor DeSantis for sending a plane load of the Democrat's illegals to Martha's Vineyard, a protected Democratic stronghold and sanctuary city. Following up on the Texas governor who sent a couple of busloads of illegals to Washington D.C., currently, although not for long a Demo power community.

Let's see how they feel about by being at the mercy of their insane immigration policies, whose sole purpose is to get votes, not for humanitarian reasons. Because, as we have come to find out, the Democrats don't give a darn about illegals any more than they care about us. Three cheers for Republican officials who are willing to give the Demos a taste of their own medicine.


B. R. Mc Connell

Short & Not Sweet

Dear Editor,

Americans! Are you living in a hole somewhere? Here's what your "Idiot in Chief" had to say about your ability to come against THEM. Watch You Tube if you don't believe this. Out of context you say? Defend him if you wish. He wants our guns. Little by little this person will abolish the second amendment. His message is clear. We who understand his ravings. President Biden on 2nd Amendment: "If you think you need to have weapons to take on the government? You need F-15s and maybe some nuclear weapons."

Jackie Sikes



CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

Be the Change NE FL will hold a Car Wash Fundraiser at O'Reilly's in Callahan this Saturday, October 1 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.! Come and get your car washed and get more information about Be the Change NE FL!

and are telling him. But his "Tailors" are blockading all the remarks and telling him what a great job he is doing. The more it happens the more indignant he gets, when confronted with the truth.

Well, Mr. President, you are an empty shell that is parroting the ignorance of the socialists that surround you. You have demonstrated that you don't have an original thought in your mind and that you cannot see beyond

the nose on your face. You are making Jimmy Carter, the emperor of the days of "Malaise", look like a genius on the economy. At your current rate, inflation will increase well beyond and above those days. I'll just close this now and simply say that this message was brought to you by a MAGA Republican of the worst kind. One with an attitude! (PS. MAGA is NOT a four-letter word!)

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Hilliard Flashes Stomp Raiders

Holden McMillen

Last Friday night, the Hilliard Flashes looked to turn the page from a heartbreaking defeat as they sought to defend their home turf against the visiting Crescent City Raiders. It was also a historic night as Hilliard Middle-Senior High School retired the jersey number of 2006 Alumni Daniel Thomas during the pregame festivities. In addition, it was youth football appreciation night for the Flashes as the little league football teams were recognized at halftime.

The Flashes won the opening coin toss and marched down the field using a nice mix of both run and pass. But the Raiders defense prevented any further advancement from the Flashes offense and forced a turnover, courtesy of an interception in the end zone. The Raiders used the turnover to their advantage with their passing game to march down the field on an 80-yard drive capped off with a 54-yard touchdown pass. With the extra point good, the Raiders got off to a good start, going up 7-0 to close out the first quarter.

It was a back-and-forth in the second quarter. The Flashes began the



scoring festivities when Lyle Bennett dropped a dime into the waiting arms of Braydon Holley for a 19-yard score. With the 2-point conversion attempt good, the Flashes jumped out ahead 8-7. The Raiders answered back, using a combination of the run and pass and then capping off the drive with a 20-yard touchdown pass in the middle of the field. With the extra point good, the Raiders retook the lead 14-8. The



Flashes answered back with a screen pass to Holley for 20 yards to the Raiders' 30 yard line. Bennett took the zone read keep on the right side and left the Raiders defense for a 30-yard score. With the extra point good, the Flashes closed out the first half with a slim 15-14 lead.

The third quarter

began as a stalemate. The Raiders offense took up half the quarter with a drive however, the Flashes defense made a stop and forced a turnover. The Flashes offense marched down the field to the end zone at the Raiders 4 yard line. The Raiders defense forced a turnover and recovery. After that, things were looking promising for the Flashes. On the ensuing play, the Flashes defense forced a safety when the quarterback fell in the end zone with the ball. Holley followed the Hilliard entourage to return the ensuing kickoff 65 yards for a kick six. With the extra point good, the Flashes closed out the quarter with a solid 24-14 lead.

