

NOV. 25- DEC. 1, 2022 B 1

HERNANDO LIVING

SPORTS

Athlete Spotlight: Ellagrace Galioto

by AUSTYN SZEMPRUCH

On the first weekend of November, Nature Coast Tech Freshman Ellagrace Galioto competed in the FHSAA 2A Regionals for swimming in Pensacola, Florida. The results spoke for themselves as the talented freshman finished 3rd and 5th place in the individual events for women's 200 and 500-yard freestyle. Galioto clocked in at 2:04.23 in the 200 free and at 5:31.44 in the 500 free. While she has produced quicker times in the 200 free – her best time being 2:02.42 – Galioto's times were still fast enough to

See ELLAGRACE Page **B** 8



Ellagrace and her Nature Coast High School coach Aaron Ciccarello at Districts where the girls team took second place in overall points Oct 27, 2022 in Ocala, Fla. Photo provided.

COMMUNITY, ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, FUN

Ninth installation of the Born Learning Trail

by ERICA MALDONADO

Everyone who can spare the time should get involved in self-fulfilling volunteer work. On November 9, 2022, community members volunteered to install the ninth United Way of Hernando Born Learning Trail at Kennedy Park. I signed a waiver to

See BORN LEARNING TRAIL Page **B** 12



Peanut Butter
Challenge:
Collecting a ton
of Peanut Butter!
See B 3

Matthew Project holiday gift drive for students in need, in its 12th year

By MEGAN HUSSEY megan@hernandosun.com

Much like Santa Claus, Monte Patterson of Brooksville has made a list, and he's checking it twice--determined to provide a happy and joyous Christmas for Hernando County children in need.

Patterson is the creator and administrator of the Matthew Project, which since 2010 has provided Christmas gifts for homeless and impoverished

See MATTHEW PROJECT Page **B** 4



Matthew Project's Monte Patterson and Mona Lisa with Jennifer Monaco and Jordyn Ivie of the Greater Hernando County Chamber of Commerce.

SHUAYB

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DVEMBER

Events and special promotions happening locally this month!

6th - Daylight Saving Time Ends 8th - Election Day

11th - Veterans Day 24th - Thanksgiving

Featured Events



Dec. 1-3

Weeki Wachee Springs Holiday Lights Display, 6-9 PM

The galley restaurant will be open, along with the gift shop for your holiday shopping needs. The evening will also include a photo opportunity with Santa's Mermaid Elves. Tickets are only available through Eventbrite. Email the Friends at weekifriends@gmail.com



Holiday in the Garden and Poinsettia Planting

1489 Parker Ave, Spring Hill

9 AM - 1 PM

parade for youngsters to participate in. Decorate a tree \$25, vote for your favorite tree \$1. Those wishing to bring Poinsettias in memory of loved ones, may bring it to the Poinsettia Garden within the Botanical Gardens. Ask for directions from the Greeters at the entrance of the gardens.

Refreshments, and an elf

Friday & Weekend!

Hernando Audubon Beginning Birding

Date: Friday, November 25 Chinsegut Conservation Center, 23212 Lake Lindsey Rd, Brooksville, FL 34601 Time: 8:00 am - 11:00 am Description: Learn to identify birds at feeders and during a short walk. There will be binoculars available for use For information, contact Linda: lindalark85@gmail.com or text 352-428-2629.

RimFire Challenge

Date: Saturday, November 26 Time: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm Hernando Sportsman Club, Located 9 miles North of S.R. 50 on U.S. Hwy 19 Description: New Match: RIMFIRE CHALLENGE- held on the 4TH SATURDAYof month Hernando RimfireChallenge Stages will be shot with pistol first then long gun for a total of 30 runs total. Rimfire division pick either Iron sights or Optics for your class.PCC will be allowed for this match in the Freestyle division only. Ammo minimum 250+ suggested. \$10 members \$15 non-members. Match check-in is open from8:00 and closes at 8:45 AM sharp.Safety briefing is 9:00 AM which is mandatory for match participation.

Hernando Audubon Birding with Merlin App

8:00 am - 11:00 am Chinsegut Conservation Center, 23212 Lake Lindsey Rd, Brooksville, FL 34601 Learn how to use the birding app Merlin Bird ID to help you identify birds by description, photo, or sound. Before the class download Merlin (free) on your smart phone. The group size is limited, so make reservations with Claudia: camsler36@gmail.com

Virtual Class – Florida-Friendly Landscaping for the **Seasonal Resident**

Date: Wednesday, November 30 Time: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Description: In this class, Lilly will discuss how seasonal residents of Central Florida can have a landscape that is environmentally and financially sustainable, and how to make the most of their winter retreats. Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 952 0704 3613 Passcode: 227987

Bill Lester

Date: Thursday, December 1 Time: 10:00 am - 11:00 am Description: Tune in for our weekly plant clinic! Ask questions live online and get research-based answers and advice- broadcast on Facebook Live and YouTube Live! Join Dr. William Lester with the University of Florida Extension Service in Hernando County and his co-host Lilly Browning with Florida-Friendly Landscaping. Feel free to send pictures of problem plants or insects to wlester@ufl.edu and ask us your

Virtual Plant Clinic with Dr.

or 813-244-0305.

Brooksville, FL 34601 Spring Hill Branch: 9220 Spring Hill Dr. Spring Hill, FL 34608 East Hernando Branch: 6457 Windmere Rd Brooksville, FL 34602 West Hernando Branch: 6335 Blackbird Ave

Toddler Storytime

West Hernando Meeting Room Monday, November 28, 2022 Time: 10:30 am - 11:00 am Description: Come join us for a toddler storytime filled with stories, songs, fingerplays, and more! Program is designed for children between the ages of 18 months - 3

West Hernando Meeting Room Date: Friday, November 28, 2022 Time: 11:15 am - 12:00 pm Description: Come join us for a preschool storytime filled with stories, songs, fingerplays, and more! Program is designed for children between the ages of 3-5 vears old.

Spring Hill Florida / Nonfiction

Nov. 26 Small Business Saturday- Downtown Brooksville!



The historic clubhouse will be decorated for the holidays and inside you can find holiday gifts and supplies, a bake sale and beverages. The clubhouse is located at 131 South Main Street in downtown Brooksville. Find us on Facebook at GFWC Historic Brooksville Womans Club or online at www.gfwcbrooksvillewomansclub.org

Nov 26 9AM-3PM Historic Downtown Brooksville

Small Business Saturday

Shop local, with craft vendors and the opportunity to earn our new T-shirt along the way

Christmas on Main St, Tree Lighting & Historic Women's Club Open House DEC. 1 4-9pm

Stroll down Main Street and capture the essence of an oldfashioned Christmas! Don't miss the Christmas market, Live performances, meet Santa, Patricia's windows come to life, GFWC Historic Woman's Club Open House (131 S Main St) & Much More!

To promote your event on this page, contact our sales team. Email sales@hernandosun.com FACT OF LIFE: THINGS CHANGE. PLEASE CONFIRM DATES & TIMES WITH EVENT ORGANIZERS FIRST.

SHOWING AT STAGE WEST Dibaile Dance School Presents Hunt Talent LL Dec. 10 7:00 PM JOIN US DECEMBER 3RD 7PM FOR DETAILS CALL 352-538-538

Food Systems in Season- Fall Edition

Date: Thursday, December 1 Time: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Description: Learn how to raise more food, safely and successfully and prepare seasonal recipes with the experts from UF/IFAS Extension. Register on Eventbrite

Historic Hernando Preservation Society Meeting

Date: Thursday, December 1 Time: 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm Description: Historic Hernando Preservation Society invites you to our meetings held the first Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm for business meetings and 7:00 for our speaker , at City Hall 201 Howell Ave. Brksv. 34601 in council chambers. Next meeting will be Nov. 3, 2022, our speaker will be Ross and Amber Lamoreaux from Chinsegut Hill discussing "Local American Pioneer families in the 1800's".

YOUT LIBRARIES

Main Library: 238 Howell Ave; Brooksville, FL 34613

Registration Required for library programs. Call 352-754-4043.

Preschool Storytime

Book Discussion

Spring Hill Meeting Room Tuesďay, November 29, 2022 Time: 2:00pm - 3:30pm Description:Please join us in the Meeting Room to discuss a couple of chapters from a nonfiction book about Florida. Contact us via the email address provided for a copy

of the reading and the discussion

Go to stops west for ticket prices.

Storytime - East Hernando East Hernando Meeting Room Date: Wednesday, November 30, 2022

Time:10:30am - 11:00am Description: Join us for a storytime filled with stories, songs, fingerplays, and more! Program is designed for children between the ages of 18 months - 5 years old.

Space is limited. Registration is required. Registration opens 14 days before the event.

Save the Date Events

National LIONEL Train Day!

