



County Commissioner Ron Oakley throws the first pitch on Dade City Little League's opening day.

## Dade City Little League Opens

More Than 300 Players On 28 Teams

Story and photos by Jeff Hupp

Hundreds of boys and girls donned their new uniforms Saturday for the Dade City Little League season-opener.

It was a smashing success.

Just before 9 a.m., all teams in the league lined up in formation as new league president Amy Gant introduced each team, the players and coaches.

Gant opened the ceremonies by reciting the Little League

Pledge, followed by the Dade City Veterans of Foreign Wars presenting colors, and a former player sang the national anthem.

Master of ceremonies was

**League • Continued on Page 2B**

## PHSC Cheer Team Wins State Title



The PHSC 2017 cheer team at American Championships. From left, top row: Elizabeth Stowers, Adam Hall, Kyle Gaedgens, Scott Howery and Dealaney Allen. Middle row, from left: Kelli McKenna, Jasmine DeSierra, Marisa French, Nicole Ficarrota and Sarah Kahn; Bottom row, from left: Rumiko Sharkey, Amanda Kahn and Hailey Bishop.

Photo Provided

## Local College Athletes Compete In Florida Championships Cheer And Dance Competition

Staff Report

The Pasco-Hernando State College cheer team won the state championship title in the College Co-Ed Level 6 division at the American Championships Official Florida Championships Cheer and Dance competition at the Florida State Fair on Feb. 11. This marks the seventh consecutive year the PHSC cheer team has competed at the American Championships and its fifth state champion title.

"The team received a score of 88.78 out of 100," said Sophia Fluellen, head coach and PHSC advisor. "We pushed really hard and the team faced some adversity this semester. However, they pulled together and made it happen."

Fluellen, also a PHSC cheerleading alum, hopes to gain a national title at the Cheer Ltd. Collegiate Nationals at Canam in Myrtle Beach, S.C., on March 17 where the team will compete in the Collegiate Small Coed Division. The team placed fifth in their first national appearance in 2015, then fourth place in 2016. "Our sights are always set on improvement – hoping for a first place this year," said Fluellen.

Visit [www.phsc.edu/athletics/cheerleading](http://www.phsc.edu/athletics/cheerleading) for information about the PHSC cheer team and other athletic programs, or to view the award winning routine.

## Young Pirates Sunk By Bulldogs



In the last basketball game of the season, the Pasco Middle School Pirates lost 39-27 against rival Bulldogs from R.B. Stewart Middle School on Feb. 28.

Photo by Freeze Frame Photo

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**League • Continued from Page 1B**

Pasco County Commissioner Ron Oakley who threw out the first pitch of the season. Oakley threw a one hopper to the catcher and the crowd of over a thousand people erupted in cheer.

"I haven't thrown a baseball in many years," Oakley said "but it's a blessing these children get to play this great sport."

Gant then called board of directors and the league staff to home plate for a hearty applause for all the hard work they do to make the Dade City Little League one of the best around.

"These directors donate their time and energy for all the children here at the park," Gant said.

With more than 300 players on 28 teams, the league has divisions that include tee-ball, and the challenger division that has players with physical challenges, up to the senior division.

The main fundraiser was a chance for teams to practice and hang out with professional baseball players from the New York Yankees Class A Tampa Yankees. Gant said more than 6,000 tickets were sold league-wide and the top seller was 1st-grader Parker



All participating little league teams stood on the field during the opening ceremonies last Saturday.

Creech, who sold 867 himself.

Opening Day activities continued well into the afternoon as each team played 'mini' games as a chance to showcase their skills among family and friends.

The Pasco High School JV baseball team sold pancake breakfasts to all hungry bystanders with the mix donated by Publix Super Markets.

The Dade City Little League runs through mid-June so come out and support your stars of tomorrow.