After an eventful third quarter, things began to calm down in the fourth. But that didn't stop the Flashes offense from finding the end zone one more time. On 4th and 9 from the Raiders 30 yard line, Bennett launched a deep pass towards the right sideline and Bradyn Matto

made the catch. Matto went up and snatched the ball away from the Raider defender for the score. With an extra point good, the defense stopped any Raider momentum and capped off the night. The Flashes sent the home crowd home with all smiles as they defeated the Raiders 30-14.

The Flashes had a productive night on offense with 30 points scored and 354 yards total. The Flashes outscored the Raiders 15-0 in the second half. Bennett went 15/22 for 189 yards, 2 touchdowns, and 2 interceptions while running the ball 9 times for 77 yards and a score. Avera had 10 carries for 49 yards and had a 17-yard reception; Holley had 4 catches for 39 yards, and 2 catches for 36 yards and a 65-yard return for a score. Matto led the team in receiving with 5 catches for 77 yards and a score; and Prestin O'Quinn had 6 catches for 55 yards.

Defensively, the Flashes had a shutout in the second half, forced a turnover, and sacked the quarterback 5 times. Leading the charge was Colton Conner, who had 8 total tackles; Klayton Bright had 6 tackles and a sack; Avera and Brandon Matthews each had 5 tackles and a sack; Damon Kibler had 5 tackles and a pass breakup; Brogan Johns had 3 tackles and a fumble recovery; Billy Moore had 3 tackles; Tucker Pickett had 2 tackles, 2 sacks and a hurry; and Malcolm Howard had 2 tackles and a pass breakup.

This Friday night would have been homecoming for the Hilliard Flashes. Due to Hurricane Ian, all games and events have been cancelled for Thursday and Friday and will be rescheduled.



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New Beginnings and Milestones

NCSO Surprises Krystian for his 6th Birthday!

Miss Rachel McDaniel and Mr. Ethan Thompson Engagement

Lonnie and Kimberly McDaniel, of Hilliard, are pleased to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter Rachel McDaniel to Ethan Thompson, son of Phillip and Teresa Thompson, also of Hilliard.

The bride-elect is a 2019 homeschool graduate. She is employed with The Anchor Church of God as the Worship Arts Pastor.

The groom-elect is a 2012 graduate of West Nassau High School. He is also employed with the Anchor Church of God as the Youth Pastor.

The wedding is planned for Saturday, October 8, 2022 at Evangel Temple in Jacksonville.



We are beyond grateful for the Nassau County Sheriff's Seargents and Deputies who surprised our son, Krystian Choniuk at his Police Officer themed 6th Birthday Party! We are honored they took the time to drive to our home, line our driveway with their trucks, lights, sirens, and smiles!

Callahan and surrounding communities are vigilantly aware of our police officers' dedication and risk to protect: our property, our family, our children, and our lives during times of emergency and danger. Often overlooked are the simple good deeds that go above the "call of duty" that make a child (and Mom and Dad) smile.

These small deeds reap big rewards for years to come; positive, memorable experiences. We now have every day to be grateful for their service AND this special birthday surprise! Like the saying goes, "It's not a party until the cops show up!"

When I thanked them all, Patrol Sergeant Jeremy Hyers, replied, "No ma'am, thank YOU! It's good for us to have some positivity like this in our day!"

Remember to take the time to let our officers know how much you truly appreciate their efforts. How will you show your gratitude today?

Nora Pearl Fouraker



Thomas and Amanda Fouraker, of Bryceville, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Nora Pearl Fouraker. Nora was born July 16, 2022 at 4:15 p.m. at Baptist Medical Center in Jacksonville. She weighed 8 pounds 8 ounces and measured 20 inches.

Paternal grandparents are Earl and Lou Ellen Fouraker of Bryceville.

Maternal grandparents are Alan and Rose Abbott of Sardis, Ohio.

Proud great-grandparents are Stella Thornton of Bryceville; Kathleen Sweetman of Largo, Florida; and Allen and Joann Workman of Morgantown, West Virginia.

Nora was welcomed home by siblings Emma and Thomas Junior!

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VFW Scholarship and Teacher Awards Opportunities



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

VFW Post 10095 in Hilliard has a new Commander, Shane Bray, and Senior Vice Commander Gene Colbert. Both of these men are happy to announce two scholarship opportunities for students and also a Teacher of the Year opportunity.

