

THE Hernando Sun

Feb. 8- 14, 2019
Volume V, Issue VI

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New county government center back in play

by ROCCO & JULIE B. MAGLIO

On January 18, 2019, the Hernando County Board of County Commission (BOCC) received a "Confidential" Unsolicited Proposal with Application Fee from a private entity pursuant to F.S. 255.065 (Chapter: Public Property and Publicly Owned Buildings - Section: Public-private partnerships; public records and public meetings exemptions).

There have been requests for additional space for a number of years. The county contracted with CGL Companies to conduct a space needs utilization assessment in 2016. The initial cost estimate from CGL Companies was between \$100 and \$130 million for a new county government center. The amount of the current unsolicited bid is confiden-

See **IN PLAY**, Page 4



An encampment in southern Hernando County. Two canine residents are tethered outside of the tent. Photo courtesy of Ellen Paul.

Getting them out of the woods

Plight of Hernando County's Homeless

By JULIE B. MAGLIO

The Hernando Sun's series on the homeless population within Hernando County and the various organizations helping to mitigate the problem begins with a feature on the Nature Coast Community Services Foundation, directed by Ellen Paul.

Nature Coast Community Services Foundation (NCCSF) is a 501c3 organization which operates through the Unitarian Universalist Church in Weeki Wachee. There is a core group of volunteers including Ms. Paul: Mary and Bob Tokar, Rose Beal, Evangeline Reid and Dennis C. and Gunnell Perez.

The foundation provides services and basic necessities for homeless individuals and indigent children and families including:

- Food, clothing, shelter, medical care
- Identification credentials
- Counseling and literacy
- Job training/transportation
- Dental and vision care
- Access to benefits for homeless veterans

Ms. Paul stated that the homeless population in Hernando County is much greater than state authorities admit and unfortunately that has funding ramifications when organizations like Nature Coast Community Services Foundation apply for

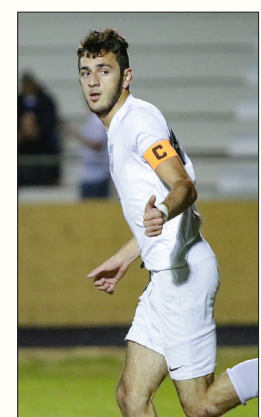
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HERNANDO SUN

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SPORTS

As year two draws close, ex-Bear hurler McKenna ready for challenge



Trevor McKenna pitching on the mound for the Hops. Photo courtesy of Trevor McKenna.

BY JOE CARLINO
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
CHERYL CLANTON

For any athlete wanting to make it to the ultimate prize of competing professionally, there's an old adage for most of them: while the good players know their limitations, the great ones are constantly striving to get 1% better while also doing everything they can to put their team in the best position for sustained success. One needs to look no further than Patriots quarterback Tom Brady for this statement to ring true.

And for former Central Bears ace and current Hillsboro Hops (Ari-

See **McKENNA**, Page 13



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The Week of Feb. 8- 14, 2019

ID STATEMENT:

Hernando Sun is published weekly, by Hernando Sun Publications, LLC at 13491 Simmons Lake Road, Brooksville, FL 34601.; Publication Title: The Hernando Sun; Publication number: 16590; Issue Date: Feb. 8- 14, 2019; Statement of Frequency: Weekly; Subscription Price: \$31.50 annual, \$18.90 semi-annual; Known Office of Publication: 13491 Simmons Lake Rd Brooksville, FL 34601; Application to Mail at Periodicals Postage Prices is Approved at Tampa Bulk Mail Entry Unit (BMEU) 5433 W Sligh Ave Ste A Tampa, FL 33634-9651;
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Hernando Sun P.O. Box 12203 Brooksville, FL 34603

ELECTION OF OFFICERS HERNANDO BOCC JAN. 15, 2019

Election of Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Second Vice Chairman

Commissioner Wayne Dukes nominated Commissioner John Mitten for Chairman. "It is my distinct pleasure, based on his growth in his short time here, and the amount of effort he puts in to this job to nominate Commissioner John Mitten as our Chair.

Current BOCC Chairman Steve Champion asked for a second, for which there was none.

Commissioner John Allocco and Chairman Champion both asked Mitten if he was interested in being the Chairman. "Are you sure you want the job?" Champion asked.

"Yes, he wants the job," said Dukes. "Pass the gavel, Chairman. If you want to second it, pass the gavel."

Mitten then answered, "Frankly, I didn't think about it at all, until recently. I would think that it would find perhaps better use for those who are running next year, if I were to do it ... that being said, I am asked to serve, that's why I'm here, and if I'm asked to serve, that's what I'll do."

"I can't of any reason why anyone even questions that. That's not the process," Dukes said. "If there's no second, there won't be any seconds for any, right? What is this?"

Champion stated, "We can have another nomination, if you want."

Commissioner John Allocco nominated Commissioner Jeff Holcomb. "This is his fourth year. I'd like to see him there.

Champion said that he had no preference between Mitten and Holcomb, but asked Holcomb if he would be interested in the BOCC Chair position since he is Chairman of the RAC, to which Holcomb answered affirmatively.

Commissioner Mitten seconded Holcomb's nomination. Dukes called for a discussion.

"All of my career, I have worked in large organizations, and most of that time, I was in upper management with hiring and firing abilities. One of the things I would have never done is place someone in charge of an agency when there's known bias against the people in that agency. There is no way I can support Commissioner Holcomb for Chair, because he hasn't shown that he has a working relationship with our administrator. In fact, the rumor is that he'd like to fire (County Administrator Len Sossamon) today." (County Administrator Sossamon was terminated at the Jan. 29, 2019 meeting.)

Commissioner Jeff Holcomb was elected Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners in a 4-1 vote.

After a short recess to switch officers, the board reconvened. Chairman Holcomb called for a nomination of Vice Chair. Allocco began by saying, "I want to make it clear, I think Commissioner Mitten is very well qualified, however we just had an election, and he is appointed. However I would agree that great chairman in (Holcomb's) stead, and I would like to make the nomination for Commissioner Mitten to be our Vice Chairman."

Commissioner John Mitten was elected Vice Chairman 5-0. Champion nominated Allocco for Second Vice Chair, which also passed 5-0.

Viral Report of Pork Chop Attack

by ROCCO MAGLIO

The arrest of a "Brooksville Woman" Jennifer Brasard made news this week. She was charged with Domestic Battery for throwing a frozen pork chop at her boyfriend during a verbal argument causing a ½ inch laceration below his left eye.

The story was carried on a number of national news sites including Newsweek, Fox News, and the Smoking Gun as well as international news sites from Canada and Cuba. The Smoking Gun story even made the front page of the most widely read online news aggregator, the Drudge Report.

Jennifer is often referred to as a "Brooksville Florida Woman" in the stories. Although her address is listed as 20210 Shetland Ln, Brooksville, FL in the arrest report, the address corresponds to a location 5 miles south of Hernando County in Pasco. The actual address is: 20210 Shetland Ln; Spring Hill, FL 34610.

Channel 8 WFLA reported that the attack "happened Friday night in Brooksville." Channel 8's article is entitled "Brooksville woman arrested for throwing frozen pork chop at boyfriend." Channel 8 did list the article under Pasco News.

Jan. 15 Hernando BOCC meeting rundown

Jan. 15, 2019 Hernando County Commission meeting by LISA MACNEIL Hernando Sun Reporter

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

County's retained claim to minerals, gas and oil on property sold

Ahmed Hamed explained, "The reserved interest as it reads on my deed states, 'Hernando county reserves an undivided ¾ interest in title and all phosphate minerals and metals that are or may be in, on or under said land, and an undivided ½ interest in all petroleum that is, or may be in or under said land with the privilege to mine and develop same.' I'm here to petition Hernando County to release its interest and title in my lot. My right to make this petition, and your authority to release this interest claim is established in Florida Statute 270.113, which states, "A local government, water management district or agency of the state, at its discretion sell or release reserved interest in any parcel of land, except that such sale or release shall be made upon petition of the purchaser for such interests and with a statement of reasons justifying such sale or release." He also found two petitions in July 2016, where the county attorney's office recommended release.

Emails to County Officials

Bill Loomis continued an ongoing commentary about not having received a response to an email to commissioners that he sent on March 29, 2017. He said brought the issue up on Oct. 9 and Nov. 27, 2018 meetings as well as the previous meeting.

He closed by saying, "So, Mr. Collier, if you have any questions about my question, I'd be more than happy to answer them at the next meeting because I have used up my three minutes.

Please, Rick (Foti), I would like to order a copy of this meeting dated January 18, 2018."

Self Fueling at BKV

Gary Schraut addressed the board on the matter of a self-fueling operator at BKV. "This is going to be strange coming from me because I strongly ... oppose self-fueling at the airport. It's an unprofitable venture for our FBO (Fixed Base Operator). The operating rules require that the FBO sell that gas, and if (the FBO) didn't have to sell that gass, he wouldn't. Selling jet fuel, he's required to do. So, the odd part about my discussion today is that the best partner the Brooksville-Tampa Bay Regional Airport has had for over twenty years, has been the FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation). To go this far to get the grant, if I agree or disagree ... I think we should revisit that. Let them know you're revisiting it. I'm requesting you do..."

With the new board coming into place, they can do some investigations on how this may be proper to move forward. I'll stress, I do not want Hernando County in the fuel business. You don't want to be in the fuel business... Our fuel prices .. I cannot tell you how many studies we've done on fuel sales at the airport, we've always been medium-range. As far as the quality of your airport, we're not medium-range, we're the finest general aviation airport in the entire state of Florida, over and over again...

I ask that with respect to our partner, FDOT that we revisit this, look at it, and look at what would happen if we use these funds, create this new asset at the airport, and then search for a qualified operator with a history of doing this successfully. Because we can build it, if you don't turn it on, yes, it's a waste..."

(Commissioners voted in favor of moving forward on the aircraft self fueling facility in 5-0 vote on Jan. 29, 2019.)

Census

Shauna Lloyd, Partnership Specialist for the Central Florida 2020 census addressed the board regarding the upcoming census. "Since 1790 the US has been taking a census of the population. It's quite important, because that's how the money is allocated, as well as our representation. We here in Florida actually gained two seats in the last census in 2010, so now we're the third largest state after California and Texas. That was a very exciting development.

This has been strictly based on the number of people here in Florida. The census information is highly confidential. It's sealed for 72 years, and there is Title 13 protection -- we can't turn it over to any governmental agency. The reason for this is because we want everyone to respond to the census. If people don't respond, then the counties and the cities aren't getting the proper allocated money and resources for the people of their constituents.

The census is currently reaching out... to let you know we've started the education process. We're going to be reaching out to you in the current months to work with you to form what we call 'Complete Count Committees.' Your Complete Count Committee is going to decide how best to reach the constituents of your county. These are going to be people of the county, in different sectors; education, small business... whatever entities you think would better impact your constituents.

Our job is to basically support you, to provide you with all of the information that you're going to need going forward for the count.

The other reason the census

is very important is the dollars. Florida's estimated to get over \$29-billion for federal funds. The money that's determined in the census is actually going to be used for the next decade. So, a miscount, or anyone that's not counted severely impacts a county's budget. We want to make sure Hernando County and every other county in Florida is getting an accurate and complete count.

So, I'm reaching out... to say 'hello' and introduce myself, and to let you know that I'll be reaching out to you individually, and also leave a packet here with you as well."

Commissioner Jeff Holcomb asked about important dates associated with the census, which Lloyd replied, "April 1, which is the actual census date. This is the day everyone is supposed to respond. There are a few things that are different with the census this time, it is going to be self-reported. Any electronic device, internet is how it's going to be done. You'll receive a mailer sometime this spring ... two postcards that are geotagged for your address.

The census is not recording information for me, myself, they're recording on 123 Maple Street. (The Census) will send a postcard to that address with a code, saying to please go online, enter this code with the number of people in this household.

Then on April 1, all the numbers are due. Whoever does not respond by April 1 will have an 'enumerator' come to the door ... The enumerators will be hired locally, and will (reside within the county).

Commissioner Wayne Dukes asked for clarification on information he recently received online, "The census counts people who are not here legally?"

Lloyd answered, "Correct, we count everyone. Because the census money is going to be used for everything from school programs to Pell grants, to the money that you get for construction of roadways. So regardless of the actual status, what happens is they're actually using the resources. That's why the information has been protected. It's been that way since (President) Truman. They want the actual resources to go to where the numbers of people are."

Backyard Duck Hunting on Hunter's Lake

Christopher Enger of Spring Hill said to the board, "On January first of this year, our neighborhood was woken with gunshots in our backyard. You guys have since gotten the emails and phone calls from me and my neighbors.

We found out that there was duck hunting in our backyards. With the rain that we've had this fall, we now water in our canal on Hunter's Lake. I've lived here for now 31 years at the same address. Me, my 11-year-old daughter, and my 19-year-old daughter ... we're all there. In those 31 years, we've only had 1 issue, and that was an alligator about 25 years ago..."

We've called the Sheriff's department and found out they're allowed to hunt back there. Then we called the Florida Wildlife Commission, and found out they're allowed to hunt. Then we were stunned to find out that they can actually hunt within five feet of our property.

We found that all we can do is get them for a 'reckless discharge of a firearm' which is a felony in Florida. We have no idea how that works, because our Sheriff's office had no idea that law was even there when they first (responded).

I've reached out to you, commissioners, and I've heard that you are going to get with legal to find out what you can do.

We have children in our neighborhood. We have veterans with PTSD (Post-traumatic stress disorder), and we have elderly neighbors who walk early in the morning. We were told that if you get shot ... you can just go to the hospital, and get it taken care of. This was by a Sheriff's deputy.

I have a petition signed by

at least 103 neighbors asking you to do something about the duck hunting in our neighborhood. We're not against hunting. We're (also) gun owners ... we just don't want it in our residential neighborhood.

Michael Burmann said, "I am a hunter, and my parents reside on Hunter's lake. So I've seen both ends of it. They do live on a canal, and we've seen people shoot right into the back yard ... It's not just the channels, there are houses right on the open lake, and people can go right up to the back of that house, as the law is written currently ... Florida's unique. Most other states require a 250-300 yard distance away from a property line." Burmann reported an increase in the number of hunters in the last two years, when it hasn't been an issue in the past.

Elton Ben Hammonds told the board that both he and his neighbor have service animals, and the dogs have been frightened by the gunshots heard in the area. Hammonds described the noise before and after sunset as "A re-enactment for the Battle of Fallujah. I'm not being funny about that. I was there." He also reported that a neighbor actually had a glass sliding door shattered by a stray pellet.

Randy Kelly added that an elementary school and Pasco-Hernando State College is situated on Hunter's Lake. Kelly added that residents of Hunter's Lake feed the ducks, causing a legal problem since "baiting animals and hunting is against the law."

Dawn Klein added that she was told by an HCSO Deputy that scaring the ducks away from residences was in fact, illegal, and that anyone doing so could receive a citation.

Sand at the State Park entering the Weeki Wachee river

Shannon Turbeville asked for the board's support in sending a letter to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Turbeville stated, "The letter would simply request that (DEP) take any and all measures to stop their sand that they installed at the state park from entering the (Weeki Wachee) river during rain events. I want to be clear that I don't think it's fair to blame the state park ... for the sedimentation problem plaguing the river. However, we have to tackle one issue at a time, as we become aware of a problem, and not bury it in tax dollars."

Turbeville went on to show a seawall installed in 2006 with damage allowing sand to flow through portions of the wall separated from the ground, and into the river.

Baker Act Facilities

Randy Kelly recalled his recent experience where a 10-year old child needed hospitalization under the Baker Act (Florida Mental Health Act of 1971 (Florida Statute 394.451-394.47891). Kelly said, "We're here in Hernando County, and the Hernando County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) picked up the child, then took the child to Pinebrook, which is an intake facility, to find the child a bed. Once the child got there, we were told that the two closest facilities were Ocala and Orlando. Now this 10-year old child is way off in Titusville, which is 128 miles away from where we live. I'm wondering if the commission can look into something for the juveniles, because this seems to be ... a regular occurrence. Children are taken, then sent halfway across the state to a treatment facility because we have no juvenile treatment facilities within our county."

Kelly added that he has to travel to Gainesville to receive mental health services for another child.

BOARD/STAFF RESPONSES

County's retained claim to minerals, gas and oil on property sold

County Attorney Garth Collier stated that the release would need to be put to a vote in a

future meeting. Commissioner Wayne Dukes stated, "I think we should definitely do that, but I also think we should ask the legal department to take a look at this. If the lots are in residential (zones) and they're only of that size, I think a limited sight should be on there so we don't have to keep doing this.

Emails to County Officials

Commissioner Wayne Dukes asked County Attorney Garth Collier, "Isn't it true, that as a city commissioner, if there was some sort of investigation about anything that you could come and get my personal email, and my county email, and my phone ... everything?" Collier answered in the affirmative, "It's all public record."

Self Fueling at BKV

County Administrator Len Sossamon said that he'd already scheduled a discussion of the grant for January 29, 2019. "I did so after having a conversation with Airport Manager Kevin Daugherty, because he'd had a phone call from Ray Clark at FDOT, who promised us that we'd shortly be getting a letter stating that if the BOCC did not reconsider its rejection of the bids to build a self-fueling facility, that we would indeed get a follow-up letter that states in thirty days, they would expect repayment of that \$89-thousand grant."

The board came to a consensus that discussion for reconsideration would take place at the January 29th meeting. As noted before commissioners voted 5-0 to move forward on self fueling facility on Jan. 29.

Census

Dukes replied, "The problem is with our sanctuary states now, you've got thousands of people who are here illegally, and they can actually get more representatives and more influence in Washington. That doesn't seem right."

Lloyd stated she couldn't speak to the status of the individuals responding to the 2020 census. She did say, "If you have only enough money for 10 people to go to a hospital, but you actually have 20, then some people are not going to receive services."

Commissioner John Allocco asked, "What is being protected? The fact that they are illegal, and they're being counted, so we get representatives in the state to vote? I'm curious what the 'protected' part is, because to me it seems like, even though it's been there since Truman, back when Truman was president, we had people trying to change the demographics of this country as well, and the voting records of the country. My concern is that if we're using this improperly because of protected information, we're growing government, and we're increasing the cost to the citizens who are actually paying taxes. I know everybody pays sales tax, but we haven't moved to a sales-tax-based system for our federal government, we're still focused on ad-valorem taxes. I'm curious as to what this protected information is, if the whole purpose is to give information to organizations like ourselves."

Lloyd responded, "(The information) is given at an aggregate level. You're going to get the information on what's called a 'Census Tract.' A tract is bigger than 2-3 city blocks, so you'll know how many people reside in a tract. Lloyd also said that the only required information to provide is a name, but some respondents provide self-identifying information.

Commissioner Steve Champion asked, "What's to stop the fraud from happening? Let's say there's motivated people for political reasons to gain seats, etc., what's to stop them from putting ten names on there that don't exist? Can you imagine the rampant fraud? In a state like California, they just start

See **BOCC RUNDOWN,**
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DOB: 01/31/1984
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Spring Hill

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HCSO ARREST SUMMARIES

Escalation



SANCHEZ, ANTHONY RUBEN
YOB: 1996
CHARGES: DOMESTIC BATTERY
Arrested at: 01/31/2019 22:22
SPRINGWOOD RD, SPRING HILL, FL, 34609
Arrest Summary: on 1/25/2019, the defendant and victim became involved in a verbal altercation over finances and the defendant allegedly cheating on her. During the course of the altercation, the defendant grabbed the victim and drug her into the hallway where he pushed her to the ground. The defendant began to forcefully kick her and strike her about the legs with a closed fist causing injury in the form of large bruises on her thighs as well as multiple bruises on her legs. These bruises were very dark and showed the beginning signs of healing. The actions were committed against her will. The defendant was later located at a residence on Springwood Road, Spring Hill, FL 34608, and was placed under arrest, as per Deputy D.G.'s probable cause that was developed as a result of her investigation. The defendant and victim reside as a family with their 2 biological children at their shared residence located on Higate Road. The defendant was than taken into custody and transported to the Hernando County Jail without further incident. The defendant was provided a court date of 02/27/2019 at 0900 hours in Courtroom C of the Hernando County Courthouse located in Brooksville, Florida. The defendant is currently being held without bond.

Stolen Deposit

GOODSON, BENJAMIN ALAN
YOB: 1984
CHARGES: GRAND THEFT
Arrested at: 02/01/2019 19:30 13100 CORTEZ BLVD, BROOKSVILLE, FL, 34613
Arrest Summary: On 02/01/2019 I responded to the McDonalds restaurant located at 13100 Cortez Boulevard, in reference to a theft call. Contact was made with the area manger Antonio Ferman, who advised during a store deposit audit he noticed a \$2071.24 deposit to be missing. Antonio began reviewing store surveillance in an effort to discover the missing deposit. While reviewing video surveillance, Antonio observed one of his managers, that he identified as Benjamin Goodson, remove a cash deposit from the safe and not return it. Antonio further advised on 01/23/2019 at 0156 hours he observed Benjamin open the safe door reach into the safe, remove a plastic deposit bag, stand up and close the safe door without returning the deposit bag he removed. Upon reviewing the video surveillance which clearly revealed a white male, which Antonio identified as Benjamin Goodson open the safe door on 01232019 at 0156 hours reach into the safe, remove a plastic deposit bag, stand up

and close the safe door without returning the deposit bag he removed. Contact was made with Benjamin, who post Miranda advised he did remove the deposit bag but did not keep it. Benjamin reviewed the video surveillance and could not explain the video clearly showing him remove the deposit bag and close the safe door without the video ever showing him return the deposit bag. Based off the video surveillance probable cause was established. Benjamin was taken into custody and transported to the Hernando County Detention Center where he is currently being held on \$2000.00 bond per the bond schedule. Benjamin was given a felony court date of 03/01/2019 0830 hours.