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# Church News

Email Church News to [church@pasconewspubs.com](mailto:church@pasconewspubs.com)

**Fort Dade Baptist Church** – Pastor Ellis Matkin invites you to join Fort Dade Baptist Church for revival services from March 27-31 at 6 p.m. nightly. Regular services held every Sunday at 10 a.m. Sunday School for children and adults, worship at 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. and midweek Bible Study on Wednesday at 6 p.m. Ladies Bible study is Thursday mornings 10-12 a.m. Church is located at 14231 Old Mission Road in Dade City. Call (352) 583-4684 for information.

**First Baptist Church of Dade City** – Worship services are on Sundays at 9:15 or 10:45 a.m. and children's services at 9:15 a.m. Nursery is available. A Spanish service is held at 1 p.m. Sunday and youth activities are at 5 p.m.

Wednesdays beginning at 6:15 p.m. a variety of Bible studies are available. For the children and youth, AWANA for age 4 through fifth grade and middle and high school activities are offered. Visit [www.fbcdadecity.org](http://www.fbcdadecity.org) or call (352) 567-3265 for information.

**Darby Community Church** – Join us every Sunday morning at 11 a.m. for church service led by Pastor Chris Conti. Childcare is available for children ages six and under. Darby Community Church is located at 14745 Bellamy Brothers Blvd. in Dade City. Contact us at (352) 588-2440.

**Living Waters United Church** – The church is located at 15034 Hill Road. Regular Sunday worship is held at 10 a.m. Visit the Living Waters United Church Facebook page for information.

**Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church** – Sunday service is at 9:30 a.m. Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church is located at 37015 Orange Valley Lane in Dade City,

on the corner of Ft. King Road and Clinton Avenue. Call (352) 567-8424 or visit [www.shephillslc.org](http://www.shephillslc.org) for information.

Please consider donating canned goods and non-perishable items to our food pantry, which is open on the third Saturday of the month from 10 a.m.-noon.

**Pasadena Baptist Church** – Located at 35845 Clinton Ave. in Dade City. Our regular worship times on Sundays: Sunday school at 10 a.m.; worship services at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; and Wednesday prayer meeting at 6:30 p.m. We also have 5th Sunday Singspiration, followed by food and fellowship.

We now have movie night the last Friday of each month. Everyone is invited, no charge, bring a snack and cold drink if you like. Movies are shown in the fellowship hall.

Also, our Pasadena Outreach is available for anyone who may need a little extra help. We offer, clothing, food, and household items. Pasadena Outreach is open on Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. for clothing and household items and Saturdays from 8-10:30 a.m. for food.

**Oak Ridge Missionary Baptist Church** – Join us for Sunday services at the following times: Sunday school at 10 a.m.; Sunday morning worship service at 11 a.m.; Sunday evening worship service at 5 p.m.; and Wednesday evening prayer/worship service at 7 p.m. The food bank is open from 5-7 p.m. every third Wednesday. The church is located on Kersey Road (just off Coit Road) in Lacochee.

**Ridge Manor Community United Methodist Church** – Regular services are held at 10:15 a.m. each Sunday at 34350 Cortez Blvd. in Ridge Manor. Call (352) 583-3770 for information.

**First Presbyterian Church** – The historic First Presbyterian Church, located at 37412 Church Ave., worships every Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Call (352) 567-2591 or [firstpresdadecity@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresdadecity@gmail.com) for information.

**Lacochee Cowboy Ministries** – Service times are 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. The Lacochee Cowboy Ministries is located at 39650 Coit Road in Dade City. "Where the spirit of the Lord is there is Freedom."

**Lifestyle Church of God** – You are cordially invited to attend Sunday school at 10 a.m. and worship services at 11 a.m. at Lifestyle Church of God, 21345 Sanderson Road, Lacochee. A Wednesday service is also held at 7 p.m.

with a meal preceding at 6 p.m. Call lead pastors Paul or Melissa Kilcrease at (352) 583-3354 or like us on Facebook for more information.

