

Bulldogs Split In Holiday Tourney



Aliza Quiles (5) sprints toward the basket and away from a Shaker Heights opponent. The Bulldogs lost to the Red Raiders 71-60. Photos by Freeze Frame Photo

Can Boys Repeat Success Of Last Year's Run?

by Dave Walters

The Nature Coast Holiday Classic was a measuring stick for the Class 5A-District 8 leading Bulldogs.

Taking on some of the toughest teams on the hardwood, the Bulldogs suffered back-to-back losses before capping off the tournament with a win to start the second half of the season at 10-3 overall, 9-1 in district play.

The Bulldogs are in familiar territory as the New Year begins. Last season, prior to the state Final Four run, Zephyrhills was 10-3 as the second half of the season started. Then the Bulldogs won 11 of 12 regular season games, three district tournament games and three regional games before falling in the state semifinals.

Zephyrhills opened last week's Nature Coast tournament with a 71-60 loss to Shaker Heights of Ohio. Turnovers in the first quarter resulted in easy layups for the Red Raiders. As a result, the Bulldogs fell behind 16-2 in the opening quarter and tried to battle back the rest of the game. Senior center Kurt Robbins led the Bulldogs with 24 points.

In the second round of the consolation bracket, the Bulldogs had the opportunity to take down Tampa Gaither. Holding a slight lead in the fourth quarter, the Bulldogs watched Robbins go down with an ankle



Bulldog Dre'wan Clark (11) attempts to block a shot from a Shaker Heights opponent on Dec. 28. Clark stepped up when the Bulldogs victoriously faced Friendship Collegiate Academy of Washington, D.C., on Dec. 30.

Basketball • Continued on Page 2B



Glenda Brake won four state championships in 2016.

Glenda Brake Wins Fourth State Title

Submitted by Earl Ball

Glenda Brake may not weigh 100 pounds or be quite 5 feet tall, but she is taking the Women's Division of Pro Shuffleboard by storm. She won her fourth State Championship of the year on Dec. 20.

Brake teamed up with Clearwater Hall of Famer Ellen Davis (600 points) to win on the Drifter Courts in Clearwater last week. She has 25 points and will surely qualify for the State Masters. She and Davis showed their talent by winning every game to seize the title.

Two weeks earlier, Brake teamed with Diane Bardsley to win the Women's Division Championship in the Roll of Champions tournament in Lakeland. Bardsley is an excellent off



Glenda Brake and Diane Bardsley teamed up to win the Women's Division Championship in the Roll of Champions tournament in Lakeland in December.

color player. She put her talent to the test as she and Brake lost two lags for color and had to win despite being at a distinct disadvantage.

Brake, who is an excellent kitchen player, kept them in the games until they could figure out how to win. The final match went until 7 p.m. so they had to beat off the mosquitoes too.

Hodson Wins "Roll Of Champions" Men's Division

Chuck Hodson was pleased – to say the least – that elite Hall of Famer Paul Prescott thought so much of his talent that he asked him to be his partner in the Men's Division of the "Roll Of Champions" Championship.

Prescott, of the Lakeland Shuffleboard

Shuffle • Continued on Page 3B

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Trae Starks (13) takes a shot in the Bulldog's first match-up in the Nature Coast Holiday Classic last week.



Bulldog Anthony Antoine (3) leaps toward the hoop in the Dec. 28 game against Ohio's Shaker Heights.

Basketball • Continued from Page 1B

injury. When time expired, Zephyrhills fell 60-55. Robbins finished with 16 points.

The Bulldogs took the final consolation game 56-49 against Friendship Collegiate Academy of Washington, D.C., to end the tournament on a positive note. Stepping up for the Bulldogs were Dre'wan Clark and Aliza Quiles.

"All three of those games we could have won," said Zephyrhills head coach Mike Novak. "That tournament was good for us to see smart, fast and well-coached teams. We learned [that] we need to make stops and play better defense."



The Bulldogs start off their second half of the season at 10-3 overall, 9-1 in district play, following three matchups in the Nature Coast tournament over the holiday break.

Zephyrhills picks up the regular season again with a home game against rival Wesley Chapel on Jan. 10, Ridgewood next Thursday and then on the road against an aggressive Hudson

team on Jan. 13.

"We have a tough first week," Novak said. "Hopefully this tournament will get us ready for the second half of the season."



Senior Kurt Robbins (24) led the Bulldogs in a difficult game against the Shaker Heights Red Raiders last week in the Nature Coast Holiday Classic.

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Meals on Wheels is a volunteer-based organization that works to provide hot meals once a day to the homebound, the isolated or the needy. Serviced areas include Dade City, San Antonio, St. Leo, Crystal Springs, Zephyrhills and some of Wesley Chapel. If you or anyone you know would like to find out more about receiving meals, call (813) 782-7859. The organization is also always looking for volunteers or drivers to help with the preparation and delivery of the meals. Call the above number for information.

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Shuffle • Continued from Page 1B

Club, is an outstanding kitchen player and felt he could keep the games under control. Hodson, who is no slouch at the kitchen, is better known for his hide and seek style.



Chuck Hodson

He didn't disappoint and scored bundles of points, which they needed, as every match went to a third game. Prescott was able to win every lag for color giving them the advantage in each match. Hodson can expect his stock to rise and to be in demand after such a great showing.