Shots and a shove



SAUNDERS, LAURA DEVON
YOB: 1978
CHARGES: DOMESTIC BATTERY
Arrested at: 02/01/2019 21:46
EDGEKNOLL ST, BROOKSVILLE, FL, 34613
Arrest Summary: On February 1, 2019 at approximately 2131 hours, I arrived at Edgeknoll Street, Brooksville, FL 34613 in response to a verbal disturbance. Upon arrival, I made contact with the victim. The victim stated that he and his wife, Laura Devon Saunders (hereafter, "the defendant") had been taking shots of alcohol and became loudly argumentative with him in the porch area of the aforementioned residence. The defendant then became irate and shoved Joseph with both palms open to his chest, causing the victim to fall backwards and strike a radiator that was on the ground. This impact with the radiator caused bleeding to the victim's right forearm and the back of his left hand. The defendant then returned to her bedroom and the victim went to the kitchen to address his wounds. I then made contact with the victim's son, who is the son of the defendant. Son stated that he was in the living room of the residence when he heard an argument between the defendant and the victim. He could hear the defendant loudly shouting at the victim in the porch area of the residence. Son went to see what the commotion was about and saw the victim falling back onto the radiator, cutting his right forearm and left hand. Son further stated that the defendant was standing over him shouting before she returned to her bedroom. I observed the victim to have a cut on his right forearm, superficial and approximately two inches in length. I also observed the victim's left and to have a superficial scuff mark on the back of the hand, below the index finger. There was blood on the porch area floor by the radiator in question and blood drops on the floor from the porch area to the kitchen. These were consistent with the victim's statements. The defendant was arrested without incident and transported to jail where she awaits

The data provided is only arrest information. This data does not reflect charging decisions made by the State Attorney's Office or the outcome of criminal trials.

first appearance on a no-bond status, due to the domestic nature.

"Went off and punched him."



ROMERO, OTMARA NIEVES
YOB: 1961
CHARGES DOMESTIC BATTERY :
Arrested at: 02/01/2019 22:02
LAWRENCE ST, SPRING HILL, FL, 34609
Arrest Summary: Upon arrival, contact was made with the victim, who had a swollen upper lip and advised he was punched by his wife, Otmara Romero, while sitting out front of the residence in a lawn chair. He explained he was on the phone with his son when she "went off and punched" him in his lip. The victim did explain he did not want to be battered and it was against his will. He advised the defendant was accusing him of infidelity just prior to this incident. Contact was then made with the defendant who was in the kitchen. When speaking with the defendant, I observed her to be wearing a long sleeved green shirt which appeared to have multiple red spots on the front and left side of it which appeared to be consistent with blood. I also observed a small spot on her left thigh and also two more blood spots on her left boot. The defendant was then read Miranda warnings in which she understood her rights and agreed to speak with me. The defendant went on to deny knowing where they came from or why they were there. The defendant did advise she believes her husband was being unfaithful and she consumed approximately pint of Bacardi within an hour prior to this incident. The defendant denied placing her hands on the victim during this incident. Contact was also made with the defendant's son, who advised he was sitting outside with his mother and the victim when he observed Otmara strike the victim in the mouth with a right hook and then start yelling at everyone. The roommate, advised he observed Otmara yelling at people and "no one could cool her down." He then observed her to "physically hit the victim." She also got into Kevin's face yelling and screaming. The defendant was then taken into custody and transported to the Hernando County Jail where she was held on NO BOND status due to this battery being domestic in nature. The defendant was provided a

court date of 03/01/2019 at the Hernando County Courthouse in Courtroom C at 0900 hours.

The door would be easier



CIRELLI, MARIE C
YOB: 1963
CHARGES: BURGLARY DWELLING, TRESPASS IN STRUCTURE/CONVEY
Arrested at: 02/02/2019 19:55
3049 LACKLAND AVE, SPRING HILL, FL, 34608
Arrest Summary: On 2/2/2019 at 1918 hours, I was dispatched to 3042 Lackland Avenue in reference to a residential burglary. Upon arrival, I was greeted by the victim, John Pisciotta. John stated that the defendant Marie Cirelli, was his ex-wife are no longer resided at the address. John issued Marie a trespass warning from the property on 2/1/2019 under Hernando County case number 2019-03696. John explained that when he came home, the defendant was already inside his residence. John explained that the defendant had used a brick to break a window to enter the residence. When the defendant left, there were two indepen-

dent witnesses parked in the driveway who responded to an ad John posted for an estate sale. The two independent witnesses provided consistent statements about having seen the defendant leaving the residence from the front door. After receiving a statement from the defendant, she was taken into custody due to the statements provided by the two independent witnesses. Post Miranda, the defendant provided a confession stating that she had used a brick to break the back window of the residence and make entry to retrieve her belongings. The defendant was then transported to the Hernando County Jail, issued a \$5,000 bond and a court date of 03/01/2019 at 0830 hours in Courtroom E.

He had to stay

BURKE, JOHNATHAN ROBERT
YOB: 1992
CHARGES: TRESPASS IN STRUCTURE/CONVEY
Arrested at: 02/03/2019 02:11
6016 SPRING HILL DR, SPRING HILL, FL, 34606
Arrest Summary: On 2/3/2019 at approximately 0147 hours I was dispatched to the 7 Eleven located at 6016 Spring Hill Drive in reference to a suspicious person. Upon arrival I made contact with the complainant, Hugh Outland, who is a clerk at the 7 Eleven. Hugh stated that the defendant had been at the store for approximately an hour, and that he



had asked the defendant to leave. I then made contact with the defendant who was sitting in front of the door to the 7 Eleven. I explained that he had to leave and was being trespassed by the store clerk of the 7 Eleven. The defendant was still sitting by the door to the 7 Eleven, and insisted that he had to stay. I then told the defendant to leave the property a second time, however the defendant showed no intent on leaving. The defendant was asked one more time to leave the property. The defendant responded by insisting on going back into the store. After refusing to leave the property three times, the defendant was taken into custody for trespassing. He was then transported to the Hernando County Jail. He was issued a court date of 3/1/2019 at 0900 hours in court room C and issued a bond of \$1,000.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

Planning and Zoning Commission Regular Meeting 2/11/2019 9:00 AM
Government Center
John Law Ayers Room 20 N. Main Street
Brooksville, FL 34601

Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting 2/12/2019 9:00 AM
Government Center
John Law Ayers Room 20 N. Main Street
Brooksville, FL 34601

Metropolitan Planning Organization Regular Meeting 2/19/2019 1:00 PM
Lecanto Government Building
3600 W Sovereign Path Room 166 Lecanto, FL 34461

Hernando School Board Meetings 2/26/2019
Informal 11:00 AM
Workshop 2:00PM
Regular 6:00PM
District Office-Board Room
919 North Broad Street Brooksville, FL 34601

City Council Workshop
Monday, February 25, 2019, 3:00PM
Location 201 HOWELL AVENUE, BROOKSVILLE, FL - JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, III COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Contact Elected Officials

<p>City of Brooksville Officials Main Number 352-540-3810</p> <p>William Kemerer Mayor wkemerer@cityofbrooksville.us SEAT #3</p> <p>Joe Bernardini Vice Mayor jbernardini@cityofbrooksville.us SEAT #2</p> <p>Robert A. Battista Council Member rbattista@cityofbrooksville.us SEAT #4</p> <p>Pat Brayton Council Member pbrayton@cityofbrooksville.us SEAT #5</p> <p>Betty Erhard Council Member berhard@cityofbrooksville.us SEAT #1</p> <p>Hernando Board of County Commission</p> <p>Commissioner John Mitten District 1 Vice Chairman JMitten@hernandocounty.us Phone (352) 754-4143</p> <p>Commissioner Wayne Dukes District 2 WDukes@HernandoCounty.us</p>	<p>Phone (352) 754-4146</p> <p>Commissioner John Allocco District 3 Second Vice Chairman JAllocco@HernandoCounty.us Phone (352) 754-4144</p> <p>Commissioner Jeff Holcomb District 4 Chairman JHolcomb@HernandoCounty.us Phone (352) 754-4848</p> <p>Commissioner Steve Champion, District 5 SChampion@HernandoCounty.us Phone (352) 754-4448</p> <p>Florida House of Representatives</p> <p>Representative Blaise Ingoglia District 35 Capitol Office 317 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300 Phone: (850) 717-5035 District Office 2955 Landover Boulevard Spring Hill, FL 34608-7258 Phone: (352) 688-5004 Email: Blaise.Ingoglia@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Representative Jimmie T.</p>	<p>Smith District 34 Capitol Address: 402 South Monroe Street 317 House Office Building Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300 Phone: (850) 717-5034 District Address: The Inverness Government Center Suite 208 A 212 West Main Street Inverness, FL 34450-4855 Phone: (352) 560-6020 Email: jimmie.smith@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>Florida Senator</p> <p>Senator Wilton Simpson Capitol Address: 420 Senate Building 404 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100 Phone: (850) 487-5010 District Address: 4076 Commercial Way Spring Hill, FL 34606 Phone: (352) 688-5077 Email: simpson.wilton@flsenate.gov</p> <p>United States House of Representatives</p> <p>Representative Daniel Webster Washington, D.C. Office 1210 LHOB Washington, D.C. 20515 Phone: (202) 225-1002 Brooksville Office 15 N Main Street, Suite B</p>	<p>Brooksville, FL 34601 Phone: 352-241-9230</p> <p>United States Senators</p> <p>Senator Rick Scott https://www.rickscott.senate.gov/ B3 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Phone: 202-224-5274</p> <p>Senator Marco Rubio https://www.rubio.senate.gov U.S. Senate, 317 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 205100001 Phone: (202) 224-3041 Tampa Office Sam M. Gibbons U.S. Courthouse 801 North Florida Avenue Suite 1130 Tampa, FL 33602 Phone: (813) 853-1099</p> <p>Florida Governor</p> <p>Governor Ron DeSantis https://www.flgov.com/contact-governor/ State of Florida The Capitol 400 S. Monroe St. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001 (850) 717-9337</p>
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TIDE CHART

High/Low Tide Prediction Data Listing

Station Name: ROCKY CR.,LITTLE PINE IS. BAY., FL
Action: Daily
Product: Tide Predictions
Start Date & Time: 2019/2/8 12:00 AM
End Date & Time: 2019/2/14 11:59 PM

Source: NOAA/NOS/CO-OPS
Prediction Type: Subordinate
Datum: MLLW
Height Units: Feet
Time Zone: LST/LDT

Date	Day	Time	Hgt	Time	Hgt	Time	Hgt	Time	Hgt
2019/02/08	Fri	02:56 AM	2.66 H	10:52 AM	-0.24 L	3:46 PM	2.47 H	11:08 PM	0.35 L
2019/02/09	Sat	03:35 AM	2.54 H	11:21 AM	-0.09 L	4:13 PM	2.53 H	11:47 PM	0.28 L
2019/02/10	Sun	04:19 AM	2.37 H	11:53 AM	0.11 L	4:44 PM	2.58 H		
2019/02/11	Mon	12:32 AM	0.24 L	05:10 AM	2.15 H	12:28 PM	0.36 L	5:20 PM	2.61 H
2019/02/12	Tue	01:28 AM	0.20 L	06:15 AM	1.92 H	1:12 PM	0.64 L	6:05 PM	2.61 H
2019/02/13	Wed	02:41 AM	0.14 L	07:46 AM	1.75 H	2:13 PM	0.93 L	7:04 PM	2.61 H
2019/02/14	Thu	04:04 AM	-0.03 L	09:31 AM	1.77 H	3:39 PM	1.13 L	8:17 PM	2.66 H

IN PLAY

from page 1

tial since other companies may also make bids.

County Attorney Garth Collier explained in May 2018, “The standard under law is that you’ve got to provide reasonable space. That is obviously going to be subject to different interpretations by the courts and this board. This board does get to make that decision.” If the County Commission deems that the judges have adequate space then that is the case. This makes sense since the County Commission is the body that levies the taxes or comes up with alternate sources to pay for the building(s). The commission is the body that is responsible to the voters for the taxes raised and therefore is vested with power of deciding what represents adequate space.

In May of 2018, the County Commission received a letter from Fifth Judicial Circuit Court Chief Judge Sue Robbins from Marion County. The letter stated that the county should build a new county government complex as defined by the Space Needs Assessment CGL Companies report.

In January 2018 the BOCC voted to move forward on a less expensive option (approximately \$14.9 million) to meet the court’s space needs through a renovation of the Pinebrook building and the construction of a separate building for constitutional officers. Pinebrook is a county owned building which was leased to Bayfront and is subleased to medical professionals.

Judges were present at the meeting where the BOCC voted to pursue the Pinebrook solution.

Judge Daniel Merritt stated, “I really don’t have anything to add at this point that the judicial branch has not otherwise added or told you about for the last 16 years. We are in favor of anything that will provide all of us, including the constitutional officers, some additional space. The study that was done last year- certainly in the judicial branch’s opinion- that is the longer term more appropriate resolution, looking forward 30 years, but I understand the fiscal issues that are at play. So this seems to be a way to try to obtain space for everybody...”

The process to facilitate the relocation of physician medical offices from Pinebrook was initiated at the end of 2017. In October 2017, physicians asked for at least a year to relocate. According to county staff, the 5 medical practices in question still remain within the building along with the VA.

In May the county received a letter from Judge Robbins which urged the county to undertake the new government center option without mentioning the Pinebrook renovation. Referring to Judge Robin’s letter, the County Administrator at the time Len Sossamon warned the board May 22, 2018, “It’s not a direct court order, but I think it’s about one step short of that.”

Sossamon explained the county’s legal department is looking into whether impact fees could be used “to do the upfits for the Pinebrook facility.”

He outlined the following,

“If we’re able to do that then it’s a source of revenue we could use to upgrade Pinebrook and then start the removal process of the BOCC functions from this building over to Pinebrook. Then that would allow for the accommodations to be met that are outlined in

1/28/19

RE: HERNANDO COUNTY COURT FACILITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE V

Dear Chairman Holcomb:

The Hernando County Judiciary, in consultation with Mason Blau & Associates, has completed a space needs audit and planning study for current and future judicial needs inside the Hernando County Courthouse. The audit and planning study was conducted to comply with the Chief Judge’s responsibility to regulate court facilities and ensure the prompt and effective administration of justice, pursuant to the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration 2.215.

The audit uncovered the following four (4) issues that require attention: 1) Court Security; 2) Secure movement within the courthouse; 3) Additional Court Rooms; 4) Sally*Port and Holding Cell update and expansion. A fivephase plan has been devised to address each of the current shortcomings. The Phases are staged to address the needs in order of priority. The Plan and the specific phases are as follows and detailed below:

PHASE I: [REDACTED] AND SYSTEM UPGRADE

PHASE II: [REDACTED]

PHASE III: 2nd FLOOR COURTROOMS (COURTROOMS J, K, AND I)

PHASE IV: 1st FLOOR COURTROOM (COURTROOM H AND THE NEW ENTRY)

PHASE V: EXPLORATORY PLANNING AND EXPANSION OF SALLY PORT I HOLDING CELLS INTO THE CURRENT AREAS UTILIZED BY FACILITIES ON THE GROUND LEVEL

Therefore, I, as Chief Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, and pursuant to Florida Statute Section 318.18 (13)(A)(2), hereby certify the immediate need to continue this Court Facility Construction Project. This project should commence with haste. A complete upgrade to security measures, including [REDACTED], is the top priority. The phasing for this project will be directed by the construction team and allow for continued use of the court facilities by the courts during construction. Regular audits shall be conducted by the Hernando County Administrative Judge or his designee to ensure sufficient progress has been made.

PHASE I- [REDACTED] AND SYSTEM UPGRADE [REDACTED]

PHASE II- [REDACTED]

PHASE III - 2ND FLOOR COURTROOMS (COURTROOMS J, K, AND I). With eight (8) full-time Circuit and County Judges in Hernando County as well as a General Magistrate and Child Support Hearing Officer, it is also essential that additional courtrooms be developed promptly.

PHASE IV - 1ST FLOOR COURTROOM (COURTROOM H AND THE NEW ENTRY). This phase will provide an additional courtroom on the first floor. It will also include the addition of more handicapped parking as well as a more user-friendly entrance that will permit citizens increased ease of access to the courts. This phase is also in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act pursuant to 29.008(l)(a).

PHASE V - EXPLORATORY PLANNING AND EXPANSION OF SALLY PORT I HOLDING CELLS INTO THE CURRENT AREAS UTILIZED BY FACILITIES ON THE GROUND LEVEL.

The above plan meets the needs of Hernando County’s citizens, the judiciary, and the spirit of my letter dated May 14, 2018. As such, the aforementioned plans have been approved by myself as Chief Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, and Daniel Merritt Jr., as Administrative Judge of Hernando County.

The court appreciates your continued support and shared vision to resolve the court space needs for the citizens and litigants in and for Hernando County. I look forward to your swift and decisive action to achieve the necessary goal.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, as always you can reach me at (352) 401-7820 or Todd Tuzzolino, Chief Deputy Court Administrator at (352) 401-6702.

With best regards,

S. Sue Robbins, Chief Judge Fifth Judicial Circuit

ABOVE: The most recent letter sent by Judge Robbins to Hernando BOCC Chairman.

Judge Robbins’ letter.”

Champion remarked, “We already made a decision and we told the judges we were going to do the Pinebrook thing.” Champion said. “We have to figure out how to get it done. I’m scared they are going to force us from what counsel says and then we’ll be stuck like chuck if we don’t have a plan. I think we need to move forward with Pinebrook.”

Len Sossamon did mention Judge Robbins’ reference to the CGL Companies report in her letter, “Another caveat that I’m a little unclear of... on page 2, she does mention the CGL Companies study that was done, which actually addressed the issue of building an entirely new courthouse- which I know will be something on the order of \$100 to \$120 million versus the alternative that we came up with.”

Judge Robbins statement is as follows:

“Therefore, based on the foregoing, I, as Chief Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, and pursuant to Florida Statute Section 318.18 (13)(A)(2), hereby certify the immediate need for a Court Facility Construction Project. This should be built according to the long-term plan contained and detailed as part of the CGL Companies January 2017, Hernando County, Florida Space Utilization & Courthouse Needs Assessment Interim Report. This is necessary to address the unexpected growth in Juvenile Delinquency and Mental Health caseloads in Hernando County as well as the added responsibilities of the Risk Protection Orders and Injunctions for Protection of Vulnerable Adults.”

She is using the term should, so it would appear she is directing the county to undergo the “\$100 to \$120 million project” but not as strongly as if she had used the terms ‘shall’

or ‘must.’

Chairman Champion stated in response to the Judge’s direction, “The alternative sounds a lot cheaper. To move us out and make this all just court.” He asked County Attorney Garth Collier, “And that would be sufficient?”

Collier explained, “The standard under law is that you’ve got to provide reasonable space. That is obviously going to be subject to different interpretations by the courts and this board. This board does get to make that decision.” That would mean the decision is up to the commission as to what is reasonable space for the judges. This would make sense since the commission is responsible for funding the judges’ space.

“There is not a lot of appetite for a \$110 million courthouse I can tell you that,” said Champion.

Champion remarked that the letter was probably a result of them committing to the Pinebrook project and then hesitating due to budget issues.

“They don’t trust us to make the right decision. I don’t blame them,” he said.

Sossamon remarked, “We don’t take possession of the Pinebrook building until late this year (2018) - September/October. There’s still 5 physicians there, plus the VA. The VA occupies 10,500 square feet of the 42,000 square foot building. The VA has told us that they’d like to build a new facility, but it’s going to take them two or three years. I think we can co-habitate. ‘We’ meaning the BOCC functions with the VA. Jeff and I have met with them

several times and they’ve indicated their willingness for us to proceed in any demolition we need as well as reconstruction while they are occupying and seeing clientele.”

Champion asked why they couldn’t move forward on the building immediately.

Deputy County Administrator Rogers stated, “We do have an architect working on a scope of services cost to have a design to remodel the building. We are moving forward on the Pinebrook Building.”

In regards to the current county courthouse, Sossamon offered, “We’ve had an architectural firm take a look at the east side entrance - the steps- making that more pedestrian friendly by removing those steps and making the entrance at the ground level... Those improvements based on my discussion with Judge Merritt and his admin assistants in the court system- they have what’s called a judicial improvement fund and we can use those judicial improvement dollars for those types of operations.”

As far as the 5 physicians still remaining at Pinebrook, Sossamon stated,

“Because they did not move out expeditiously, those funds (for moving costs) are no longer available.”

The county was willing to provide up to \$4,000 for moving expenses along with a rent subsidy for up to \$1.50 per square foot through the term of each lease which would have been a \$54,818 expense in total.

Fast forward to January 2019. The county receives another letter from Judge Robbins as well as an unsolicited bid for the construction of a new county government center. The Hernando Sun obtained a redacted version of the letter from Judge Robbins.

Len Sossamon stated “The one (letter) we just

got actually outlines... a number of items that you are aware of- it’s talking about security cameras system update, creation of secure corridors, installation of judicial elevator, second floor courtrooms J, K, I; first floor courtroom H, and also a new entry, exploratory planning and expansion of the sallyport holding cells into the current areas utilized by facilities on the ground level... The timeline of those improvements starting off with security cameras system update is July 1, 2019 and that’s the estimated completion time. That’s not start date... and every other item I just mentioned to be completed no later than July 1, 2022- or essentially 2.5 years from now.”

Sossamon then provided his recommendation,

“I think what we need to ask the board to do today on this item is to receive the unsolicited proposal to build a new governmental center that would be able to extract all of the BOCC functions from this building along with our clerk of court options that deal with finance because they are our finance department along with our SOE (Supervisor of Elections), our tax collector and property appraiser. If that is done then we can take 30 days or so and review it- come back to this board and tell them whether or not it makes any sense and if at that point in time we tell them that it does make perfect sense, then they recommend that they authorize us to proceed with solicited proposals on the same level playing field which this unsolicited proposal was received.”

Sossamon said that the solicitation process for additional proposals would be somewhere between 45 and 120 days.

“I think if we don’t show forward progress, we’re going to get another letter to expedite the process

from Judge Robbins,” he worried.