WHEN: Saturday, December 3, 2022, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. WHERE: Dana's Railroad Supply, 4042 Deltona Blvd., Spring Hill, FL Description: A CHANCE TO SEE

LIONEL HISTORY! Historical LIONEL trains exhibited. Items may be purchased from tables on display. ADMISSION FREE! (352) 684-2484. www. danasrailroadsupply.com

Santa's Christmas Village Dec 2-3 4-8 pm

Those good old Marines at Marine Post 708 are also getting ready and are planning the "Santa's Christmas Village" for some really good times to remember. We will have Christmas Lights, the North Pole, Santa's Workshop, candy land. Cookies and candy will be served. From 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM on the

following days: December 2nd and December 3rd December 9th and December 10th

December 16th and December

Friday December 23nd But, don't forget, December 10 will be the big night. Santa himself will be there, along with free toys for the kids, with great food at a great price. Admission \$5.00, children 5 and

younger admitted free. For more information, visit our Facebook page MCL 708 OORAH Marine Corps League Detachment 708, 8405 Sunshine Grove Rd, Brooksville, FL 34613

8th Annual Hilly Hundred Dec 3 6:30am - 3pm

We are super excited to announce the 8th Annual Hilly Hundred! Free online registration at https://raceroster.com/ events/2022/65087/hillv-hundred Ready for the challenge of riding a FREÉ century, 68 miles or 32 miles in Brooksville? Not ready for the long rides, take the 32 mile route option! Same

great scenery with some of the FREE to participate, but we encourage all participants to donate a new, unwrapped toy or

County. http://guardianadlitem.org/about-

gently used bicycle to our toy drive

for Guardian Ad Litem of Hernando

Breakfast with the Grinch Dec 3 9-11:30 am

Treiman House 133 S Brooksville Ave, Brooksville, FL 34601-3310 Whether you've been naughty or nice, you are invited to the beautiful Treiman House in downtown Brooksville for Breakfast with the Grinch. Catered by the Breakfast Station, the menu includes

scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, fresh fruit, home fries, pancakes, French toast, crunch toast, biscuits and gravy, orange juice, sweet tea and hot chocolate. Please R.S.V.P. by November 28, 2022.

For reservations call 352-754-5463 or email pstepbach@gmail.com.

ENCOURAGING WORD MINISTRIES, A LOCAL NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHURCH MINISTRY, WILL HOLD AN ARTS & **CRAFTS FAIR**

310 Ponce De Leon Blvd. Brooksville, FL 34601, USA Dec. 3rd, 9am – 3 pm at the church grounds. Free admission. Holiday and Christmas gifts, home décor crafts, art, baked goods and much more. VENDORS ARE NEEDED! For details or to register as a vendor call Janice Brooks at 360-649-7643. www. ewmchurchinbrooksville.com

Sisterhood Hanukkah Party

Dec. 4 1-4pm at the Botanical Gardens 1489 Parker Ave in Spring Hill. RSVP by Nov. 30 to Cookie Goodman (561)703-1818 \$5 Donation; Food, Music, Games Minimum \$15 for gift exchange

BROOKSVILLE KIWANIS CLUB 48 TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE

Saturday, December 10, 2022 (10AM Start) THEME: - Have A "MARVEL"OUS CHRISTMAS
Join us for Brooksville's Annual Christmas Parade and celebrate the most wonderful time of the year. Anyone wishing to donate to Toys for Tots may bring a new,

unwrapped toy to drop off at the Christmas Parade. For additional parade information, please visit our website at www.kiwanisclubofbrooksville.org

Santa is coming to town! WHEN: Saturday, December 17,

TIME: 10 am to 3 pm WHERE: 66 and 70 Russell Street in Brooksville, Florida Description: This event is sponsored by Culver's and Cici's We will be having food trucks, bake sale, toy sale, 50/50 raffle, coloring contest for free pizza buffet and free Culver's ice cream cone for the kids, free face painting and animal adoptions plus much more. For \$5.00 a person you can visit Santa (Parents please bring your camera), visit the Train Depot for a talk on Trains and walk around and visit the Schoolhouse for a talk on toys from the 1800's.

Breakfast with Santa

We will be holding Breakfast with Santa will be on December 10th, 11th, 17th, and 18th from 7:30am to 9am at Weeki Wachee Springs State Park. A max of 80ppl per day. \$16 for anyone age 12 and up. \$8 ages 3 to 11. Under 3 is free. Menu to be: Assorted Baked Goods Buttermilk Pancakes Scrambled eggs Applewood smoked bacon Breakfast Sausage Roasted Potatoes Fruit Parfait Beverage Table- Coffee, Tea, Juice Photo ops with Santa, The elves, Mermaids, and more!

Nature Coast Bridge Club course on Competitive Bidding

Date: Starting January 10 Time: 9:30 am-11:30 am Description: Nature Coast Bridge Club, 4244 Mariner Blvd., Spring Hill is offering a five-week course on Competitive Bidding starting January 10 from 9:30-11:30. The \$40 cost includes a textbook and a free game pass to play at the bridge club. Call the instructor, Gerry Panos at 727-643-2792 or email gpanos1@

Historic Hernando Preservation Society monthly meeting

tampabay.rr.com no later than

January 6.

IME 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm Brooksville City Hall at 201 Howell Ave. Brksv. 34601 in the Council chambers Historic Hernando Preservation Society would like to invite you to attend our monthly meetings that are held the first Thursday of every month at at 6:00 pm for our business meeting and 7:00 for our speaker of the evening. Our next meeting will be held Sept. 1, 2022 at 7:00 pm and will be Doug Davis-historian and his subject will be "Genesis story of the Seminole Indians. We so hope you can attend. For additional info contact Jan Knowles – President 352.279.5182

Spring Hill Garden Club: Holiday in the Garden and

the Poinsettia Planting Date: Saturday, December 3 Time: 9:00am-1:00pm Description:

Location 1489 Parker Ave. Holiday in the Garden will serve refreshments, entertainment and hold an elf parade for youngsters to participate in. Decorate a tree \$25, vote for your favorite tree \$1. Those wishing to bring Poinsettias in memory of loved ones, may bring the Poinsettia Garden within the Botanical Gardens. Ask for directions from the Greeters at the entrance of the gardens.

Night of 100 Menorahs

TEMPLE BETH DAVID 13158 Antelope St. Spring Hill, 34609 is having their traditional Chanukah "Night of 100 Menorahs" Sunday, December 18, 2022 @ 5PM. To help celebrate the Jewish Festival of Lights, there will be singing, dreidels, Chanukah gelt, and presents for the kids. Bring your menorah and candles to light! We will be serving soup & latkes; jelly donuts and beverages are all included. Adults are \$10 and kids are FREE. RSVP is mandatory by December 12th as tickets are limited. Send your check to Temple Beth David at the address above. You can also reserve online at tbdfl.org/events

Sierra Club Adventure Coast **Group Virtual MeetUp Dec. 21** with Dr. Brian Lapointe on Florida's Algae Crisis: The Role of Sewage & Description 1985 **Extreme Rainfall Events**

Join our next virtual MeetUp Wednesday, December 21 st from 7-8 PM when Dr. Brian Lapointe, Research Professor at FAU's Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, will speak about Florida's Algae Crisis: The Role of Sewage and Extreme Rainfall Events. Brian Lapointe's research interests include algal physiology and biochemistry, seagrass and coral reef ecology, eutrophication, marine bioinvasions and marine conservation. He will discuss his water quality research in South Florida and the Caribbean region assessing relations between water quality and the health of ocean and coastal waters including recent studies of blue green algae in the Ft. Myers-Cape Coral area after hurricane Irma and heavy rainfall. Check out our website to register in advance for this meeting at https://www.sierraclub.org/florida/ adventure-coast After registering, you will receive

on Facebook. Santa is coming to town

a confirmation email containing

information about joining the

For more information, contact

adventurecoast@florida. sierraclub.org or call 352 277-

meeting.

3330. Find us

Description: This event is sponsored by Culver's and Cici's. We will be having food trucks, bake sale, toy sale, 50/50 raffle, coloring contest for free pizza buffet and free Culver's ce cream cone for the kids, free face painting and animal adoptions plus much more. For \$5.00 a person you can visit Santa (Parents please bring your camera), visit the Train Depot for a talk on Trains and walk around

Dec. 17 TIME: 10 am to 3 pm WHERE: 66 and 70 Russell Street in Brooksville, Florida

and visit the Schoolhouse for a talk on toys from the 1800's.

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DANA'S RAILROAD SUPPLY NATIONAL LIONEL TRAIN DAY **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD**

9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. **Admission Free!**

A CHANCE TO SEE LIONEL HISTORY! **Historical LIONEL trains exhibited. Items** may be purchased from tables on display.





Peanut Butter Challenge: Collecting a ton of peanut butter

by MEGAN HUSSEY megan@hernandosun.com

When they were challenged to collect valuable food donations for people in need, the University of Florida IFAS Extension in Hernando County stepped up to the meal plate! They have collected more than a ton of peanut butter for seven local food pantries in the county.