Savage Wins District Singles Championship

Zephyrhills shufflers invaded the Florida Shuffleboard Association



Peggy Savage

Central District Singles Championships on Dec. 15-16 and came away with the Women's Pro Championship.

Peggy Savage (Zephyrhills Shuffleboard Club) won every game of every match. The only close game was the second game of the Championship match when she was playing against Joan Cook (Betmar Shuffleboard Club). Cook is the only woman wearing a green jacket emblematic of 1,000 career points.

Savage had to make her last hammer, and she did so, to take the Championship at the Lakeland courts.

Zephyrhills Shufflers Win State Championship

Two local teams won the Florida Shuffleboard Association pre-Christmas Championship on Dec. 13 and 14.

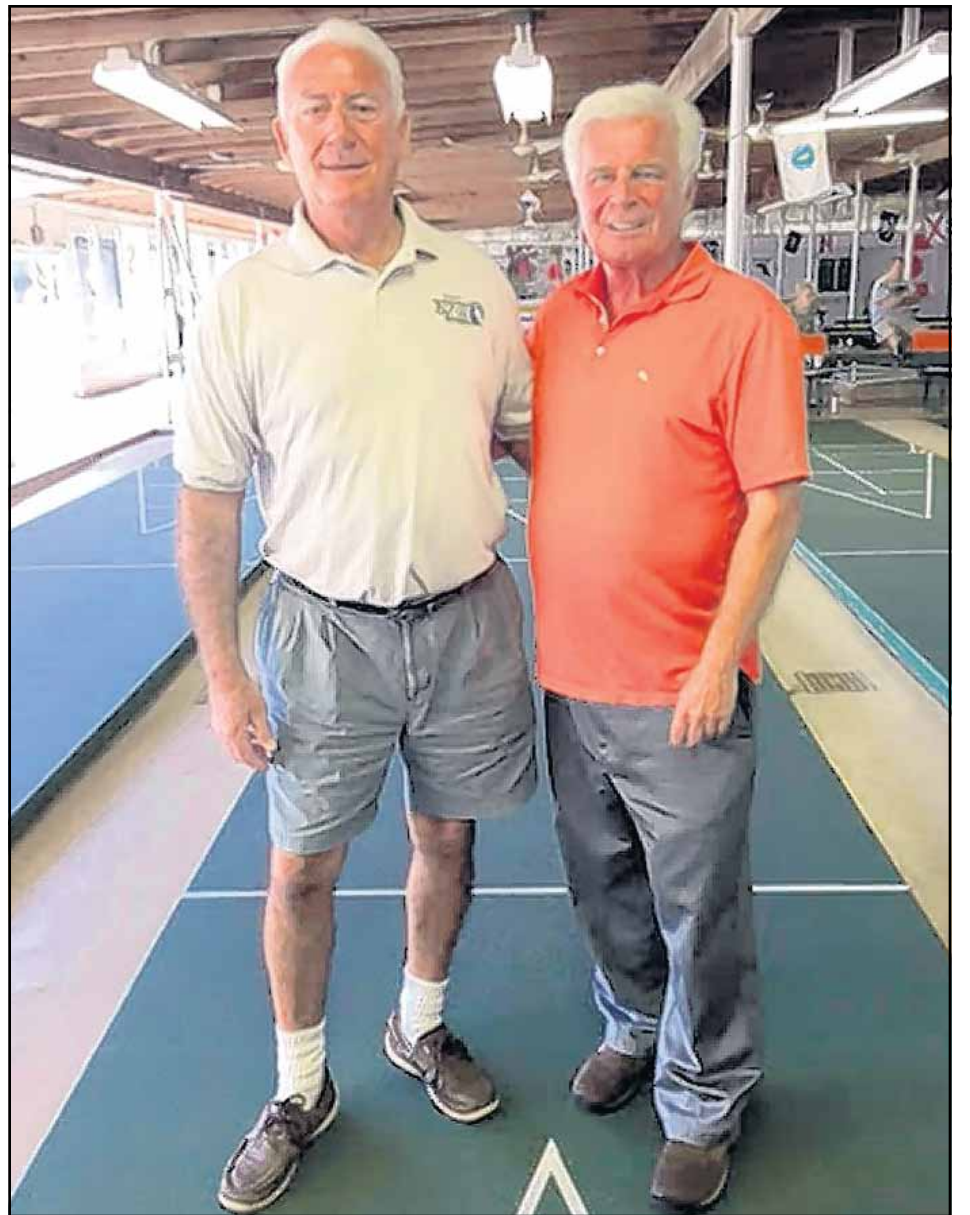
Mary McLin (Betmar) and Sue Dungy (Winters Park) fought hard in every match and pulled out the Women's Championship against Bradenton's top team of Terri Smith and new Hall of Fame qualifier Nancy Scalfani, who began her career in Zephyrhills. We didn't want to let Scalfani get away but we didn't have an ocean in Zephyrhills for her husband to fish in.

McLin and Dungy won the third and deciding game of the Championship with McLin scoring her hammer from the head relieving the pressure from Dungy who would have been in a do or die situation.

In the men's division, Henry Strong (ZSC) and Earl Ball (Betmar) struggled the entire tournament, nearly losing



Mary McLin (Betmar) and Sue Dungy (Winters Park) played as a team in the Florida Shuffleboard Association pre-Christmas Championship on Dec. 13 and 14.