Commissioner Champion stated, “We have to at least look at this- from what I understand they can force us to do something about this.”

Collier made a similar statement to his May 2018 remarks, “We are required to provide adequate and necessary space to the judicial system.”

Interestingly Sossamon seemed to indicate that the unsolicited proposal has been approved by Judge Robbins and Judge Merritt:

 “It does say that as such the aforementioned plans have been approved by herself as Chief Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit and Daniel Merritt Jr., the Administrative Judge for Hernando County. They are doing all of this based on Commissioner Champion’s question about forcefulness if you will. They are actually telling you this is what their plans are. They meet the needs of the citizens as set forth in the letter from Judge Robbins. I think to delay is our enemy.”

The Hernando Sun confirmed with Public Information Officer Virginia Singer that Judge Robbins and Judge Merritt approved the unsolicited bid. The judges have indicated their preference as to what bid to accept, but the final decision is left to the County Commission as they are the body that is responsible to fund the decision.

The pressure applied by the judges are working in their favor. Deputy County Administrator Rogers made the following statement:

“Past direction of the board was to remodel Pinebrook and build a constitutional building at the Pinebrook Government Complex. Staff, in looking into that building (Pinebrook), we believe it’s probably not the most cost effective thing if the county is to remodel that building. We would like to look at this proposal and compare it against the cost of us remodeling the building there and building a separate constitutional building... The other issue I’d like to point out, about the Pinebrook Building, as we continue to look at that becoming a government building, since we got that direction last year, I will tell you the access there we might have overlooked that a little bit. I would probably have to recommend against using that building because just of the access now. Even though we recommended before, the access there would require u-turns for everyone to get in and out of that building- thus we’ve been looking at alternate sites to move forward for the government in the future. In the future, we’ll have to pay either a lease or a bond to pay for this.”

Rogers asked the board to consider a temporary sales tax to pay for the improvements.

“That way not only are the property owners paying for it, but also the visitors.”

Dukes made a motion to look at the proposal. Allocco provided a second, the motion passed 5-0. The cost of evaluating the unsolicited bid is the responsibility of the the bidder, so examining the bid will not cost the county at this point.

HOMELESS
from page 1

grants. Specifically, she said that according to state authorities, there are 93 homeless people living within the county because that is how many beds there are available in local shelters. She remarked that this is a gross underestimate as it ignores the hidden homeless—the people living in the woods, in cars, in abandoned hunting blinds, and in utility sheds as well as people who are “couch surfing” with friends and family.

Ms. Paul explained that Hernando County residents are largely unaware of the extent of the problem in part because residents do not wish to see the problem and homeless individuals, in turn, do not wish to be seen and instead try to blend in.

They live in wooded areas throughout the county sometimes in encampments with other homeless individuals and sometimes by themselves.

On January 22, 2019, Nature Coast Community Services Foundation participated in the National Homeless Headcount organized by the mid-Florida Coalition for the Homeless. The goal of the count is to get an accurate figure to report to the state. We hope to bring our readers information garnered during the headcount in a future article.

Ms. Paul’s group works with up to 40 homeless individuals each week in various encampments around the county. She noted that one encampment of 12 individuals was recently destroyed when someone shredded their tents with a knife and scattered about their meager belongings. Her team is searching for the most at risk of that group: a pregnant woman about to give birth, a woman suffering from intermittent hemorrhaging due to injuries sustained during a rape,

and a gentleman who may have lymphatic cancer.

And therein lies the problem- keeping tabs on these individuals in order to provide assistance. The homeless by definition are itinerant. They encamp on private property - sometimes with permission of the property owner and often without. If they do not have permission to be there, then they are usually evicted by the Sheriff’s Office. Their lives are unstable and they move around, so it is difficult to measure how large the problem is in a certain area.

NCCSF provides some stability on a weekly basis by bringing supplies and providing the services mentioned above. The goal being: “to get them out of the woods” and into a permanent housing situation.

In a phone call, Ms. Paul provided an overview of the NCCSF program for the homeless and many of its challenges.

“Life handed these individuals something they could not recover from-



ABOVE: Lark was the recipient of a new pair of glasses through the efforts of NCCSF and the Lions Club.

BELOW: Women look through an assortment of donated shoes during a weekly NCCSF supply drop.



Ellen Paul, Director of Nature Coast Community Services Foundation with her Pomeranian named Scones. Ms. Paul is coordinating a supply drop to one of the encampments, while Scones provides moral support.

whether it be divorce, abusive spouse or illness. They do not want to be in the woods,” she remarked.

The question is, she asserts, “How do we get them out of the woods?”

They cannot get jobs because 80-90% of them do not have identification and as there is no address on the Florida State Homeless

ID, she said, it is useless for cashing checks. The process to get them identification can often take several months.

Ms. Paul remarked that the reason for their lack of identification often has to do with the trauma they sustained which put them in the woods in the first place. She referred to one

of the individuals she is currently assisting in which an abusive partner burned all of her possessions from family photos to eyeglasses and identification.

In order to solve the myriad of problems the individual is facing and get them “out of the woods,”

NCCSF partners with other community organizations.

People helping People regularly supplies food.

The Lions Club of Brooksville assists with eye exams and glasses. NCCSF drives the homeless individuals to the High Point Community Center in Brooksville, where Lions Club volunteers determine need, and a week later they get a comprehensive eye exam. One week following the eye exam, they receive their glasses. In November, 2 individuals received glasses, in December, 3 individuals received glasses and 6 will receive glasses in February.

“This isn’t a frivolous thing we are doing- they can now read a job application again,” said Ms. Paul. She stated that she loves to hear the words, “I can see again!”

During a recent visit with Ms. Paul to one of the encampments, one thing that struck me is that many of the homeless are young adults. Lark, a tall young man with a wide grin sauntered up to Ms. Paul’s arrangement of goods for the week. He cracked jokes and spoke lightheartedly. He wore a Parrott Pride t-shirt. Ms. Paul informed me that Lark has very mild cerebral palsy and chooses to live in the woods because he prefers that to living at home.

Another obstacle is dental. Many individuals have serious issues with their teeth, affecting their self-confidence and ability to find a job.

Many people dismiss the dental issues of the homeless as caused by drug usage, but Ms. Paul asserts that is not always the case.

See **HOMELESS** Page 6



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HOMELESS

from page 5

Two individuals she works with are in need extensive dental work, but have never used drugs. One destroyed her teeth overusing a tooth gel whitener and the other individual was never educated about proper oral care.

“That lack of teeth is keeping them from rising above their circumstances,” Ms. Paul said as both individuals have asked “Who would hire someone who looks like me?”

“Getting them teeth is more than aesthetics- it is a confidence builder,” said Ms. Paul. “It is a way to get out of the woods and back into society again.”

Unfortunately, many homeless individuals are veterans suffering from PTSD. There is federal funding available to help with housing, tied to the county in which the applicant lives. However, Ms. Paul explains, it’s difficult to find housing in Hernando County that meets the VASH requirements.

For instance, one of the veterans she works with was awarded \$600 per month last fall, but after searching extensively, he is unable to find anything in that price range that meets VASH requirements. VASH requires that the housing be a separate living facility like an apartment, house or camper van with electricity and running water. VASH does not allow for renting a room in someone’s home.

While VASH is still a conundrum, one of NCCSF’s successes has been negotiating an increase in food stamp dollars. Prior to NCCSF stepping in, Ms. Paul stated that several of the homeless individuals she currently works with



Ellen Paul's vehicle is full with supplies. On this particular day, she had a several pairs of shoes and even fresh oranges. Volunteers also brought donations and their vehicles were tightly packed as well.

received \$92 per month in food stamps. Now they receive \$196 per month. This sum is the individuals’ only income.

Like many families, several homeless individuals have pets. Ms. Paul says about 50% of the homeless in the woods have pets. NCCSF works to make sure the pets are taken care of as well. She brings dog and cat food as well as leashes, collars, and bedding on her weekly supply drops. Sometimes even her own fluffy dog Scones- who is a rescue of course—comes along for moral support. The pet food is donated by Walmart via Dave Ramponi.

NCCSF coordinates vaccination, spaying, and neutering of homeless pets with PetLuv in Brooksville. The day I tagged along, Ms. Paul picked up a kitty

to be spayed. She says the kitty is doing well and is being treated for worms.

She recalled the first day when she came to the woods with dog food. After receiving her food supplies, a woman by the name of Tami reluctantly came forward. Ms. Paul asked her if there was anything else she could do for her. Tami asked Ms. Paul if she had dog food for her dog Luke. Tami had not been able to feed Luke in a couple of days and Tami’s heart was breaking. Out of desperation she had taken Luke to the pound that morning, but could not leave him. Tami prayed for a miracle. When Ms. Paul told her she had a whole trunkload of dog food, Tami burst into tears.

Ms. Paul recounted, “She told me, ‘You are my angel. I have been praying for you.’”

“I was able to preserve her family. With dog food! This kind of miracle happens all the time,” said Ms. Paul.

She explained that the homeless really have no one else in the world except their pets. “They love their animals because the pets are loyal, they give them love and protection. Often their human families have given up on them and the larger community doesn’t see them, so their pets are all the homeless people have and their most cherished

companion. The pet becomes their family in every sense.”

A disabled veteran, Jim has a dog named Chance. But in September Jim contracted MRSA and Sepsis and had to remain in the hospital for weeks. Ms. Paul fostered Chance while Jim was hospitalized. She remarked, “It saved Chance’s life by saving Jim’s life. These little miracles are

happening all the time in the woods.”

She explained, “These people are homeless but not without hope- they have a dog or cat that loves them. It’s Jim and Chance against the world...”

And the world does not see them. The world thinks they are homeless by choice or because they are drug addicts or crazy. They are “not me”- they are the “other,” and they make me uncomfortable, so I look away. I refuse to see them or their pain.”

Ms. Paul is most passionate about the relationship between the homeless and their beloved pets.

She is writing her second Master’s Thesis (Capstone Project) on the subject, entitled, “Homeless but not Hopeless--A Community of Two” She is enrolled in the Meadville-Lombard Theological Seminary in Chicago working toward

“These people are homeless but not without hope- they have a dog or cat that loves them. It’s Jim and Chance against the world... And the world does not see them...”

a degree in Lay Leadership. She received her first Master’s degree in English from the University of Maryland.

The Nature Coast Community Services Foundation invites you to a family-friendly fundraiser on Feb 23 at the Olive Grove (15016 Rester Dr, Brooksville, FL) 1-5PM. The Greek-themed event has activities for everyone including an appearance by Aesop telling his fables, visits from Greek gods and goddesses, races and relays, panning for fossils and jewels, making jewelry and crafts, balloon bounce, live music, karaoke, Family-Feud style competitions, and education in olive oil. And of course, food! Lots of food. Tickets are \$45 per family of four or \$15 a person.

To contribute to this work on behalf of the homeless, send a check to the Nature Coast Community Services Foundation at 7401 Heather Walk Drive; Weeki Wachee FL 34613.



ABOVE: A tent is destroyed after a summer storm. Photo courtesy of Ellen Paul. LEFT: A woman sets off back to her encampment after picking up supplies for the week.

Library Programs

SH- Spring Hill Branch Library, located at 9220 Spring Hill Drive.

WH- West Hernando Branch Library located at 6335 Blackbird Ave, Weeki Wachee, FL 34613

BV- Brooksville/ Main Library located at 238 Howell Ave, Brooksville, FL 34601

EH- East Hernando Branch located at 6457 Windmere Rd, Brooksville, FL 34602

Feb. 8

Baby Storytime - WH
2/8/2019 10- 10:30 AM A Storytime featuring stories, bounce rhymes, songs, and more just for babies and their parents!

Toddler Storytime - WH
2/8/2019 10:30 - 11AM Storytime time for toddlers featuring stories, songs, and fingerplays.

Preschool Storytime - WH
2/8/2019 11:15 - 11:45 AM Stories, songs, fingerplays, and much more designed for children between the ages of 3-5.

SHINE - EH (individual counseling by appt. only)
2/8/2019 12 - 2PM Free Medicare and Health Insurance Counseling and Information during open enrollment period. By appointment only. Call 352-593-0705 for more information.

Book Discussion Group - EH
2/8/2019 2 - 3:30 PM Registration is open Look Me in the Eye by John Elder Robinson Please contact the East Hernando Branch Library to obtain a copy of the book and the discussion questions.

Tech Tutors - BV
2/8/2019 2:30 - 4:30 PM Not quite sure how to use your device? Do you have any questions or concerns? Grab your gadget and stop by!

Zhōngguó 101- Introduction to Chinese - SH
2/8/2019 3:30 - 4:30 PM Come and learn some basic Chinese and a bit of Chinese culture.

Cutting Cord - BV
2/8/2019 5 - 6PM Learn how to “cut the cord” and use the internet to escape cable TV. Game On! - EH
2/9/2019 10AM - 4PM Enjoy family gaming at the East Hernando Branch!

Feb. 9

VITA - SH
2/9/2019 10AM - 1PM Volunteer Income Tax Assistance - by appt. only

ARteration: Valentine’s Crafts - EH
2/9/2019 1:30 - 3PM Registration is open Join us as we create adorable Valentine’s Day crafts!

Feb. 11

Windows 10 Basics - BV
2/11/2019 10AM - 12PM Registration is open If you’ve mastered the mouse, you’re ready for the Windows 10 operating system.

Meditation Mondays - WH
2/11/2019 11AM - 12PM Make your Monday a more mindful Monday with us - meditation provides many health benefits for mind, body & spirit. First half discussion of resource followed by meditation.

Valentine’s Day Papercrafts for Teens - WH
2/11/2019 4:30 - 5:30 pm celebrate Valentine’s Day 2019 at the library by creating cards and other papercrafts that you can gift to friends and family. For Teens between the age of 13-18.

Feb.12

Windows 10 Basics - WH
2/12/2019 10AM - 12PM Registration is open Windows 10 may look different, but let us show you how our old friend Windows is still there and what the basic skills are you need to get the most out of Windows. Launching a program finding a file, adjusting the size of a Window - these skills and more in Windows 10 Basics.

Toddler Storytime - BV
2/12/2019 10:30 - 11AM Stories, songs, and more in a storytime program designed for children between 18 months - 3 years old.

Preschool Storytime - BV
2/12/2019 11:15 - 11:45 AM Stories, songs, and more in a storytime program designed for children between 3 - 5 years old.

Beginner/Gentle Yoga Class - SH
2/12/2019 12:15 - 1:30 PM Registration is open Join certified yoga instructor Terry Schoonmaker for a gentle beginning yoga class to, as she says - “join me to learn & grow a little at a time, enjoying the health & well being that comes with listening to your body & connecting with mind & spirit.”

Nonfiction Book Discussion - SH
2/12/2019 2 - 3:30 PM Book discussion for adult nonfiction fans.

Learning Circle - BV
2/12/2019 3 - 4:30 PM Learn new skills. Together. In the Library. For free.

A Romp through classical Music - WH
2/12/2019 4 - 6PM Not an academic course, but a fun adventure with classical music for those who know nothing and for those who know a lot.

Feb.13

Windows 10 Basics - SH
2/13/2019 10AM - 12PM Registration is open Windows 10 may look different, but let us show you how our old friend Windows is still there and what the basic skills are you need to get the most out of Windows. Launching a program finding a file, adjusting the size of a Window - these skills and more in Windows 10 Basics.

Writing Your Life Stories - WH
2/13/2019 10:15 - 11:45 AM Event is full “When writing the story of your life, never let anyone else hold the pen.” Don’t allow those irreplaceable personal & family stories to be lost. Come join us - for an informal, enjoyable experience!

In Writing Your Life Stories, we provide you with the opportunity to get started right away on your writing, through the use of “writing prompts” & a short time to write, followed by sharing of our writing, if you choose to share. Each meeting, we provide helpful resources & tips for inspiration, and members discuss what is working for them.. Though we encourage writing by hand, you may bring a laptop if you prefer. Please ensure it is fully charged.

Florida-Friendly Landscaping Program - SH
2/13/2019 10:30 AM - 12PM Topic: Spring Vegetable Gardening

Storytime - EH
2/13/2019 10:30 - 11 AM Stories, songs, and more in a storytime program designed for children between 18 months - 5 years old.

“WooooSaaahh” Wednesdays - BV
2/13/2019 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM Escape your hectic day and bring your bag lunch for a little drop in art therapy.

Financial Management Series - EH
2/13/2019 2 - 4PM This month’s topic: Small Steps to Health and Wealth

Coding for Kids - WH
2/13/2019 4:30 - 5:30 PM Registration is open Kids, come join us and learn how to program and code. Each month, we’ll go over basic programming and coding skills and then put them to the test using Scratch. Whether you have experience or not, all kids are welcome!

Feb.14

Baby Storytime - BV
2/14/2019 10 - 11AM A storytime featuring stories, bounce rhymes, songs and more just for babies and their caregivers.

Windows 10 Basics- EH
2/14/2019 10AM - 12PM Registration is open This class has been cancelled.

Toddler Storytime -SH
2/14/2019 10:30 - 11AM Storytime time for toddlers featuring stories, songs, and fingerplays.

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IN, OUT & ABOUT

Local Olive Grove offers more than olives

ARTICLE AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALICE MARY HERDEN

If you happen to be an Olive Grove member, you have been welcomingly busy these past couples of weeks.

Dede Davis owner of the Olive Grove located in Brooksville has been growing olives trees as well as offering events, workshops, and entertainment for over five years.

"We do all sorts of workshops, arts, and crafts," Dede said. "It's not always me, and sometimes other people have things to offer too so we try to bring that in as well."

Olive Grove runs two season workshops, one in the Fall and one in the Spring.

Spring previous workshops included:
 -Pottery Creations: Make a Hanging Planter from Pottery, Glaze, and Fire.
 -Mosaic Garden Stones: Create garden stone with a beautiful mosaic design.
 -Make and package your own "Facial Scrub": All natural ingredients for perfect soft skin.
 -Stained Glass Window Painting: Paint a beautiful stained glass design.
 -Castile Soap Making Cold Process: Using all natural and organic ingredients. There are upcoming workshops still available for members and nonmembers.
 -Feb. 10-11am: Macrame Plant Hangers.
 -Feb. 17-11am: Spring

Living Wreaths using a variety of Spring flowers and plants.
 -Feb. 24-11am: Gem Panining & Jewelry Making.
 You don't have to be a member to participate in these workshops-DeeDee offers olive grove tours as well.
 "My husband and I went to Italy, and fell in love with it and wanted a piece of that here," said Dede.

For more information about tours, events and workshops go to www.floridaconcerts.org.

ADDRESS: 15016 Rester Dr, Brooksville, FL 34613

PHONE: (352) 345-5940



Owner Dede Davis helps participants combine their soap ingredients and pour the mixture into a mold.

University hosts festival to promote fire, conservation awareness

ARTICLE AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALICE MARY HERDEN

UF / IFAS School of Forest Resources & Conservation along with other conservation organizations and forestry related agencies held an annual Flatwoods Fire and Nature Festival on Saturday, January 26 in Gainesville, FL.

Installing a conservation ethos, Scott Sager, Undergrad Programs Coordinator and ACF Forester with Austin Cary Forest stated, "As the public is becoming more aware of prescribed burns and how these burns benefit a variety of ecosystems and wildlife, festivals like these give the public the opportunity to not only educate themselves but their children as well."

The festival was held at the beautiful Austin Cary Forest in Gainesville, FL with 2,600 acres of longleaf-slash pine and a mixture of ecosystems, makes this forest uniquely rich in resources.

"The Austin Cary Forest primary objective is to support the teaching, research, and outreach extension activities of the School of Forest Resources and Conservation," Scott Sager said.

Sager also explained another term would be an experimental forest, teaching about basics forest science, carbon storage, evaporation, water uptake, hydrology, nutrients, fire regimes, social sciences, how people relate to the forest and environmental education.

"That is really the point of the forest, and obviously this event really fits in perfectly with that mission, to be able to introduce people who have limited or no exposure to prescribe fire previously," Sager said. "This is why we do it, and this is really an ideal event for an organization program

facility like we have."

This festival gave many visitors a first-hand look at what the School of Forest Resources and Conservation is all about, and may bring interest to younger generations as a future career option.

"We sort of allowed being interested in the environment to become a hobby, that is fantastic but understand that there is a whole suite of professions where you can actually do this as a full-time job," said Sager.

Each one of the 20 plus agencies and organizations offered a vast amount of

information for the public, as well as a prescribed burn demonstration and a tram ride through the heart of the forest.

"For the inaugural year of us hosting this, we wouldn't of dream of it going as well as it did," Sager said. "And I am looking forward do it again."

The event was definitely worth the trip and for those that missed it, make plans for attending the festival in 2021.

More information about School of Forest Resources and Conservation visit their website at <http://sfrc.ufl.edu/>



Flatwood Fire and Nature Festival: Burner Bob, the Bobwhite Quail, is a character with The Longleaf Alliance. Burner Bob helps educate children about the importance of controlled fire to promote the growth of healthy forests and other native plants and wildlife species that live in the longleaf forest.



A prescribed burn education and demonstration gave the visitors a closer look at what all involved setting up for prescribed burns.



UF / IFAS School of Forest Resources & Conservation students and instructors head out to an area to demonstrate a prescribed burn.



Smokey Bear was present for photo ops during the Flatwood Fire and Nature Festival held at UF / IFAS School of Forest Resources & Conservation, Austin Cary Memorial Forest in Gainesville, FL

36th ANNUAL HERITAGE DAY FESTIVAL

COME CELEBRATE THE 176TH BIRTHDAY OF HERNANDO COUNTY WITH HERNANDO HISTORICAL MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2019
 66 & 70 RUSSELL STREET, BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA
 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

FREE EVENT, ENTERTAINMENT & PARKING

Introducing Children's Adventure Passport
 Complete your passport to receive a gift!