The 'Voice of Democracy' scholarship is open to all students in 9th - 12th grades. Students are required to record an essay about: Why is the Veteran Important? Students must record your original 3-5 minute audio essay on a flash drive or other electronic device and submit the recording, typed essay and a completed entry form by October 31, 2022. Entry forms are located in the guidance office at your school. Students have the opportunity to win a \$500 - \$2,500 scholarship.

The 'Patriot's Pen' scholarship is open to all students in 6th - 8th grade. Students are required to complete an essay about the topic: My Pledge to Our Veterans. Complete your typed 300-400 word essay and make sure to turn

it in by October 31, 2022 to the VFW Post. Students could possibly win up to a \$5,000 scholarship. Entry forms may be picked up at the guidance office at your school.

Each year the VFW recognizes the nation's top elementary, junior high and high school teachers. The contest is for teachers who teach citizenship education topics regularly and promote America's history, traditions and institutions effectively through the VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Awards. Outstanding teachers in the categories of grades K through 5th grades; 6th - 8th grades; and 9th - 12th grades will be recognized. Nominees may be submitted by fellow teachers, supervisors or other interested individuals. Nominees must be submitted to Post 10095 by October 31, 2022. For more information, visit www.vfwfl.org programs & Teacher of the Year.

For more information about any of these opportunities, please call Vice Commander Gene Colbert at 626-376-5454. Remember, the deadline to submit entries for all scholarships is October 31, 2022.



Golf Tournament Information

Hilliard First Assembly of God is proud to announce the 7th Annual Fire Bible Golf Tournament on Friday, October 14, 2022. The tournament will be held at the North Hampton Golf Club in Fernandina Beach. The event is held each year as a fundraiser to purchase Fire Bibles. The Fire Bible is a study Bible that has been translated into many different foreign languages to help Pastors in foreign countries to study God's word. Many of these Pastors will never have the opportunity to attend a Bible college which is why these Bibles are so important.

Tournament Sponsors, Hole Sponsors and Players are still welcome to participate or donate to this worthy cause. Teams of 4 can play for \$400 or single \$100; Hole Sponsors are only \$125 and sponsor opportunities are available from \$500 - \$2,500. Donations may be mailed to: Hilliard First Assembly of God, PO Box 670, Hilliard, FL 32046.

The golf tournament will be held Friday, October 14 at North Hampton Golf Club with registration beginning at 10 a.m. and a shotgun start at noon. For more information, call 845-2642.

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 16

Evan Terry Stamps, 18, 35105 Quail Road, Callahan: Aggravated Assault with Deadly Weapon

Karl Joseph Schaffer, 32, 45311 Ingleham Circle, Callahan: Deprive 911 Communications; Battery Domestic Violence

Saturday, September 17

Michael Scott Williams, 36, 37093 Testone Lane #4, Hilliard: Murder 2nd Degree; Attempted Murder, Armed Burglary; Tamper Destroy Evidence

Sunday, September 18

Terry Lee Miller, 67, 553600 US Highway 1, Hilliard: Battery on a Person Over 65

Thursday, September 22

John Hayden Thomas, 34, 45090 Airstream Avenue, Callahan: Possession of Alprazolam; Possession Schedule 1-5 Substance

Saturday, September 24

James Daniel Clark, 30, 44282 Lee Drive, Callahan: Tamper Destroy Evidence; Possession of Cocaine

RETIRED FLAG REMINDER

Be sure to check your American flag after the storms to see if they are tattered and torn! Retired flags may be brought to the Westside Journal office for proper disposal.

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USCSF Holds Constitution Day Celebration



The United States Constitution Scholarship Foundation (USCSF) held its annual Constitution Day Celebration event at the Robert M. Foster Courthouse in Yulee on Thursday, September 15. Foundation President Al Watson opened the program by reviewing USCSF, describing its mission and what it has accomplished during the past six years. He also introduced the new Director of Communications, Stan Cottle. Stan presented a video, "About USCSF," featuring commentary by a number of judges and students describing the value of the Foundation and its University of US program in increasing knowledge and understanding of the Constitution and our American Heritage as well as developing our future leaders.

Stan introduced Westside Community Outreach Coordinator, Mike Cole, who discussed the importance of Constitution Plaza, located in front of the courthouse, and the brick pavers honoring those who have made our community and our country great. Mike spoke about his father, Charles Cleo Cole, World War II Veteran, and the paver to be placed in his memory at Constitution Plaza.