The USDA reported in 2020 that one in ten Floridians experienced food insecurity. To help meet the great need for food in our state, the University of Florida IFAS Extension Hernando County stood among competitors in a friendly annual competition known as the Peanut Butter Challenge. As one of the 67 county UF extension offices around Florida participating throughout October, the UF/IFAS Extension in Hernando County collected 1,566 jars of peanut butter, equivalent to 2,238 pounds!
"We are excited that UF/IFAS

Extension Hernando was able to collect and distribute more than 1560 jars totaling more than one ton of peanut butter," said Nancy Moores, 4-H agent and youth development director at the University of Florida/ IFAS Extension Hernando County. "All jars were distributed to local pantries and food distribution programs to serve our community."

So how does one collect more than one ton of peanut butter in a month? "We created a trophy last year likening



Agent III Dr. Nancy Moores (left) presenting the trophy to the 2022 winners Steve Miller, Airport Manager and Kim Poppke, Economic **Development Marketing Coordinaor**

a peanut, the Traveling Peanut Trophy, for the Hernando County Department bringing in the most ounces," said Moores. "Last year's winning department was utilities. This year is the office of economic development."

Moores also credits 4-H youth programs at Pine Grove and



Chocachatti Elementary schools, contributing hundreds of jars of peanut butter to this effort. Moores shared, 'We wanted to get the youth involved and accepted donations from the public. All of our 4-H Clubs stepped up, as did organizations like the Spring Hill Amateur Radio Club."

The recipients of the peanut butter jars included agencies served through People Helping People, an interfaith nonprofit that provides food to people in need in Hernando County, including churches. "We reached out to small, rural area churches, like in Ridge Manor and Masaryktown," said Moores. "And agencies across the board are seeing new clients every day, so many requests for help."

According to Moores, peanut butter ranks among the most valuable food staples on the market. "Peanut butter is a healthy protein, containing 30 essential vitamins and minerals, and is a flexible ingredient that can be used in so many ways in healthy meals," she said. "In addition, 75 percent of the peanuts used to make peanut butter are grown in the state of Florida."

Representatives from seven recipient help agencies showed up on Nov. 3 at the UF/IFAS Extension office at the Hernando County Airport to retrieve their cans of donated peanut butter.

Nancy Moores reflected on the successful campaign, "The community showed up for us.'

Operation Outdoor Freedom

by TOBY BENOIT

This past weekend, I spent three days volunteering myself to a group of guides working for Operation Outdoor Freedom, a nonprofit organization managed by our state forestry department. Their mission is to bring disabled veterans back into the outdoors by providing quality hunting opportunities on state lands. I was a guide for them last year for the first time and I could hardly wait to do it

again.
We hunted forestry lands near our county's northern border and man oh man. everybody in attendance was in the highest of spirits and I never saw a single frown the entire three days. Especially from the hunter I was paired with; US Marine, Pablo Arzola, of Miami. A veteran of the battle of Fallujah, Pablo had the kindest, gentlemanly character and he and I hit it off great. We sat in the woods watching bucks and does parade around our blind. Him not wanting to shoot the first deer to come along and me nearly begging him to take a shot. There for a while, I think he wasn't shooting as he enjoyed tormenting me, his insistent guide.

Finally, early on the last hunt period of the weekend, Pablo placed a beautiful shot on a fat doe and we carried her back to the main camp triumphant and myself, relieved. It was a special time, hunting with Pablo and he and I are planning a number of hunts together now. I'm always plumb tickled, to make a new friend!

As for the hunts we enjoyed, a mentioned above, we saw a ton of deer, and I pulled every trick out of my sleeve to make that happen. The deer were in rut and we witnessed a few bits of breeding behavior, so I laid out scents, both doe in estrous and my own Rebel Yell curiosity lure. I grunted, bleated and even wheezed, the three vocalizations most used during the rut. I even tried starting a mock fight with rattling antlers and guess what, it was working, but only on lesser bucks and doe with my wonderfully stubborn companion dead set on targeting only a trophy

Now one thing I tried, rattling, I normally do not use. What you do is to take a set of antlers, then crash and scrub them together to simulate the sounds of two



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.

bucks battling each other for breeding rights. The reason I don't normally do this is because hiding in a blind, making movements, producing sounds of two bucks, not knowing who else may be hunting in your neck of the woods, could actually draw fire from a less aware, unsafe hunter. However, there were no other hunters in the huge block of timber I was assigned; that aid, if you ever do try it, be safe. Wear blaze-orange hunting vests or clothing, and if another hunter is seen entering the area, immediately give voice and identify yourselves.

As always, if you have any comments, questions or just want to share your success from the woods, give me a shout out at toby@hernandosun. com. God Bless and good



ABOVE: Toby and his new friend Pablo Arzola at Operation Outdoor Freedom.

Annual Holiday Light Contest to brighten up Brooksville

by MEGAN HUSSEY megan@hernandosun.com

For more than 30 years, the Beautification Board's City of Brooksville Annual Holiday Light Decorating Contest has challenged city residents to bring light and festivity to the city, with businesses and residences vying to be the brightest of them all!

"The winners of this competition are those whose designs, in our opinion, show the most spirit," said Kathy Middleton, president of the City of Brooksville Beautification Board. During the early years of this competition, which debuted in 1989, judges drove throughout the community to identify potential competitors, with each contest typically boasting about 15 competitors. "Now residents and business owners submit designs themselves," said Middleton.



Previous winner 6128 Evening Ray Drive (Southern Hills)

Dec. 9 is the deadline to apply for this year's competition. Participants can enter into Best Residential Christmas Display or Best Commercial Christmas Display. They are encouraged to submit four digital photos with their name, property address, and phone number to jbattista@cityofbrooksville. us. You can apply for the competition starting Nov. 26.

"Through the years, we see a variety of themes and designs," said Middleton. "Some designs are spiritual; others boast reindeer and sleds. Many have lights all over, front and back, the whole house. They go all out."

The Beautification Board and the Brooksville City Council will recognize competition winners during the council's regular meeting in Jan. 2023. Those with questions can contact the City of Brooksville City Clerk at 352-540-3810.

In the eyes of Kathy Middleton, all of these bright light designs have something in common. "These lights make the community proud, lifts their spirits," she said. "They feel proud, and our neighborhood is beautiful."

Are you better looking than your car?

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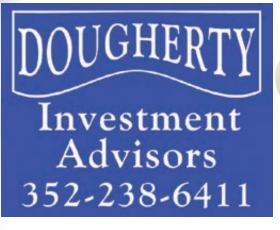
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MATTHEW PROJECT

FROM PAGE B 4

children served through the Hernando County schools' backpack food program. This year's Matthew Project campaign runs Nov. 26 through Dec.

"This year we'll be serving between 450 to 600 students," said Patterson, also known as the "The Voice of HHS Leopard Football" and the owner of Blinds and Designs. "The lists are streaming in from the schools.3

Patterson has discovered that student wishes for gifts run the gamut. "It's sad to see requests for the basics," said Patterson. "Some kids ask for socks and underwear, school supplies, the basics. Or, they might ask for gifts they can give their mothers, maybe their little brothers and sisters."

On the opposite side of the spectrum, some kids seek those presents that promise to brighten their childhoods. "A lot of kids ask for sports balls, dolls, video games," said Patterson. "Once in a while, you might get a request for an Xbox.'

The Matthew Project has come a long way since its inception in 2010 when a friend associated with the Hernando school district's backpack food project suggested that he spearhead an effort to provide holiday gifts to needy kids.

"The first year, we had a list of about 85 kids, given to us just after Thanksgiving. I thought, "Wow, I don't know if this can be done," he said. "But we did it."

The Matthew Project is a family-run, allvolunteer effort that has been successful every year on behalf of children and teens in need. Each year, community volunteers representing churches, community groups, clubs, and individuals step forward to claim the wish lists of area children. Then, bearing the first names, clothing sizes, and three-item gift wish lists of these young beneficiaries, they shop for and supply the gifts that will brigh the holidays of these precious children.

In the process, the Matthew Project has changed lives. "Once, we helped a grandmother on oxygen, who lived in the woods with her grandson," he said. "She prayed for her grandson to receive gifts for Christmas. We made sure he got gifts. The

first year of the program, a kid asked for a grill so his family could cook meals. We also helped a teenage girl with a oneitem wishlist. She wanted a job. We provided her with leads, as well as clothes and hygiene products she could use for interviews."

And administrators also go the extra mile to fill the wish lists of every child beneficiary, even if they have to visit stores late in the evening before their deadline. "Sometimes when Christmas time comes, we might not have had time to put up decorations at our house," he said, "But we want to make sure that every kid on the project list gets Christmas.'