HOME & MUSEUM TOUR
 TICKETS: ADULTS: \$15.00 • CHILDREN (6 - 12) \$5



The May-Stringer House, The 1885 Train Depot & The Countryman Family One Room Schoolhouse will be opened for tours & Beautiful Historic Homes will be showcased. The proud homeowners have painstakingly restored these gems and you will want to be a part of this Amazing Tour. Whether you are interested in historic architecture or Interior design, these homes will satisfy your interests. For additional information please call 352-515-3054

FOOD, FAMILY & FUN!

- Over 60 artist, crafters & vendors along the Good Neighbor Trail
 - Entertainment will be in the Gazebo & RE-enactors will bring history to life!
 - Chinese Auction basket raffles
- CALL 352-515-3054 for more information!

Upcoming Event Previews

Everything that will get you out and about...

HISTORIC HOMES WORKSHOP - FRI. AND SAT, FEB. 8-9, 2019 AT THE MAY-STRINGER MUSEUM, BROOKSVILLE



Love old houses? Passionate about restoration? Whether you're the owner of a historic home, a professional looking to expand their knowledge, or someone who just loves old buildings, the Historic Homes Workshop is for you. Restoration professionals from across the nation are converging at the Historic May-Stringer Museum, in Brooksville, Florida, to share their knowledge and exper-

tise, with practical demonstrations and talks, to empower the next generation of old house lovers. The workshop begins Friday, Feb. 8 at 6:00 pm, with a catered kick-off party to allow guests to meet and network. The Big Saturday is Feb. 9, 2019. The program includes over 15 presenters, with topics including plaster restoration, paint removal, creating preservation

plans, sash window restoration, repairing siding and much more! This event is made possible through generous donations from local and national restoration experts, suppliers of restoration materials and you! This event is hosted by Wood Window Makeover. For more info call 813-404-6498 or email steve@woodwindowmakeover.com Museum phone number: (352) 799-0129

The 4th Annual Nature Coast Art Show

Saturday Feb. 9th, 2019
5:00pm - 8:00pm

Sunday Feb. 10th, 2019
10:00am - 5:00pm

Temple Beth David Jewish Center - 13158 Antelope Street
Spring Hill, Florida 34609
(352) 686-7034

A Celebration of Fine Art and Fine Craft www.tbdf.org

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"KICK" Start to Early Literacy

United Way of Hernando County's 4th Annual Kickball Tournament

Saturday, February 16th

Anderson Snow Park
1360 Anderson Snow Rd. Spring Hill, FL 34609

Family Fun Day! BBQ Raffle Prize Bounce House

First Team Kicks Off at 9:00AM

UNITED WAY 4TH ANNUAL KICK START TO EARLY LITERACY - SAT. FEB. 16, 2019

Hosted by United Way of Hernando County. Get ready for United Way of Hernando County's 4th Annual Kickball Tournament, "KICK" Start to Early Literacy! The event begins with the National Anthem at 8:45am and the first team kicks off at 9 a.m. This Family Fun Day will include:

- FREE Admission
- Food
- Bounce House
- Games

- Entertainment
- Raffles
- Prizes

16 teams will be competing for the championship title and bragging rights to be deemed 2019's Champs and win the Ultimate Traveling Trophy. So come on out and help United Way cheer on your favorite community business partners! All Proceeds Benefit the United Way's Dolly Parton Imagination Library program that provides any child who is signed up with one book per month from birth to age 5, at no cost to them, regardless of their family's economic status.

Visit www.UnitedWay-Hernando.org/Kickball for more information or call 352-688-2026

Anderson Snow Park is located at 1360 Anderson Snow Rd. Spring Hill, FL 34609

NATURE COAST TAEKWONDO CHAMPIONSHIPS, SAT. FEB. 16, 2019

Olympic style Sparring, Forms (any Taekwondo forms) breaking, Weapons and Sport pomsae. Call Randall Babbitt at 727.237.1150. Hosted by Nature Coast Sport Taekwondo Championship. Winter break is over. Time to train and get ready for 2019 tournaments seasons. Online Registration open at <https://nctkd.godaddysites.com/>

Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Gym is located 13651 Hays Road in Spring Hill,



CHILI AND SOUP COOK OFF SAT, FEB. 16 2019 4:30 PM

Hosted by VFW post 8681, this is on friendly and fun event. There will be prizes, lots of music and the opportunity to show off your best chill recipe. Please join us. Bring a crockpot of your favorite chili or soup. Have your crockpot there by 4:00 pm. Prizes will be awarded for best chili/soup. \$5 for cup tasting and judging. Music by the Lady & the Outlaw 6-10 pm

VFW post 8681 is located at 18940 Drayton St, Spring Hill; Phone: (727) 856-1860

FROM OUR TABLE TO YOURS by Cheryl Clanton

EASY SLOW COOKER BLACK BEAN CHILI

Ingredients

- 3 tablespoon minced garlic
- 1 lb hamburger meat
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 large diced onion
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 medium red bell pepper diced
- 1 teaspoons salt
- ½ black pepper
- 1 pound dried black beans
- 1 28 ounce diced fire roasted diced tomatoes
- 40 ounces (5 cups) vegetable broth
- 3 scallions (green part only)
- ½ cup cilantro chopped med to fine sharp cheddar Cheese shredded

Directions

Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium heat, add your onion and bell pepper and cook, stirring occasionally, until soft, about 5/10 minutes. Put in the garlic, chili powder, cumin, salt, pepper. Stir until combined and cook for 2/3 minutes. Pour into a 6-quart or larger slow cooker. Add the meat, beans, tomatoes and their liquid, and broth, and stir to combine. Cover, and cook on the LOW setting until the beans are tender, 8 to 10 hours. Service topped with your shredded cheese scallions and cilantro. Serve with Texas Garlic Toast



CryptoQuote answer on page 15

CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, **A** is used for the three L's, **X** for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

WVT KDZZTNTYHT ITWJTTY
ZGDXANT GYK MAHHTMM DM
KCDYF G WVDYF YTG NXR NDFVW
GYK KCDYF DW TQGHWR NDFVW.
— TKJGNK H. MDOOCYM

BUSINESS & COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Hernando County Retired Educators

Hernando County Retired Educators Association Please join us if you are a former employee of any district school. We meet the first Tuesday of every other month-Feb.,Apr.,- June, Aug.,Oct.,Dec.at 10:00 am in the Medical Arts Enrichment Center, next to the Bayfront Health Brooksville hospital on Cortez Blvd. We have interesting meetings with speakers on a variety of topics. We go on fun field trips, (like the Dali museum), during months in which we do not meet. We monitor our FRS pension and support scholarships. <http://www.frea.org>. Diane: 352-628-4681

AREA-13 FAMILY CARE COUNCIL

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, would appreciate it if you would print this in the Community/Public events section of the paper. WE ARE SEEKING NEW MEMBERS "The Area 13 Family Care Council will meet Monday Morning, February 11th from 10am - 12pm at the Wildwood Agency for Persons with Disabilities office, 901 Industrial Drive Suite 100, Wildwood, FL 34785. All persons interested in issues of those with Developmental Disabilities and their families are encouraged to attend. SEEKING NEW MEMBERS.

For more information contact SECRETARY at: secretaryfcc13@gmail.com Area 13 covers Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Marion and Sumter Counties. There are 15 Family Care Councils across the State, with Governor appointed volunteer members, who are individuals with a developmental disability or are a family member. Developmental Disabilities are defined as Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, Phelan-McDermid Syndrome, Prader-Willi Syndrome, Spina Bifida and Intellectual Disabilities.

Staying Alive at 55+

The group is comprised of energetic people who are not generally "sit home and watch time pass by" types. "The group was initially formed on the east coast of Florida and we had over 80 group activities, many of which were well attended," explained co-organizer Laplatney. Organizers ensure that members have a most pleasurable experience by often "checking out" local restaurants and activities and events before scheduling an activity. Membership to "alive at 55+" is always open and there are no membership fees to join. Even though the group is called "Alive at 55+" the organizers accept those couples whereas at least one member is age 50 and above. For more information about "Alive at 55+" you may call 772-919-2838 or visit either of the group's website at: <http://www.aliveat55.net>.

Freshwater Systems Module

The Florida Master Naturalist Program is offering its freshwater systems module this spring starting March 6. The Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP) is a University of Florida/IFAS Extension environmental education program that

provides training for anyone interested in learning more about Florida ecosystems.

What topics are covered?

The Freshwater Systems module provides instruction on the general ecology, habitats, vegetation types, wildlife, and conservation issues of Freshwater Systems in Florida - Marshes, Swamps, and Permanent Wetlands (Lakes, Rivers, Etc.).

What does the program include?

Registration includes detailed course manuals, classroom instruction, field trips, videos, final student project, FMNP patch and pin, FMNP certificate and a listing in the FMNP student database. Students who choose to complete all three modules become Florida Master Naturalists and receive a plaque, FMNP pin and a listing in the Honor Roll database.

What is the cost and how do I register? Registration Fees

\$275 Attendee Fee with Color Manual

Register online and view the detailed agenda: <https://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/fmnp/fs19-04.html>

Class Facility Information UF/IFAS Extension Sumter County 7620 SR 471 Suite 2, Bushnell, FL 33513-8716

352-569-6866

For more information on the Florida Master Naturalist Program, go to:

<http://masternaturalist.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Scholarships Available Through the Florida State Association of Supervisor of Elections

Shirley Anderson, Hernando County Supervisor of Elections is pleased to announce the opportunity for local college or university students to apply for a \$1,200 scholarship through the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections (FSASE).

FSASE will award three \$1,200 scholarships this year to Political Science/Public or Business

Administration or Journalism/Mass Communication majors who have completed two years of junior college or undergraduate work. Applicants must be enrolled or accepted as full-time students in a senior college or university in Florida.

Completed FSASE scholarship applications along with two letters of recommendation must be submitted no later than March 29, 2019 to the Supervisor of Elections office in which the applicant is registered to vote. For further information, please visit www.hernandovotes.com or contact the Hernando County Supervisor of Elections office @ (352) 754-4125.

Firearms Safety Classes offered at Hernando Sportsman's Club, Brooksville, FL

The Hernando Sportsman's Club is offering several firearms safety classes in the coming months: Next class dates include Feb. 16, and Mar. 6. A special "ladies only" firearms

safety class will be held on Mar. 16.

All classes are scheduled from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Cost: \$60.00.

This is an introductory, "First Steps" orientation class for new shooters. All materials and equipment needed for the class and live fire training is provided to students, including the use of a .22 caliber firearm, ammo, earplugs, and eye protection.

The classes includes classroom instruction, live fire training on the range, and a lunch break. The courses cover lessons about the basics of firearms safety around the home and the fundamentals of pistol shooting.

Note: For experienced shooters who wish to use their own firearm in an advanced class, check out the club's schedule for the BASIC PISTOL course. Successful completion of either the class provides the required documentation to apply for a Florida concealed carry permit if desired.

Pre-registration is required for all classes. Please call 352-597-9931 to pre-register.

All classes held at: Hernando Sportsman's Club 16121 Commercial Way, Brooksville, FL 34614 352-597-9931

www.hernandosportsmansclub.com <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hernando-Sports>

Roller Derby to benefit Pet Peace of Mind

(Pasco County, FL) Revolution Roller Derby, a Flat-track Roller Derby league is hosting a battle between Mom & Pop's Militia vs. Antique Roll Show, Southeast chapter (Skater's OVER 40!).

This bout is on March 3rd at 5:45 pm. This bout will be held at the beautiful SpinNations Skating Center 8345 Congress Street, Port Richey Florida 34668.

We are featuring Pet Peace of Mind - Gulfside Hospice & Pasco Palliative Care. They are in need of volunteers and monetary donation. Come buy a Beanie baby and support a good cause!

LINK: <https://www.ghppc.org/pet-peace-of-mind.html>

Entry is \$12.00 at the door. Bring donations and receive \$2 off entry! Bring a chair for closer seating. Yummy refreshments will be available at the Spinnz Cafe. Tail-gate party in the parking lot is happening!

Revolution Roller Derby believes in giving back to the local community, and we CONTINUE to support different local charities with every home bout since 2012.

For even more information and/or how to join, ref or volunteer, please visit <http://www.RevolutionRollerDerby.com> or email: info@RevolutionRollerDerby.com

Phone: 727-280-7981

Hernando tea party

Keeping an eye on local government Meetings are first thursday every month At press box cafe 7385 kass cir spring hill dr Meeting open to moderate republicans, Democrats and NPA voters Call 352-6109544 for info

Dream Wedding Offer

Dreaming of a beautiful garden wedding? February is the month of love and the Nature Coast Botanical Garden in Spring Hill is offering to waive the wedding fee (excluding chair and table rental) to have

your February wedding in the gardens. Our new paved paths lead you to the Rose Garden Gazebo or the Asian Garden for your event. A picnic area is available for the reception. Visit our website for more information about this limited time offer and to submit your wedding request form. (first request priority - limited availability) www.naturecoastgardens.com, then click on the "your wedding" tab.

Saint Leo University Hosting Admissions Open House on Feb. 16

ST. LEO, FL - Saint Leo University is hosting an Undergraduate Admissions spring open house on Saturday, February 16.

Students of all ages are welcome to attend with their families and friends, starting at 8 a.m. Guest can explore the campus at 33701 State Road 52, St. Leo, FL 33574, and speak with members of the Saint Leo University community. Prospective students are welcome to tour the campus, learn about the university's academic offerings, student life, campus involvement, financial aid, and more.

For more information and to register, www.saintleo.edu/visit-campus. For questions regarding events, or for special accommodations, contact the Saint Leo University Office of Admissions at (352) 588-8283 or by email at admissions@saintleo.edu.

Brooksville Garden Club March Meeting

Brooksville Garden Club welcomes Members and Guests to their Meeting, March 13, 2019, at The Country Kitchen Restaurant, 20133 Cortez Blvd, Brooksville. Join us for an "off the menu" lunch at 11:30 OR just come @ 12:30 PM for our Speaker, Cody Trubic, a local beekeeper of Honey With The Bees. Learn why bees are important and how we can help them. Scholarships BGC PLANT & Tag SALE, April 13th (8 AM - 3 PM) @ Tom Varn Park #2 will be discussed. Meetings are Free and Open to Public. Interested? Call Jan: 352-799-4319 or Cathy, 352-585-6834

Ronette Snyder, 352-544-5669, Brooksville Garden Club Publicity Volunteer

Picture Perfect

Nature Coast Orchid Society's Show and Sale, "Picture Perfect", open to the public. This year featuring two artists! The show will be held March 30 & 31, hours are 10 - 4, entrance fee is \$3.00. Orchid and orchid supply companies will be there to show and sell orchids, orchid supplies and a vendor selling custom made orchid and flower pots. The show is at the VFW Post 8681 at 18940 Drayton St, (corner of Drayton and County Line Rd.) in Spring Hill. Entrance fee is \$3.00. This is an AOS sanctioned show, bring your orchid to be judged by an AOS judge, even if you are not a member. See you there!

HEALTH & WELLNESS BRIEFS

Oak Hill Hospital Announces the Appointment of Leanne Salazar, APRN, MBA, MSN, as Chief Operating Officer

Spring Hill, Florida (February 5, 2019) - Oak Hill Hospital is proud to announce the appointment of Leanne Salazar, APRN, MBA, MSN, as Chief Operating Officer. She replaces Steve Young, who was promoted to serve as Chief Operating Officer of the largest hospital in the HCA West Florida Division.



Ms. Salazar is an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) who holds a Master of Science in Nursing degree, a Master of Business Administration in Healthcare Administration, and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She is Board Certified in Family Practice (FNP-BC). She is also Certified in Executive Nursing Practice (CENP), Professional Health Care Quality (CPHQ), a Professional in Patient Safety and Certified Executive in Nursing Practice. Ms. Salazar is currently enrolled in the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) program for executive leadership.

She was promoted to Chief Operating Officer from her position as Chief Nursing Officer, which she served in since 2013. She is active in our community, serving on the Board of Directors for the Dawn Center and is currently Clinical Director for the Hernando County Sexual Assault Nurses.

Ms. Salazar resides in Spring Hill with her husband and six children. She has three grandchildren.

Diabetic Teaching & Support Education Series

Spring Hill, Florida (January 28, 2019) - Access Health Care Physicians, LLC offers an education series about diabetes mellitus to be held at Access Health Care, 5382 Spring Hill Drive, Spring Hill, at 1 pm. The series is directed to anyone who has been diagnosed with diabetes mellitus (DM) and family. The series is conducted by Verna Pedersen Runyan, ARNP-C, CDE. Ms. Runyan is a graduate of Soumi College, Clinton Community College, State University of New York at Plattsburgh, and Community General Hospital, Nurse Practitioner Program, Syracuse, NY.

The next lecture in the series will be held on February 11, 2019 and is entitled "Food Combinations." Seating is limited and reservations are required. For more information and to RSVP call 352-200-2190.

Prominent Social Work Educator Keynotes Saint Leo University Conference on "Transformative Social Work: Solutions, Action, Hope" Ruth Brandwein, PhD, MSW, has been nationally recognized for her leadership

ST. LEO - Saint Leo University's graduate and undergraduate social work programs are sponsoring a one-day

conference, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Friday, March 8, 2019, for social workers, mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, human service and criminal justice system professionals.

The content is appropriate for continuing education (CE) credits for professionals practicing in Florida (up to five CE credits), in Georgia, and in Virginia. Florida professionals are required to satisfy their continuing education credits by March 31.

Saint Leo University is located at 33701 State Road 52, Saint Leo, 33574, four miles east of Interstate 75 (exit 285). The full conference program and registration form is available at this link: Social Work Conference Registration. For further information, please contact: Jilliam Gartner, Academic Coordinator, at jlliam.gartner@saintleo.edu or (352) 588-7732.

The Bachelor of Social Work and Master of Social Work programs are offered through Saint Leo University's College of Education and Social Services.

Oak Hill Hospital's Jeffrey Huang, MD, Has Been Elected Vice President of the Chinese American Society of Anesthesiology (CASA)

Spring Hill, Florida (January 31, 2019) - Jeffrey Huang, MD, Program Director of the Anesthesiology and Transitional Year Residency programs at Oak Hill Hospital, was recently elected Vice President of the Chinese American Society of Anesthesiology (CASA).



Dr. Huang has served the CASA for many years and held numerous positions including Committee Chair, Editor and Editor-In-Chief of the CASA Bulletin of Anesthesiology, and member of the Executive Board. CASA is a not-for-profit organization to associate and affiliate all reputable physicians and scientists of Chinese descent. The mission of the CASA is to develop and advance the specialty of Anesthesiology for the general elevation of the standards of medical practice. To learn more about the Chinese American Society of Anesthesiology go to www.ChineseASA.org.

In making the announcement, Hong Wang, President of CASA stated, "I am very happy that Dr. Huang joins our leadership team. He will continue to provide vital leadership to our organization in his new role as Vice President."

Dr. Huang was recently invited to China to facilitate implementation of an emergency manual simulation instructor training program for anesthesia professionals in China. Dr. Huang is also a professor at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine. He serves on the Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation (APSF) Committee on Education and Training and on the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) Committee on International Collaboration.

TV'S BEST BETS FEB. 10 - 13

Sunday, Feb. 10

Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series FOX & FS1, beginning at 12pm Live NASCAR gears up for the start of the 2019 season as FOX airs qualifying to determine the pole position for the 61st Daytona 500. Then on FS1, the Advance Auto Parts Clash features an invitation-only field of the sport's biggest stars battling in a 75-lap exhibition.

61st Annual Grammy Awards CBS, 8pm Live The Recording Academy honors the best in music at the 61st Annual Grammy Awards ceremony from the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

Autopsy: The Last Hours Of ... REELZ Channel, 8pm Season Premiere! Each episode of this docuseries reveals the truth behind the controversial and mysterious deaths of celebrities and people whose passings were often surrounded by elements of shock, scandal and intense media attention.

Bob's Burgers: "Bed, Bob and Beyond" FOX, 8:30pm A Valentine's Day fight between Bob and Linda has the kids feeling confused.

The Walking Dead AMC, 9pm New Episodes! The back half of Season 9 finds the survivors facing a new threat: the Whisperers, who disguise themselves in the flesh of the dead.

Emma Fielding Mysteries: More Bitter Than Death Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, 9pm Original Film! While hosting an annual gathering of archeologists, Emma Fielding (Courtney Thorne-Smith) is thrust into a murder mystery when the president of her organization is poisoned. Emma and her FBI pal Jim Conner (James Tupper) work to uncover the killer from a long list of suspects, including Emma's self-important former

fiancé (Mark Valley).

The Price of Fame REELZ Channel, 9pm New Episodes! The series returns to again show how the road to stardom can be paved with amazing and devastating public and private events. New hour-long episodes look at Robert Downey Jr. (in tonight's episode), Angelina Jolie, Mackenzie Phillips and the cast of Diff'rent Strokes.

Margaret: The Rebel Princess PBS, 10pm In this two-part series, learn how Princess Margaret's life and loves reflected the social and sexual revolution that transformed the Western world during the 20th century, and redefined society's image of the modern princess.

America's Lost Vikings Science Channel, 10pm New Series! There is evidence that Vikings landed on the coast of North America 500 years before Christopher Columbus.

Talking Dead AMC, 10:14pm New Episodes! New episodes of The Walking Dead mean fresh episodes of the Chris Hardwick-hosted aftershow, which features interviews, clips and exclusives from actors, producers and celebrity superfans.

Ride With Norman Reedus AMC, 12:28am (late night) Season Premiere! The Season 3 premiere of the free-wheeling travel series finds Norman Reedus enjoying England with Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Andrew Lincoln and Ian Anderson.

Monday, Feb. 11

Arrow: "Star City Slayer" The CW, 8pm Oliver (Stephen Amell) and Felicity (Emily Bett Rickards) are disappointed after they learn that William (guest star Jack Moore) is hiding something from them.

The Amazing Spider-Man

FX, 8pm Andrew Garfield steps into the webslinger's suit in this 2012 superhero reboot that focuses on Peter Parker's formative years, and how he becomes Spider-Man.

Eight Days That Made Rome: "The Colosseum's Grand Opening" Smithsonian Channel, 8pm Historian Bettany Hughes takes viewers back to A.D. 80 and opening day at Rome's Colosseum, a giant new landmark for the world's greatest city where the people could revel in bloodthirsty entertainments.