Henry Strong (ZSC) and Earl Ball (Betmar) were close to elimination before getting it together to win the pre-Christmas championship in mid-December.


every match. During their first match, Betmar shufflers Don McNeil and Doug Blair had them on the ropes but at a crucial time in the third game Ball sunk two of McNeil's discs in the kitchen for 20-off and scored 16 to just even the

game in the low 40's. The Championship match against the Northern District's top team of Stan Williamson and Al Dronsfield went smoothly with Strong and Ball winning in two straight.

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2017 Focus Will Be Obamacare, Veterans, FDA

by **U.S. Rep. Gus Bilirakis (FL-12)**

Looking back on 2016, a turbulent year for sure in politics, we often saw the biggest rivalries and the loudest pundits take center stage.

All along, my main focus was always working hard on behalf of Florida's 12th District. We accomplished some important legislative wins for our communities, with 16 initiatives that I wrote being signed into law this year.

While there's still much work to be done, a unified Republican government will give us a strong foundation to solve the largest problems facing Florida and the entire country.

One of my top priorities continues to be ensuring that veterans get the care they have earned and deserve, and in 2016 a number of my initiatives to support veterans became law. Two major bills I introduced, the COVER Act and the Jason Simcakoski PROMISE Act, will ensure veterans get personalized care when it comes to dealing with their physical and invisible wounds.

To make sure our heroes are getting the most out of the benefits they are promised, I led initiatives to expand opportunities

for disabled veterans to fly on military aircraft and improve veterans' education assistance programs.

Going forward, we need to make the transition process better for our men and women who serve. While our military spends on average six months to a year preparing soldiers for their assignments, we only spend three to five days preparing them to reintegrate to civilian life.

Making sure veterans have a robust support system for returning home would help with a whole host of problems like homelessness, unemployment, and substance abuse. I will be making this a priority in the coming year.

After three years of work, the 21st Century Cures Act finally crossed the finish line in December. This legislation is a game-changer for millions of patients and families who are affected by diseases like cancer, Alzheimer's, ALS, and more. Importantly, Cures includes my initiatives to create a national database for neurological diseases

and streamline FDA regulations to get medical products to market faster.

In Florida, I met with doctors, patients,

While our military spends on average six months to a year preparing soldiers for their assignments, we only spend three to five days preparing them to reintegrate to civilian life.

– U.S. Rep. Gus Bilirakis



Gus Bilirakis

researchers, and advocates about how government can become an ally – not an obstruction – to medical innovation. Proudly, much of their input is now reflected in the final law.

Additionally, we passed legislation to help seniors better identify out-of-pocket costs under Medicare, and combat the opioid abuse crisis across the nation.

While this work does not always dominate national headlines, it can truly improve lives and make a difference in our communities.

In 2017, I plan to hit the ground running to continue these efforts.

At the top of the agenda is repealing and replacing Obamacare.

Under Obamacare, costs have nearly doubled for working families, millions of people have been kicked off the insurance plans they like, and insurers have fled the market, leaving people with less options for their health care. Our health care system should be affordable, personalized, and offer the best quality care possible.

We also need to overhaul the tax code, and ensure it is focused on maximizing growth and competitiveness for American businesses. The tax code should make it easier for businesses to create jobs and raise wages, not harder. Our system should be simpler and fairer for hardworking families, too.

None of the successes of the past year, or the goals set for the year ahead, would be possible without the folks of Florida's 12th District. Your voices will continue to guide me as your representative in the United States House of Representatives.

I pledge to keep working hard to solve our problems here at home in Florida and around the nation.

Two Local Quilters Look To State Contest

Zephyrhills quilt artists Judith Denherder and Prudence Zombro have been accepted as finalists in the 2017 Florida Quilt Competition at World Quilt Florida. The competition will be held Jan. 19-21 at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando. Denherder's quilt, Dutch Love, and Zombro's quilt, Nouveau Flora, will be on display at the show along with entries from many other competitors. Winners that are selected at the show will be listed on the World Quilt Florida website, www.quiltfest.com, starting Jan. 19.

Chamber Awards December Student Citizens Of The Month

Greater Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce Student Citizens stand with Chamber representatives at the Student Citizen of the Month ceremony held Dec. 21 at the Church at Chancey Road. From left are Katy Boyd, GZCOC Ambassador Chairperson; Kaitlyn Miller, 5, Kindergarten, Woodland Elementary School; Melonie Monson, GZCOC Executive Director; Joie Combs, 10, Fifth grade at West Zephyrhills Elementary School; Santa Claus; Andrea Herrera, 11, Fifth grade, Zephyrhills Christian Academy; Carolyn Sentelik, President, Chamber Board of Directors; Kaitlyn Day, 16, Junior, Zephyrhills High School; Holy Chadwell holding her son Larry "Trey" Chadwell, 8, Third grade at Hope Ranch Learning Academy; and Dustin Day, 12, a sixth grader at Raymond B. Stewart Middle School in front of Roxxy Geisenheimer, GZCOC Marketing and Events Coordinator.

Photo Provided

Pets of the Week

BUDDY
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Buddy is a good natured, playful boy who wants to be with people and make you smile. He's the perfect size at only 44 pounds. Buddy will require medical attention for heartworm, which is curable. Come and take this lovable boy home.