Patterson, his wife Alisa, and their team at Matthew Project see their efforts as spiritual, inspirational, and rewarding.

"When you give, it makes you feel better than the person who receives," said Patterson. "It's all about fulfilling a God-given calling to make sure that every child has a merry Christmas." Those interested in sponsoring children for this year's Matthew Project or who would like to volunteer should text the word "sponsor" to 352-279-5985. You will find more information on Facebook under The Matthew Project: Gifts for Homeless Children.

Be a Santa to a Senior effort underway

by MEGAN HUSSEY megan@hernandosun. com

While many holidaygiving efforts focus on the younger set, one local campaign aims to 'Be a Santa to a Senior.' For a decade, Home Instead Senior Care in Hernando County has joined its corporate family in



providing a happy holiday for seniors who otherwise would have nothing under the Christmas tree. "The people we help might be needy seniors or those whose families don't visit them," said Maureen Riser, franchise owner at Home Instead Senior Care in Spring Hill.

Here's how it works trees and wreaths are placed at 16 locations throughout Hernando: businesses, restaurants and nonprofit agencies. Each tree boasts several paper ornaments, with each ornament containing the three-item wishlist of a local senior in need. The public is invited to take an ornament, shop for the items needed and drop them off at either the treehosting location at which they attained the ornament or at the Home Instead office at 8356 Forest Oaks Blvd., Spring Hill.

Program beneficiaries and gift requests come from churches, senior care centers, families and friends, the Hernando Sheriff's Care Line and others. "It's sad; some of these requests are so minimal," said Riser. "Toilet paper. Blankets. Robes. Socks. Slippers. Soap. Deodorant."

At the opposite end of the spectrum, some seniors request perfume and cologne, body wash, DVD movies (one senior in particular requested 'new release comedy' DVDs), snacks and treats, jewelry and newspaper subscriptions. Still, others ask for items that can enhance their safety, such as night lights with sensors.

Yet while the gift requests vary greatly, what remains constant is the deep appreciation of gift recipients. "We once got a note from a lady who was amazed that anyone still remembered her," said Riser.

Answering the call to "Be Santa" for these seniors each year are church and community groups, clubs, schools (with students sometimes making cards to go with the gifts they give) and other individuals from the community.

The program also includes a festive gift-wrapping party as well! This year the party

will take place at Pure Med Mobility from 1-5 pm on Dec. 16 at 1125 West Jefferson in

Brooksville. Aiding Riser in this yearly effort are Home Instead care coordinators Kay Snuffer, Home Care Sales Executive, and Michele Mullins, Service Coordinator; both of whom express great appreciation for the Hernando community and its support of the program--a sentiment certainly shared by Maureen Riser.

"We've never been turned down by anyone we asked to host a tree or wreath," said Riser. "This truly is a

community effort." To find a Be a Santa to a Senior tree, visit the program's Facebook page. Some locations include the YMCA, Capelli's Salon, Home Centrix of Spring Hill, Welcome Om Center, Longhorn Steakhouse of Brooksville, the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Weeki Wachee, Bealls Outlet stores, UPS Store on Spring Hill Drive and Barclay, and more. All gifts must be procured and returned by Dec. 5.

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Spring HIII 8 Movie Times

Friday, November 25 through Sunday, November

Devotion Runs: 2h 19m 11:30 AM, 3:15 PM, 7:00 PM, 10:20 PM

Strange World Runs: 1h 42m 11:15 AM, 1:45 PM, 7:15 PM, 10:00 PM 3D: 11:00 AM, 4:30 PM

The Menu Runs: 1h 47m 11:45 AM, 4:00 PM, 7:00 PM, 10:10 PM

> She Said Runs: 2h 8m

12:00 PM, 3:30 PM, 6:45 PM, 10:00 PM

Black Panther: Wakanda Forever Runs: 2h 41m 11:15 AM, 3:00 PM, 6:45 PM, 10:30 PM

> Prey for the Devil Runs: 1h 33m 10:30 PM

Black Adam Runs: 2h 4m 12:30 PM, 3:45 PM, 7:15 PM, 10:20 PM

Ticket to Paradise Runs: 1h 44m 12:15 PM, 3:30 PM, 10:30

Beacon Movie Times

Friday, 25 November 2022 - Thursday, 01 December 2022

Black Adam (PG13)Fri, Sat: 12:15PM, 3:30PM, 6:45PM, 9:45PM Sun, Mon. Tues. Wed: 12:15PM, 3:30PM, 6:45PM

Black Panther Fri, Sat: 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 5:30PM, 8:00PM, 9:00PM Wakanda Forever Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 5:30PM, 8:00PM (PG13)

Black Panther Daily except Thurs: 1:00PM

Wakanda Forever 3D

(PG13)

GTX (PG13)

Black Panther Daily except Thurs: 12:00PM, 3:30PM, 7:00PM Wakanda Forever

Bones and All (R) Fri, Sat: 12:15PM, 3:30PM, 6:45PM, 10:00PM Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed: 1:00PM, 4:15PM, 7:30PM

Chosen Season 3: Fri, Sat. 12:00PM, 3:30PM, 6:45PM, 10:00PM. Episodes 1 & 2 (NR\$un, Mon, Tues, Wed: 12:00PM, 3:30PM, 6:45PM

Devotion (PG13) Fri, Sat. 12:00PM, 3:15PM, 6:30PM, 9:45PM

Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed: 1:30PM, 4:45PM, 8:00PM

Guillermo del Toro's Daily except Thurs: 12:45PM

Pinocchio (PG)

I Heard the Bells Thurs: 4:30PM

It's Christmas AgainTues: 7:00PM

Lyle, Lyle Second eFri, Sat, Mon, Tues: 12:45PM, 6:00PM

(PG) Menu, The Fri, Sat. 12:30PM, 3:30PM, 6:45PM, 9:30PM.

Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed: 12:30PM, 3:30PM, 6:45PM She Said (R) Fri, Sat. 12:30PM, 3:30PM, 6:45PM, 9:45PM

Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed: 12:30PM, 3:30PM, 6:45PM

Strange World (PG/Fri, Sat. 12:00PM, 2:30PM, 3:30PM, 5:00PM, 7:30PM, 8:30PM 10:00PM

Sun: 12:00PM, 2:30PM, 3:30PM, 5:00PM, 7:30PM

Mon, Tues, Wed: 1:00PM, 3:30PM, 6:00PM, 8:30PM

Ticket to Paradise Fri, Sat. 4:00PM, 7:00PM, 9:35PM. Sun, Mon, Wed: 4:00PM, 7:00PM. Tues: 4:00PM

White Christmas Sun, Wed: 12:15PM, 6:30PM

STEEL IDPA N BAYS 9-11 & 200 MTR PRACTICE N BAYS 9AM PREC PISTOL 50 YD 9AM NIGHT OR & TRAP 5-9 PM

Enrichment Center Calendar

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NOVEMBER 25 **REST & LEFTOVERS!** CLOSED!

8:15-12:00 Caring K9"s 9-4 Cards, Games & Puzzles 10-2 Low Vision Works

3-8 "RTM Studios" (Private Piano & Voice lessons) 7-9

Camera Club 3-9 Rental

29 9-4 Cards, Games & Puzzles 9-4 Sewing Group (1st FL Side Room) 9-4 H.C. Quilt Guild

'Class'

10-12Deaf Services

12-4 Scrabble

3-8 "RTM Studios" (Private Piano & Voice lessons) 6-8:00 CODA

30 9-4 Cards, Games & Puzzles 9-4:00 Warm Up America – 1st Fl Side Room 11:30-12:30 **Blood Pressure** 1-2:00 Music with Gale 1-3 Pencil

Sketching DEC 1 9-4 Cards, Games & Puzzles Nature

9:30 Quilters of the Coast 2nd Fl 9:30-11:00 Bingo 9-4 EC SEWERS 10-4 Perfect Storm 10:30-4 Basket Weavers 1-3:00 Creative Art

5:3-7 Private Art

Class

8:15-12:00 Caring K9"s 9-4 Cards, Games &Puzzles 10-2 Low Vision Works 12-4 Scrabble 12-4 Canasta Hand

SIGN

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8:15-12:00 Caring K9"s 9-4 Cards, Games & Puzzles 10-2 Low Vision 3-8 "RTM Studios"

& Foot

27 OR, TRAP, **SKEET & FIVE** (Private Piano & Voice lessons) STAND 9-3 3-9 Rental PREC PISTOL 50 YD 9AM **BIG BORE & 22**

Hernando Sportsmans Club Calendar

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N BAYS 9AM

burn boot eamp

SKEET & FIVE STAND 9-2 **STEEL PRACTICE**

25 or, trap,

N BAYS 9AM

RIMFIRE CHALLENGE N BAYS 9AM

26 OR. TRAP &

200 MTR OPEN

SKEET 9-3

9AM

1 OR, T &S 9-2 2 or, trap, HI PWR & MOD F 200 MTR 9-1 SKEET & FIVE STAND 9-2 COWBOY 9AM



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All LOCAL Guide

Shop art, support local animals in need

by MEGAN HUSSEY megan@hernandosun.com

s the holiday season is well underway, two holiday-themed events here in Hernando offer art for the animals--beautiful arty items that would make ideal gifts. And as they peruse these ebullient and colorful creations,

participants will be helping animals in need.