Man With a Plan: "Yeah, Maybe" CBS, 8:30pm When Adam (Matt LeBlanc) and Andi (Liza Snyder) have a disagreement at the office, they must find a way to solve it so it doesn't become a problem at home in the new episode "Yeah, Maybe."

Counting On TLC, 9pm Season Premiere! The Duggars, Seewalds and Vuolos are at it again with major news and big adjustments, from the highs of budding relationships, strengthening marriages and new faces to heartbreaks that test the strength of love and underscore the importance of faith and family.

I Am the Night: "Dark Flower" TNT, 9pm A visit from Billis (Yul Vazquez) and the LAPD leaves Jay (Chris Pine) wondering how close he's getting to the truth. Fauna (India Eisley) must reconcile Corinna's (Connie Nielsen) revelations with the suspicion that Corinna is hiding Fauna's mother, Tamar.

Studio 54 A&E, 10pm Studio 54 not only redefined the nightclub, but also came to symbolize the hedonistic era of the '70s. Nearly 40 years after Studio 54 opened, this documentary tells the real story behind the greatest club of all time.

Manifest: "Hard Landing" NBC, 10pm When Michaela (Melissa Roxburgh) meets the mysterious James Griffin (guest star Marc Menchaca) during a police investigation, the passengers learn what happens when the callings fall into the wrong hands. Meanwhile, Jared (J.R. Ramirez) finds out about Zeke (guest star Matt Long).

Independent Lens: "Hale County This Morning, This Evening" PBS, 10pm Visit the world of Hale County in Alabama. Composed of intimate and unencumbered moments in the lives of people in the community, the film offers a richly detailed glimpse at life in America's Black Belt.

American Dad! TBS, 10pm New Episodes! Seth MacFarlane, Mike Barker and Matt Weitzman's irreverent animated comedy returns with new episodes following the superpatriotic CIA agent Stan Smith (voiced by MacFarlane) and the misadventures of his unconventional family in Langley Falls.

Tuesday, Feb. 12

American Housewife: "Disconnected" ABC, 8pm Katie (Katy Mixon) plans a "friend date" in hopes of reconnecting with Taylor (Meg Donnelly) and encourages Greg (Diedrich Bader) to attend self-help guru Johnny Diamond's (guest star Cheyenne Jackson) seminar with Oliver (Daniel DeMaggio). Meanwhile, Anna-Kat (Julia Butters) takes extreme measures to secure her place as Katie's favorite child.

NCIS: "She" CBS, 8pm NCIS reopens a missing persons case after a 9-year-old girl (guest star Sunnie Pelant) is found hiding in a storage unit in the new episode "She."

The Flash: "Cause and XS" The CW, 8pm After Iris (Candice Patton)

lands in serious danger, Nora (Jessica Parker Kennedy) races to save her mother.

Lethal Weapon: "Coyote Ugly" FOX, 8pm When Cole (Seann William Scott) and Murtaugh (Damon Wayans) investigate a case involving a father and daughter crossing the Mexican border, they end up uncovering a major issue with California Border Patrol.

Finding Your Roots With Henry Louis Gates Jr.: "Roots in Politics" PBS, 8pm Host Henry Louis Gates Jr. explores the diverse family histories of politicians Paul Ryan, Tulsi Gabbard and Marco Rubio. They each see a shared vision of the great American melting pot reflected in their ancestors' stories.

NBA Basketball TNT, beginning at 8pm Live The Boston Celtics are up against the Philadelphia 76ers in a clash of Eastern Conference contenders. Then, the Utah Jazz are in the Bay Area to face the Golden State Warriors in TNT's second game.

The Kids Are Alright: "Valentine's Day" ABC, 8:30pm To inspire Timmy (Jack Gore) to take better care of his personal hygiene, Peggy (Mary McCormack) decides to take matters into her own hands.

The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills Bravo, 9pm Season Premiere! Erika Girardi, Dorit Kemsley, Tydi Mellencamp Arroyave, Kelle Richards, Lisa Rinna, and Lisa Vanderpump are joined by new housewife Denise Richards and friend Camille Grammer for a jaw-dropping season sprinkled with exhilarating highs and shocking lows.

FBI: "Partners in Crime" CBS, 9pm Maggie (Missy Preregrum) and OA (Zeeko Zaki) are on a mission to find a couple who are behind a spree of violent

armed robberies that resulted in the death of an off-duty police officer in the new episode "Partners in Crime."

Food Truck Nation: "Pho, Pael-la and Meatballs" Cooking Channel, 9pm Host Brad Miller visits a food truck in Raleigh, N.C., where crowds are going wild for 30 unusual meatball creations.

This Is Us: "Songbird Road: Part Two" NBC, 9pm Randall (Sterling K. Brown) and Kate (Chrissy Metz) reflect on differing memories of their childhood.

Boomerang BET, 10pm New Series! Halle Berry and Lena Waithe are executive producers of this half-hour comedy based on the 1992 romantic comedy film starring Eddie Murphy, Robin Givens and Berry.

NCIS: New Orleans: "X" CBS, 10pm Guest Star Alert! Fun Fact: The U.S. Navy has a handful of active-duty entomologists who aid sailors and Marines in treating and preventing insect-borne illnesses, and help with pest control on vessels.

American Chopper Discovery Channel, 10pm Season Premiere! Paul Teutul Sr. and Jr. are back for a season that will feature even bigger motorcycle builds.

The Many Lives of Nick Buoniconti HBO, 10pm This sports documentary tells the remarkable tale of Nick Buoniconti, a 78-year-old NFL Hall of Famer whose story encompasses turns as a line-backer, lawyer, sports agent, broadcaster, executive and philanthropist.

New Amsterdam: "The Blues" NBC, 10pm Max (Ryan Eggold) continues to work to solve underlying problems within the hospital despite his continuing struggles with treatment.

SPORTS

Nature Coast Sharks fall at final hurdle

BY JONATHAN STONE
SPECIAL TO
HERNANDO SUN

When the District 7 3A Boys Soccer Tournament kicked off at Hernando it was the Nature Coast Sharks who were in the driving seat on Monday. They entered the work behind a one loss district season, hoping to repeat 2017-18.

Six soccer matches later and it just wasn't to be for Coach Wald and his Sharks.

Monday's opener saw the number 4 and 5 seeds in Springstead and Weeki Wachee go head to head with the winner looking forward to a battle against the number 1 seeded Pasco Pirates. The Hornets were looking good and got off to a quick start with Aaron Jimenez setting up Luis Eudara for his 10th goal of the season and the tournament's opening goal. The lead however didn't last and it was James Campbell who got the Eagles back on level terms to take things into the half time break 1-1.

The second half was all about the Eagles, and following a hand ball decision in the penalty area it was James Campbell

who stepped up and slotted away the penalty. With Weeki Wachee subsequently down to 10 men it was Devin Salazar who put the game beyond doubt to take Springstead Eagles into Wednesday night's semi final.

Number 3 Wesley Chapel were next up, hot favorites to stride past the Hernando Leopards following earlier season victories of 2-1 and 9-1. The Leopards however, having been playing better soccer in the closing games of the season were not going to take things lying down. They came out the much stronger of the two teams and it took just over 8 minutes for Jacob Kelly to hit the back of the net.

10 minutes later and it was Noah Bedard who stepped up and slid the ball past the Wildcat stopper and into the back of the net for a 2-0 lead. With just 25 minutes on the clock and a poor error from the Wildcat stopper helped Byron Cruz slot home for a 3-0 lead. That wasn't to remain and it was Wesley chapel who scored just before half time, to leave Hernando with a 3-1 half time lead.

Coming out for the second half and it was Jacob Kelly who collected the

ball on the half way line, making his way down the left hand side before cutting in and sending the ball into the back of the net. The Leopards however were not finished and it was Wilson Lopez who added a fifth in spectacular fashion with just 6 minutes remaining on the clock. Hernando were through, courtesy of the nights major upset and would face Nature Coast in the Semi Final.

Nature Coast, coasted to a 6-1 victory when they strolled past number 7 seeded Zephyrhills. A hat trick of goals from Thomas Di Frank, was backed up with a double from Jaxsen Soto and a solo effort from Tyler Dzierzawski.

Wednesday night came around fast and with the number one seeded Pasco Pirates in top form coming into the tournament Springstead were on the back foot early on as Coach Grayling's players didn't want to be the second upset of the week. From Start to finish the Eagles could only muster 3 shots on target as the Pirates ran out 7-0 victors. The goals were spread around with 6 different players hitting the back of the net behind a master class of assists from Jason Nicolette.

The evening's eagerly anticipated all Hernando tie between the Leopards and the Sharks followed shortly after and it was the Sharks who benefited from an eagle eyed referee who pointed to the spot as early as the 7th minute. With the penalty duly converted it was up to Jacob Kelly to find the back of the net for the Leopards and head into the water break at 1-1. It just wasn't to be for Coach Stone's Leopards as they were unable to get



Sharks Justin Leyden deflects a header away from Pirates Jason Nicolette during the District 3A-7 Boys Soccer Game District Final on Friday night at Hernando High.

on the score sheet again. With the Sharks hitting the back of the net from Stulec, Kelly, DiFrank and Cauchino to register a 4-1 victory and set up a repeat of last season's district final against Pasco.

With the final being a repeat of the previous season, would the Nature Coast Sharks win again? Or would the Pirates exact revenge?

The soccer early on was end to end with both teams working to carve out opportunities. Vinny Stulec was resolute in the Sharks defense ensuring opportunities were at a premium early on as well as travelling up the field to do what he could to take advantage of any set pieces that came the Sharks' way. It was Jason Nicolette who got the breakthrough for Pasco following a mix up at the back and with Pasco taking an early lead how would the Sharks respond? Respond they did and it was Tony Howard who bullied his way

through the Nature Coast back line to slot the ball home and take things into half time 1-1.

The second half was pretty much all Pasco and it was Junior Mario Garcia who was running things in the midfield for the Pirates. His strength and ball control leading the way as he hit the back of the net to take an early second half lead. Landon Surratt for the Pirates was instrumental with two assists in the second half and the Sharks just

couldn't find a way back into the game. Miguel Flores increased the Pirates lead shortly before the water break and it just wasn't to be for the Sharks as they ran out of steam as the clock counted down.

Nature Coast will travel to River Ridge in the Regional Quarter Final. The game to be played February 6th at 7pm.

Pasco Pirates host Gulf in the other Quarter Final, also to be played February 6th at 7pm.



Pasco Mario Garcia surrounded by Sharks Ashton Mainella and Steven Calise during the District 3A-7 Boys Soccer Finals at Hernando High Friday night.

2019 Final Girls Prep Basketball Ranking

BY ANDY VILLAMARZO
HERNANDO SUN SPORTS
CORRESPONDENT

FEB. 4, 2019- District tournaments of the regular season for prep girls basketball in the state of Florida are starting up this week and we here at the Hernando Sun want to give you the Hernando County reader all the insight you can get during the 2018-2019 campaign. We now take a look at the Hernando Sun's prep girls basketball ranking heading into district tournament play this week.

No. 1 Weeki Wachee (21-4, 11-1): The Hornets head into districts as the perennial favorites to come away and win Class 6A, District 7. Weeki Wachee ended the regular season with a 50-49 loss to Tampa Catholic in the finale, but still remain the No. 1 seed in 6A-7. Weeki Wachee looks to be on a collision course to be facing Crystal River in the district championship. The Hornets are eyeing a chance at hosting a regional quarterfinal matchup.

No. 2 Hernando Christian (20-2, 6-1): Not even public schools want much to do with playing the Lions at this point. Hernando Christian upended Hernando High in their regular season finale and now head into the Class 2A, District 4 tournament with a lot of momentum. The Lions still have to get by Bayshore Christian if they look to pull off the feat of

winning a district championship.

No. 3 Hernando (11-10, 6-6): If there's any team that seems to stand a real chance at possibly shaking up the entire Class 6A, District 7 tournament, it's Hernando. The Leopards were a team on the rise last year and have steadily gotten better this 2018-2019 campaign. A potential matchup with Crystal River brings hopes that the Leopards could pull off an upset.

No. 4 Nature Coast (6-16, 4-8): The Sharks are another team that plays within the scope of a very tough Class 6A, District 7 that already includes Weeki Wachee, Crystal River and Hernando. Nature Coast's chances of escaping the district tourney with a spot in the championship game are slim, but they've played teams tough all season long.

No. 5 Springstead (5-22, 1-5): An already tough season came to an anticlimactic end when the Eagles fell 66-43 to Sunlake in the Class 7A, District 8 tournament. Springstead ends the season with a disappointing record of 5-22 and now heads into the off-season with a young group that will need to mesh together through summer basketball leagues.

Andy Villamarzo can be reached at andyvillamarzo@gmail.com and follow him on Twitter @avillamarzo.

High School Sports Schedules					
Week					
2/11/2019 thru 2/17/2019					
Central High School Bears					
TUES	02/12/19	BOYS TENNIS	PASCO	HOME	03:00:00 PM
Hernando High School Leopards					
NO SPORTS					
Nature Coast Technical High School Sharks					
THURS	02/14/19	SOFTBALL	BISHOP McLAUGHLIN CATHOLIC NCT PRESEASON TOURNAMENT	HOME	05:30:00 PM
FRI	02/15/19	SOFTBALL	DUNEDIN NCT PRESEASON TOURNAMENT	HOME	07:30:00 PM
F. W. Springstead High School Eagles					
WED	02/13/19	BOYS BASKETBALL	SUNLAKE	AWAY	07:30:00 PM
Weeki Wachee High School Hornets					
THURS	02/14/19	SOFTBALL	HUDSON PRESEASON @ NCT	AWAY @ NCT	05:00:00 PM
Hernando Christian Academy Lions					
NO SPORTS					



Kayla Greenen

Puzzle on Page 16

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Answers

T S C D Y E T G D X
D O E S U S N O V R
P T N E A O T V O V
S R N O K H R N Y S
G E B E E I O P L I E E K
C E R I H N F L G S A K
S V S T L G S A C A P
F I O E A C A P E
D N S L X P
A N G E R E D N I K

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HUNTING



Toby Benoit is a best selling novelist and professional outdoorsman with thirty-five years of experience guiding and outfitting for big game all across America. Toby is a renowned archer and turkey hunting expert who manufactures custom game calls and is a regular judge at NWTf sanctioned turkey calling events across the Southeast.

Everglades Adventures

Part II

I tell ya folks, I have been quite tickled at the great response from last week's column. That so many of you took the time to write me about it, struck me as awfully nice. And to answer a few of your queries I'm going to expound a bit about our python hunting adventure and hopefully satisfy your curiosities.

The first few questions, and the ones most frequently asked are easy to satisfy. First, no my partner on this expedition, Miss Meghan Bailes, is not crazy. She is fearless, but of sound mind, I assure you. She readily jumped at the chance to handle the wild serpents, but did so under the supervision and tutelage of a trained professional with many years of experience. Second, no I'm not a sissy. I just don't like snakes and have had a very poor encounter with one of the poisonous variety, which gives me plenty reason to not want to handle any live ones. I promise you, I am secure enough in my manhood to pass that task to a girl. And third, no our guide for the weekend, Mike Kimmel, Of Martin County Trapping and Wildlife Rescue, does not provide guided tours of the Everglades for the purpose of catching invasive species. Which is really a shame, as he is a gentleman and a wealth of information on South Florida's varied ecosystems.

Another question many of you asked, has been how long have these big snakes called Florida home? The Burmese pythons (*Python bivittatus*), which as a species are native throughout Southeast Asia, were first sighted in Everglades National Park in the 1980's. However, it wasn't until 2000, that they were officially recognized as a reproducing population. Only nineteen years later the population estimates range anywhere from 300,000 snakes all the way up to a million, depending on whom you're asking.

One thing that sets the big snakes apart from any of our native species is their diet. There really isn't much they won't consume; birds, turtles, fish and any furbearing mammals, on up to alligators, deer and livestock up to about 200 pounds. Mike Kimmel pointed out during our visit that the Glades used to be full of life, raccoons, opossums, rabbits, etc, in abundance. Nowadays, he tells me, the wildlife sightings are rare. The pythons are reducing the Everglades to a wasteland and that is why so many groups, such as the South Florida Water Management District and the Florida Wildlife Commission, are spending millions of dollars on research and programs designed to bring the numbers of these alpha predators under control.

I will be returning to the Everglades soon,

Weeki Wachee Girls Basketball awaiting another shot at postseason

BY ANDY VILLAMARZO
HERNANDO SUN
SPORTS REPORTER

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
ALICE MARY HERDEN

WEEKI WACHEE- It's tournament time for girls basketball all throughout the Hernando County area and the team that's been most looking forward to getting back to this point is Weeki Wachee High School.

The Hornets (21-4) currently own the best record in the county and head into the Class 6A, District 7 tournament with their sights set on winning a district title and having homecourt advantage to begin the Class 6A playoffs. Weeki Wachee is the No. 1 seed heading into the 6A-7 tourney and face the winner of the Lecanto-Central matchup in the second round.

Coming off a postseason appearance in the 2017-2018 campaign, the Hornets have another strong club and are the favorites to come away with a district crown despite holding one loss within the division. Weeki Wachee's lone blemish came against district rival Crystal River, whom is the No. 2 seed in 6A-7. The Pirates remain the top threat to unseating the Hornets at districts and

should meet in the championship contest.

Weeki Wachee has one of the more well balanced teams around and everything starts with the trio of Mykenna Corbett, Seytia Hill and Shayleese Vazquez. The three are all averaging 12 points per game or more on the season and have been consistent. Corbett, who has surpassed the 1,000-point plateau for her high school career, is leading the team in scoring at 15.6 points per game. Corbett is also contributing in other areas, averaging four rebounds, 2.9 assists and 2.4 steals a contest.

Joining Corbett in the scoring department is the play of Hill, who has also surpassed the 1,000-point mark for her prep career. Hill is currently averaging 13 points per game and is also bringing down 10.5 rebounds a contest. She recently reached 1,000 rebounds for her prep career and has provided the Hornets with solid play in the front court. Vazquez is averaging around 12 points a game and is another active rebounder, pulling down just over 10 boards a contest. With Hill and Vazquez, the Hornets always hold an edge in the rebounding department.



Weeki Wachee's Seytia Hill (22) jumps to block Hernando Nakayla Roberts during her attempt for a field goal on Jan. 25, 2019.

How far can this group go? If Weeki Wachee can pull off a 6A-7 district championship, snatching home-court advantage could be the key. The Hornets starting off with a region quarterfinal at home could help fuel a deep playoff run and a chance to get to Lakeland. The Hornets will go as far as its players will take them and the workload will be on the shoulders of Corbett, Hill and Vazquez this February.

Andy Villamarzo can be reached at andyvillamarzo@gmail.com and follow him on Twitter @avillamarzo.

BOCC RUNDOWN

from page 2

adding names. Then there are people who are motivated and get groups together, and they go around, adding names, ten, twenty, thirty people in a household... Is there any fraud investigation behind stuff like that?"

Lloyd answered in the affirmative, "They do cross reference the numbers with the numbers they've had, and they do internal (checks). I'm not privy to how and what they're using to cross-reference." Lloyd offered to get the information as a follow-up.

Allocco added, "If they were doing anything about the fraud, we wouldn't have single residences with 25-100 IRS returns."

Backyard Duck Hunting on Hunter's Lake

Commissioner Jeff Holcomb clarified that the problem exists with the hunting in the canals, not hunting on the lake. This has become a problem this year because there is enough water for the first time to allow boats back into the canals.

Commissioner Wayne Dukes added that clearing 15 acres of Tussock finally gave the ducks a place to congregate. "When we got the emails, the first thing I did was reach out to one of our attorneys, and he actually sent me back verbatim, the state statute. It's actually stated in the (Florida) Constitution that the only person who controls hunting is FWC... We don't have any jurisdiction, by the Constitution."

Dukes addressed County Attorney Garth Collier, asking how the situation could be addressed, to which Collier responded, "We don't. In fact the legislature has made it crystal clear that not only does this board not have the authority to regulate firearms... but if you try to, you are committing a criminal act, and you can be fined and removed from office."

Steve Champion said, "I own a gun store, I know the laws... I was afraid of that when it came to hunting, because we can actually be charged with a crime

for restricting a gun range or any kind of activity. With that said, when bullet crosses your property line, that (shooter) is guilty of a felony. The reckless people out there hunting, we have to put a stop to that."

Commissioner Jeff Holcomb said there are certain areas in canals, where no matter which direction a gun is being fired, it would be aimed at a private property.

Commissioner John Mitten reported that FWC is actually aware of the problem existing with residential lakes across the entire state, as well as in Hernando county. "It is my understanding that (FWC) is working on a way to mitigate the challenges that (Enger) is facing, as well as many others around the state. He went on to say, "With government, things are a process. There may be collaboration between the county and FWC as we go forward, but until they work their end out, it's difficult for us to know where to begin and how much we can do until they tell us that."

Commissioner John Allocco said, "The law says you cannot discharge a firearm within a certain distance of a home (where ammunition can cross one's property line), so if an area doesn't qualify for those distances, then FWC should be able to make hunting off-limits in those areas, because it does not fit the law. This is where we have to make sure we are enforcing or making our state departments enforce the laws the way they're written."

The board voted 5-0 in consensus to write a letter to FWC regarding the issue.

Baker Act Facilities

Commissioner John Allocco stated, "Senator (Wilton) Simpson has been spearheading a lot of the mental illness funding from the state... I would recommend that you first reach out to him and see if he has any plans for further funding for mental illness in the area." Allocco also said that mental health care is expensive, and there is very little reimbursement to facilities and providers. "That's why Baycare is no longer seeing (patients for mental health issues) as well."

TO BE CONTINUED...

Rain cuts short PHSC first home game

ARTICLE AND
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
ALICE MARY HERDEN
HERNANDO SUN
REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER

"Can't control the weather," said PHSC Head Baseball Coach Lydon Coleman.