**Celebrate Recovery** – A new, 12-step recovery program and ministry designed for anyone struggling with life. If you have ever had a hurt, if you have ever had a hang-up in life, or perhaps you have struggled with an addiction, then this ministry is for you. Celebrate Recovery is currently offered in 30,000 churches worldwide. An estimated 1.5 million people have completed the 12 steps. It is offered every Monday night at 7 p.m. year round at First Baptist Church of Dade City, 37511 Church Avenue. Call (352) 567-3265 for information.

## First Baptist Church of Dade City

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# Community & Club News

Email Club News to [clubs@pasconewspubs.com](mailto:clubs@pasconewspubs.com)

## Pasco County Historical Society

The next meeting will be held March 11 at 12 noon at the Pioneer Florida Museum, 15602 Pioneer Museum Road in Dade City. The Pioneer Florida Museum & Village, in cooperation with Florida Humanities Council, will explore the professions and the people that sustain American society when it hosts "The Way We Worked," a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition. "The Way We Worked," adapted from an original exhibition developed by the National Archives and Records Administration, explores how work has become a central element in American culture. Historical society meetings are free and open to the public. Contact (352) 567-7449 for information.

## Pasco County Genealogy Society

The next meeting will be held March 11. William W. Reynolds will speak on "Extracting Genealogical Data from Military Records" with focus on the American Revolution, War of 1812 and the Civil War. The meeting will be at the Latter Day Saints Church on Fort King Road in Dade City. Call (813) 788-8894 for information.

## Centennial Eagles #4399

Friday Fish Fry is from 4:30-7 p.m. Fish, shrimp, and ribeye steak dinners, with choice of baked potato, French fries, or onion rings as well as other sides and dessert. Charlie Williams provide music from 6-9 p.m. Come for dinner and stay for dancing.

Weekly events include: Sundays – Doors open at 11:30 a.m. for 1 p.m. Bar Bingo. Jam with the G.O.C band from 4-7 p.m. Monday – Dart Night at 7 p.m. Steel tipped and soft tipped. Tuesdays – Pool Tournament at 7 p.m. Men's Night drink specials. Wednesdays – Card night

at 7 p.m. Ladies Night drink specials. Thursdays – Bar Bingo at 7 p.m. Fridays – Fish Fry and Charlie Williams. Saturdays – Queen of Hearts drawing at 8 p.m.

Aerie meetings are on the first and third Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Auxiliary meetings are held the first and third Wednesdays at 7 p.m. The Eagles are located at 15924 U.S. 301. Call (352) 567-9755 for information.

## East Pasco Networking Group

The next meeting will be March 14 at 7:30 a.m. at The Village Inn in Zephyrhills, 5214 Gall Blvd. on the corner of U.S. 301 and S.R. 54. The meeting will feature local author Madonna Wise. Contact Nils Lenz at (813) 782-9491 or [nilslenz@gmail.com](mailto:nilslenz@gmail.com), or Vicky Jones at (813) 431-1149 or [donlvic1@yahoo.com](mailto:donlvic1@yahoo.com) or [manager@palmtreemhp.com](mailto:manager@palmtreemhp.com) for information or to suggest topics or speakers. If you would like to speak, contact us ASAP as we are now scheduling for 2017.

## Kiwanis Club of Dade City

This service organization meets every Tuesday at noon at the American Legion Hall, located at 37745 Church Ave. in Dade City. Lunch is followed by a speaker on current topics of interest to the club. Kiwanis is a worldwide organization whose focus is on the children of the world. The Dade City club's primary focus is on helping the children of East Pasco County. Guests are welcome to come to a meeting and learn more about how we support children in our community.

## American Legion Post #15

Join us Saturday nights starting at 6 p.m. for Karaoke with Rick. Saturday dinners are available from 5-6 p.m. Sing along, laugh and meet old friends. A music jam happens every Wednesday from 7-9 p.m. Bring your instrument to join in or just listen to the

music and sing along. Refreshments are available for purchase. The post features a full service bar. American Legion Post #15 conducts regular business meetings on the second Monday of each month. All members are encouraged to attend. We are located at 37745 Church Ave. in Dade City. Join us in support of all Veterans and hometown heroes. Call (352) 518-0021 for information.