The "Paws & Claus" Holiday Art & Crafts Fair will be celebrated November 26th & 27th, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Silverthorn Country Club, 4550 Golf Club Lane, in Brooksville. This fair will offer fine art and craft pieces handcrafted by 51 local artisans and displayed for sale both outside and inside the country club, with items up for offer including doll furniture, bird houses, and feeders, fine art including watercolors and acrylics, wood carvings and mixed media, Christmas adornments, and many more unique items.

"This is our fourth consecutive year," said Event Organizer Linda Allen, who organizes the fair with help from Dennis Allen and Betty Brown. "All items must be handmade, and this year we

have seven fine artists and many craftspeople from Hernando County offering their best handiwork. And as the event takes place the weekend after Thanksgiving, Black Friday weekend, we thought it could provide a great opportunity for holiday shopping."

Proceeds will benefit three area animal charities: Paw Warriors, FurEver Friendz, and Operation Kindness. "People love to support charities that help children or pets," she said. "And we are very familiar with these three organizations and the amazing work that they do."

Tracie Steger, president of Paw Warriors, Inc., sees 'Paws & Claws' as an important annual event for her organization. Paw Warriors is a non-profit 501(c)3 based at 355 Spring Time Street in Spring Hill. Their mission is rescuing sick/injured street cats and; vetting and caring for them. Stieger stated, "Our ultimate goal is seeing them heal and adopted by a loving family. We have approximately 180 cats at the rescue at any given time. Our biggest expense is veterinary care and medical supplies."

"For the past several years, Linda Allen, one of our supporters, has worked diligently in putting this 'Paws & Claus' craft fair event together to benefit Paw Warriors and other local animal rescues," Steger explained. "The timing of 'Paws & Claus' craft fair fundraiser coincides with our annual rabies clinic in December. This is where we have a vet come onsite to update our longer-term residents on their rabies and booster vaccines, which usually cost around \$1,500. This is essential for our organization to maintain compliance for a county kennel license."

Debra Sarver, president of FurEver Friendz Inc., a registered 501c3, non-profit, foster-based animal rescue organization, agrees that Paws and Claus is richly beneficial to her organization. "Paws & Claus is a wonderful event every year that we are very appreciative to be a part of," she said. "This event helps support our everyday needs in taking care of the animals such as their medical, food, medications, and flea and heartworm prevention. The support that we receive from the community allows us to continue our mission and save more lives!"

Operation Kindness for Hernando County Animal Services, Inc., was formed by local animal advocates to enhance the quality of life, increase adoptions and educate the public on behalf of the animals at HCAS. Their services include actively pursuing opportunities for and participating in adoption events, offering community education and outreach highlighting the responsibilities of pet ownership (including spaying/neutering). Operation Kindness is also involved in raising, receiving, and disbursing funds for the benefit and care of animals in placement and providing for the additional needs of the animals the county budget cannot cover.

"These services could include anything from medical procedures to providing things that enhance the animals' lives," said Abby Evert, president of Operation Kindness. "We make unadoptable animals adoptable. We are so grateful to Linda Allen and Paws and Claus for making us a beneficiary of this event."

In addition to collecting funds for and spreading awareness about animal welfare, representatives of animal help organizations will have pets on hand, ready for adoption. "A good number of animal adoption agencies will be on hand, with animals ready to be adopted," said Allen.

Animal adoption is also the primary focus of Ray's House of Hope, which is hosting its 2nd Annual Online Holiday Auction benefiting its resident population of senior pets--giving them, as per an agency motto, "a new leash on life."

"Last year's auction raised \$2,276," said Joanne Schoch with Ray's House of

"Last year's auction raised \$2,276," said Joanne Schoch with Ray's House of Hope, Inc. "Proceeds will be used for medical expenses for the seniors at Ray's House."

Items for auction may make ideal holiday gifts, with many qualifying as works of art. These include a beautiful new custom-made quilt, a Venetian glass rooster/cockerel, a Precious Moments cat figurine, a genuine Brahmin handbag, four holiday pet coasters, a Christmas tree topper and stocking, a fun and whimsy custom-made quilt, photography packages, a 70th Anniversary Queen Elizabeth II doll, and more, gift cards, trips, dining packages, and vintage items are also up for offer.

"The generosity of our community, both businesses and residents, is overwhelming. We have had cash donations as sponsorships, as well as general cash donations," said Schoch. "The variety of items donated by the community makes the auction an event for everyone, whether they are shopping for themselves or for the holidays. Several of the items in the auction (like pet food donations) are for supplies for our senior pets."

While the auction is easily accessible on all smartphones, the best view is from a computer. Visit http://bit.ly/3XlssON to shop and bid. Bidding ends Nov. 28.

"Senior pets often get forgotten, and the outpouring of support for their care is so heartwarming," said Schoch.



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ELLAGRACE

FROM PAGE B 1

qualify for states. That is not all, though, as the first-year swimmer for the Sharks has set 8 new school records out of 11 events at Nature Coast. Five of these records came in individual events while three more came as part of a relay.

Moreover, Galioto has accomplished these feats as a 13-year-old due to her starting high school a year early. Being homeschooled all her life, Ellagrace wanted to experience what high school would be like. The neophyte high schooler has taken to public school life well, as her GPA rests above a 4.0 while taking honors courses with a specialization in criminal justice. While being in a new school and swimming against girls four or five years older may be difficult, Galioto enjoys the support and friendship that being a part of a team provides.

"I have gained amazing friendships all because of swimming," Galioto said. "I really like the comradery of the high school swim team at Nature Coast Technical High School. Swimming is an individual sport, but there it really feels like a team and that makes it so much more fun."

What has allowed the young swimmer to compete against the other girls is her work ethic. She practices for over two hours a day, between five and seven days a week depending on swim meet schedule. She has worked with club coach Jeremy Marzicola for over eight years and recently began working with another club coach Dave Ambrose as well as her high school coach Aaron Ciccarello to continue her growth. Ellagrace's mother, Traci Galioto, sees all of the hard work her daughter has been putting in and cannot help but brag about Ellagrace.

"Ellagrace's dad and I are immensely proud of her and all her accomplishments academically and athletically," Traci said. "We want to brag and tell everyone that will listen about how proud we are of her and all her accomplishments, but Ella is always shushing us. She tells us, 'I don't want to be like that.' We tell her we're just proud of her and it's called being a proud parent and one day she will understand. As parents, happiness comes when you realize your children have turned out to be good people."

The humble, hardworking freshman believes setting goals is important and she has set a goal that she will continue to swim for whichever college she competes for. The next objective on the path to achieving her goals: a time qualifying meet in Ocala, Florida from December 2nd through December 4th. Dubbed the Gator Holiday Classic, the event normally takes place at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida, but the location was changed this year to a newly built venue in Ocala.

"I am constantly setting new goals," the younger Galioto said. "Re-evaluating those goals and hopefully, achieving those goals. For me, it's important I set reasonable, achievable goals. Achieving a goal makes me feel good. It puts me in a good head space. A positive mindset produces positive results."

Boys & Girls Varsity Soccer Roundup

BOYS

Springstead (3-1) So far Springstead has defeated Hernando, Weeki Wachee and Lecanto. They fell to Sunlake 4-1. On 11/28 they play Citrus Inverness away at 7:30 pm.

Nature Coast Tech (3-1) The Sharks beat Lecanto, Gulf/NPR, and Central, but lost to Citrus Inverness 2-1. They play Crystal River 11/28 away, 7:30 pm.

Central (1-2) Central beat Hernando 10-1, but lost to Citrus Inverness and NCT. They play Weeki Wachee on 11/28 at 8pm away.

GIRLS

Weeki Wachee (2-2)
With wins over Crystal
River and Seven Rivers
Christian, and losses to
NCT and Hernando, the
Hornets look for a win
to bring them over the
.50 mark. They'll play
Central (0-4) at home on
Monday 11/28 at 6 pm,
then Citrus Inverness on

Central (0-4) Unfortunately the Bears have been shutout in

11/30 at home, 7:30 pm.

nearly every game they've played so far. Hopefully they'll figure things out soon and get some points on the board. They play the Hornets on 11/28 at home at 6 pm.

Hernando (3-1-1)
The Lady Leopards are looking strong with only one loss to Springstead out of five matches.
Springstead shut them out 8-0 in their first game of the season. Next week the Leopards play Lecanto on 11/28 away and NCT on 11/30, at the Shark Tank.