After competing in a three-game tournament in Tallahassee late January and one away game against Hillsborough, the

Bobcats finally get to play at home- well for at least two innings against Next Level Baseball Academy.

Back in Tallahassee, the team went against Tallahassee Community College, a Division I contender, which gave PHSC Freshman Jermaine White, Michael Haydak, Connor Berry, Andrew Karch, Sean Osceola, Andrew Pettit, Taylor Rohrer and Cam-

eron Seiwert a perspective on competition.

"It was a great opportunity for our guys to get their feet wet," Coleman said. "You're going into one of the toughest athletic conferences in the country for junior college."

Tallahassee Community College gave the guys a good challenge for the first two games. However, Bobcats left that field in Leon County grabbing the last game for a win. L 7-4, L 8-2, W 5-3.

"They matured a lot," Coleman said. "We learned a lot of things from a ball club and learned a lot of things we needed to get better at because of the trip."

Current leading stats (as of 2/3/2019) for Division II: Sophomore Anthony Casso driving 2 home runs and currently tied with Tor Schnert (Polk State College), Evan Johnson (Gulf Coast State College), Ray Sanchez (Palm Beach State College and Tim Dixon (Seminole State College of Florida) from Division I. PHSC Sophomore Brayden Lyman leads the season for Division II in stolen bases (2).

"We have the pieces this year to have a very successful year, just the pieces of the puzzle have to come together," Coleman said.

On Sunday PHSC traveled south to take on St. Petersburg State College and landed a victory; PHSC 10 - St. Pete 7



Sophomore Sam Prince takes the mound against Next Level Baseball Academy on Saturday. The game was called during the second inning.



Umpires call the game at the second inning. PHSC players, Kyle Khachadourian, Andrew Karch and Daniel Nicholls tarp the mound.

most likely with my fearless friend Meghan, in tow to hunt a collection of private farms for the pythons. There have been many sightings in the area and quite a bit of livestock has been lost to their coils. I will be honored to assist in the hunt to reduce the encroaching numbers, but this time I'll be allowed to shoot them. And to be sure, I rather prefer it that way!

For any of you getting outdoors this weekend, I wish you the best of luck! And as always, I'd love to hear about your adventures and maybe see a photo or two of your successes at Toby@HernandoSun.com. God bless and good hunting!



Florida's own Python Cowboy, Mike Kimmel with a morning's catch of Burmese Pythons in Ochopee, FL.

Hernando Sportsman's Club Calendar

16121 Commercial Way, Brooksville, FL 34614

(352) 597-9931

8 OR, TRAP, SKEET & FIVE STAND 9-2	9 OR, TRAP, SKEET 9-3
BOWLING PIN PRACTICE 50 YD 9-12	ACTION RIFLE N BAYS & 200 MTR 9AM BOWLING PIN MATCH 50 YD 9AM

10 OR, TRAP, SKEET & FIVE STAND 9-3	11 RANGE CLOSED	12 OR, TRAP, SKEET & FIVE STAND 9-2 BULLSEYE 50 YD 9AM IDPA PRACTICE N BAYS 9-11 & 200 YD 11-2 COWBOY 9AM NIGHT OR & TRAP 5-9
USPSA N BAYS 9AM		
MOD F CLASS 200 MTR 9AM		

13 OR, TRAP & SKEET 9-2	14 OR, TRAP & SKEET 9-2	15 OR, TRAP, SKEET & FIVE STAND 9-2
STEEL PRACTICE N BAYS 9AM	HI PWR & MOD F PRACTICE 200 MTR 9-1 COWBOY N BAYS 9AM NIGHT OR & TRAP 5-9 BRD MTG 7PM	200 MTR CLOSED

Sports & Community

ADOPT TODAY



D#10318361 Thor is a handsome brown and tan Sheppard/hound mix, approximately 4 years old and weighs 69 pounds. He came into shelter care in December when his owner died and extended family was unable to care for him. Thor is a very nice, friendly boy who loves to spend time in the spree area with the volunteers. Please stop by to see this big boy and it will be love at first sight! Thor is neutered, micro-chipped, vaccinated, heartworm tested and has a 1-yr county animal license.



C#1031780 Jinx is a handsome white DSH male cat, approximately 2 year's old. He came into shelter care in September when his owner was hospitalized and could no longer care for him. Jinx has been trying to adjust to shelter life, but would like to find a forever home as soon as possible. Please consider this very precious young boy as an addition to your family! Jinx is neutered, micro-chipped, vaccinated, FeLV tested and has a 1-yr county animal license.



D#10316384 Sweet Pea is a black terrier mix, approximately 2 years old. She was found by a Good Samaritan in December. Upon intake, she was extremely scared and staff and volunteers alike have been working with her to build confidence and trust with those around her. Although she's making progress, she will need an owner who is patient and kind, and able to give her the structure and TLC she so desperately needs. Sweet Pea is also underweight which is being addressed with a special diet. In the right home, this lovely girl will blossom and become the awesome dog that she is! She is spayed, micro-chipped, vaccinated, heartworm tested and has a 1-yr county animal license.

Adoption fees are \$50 for adult dogs over 25 pounds, \$70 for puppies and small dogs under 25 pounds, \$25 for heartworm positive and senior dogs, \$20 for adult cats and \$40 for kittens. For more information/availability on these beautiful pets, please contact Hernando County Animal Services at 352-796-5062, or AC@hernando.fl.us.

Trevor McKenna: Exceeding all expectations

MCKENNA from page 1

zona Diamondbacks Single A affiliate) pitcher Trevor McKenna, it's that exact same drive which is making this upcoming season even more exciting.

Coming off his first professional stint in Short Season A, the 22-year-old McKenna exceeded everyone's expectations in his conversion from a starter to a middle/late-inning reliever. He compiled a 2-1 record in 20 appearances (29 innings total), obtaining 31 strikeouts and only surrendering 16 hits. What is incredible towards his evolution as a pitcher was his ability to prevent opposing teams from scoring; his earned run average was an incredible 0.93, which was fifth-best of 100 qualified Northwest League pitchers who threw a minimum of 20 innings, according to Baseball Reference.

As McKenna prepares for his March 3rd report date to Spring Training in Scottsdale, Arizona he reflects on his experiences back in June 2018. The interesting part for Trevor was the first 24 hours after his family and friends gave him a send-off party at Marco's Pizza in Spring Hill: "I boarded a flight from Tampa to Arizona at 6AM and got there around 9AM their time. The Diamondbacks staff told me to hang out and that physicals would take place at 3PM that afternoon. After some lunch and picking up my Diamondbacks gear, I passed the physical and thought I could go back to my hotel to rest since it had been a long day. To my surprise, I was informed that I would sign my contract immediately and be assigned to the Hillsboro Hops in Hillsboro, Oregon.

A flight was booked for me that same evening at 6PM. After everything was said and done, I finally fell asleep at 1AM PST, which was 24 hours from the time I woke up to catch my plane in Tampa."

A few hours later, Trevor was picked up at the hotel and brought to the Hillsboro Hops facility for staff introductions and Media Day. The first thing Trevor remembers is the locker room and the five different uniform combinations hanging in his locker. After suiting up in the Hops' home white uniform, he headed out to the field and was completely floored by how beautiful it was. McKenna admitted: "The field was absolutely gorgeous. I was blown away by what I was looking at."

McKenna was the first one interviewed during Media Day and composed himself very well during a Facebook Live segment with the Hops' official broadcaster, Rich Burk. Trevor stated: "That segment got 9K views, which was cool." Burk told Trevor after the interview, "You seem like a really down-to-earth guy and you seem really excited to be a professional baseball player." McKenna replied: "Absolutely, I know I am blessed to be here, and I'm going to take advantage of this opportunity and prove to the Diamondbacks that they made the right decision in signing me."



Trevor McKenna, visits the dugout at Central High, his alma mater.

"Overall, my first professional season was a great experience," stated McKenna. "I told my dad that whether it was the beginning or near the end of the season, I would be sitting in the bullpen and have to pinch myself that, wow, I really am a professional baseball player."

One moment, though, does stand out to Trevor: the first time he was summoned from the bullpen. "Pretty crazy moment, actually. We were in Seattle to play the Everett Aqua Sox, the Mariners' minor-league affiliate, and they said, 'You're going in the game' and I was ready for when I got called. Suddenly, the phone rings, and they said, 'Get Trevor ready.' So, I start tossing, I go on the mound, and the first batter I faced, my defense turns a double play. After the game, during the team meeting, the head coach recognized my efforts and rewarded me with the game ball and the official lineup card."

For his former coach and mentor, current Central Bears Skipper and Athletic Director Al Sorrentino, Trevor's evolution from when he first saw him on the fields of Anderson Snow Sports Complex as a kid to this point has been nothing short of extraordinary.

"I remember coaching him along with his dad on the Hernando Hurricanes travel ball team, and he was great then. One day, his dad came up to me and said, 'You need to help Trevor because he's not listening to anybody else,'" and Sorrentino continued: "Trevor's always been a hard worker and stood out above the rest when it came to that. His single-minded focus is something I've always admired about him. I always felt in my gut that he would play pro ball, and I'm honored to have played a role in helping him reach his goal." Even more impressive, according to his dad Dennis and Coach Sorrentino, was why the Diamondbacks gave him the chance he's worked all his life for, and to anyone fortunate enough to have played with or against Trevor, it rings true: "The scout who recruited Trevor told him that, in addition to his talents, he was signed for his leadership skills, character, and morals. He thought Trevor was the best fit for the Diamondbacks."

Of course, nothing in life is possible without family, and he's gotten an incredible amount of support from his loving parents Dennis and Linda, who made it a habit to watch most of the games the Hops played, even with the three-hour time difference between Oregon and Florida. "Trevor's season was unbelievable. We were able to watch most of his games with a MiLB.tv subscription. We knew he had the

potential to make it, and despite some adversity along the way, his commitment to excellence is what got him to this point."

One thing's for sure: they know this was Trevor's destiny. According to Dennis, there's a quote he's always said which rings true for anyone with a dream: "If it's going to be, it's all up to me."

As the time nears for his return to Arizona, Trevor does want those who have known him and watched him develop over the years how much your support means to him: "On top of all the support from the community, I hope you guys are proud of me. That's all I've really set out to do is make my community proud, not only for the person I am and my accomplishments in baseball, but also trying to build upon an established reputation for this county to where college recruiters and pro scouts will want to come here to evaluate student athletes of all sports."

Trevor looks forward to Spring Training and proving his skills once again. His first professional season was very successful, but he is fully aware that it is history and you must strive to continue to be successful in season two.

He is excited about his next assignment, wherever that might be, and meeting his new teammates.

One thing is for sure, though: Trevor, the community is proud of you! Best of luck this year, sir!

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Trevor McKenna, center with Coach Sorrentino, left and father, Dennis, right.

Business & Community

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

What's love got to do with it?

by SUE QUIGLEY

Each Feb. 14, St. Valentine's Day continues to be the day to signify true love for every age. It's supposed to be when people in love send their significant other a small gift or token to mark their true feelings — the staples of the ancient tradition being cards, chocolates, flowers or a small piece of jewelry.

It's all a bit of a mystery how this special day came about. The earliest possible origin of St. Valentine's Day could be the Roman pagan holiday "Lupericalia" to celebrate fertility. Men would strip naked, sacrifice a goat and then cut pieces of bloody hide from the poor animal to whip young women in order to promote their fertility. No denying it's orgiastic.

Alternatively, the Catholic Church recognizes a temple priest named Valentine who was made a saint because he helped Christian couples wed. He got himself beheaded on Feb. 14 around AD 270.

Love is what we are supposed to be celebrating but it's all gone slightly off kilter. Modern, romantic notions of St. Valentine's Day are quite different and measured in material value.

When I was young, St. Valentine's Day was all about waiting for the postman to see what anonymous cards had been sent and guessing what young laddies had sent them. Now it's more about reaffirming a relationship. Where's the excitement in that?

St. Valentine's Day now is all about how much consumer spending will rise in 2019. According to the National Retail Federation (NRF), it is a very lucrative occasion for the U.S. economy. The NRF estimates that this year, total planned St. Valentine's Day spending will reach \$19.6 billion.

This is the day each year florists, jewellers, chocolatiers, restaurateurs make a monetary kill. It's insane.

Such a pity this modest holiday has grown ridiculously out of hand with the power of marketing and advertising. Marketing machines have tak-

See LOVE, Page 15

Where in the store is The Hernando Sun?

By ROCCO MAGLIO
HERNANDO SUN WRITER

When we started The Hernando Sun newspaper more than five years ago, something that never crossed our mind was the constant diligence required to make sure our newspapers were not hidden. We naively thought that once our newspapers were in stores the quality of the product would be what mattered.

Over the past five years we have seen many creative attempts to hide our newspapers. We have had racks hidden behind the Tampa Bay Times' rack. You literally had to move their rack out of the way to get to the Hernando Sun. Many times it is more subtle with the Hernando Sun rack pushed out of the way, so you don't see it unless you look for it. We had a newspaper rack disappear from the Walmart on US-19. Last week the replacement rack was moved outside the store to the foyer where the carts are stored. This is not the first time that our rack has been moved there. There have been shopping carts placed directly in front of our rack blocking access.

It is not just the racks that are hidden. We constantly are having to remove coupon books and other newspapers from the top of our newspaper. There have been signs put on the Tampa Bay Times that hang down to cover our newspaper. Our newspapers are often illegally moved out of the store to this insecure area.

These hidden newspapers have real consequences. One week we sell 50 newspapers in a store and the next week we sell only a few. This means that we have a large number of returns from the retail stores, even though we only place the amount we are used to selling in the store. The company that audits our circulation, Alliance for Audited Media, dings us for our high percentage of returns, so this is not happening to all newspapers.

We have even lost advertisers, because they went to the store and were unable to find our newspaper.

More importantly, the act of hiding our newspaper negatively impacts the amount of information available to residents on what is happening in Hernando County. It prevents the county citizens from receiving another perspective on what is happening in the county.

You can help us by looking at the newspapers when you pass by. If you see something that is not right, we would really appreciate it, if you would fix it if you can, moving coupon books somewhere else. If you see a bigger issue, please call us at 352-593-4382 or you can email me at rocco@hernandosun.com.



Newsrack at a Walmart location. Fortunately we recently acquired permission to place a dedicated Hernando Sun rack in Walmart locations. Here the Hernando Sun, located on the bottom is not visible due to a flyer hanging down.



The Hernando Sun is not visible as it is covered by other papers at the Publix location.



LEFT: HUH? Tampa Bay Times on top, Senior Voice on bottom. (The Hernando Sun is underneath both the Times and Senior Voice on our own rack.)

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TUES., FEBRUARY 26th
EXCELLENCE IN NETWORKING

Bringing your A-Game to Networking
Presented by Lorraine Lane, Lane Business Consulting
When: 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Networking Mixer
Interactive Experience
When: 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Tidal Brewing Company

WED., FEBRUARY 27th
PERSONAL EXCELLENCE

Creating Excellence Through Perseverance
Kick-Off Breakfast
Presented by Steve Schurdell, Managing Partner of Hits 106
When: 7:15-9:00 a.m.

Dealing With Difficult People
Presented by Margaret D. McMullen
When: 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

THURS., FEBRUARY 28th
BUSINESS EXCELLENCE

Google Analytics
Presented by Angel Anderson, SMarketing
When: 9-10:30 a.m.

Practical Problem Solving for your Business
Interactive Round Table
Presented by William Burnham, SBDC
When: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Intergenerational Engagement
Navigating the 5 Generations in the Workforce
Presented by Pam Baldwin, Micro Matic
When: 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

FRI., MARCH 1st
COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE

Coffee & Chat with Community Officials
When: 9-9:45 a.m.

Advocating Excellence in Hernando County
Political Aide Panel
Panelists: Jonathan Torres, Christa Pearson, Brooks Timmons, Ashley Hofecker
When: 9:45-11:00 a.m.

Leading When Everyone Is Looking At Their Screen
Final Lunch
Presented by Jim Link, Chief HR Officer of Randstad North America
When: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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Years of history packed in month of February



by Adon Taft

JAN. 30, 2019- Already packed with more momentous events than any other, the shortest month of the year may become even more significant with a possibly historic state of the union address that almost wasn't; now scheduled for the first Tuesday in February.

President Trump is expected to tout a healthy economy with good if not record figures for job

growth, low unemployment in all racial, ethnic and gender categories, slightly higher wages and lower taxes.

The Democratic response, to be given by Stacy Abrams, Georgia's activist for minority voters, is likely to decry the lack of universal medical care, the rising cost of drugs, the injustice of the justice system.

If there is to be an explosive issue, it probably will be over whether or not there will be a rigid southern border to the United States and whether or not those permitted to cross it are a select group.

At one time, many of the celebrated events in February were explosive or at least controversial. That includes the two most prominent ones — Black History Month and George Washington's birthday.

Like so many of the

important events in the history of the United States, religious faith plays an important part.

Much of the history of the rise of blacks to equality in this country is couched in the Christian faith of the abolitionists, both black and white, many of the most important with birthdays in February.

Among the most cited are Frederick Douglass, a former slave born in Maryland in 1818, and Harriet Tubman of "underground railroad" fame, also born in Maryland 20 years later.

Douglass, led to know God as his Father by a white Methodist pastor, became an educated, fiery speaker and writer for the abolitionist movement under the tutelage of Henry Ward Beecher, the white Brooklyn Congregational pastor who was the most famous

abolitionist of them all.

The first African American to hold a high federal office when he was named consul general to the republic of Haiti in 1889, Douglass said that from the time he came to know God and began to read his word, "I saw the world in a new light and my great concern was to have everybody converted... and (for himself) to have a thorough acquaintance with the contents of the Bible."

It was from her mother's retelling of the Old Testament stories of God's deliverance of the Jews that Mrs. Tubman developed her determination to flee slavery and help others escape with the aid of what came to be known as "the underground railroad." That was a chain of black or white sympathizers willing to risk all — usually because of their faith — to lend a hand.

She became heavily involved with the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church and gave the church land and funds for "a home for aged and indigent colored people."

Better known among today's population may be Rosa McCauley Parks (born Feb. 4, 1913), the African American woman whose refusal to sit in the back of the bus in Montgomery, AL, sparked the civil rights movement of the 1960s. She credited her action as growing out of the teachings of Jesus Christ learned in the AME Church.

It convinced her that "a heart filled with love could conquer anything, even bigotry," she wrote

in her autobiography.

And of course there was Dr. Martin Luther King, a third generation Baptist pastor whose inspiring oratory and insistence on non-violent protests made him the youngest recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize for his leadership in the modern civil rights movement that cost him his life at the hands of an assassin on April 4, 1968.

In a sermon the night before his death, he declared that, "I just want to do God's will."

Although Abraham Lincoln's birthday is on Tuesday the 12th and it is a holiday in many states and communities it is not recognized as a national holiday despite his iconic contribution to the history of freedom for black Americans.

Lincoln grew up in an Illinois cabin where the only two books were a Bible and a spelling text, both of which he studied diligently. The influence of the Bible was evident in all of his speeches and in most of his letters and other writings, especially his Proclamation of Emancipation.

On the occasion of the issuance of the historic document, the craggie-faced rail-splitter told his cabinet: "I made a solemn vow before God, that if Gen. Lee was driven back from Pennsylvania, I would crown the result by the declaration of freedom to the slaves."

The declaration was based on his biblical faith as expressed in, among other passages, Galatians 3:38 — "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."

As for George Washington's birthday, it now is celebrated on various days in February in order to give workers a long weekend each year. This year it is on Monday the 18th instead of the actual 22nd and it is called Presidents Day in order to be inclusive and not offend the admirers of any other president — like Ron-

ald Reagan or William Henry Harrison whose birthdays also were in February.

The man who always has been and still is hailed by most scholars and average Americans not only as a hero of the American Revolutionary War and our first President of the United States but a faithful believer and active churchman as well as the greatest leader in the history of our nation. Except —

In the irrational atmosphere of political correctness in recent years, Washington, along with such other great leaders as Thomas Jefferson, Robert E. Lee or Andrew Jackson, is disqualified for any recognition of any kind because — like many of their peers of the times — they owned a handful of slaves or fought on behalf of the South for various reasons, or actually engaged in war against Indians.

There are many other historic events to celebrate in February, though few are controversy free. Among them:

Founding of the first public school in Boston in 1635; five of 27 amendments to the Constitution — including the 15th in 1870 giving former slaves the right to vote — were ratified by the states in February. The same month that year they ratified the 16th authorizing the income tax.

Others ratified this month are the 11th in 1795 protecting states from lawsuits by non-residents; the 22nd in 1951 limiting a president to two terms and the 25th in 1967 setting the process for selecting a temporary successor to a president who dies or becomes incapacitated in office.

Although it was ratified in August of 1920, it was February of 1922 that the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote was upheld as constitutional by the Supreme Court.

Three states — Massachusetts in 1788, Oregon in 1859 and Arizona in 1912 — joined the union during February and we acquired from Spain in 1819 what now is Florida and from Mexico in 1848 the territory that eventually became seven other states (besides Arizona) while another, Texas, seceded from the union during this month in 1861.

And we haven't even mentioned Valentine's Day, the 22nd, maybe to lovers more important than all the other events remembered in February.

