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## Swinging It For Sumner

Annual Golf Tournament Benefits Pioneer Museum

by Keri McAlpine

The second annual Robert D. Sumner Memorial Golf Tournament is getting ready to tee off.

Funds raised from the tournament will go toward the daily operating costs of the Florida Pioneer Museum & Village in Dade City, according to event coordinator Brenda Minton.



Robert Sumner

Named after a long-time museum trustee and past president, the tournament honors the memory of Sumner, who passed in May 2011 at the age of 76.

"He was an avid golfer. He wasn't very good, but he loved it," joked Robert's son, Keith Sumner. "We did really well last year. Hopefully this year will be even better and we can keep it

Sumner • Continued on Page 8A

## Impact Fees Rising By 92 Percent

Increase To Help School District Will Be Phased In Over Three Years

by Joe Potter

Pasco County Commissioners unanimously approved the first increase in school impact fees in more than a decade during their meeting Tuesday in Dade City.

But it came after a deal was struck between the Pasco school district and the Tampa Bay Builder's Association, a compromise that didn't please everybody.

Initially, the ordinance commissioners were scheduled to vote on last month would have granted the school district up

to a 100-percent increase they had requested. That ordinance also would have required tiered impact fees to be charged for different types of single-family housing.

But the school district and builders agreed on a plan of lowering the amount of increase to 92 percent, and eliminating the single-family housing tiered approach.

Effective Jan. 1, 2018, the fee on a new house will be \$7,128, instead of the \$9,028 the school board had originally requested

Fees • Continued on Page 4A

## Bilirakis Hopes For Healthcare Solution

Congressman Addresses Chamber Breakfast

Story and photos by Joe Potter



Gus Bilirakis gestures as he makes a point while speaking at the Greater Dade City Chamber's monthly business breakfast on Tuesday.

U.S. Rep. Gus Bilirakis told a Tuesday audience that he and his staff are all enrolled on Obamacare, and it's not something he is happy about.

The Republican who represents Florida's 12th District was the featured speaker during the Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce's monthly business breakfast, held at Rosecastle of Zephyrhills.

"If that's what people are on that's what I'm on," Bilirakis told the crowd of about 60 who attended the event. His staff was also required to obtain coverage through the Affordable Care Act, Bilirakis said.

Bilirakis, 54, who was first elected to Congress in 2006 is no fan of the ACA and Republican House and Senate members have unsuccessfully tried so

far to do away with Obamacare, which became effective in 2010.

He also thinks all members of Congress should be on whatever health plan they pass for the rest of America.

"There are some senators who have lost touch with reality on the healthcare issue and that is what we have elections for," he said. He didn't identify any senators by name.

Bilirakis said a bipartisan effort is required to find a way to enact a meaningful and comprehensive health insurance plan for Americans.

"Both parties have good ideas. We need to sit down together and get things done."

Bilirakis received a prolonged round of applause when he said veterans

Bilirakis • Continued on Page 8A

## Karina's Garden Brought To Life

Girl Scouts Earn Silver Star For Project

Story and photos by Joe Potter

Girl Scout Cadets of Troop #1263 of Wesley Chapel turned over a once-untended garden to Sunrise of Pasco on Saturday after having spent months breathing new life into it.

The rehabilitated garden is named in memory of Karina Abdul, who was director of shelter services at Sunrise when she unexpectedly passed away in 2008.

Sunrise of Pasco County Domestic & Sexual Violence Center is the only agency in Pasco County certified to help victims of both domestic violence and sexual assault, said Vicki Wiggins,



Allyssa Duran, left, Sunrise CEO Kelly Sinn, Jestina Abdul, Kaitlin Traboulay and Paige Traboulay participate in the ribbon cutting on Saturday morning. Abdul is the mother-in-law of Karina Abdul for whom the garden is named.

Garden • Continued on Page 6A

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Pg. 1B - PHSC Students Display Skills  
Pg. 3B - Dog Days Live Up To Name

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# Dade City Police Report

## Wandering Grandchild Leads To Woman's Arrest

**Torobia Grinie Sanchez**, 62, of 37213 North Ave., was arrested by Dade City police on Aug. 1 on a charge of child neglect – no/minor injury. Sanchez's 5-year-old granddaughter reportedly was found by strangers inside an apartment complex in which they did not reside in. The child was walking alone with strangers for approximately 20 minutes prior to law enforcement's arrival. Sanchez was advised an hour later that the child was missing. Sanchez was the child's sole caregiver for the past two to three weeks prior to the Aug. 1 incident. She told police she believed the granddaughter was still inside the bedroom sleeping. The child had to cross a major street to get to the apartments. She was found only in a dirty diaper, was barefoot and had dirt all over her. The residence reportedly had an odor of urine and feces. A witness



provided a written statement. Sanchez was booked into the Pasco County Jail.

**Kenneth Arnold III**, 20, of 38012 Leon Diaz Drive, Zephyrhills, was arrested by Dade City police on Aug. 1 on a charge of possession of marijuana – less than 20 grams. Police contacted Arnold at Naomi S. Jones Park, 38122 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., at 10:52 p.m. The park had closed at 10 p.m. Arnold reportedly admitted he had a small amount of marijuana in his bag along with a cigar wrapper. A field test confirmed the substance he had was marijuana. He was released with a notice to appear in court.

**Gregory Scott Day**, 55, of 37967 Hillside Lane, was arrested by Dade City police on July 29 on a charge of domestic battery. Day and his brother were reportedly in a verbal altercation over Day's finances. The victim told police Day tried to grab him and then punched him one time on the left cheek. A visible mark was observed on the victim's face. Day spontaneously told an officer he had "slugged" his brother because he was "pissed off." Day was booked into the Pasco County Jail.