The featured speaker was Judge Adrian Soud who covered George Washington's Farewell Address,

emphasizing its relevance today. Judge Soud is the first lecturer in the University of US program discussing "Our Heritage and the Founders." The University of US classes began September 26 at the FSCJ Bean Center.

Dressed as James Madison, Secretary Howard Pines closed out the evening by thanking Judge Soud for his wonderful presentation and summarizing the University of US program and scholarships.

This year USCSF will deliver over \$45,000 in scholarships and awards. This includes \$30,000 for the five winners of the Essay Competition, \$8,000 for the winners and second place finishers in the Constitution Bowl, and \$2,000 for two Leadership Program winners who are recognized as leaders in class but are not winners of the Essay Competition scholarships.



Supervisor of Elections Information

Janet Adkins, Supervisor of Elections

The pace has quickened at the Elections Office as the November 8th General Election is rapidly approaching. Election workers are being trained, ballots are being mailed and requests for public records are on the rise as the election kicks into gear.

Our Elections Office continues to expand the use of technology to improve voter experiences and staff workflow. We are the first Elections Office in Florida to launch a mobile app to assist voters with finding their polling location, monitoring voter turnout, and watching election night results. To download, visit your app store and search "Vote Nassau FL" or scan the QR code on your sample ballot.

To help voters "Get Election Ready," every Nassau County voter has been mailed a sample ballot. Sample ballots should be arriving in your mailbox soon and include your election day polling location. Due to 2021 redistricting, your election day polling place may have changed, so please take a moment to review this information.

Here are some important dates in the upcoming weeks:

- Ballots will be available over the counter at the Elections Office beginning September 29th, the same day that domestic vote by mail ballots will be mailed. If you have requested a vote by mail ballot and do not receive it by October 6th, please contact our office. We have the technology to track each vote by mail ballot and can determine your ballot's location. If necessary, we can cancel the ballot and send you another ballot.

- The last day to request a vote by mail ballot is October 29th. Nassau County mail is processed through the downtown

Jacksonville post office. Please allow adequate time for the USPS to deliver your ballot to the Elections Office.

- Our office must receive your ballot by 7 p.m. on November 8th in order for it to be counted. Ballots that are received after 7 p.m. are late and will not be counted.

- Nassau County voters who prefer to vote early may do so at any of the five early voting locations from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., October 26 thru November 5, including Saturday and Sunday.

One date that may not be as commonly known is the "book closing" or registration deadline of October 11. Florida Statute 97.055 requires that voter registration books must be closed on the 29th day before each election and must remain closed until after that election. This means that if you are not registered to vote, you have until October 11 to register in order to be able to vote in the November 8, 2022 election.

For the General Election, registered voters may still make updates to their name, address, party and signature after October 11 and are encouraged to review their voter information and contact our office with any changes. You can view your voter information at: www.votennassaufl.gov/check-my-voter-status.

Our office works every day to update the voter registration rolls; and we rely on voters notifying us when they relocate. Please mark any correspondence you receive for a previous occupant as "undeliverable" and return it to our office. This will greatly help our ongoing effort to ensure the accuracy of the Nassau County voter rolls.

Please call our office at 904-491-7500, if we can assist you in any way.

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Lee Greene

JUSTIN EVANS



Justin Evans, 31, of Bryceville, passed away Saturday, September 10, 2022 following a nearly lifelong illness. Justin was a special soul who touched many people's lives over the course of his life. He will be deeply missed by his family. At the age of four, Justin suffered his first stroke and was told he'd only have a year to live. His will to live and surpass expectations really emphasizes how Justin lived. Unafraid and willing to tackle the impossible. Justin enjoyed playing with his niece and nephews, loved to watch old TV shows and movies from the 80s and 90s. Justin will be remembered by his smile that was always on his face and his fighting spirit. Justin was preceded in death by his mother Theresa Evans; and grandparents Mabel Howard; and William "Lee" Evans, Sr.

Justin is survived by his father William "Billy" Evans of Bryceville; his sister Jennifer (Adam) Brown; nieces and nephews Austyn, Mason and Weston Brown; and grandmother Janice Evans.