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Cameron is a sweet senior who is very loveable, despite his serious expressions. He is always looking for soft blankets and beds that he can knead. What he really needs is a home and lap. Come meet Cameron at Pasco County Animal Services.

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Church News

Email Church News to church@pasconewspubs.com

First Congregational Church of Zephyrhills – Regular church service is at 10 a.m., with Sunday school from 9-9:45 a.m. An evening Bible study is held on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. We are currently studying First Corinthians.

The Men's Study Group begins Jan. 7 from 8-9 a.m. (except for the third Saturday of the month).

The first Men's Breakfast will be held on Jan. 21. The Men's Breakfast will be held every third Saturday of the month from 8-9:30 a.m. in the Education Building. January's breakfast will be free.

Our Men's Work Group (aka The God Squad) performs small handy work for our church members in need.

The church is located at 7900 Fort King Road. Visit www.fcczhills.org or contact the office at (813) 780-6027 or fcczh@aol.com for information. Office hours are 9 a.m.-12 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Richland Assembly of God Church – Located at 8527 Old Lakeland Highway. New Sunday service times for 2017 are 9 a.m. with Sunday school and 10 a.m. Inspirational worship in music followed by an energetic and dynamic message by Pastor John Faughnan. Wednesday Bible Study is held at 7 p.m. and Saturday Night Life (SNL) is held at 6 p.m. Visit our website at www.richlandassembly.com for information. Come help us build for the future.

First Baptist Church – Pastor Rob McKinney invites everyone to visit a going church with a coming Savior.

Contact the church for information about our teen ministry (TRUTH Ministries).

Church visitation is every Monday at 5 p.m. The Sunrise Prayer Warriors meet weekday mornings from 6-7 a.m. in the church conference room. Everyone is welcome.

The Sunday services are: Sunday school for all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Worship service at 10:45 a.m.; evening service at 6 p.m.; and Wednesday mid-week service at 6:30 p.m. Children's activities and choir practice are at 6 p.m. Call the church at (813) 782-5574 for information.

First Baptist Church is the downtown church, located at 38231 Fifth Ave.

Faith Baptist Church – Two morning worship services will begin on Jan. 8 with service times at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Located at 38634 C.R. 54 in Zephyrhills. Pastor Michael Jayne would love to meet you. Faith Baptist Church has been loving the Zephyrhills community for 44 years, providing answers for a changing world, strengthening marriages, and giving practical help in times of trouble. Check us out on the web at fbczephyrhills.org or call the church office at (813) 782-0880 for information

Zephyrhills First Church of the Nazarene – Men's breakfast is held on the first Saturday of each month at 8 a.m. in the Errickson Auditorium.

Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m. and contemporary worship is at 10:45 a.m. Sunday evening services start at 6 p.m. On Wednesdays join us for Generations Bible study for all ages starting at 6:30 p.m.

ZFN is located at 6151 12th St. in Zephyrhills. Call (813) 782-7032 or visit zfnfamily.org for information.

First United Methodist Church – A grief support group will be held from 9:30-11:30 a.m. starting Jan. 5 through April 6. Receive help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. Grief Share is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. We know it hurts, and we want to help. The church is located at 38635 Fifth Ave. Call (813) 782-5645 for information.

Wesley Chapel Church of the Nazarene – Come join us for the Beth Moore Bible Study on the book of James beginning Jan. 9 at 1 p.m. located at Wesley Chapel Church of the Nazarene, 34106 S.R. 54 west in Zephyrhills. If you would like to attend please contact Michele Murdock at (315) 398-9132.

You are invited to join us for a traditional church service every Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. and an evening service at 6 p.m. Our Sunday school classes start at 9:30 a.m. There is also a Bible study on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m.

Everyone is welcome and invited to attend any or all of our services. The church is located at 34106 State Road 54 West and you may call (813) 780-7600 for more information.

Trinity Church of Wesley Chapel – Sunday school is at 9 a.m. and services are at 10:15 a.m. every Sunday. Family night is every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. We have a monthly Fish Fry on the last Friday of every month 4-7 p.m. The price is \$7 for fish, two sides, dessert, and a drink. The church is located at 33425 S.R. 54 in Wesley Chapel. Call (813) 788-2898 for information.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) – Worship with us on Sundays at 10 a.m. at 6040 Eighth St., Zephyrhills (behind the post office).

Communion is available at all of our services and is open for all believers. We have morning and evening Bible studies; an active women's service group, men's breakfast and more. Call (813) 782-1071 for information.

Zephyr Park Christian Church – We are close to God and close to nature. Located under the large American flag behind Zephyr Haven. We meet every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. with singing and praising

the Living Lord. We are giving you a challenge: visit us for four weeks and you will be so blessed you won't be able to stay away. Bible study is available. Call (813) 484-9906 for information.

Just Church – Join us at 5221 Eighth St in Zephyrhills. Pastor Ken Ringeisen invites you to services on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and at 7 p.m. Children's church and nursery are provided during the Sunday service.

St. Elizabeth Episcopal/Anglican Church – Service times are Saturdays at 4 p.m., Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 6 p.m. The church is located at 5855 16th St. (corner of 12th Avenue and 16th Street). Everyone is invited to attend. Our Sunday school meets at 9 a.m. Children of all ages are welcome to attend.