Nature Coast Tech (3-1) NCT's only loss so far was against Lecanto, 2-1 in game 1 of the season. Now they take on Crystal River at home on 11/28 and Hernando at home on 11/30. Both games start at 7:30 pm.

Springstead (2-1)
Springstead's lone loss was to Mitchell, 2-0 on 11/15. The next day they played Lecanto in a high scoring match, winning 7-5. Next up is Citrus Hurricanes at home on 11/28, 7:30 pm. Then Wed 11/30 they play at home again, taking on Crystal River, 7:30 pm.

SPORTS

Leopards Run into Buzzsaw at Weeki Wachee

The Weeki Wachee Boys Soccer team (3-1) blanked the Hernando Leopards (0-5) by an 8-0 margin on a frigid Friday night at the Hornets' Nest. Hernando came into the matchup on the heels of multiple blowout losses during a currently winless season. The Hornets had recently logged a comfortable 4-1 victory over South Sumter and have only suffered one loss at this point in the young season. With the two teams trending in different directions, one was looking to find momentum and the other was looking to maintain it. The home team managed to do more than that as the officials called the game at the second-half water break due to the lopsided score. The evening started off with a bang for the home team as the Hornets scored a goal in the

by AUSTYN SZEMPRUCH

first two minutes and never looked back. Senior Gavin Maye, Junior Dylan Freshwater, Junior Daniel Greenwald, and Senior Seth Borges all recorded at least one score apiece to ice the contest by the intermission. The most impressive play of the period may have come on Borges' goal with just under 16 minutes remaining in the first half. Following a penalty by Hernando, Freshwater was set to kick the ball on the Leopards' side of the field. The junior feigned a kick, the ball was quickly passed to Borges, and

gave Weeki Wachee a backbreaking fourth goal over Hernando shortly after the first-half water break.

Once the second half was underway, Weeki Wachee kept up the pace. Multiple different players in green jerseys continued to take shots on the visitors' goal. Senior Graham Knoten would be the one who

the senior took the shot through traffic. This

netted the final two scores for the Green and Black. The second of these was a penalty kick with 20:32 left in the second frame. That would also prove to be the final play of the game as the officiating crew called the contest due to the disparity of the scores.

When asked how his team performed, Head Coach Michael Mullen was pleased and felt everyone played a part in the victory. He did not necessarily feel any one player deserved credit. "It was definitely a well-played team effort for sure," Coach Mullen said. "Yeah, I wouldn't say anyone, in particular, did anything spectacular. They all played very well."

While Coach Mullen was obviously pleased with the outcome of the game, he was also thankful that his team had the opportunity to work on things while coming away with a win. He noted how the Purple and Gold's deficiencies allowed Weeki Wachee invaluable "tune-up" experience that would be otherwise impossible in a practice setting. One aspect the home team performed well was passing. This allowed them to pressure well as a result and subsequently live on Hernando's side of the field for most of the night.

"They did what I've been asking them to do," Coach Mullen said. "They passed the ball well. They were moving the ball around the field, switching the field, and such. So, that was good. Unfortunately, for Hernando, they're a little weak. But for us, it's sort of good because we get to do our thing at game speed because you don't get really to play against another team like that at practice, I told the team. So, we can work on what we need to do correctly at game speed."

Next up for the Leopards, they will take on the Lecanto Panthers at home on Monday night 11/28. Weeki Wachee will also be playing at home on Monday, but they will be facing off against the Central Bears on what could be another chilly evening.



Weeki Wachee, Jr., Dylan Freshwater brings the ball up the field, Nov. 18, 2022 against Hernando High. Photo by Hanna Fox.





Weeki Wachee,

Sr., Gavin Maye controls a pass

by Hanna Fox.

Nov. 18, 2022. Photo

ABOVE LEFT: Weeki Wachee, Jr., No. 13, Hunter Bishop has possesion of the ball Nov. 18, 2022 against Hernando High. RIGHT: Weeki Wachee vs. Hernando High Nov. 18, 2022 Photos by Hanna Fox.



ABOVE: Leopards pressure Weeki Wachee Jr, No. 9 Cory Fengarinas, Nov. 18, 2022. Photo by Hanna Fox.



LEFT: Weeki Wachee, Sr., Keelan Brannan has a break away and scores against Hernando High Nov. 18, 2022. Photo by Hanna Fox.



Weeki Wachee, Sr., Gavin Maye slides to maintain control of the ball Nov. 18 2022 against Hernando High. Photo by Hanna Fox.

SPORTS

Cypress Creek Feels he Hornets' Sting

by AUSTYN SZEMPRUCH

Weeki Wachee Hornets Girls Varsity Basketball (2-0) took down the Cypress Creek Covotes (0-1) at home on Wednesday night Nov. 16 by a final score of 57-35. With the Coyotes coming off a disappointing 5-15 (0-7 district) campaign last season, they were looking to start off on the right foot. That would prove to be a tall order against a Hornets squad that was on the heels of a 20-8 (8-1 district) season. Weeki Wachee had already opened their schedule two nights prior with a 69-21 shellacking of the Hudson Cobras at the Hornets' Nest as well. The home team seemed to be up to the challenge again as they started fast and kept up the pace. Hornets Head Coach Billy Hughes mentioned that the team may not always get off to the quickest of starts, but he was pleased with the evening's result.

"They played pretty well all four quarters," Coach Hughes said. "They always come ready to play. Sometimes they have slower starts, but tonight we started off pretty good with our energy level and we continued throughout the game. So, I'm just proud of the performance, hard work every day.'

quarter – and the rest of the night for that matter – the Coyotes drew first blood. In the opening minutes, number 11 Senior Adriana Villanueva for Cypress Creek was fouled during her shot. She would make one and miss the other. Number 12 Junior Sadie Walker for the Coyotes, who would finish with 15 points, took a pass on the next possession and knocked down two-point shot to extend Cypress' only lead of the night to three. After was nearly all Hornets. A layup by Junior Linsey Orr a couple of possessions later would get the scoring started for the home team, and back-toback threes by Junior Paige Atwater would immediately put the Hornets in control 8-3 midway through the first quarter. Atwater would log her third trey of the period to put the home team up 10 and they were off to the races.

bevy of rebounds and timely steals. "Every day we focus on [rebounds], even though we're a tall team," Coach Hughes said. "Doesn't matter, still need to rebound. Got to be physical inside and rebounds all come down to effort and attitude, you know? You got to want it. You got to want it. It's up there to grab it. It's a freebie, right? So, I just tell them just to dominate, just keep jumping, keep boxing out, and keep being physical.'

Coach Hughes squad created these opportunities for themselves by being aggressive and nabbing a

Once the Coyotes trailed by double digits, the home team never let them come closer than a brief eight-point deficit late in the second frame. Coming into quarter number two, Orr and Atwater kept things rolling with shots from downtown. This gave the home team a commanding 25-10 lead. The teams would eventually reach the half with the scoreboard reading 36-21. The Hornets went on to outscore the visitors 21-14 in the second half as well enroute to a 20-point game for Atwater. Not to be outdone, other players for the Hornets such as Orr and Sophomore Rayana Coleman also provided key scores, steals, and rebounds when the team needed plays to maintain their comfortable lead.

"Everyone played extremely well," Coach Hughes said. "It was a great team effort tonight all across the board from the first one to the last one. Everyone just keep rocking and rolling. Every game there's always one that stands out, but tonight it was just an incredible team



Weeki Wachee High, 1, Paige Atwater looks to pass into the paint during the game against Cypress Creek Wednesday at Weekie Wachee High. Photo by JOE DICRISTOFALO

WORD LADDER —— Answer CROSS, CROPS, CHOPS, CHAPS, CHATS, COATS



Weeki Wachee High, 22, Rayanna Coleman shoots over the Cypress Creek defense Wednesday at Weekie Wachee High. Photo by JOE DICRISTOFALO

Coming up for the Hornets:

Mon, 11/28 7:30pm at Lecanto

Tue, 11/29 7:30pm at Home against Citrus Inverness



Weeki Wachee High, 5, Arianna Williams gets fouled on the way to the basket in the game against Cypress Creek Wednesday at Weekie Wachee High. Photo by JOE DiCRISTOFALO



Weeki Wachee High, 5, Arianna Williams gets fouled while putting up a shot in the game against Cypress Creek Wednesday at Weekie Wachee High. Photo by JOE DICRISTOFALO



Weeki Wachee High, 23, Linsey Orr works against a Cypress Creek defender Wednesday at Weekie Wachee High. Photo by JOE DICRISTOFALO



Weeki Wachee High, 2, Gabby Scott maneuvers through the Cypress Creek defense Wednesday at Weekie Wachee High. Photo by JOE DiCRISTOFALO

Girls Varsity Basketball Roundup

Springstead (2-1)

The Springstead varsity girls basketball team beat Crystal River by a score of 40-38 on 11/18. On Tuesday 11/22, the varsity girls beat Seminole 34-27. Next up is Hernando at the Eagles Nest on 11/29 at 6:30 pm.