## Sunrise Rotary Club of Dade City

Sunrise Rotary Club of Dade City meets on Thursdays at the Hampton Inn, on U.S. 301 in Dade City, at 7 a.m. We are seeking potential new members that can bring fresh ideas to the club, serve the community and help eradicate polio. Come and join us for breakfast.

## Zumba for College Scholarships

Every Monday and Wednesday from 6-7 p.m. Come dance for \$3 per class at La Onda Dance Club, 37518 Lock St. in Dade City. All proceeds go to graduating seniors college scholarships. Email [griveras@mail.usf.edu](mailto:griveras@mail.usf.edu) for information.

## Community Cycling Ride

Ride leaves from the parking lot next to 14112 Eighth St. in Dade City at 8 a.m. every Saturday and is approximately two hours long with a varying pace depending on skill levels.

All skill levels are welcome. Contact Josh or Kaleigh Thornton at [wickedawesomeracing@gmail.com](mailto:wickedawesomeracing@gmail.com) for information.

## Chess Club

The Hugh Embry Library Chess Club meets Wednesdays from 5-7:30 p.m. every week. We have the boards and pieces so bring your winning attitude and chess clock if you prefer to use one. Meetings are

held at the Hugh Embry Library Meeting Room, 14215 Fourth St. in Dade City. Contact Glen Thompson at [bookbollard@icloud.com](mailto:bookbollard@icloud.com) or call (352) 567-7449 for information.

## Alcoholics Anonymous

If you have, or even think you may have, a problem with alcohol, call (813) 933-9123.

## Narcotics Anonymous

Information about various Narcotics Anonymous meetings that are held several days a week in East Pasco may be obtained by calling (813) 527-3853. Narcotics Anonymous can help those who have drug problems and who are willing to participate in the program. Narcotics Anonymous is not affiliated with any of the places at which its meetings are held.

## Overeaters Anonymous

Meetings are held at the Seventh-day Adventist Church, located at 7633 Dairy Road in Zephyrhills on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. and Fridays at 11:30 a.m. Newcomers welcome.

## Military Order of the Purple Heart

Chapter #705 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) is calling all combat wounded veterans to join us promoting patriotism, history, fraternalism and assistance. We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at AMVETS Post #550, 4645 Airport Road, Zephyrhills. Life membership is available for all combat wounded veterans, their dependents and survivors, for \$50, payable in two convenient payments of \$25 each. Call Earl McMillan at (813) 782-3425 or email [emcmillan1@verizon.net](mailto:emcmillan1@verizon.net), or contact Guy Patterson at (864) 561-6644 for information.

# Pets of the Week

KILLIAN  
A30615044

Killian is a sweet boy just over 1 year old. He is heartworm positive but heartworm disease is treatable. Killian loves to fetch and is very toy and treat motivated in learning. If you are interested you can find him at Pasco County Animal Services.

DIVA

Diva is a sweet girl who, despite her serious face, is very cuddly. She loves to have her head held and scratched. You can find her at Pasco County Animal Services.

Adopt one of these or other adorable pets today!

## Pasco County Animal Services

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# Spotlight Will Shine On Talent Finalists

The recent preliminary competition for the 34th annual "Spotlight on Talent" contest was a whirlwind of talented students, all primed to compete. This year the audition saw 83 acts, a total of over 160 students. It was a 12-hour day for the producers, the Heritage Arts Center Association, and a most challenging job for the judges. A great variety of performing arts were displayed from both solos and groups.

Heritage Arts will again be presenting the \$1,000 "Pasco Heritage Scholarship" which will go to the graduating Pasco County senior who receives the highest scores the night of the finals.

The performing arts competition includes two final shows because of the huge numbers of applicants and quality of the talent. The top 62 scoring acts, 140 students, will perform March 11.

Act I is at 12 noon and will feature younger solos and groups; Act II is at 7 p.m. and will feature older solos and groups. Both shows will be at the Center for the Arts at Wesley Chapel. Tickets for adults will be \$12 or both shows for \$20; students through high school are \$6 or both for \$10; children under 5 are free. Tickets are only available at the door.