JOAN ANN HANNAH



Joan Ann Mateus Hannah, 62, formerly of Bryceville, passed away September 25, 2022. She was born August 6, 1960 in Passaic, New Jersey to Joan Ann Selewonchik and Eugene Frances Mateus. Joan enjoyed spending time with her family and she loved animals. She is preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her children Christopher J. (Christy) Hannah of Bryceville, Julie A. Hannah, John H. Hannah and Eugene Hannah; and three grandchildren Hayley Josett, Conner Hannah and Paisley Hannah.

A private family service will be held at a later date.

OBITUARIES

ANDREW D. HUFFMAN, SR.



Andrew "Andy" Daniel Huffman, Sr., 58, of Jacksonville, passed away on September 19, 2022. He was born on August 20, 1964 in Mobile, Alabama to Henry Huffman and Dianne Einfinger Baker. Andy was the owner of Alabama Construction Company. He was a hard-working, creative man that had a passion for construction work. In Andy's spare time, he enjoyed browsing through Home Depot and Lowe's, golfing, collecting and shooting guns, and walking through the flea market. He never left without getting some good ol' hot boiled peanuts. Andy also enjoyed bowling so much that he was on a league and where he met Dawn Lee. He was a loving and compassionate family man that was always happy and loved his family dearly, especially his grandchildren. He also had a love for the Alabama Crimson Tide... **ROLL TIDE!** Andy was preceded in death by his father; and his wife of 28 years, Trina Hurst Huffman.

Andy leaves behind his mother, Dianne Baker; children Kayla (Forrest) Marlow, Andrew Huffman, Jr. (Christie Harris) and Kara (Devin) Albritton; grandchildren Forrest, Jr., Marina, Carson, Callie, Austin, Ethan, Gracy, Nathan, Kaden, Brayden and Arabella; brother Eric (Shelly) Huffman; sister Cindy McKinley; uncle Charles Huffman; companion of 9 years, Dawn Lee; and several other extended family members and countless friends.

A celebration of Andy's life was held Saturday, September 24 at Nassau Funeral Home with Pastor Jerry Daniel officiating. Interment followed at Jones Cemetery. The family received friends prior to the service.

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

JAMES EARL JEFFRIES



Mr. James Earl Jeffries, 89, of Jacksonville, passed away Saturday, September 24, 2022. He was born in Russellville, Alabama to the late Edward and Hattie Helms Jeffries. Upon high school graduation, Mr. Jeffries enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. During his service was a recipient of the Naval Occupation Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Good Conduct Medal. At the completion of his service, he began a 40-year career at Great Southern Trucking Company, which would become P.I.E. Trucking by the time of his retirement. Mr. Jeffries was a member of Old Plank Road Baptist Church and an avid Florida Gator football and baseball fan. He enjoyed working in his yard and listening to old time radio. He looked forward to Fridays and going out to eat and spending the day with Ms. Vera.

He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Vera Jeffries of Jacksonville; daughter Brenda (Richard) Bertino of Jacksonville; grandson Bobby Bertino; children William (Linda) Spears, Jr., Lonnie W. Spears, Susan Altman and Karen Spears; and numerous other grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his daughter Teresa Greene; and brothers Hollis, Jack and Bobby.

A funeral service will be held Monday, October 3 at 12 p.m. at Old Plank Road Baptist Church with Pastor Larry McGinley officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service. There will be a time of fellowship following the service.

Mr. Jeffries will be laid to rest Tuesday, October 4 at 1 p.m. at the Jacksonville National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the

Wounded Warrior Project in his memory to www.woundedwarriorproject.org.

Warren Funeral Services of Baldwin is honored to serve the Jeffries family.

Please leave online condolences at www.warrenfuneralservices.com.

SHIRLEY ANN NICHOLS

Shirley Ann Nichols, 84, of Jacksonville, passed away September 19, 2022, surrounded by her children. She was born in Jacksonville and grew up in the riverside area. She attended Landon High School. She worked for GE Capital for 39 years before retiring in 1998. She loved gardening, her cats, working puzzles and watching baseball. She was preceded in death by her parents Charles Miller and Bertha Elizabeth Sagin Scruggs.