Nature Coast (2-0) The Nature Coast varsity girls basketball team is currently on a 2 game

win streak. On 11/15 they played against Citrus and won by a score of 71-12. Gabriella Lee was selected Player of the Game. On 11/18 they played Lecanto and won 52-37. Next, the Sharks will take on the Gulf Buccaneers (2-0) on Monday, 11/28 at 7:30pm at home.

Central (0-2) Central is still searching for their first win.

The Central varsity girls basketball team played two home games this past week. On 11/16 they lost to Hudson by a score of 53-32. On 11/18 Central played Gulf and lost by a score of 50-9. They play Lecanto on 11/29 at 7:30pm at home.

Hernando High (2-1) On 11/15 the Hernando varsity basketball team lost their non-conference game against Gulf 43-39. Yet they ended the week strong winning 2 non-conference games. On 11/17 they beat Pasco 56-44. On 11/18 the team beat South Sumter 59-39. Congratulations to #4 Kayla Holloman for being selected the Hernando Girls Basketball Player of the Game on 11/18.

FUN AND GAMES

GBIN EN BILL IT

"The Pilgrim kids didn't get a toy with their Happy Meal, Otis!"

Americanisms "Thanksgiving is so called because we are all so thankful that it only comes once a year." — P. J. O'Rourke

© 2022 King Features Syndicate, Inc. Sudoku solution on p B 11

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: F equals T

Z'P OIYMPYAUCE FZMOV YR

WJNZIS IY TJMOOM JIV FWAU

UFMASSCZIS RZIJITZJCCE.

Z IOOV J NYTJFZYI!

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Solution to Crypto on page B 10

WORD LADDERS

Can you go from CROSS to COATS in 6 words? Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

cross

coats

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LADDER SOLN ON P B 9

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ON P B 11

Super Crossword — — —



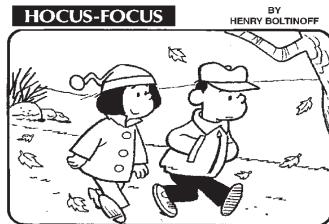
W D



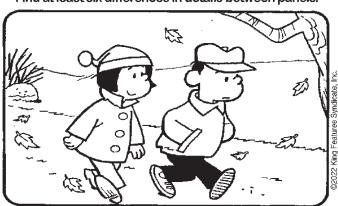
Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps





Find at least six differences in details between panels.



different. 4. Pocket is moved. 5. Žipper is missing. 6. Leg is moved.

BWS solution on p B 11

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 21:12-13

You will make them turn their backs when you aim at them with drawn bow. Be exalted in your strength, LORD; we will sing and praise your might.

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION



Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

WWW.SEARCHING-FOR-JESUS.COM

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CryptoQuip

answer

I'm enormously tired of having no career and thus struggling financially. I need a vocation!

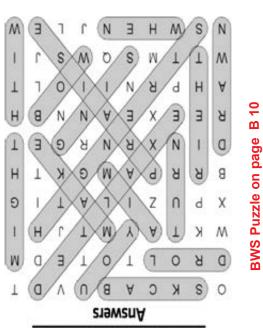






FUN AND GAMES

STEVEN HOWARD BORGGRE HEY JAKE, NHAT'S FOR HMM...LOOKS LIKE DINNER? RUMP ROAST AND CHICKEN WINGS. 11-25-2022



by Wilson Casey

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

- 1. Which book of the Bible (KJV) mentions the word "thanksgiving" the most times at eight? Genesis, Nehemiah, Psalms, Isaiah
- 2. In 2 Timothy 3:1-2, what human qualities does Paul list as being signs of the last days? Adulterers, Sun worshipers, Renegades, Unthankful people
- 3. From Psalms 106:1 (KJV), "O give thanks unto the Lord; for his endureth for ever." Hope, Good, Mercy, Spirit
- 4. In 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "In every thing give thanks; for this is the of God"? Power, Will, Gratitude, Travail
- 5. From Leviticus 22, a sacrifice of thanksgiving is most meaningful when it is ... Sincere, Often, At your own will, Extravagant
- 6. Where was Jonah when he prayed with the voice of thanksgiving? Fish's belly, Aboard ship, In the wilderness, *Mountaintop*

Super Crossword

EASY-PEASY

ACROSS

- 1 Conceptual framework
- 7 Nickname of jazz pianist Earl Hines
- 12 Cat feature 16 Mailbox
- item: Abbr.
- 19 Cajoles 20 Backcountry
- 21 Actor Alan 22 Before
- 23 Saving a Hilton
- from being demolished? 26 Rove (about)
- 27 Eisenhower, informally 28 Dawn deity
- 29 Country that's the setting of a story told by Jesus?
- 31 Confusion when a golfer can't find the club for the green?
- **36** 2000-15 CBS show
- 37 Two racing Unsers 38 Strike -
- (do some modeling) 39 Admission of
- defeat 41 "The way things now stand ..."

- **44** Road named for a head of state?
- 50 Intent 53 Golf average 101 "Penn & **54** Mental
- sharpness **55** Santa winds
- 56 One who's bad at playing practical jokes?
- 62 Richard of "The Jackal" 63 Former AT&T rival
- **64** Creepy 65 Tax audit org. 66 Hunchback
- 67 Belgian river 68 Favorite crucifix style? 74 "I see!,"
- facetiously 77 Match units **78** Cruise of "Top Gun"
- 79 Actress Bette 126 kwon do 83 No. in Fife 84 DVR choice
- 85 Evangelizing in remote areas? 89 Fast internet
- SVC. 90 Final words from a bully
- 92 Tirana's nation: Abbr. 93 Picnic pest

- **94** Subatomic matter that may or may
- not exist? Teller: —"
- (TV series) 102 Maui "hello" 103 Hunter
- constellation 107 Three in "minimum" 108 Big tea
- vessel 110 Aviator who was really
- courageous? 114 Little squeeze from a
- fuddy-duddy? 118 Grain variety creator Victor 119 NASA's
 - Eagle, e.g. 120 Suffix with resin or riot
 - 121 Forehead border you had before you started going bald?
 - 127 Coal source **128** Door
 - reply to "Who's there?" 129 Most current
 - 130 Antiquated 131 Fax, e.g. **132** "The
 - battle —!" 133 Provides, as with power

- Tito
- plan 3 Would really
- rather not 4 Application
- extension 5 Actor Gibson
- 7 Not stale 8 Vienna's
- **10** Persists in
- discussing 11 Thomas —
- bye-byes
- 13 Perp's excuse
- 14 Revered one 15 Narrow road
- **16** Groups of trial lawyers 17 Fleeting
- quality
- 33 Alway 34 Assistance
- 40 Sky light
- 42 Eyelid

- 1 Italian tenor
- 2 Devise, as a
- filename
- **6** According to
- nation: Abbr. 9 Two after uno
- Edison
- 12 British

- 18 Comic Foxx 24 Mythical bird
- 25 Bitterly cold 30 Jungle den 32 Recipe qty.
- 35 Bullring holler
- 41 40-Down
- studier's sci. malady

- 43 One of a flight of
- steps 45 MPG monitor 46 USA's Uncle

57 Frank Sacks

"— the

Unicorn"

58 Plunk lead-in

59 Helpful hints

60 Get it wrong

Girl" (top 5

tune for the

61 "— Be My

O'Jays)

66 Source of

CBD oil

67 "Right on!"

Egyptian

familiarly

72 In support of

73 Govt. health

74 "— you act

now ..."

segue)

75 Is unrivaled

76 Hardly ever

80 By way of

81 Hostel

employed

(infomercial

agcy.