Thrifty Angel Boutique at St. Joseph's Catholic Church – Open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8 a.m.-noon. Donations accepted on Mondays from 8 a.m.-noon. The store carries gently used clothes, shoes, handbags, jewelry, knick-knacks and household goods. Located at 38640 Sixth Ave. in Zephyrhills. (813) 780-7309.

United Methodist Mission Thrift Shop – The United Methodist Mission Thrift Shop at the corner of Sixth Avenue and 11th Street in Zephyrhills has a nice selection of housewares, small appliances, Christmas decorations, jewelry, books and men's, women's and children's clothing. Store hours are Wednesday and Saturday from 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church – Located at 5510 19th St. Worship services are at 10 a.m. on Sunday. Dinner is served on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. followed by classes from 6-7 p.m. for all ages, including

an adult Bible study. Choir practice begins at 7 p.m. Call (813) 782-7412 for information.

Waters Edge Community Church – Join us at 30200 Overpass Road in Wesley Chapel. Pastor Richard Crist invites you to attend prayer service Sunday at 9 a.m. followed by a worship service at 10 a.m.

Zephyrhills / Wesley Chapel Ministerial Association – The Zephyrhills / Wesley Chapel Ministerial Association holds community prayer meetings on: Mondays at 8 a.m. at Zephyrhills First Church of the Nazarene, 6151 12th St. in Zephyrhills; Thursdays at noon at First Presbyterian Church, 5510 19th St. in Zephyrhills; the first Monday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Woman's Club of Zephyrhills; 38545 Fifth Ave. Contact Mike Holm at (813) 391-8109 for information.

First Baptist Church of Crystal Springs – 39607 Central Ave., invites you to weekly services: Sunday school at 10 a.m., Sunday worship service 11 a.m., Sunday night service 6 p.m., Wednesday night prayer service 6 p.m. Call Pastor John Foster at (813) 767-9307 or email Efoster23@tampabay.rr.com for information.

Our Savior Lutheran Church – Worship with us at 10:15 a.m. at 5626 20th St. in Zephyrhills. Holy Communion is on the second and fourth Sundays. Call (813) 782-1369 for information.

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church – Join us for regular Sunday service 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 for information.

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Opportunities to gather in Community Prayer

Mondays at 8:00 a.m. Zephyrhills First Nazarene Church 6151 12th Street Zephyrhills	Thursdays at Noon First Presbyterian Church 5510 19th Street Zephyrhills	1st Monday of the Month at 6 p.m. Woman's Club of Zephyrhills 38545 Fifth Avenue Zephyrhills
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www.KumquatFestival.org

Community & Club News

Email Club News to
clubs@pasconewspubs.com

The Pennsylvania Club

The next meeting will be Jan. 9 at Christ Community Church, 7334 16th St. at 11:30 a.m. Doors open at 11:15 a.m. We meet the second Monday of each month from November through March. This is a social club to meet others from your home state. Lunch will be served at noon. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table setting. Meat and coffee will be provided. This month we will have a Chinese auction as a fundraiser. Bring items from home that are unneeded, but in good condition, to be auctioned. Call President Ed Rice at (813) 782-1748 with any questions.

The Zephyrhills Woman's Club

The next monthly meeting will be held Jan. 6, at 12 p.m. at the clubhouse, located at 38545 Fifth Ave. in Zephyrhills. In addition to the club art show, there will be a "shabby chic" tea. All women aged 18 and older are invited to attend, and there will be a gift for any first time visitors. Come and see what the Woman's Club is all about, meet new friends, and get involved in our community. Call Gina at (813) 404-5789 or Lola at (813) 423-2328 for information.

Zephyrhills Art Club

The next meeting will be at Alice Hall, 38116 Fifth Ave., on Jan. 17 from 7-9 p.m. During the course of the meeting, we will have a "snow" themed mini-show for members and will also have a watercolor demonstration by Artist Wayne Chumat. The meeting is open to the public and anyone who has an interest in fine art is welcome to attend. Call (301) 300-9865 with any questions.

Elks Lodge #2731

The inaugural golf tournament at Zephyrhills City Course will be held Jan. 14. Shotgun start at 1 p.m. and cost is \$150 per team or \$40 per person with a meal to follow at the Lodge. Lots of prizes and great food will be provided. Call Ed Batten at (573) 645-9677 for information.

A Performance by Re-Creation "America's Ambassadors to Hospitalized Veterans!" will be held Jan. 18 presenting "School Days" – a dazzling new show of the best American Music. Amazing vocal blend, dynamic staging and glittering costumes. Open to the public for a \$10 donation at the door.

On Jan. 28 the Elks Car Show will be held all day – hosted by Premier Car Shows. Food served by Elks, craft vendors and yard sale – open to the public. Vendors needed, \$20 per space – call Donna Moyer at (813) 727-6727 or Cliff McDuffie at (813) 782-0877 for information.

The Zephyrhills Elks Lodge, located at 6851 Wire Road, has many upcoming events. Fish Fry every Friday evening 4:30-6:30 p.m. with music and dancing. Menu is fried or baked Haddock, shrimp or baked chicken, baked potato or french fries, coleslaw or applesauce. Cost is \$10. Karaoke by Dudley is every Tuesday with dinner at 4:30 p.m. with varying menus. Karaoke begins at 6 p.m. All events are open to Elks and invited guests. Call (813) 782-4604 for information.