This competition is regional, with

contestants coming from Pasco County and the surrounding areas. All of the final performances will be awarded a trophy, and two professional panels of judges will have the task of selecting winners for cash prizes. In total over \$4,000 in cash, trophies and ribbons will be presented to winners in eight different categories. The finalist performances vary in style from jazz to classical and Broadway to rock.

## Obituaries

Email Obituaries to [jpotter@pasconewspubs.com](mailto:jpotter@pasconewspubs.com)

### Gus Stanley Fennell Jr.

FENNELL, Gus Stanley Jr., 86, of Dade City, passed away March 2, 2017, in Zephyrhills under the care of Gulfside Center for Hospice. He was born March 30, 1930, in Dade City to Gus Stanley Fennell Sr. and Venice May Durden Fennell. Gus was loved by all who knew him. He worked at Standard Auto Parts/NAPA for 36 years and was the former president of the Dade City Rod & Gun Club. He was preceded in death by a son, Mike Fennell, and an infant daughter, Christina Michele Fennell. Gus is survived by his wife of 64 years, Dorothy C. Fennell; two children, Sandra (Larry) O'Neal and David (Bonnie) Fennell; nine grandchildren, Stephanie (Gayle) Bolton, Stacy O'Neal, Brentt O'Neal, Shannon Fennell, Carla Rydzik, Michael Turnbull, Elizabeth Haynes, Leche Fennell and Nickie Fennell; 15 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-granddaughters. Funeral services were held March 6 at the Fifth Street Chapel of Hodges Family Funeral Home. Burial followed at Williams Cemetery.

### Kathleen Killoren

KILLOREN, Kathleen, 84, passed away March 3, 2017, in Zephyrhills. She was born Oct. 11, 1932. She is survived by her three children, Kathleen Scranton, John F. Killoren Jr. and Bruce Killoren; eight grandchildren, William, Krystle, Ashley, A.J., Kailey, Evan, Chyenne and Jacqueline; 11 great-grandchildren; and two sisters: Marie and Loretta. Kathleen was preceded in death by

her son, William (Billy) Killoren, and brother, Danny. Services were held at Hodges Family Funeral Home.

### Daniel Louis Saltsman III

SALTSMAN, Daniel Louis III, 60, passed away March 1, 2017, at his Ridge Manor home surrounded by family. He was born Jan. 31, 1957, to Daniel Louis Saltsman Jr. and Violet Cunningham Saltsman at the Air Force Base in Greenville, Miss. He spent his childhood in Birmingham, Ala., and relocated with his family to Florida in 1972 for high school and college. He graduated from Pasco-Hernando Community College and attended the University of Florida and the University of South Florida. Danny, as he was known to his family and friends, had a favorite scripture that was the cornerstone of his life. "... Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands" 1 Thessalonians 4:11 (NASB). Danny lived a quiet life in the home he built with his beloved wife, Rhonda. He was a gifted carpenter who built multiple family member's homes, did remodeling projects, and crafted custom furniture. He was a dedicated reader and also enjoyed outdoor adventuring. He and Rhonda enjoyed fishing, boating, family camping trips, and scuba diving together. They relished finding unique artwork and gifts from local artists and



discovering out-of-the-way places in the southeast. Danny had a gift of hospitality and could often be found exercising his quick wit and dry sense of humor as he manned the grill at any party. He served in several capacities at First Baptist Church of Dade City, including teaching a Sunday school class for many years, building relationships, and serving as a Deacon. He was preceded in death by his brother, Daryl, and his father, Daniel Jr. He is survived by his wife of 23 years, Rhonda; two children, Rachel (Edwin Monzon) and Brian; two grandchildren, Alberto and Julius; his mother, Violet; siblings, Valerie (John Balogh), Derek (Brandi), and Vicki (Glenn Balogh). A memorial service will be held March 9 at 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Dade City, 37511 Church Ave. Hodges Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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