She is survived by her children Vernon J. Nichols, Jr., Nancy Rafada, Patricia Evans, Linda Gnagie and Raleigh Nichols; four grandchildren; and her sister Annette Mitchell.

The family thanks the doctors and nurses that cared for her at PAM Acute Care Hospital.

The family received friends prior to the funeral service held Monday, September 26 at Hardage - Giddens Greenlawn Funeral Home and Cemetery, Jacksonville. Burial followed at Greenlawn Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy may be shared at: www.GreenlawnJacksonville.com.

Arrangements by Hardage - Giddens Funeral Home, Jacksonville.

MITCHELL SMITH



Mitchell "Turbo" Smith, 40, of Callahan, passed away on September 17, 2022. He was born on May 6, 1982 in Jacksonville to Mitchell Smith and Martha Stubbs Smith. Mitchell enjoyed

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hunting, fishing, watching the Florida Gators and most of all spending time with his family and friends. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him. Mitchell was preceded in death by his parents; and brother Alvin Smith.

Mitchell leaves behind his wife Pamela Smith; brothers Roger (April) Smith and Donald Smith; sisters Lillie Brown (Bernard Brown, Sr.) and Rhonda Mitchell; several nieces, nephews and extended family members and friends.

A celebration of Mitchell's life was held Sunday, September 25 at Nassau Funeral Home. The family received friends prior to the service.

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

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

JOHN ROLLIE STOKES, JR.



John Rollie Stokes, Jr., passed away September 21, 2022. He was born on February 3, 1943 in Hilliard. Three weeks after losing the love of his life, his wife Elaine, on June 2, 2022, John had a massive heart attack and required surgery for 5 heart bypasses which left him with congestive heart failure. John never recovered from his loss or from the surgery.

John started his career as a lineman in Florida with Southern Bell and continued to move up with Bellsouth Telecommunications. He retired with AT&T as a manager with 47 years of service. John was dedicated and a hard worker. He expected the same from his employees and coworkers. John also served his country in the U.S. Army and National Guard for six years.

While growing up, John never missed one day of school, was a straight "A" student and attended Paxon High School. John was

employed as a bag boy at a local grocery store during his high school years. He loved bluegrass music and attended musical festivals with his wife, Elaine, on many of their camping trips. John loved riding motorcycles, riding bicycles, shooting guns at the range with Elaine, enjoyed being outdoors and just sitting by the fire. John loved his friends, most of whom he had worked with and formed a lasting bond. Many times, he would hug them and was not afraid to tell them he loved them.

John's love for animals was evident with the many years of caring for his cats, dogs and other animals that he or someone else owned. John extended his care to the animals that lived near him. He fed the raccoons, even when two of them would open his bread box so one could climb inside and throw out the bread. He was amazed at their team work. John had counted 62 deer that would come to eat his corn he put out daily. They would come and wait patiently knowing John would be delivering their meal. John also fed corn to the 42 turkeys that would come to his home. John felt sure he had one team of animals trying to take advantage of him. The cat would bring the mouse, John would let the mouse go with a nut and a treat for the cat. This continued for a while. John was sure they were working together. John will be missed by all who loved him, and will forever be remembered as we carry his memory in our hearts.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his brother Jerry Dewayne Stokes; and his loving wife Elaine N. Stokes.

Surviving is his son Alan Dewayne Stokes of Hilliard, known as Deek or "My Boy;" his nephew Brian (Theresa) Stokes; and niece Christy (Brian) Bailey.

A graveside service was held Tuesday, September 27 at Oakwood Cemetery in Hilliard.

OBITUARIES

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his honor to: Amorem Quality Compassion Support, 902 Kirkwood Street, NW, Lenoir, NC 28645.

Condolences may be expressed at www.shepardrobersonfh.com.

Arrangements by Shepard-Roberson Funeral Home, Folkston.

JACK LEON SULLIVAN, JR.