**Travis Lynn Dorough**, 28, of 36624 Thomas Jefferson Road, was arrested by Dade City police on July 31 on a charge of filing a false police report. Officers responded to the address at 11:15 p.m. regarding a reported burglary in progress. Dispatchers told officers the caller had advised he was not home at the time but received a call from his neighbor that two individuals had broken into his home and were currently inside the residence. Officers did observe two adults and one small child who were inside but who did not appear to be burglarizing the residence. The adults and the child came outside and told police they had been staying there for the past six days and that they had permission to be there. They also advised that the homeowner had left approximately 30 minutes prior to officers' arrival and they didn't understand what was going on. The caller told police he would come to the residence

shortly. When he arrived, an investigation determined the caller was allegedly lying to 911 about the entire incident. Dorough said in a post Miranda interview that his neighbor did not call him and tell him people were breaking in. He reportedly advised he had called 911 and told them that someone was breaking in as a way of using law enforcement to make the couple and their child leave his home since he no longer wanted them there. Dorough reportedly gave multiple inconsistent statements during the investigation but did admit he 'just wanted the couple gone'. Dorough was booked into the Pasco County Jail.

**Brittany Augusta Lowe**, 26, of San Antonio, was arrested by Dade City police on July 30 on a charge of petit retail theft. Lowe allegedly took curtains, linen and curtain hooks valued at \$154 while at Walmart, 12650 U.S. 301, concealed the items in a large bag, and left the store without paying for the items. She also reportedly had toiletry items valued at \$25 in her purse. She is reportedly known to loss prevention from previous theft cases. Lowe allegedly dropped the bag and fled in a vehicle driven by an unknown female but was eventually located and arrested.

**John Fitzgerald Ivy Jr.**, 35, of 14860 17th St., was apprehended by Dade City police on Aug. 2 on a warrant for violation of probation – driving while license suspended or revoked. Ivy was taken into custody at the Probation and Parole Office after the warrant was confirmed and was booked into the Pasco County Jail.

**Alfred Adams**, 59, of 38307 Tuskegee Ave., was apprehended by Dade City police on Aug. 5 on a Pasco County warrant charging him with failure to appear – battery. Contact was made with Adams at his residence and he was booked into the Pasco County Jail upon confirmation of the warrant.

The information provided in the Dade City Police report is taken from public record. All parties are considered innocent until proven guilty.

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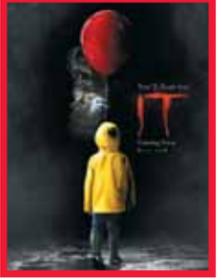


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# SMARTStart Has New Manager

## Andrew Romaner Took The Reins During July

Story and photo by Joe Potter

The Pasco Economic Development Council recently brought in an entrepreneur to run their flagship incubator project.

With last month's hiring of Andrew Romaner as program manager, the incubator has evolved into SMARTStart Entrepreneur Center.

Romaner, 33, was offered the position after Krista Covey, the former manager of Dade City SMARTStart Business Incubator, left for a different job in San Antonio, Texas.

He was previously involved on management teams of three early stage technology ventures in Florida, one of which is still thriving.

"But that's okay – that's how you learn," Romaner said of the other two startups. The business that is still ongoing provides health information for mothers.

Romaner was hired April 10 as a program assistant and worked with Covey at the 37837 Meridian Ave. center, but he had his sights set on higher things.

"I hoped that just as a program assistant I would get to work with the entrepreneurs and Krista allowed me to do that and it was so wonderful for me. Of course, that's now most of what I do," Romaner said.

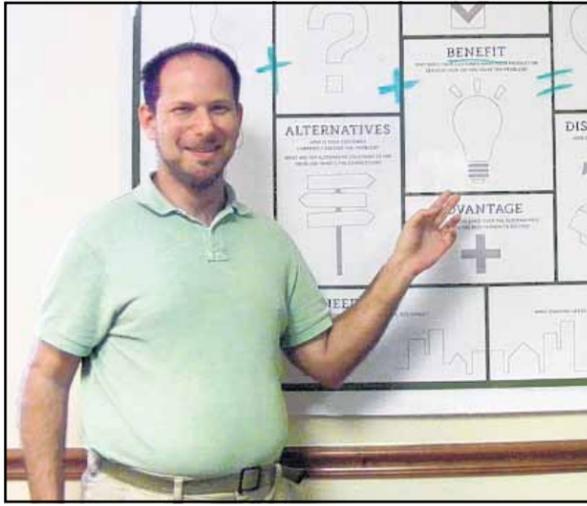
His interview for the assistant's job with Covey and PEDC vice president John Walsh quickly turned into a healthy exchange of ideas about their views of the various business opportunities in Pasco County. He found out that he and Covey shared similar views.

"I thought that I would get to work with Krista for a year before coming into this role but she had an exciting opportunity in San Antonio," he said.

Romaner earned a bachelor's degree in International Affairs from George Washington University and a master's degree in Public Health from the University of South Florida.

He has previously worked as a management consultant for an international health program in disease eradication, according to the PEDC.

Romaner manages the delivery of research, planning,



SMARTStart Entrepreneur Center Program Manager Andrew Romaner with a chart outlining steps the center takes in helping businesses to become more successful.

marketing and recruitment activities, and facilitates the development of new and expanding entrepreneurial businesses.

His responsibilities also include researching and coordinating strategies to support entrepreneurship in targeted areas, compiling and analyzing data, recruiting mentors, guest speakers and local experts, and coordinating monthly activities and presentations to help cultivate new and expanding businesses.

The Entrepreneur Center works with new businesses that are starting up and with existing businesses that are trying to expand.

"I know what it's like to be an entrepreneur. It can be lonely sometimes. So my goal as program manager is for our members to feel like they are never alone while doing this," Romaner said.

He will be able to focus his efforts on east Pasco because PEDC recently opened an Entrepreneur Center in New Port Richey to serve the west Pasco area.

The Temple Terrace native currently lives in Wesley Chapel, but said he is looking for a home in the Dade City area.

He added that he loves to cook and loves to travel.

# SMARTStart Program Provides Office Space

by Joe Potter

The SMARTStart Entrepreneur Center in Dade City is a Pasco Economic Development Council program that provides assistance to established small businesses or to businesses that are just starting up.

There are five private offices at the center on Meridian Avenue.

On-site members receive anytime access to the facilities with dedicated office space, free WiFi, free parking, available co-working space, a post office box, and access to conference and meeting rooms.

There is also a co-working area that has five desks.

The co-working area is a new development for SMARTstart. People who utilize space in that area are not ready yet to rent a private office.