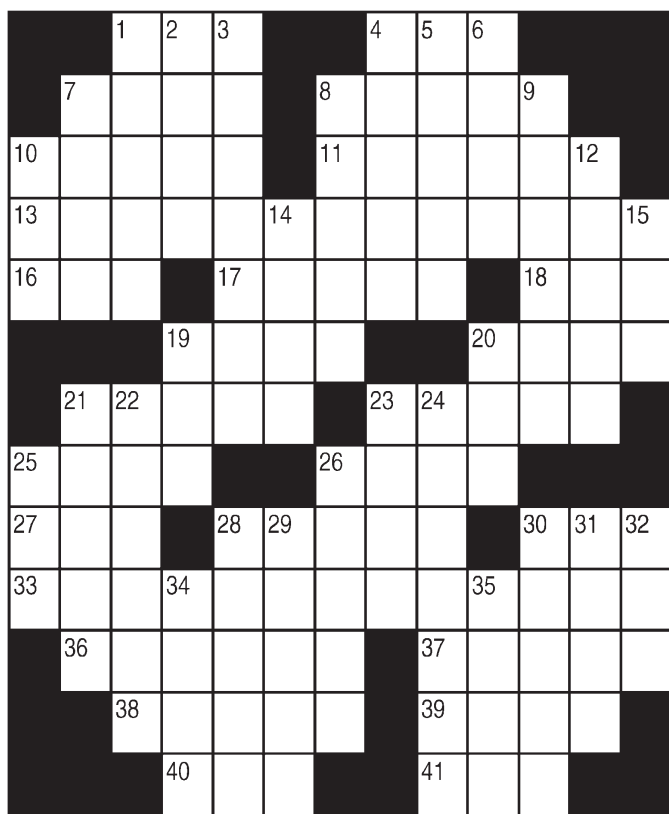
(Adon Taft for 48 years was a reporter with The Miami [FL] Herald. He also taught social studies at Miami-Dade Community College. Now retired, he can be reached at adontaft@gmail.com.)

Solution to Crossword on page 18

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Sleuth, slangily
- 4 Pod dweller
- 7 Crafty
- 8 Equilibrium
- 10 Overuse the mirror
- 11 Motor
- 13 Fee for work done
- 16 Officeholders
- 17 Break a Commandment
- 18 Sphere
- 19 Diminish
- 20 Small blister
- 21 Milky stones
- 23 Young turkey
- 25 Profess
- 26 Science workshops
- 27 Pooch
- 28 Paris river
- 30 Cleopatra's slayer
- 33 Navy, with "The"
- 36 Seriously loyal
- 37 Madagascar critter
- 38 Surrounds
- 39 Thing
- 40 CSA boss
- 41 Affirmative action?



DOWN

- 1 Layers
- 2 Ht.
- 3 Sneeringly doubtful
- 4 — de Leon
- 5 Square dance quorum
- 6 Europe's neighbor
- 7 Small songbird
- 8 Annoyance
- 9 Sign up
- 10 Greek letter
- 12 Heron's kin
- 14 Swindles
- 15 Recede
- 19 "This means —!"
- 20 Urban transport
- 21 Egg-shaped
- 22 Pirate costume feature
- 23 Sheet of glass
- 24 Ohio college
- 25 Billboards
- 26 Rosters
- 28 Sleep soundly?
- 29 Chopin piece
- 30 Picked a target
- 31 Pond gunk
- 32 Apiece
- 34 Satan's forte
- 35 Kill a bill

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(puzzle on page 8)

CryptoQuote

answer
The difference between failure and success is doing a thing nearly right and doing it exactly right.
— Edward C. Simmons

Solution to Sudoku from p 18:

Weekly SUDOKU

3	8	7	1	2	9	5	4	6
4	1	5	6	7	8	2	9	3
9	2	6	4	5	3	8	1	7
8	5	3	2	9	1	7	6	4
6	4	1	7	8	5	9	3	2
7	9	2	3	4	6	1	5	8
1	6	8	9	3	2	4	7	5
5	3	4	8	1	7	6	2	9
2	7	9	5	6	4	3	8	1

FEBRUARY CALENDARS FOR ENRICHMENT CENTERS

SPRING HILL ENRICHMENT CENTER CALENDAR; 10441Quality Drive Spring Hill, Florida 34609 Medical Arts Building Suite #105; Located on the campus of Bayfront Health Spring Hill

<p>11</p> <p>8-4 Cards, Games & Puzzles 9:00-10:00 Chair Exercise 9-11 Share A Craft 9-12 Painting 9-4 SHINE by Appt Only Call 593-0705 12-3:00 Current Events 12:00 Forest Oaks & Dr. Martinez 12:30-4 Canasta- Hand & Foot 1:00-Chewin' the Fat! 1-4:00 Painting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8-4 Cards, Games & Puzzles 8:30-9:00 Weights & Squats 9:00-9:40 2 mile walk 9:40-10:00 Tai Chi 9-11 Share A Craft 10:30-11:30 YOGA 11-12 Social Seniors 11:30-12:30 Blood Pressure checks by Home Instead 1:00-Chewin' the Fat! 1-4:00 Scrabble 1-3 Deaf Services & FREE amplified Phone 6:30-8:30 TLC for Mom</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8-4 Cards, Board Games & Puzzles 9:00-10:00 Chair Exercise 10-2 Vocational Rehab 10-12 Ceramics 10-11 BINGO 1-4 Advanced Mah Jongg 1:00-Chewin' the Fat!</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8-4 Cards, Board Games & Puzzles 8:30-9:00 Weights & Squats 9:00-9:40 2 mile walk 9:40-10:00 Tai Chi 9-11 Share A Craft 9-4 SHINE by Appt Only Call 593-0705 1:00-Chewin' the Fat! 2:00 -3:15 Essential Oils Class 6:30-8:30 Mom to Mom</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8-4 Cards, Games & Puzzles 9:00-10:00 Chair Exercise 9-11 Share A Craft 10-11:30 Crochet Classes 10-11 YOGA 10:30 Music with Gale 12:30-4 Mah-Jongg 12:30-4 Advanced Canasta- Hand & Foot 1:00-Chewin' the Fat 3-6:00 TLC for Mom's</p>
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BROOKSVILLE ENRICHMENT CENTER CALENDAR; 17222 Hospital Blvd Brooksville, FL 34601 Medical Arts Building Suite #120 Located; on the campus of Bayfront Health Brooksville; 544.6022

<p>11</p> <p>Walking in the Courtyard-anytime 8-4 Cards, Games & Puzzles 8-12 Crafts 8:30-9:30 Exercise 11-12 Bowling 1-4:00 Alzheimer's 7-9:00 Camera Club</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Walking in the Courtyard-anytime 8-4 Cards, Games & Puzzles 8-12 Crafts 8-3 Sewing Group 9-5 SHINE BY APPT 9:30-11 BINGO 10-12 Deaf Services 10-3 HC Quilt Guild 10:30 Birthday Club 6-7:00 Nurse Support</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Walking in the Courtyard- 8-4 Cards, Games & Puzzles 8:30-9:30 Exercise 9-12 Crocheting & Knitting 10-3 HC Quilt Guild 10:30- Hospital Volunteers 11:30-12:30 Blood Pressure by Home Instead 12:30-4:00 Canasta- Hand & Foot 1-3 Warm Up America ~crocheting 1-3 Pencil Sketching 1:00 Music with Gale 6:30-7:30 AA Support Group 7 Toastmasters- Public</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Walking in the Courtyard- 8-4 Cards, Games & Puzzles 8-12 Crafts 8-3 Sewing Group 8:30-10:30 Nature Coast HR Society 9:30-11 BINGO 10:30-12 Caring K9's 1-3 Creative Art 5:30 Cognitive Training 6:00-10:00 CPR-AED 7:30-9:00 AL-Anon</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Walking in the Courtyard-anytime 8-4 Cards, Games & Puzzles 8-12 Crafts 8:30-9:30 Exercise 10-12 Relax thru Coloring 10-1 Quilters with a Cause 12:00 NARFE BOD Meeting 1:00-2:30 NARFE Meeting 2-4 Ostomy Support Group- Group</p>
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The Quarry Mining Association Enrichment Center CALENDAR; 800 John Gary Grubbs Blvd; Brooksville

<p>11</p> <p>9-4 Cards & Board Games 9-4:00 Puzzles 9-4:00 Puzzles 9:00-3 Basket Weavers 9:30-1:00 Tax Preparation 10-11 YMCA Enhance Fitness 1-3 Creative Art</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9-4 Cards & Games 9-4 Puzzles 9-4 AARP DSP 9-3 HC Quilt Guild 1:00 Alzheimer's Support Group by appointment</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9-4 Cards & Board Games 9-4:00 Puzzles 10-11 YMCA Enhance Fitness 11-1 SHINE-appointment only Call 593-0705 4:45-7:30 Funstastic Gymnastics- Call 352.942.0012 to sign up</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9-4 Cards & Games 9-4:00 Puzzles 10-4 American Red Cross 12:30-4 Nature Coast Basket Weavers 7:00-9:00 HCARA</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9-4 Cards & Board Games 9-4:00 Puzzles 9-4:00 Puzzles 9:30-1:00 FREE VITA Tax Preparation 10-11 YMCA Enhance Fitness 12:30-3:30 Early American Rug Hookers</p>
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LOVE from Page 14

en over; luring more and more people into believing only the value of your love token can measure the depth of your feelings for someone.

Newspapers and magazines are guilty too. For weeks beforehand, they're publishing articles on how to catch your man or woman, what to buy, what to eat or where to take your loved one for a romantic getaway.

It's also very challenging for single people. What's worse than being single on the most love-filled day of the year? They're forced to look at the world through a mist of pink and red everywhere, like the greetings card aisle in your local grocery store for example. No escape for them.

So, whether you're single, one half of a couple or just dating, celebrate love simply, never in terms of money.

Local author inspires county students

BY SARAH NACHIN
HERNANDO SUN WRITER

It's one thing to read about historical events or see them depicted on television and in the movies. However, it's much more powerful to hear about these events from someone who grew up surrounded by

memories of them. On Tuesday, January 29, a representation of students from all five area high schools and Winding Waters K-8 School gathered at Springstead High School Theater to listen to a riveting presentation by local author Roslyn Franken relating the experiences of her parents

who were both imprisoned during World War II. Interim Hernando County School Superintendent John Stratton welcomed the students, teachers and members of the public who made up the audience of approximately six hundred people. He thanked Mr. Carmine Rufa, Springstead High School principal, for hosting the program, along with the Hernando County Education Foundation and school board member Linda Prescott for bringing Ms. Franken in to speak.

History teacher, Michael Cooper, stated in his introduction, "Roslyn Franken has dedicated her life to trying to be an inspiration to others."

Utilizing a Power Point presentation, Ms. Franken told about her mother, Sonja, a young Jewish girl growing up in the Netherlands. When the Nazis came to power Sonja and her family were sent to concentration camps. During several years of imprisonment, her mother cheated death numerous times. She stood up to a Nazi guard who pointed a gun at her head and narrowly avoided dying in the gas chambers three times.

On the other side of the world at the same time, her father was a prisoner of war in Japan. John grew up in Indonesia which was a Dutch colony at the time. Shortly after being drafted into the Dutch Navy, he was captured and sent to a POW camp. He survived through his wits and determination, eventually ending up working as a slave laborer in a coal mine in Nagasaki, Japan. When the United States dropped the atomic bomb on Nagasaki, John was thousands of feet below ground and survived the blast.

Many years later, John and Sonja met through a mutual friend. They married shortly afterwards and raised a family in Montreal, Canada. Ms. Franken tells their incredible story in her book, Meant to Be, a True Story of Might, Miracles and Triumph of the Human Spirit.

Several themes permeated Ms. Franken's book and her presentation. One is her belief that her parents' survival and triumph over their incredible challenges was not a matter of luck or coincidence, but it was



Author Roslyn Franken with photo of her parents Sonja and John Franken during a lecture at Springstead High School.

"meant to be." Even her mother's surviving cancer at age fifty when she was given a grim diagnosis was "meant to be." Ms. Franken, herself, developed cancer at the young age of twenty-nine and it was her mother's example of a fighting spirit that brought her through the battle.

Another theme that Ms. Franken brought up is that it is very important to maintain a positive attitude, even if we have suffered through negative experiences.

When asked by a student if all the Holocaust survivors had the determination and positivity of her parents, Ms. Franken replied, "Some people chose to be bitter about their experiences. My parents chose to be better. We all have a choice. You can be bitter or you can be better."

Perhaps the most important theme that Ms. Franken expounded on is the destructive nature of hate and discrimination.

"We cannot forget those times [World War II] because we need to be reminded of what this kind of hate, evil and discrimination can lead to if we don't stop it. This is about remembering who we are and where we come from as human beings regardless of our nationalities, our religious beliefs, the color of our skin or anything else that differentiates us so that we can live with tolerance instead of terrorism, with harmony instead of hate, with more kindness, caring and compassion instead of all this killing and chaos and that we pursue goodness and peace instead of greed and power."

After the presentation, students were invited to make comments and ask questions. Their com-

ments showed that even the youngest among the group had taken Ms. Franken's story to heart.

Victoria Manella, a seventh grader at Winding Waters, stated, "The speech was very touching to me and a lesson for people to keep trying."

Austin Alley, also in seventh grade remarked, "I thought it was a very moving story on how everything happens for a reason."

One high school student observed, "You are one of the most inspirational speakers I've heard. Audiences around the world - kids, adults, adolescents have to hear your story and understand that every day that you get up and you have your health and you have your freedom is a blessing."

Springstead High School tenth grader, Abby Marks commented, "I think this was an amazing story. Growing up I heard a lot about WWII. It's amazing that two people could experience such horrible conditions and they come out of it with such positive attitudes about life."

André Brooks a ninth grade student at Springstead remarked, "It's a very inspirational story about courage, how you're put in the worst conditions and you still make it through."

Haileigh Singer, a Springstead tenth grader stated, "I think that what shocked me the most was learning that she [Ms. Franken's mother] survived the gas chambers. I'd never think they [the Nazis] could run out of gas."

Ruby Silver, a Senior at Springstead, remarked, "I think it's important that we keep sharing these stories and we keep addressing

that this happened, but that we also keep showing that there are positive things that came out of it. That we just don't address the negative."

It was evident that Ms. Franken was also touched by the students reception of her presentation and their grasp of the implications of her parents' story.

"I really felt that the students were paying attention, not just with their ears, but with their minds and hearts as I asked them to do. To have a full room standing ovation from students cheering me on the way they did, as well as the number of insightful comments and questions afterwards was also extremely rewarding."

"One young lady mentioned something about having a difficult home life. She said that listening to my presentation about what my parents suffered and were able to not just survive, but also thrive beyond, was extremely inspirational for her. Knowing that my parents and I were able to inspire her with a greater sense of hope in her own struggles is a feeling that is beyond words," Ms. Franken concluded.

The school system and the Hernando County Education Foundation are to be commended for bringing such a worthwhile program to the schools - one that teaches, not just about the past, but how the past relates to the present and the future. It is hoped that more of these types of educational programs will be available to our students.

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-5

Love is **patient**, love is **kind**. It **does** not **envy**, it does **not boast**, it is not **proud**. It does not **dishonor others**, it is not **self-seeking**, it is not **easily angered**, it **keeps** no **record** of **wrongs**.

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SOLUTION ON PAGE 11

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R R F I O E A C A K
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Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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Gamma Xi Master, Beta Sigma Phi sorority presenting check for \$1,200.00 to Hernando County, People Helping People! Pictured left to right: Susan Rupe, Treasurer, Angie Gantt, President, Linda DeMarco, Chairman and Evan Sommerfield, from HCPHP! We are very grateful for your donation and shared sense of concern for needs of the homeless and near-homeless here in Hernando County.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO. 2017-DR-25 12

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF: LEEMAN MORGAN, Petitioner/Husband, and BRANDY MORGAN, Respondent/Wife,

AMENDED NOTICE FOR ACTION FOR PUBLICATION

TO: Brandy Morgan
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Petition for Dissolution of Marriage and Other Relief with Minor Child(ren), has been filed against you. You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to this action on Kenneth B. Reynolds, Esq., of Reynolds Law, PLLC., Petitioner's attorney, whose address is 13787 Linden Drive, Spring Hill, FL 34609, on or before 2/28/2019, and file the original with the clerk of this court at Hernando County Courthouse, 20 N Main Street, Brooksville, Florida 34601, either before service on Petitioner's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings

DATED this 17 day of January 2019.

Doug Chorvat, Jr. Clerk of Circuit Court

BY: /s/ JBT Deputy Clerk

(01/25/2019), (02/01/2019), (02/08/2019), (02/15/2019)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA FAMILY DIVISION

Case No.: 2018-DR-1642

DALE P. FERRIS, Petitioner/Father, and REBEKAH LYNN BLAIN, Respondent/Mother

NOTICE FOR ACTION FOR PUBLICATION

TO: REBEKAH LYNN BLAIN
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Petition for Determination of Paternity and Other Relief, has been filed against you. You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to this action on Kenneth B. Reynolds, Esq., of Reynolds Law, PLLC., Petitioner's attorney, whose address is 13787 Linden Drive, Spring Hill, FL 34609 on or before 3/07/2019, and file the original with the clerk of this court at Hernando County Courthouse, 20 N Main Street, Brooksville, Florida 34601, either before service on Petitioner's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings

DATED this 24 day of January 2019.

Doug Chorvat, Jr. - Clerk of Circuit Court

By: /s/ JBT Deputy Clerk

(02/01/2019), (02/08/2019), (02/15/2019), (02/22/2019)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No. 2019-CP-0051

IN RE: ESTATE OF RICHARD WILLIAM ROGERS a/k/a RICHARD W. ROGERS a/k/a RICHARD ROGERS Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of RICHARD WILLIAM ROGERS, deceased, whose date of death was November 16, 2018, is pending in the Circuit Court for Hernando County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 20 North Main Street, Room 247, Spring Hill, Florida 34601. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is February 1, 2019.

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Paul H. Nessler, Jr. E-mail Addresses: paulnessler@bellsouth.net Florida Bar No. 0603384 Paul H. Nessler, Jr., P.A. 10002 Cortez Boulevard Spring Hill, Florida 34613

Personal Representative: /s/ Yoko Mishima Rogers 1447 Bolger Avenue Spring Hill, Florida 34609 (02/01/2019), (02/08/2019)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

File No. 2019-CP-0033 Division PROBATE

IN RE: ESTATE OF JOHN CHARLES WRIGHT a/k/a JOHN C. WRIGHT Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of JOHN CHARLES WRIGHT, deceased, whose date of death was February 12, 2018, is pending in the Circuit Court for Hernando County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 20 North Main Street, Room 247, Brooksville, Florida 34601. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is: February 1, 2019.

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Paul H. Nessler, Jr. Florida Bar No. 0603384 Paul H. Nessler, Jr., P.A. 10002 Cortez Boulevard Spring Hill, Florida 34613

Personal Representative: /s/ Lesley Ann Wright 2 Cumberland Avenue Guildford, Surrey GU2 9RQ (02/01/2019), (02/08/2019)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION UCN: 272018CP001487CPAXMX REF#: 18-1487CPAXMX

IN RE: ESTATE OF HELEN G. SHERMAN, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS (Summary Administration)

TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:

You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of HELEN G. SHERMAN, deceased, File Number 18-1487CPAXMX, by the Circuit Court for Hernando County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 20 North Main Street, Brooksville, Florida 34601, that the total value of the estate is \$16,295.11, and that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are: Nancy Ann Nau-man, 458 Mann Creek Hgts Road, Mansfield, PA 16933.

All persons are required to file with the clerk of said Court, WITHIN 3 CALENDAR MONTHS FROM TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE all claims against the estate in the form and manner prescribed by Section 733.703 of the Florida Statutes and Rule 5.490 of the Florida Rules of Probate and Guardianship Procedure.

ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. Publication of this Notice has begun on February 1, 2019.

DOREEN DOE, ESQUIRE DOREEN DOE, P.A. P.O. Box 55037 St. Petersburg, Florida 33732 (727) 520-0991 Email: ddoelaw@aol.com (02/01/2019), (02/08/2019)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 2017-DR-404

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF: DEBBIE ANN COOPER, Petitioner/Wife, vs. MICHAEL EDWARD COOPER, Respondent/Husband.

AMENDED NOTICE FOR ACTION FOR PUBLICATION

TO: Michael Edward Cooper
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Petition for Dissolution of Marriage without Dependent or Minor Child(ren), has been filed against you. You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to this action on Kenneth B. Reynolds, Esq., of Reynolds Law, PLLC., Petitioner's attorney, whose address is 13787 Linden Drive, Spring Hill, FL 34609, on or before Feb. 22, 2019, and file the original with the clerk of this court at Hernando County Courthouse, 20 N Main Street, Brooksville, Florida 34601, either before service on Petitioner's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings

DATED this 11th day of January 2019.

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT BY: /s/ Vickie Deso Deputy Clerk

(01/18/2019), (01/25/2019), (02/01/2019), (02/08/2019)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION CASE NO.: 2018 CP 61

IN RE: ESTATE OF NANCY JANE RODAU, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Nancy Jane Rodau, deceased, whose date of death was October 30, 2018, is pending in the Circuit Court for Hernando County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 20 N. Main St., Room 247, Brooksville, FL 34264. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is February 8, 2019.

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Daniel C. O'Rourke, Attorney Florida Bar Number: 49034 MATTHEWS & JONES, LLP 4475 Legendary Drive Destin, FL 32541 Telephone: (850) 837-3662 Fax: (850) 654-1634 E-Mail: dorourke@destinlaw.com Secondary E-Mail: tamaru@destinlaw.com

Personal Representative: /s/ Rudolf C. Rodau, Jr. 17951 N. 97th Way Scottsdale, Arizona 85255 (02/08/2019), (02/15/2019)

FICTITIOUS NAME NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Allison Jirsa, owner, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of "Nature Coast Editorial" located in Hernando County, Florida, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations, Florida Department of State, pursuant to section 865.09 of the Florida Statutes.

(02/08/2019)

FICTITIOUS NAME NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that PEGGY A BUCHANAN, owner, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of "LUCKY'S PET LIMMO" located in Hernando County, Florida, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations, Florida Department of State, pursuant to section 865.09 of the Florida Statutes.

(02/08/2019)

FICTITIOUS NAME NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that SANDRA KAY WELLS, owner, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of "STUDIO K" located in Hernando County, Florida, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations, Florida Department of State, pursuant to section 865.09 of the Florida Statutes.

(02/08/2019)

OBITUARIES

Vacca Andrew, age 78, of Weeki Wachee, passed away on Tuesday, January 29, 2019.