We are sad to announce Jack Leon Sullivan, Jr., 64, of Bryceville, passed away September 23, 2022, surrounded by loved ones. Jack was born on March 9, 1958. Jack led a full life of love and laughter. Jack loved hunting, fishing, cruising, and spending time with his family, he especially loved spending time with his grandbabies. He proudly served his country for 12 years in the United States Air Force. Jack attended UNF where he earned a degree in Education. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends and neighbors.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 35 years, Tamara Sullivan; his parents Jack and Gloria Sullivan of Hilliard; his three children Sabrina (Jeff) Simmons of Nashville, Jack (Patty) Sullivan, III of Ocala and Jaclyn (Jordan) Eastman of Yulee; seven grandchildren he adored, Dustin, Jolie and Adalynne Simmons, Isabella Sullivan and Carson, Charlee and Piper Eastman; three siblings Cynthia Hall, Ronald (Rosemary)

Sullivan and John (Sherry) Sullivan; and many extended family and friends. He is preceded in death by his sister Susan (Doug) Smith; and brother-in-law Ron Hall.

The family received friends Wednesday, September 28 prior to the memorial service held at Callahan Funeral Home, 617365 Brandies Avenue, Callahan. A graveside service was held at Jacksonville National Cemetery with Military rites.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, 879-2336.

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

SANDRA COOK VANDERWERFF



Sandra Dianne Cook Vanderwerff, 58, of Callahan, passed away on September 5, 2022. She was born on December 30, 1963, in Jacksonville to Arthur Wayne Cook and Margaret Ray Crapps Cook. Sandra enjoyed hunting, fishing and spending time with her family especially her grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her mother.

Sandra leaves behind her father; husband Marvin John Vanderwerff; children Joseph Cook, Tee Clifton and Mindy Clifton; brother Arthur "Bubba" Wayne Cook, Jr.; and sister Brenda Cook Linck; 12 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

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

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



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Warriors Fall Friday Night

Kyle Pipkin
 Last Friday night was another terrible night for the Warriors. Being shut out on Warrior field is something that none wants to ever have happen. This season has not gone the way the Warriors and the fans had probably envisioned. Starting



Kathy Carter



Kathy Carter


The Warriors did only turn the ball over one time. This is one improvement for the offense this week.

Defensively, Connor Scaff and Alex Holmes lead the team in tackles both having six a piece. Avery Luedtke also chipped in with 5 tackles. Earl Moore had 2 passes defended for the Warrior defense tops for

with a win, then losing four in row in games that have not even been close. Friday was no exception losing 35-0 at home to a very good Bishop Kenny team.

Offensively, Russell Weeks led the team in rushing carrying the ball 17 times for 95 yards with one run over 20 yards. Quarterback Jackson Perry was 5 of 8 for 59 yards. Earl Moore led the team in receiving having 3 receptions for 53 yards.

the secondary. This Friday all games have been cancelled due to Hurricane Ian.



Kathy Carter



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Flashes Honor Daniel 'Big Boy' Thomas

At a ceremony held prior to Friday night's game, the Hilliard Flashes honored Daniel 'Big Boy' Thomas by retiring his number 4 jersey. The Flashes enjoyed back-to-back playoff appearances during Big Boy's tenure which included a District Championship. During his time, the Flashes utilized Daniel at wide receiver, running back, quarterback as well as a key in the Flashes defense. During his 2004 season, the Flashes finished the season 9-3 and won their first District title since 2000 as Daniel led the team in receptions with over 34 for over 600 yards and 4 touchdowns. As a senior in 2005, Daniel achieved 2,200 yards and 22 touchdowns, earning All-State honors.



later signed with Kansas State University bursting on the scene in 2009 earning Big 12 Newcomer of the Year. While at Kansas State, he was a back-to-back All Big 12 Selection at running back.

Daniel was drafted in the 2nd round of the 2011 NFL Draft by the Miami Dolphins. He was the second Hilliard alumni to be an NFL Draft pick. Former Flashes and UF Gator star Billy Hinson was drafted in the 5th Round of the 1985 NFL draft by the Denver Broncos. "I was inspired and hopeful to one day follow in Hinson's footsteps. I hope to be an inspiration to many more student athletes at HMSHS," said Thomas. "I thank my parents, siblings and coaching staff at HMSHS for pushing me to better myself. I am humbled by this display of appreciation."