There is also a classroom, a conference room and an open space that can be used for meetings at the new site.

SMARTStart members can hold classes in the classroom, where PEDC staff and experts from area businesses and universities also offer training there. The classroom is used for business related topics such as starting a business.

The purpose of the incubators is to engage entrepreneurs, grow new businesses, and create job opportunities in Pasco County.

To take advantage of what SMARTStart has to offer, applicants must be either a new business; in the process of establishing a business; undertaking pre-business research or development, or testing an idea; moving from a home-based business; or re-establishing an existing business.

Personnel from SMARTstart as well as outside experts answer questions or provide training that entrepreneurs may need to help them become successful.

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## East Pasco Events

**Aug. 17 – Stress: The Underestimated Assassin** – Definitely a silent killer. This session will talk about how stress impacts our body and techniques for minimizing it. Held from 1-2 p.m. at Florida Hospital Zephyrhills' Creation Health Wellness Center, 38233 Daughtery Road. Call (813) 779-6476 for information and required reservations.

**Aug. 17 – Premier Community HealthCare Group** – This presentation from Premier HealthCare will provide information about their services and help with health-care forms. Held from 12-2 p.m. at Hugh Embry Library, 14215 Fourth St. Call (352) 567-3576 for information.

**Aug. 19 – Wine Festival** – Florida Estates Winery, located at 25241 S.R. 52 near Land O'Lakes, will host a wine festival from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. The event will include vendors offering many unique gifts, live entertainment and an opportunity to sample the winery's offerings and meet our winemaker for an educational tasting. This event is pet friendly. Call (813) 996-2113 for information.

**Aug. 21 – Solar Eclipse Viewing Event** – Held from 1-4 p.m. at the Dade Battlefield Historic State Park, 7200 C.R. 603 in Bushnell. Join us for a solar eclipse interpretive program and viewing, weather permitting. Maximum eclipse is at 2:48 p.m. Bring quality solar glasses if you have them or enjoy other viewing opportunities and activities set up by the park. Bring insect repellent and a chair or blanket for the viewing. Cost is the usual \$3 per vehicle entrance fee or Florida State Parks annual pass. Call (352) 793-4781 for information.

**Aug. 26 – Nature Detectives Day for Kids** – This special event sponsored by the Dade City Garden Club, invites kids to become true nature heroes by learning the importance of butterflies and moths. Lots of fun activities and giveaways. Seats are very limited for this special program, call to register. For grades 1-7. Held at Hugh Embry Library, 14215 Fourth St. Call (352) 567-3576 for information.

**Sept. 1 – First Friday** – The Dade City Merchants Association invites you to enjoy a charming evening out with that someone special in a family and pet friendly environment. Refresh from the work week and explore the many offerings of our downtown merchants and restaurants from 5-9 p.m. Slowly wander through downtown; drinking in

the sounds of local musicians as you sit back and enjoy a leisurely carriage ride. Visit the Merchants Facebook page for more information.

**Sept. 2 – Dade City Car Show** – Held from 3-7 p.m. in downtown Dade City and operated by Ronnie Setser. Car registration is \$10 per car; trophies will be presented and giveaways will be presented to the first cars registered. Activities for kids will be featured. Attendees and car enthusiasts are encouraged to visit the fabulous shops and restaurants in Dade City.

**Sept. 7 – Lions Club Sight Program** – The Zephyrhills Lions Club, located at 5827 Dean Dairy Road in Zephyrhills, will be accepting applications for its Sight Program from 9-11:30 a.m. Applicants must bring required documents, which can be found on [www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/zephyrhills](http://www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/zephyrhills). The program is open to all Pasco County residents in need of basic eye care. Contact the clubhouse at (813) 788-1441 for information.

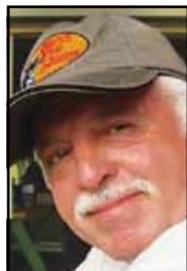
**Sept. 9 – Farmers Market** – Held in the San Antonio City Park from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Offering fresh produce, hand-crafted wine, yard art, plants, jams and jellies, dog treats, honey and bee products, repurposed glass items, dried herbs and herbal products and baked goods. Hot dogs, popcorn, coffee and sodas available for purchase. Vendor spaces are available for \$25. Contact Winnie Burke at (352) 437-5161 or [rotarysanantoniofl@gmail.com](mailto:rotarysanantoniofl@gmail.com) for information.

**Sept. 20 – Free Small Business Seminar** – Learn how to start a new business successfully. We will discuss the idea, testing the idea and protecting the idea. We will review key issues for starting a business: finding good people, structuring the business, understanding cash flow, finding the money and the business plan. Held from 1-3 p.m. at SMARTStart Dade City Entrepreneur Center, 37837 Meridian Ave., #309. Visit [pascohernando.score.org](http://pascohernando.score.org) to register.

**Oct. 14 – Dentistry from the Heart** – Free dental care will be provided at this second annual event, held at Premier Community Healthcare, 37944 Pasco Ave. from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. No appointments necessary. This event is first come, first served. Community members 18 and older without access to dental care may choose one of the following: one filling, one extraction or cleaning services. First 100 patients guaranteed to be seen. Call (813) 971-1688 for information.

For more events visit [www.pasconewspubs.com](http://www.pasconewspubs.com)

## Commentary



### First Things First

Greg First

## Cuteness Rules On Facebook

Last week my wife Jenny took an early morning stroll around the Ellie Shiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park. If you have never been there before it is a little more than an hour north of here just off of U.S. 19, also called Suncoast Boulevard. The best time to visit is in the morning. It is much cooler and the animals are more animated before the hot summer sun starts to take its toll on man and beast. A trip to the park would be an awesome one-tank trip. You can see manatees every single day of the year. They actually have an underwater observatory where you can see them up close and personal. A few of the manatees are now residents because, for one reason or another, they spend the entire year in the 72-degree water of the crystal clear spring. About the time of year when the winter residents return to Florida the West Indian Manatees make their trip back to the warmth of the springs to escape the cold waters of the north during winter. They are a sight to behold.