National Active and Retired Federal Employees

The next meeting of NARFE, Zephyrhills Chapter 390 will take place at 12:30 p.m. on Jan. 10 at Mike's Smokehouse BBQ & Grill, located at 5740 Seventh St. This meeting will consist of our annual "Brown Bag Auction" for the benefit of Alzheimer's Research. Florida Federation President, Jane Lemley, will be on hand to assist with the auction and bring us her annual message, along with Chapter 1224 President, Bob Lemley. All

federal employees, retirees, survivor annuitants and spouses are welcome to attend. For further information, or if you are interested in attending, please call (352) 523-3674 or email at hreed10@tampabay.rr.com by Jan. 5 so we may provide a "head count" to the restaurant.

Conservative Club of East Pasco

The Conservative Club of East Pasco meets the third Monday of every month at the Zephyrhills Woman's Club on Fifth Avenue in Zephyrhills. Meetings start at 6:30 p.m. The mission of the club is to keep the public informed on current issues that affect our lives on the local, county, state and federal level. All those of the conservative persuasion are welcome. Contact Joe Worrell at (813) 312-7770 for information.

AMVETS Post #550

Monday is Bingo from 1-4 p.m. and the kitchen is open from 12-2 p.m. Every Tuesday is Karl Sapp from 4-7 p.m. and the kitchen is open from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Wednesday is Queen of Hearts at 5 p.m. You can also join in or just listen at the Jam Session from 4-7 p.m. Thursdays is Karaoke from 6-9 p.m. Friday is our famous Fish Fry from 4-7 p.m. with several other menu choices available. Entertainment is from 7-10 p.m. Steak dinners are on Saturday's from 4-7 p.m. and a variety of entertainment from 7-10 p.m. Sunday join E-bowling at 1:30 p.m. AMVETS is located at 4645 Airport Road in Zephyrhills. Find us on Facebook or call (813) 780-8180 for information.

VFW #8154

Veterans of Foreign Wars #8154 is located at 3954 Paul Buchman Highway (State Road 39). Post and Auxiliary meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Friday Night fish fry is back from 4:30-7 p.m. for \$9. Wednesday Night Dinner by The Auxiliary is from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at \$7 each (except steak at \$9). Wings and Things will continue to be from 1-6 p.m. on Sundays with music from 4-7 p.m. Monday Meat Drawings begin at 4:30 p.m. with music by Billy Cole from 5-8 p.m. Come enjoy and participate in Karaoke on Saturdays from 5-8 p.m. Call (813) 782-7194 for information.

Ladies Oriental Shrine Cairo Court #97

The local LOSNA group, Cairo Court #97 of Zephyrhills, meets on the third Wednesday of each month (September through May) at the Zephyrhills Masonic Hall at 5950 12th St. Look us up on Facebook or visit www.shrinershospitalforchildren.org for information about the Shriner's Hospitals for Children.

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, or contact Guy Patterson at (864) 561-6644 for information.

Zephyrhills Family Moose Lodge

Mondays – Corn Hole Toss, 7 p.m. in the SQ and Spagetti/Chicken dinner from 5-7 p.m.; Tuesdays – Ship Captain Crew at 2 p.m. in the SQ, darts at 7 p.m. and taco Tuesday from 5-7 p.m.; Wednesdays – Dance on Hall Side and Karaoke with Cathy on SQ Side Wind Night from 5-7

p.m.; Thursdays – Live music in SQ from 2-5 p.m.; and burgers from 5-7 p.m.; Fridays – Fish Fry 4-7 p.m. every Friday.

All events are for members and qualified guests. Public Bingo on Thursdays at 6:30 pm is open to the general public. The lodge is located at 3211 Gall Blvd. and can be reached at (813) 782-1771.

Alcoholics Anonymous

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

Narcotics Anonymous Hotline

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.

Fraternal Order of Eagles Ladies Auxiliary

The Eagles Ladies Auxiliary is a great way to volunteer your time to make a difference in someone's life. We are a community-based organization that is not for profit located at 4149 New River Road in Zephyrhills. We are "People Helping People."

Overeaters Anonymous

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

Zephyrhills Eagles #3752

Smoking and non-smoking Bingo is held every Saturday at 1 p.m. Come early to enjoy our kitchen's burger sliders – two for \$2. Friday fish fries are from 5-7 p.m. and stay for Billy Cole Karaoke from 7-11 p.m. Monday night is good home cooking for \$6. Wednesday and Thursday are open menu items, and Sunday morning breakfast from 8-11 a.m. Stop in to visit and stay for a while. Calendars are on Facebook at Zephyrhills Eagles #3752 or call (813) 780-1558 for information.

Disabled American Veterans #65

The Zephyrhills Disabled American Veterans Chapter 65 meets on the second Thursday of each month at 5325 Eighth St. The office is open for claims on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The office may be reached by calling (813) 355-4889.

American Legion Post #118

American Legion Zephyr Post #118 meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at 5340 Eighth St., Zephyrhills, at 7 p.m. Auxiliary meets at 1 p.m. the third Wednesday. The club is open for Legion members, veterans and guests at 3 p.m. Monday-Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m. Canadian veterans are welcome. Membership is open to all eligible veterans. Call (813) 782-0481 for information.