69 Ancient

god

- 47 A Gershwin 48 Be an omen
- Doctor" airer of 91 Virgin Mary's 49 Feudal vassal
- mother: Abbr. 50 Big galoot 95 Actress 51 Outrage Lanchester **52** Impair
 - 96 Many #1 songs

82 Mil. officer

84 Bean curd

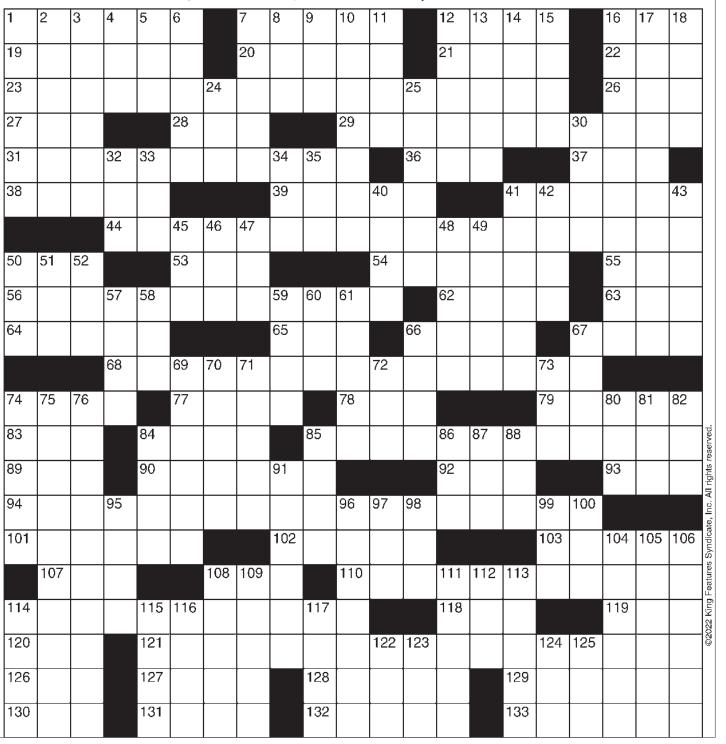
87 Yale alum

88 "The Good

85 Touch

86 Traitor

- 97 Calder Cup rink org.
- 98 Writer Santha Rama —
- 99 Email giggle 100 Verdi's "- tu"
- 104 Instead (of) 105 Danish port
- **106** Big Apple
- MLB squad 108 Coll. in Philly
- **109** Made grain-sized 111 Skater Sasha
- 112 Python in 70 Dwarfs' count "The Jungle 71 Vodka brand,
 - Book" 113 Scrabble 4-pointer
 - 114 Hernando de —
 - 115 Engine stats 116 A Great Lake 117 Roman 402
 - 122 Sydney's state: Abbr.
 - 123 Non- food 124 Sprinted 125 "Inc." relative



Solution to Crossword on page B 10

Weekly SUDOKU

S 9 ∞ g 4 2 ന S 6 ∞ 2 G 4 က ~ 9 S 2 က 9 ∞ 4 တ ဖ ∞ S N က 4 တ S 4 9 ∞ က S ∞ 6 S S 4 ဖ က တ ∞ α 9 S က 4 ∞ S 4 ~ S ဖ 6 က S 9 S 6 က 4 ∞ ~

Amber Waves







by Dave T. Phipps



OBITUARIES

Maciuk, Cassie N., age 97, passed away on Friday, November 18, 2022. Src; Brewer

DeVries, Jason Michael, age 44, passed away on Saturday, November 19, 2022. Src; Brewer

Smith, Mardelle, age 68, passed away on Saturday, November 19, 2022. Mardelle is survived by her loving family. Src; Brewer

Magier, Igor, age 82, passed away on Saturday, November 19, 2022. Igor is survived by his loving family. Src; Brewer

Pate, Richard, age 68, passed away on Sunday, November 20, 2022. Src; Brewer

Castro, Edna, age 72, passed away on Sunday, November 20, 2022. Src; Brewer

VanDyke, Marva J., age 82, passed away on Sunday, November 20, 2022. She is survived by her daughters, Valerie, Rachel, Cynthia; brother, Joe; five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. She will be dearly missed by family, friends and all who knew her. Src; Downing

Shaver, Phillip F., age 71, passed away on Monday, November 21, 2022. He is survived by his loving wife, Barbara; sons, Joseph, Phillip, Daniel, and Scott; brothers, Steven, Richard; sisters, Marge, Sandra; one grandchild. Phillip will be dearly missed by his family and friends. Src; Downing

Dolores Jourell (Jerry) Barry, 96, peacefully passed away Friday November 18, 2022 at the Brooksville Healthcare Center. Jerry is survived by her daughters and their husbands Susan and Jerry Steadman, Lisa and Richard Van-Pelt, and Lynne and Kerry (KO) Smith and her grandchildren: Jessica, Bjorn and Chrissy. Jerry will be missed by all she touched. Svc: Merritt

BORN LEARNING TRAIL FROM PAGE B 1

bring my four-year-old daughter with me to enjoy painting and playing in the park. Now Kennedy Park is where we will go to enjoy the outdoors and the educational walking trail.

The sidewalk was plain gray and somewhat gloomy-looking before volunteers brightly painted shapes, ABCs, and hopscotch numbers along the walking area. Volunteers also enjoyed an excellent breakfast and coffee from Dunkin' Donuts and lunch from Checkers, brought to the park by the fantastic local owners.

Many volunteer opportunities are available, especially in November and the holiday season around the corner. Anyone can sign up for email updates and volunteer matches straight to their email. So whether you enjoy helping people through food drives or participating in a community clean-up, there is something for everyone, young and old.

One volunteer commented at the initiative, "This is definitely a labor of love," as he spoke

about how getting down and kneeling on the sidewalk was a little hard on the body and took a lot of time. Also, creating and touching up the paint lines took skills I didn't know I had. However, everyone worked together up til the end, offering all the extra coats of paint they could find. Donations of paint are greatly appreciated and are what made this project possible. Though back-breaking work, the weather and the Lord gave us the strength to finish a very rewarding and adorned trail to be cherished for years to come.

Kennedy Park is located at 899 Kennedy Blvd, Brooksville, FL 34601.



Dedicated volunteers that assisted in the installation of the Born Learning Trail at Kennedy Park. Photo via United Way Hernando County.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



Perhaps I will stay with you for a while, or even spend the winter, so that you can help me on my journey, wherever I go.

1 CORINTHIANS 16:6

Detail of "Winter" by Stanislav Nikireev (1972)

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MARRIAGES

Please note that the date reflects the date the marriage license was recorded at the Hernando County Clerk of Court, not necessarily the marriage date.

Rivera, Burgos Javier and Vargas, Cintron Lizbeth on 11/16/2022 Johnson, Erik Andrew and Osborne, Michelle Lynn on 11/16/2022 Martel, Jerry and Edwards, Evelyn Bernice on 11/17/2022 Spivey, Dalton Cody and Short, Alissa Marie on 11/17/2022 Mangarillo, Logan John and Eberts, Amanda Nicole on 11/17/2022 Irias, Christian Brandon and Kibby, Brianna Louise on 11/18/2022 Algor, Justin Michael and Pepe, Victori

Kotow, Nickolie Dakota and Brown, Ci Dormany, Steven Keith and Salas, Jessi Campos, Maria Guadalupe and Aguinaga, Lo Weber, Matthew Alan and Wever, Isab Rosso, Jacob Francis and Appel, Caitly Prado, Vincent James and Gaitan, Eric Prior, Nicholas Aaron and Mccarty, Sai Goff, Johnathan Tyler and Burr, Sabrina Pat on 11/21/2022

Borek, Dawid Lukasz and Grzechnik, Iv Vercruysse, Nickolas Giovanni and Thompso Soto, Juan and Ravenelle, Jessica Lucas, Gary Forest and Mann, Cynthia As Hoynacky, Max Arron and Hilley, Angel Canner, Brian Scott and Remillard, Selam Balogh, Kevin Joseph and Munson, Kr.

Homan, Josh Tyler and Peterson, Rebe Birner, Kristopher Allen and Cianfrocco, Amber Marie on 11/22/202



D#10333009 - Diamond is a precious white & brown female precious write & prowin remaie terrier mix, approximately 52 lbs. She was brought in as a stray, but has roots back to Virginia. Unfortunately, no connection has been made with

now up for is a very es treats be around e spree ving and will vonderful ou have and greet is always recommended. Diamond is spayed,

cinated,

nd will have

Il license at

D#10332570 - Izzy is an adorable tan & white female Black Mouth Cur, approximately 72

lbs. She was found on property in Brooksville and brought into shelter care. Izzy is a quiet, calm dog and loves taking in the outdoors when she's in the spree areas. She also knows some basic commands and takes treats very gently. Izzy seems to be good with other dogs, but a meet and greet with your dog is always recommended. An orthopedic waiver must be signed with this adoption. Izzy is spayed, micro-chipped, vaccinated, heartworm tested and will have a 1-yr county animal license at the time of adoption.



D#10331568 – Scarlet is a beautiful white & gray female Bulldog mix, approximately 53 lbs. She was adopted and returned because she got into a fray with the family's other dogs. While at the shelter, Scarlet has not reacted to the cats or other dogs, and is fed alongside her kennel mate. She's been super friendly towards staff, volunteers and the public, and is very laid back. We also understand from the owners that stand from the owners that Scarlet did exceptionally well with their 6 children. If you have another dog at home though, a meet and greet is highly recommended. Scarlet is spayed, micro-chipped, vaccinated, heartworm tested and will have a 1-yr county animal license at the time of adoption.

re Tu 10:30-6, Fr 9:30-4:30 and Sat 10-3. Adoption fees are \$50 for adult dogs over 25 pounds, \$70 for puppies and small dogs under 25 pounds, \$25 for heart-AC@hernando.fl.us.