Years ago Jenny and I joined the Friends of the Homosassa Springs Wildlife Park. The organization is a not-for-profit group that provides financial support, volunteers

and programs that will benefit the park and its visitors. The group goes above and beyond what the park gets in funding and has provided many enhancements that would not have happened if not for the Friends. One of the benefits of supporting this organization, in addition to helping support the above mentioned causes, is you receive a Friends membership punched card which allows the cardholder and one guest 12 visits to the park during the year starting the month of your membership. You can use the card any day of the year.

Anyway, while Jenny was in the park last week she took about a 30-second video of a manatee getting what looked like a bath by park staff. I understand they were also doing a visual exam from nose to tail. When Jenny got back home she showed me the video and I thought it was awesome and put it on my Facebook page with the title "Homosassa, Gotta Love It," and couldn't believe what happened soon after. In a little less than a week the video got more than 550 likes on my page, nearly 1,850 shares and more than 75,000 views, which reached more than 166,000 people. Oh, my page also picked up more than 350 new followers in less than a week. Normally we get a few dozen a week.

Wow, the power of social media.

Again, it was a video we thought was pretty cute. Apparently so did thousands of others. Who would have ever guessed? You just never know who will like something that is posted. But I was also reminded that if you put something up you will be ashamed of later you better think twice before you post it or you will suffer the consequences. Many have lost their jobs or didn't get the dream job they wanted because of a stupid post. You have always heard, "Think before you speak." This also applies to the internet: "Think before you post."

### Fees • Continued from Page 1A

in early July. The fee for a new house will be \$7,728 in 2019 and \$8,328 in 2020.

The ordinance also said the fee assessed for multi-family (apartments, etc.) would be \$4,182 per dwelling unit for 2018; \$4,533 for 2019; and \$4,884 for 2020.

The ordinance commissioners adopted Tuesday also stipulates that no additional school impact fee increases would occur within five years, unless the amount of development in the county requires further study.

School Superintendent Kurt Browning said in July he was pleased with the increase the commissioners were considering.

"We wish we could have gotten more but it is a compromise. We are able to meet the needs of our students while addressing the concerns of the builders."

Estimates of how many multi-family units will be built in the Pasco is, of course,

unknown at this time but the district just opened four new schools to deal with the population surge and more development is planned.

"This doesn't solve all of our future needs but it will have a positive impact on meeting the rampant growth in Pasco County," School Board Chairman Alan Altman said regarding the compromise.

Assistant School Superintendent Ray Gadd told commissioners in July the proposed 92 percent increase would provide enough money for the district to build four new schools in Trinity and Wesley Chapel where significant development is occurring. He said the original increase the district had sought would likely have funded five schools.

Enrollment countywide grew by about 1,200 students when school started on Monday.

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# Commentary



## The Rest Of The Story

Dave Walters

### New School Year Always Starts With Anxiety

I have watched both of my daughters and my son get their kids ready for that first day of school.

My kids, like every other parent, have a lot on their plate – mortgage payments, jobs, paying bills and raising my grandkids, just to name a few.

As the new school year wraps up its first week here in Pasco County, they face additional stress when it comes to paying for back-to-school supplies, clothes and fees.

Many parents out there in east Pasco may also be worried about their children starting a new school, changing school districts, facing a more rigorous academic year or dealing with difficult social situations.

There is that fear of the unknown for parents and students. What you don't know about classmates, teachers, the school building (my granddaughter got lost twice at Zephyrhills High School on Monday) is the most stressful.

Standing around Monday and watching kids hop on the school bus or watching parents wave goodbye was

stressful for me as an adult.

The end of summer and the beginning of a new school year was stressful for me as a kid. That Sunday before the first day of school was the worst day. That was the last day of freedom. As the day faded away to evening, the dread grew and when my parents said that it was bedtime at 9 p.m., I knew that was it. I was about to lie in bed staring at the ceiling wishing I had just one more day of summer.

The next day, I was sitting at a desk in homeroom waiting for my name to be called.

My kids went through it and now my grandkids face it.

I have to praise my children for their involvement in their kids' schoolwork. My wife and I were involved in their academic careers and thankfully they realized the importance to be there for their kids.

My kids and their spouses manage work and manage the household without overlooking their children's feelings of nervousness or anxiety as school started. My grandkids were ready.

I think my kids had more anxiety wondering if they adequately prepared their children and bought the right supplies.

The bottom line is another school year has begun. Parents went into the drop-off line ready to cling to their children and not let go. Once the hugs and sobbing were over, reality set in and a sense of relief filled them.

Yes, your children are back in school for another academic year. Whether it's the first day of Kindergarten or your child's last first day of school, you can breathe easy.

You did it and they will do the rest.

# Blessing Of The Backpacks



Florida Hospital Zephyrhills staff, under the leadership of CEO Randy Surber, center, donated 130 backpacks filled with school supplies and stacks of extra school materials to children and teens through the Samaritan Project of Zephyrhills on Aug. 8. The annual Blessing of the Backpacks, a FHZ tradition, took place in the hospital's chapel with a prayer given by FHZ senior pastor and Samaritan Project Board Member Doug Higgins. Nick DeFord, second from left, pastor for First Church of the Nazarene in Zephyrhills and the Samaritan Project's executive director, then took the backpacks to the church for distribution. Also in the photo are Deford's wife, Amie, third from left, and FHZ staff who helped promote the backpack drive.

Photo Provided

# Pet Adopt-A-Thon Set For Saturday

The Pasco County Animal Services Department shelter is filled with adoptable cats and dogs as summer months bring in more strays than average. PCAS is joining NBC, Telemundo and nearly 700 shelters across the country for a nationwide pet adopt-a-thon. This major event will take place on Aug. 19 from noon-6:30 p.m. at 19640 Dogpatch Lane in Land

O' Lakes. All of the pets will leave the shelter spayed, neutered, microchipped and vetted. During this special event, PCAS is waiving all adoption fees. Also ask about PCAS' special training offer for only \$75 for six weeks.

PCAS is open Tuesday through Saturday from noon-6:30 p.m. Visit [www.pascocountyfl.net/PAS](http://www.pascocountyfl.net/PAS) for information, including volunteer opportunities.