Marine Corps League

The Sgt. Maj. Michael S. Curtin Detachment #1124 of the Marine Corps League (MCL) are looking for a few good Marines and Fleet Marine Force (FMF) Navy Corpsmen to join their ranks. The MCL meets on the last Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #8154 located at the southeast corner of State Road 39 and Tucker Road at 3954 Paul Buchman Highway in Zephyrhills. Call (813) 788-5676 for information.

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New Ortho Unit Opens At Florida Hospital Zephyrhills

Florida Hospital Zephyrhills' \$2.6 million new Bone and Joint Center opened to patients on Jan. 3. The 7,350 square foot orthopedic wing on the hospital's second floor has been under construction since July.

The dedicated orthopedic wing has 15 private rooms, each with a private bath that has a large, walk-in shower. Some rooms also have patient lifts or have been designed for bariatric patients, according to Rachel Blackburn, RN, MSN, ATC, Nurse Manager for FHZ's Bone and Joint Center. Designed in a "U" shape, a physical therapy room has been strategically located on the wing for patients' convenience and comfort, Blackburn added.

"The predominant color is spa blue complemented by earth tones. We've hired very qualified, engaged staff for the new Center," Blackburn said. "They are trained in orthopedics and eager to ensure that our patients receive the world-class experience which FHZ strives to deliver each and every day. Personally, I'm excited to see this specialty of care delivered to members of our community in a beautiful environment that lends itself to optimum physical, emotional and spiritual healing."

The Bone and Joint Center at Florida Hospital Zephyrhills specializes in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the joints, ligaments, tendons, muscles and nerves. The Center is the only facility in the area to offer MAKOplasty® Partial Hip and Knee Resurfacing for adults living with early to mid-stage osteoarthritis of the hip and knee.

The center's world-class joint replacement program offers amenities such as an orthopedic care coordinator to assist patients with their plan of care; a joint replacement education class to help patients prepare for surgery; and an annual joint replacement reunion celebration for patients and their coaches.



A \$2.6 million orthopedic unit with 15 private rooms has opened at Florida Hospital Zephyrhills.

Photo Provided

Obituaries

Jimmie Baker

BAKER, Jimmie, 79, died Dec. 28, 2016. Services were held Dec. 30 at Whitfield Funeral Home. Interment was at Fivay Cemetery.

Gladys Bange

BANGE, Gladys, 92, died Dec. 26, 2016. She is survived by a son, Donald Laughman; and a grandson, Scott Sanders. Whitfield Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Charlotte Davis

DAVIS, Charlotte, died Dec. 21, 2016. She is survived by her husband, Donald; a daughter, Tammy (Tony) Mears; and a grandson, Alex Potter. Whitfield Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mary Hutchinson

HUTCHINSON, Mary, 92, of Zephyrhills, passed away on Dec. 30, 2016. She was born Nov. 30, 1924, in Cleveland, Ohio to Dominic and Catharina Sisi. A longtime Zephyrhills resident, Mary was generous, loving, and always had encouraging words accompanied by her beautiful smile and contagious laugh. Mary is survived by her loving son, Ralph, and her daughter-in-law, Tomiko; three grandchildren, Ralph, Todd and Naomi; four great-grandchildren, Michael, Patrick, Nicholas and Renee. Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph; daughter, Marie; and granddaughter, Lisa. Services will be held Jan. 7 at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph Church, 38710 5th Ave. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mary's name to Gulfside Regional Hospice. Hodges Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



Mildred Pecoraro

PECORARO, Mildred, 86, died Dec. 23, 2016. She is survived by sons, George and Mark; a daughter, Amy; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; a brother, John; and a sister, Mary. Whitfield Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



Ernest Shultz Sr.

SHULTZ, Ernest, Sr., 65, passed away Dec. 21, 2016, in Dalton, Ga. He was born on March 28, 1951, in Batavia, N.Y. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Cowan, Tenn., and a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving two tours in Vietnam. He is survived by his wife, Joyce Shultz; four children, Wendy Pinkston, Candi Bedford, Ernest Shultz Jr., and Matthew Shultz; his mother, Margie Dunkle; two stepdaughters, Susan Cash and Jackie Nichols; 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father, Herman Shultz, and a sister, Lois Catherine Shultz. Services were held Dec. 29, 2016, at Whitfield Funeral Home. Interment was at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell.



Robert G. Zimmerman

ZIMMERMAN, Robert G., 90, of Zephyrhills, was called home to his heavenly Father on Dec. 28, 2016, in his home surrounded by his family and loving wife. He was born in Old Fort, Ohio on Feb 22, 1926, to Elmer and Effa (Stroup) Zimmerman. After serving in World War II in the Navy on the USS Bountiful, he attended Bowling Green University and Michigan State University, earning a master's degree in education. He was a high school history teacher and administrator, retiring as a principal at Lakeside Middle School in Ft. Wayne, Ind. He was an educator at heart, and the beloved Mr. Z to the students and teachers. He was preceded in death by his eldest son, Tom. He is survived by his best friend and wife of 68 years, Ann (Sproul); and their five children, Terri (Gary) Klotz, Tami (Randy) Furniss, Tim Zimmerman, Trinda (Mike) Foley and Tonya (Jeff) Presley; 18 grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and dear friends. Bob loved golf. He got his children and grandchildren involved in the game, and his wife knew she had to start playing if she wanted to spend daylight time with him. She even let him win once in awhile. Another passion was playing poker, and he was able to



rake it in even in the weeks before his journey home. However, his greatest gift was his deep and unconditional love that he freely shared with his family and friends. Since he touched so many lives, he will be dearly missed. A celebration of his life was held on Jan. 1 at the Spanish Trails clubhouse. A second memorial is planned to take place at a later date in Ft. Wayne, Ind. Hodges Family Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Virginia Garrett