Following graduation, Daniel played at Northwest Mississippi Community College earning JUCO All-American honors. He

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Barnabas Brings Hope and Connection



Nicola Barnack,
Barnabas Director of Development

The first meeting between Michael Granucci and Alison Trembly in 1999 arose out of tragedy. Their next meeting, 23 years later, in late August of this year, was pure coincidence. Mr. Granucci, who volunteers as an Ambassador and in the food pantry at the Barnabas Center in Fernandina Beach, is a retired construction project manager and manufacturing executive. Ms. Trembly (nee Lentini) is a graduate-level nurse practitioner who recently signed on at Barnabas' medical clinic, which like the food pantry, is located at the organization's main office on Jasmine St. in Fernandina.

Their first meeting took place in Red Bank, N.J., as Ms. Lentini, a single mother, was awarded the first-ever academic scholarship named after Mr. Granucci's late wife, Marcia. He established the annual \$2,000 award in her memory, that continues to this day, and he served on the original selection committee. "She was one of five interviewed, and she stood out," Granucci recalled in a recent interview.

The aforementioned tragedy was the murder of Marcia Granucci, a Yale-educated psychiatric nurse killed by the son of an elderly client during a home visit in West Long Branch, N.J., in 1995. The shooter also died of a self-inflicted gunshot. Mrs. Granucci was 45

and left behind Michael and their two teenage children. "Marcia and I early in our marriage liked to give back and volunteer where we could," recalls Granucci. They put their organizational skills toward activities from fundraising in the schools to constructing a parish church in their native Connecticut.

By 1999, they were living on the Jersey Shore, as was Ms. Trembly. She, by then, was board-certified in community health nursing with liberal arts degrees from Princeton and a nursing bachelor's degree with high honors from the College of New Jersey. She was pursuing a master's in nursing at the time and applied for the scholarship through the Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey.

She was, in Mr. Granucci's words, the perfect candidate. On her part, Ms. Trembly distinctly remembers meeting him. "I will always remember meeting you," she commented during a recent joint interview at Barnabas Center. "I was a single parent with three children working full-time to finish a master's degree, and I could not have done it without your support."

After the scholarship award ceremony was covered with a story and photo in a local newspaper, they parted ways over the next two decades.

Then, on August 29, 2022, they met again. "I walked into the Barnabas Center two weeks ago, and as I came through the door, I was advised that Jamie Reynolds, the Barnabas Center



President and CEO, wanted to see me," recalls Granucci. "I felt like I'd been summoned to the principal's office and asked, 'What's going on?'"

She said, "Sit down. I have to go get somebody else," said Jamie. That's when Alison walks into the office, sits down, and says, "Do you know me?" I don't think so, I replied. She said, "My name is Alison, and you gave me a scholarship 23 years ago. I remembered that her last name began with 'L.'" Then it clicked. Moments before, she, as a new hire and Ms. Reynolds, had been discussing the power of nursing to transform society.

"Jamie said, 'You have to hear about the wife of Michael Granucci.' She didn't know that we had a connection, and I didn't know Michael was here. I stopped in my tracks and said could that be the Michael Granucci from New Jersey? I was overwhelmed."

Reunited now, both share the same focus that syncs perfectly with the overall Barnabas Center mission in Nassau County. How do we reach the people in need? Ms. Trembly believes

the mission is multi-dimensional — possibly a disparaging single mother, a hungry family, often homeless, or someone in need of medical care — the "invisible" people. "Michael's whole life is summed up by the phrase "Who is my brother and who is my sister?" she believes.

As for this accomplished and consummate nurse with a doctorate degree, Alison Trembly says she is often inspired by an African proverb that reads: "When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion." Barnabas President and CEO Ms. Reynolds, with a BSN from Georgetown University, who then taught physical assessment post-grad, vividly recalls the August meeting. "I'd mentioned that we had a volunteer whose late wife was a nurse practitioner 40 years ago and had transformed psychiatric nursing in New Jersey, but it's a tragic story. Alison then finished the story and shared how she and Mike are connected. It was an incredible moment of how Marcia's life is still impacting community health, and her spirit of helping those in need is thriving on Amelia Island many years later." The CEO muses: "Some call it coincidence—I call it the essence of Barnabas."

The Barnabas Center is a 35-year-old multi-service charitable health and human service agency in Nassau County, FL. The Barnabas Center's mission is to provide help and hope to individuals and families in need throughout Nassau County to improve their stability, health, and well-being. For more information, please visit www.barnabasnassau.org.

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