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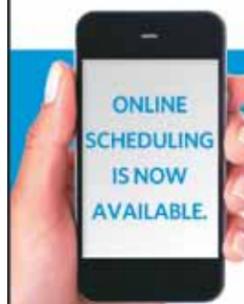
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**Garden • Continued from Page 1A**

Sunrise's development director.

The garden provides a quiet and serene place for staff, participants and visitors to the Sunrise offices on Smith Road.

Members of Karina's family who still live in the area – mother-in-law Jestina Abdul, sister-in-law Lisa Abdul, and niece Nicole Abdul – attended a ribbon cutting held for the garden.

Sisters Paige and Kaitlin Troublay and Alyssa Duran began raising funds for the project a year ago so they could pursue their Silver Award, the second highest award a girl scout can receive.

They had already earned their Bronze Award by helping Farmworkers Self-Help of Dade City with a project.

The three Girl Scouts designed a beautiful plan for the garden and began working there on weekends during July, said Roger Troublay, who is their troop master.

Several volunteers assisted with the project, including local artist Lisa Tesla

of Tampa Bay, pest control expert Chris Wirt of All Animal Control of Tampa Bay and Sunil Mohammed of Totally Blu H2O.

Andrew Abdul also helped with the project.

Wirt sprayed the area to clear it of snakes and other types of pests before the girls "dove in to work on the garden," the troop master said.

Duran described some of the efforts she and the Troublays had used to raise funds for the project.

"We sold Girl Scout cookies and used most of the money we earned to pay for the supplies we needed. It took a while to get started as there were unforeseen delays but once we got going we were encouraged by the willingness of so many people to help. Some of those people are here today and we want to thank you," Duran said during a ceremony held before Karina's Garden was turned over to Sunrise.

"But what made the project even more special was when we found out that Karina loved butterflies. That



**Development Coordinator Aryn Rathbone, Kaitlin Traboulay, Alyssa Duran and Paige Traboulay beside the painted door in Karina's Garden.**



**After the Girl Scouts painted the fences in Karina's Garden, Tampa artist Lisa Tesla added the colorful design on top.**

motivated us to focus on butterflies as our theme and we were thrilled when at the end of the project butterflies were everywhere."

Volunteers who had helped with the project were presented plaques. A sign recognizing them is also incorporated in the garden's design.

The mother-in-law, Jestina Abdul, took a moment to compose herself before speaking.

"We thank you for everyone who has participated in this adventure. Looking down, I know she is pleased. I am very happy to see what you are doing to keep her legacy alive," she said.

The group gathered afterward for a time of reflection while they shared

light refreshments.

Since 1982, Sunrise of Pasco has been providing free victim services to people in the community who are hurting, Wiggins said. Sunrise maintains a 40-bed emergency shelter provide protection for women and children in crisis; protection for women and children in crisis; provides counseling for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and fosters a culture of non-violence through various community engagement efforts.

"The agency serves thousands of women, men and children annually when – in a better world – this kind of work would not even be necessary," Wiggins said.

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# Benefit For Moore-Mickens Education & Vocational Center

A program to benefit Moore-Mickens Education & Vocational Center will be held Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Bread of Life Worship Center located at 37753 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

A nonprofit organization leased the former Moore-Mickens Education Center from the Pasco County School District on July 1 for \$10 per year for 30 years. The school district closed Moore-Mickens in 2015 because of declining enrollment

at the facility located at 38301 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

The Dade City-based organization hopes to offer various programs at the center located at 38301 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

The building could be used for civic purposes including showing movies during the weekend and providing space for club meetings to be held.

Call (352) 807-5691 for information.

# Clerk & Comptroller's Office Warns Against Fraudulent Solicitations

Citizens routinely deal with deceptive junk mail, and the Clerk & Comptroller's office sympathizes. Mailboxes, too, are deluged with official-looking documents urging us to take action now. But beware: Some of these are notices from marketing companies that want to separate you from your hard-earned money.

One ongoing scheme involves a solicitation letter from companies offering to sell homeowners a certified copy of their deed. While these letters look authoritative – some even include "government" in the company's name – they are deceiving, offering copies at prices ranging from \$50 to \$100 per deed. You don't want to spend more money than you have to.

Obtained from the Clerk & Comptroller's Office, the true cost of a certified document is only \$1 per recorded page and \$2 for the certification. Moreover, deeds and other public records can be viewed and printed, as an unofficial copy, free at [www.pascoclerk.com](http://www.pascoclerk.com) under the Online

Services tab.

"The letters are deceiving homeowners into paying an exorbitant amount of money for their public records," Paula S. O'Neil said. "Our citizens need to be aware of the potential fraud to protect themselves from extortion."

The Clerk & Comptroller's Office is entrusted with the care and preservation of Pasco County's records. The Official Records Department provides copies for the public as prescribed by Florida Statutes.

The department may be reached at (352) 521-4408 in Dade City and (727) 847-8086 in New Port Richey.

The Office also serves as the gateway to the judicial system. Deputy clerks assist citizens with court paperwork and payments. Additional contact information is provided on our website: [www.pascoclerk.com](http://www.pascoclerk.com).

If you are a victim of fraud or suspect fraudulent activity, contact the Pasco County Sheriff's Office by dialing (727) 844-7711 (non-emergency line).



Staff from Gulfside Hospice & Pasco Palliative Care and members of the Kiwanis Club presented supply-filled backpacks to the staff at Mitty P. Locke Elementary School to distribute to students in need. Standing, from left: Jane King, Kiwanis Secretary; Celeste Hall from Gulfside; Wanda Burnside, Kiwanis President; Nele Merkewitsch, Mitchell HS; Kiwanian Dee Taylor and Linda Ward, President and CEO at Gulfside.