GARRETT, Virginia, age 89, passed away peacefully on Dec. 18, 2016, in her Wesley Chapel home. She was predeceased by Vernon, her husband of 68 years; and sons, Calvin and David. She is survived by sons, Edward (Connie) and Marvin (Irene); and two grandchildren. She was born in a cabin on Lake Lindsey near Brooksville. She led an exemplary life as a selfless wife, mother, and friend. She worked at the University of South Florida, Honeywell, and the Veterans Administration hospital, serving others with a gentle smile, kindness, and compassion. Her family and strong Christian faith were her guide, priority, and comfort. She was an accomplished seamstress, enjoyed gardening, and playing Scrabble and Uno. Services were held Jan. 4 at Wesley Chapel First Baptist Church followed by interment at Lake Lindsey Cemetery in Brooksville. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a favorite charity or First Baptist Church of Wesley Chapel. Whitfield Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



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SACFCU Contest Winner



Merry Christmas to Michael Mazza, winner of San Antonio Citizens Federal Credit Union's Debit Card Signature Contest. Each time a member made a signature purchase with their debit card during October and November they earned an entry to win a Sonos Play wireless speaker. Michael was the lucky recipient of this gift from Tammy Minton, Dade City Area Manager, just in time for Christmas. *Photo Provided*

Spotlight On Talent Seeks Stars

Staff Report

The final competition for this year's 34th annual Spotlight On Talent will be held March 11 at the theater at Wesley Chapel High School.

This is an earlier date than in previous years according to Barbara Friedman, one of the organizers of the event.

Act I will be at 12 p.m. on March 11 and will feature younger finalists. Act II will be at 7 p.m. and it will showcase older competitors.

The deadline for receiving applications to participate in Spotlight On Talent is Jan. 26.

Spotlight On Talent is held by the Heritage Arts Center Association. Applications and information are available at heritagearts.org and information will be distributed to each school music teacher in central and east Pasco County as well as many dance, vocal and instrumental studios, and at the Chambers of Commerce.

Youngsters will compete on Feb. 11 in the tryouts for the thrill of becoming a finalist.

Participants are judged primarily on talent but also on stage presence and appropriate appearance.

In addition to cash prizes, young people have a chance to compete onstage with an audience of several hundred.

"This is our area's version of 'America's Got Talent,'" Friedman said.

The regional competition gives more than \$4,000 in cash prizes and trophies to winners in several age categories.

Part of the excitement is that HACA also awards a \$1,000 scholarship to a Pasco county resident graduating senior who has the highest total scores from the finals judges. The scholarship winner will be announced at the end of the final show, and will be separate and in addition to the individual category winners.

Tickets for adults will be \$12 or both shows for \$20. For students through high school the fee is \$6, both shows for \$10 (under 5 is free).

Vocalists, dancers, instrumental musicians, piano players, baton twirlers, bands, gymnasts and other forms of entertainment are welcome to participate. There are several age categories for solos and one or more group categories.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Contact Barbara Friedman at spotlight@heritagearts.org or (352) 567-1720 for information.

Be Scam Smart Workshop At Cinema 10

State, county, city and local organizations are banding together to present a workshop on Jan. 18 that is designed to help prevent senior citizens from becoming the victims of fraudulent behavior.

The workshop will be held from 10-11:30 a.m. in Auditorium #3 of Zephyrhills Cinema 10, 6848 Gall Blvd.

Participating partners include Florida's Chief Financial Officer, Jeff Atwater; the Pasco Sheriff's Office; the Zephyrhills Police Department; and San Antonio

Citizens Federal Credit Union. The Florida Department of Financial Services launched Operation S.A.F.E. (Stop Adult Financial Exploitation) as part of Atwater's On Guard for Seniors initiative.

This workshop is open to seniors and their family and caregivers to help inform, empower and protect Florida's seniors from financial scams and fraud. Topics will include how to spot fraudulent behavior; common scams that target seniors; and how to fight identity theft.

Call (877) 693-5236 for information.

C1 Bank Changes Hands

The C1 Bank branch at 7435 Gall Blvd., is now operating as a Bank of the Ozarks branch, company officials said recently.

Bank of the Ozarks recently acquired C1 Financial, and its wholly-owned bank subsidiary, C1 Bank, in an all-stock transaction valued at \$402.5 million.

C1 Financial is headquartered in St. Petersburg and operated 31 banking centers and one loan production office at the time of its acquisition by Ozark.

C1's banking centers were located on the Gulf Coast and in Miami-Dade and Orange counties.

As of Jan. 1, 2015, C1 was the 18th largest bank headquartered in the state of Florida by assets and the 16th largest by equity, having grown both organically and through acquisition. It was the sixth-fastest growing bank in the United States as measured by asset growth for the five-year period ended June 30, 2014.

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