He is preceded in death by his son, Andrew III. Andrew is survived by his wife, Rose Marie; daughters, Ramona (Jerry) and Andrea (Steve); 5 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren. Src; Brewer

Vaughn Joann, age 87, of Spring Hill, passed away on Tuesday, January 29, 2019. She is preceded in death by her daughter, Lynda Gale Howard and her grandson, Jason Murphy. She is survived by her husband Millard; son Millard V. (Michelle); daughter: Victoria; 4 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren. Src; Merritt

Ord Trey, age 52, of Brooksville, passed away on Tuesday, January 29, 2019. He was preceded in death by his father, Marion Crawford, Jr. Trey is survived by wife, Sonya, son, Riley, daughters, Chelsea (Jeff), Courtney (Brandon), and Hailey; mother, Ann Crawford; and 1 grand-daughter. Src; Pinecrest

Christensen Virginia F., passed away on Tuesday, January 29, 2019. Src; Turner

Stevens Donald G., age 86 of Brooksville passed away on Wednesday, January 30, 2019. He was an Army Veteran. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Brenda White, and wife Dorothy. He is survived by his son Brad, daughter, Beth (Pahl), and 2 grandchildren. Src; Pinecrest

Geiken Dennis G., age 76, of Weeki Wachee, passed away on Wednesday, January 30, 2019. He was a United States Navy veteran. Dennis is survived by his wife: Susan; daughters: Tami and Brenda; step-children: Jay and Justine; 2 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. A Memorial Service will be held at 11:00am, Friday, February 15, 2019 at Merritt Funeral Home, Spring Hill Chapel. Inurnment to follow at Florida National Cemetery with military honors. Src; Merritt

Lang Mildred L., passed away on Thursday, January 31, 2019. She is survived by her husband Richard, sons Allan and Bernie, daughter Brenda, 8 grand-children, 23 great grand-children and 3 great great grandchildren. Src; Turner

Phillips Frederick A., age 90, of Brooksville, passed away on Thursday, January 31, 2019. He was a United States Air Force veteran. Frederick is survived by his wife Carol; sons James (Ann); Aubrey "Buck" (Leigh Ann); Randy; daughters Jerra (Randy); Rhonda (Roy); Rina; Theresa (John); Kathy; 13 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. Src; Merritt

Walrath Lois G., passed away on Thursday, January 31, 2019. Src; Turner

Stone Charles Clifford, passed away on Friday, February 1, 2019. Src; Turner

Dix Larry E., passed away on Friday, February 1, 2019 Src; Turner

Hawkins Mary A., passed away on Friday, February 1, 2019. Src; Turner

Nicolaisen Robert, age 64, passed away on Friday, February 1, 2019. He is survived by his sons, Jeremy and Jayson; step daughters, Louise and Elizabeth; and 1 grandchild. Src; Brewer

Brown William E., Jr., age 67 of Weeki Wachee, Florida passed away on Friday, February 1, 2019. He is survived by Mother, Eileen. Src; Downing

Vicente Edgardo Manuel, passed away on Sunday, February 3, 2019. Src; Turner

Chioffe Pauline, passed away on Sunday, February 3, 2019. Src; Turner

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No. 19000012CPAXMX Division

IN RE: ESTATE OF KENNETH P. RICHARDS, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of KENNETH P. RICHARDS, deceased, whose date of death was September 1, 2018, is pending in the Circuit Court for HERNANDO County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 20 N. Main Street, Brooksville, FL 34601. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is February 8, 2019.

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ DAVID J. WOLLINKA Attorney Florida Bar Number: 608483 10015 Trinity Blvd., Suite 101 Trinity, FL 34655 Telephone: 727/937-4177 Fax: 727/478-7007 E-Mail: pleadings@wollinka.com Secondary E-Mail: jamie@wollinka.com

Personal Representative: /s/ LAURA ATHERTON 10015 Trinity Blvd., Suite 101 Trinity, FL 34655 (02/08/2019), (02/15/2019)

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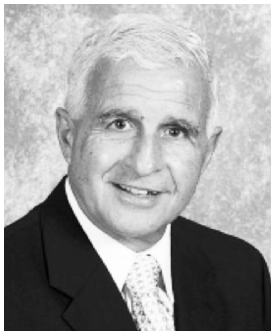
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OPINION

DOMENICK J. MAGLIO, PH.D.



Traditional Realist

Kill the babies and the nation's soul simultaneously

Frank Stevens, an international disability advocate is a man with Down syndrome. He could have been aborted for genetic defects but said he wishes for a time when abortion was not illegal but unthinkable. This man's life is worth living.

Hedonistic societies are short lived from a historical perspective. As the renowned psychiatrist Sigmund Freud, said the pent up libido is the energy that lets people create and produce goods that are the foundation of any civilization. Hedonism is lust for momentary pleasure while a civilization requires delaying gratification for future benefits of self and others.

Tribal societies live day by day. They live in the present which many "sophisticates" find romantic. Every day the demands and duties are limited. "Live in the moment" is a 1960s slogan. People who live in "the now" have little abstract knowledge to guide them as they age. This naïve concept took a foothold with the young hippies but like many of their Utopian visions it has been passed down to succeeding generations. Many people did not want the hardship of being a hippie tribal member, only the pleasures.

The "sexual and feminist revolutions" took hold in our modern culture. Many females rejected traditional dating conventions to enter a supposedly free and pleasurable world of casual hedonism. Modest dress and cautious decisions were abandoned for sexual enticement and spontaneous sex. "Hooking up" has become a chic practice to meet one's immediate sexual desires with no consideration for a long term relationship, commitment or pregnancy. Women have been indoctrinated to view childbirth as a curse not a blessing and murder as freedom of choice.

New York State has passed and other states are considering legalizing infanticide where a full term, living baby can be murdered without any consequences or moral stigma. Just like China's policy of murdering female infants, the USA is legalizing pure evil. Today it is easier to terminate a child's life than it is to adopt a dog. No one with a moral conscience can justify the taking of another's life to make her life more convenient and less complicated.

The perverse reversal of the sanctity of life will continue on the other end of the life cycle. Perfectly functioning elderly will be given death sentences by the "death panels" under the guise of euthanasia. Possible genetic, physical or mental defects could be cause for infanticide. Yet the march toward killing viable infants will continue. Notable Princeton bioethics expert, Dr. Peter Singer, and others in the field argue that since newborns have no sense of their existence, their life is not equivalent to a fully aware person. Moreover, parents should have the choice to kill their child from 30 days to 2 years after birth according to various bioethics experts. This murder of innocent people will spread throughout the society.

Evil actions cannot coexist with moral and righteous ones. Either we choose one side or the other. Citizens will take a stand against murdering our

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor: We welcome your comments which may be published in the newspaper and online. They should be no longer than 400 words and include the name, daytime phone number and email address of the author for verification purposes if necessary. Your submission may be edited prior to publication. Only your name and town will be published. For more information, contact Julie Maglio at 352.238.5454.

Email your letters to editor@hernandosun.com or mail them to PO BOX 12203; Brooksville, FL 34603

Letter to the editor from Nancy Granger, Masaryktown:

After reading Dr. Maglio's column I felt compelled to respond. "The 'quiet majority' who want to live their everyday routines in a peaceful and stable way," as Dr. Maglio states, is understandable. But what about those people who have not been able to live that way, but have lived in poverty and in a culture of racial and gender bias. Does that make those who would change the status quo 'rabid progressives'? If so, I'm one of them.

I also take issue with Dr. Maglio's depiction of the confrontation between the Catholic school student and Mr. Phillips. After watching replays of the event and seeing both individuals interviewed, I had an entirely different take on the event. Those cultural foundations Dr. Maglio speaks of such as freedom of speech and freedom of assembly were being interfered with by a young man who stood smirking in Mr. Phillips face. I saw a total lack of respect for an elderly gentleman.

Our country evolved through progressive ideas, breaking away from a monarchy and establishing a republic based on what many at the time considered revolutionary ideas: the freedom to worship as we please, speak out without fear of retribution, and equality for all, to name a few.

Letter to the editor from Caroline Zoes, Brooksville:

So, "The Guardian" this month reported, "El Chapo paid \$100m bribe to former Mexican president Peña Nieto, witness says." The former president denied this charge. Bribes of this type would be treasonous. Is it true? "Forbes estimated his net worth as \$1B in 2009" as stated in <https://www.gobankingrates.com/net-worth/celebrities/el-chapo-net-worth/>. So El Chappo certainly had the resources to do this. His money was gleaned from illicit drugs brought into our country.

What I find troubling, is that many officials in our government repeatedly stated and voted for a Wall and nothing happened. Now, it appears that the powers that be vehemently oppose a Wall. We have been led to believe it is because they hate Trump. This may be true in part, but what if there is more to the story.

What if the powers that be in our government who currently oppose the Wall, are being bribed. Many in Congress want to destroy Trump and the media is doing everything to cherry pick their stories to make Trump look bad. It reminds me of my 3 children -- each pointing their finger at the other. While I was distracted by their bickering, they got one over on me. Is that happening on a government level?

The Dem vrs. GOP lambast each other for insulting words, and even change the definition of words. While we are distracted by the acrimony, drugs are rushing in.

Are our elected officials complicit? Are they taking bribes not to have the Wall built? Just thinking.

Points of Contact

I grew up watching movies in military theaters, and before the feature started, and before the cartoons, there was newsreels, most of them about World War Two. I was always fascinated by the scenes of troops climbing down rope ladders to board landing crafts at the start of an invasion. That looked like fun to me.

I finally got to mimic that iconic maneuver when I was in basic training. My platoon was double-timed to a building that wasn't a Quonset hut for a change, and naturally we had to wait outside for a long time before we were single-filed in. (I now suspect that the "wait" part of hurry-up-and-wait was meant to allow everyone to stop sweating and air-dry so we wouldn't stink up the place in which we were going to sit for a while.) Inside we were shown a five-minute clip taken from the newsreels I'd seen many times before, of soldiers climbing down a rope ladder draped against the side of a ship, but this one also showed guys getting tangled in the ladder, and one that fell off. The lecture was about maintaining three points of contact at all times when climbing: one hand and two feet, or two hands and one foot, but always three.

We were next run three miles down to a training area and ordered to strip down to t-shirts, fatigue pants, and boots. The only thing there was an open three-tiered structure, each platform ten feet above the other. One of our drill sergeants pointed to the tallest guy and told him to climb. He leaped, pulled himself up, and then he had to help the next guy, after which he carefully jumped to catch hold of the next level. One by one, and then two by two, and three by three we all helped each other make it to the top

children or the soul of our nation will no longer exist. As we move down the road of extermination of large groups of "deplorable" citizens, killing will become a virtue. The NAZIs kept their evil secret from the world through using pseudo-science to justify their mass killing. Tolerance of evil leads to hell not to hedonistic utopia.

As more and more unwanted pregnancies occurred, due to indiscretions, and indiscriminate sex, the slogan appeared that "women have a right to their own bodies." There was hardly any encouraging

GOOFY STUFF By VINCENT CARDEGIN

platform, thirty feet high.

On the back side of the tower was a rope ladder, just like the ones in the newsreels, and that's how we got down. The drill sergeants (we had two) yelled the entire time: "Remember, three points of contact! Maintain three points of contact!" It was very distracting. And while it was fun, it was also disappointing. The real soldiers were in full combat gear. The only weight on my shoulders was a white t-shirt.

Many years later at Ex-work I sat through a CBL (which stands for Computer Based Learning, but which is now called something else) about using a ladder. It, too, emphasized three points of contact, but said nothing about what to do



once you're up and working. I know from years of ladder experience that it's best to have five points of contact, two feet, two knees, and a hip. If whatever I'm working on will allow it, I'll also use an elbow and a side of ribs for a seven-pointer.

There was no such mention in the CBLs about using the scissor lift, and probably for good reason, as the monkey antics required for many tasks would surely give the OSHA folks gasping seizures. I experimented with ten-points of contact by trying to grip the floor with my toes through the soles of my shoes, but it didn't work. Just gave me toe cramps.

What I want to know is why isn't there a live class or DVD lecture about taking a shower? Shouldn't we, the recipients of discount coffee, get advice about the proper points of contact when standing in a tub or stall? At some point I have to wash my face, and so I can't see if I'm still upright. It should be known that an elbow against the wall when sudzing up your head with both hands is necessary for keeping balance. Right now I can wash my legs all the way down to my ankles by half squatting, but I have to wash my feet with my feet, using my toes like fingers. And I get toe cramps.

Eventually I'm sure I'll have to alter my leg-washing routine, maintaining the third point with the top of my head leaning against the front wall. I'll need to get some sort of padded shower cap just for that.

P.S. More and more I prefer the activity that requires only one point of contact, my entire backside on my recliner.

female regrets are usually late in their lives but are real and devastating.

The woman's right to her body is not only a personal tragedy but also a societal one for many western nations. Without replacing the population, these countries will not survive economically, culturally, socially and militarily. The only answer many of these countries have is to import immigrants from less developed nations that extinguishes the country their ancestors envisioned.

It becomes a society where life is not sacred since abortion is not a choice it is murder.

WILLIAM F. HOLLAND



MINISTER / CHAPLAIN

Do we care about what God wants?

Is God always happy? Well, let me see, this is an unusual question but I would say probably not. Since he is not made of flesh we assume that he does not have emotions like us. But, on the other hand, we read about his demonstrations of compassion and anger so I guess this is still up for debate. It is my opinion that some things please him and others cause him disappointment and most of it is associated with the way people live. So, what do you think makes him happy? Well, again we have the scriptures which reveal his thoughts and these explain his desires. Remember, there was a time he became outraged when the people of Noah's day were living like sinful Barbarians and he brought a flood that destroyed the whole world except for eight people. So, we can clearly see that when individuals follow sin instead of submitting to his voice this makes him very upset. Basically, He's glad when we live for him and aggravated when we do whatever we want.

Here is a two-part question; do you believe he is happy with you, and do you really care what he thinks about you? Anyone can take the time and learn about God and what he expects from us. Yes, there is a problem with the world's lack of spiritual understanding but there is also a huge issue with people who realize what is right but arrogantly refuse to do it. These individuals walk in the shadows and avoid God's light on purpose because his holy truth exposes more than what they want to deal with. They know deep down that he is not happy with them and yet they are content to live in denial far away from anything that will cause feelings of guilt. You see, the Bible was given to us so that we could understand right and wrong and how much God wants us to be good. He is also not shy about explaining the consequences that will happen when we choose to be bad. One reason why it is so important to read his word (and exactly why many do not even open it) is that it empowers us to live up to God's standards while eliminating our excuses. Charles Stanley is quoted, "To discipline ourselves is to simply say no to our desires when they conflict with God's will."

With God being the creator and judge of all things, our soul being priceless, and eternity just a breath away, why are so few interested? I am not necessarily a single-minded, hellfire and brimstone preacher, even though there is nothing wrong with presenting much needed Biblical truth, but my desire is to emphasize and relay the message of God's great love. He has a beautiful and wonderful plan for everyone but the problem is that many sadly do not care. How can I make such a statement? Look around, do people look interested in God to you? The Lord desires to give us all we could ask or imagine but instead of us living for ourselves, he is calling us to live for him. Until we turn away from our selfish independence and realize that he created us and bought us with a great price, we will not really be concerned with our allegiance to him. How can we take our spiritual life seriously until we refuse to be controlled by our own will? Good news! We can be transformed into a new person with a new lifestyle when we ask Jesus to change our mind. We realize that what and how much we know is the heart of the matter as Luke chapter 12 says, "To whom much is given, much is required." This means the more we discover about what God wants from us, the more responsibility we have to obey him and the amount that he is pleased with us will be measured by how committed we are to his instructions.

Knowing his plan is one thing but demonstrating our knowledge is something completely different. When we choose to take that first step of faith to live for Jesus we are accepting the basic fundamentals of salvation and can sincerely pray, "Lord, all things are possible with you. Please save me, renew my mind, fill me with your Spirit and whatever you tell me to do, may I react according to your will - not mine, amen."

William F. Holland Jr., DD., C.ED.D. is a Christian minister, chaplain, and author. Discover more about his ministry at billyhollandministries.com can be contacted at P.O. Box 1394, Nicholasville, KY 40340

Domenick Maglio, PhD. is a columnist carried by various newspapers, an author of several books and owner/director of Wider Horizons School, a college prep program. Dr. Maglio has a new book, available on Amazon and other sites, entitled, IN CHARGE PARENTING. You can visit Dr. Maglio at www.drmaglio.blogspot.com.

Lions ambush Leopards



Leopards' Hernando Coach is shaken up.

ARTICLE AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHERYL CLANTON

FRIDAY NIGHT FEB. 1, 2019- Inside the Leopards' Den, the Lions came out hungry. (Home team is Hernando High and Guest team- Hernando Christian Academy.) With 1.05 minutes left in the first quarter, score was Hernando Leopards 10 and Hernando Christian Academy 13. Onto the start of the second quarter. Back and forth both teams battling it out, score is climbing on both sides of the scoreboard. Home 21 Guest 20, Home 24 Guest 22. Leopard freshman number 25 Tyana Jones passes the ball to Leopard junior number 5 Hayden

Kimbrough for a 3-pointer. Lions defending their net against Leopards but Lions' number 4 Sophomore Jada Norton and Lions' number 10 senior Robin Jones received a foul against Leopards' junior number 5 Hayden Kimbrough. Kimbrough received 2 free throws, 1 dropped through the net and second missed. With 26.5 seconds left in the second quarter, Lions' number 20 junior Cassidy Coffman makes a 3-pointer bringing the second quarter to an end with Hernando 25 and Hernando Christian Academy 24. At halftime the Lions go into the locker room and the Leopards stay on the court as coach Dominique speaks with her team. It's Senior night for Hernan-

do, there are three seniors on the team. Seniors 34 Kayla Greenen, 10 Taylyn Murwin and 2 Nakayla Roberts. Congratulations from The Hernando Sun. The start of the third quarter, tension rises. Coaches Hernando Dominique Jacobs shouts out plays while Hernando Christian Academy coach praises his team for their plays. The tempo of the game is at a high, with scores staying close. Fouls continue to rise against Hernando. Hernando's number 24 Taliyah Dowdell pushes against Lions' Senior number 3 Amelia Jackson giving Jackson 3 free throws, which Amelia makes the most of- cashing in all 3. Hernando Leopard number 34 senior Kayln Greenen passes to Leopards' number 10 senior Taylyn Murwin, Lions' number 4 Jada Norton steals and takes it down the court, Leopards get the ball back and Lions get a foul against Leopards' junior number 5 Hayden Kimbrough, score changes again with Kimbrough's free throw shot. Leopards' junior number 5 Hayden Kimbrough is fouled after shoving Hernando Christian Academy's number 15 Ester Jackson. HCA's Ester Jackson receives 2 free throws and scores on both shots. One minute left in the third quarter-HHS Leopard number 2 Nakayla Roberts shoots for a 2-pointer. HCA's number 10 Robin Jones and Leopards' number 10 Taylyn Murwin go up against each other and Lions take the ball from the Leopards. Seconds before the end of quarter 3, number 25 Leopard Tyana Jones gets ready to shoot when the Lions steal the ball and takes it down the court

as the buzzer goes off. Hernando Christian Academy goes into the fourth quarter with 39 points against the Leopards' 33 points. At the start of the fourth quarter HCA takes control of the ball. HCA passes to Lions' number 3 Amelia Jackson and Jackson scores. Five minutes left in the game, Leopard number 24 Taliyah Dowdell steals the ball from HCA and passes to teammate Nakayla Roberts who runs down the court shoots and scores. With 3.34 minutes left, score is tied. 41 to 41. HHS is unable to complete on their shots, and kept getting fouls called against them. HCA's score continued to climb and they win the game. Final score was Hernando Leopards 46 against Hernando Christian Academy with 52 points.



Cassidy Coffman.

Field conditions don't stop PHSC women's softball team

ARTICLE AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALICE MARY HERDEN

Bobcats played a doubleheader against Ava Maria University, a team from National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, Saturday, February 2nd on their West Campus home field in New Port Richey.

Even though the rain created a soaked and muddy field, the Bobcats coaches and players poured the sand, raked the infield and made it happen.

The game resulted in Ava Maria dominating the women's home field, Ava Maria 7- PHSC 4 and Ava Maria 6- PHSC 2, however, the Bobcats still control their division.

PHSC softball team is the only team listed within the NJCAA (National Junior College Athletic Association) Region 8 Division II, and this pushes the women into playing teams with a higher competitive standard.

"It allows us to play the competition which I think is a little bit stronger," Ryan said. "I think it prepares us more for the postseason."

Thomas Ryan began coaching women's fastpitch softball 25 years ago at PHSC.

"I think it developed into a well-respected program within the state," Ryan said. "Each year we've been very competitive, and we have great success for the past 25 years."

Bobcats have a back to back doubleheader February 9th at South Florida State College and Sunday, February 10 on their home field against Saint Johns River State College.

"I think we are coming together nicely," Ryan said, "We got great chemistry."

The women's fastpitch softball team completed five games, 3 (L) - 2 (W) for the beginning of the season, and with under two months of doubleheaders, the potential to build up their game lies ahead.



Freshman Andrea Del Toro releases a wind-up as she pitches against Ava Maria

The Poets' Corner



Just Poets enjoy the art of writing poems and sharing them with others. The group meets at the West Hernando Branch Library located at 6335 Blackbird Ave.

Meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 3 pm. Just Poets exhibit their poems in The Uptown Art Gallery at Brooksville City Hall. New members are always welcome at Just Poets. The club thanks the HERNANDO SUN for the opportunity to share our writings with you.

DISCOVERING FLORIDA

While most of the country is paralyzed by snow and ice and lack of power here "in the sunshine state" we put on the sunscreen open our doors walk outside under a blue sky experience a gentle warm breeze without oppressive humidity and remind ourselves once again why we live here.

As we walk joints loosen we walk faster yet breathe easier and if we stay away from mirrors perhaps we can delude ourselves like Ponce De Leon once did into thinking we've discovered "The Fountain of Youth."

-Rosa Lea Addington

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