# Kiwanis And Gulfside Donate Supply-Filled Backpacks

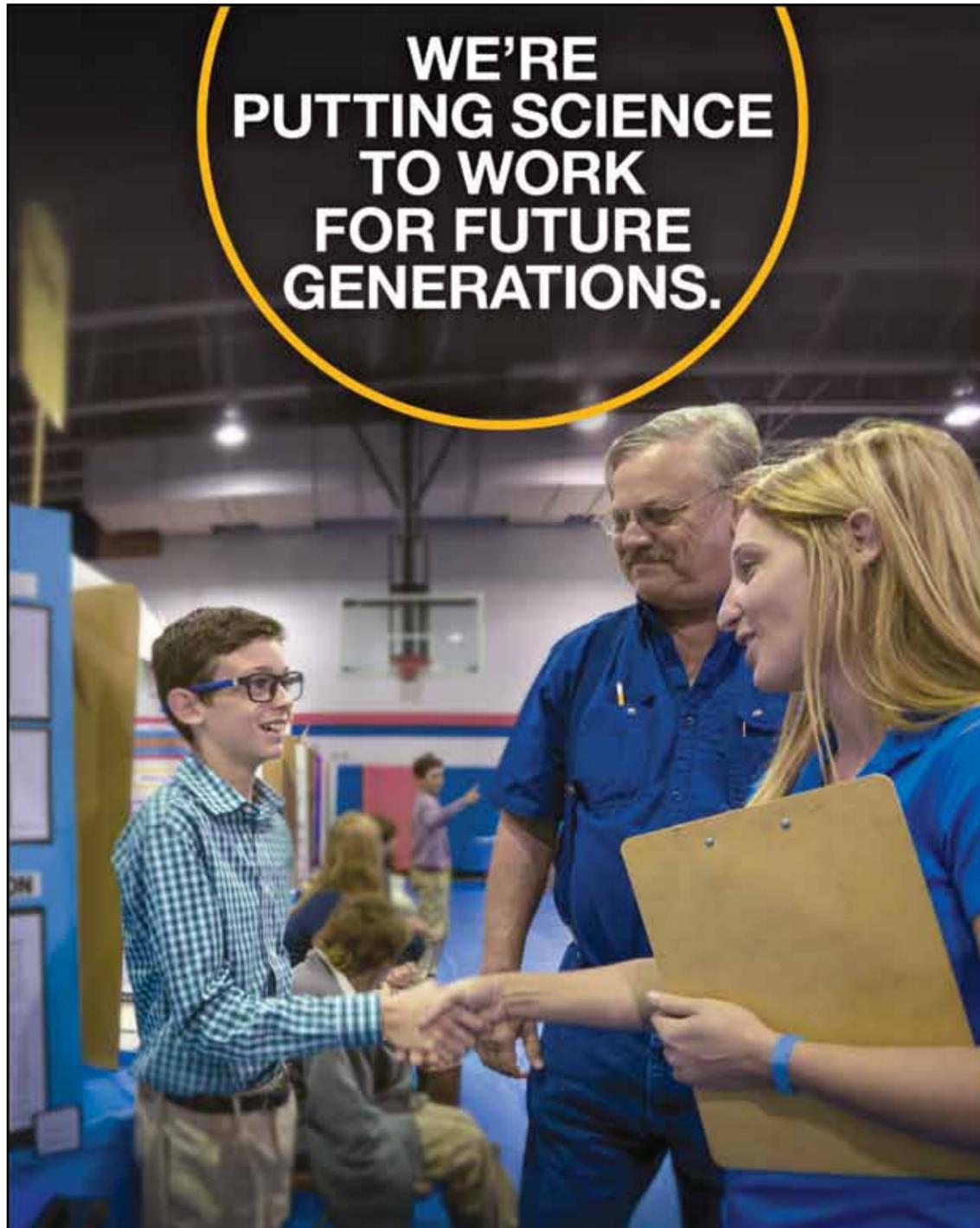
As students begin to fill the school halls once again this year, children across Pasco County have one less thing to worry about: school supplies.

More than 300 supply-filled backpacks were delivered to 11 elementary and middle schools across the county thanks to Kiwanis Club of Greater West Pasco and the 7th annual Back to School Supply Drive held at the six Gulfside Hospice Thrift Shoppes. Items collected in the drive included backpacks, pencils, crayons, notebooks, paper and other needed supplies.

"We are so grateful for the wonderful donations that the community gave to support the Back to School Supply Drive at Gulfside's Thrift Shoppes so

that the children can focus on learning and achieving their best this school year," said Linda Ward, Gulfside's president and CEO. "We have a great partnership with the Kiwanis, and are grateful to be able to work with them to support our community in a variety of ways."

This is the seventh year that the Gulfside Hospice Thrift Shoppes have partnered with the Kiwanis to donate school supplies to students in need. The drive continues to grow each year, with this year being the best drive yet. Anyone who donated new supplies during the drive at the Thrift Shoppes received a coupon for 25 percent off an item in the store.



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To learn more about Mosaic's support of STEM education, visit [Science.MosaicCo.com](http://Science.MosaicCo.com).



**Sumner • Continued from Page 1A**

going year after year. It's a nice thing for the ladies and gentlemen that knew him."

The nonprofit educational museum runs solely on fundraisers and from hosting events, and the golf tournament will launch their busy fall season.

The Sept. 16 tournament welcomes golfers, in teams of four, for a scramble tournament complete with lunch, cart and optional prize packs. The cost to register for the tournament is \$50. Last year's inaugural event raised about \$8,000, after expenses.

The Sumner name is one recognized not only in Dade City, but also throughout the county, thanks to five generations of history in Pasco. One of the family's ancestors settled in Dade City in 1865 following the Civil War.

In addition to old roots in east Pasco, the family has old roots in the United States, tracing back to the 1600s, according to Keith.

For as long as he can remember, his father, grandfather and so on have been interested in their family lineage, and Keith followed suit.

"It's something they passed on," said



**Robert Sumner, bottom left, with fellow first National Bank of Pasco board members in 2009, the year Sumner became the bank's president and CEO.**

*Photo Provided*

Keith, who is a current museum trustee. "I've always been interested in genealogy and the people who settled here."

His father was one of the key museum board members responsible for raising the funds necessary to move the museum to its current location at 15602 Pioneer Museum Road in Dade City. It's previous set up at the Pasco County Fairgrounds became too small for the growing collection of pioneer and old Florida memorabilia.

"He always helped out if people needed help," Keith said.

The patriarch worked as an attorney in a private practice in Dade City for at least 25 years, before taking on the role of Pasco County Attorney.

Robert Sumner served as interim county attorney for about five years before taking on the position full time from 1999 to 2008.

"He was a very giving, loving person. He cared about his community and the

county and that's way he was so excited about being the county attorney," Keith said.

His father played an active role in the community, fundraising for local charities and nonprofits as well as serving on local boards, including at the First National Bank of Pasco, where he also served as president. The Robert D. Sumner Judicial Center on Live Oak Avenue helps locals remember his contributions to Pasco.

Golfers are encouraged to register before the event, but will be able to register onsite before the 8:30 a.m. shotgun start at Silverado Golf & Country Club, 36841 Clubhouse Drive in Zephyrhills.

Find the application and more information on the museum Facebook page, by visiting [pioneerfloridamuseum.org](http://pioneerfloridamuseum.org) or by stopping by the museum Tuesday-Saturday between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Items for a Chinese auction and golfer goody bags are also being accepted.

Sumner was the fundraising chairman for the museum and understood how important it is to support it so future generations can learn about the pioneer heritage.

**Bilirakis • Continued from Page 1A**

were his top priority in Congress. He is vice chairman of the U.S. House's Veterans Committee.

"Most Veterans Administration employees are great but many hang around too long and aren't helping," he said, noting that Defense Secretary James Mattis has already fired more than 500 VA employees.

Also speaking at the breakfast was former hospital administrator and nurse Joyce Haile. She spoke about the difference between dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

Haile is director of memory care services and programming for Affinity Living Group of Hickory, S.C., who recently purchased Rosecastle.

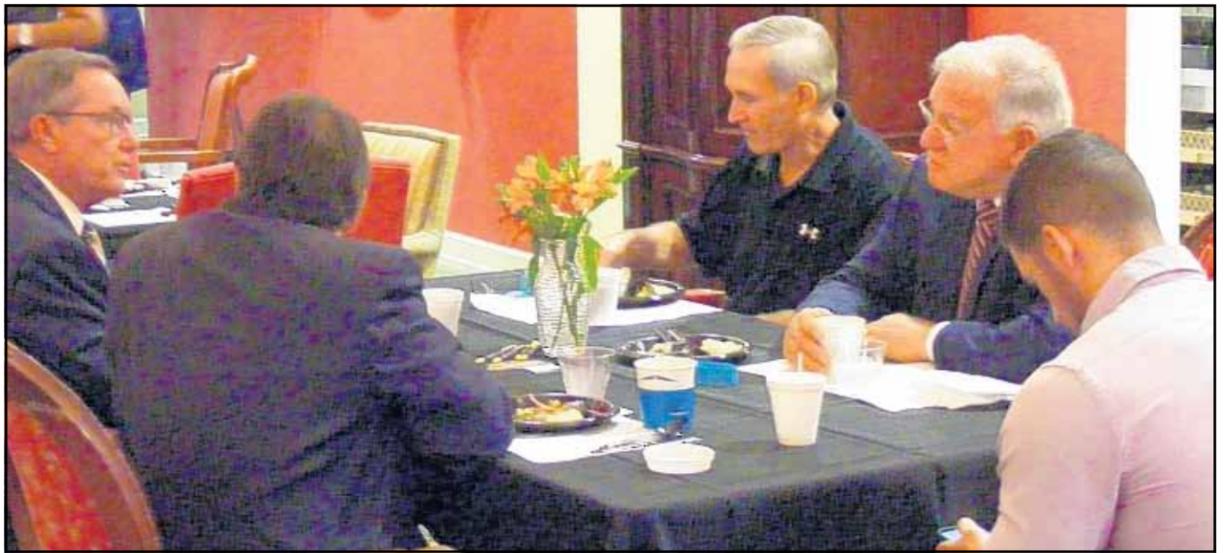
"Dementia is a symptom of more than 70 diseases," Haile said. Some of those diseases are reversible and some are not.

"Alzheimer's is a terminal illness that nobody recovers from," Haile said. "One way to know that you don't have Alzheimer's is being able to learn something new."

The disease can't be officially diagnosed until an autopsy is conducted after a patient has died, Haile said, and brains of Alzheimer's patients are damaged in some areas.

Haile compared this damage to drawers being missing in filing cabinets where information was stored about previous events in the lives of the Alzheimer's patients.

She cited an example of a patient who was in his 80s but acted as if he were still in his 60s. He thought he was still responsible for tasks he had done in his



**Congressman Gus Bilirakis, left, is joined by staff members Bob Hatfield and Mike Cimmina during Tuesday's Dade City Chamber breakfast. Gordon Hyde and District 1 County Commissioner Ronald Oakley shared the table with them.**

60s and had no recollection of the death of his spouse and his retirement that occurred between when he was in his 60s and his 80s.

People who are caregivers for Alzheimer's patients have to try and identify where on life's path the patient thinks he or she is and relate to them at that point.

"Don't judge them. They don't understand what they are saying and what they are doing," Haile said.

County Commission Chairman Mike Moore, District 2, also made some remarks during the breakfast. He noted, among other things, the recent announcement that Precast Concrete will be bringing 100 new jobs to the area. Precast Concrete plans to operate out of the Dade City Business Center.

Other elected officials attending the breakfast were District 1 County Commissioner Ronald Oakley and Dade City Mayor Camille Hernandez.

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# Leadership Event To Aid Seniors

## Elderly Nutrition Program Needs Help

by Keri McAlpine

For some elderly residents of Pasco County, the only smiling face they see is a volunteer delivering them their daily, guaranteed meal.

According to the Pasco County Elderly Nutrition Division, one in six seniors in the county are hungry or termed “food insecure”. They are sometimes referred to as the “hidden hungry” since many do not leave their homes. The Elderly Nutrition Division works to raise money to allow more seniors to benefit from the county’s senior meal service.

Since the introduction of the Annual Ambassador Breakfast two years ago, the county has taken a waiting list of more than 200 seniors and reduced it to less than 50. They accept new seniors to the program constantly, but the list is ever growing.

So, a new event has been added to this year’s calendar – the Leadership Breakfast – to be held Aug. 25 from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. at Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club. Feeding Pasco’s Elderly will host the event.

A local leader, County Commissioner Ron Oakley, will be honored at the breakfast for his efforts in supporting the senior meal service. The hope, according to Pasco County Elderly Nutrition Division Manager Gabriel Papadopoulos, is that other local leaders will attend the luncheon to learn about the program and see the benefits of donating.

The first two Ambassador Breakfasts raised about \$40,000 each, Papadopoulos said, and he said he would be “beside himself” if the inaugural Leadership Breakfast surpassed that number.

It costs about \$1,600 a year to provide one meal for one senior citizen Monday through Friday, he said.

“The more [money] the merrier, obviously... The wait list is a package that can never empty. We get bombarded with requests on a daily basis.”

After applying, senior applicants are reviewed by program coordinators and, if accepted, are placed either on a general waiting list or a critical waiting list for seniors in more dire need of the service.

Meals are generally either lunchtime



County Commissioner Ron Oakley, District 1, will be the local leader honored at Pasco County Elderly Nutrition’s first Leadership Breakfast on Aug. 25. *File photo*

or dinner meals, and are either warm or frozen; the frozen option allows the senior to eat the meal whenever they please.

The core of the program is the volunteers and staff who deliver the meals. Since many seniors live alone, they are often a major point of contact to the world outside their home.

It is not uncommon for the delivery driver to find a senior stuck in a tough situation and come to their aid, whether it is a phone call to emergency response or just being a friendly face.

“They are very frail and unable to get out of their home ... the only contact they have is our driver we send out. That’s the only smile, the only face they see during the day,” Papadopoulos said.

Providing meals to the current roster of 800 seniors is no easy feat. The program is currently in desperate need of more volunteers, he said.

Anyone interested can call (727) 834-3340 or visit [www.pascocountyfl.net/index.aspx?NID=366](http://www.pascocountyfl.net/index.aspx?NID=366) for information. Also, visit [feedingpasco.com](http://feedingpasco.com) for information on Feeding Pasco’s Elderly.

Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club is located at 12900 Lake Jovita Blvd., west of Dade City.

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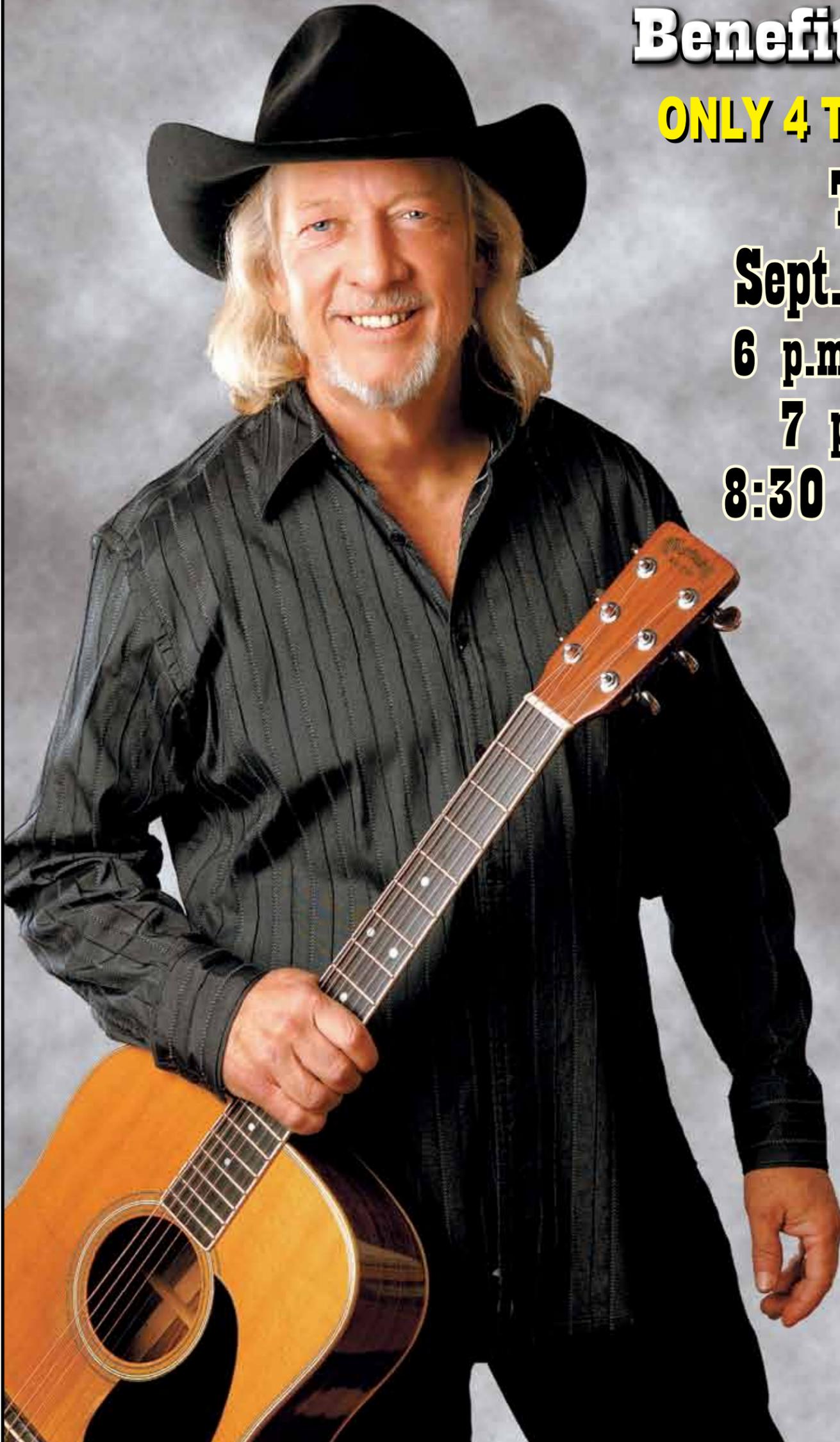
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Dade City, FL

*“Country Chic”  
Western Attire*

**Proceeds benefit:**

The Dade City Kiwanis Foundation  
The Thomas Promise Foundation

Sunrise of Pasco County  
Boys & Girls Club of Lacochee  
Humane Society of Pasco County

Habitat for Humanity  
Bayfront Health Dade City Foundation

Florida Hospital Zephyrhills Heart Institute

Call **813-714-0435**

*for information. Seating is limited.*