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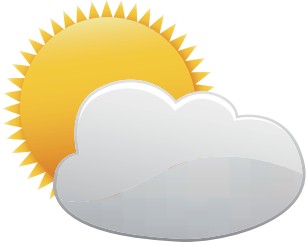


Community News

Funds raised for Florida Breast Cancer Foundation
Tax collector Mike Fasano and his staff from five Pasco County offices recently raised \$9,000 for the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation.

County community cleanup events make a difference
Pasco County's community cleanup efforts have made a difference. The proactive efforts helped remove nearly 167 tons of trash and other debris in neighborhoods.

➤ 7A



Weather

A mixture of sunny and partly cloudy days are in store over the next seven days. The temperatures will be seasonal with daytime highs mostly in the low 70s and 60s. The evenings will be a bit cooler, primarily in the 40s-50s.

➤ 3A

Sports

Arch-rival Pasco defeats Zephyrhills in wrestling
In a matchup of two winless wrestling teams, arch-rival Pasco defeated host Zephyrhills 46-30. The Bulldogs will host an dual eight-team meet on Jan. 7.

High school football east and west all-stars square off
The all-star high school football team for seniors from the east side of Pasco County was played at Bishop McLaughlin. The west evened the series at 3-3 with a 28-0 victory.

Bulldogs defeat arch-rival Pirates in girls basketball
Zephyrhills hosted arch-rival Pasco in a girls basketball game featuring two teams headed in opposite directions. The Bulldogs improved to 8-2 with a 75-9 win over the Pirates, who dropped to 3-7.

➤ 1B

Email Address

If you would like to email *The Zephyrhills News* story ideas, press releases, club news, park news, special events or letters to the editor, please send your information to our email address: thezephyrhillsnews@gmail.com.

Walk Through Bethlehem revived



Volunteer characters at the entrance to the sacred mock village included a census taker and two Roman soldiers.

STEVE LEE

Family of God Baptist Church in Dade City hosts traditional reenactment with three other churches assisting in the joint effort

By STEVE LEE
News Reporter

Following a two-year hiatus, a local Walk Through Bethlehem that dates back to 1996 was revived. Formerly held at the Richland Baptist Church, where the reenactment originated, this year's three-night event took place at the newly opened Family of God Baptist Church in Dade City.

It marked a combined effort featuring reenactors

and volunteers from four churches — the two already mentioned, along with Pasadena Baptist Church and Faith Fellowship in Jesus Christ Church in Trilby. The latter church is associated with Family of God Baptist, located at 102331 Old Lakeland Hwy.

"We're doing a joint effort," said Martha Guynn, wife of Family of God Baptist's pastor Russell Guynn. "They weren't going to do it, so Russell talked to them and asked if we could do it this year."

No problem since the message simply was to revive the walk, which is a mock village of that city south of Jerusalem in Israel. Renowned as the birthplace of Jesus Christ, the village depicts life there centuries ago and includes a marketplace, live animals, Roman soldiers and the three wise men. There also is a manger with Baby Jesus, Joseph and Mary.

"We're all friends," Guynn said. "We all know each

➤ **WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM:** See Page 4A

➤ **IPAC:** See Page 2A

IPAC at Pasco Hernando State College ready to open doors this spring

The massive performing arts center in Wesley Chapel has reached substantial completion status

By ANDY WARRENER
News Reporter

It's impossible to miss the chic new construction while travelling on Old Pasco Road near Cypress Creek High and Middle schools. Only recently did the chain link construction fences come down. The facility is looking toward "final completion" status in January and has aims at some manifestation of a grand opening toward the end of February. The details of the opening will have to be weighed against the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The construction should be complete by then (February), it's just details like doors and light switches and minor thing like that left," Provost of the PHSC Porter Campus Kevin O'Farrell said. "We hope to do some kind of celebration at the end of February, an open house type of feel."

O'Farrell oversees both the PHSC campus on Mansfield Boulevard, near Wiregrass Ranch High School and the IPAC facility adjacent to Cypress Creek. The facility will be a boon for performing arts in the area but it will specifically benefit high school students with aims at degrees in performing or digital arts.

PHSC's Instructional Performing Arts Center (IPAC), located in Wesley Chapel, will provide students state-of-the-art learning in the performing arts beginning 2021. The IPAC will offer four Associate of Arts (AA) performing arts curriculum pathways for students who plan to transfer to a Florida public university to complete a Bachelor's degree in dance, theatre or music. The curriculum will include dance, theatre, voice chorus and instrumental pathways.

The IPAC will also offer an Associate in Science (AS) degree in Digital Media and Multimedia Technology with six College Credit Certificates. This high-demand STEM program will prepare students for initial employment in several digital media and multimedia technology professions such as digital media/multimedia programmer, digital media/

Moore family gets helping hand in adoption process

The Scharbers, who run a law group in Dade City and adopted a daughter, organize fundraisers to assist a Land O' Lakes family

By STEVE LEE
News Reporter

Considering fertility, financial and other issues, adoption can be daunting and overwhelming for some couples who occasionally change their minds. Going through the rigorous process for the Moore family of Land O' Lakes, however, was made somewhat easier thanks to the Scharbers of Dade City.

Melissa Scharber, wife of local attorney Jarrod Scharber, relied on her own case of adopting a daughter to assist Robert and Angela Moore. That couple awaits a little boy or girl, or perhaps more than one of each if twins are involved.

Before Christmas, the Scharbers presented the Moores with an oversized check for \$6,800 toward their adoption effort. Also on hand were several staff members of the law firm as well as Lifetime Adoption employees Robyn Moore and Linda Rotz.

➤ **ADOPTION:** See Page 8A



The Scharbers are flanked by the Moore family and employees of Lifetime Adoption during a recent presentation.

STEVE LEE

Zephyrhills News

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The Zephyrhills News



38333 5th Ave. Zephyrhills, Florida 33542
(813) 782-1558
E-mail: thezephyrhillsnews@gmail.com

The Zephyrhills News, USPS 699-080, is published every Thursday. Periodicals postage paid at Zephyrhills, Florida and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Zephyrhills News, 38333 Fifth Avenue, Zephyrhills, Florida 33542. No part of the Zephyrhills News may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy or recording, of any information storage or retrieval system without the expressed written permission of the publisher.

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Office hours:
Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

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Right: Rendering of the exterior of the IPAC in Wesley Chapel.
Below: One of the computer labs stocked with brand new Mac desktops.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PHSC



► **IPAC:** From Page 1A

multi-media project manager, audio-visual technician, lighting technician, video engineer, graphic animator technical director and web designer/developer.

Naturally, there were delays incurred in dealing with the current pandemic. The IPAC still needs

to make a few hires before the staff is in place. The positions are already posted on the college's website.

"We hope to have it all in place by the first quarter of 2021," O'Farrell said. "Then we will start scaling up the services."

PHSC and the IPAC plan to start offering courses as early as summer of 2021 with the goal of entering into full-force curriculum by the Fall. The courses over the summer are offered to accepted students of PHSC and are within the pathways to both the AA and AS degrees.

"These associates degrees will be transferable for students wanting to pursue bachelors degrees at universities," O'Farrell said.

O'Farrell and PHSC are confident the nearly 36,000-square-foot facility, complete with a 444-

seat auditorium, computer lab and production suite, among other amenities, will lock in prospective students.

"When a student has the opportunity to look at the space, see the educational opportunities and how stunning they are - we think it will make them want to stay," O'Farrell said.

The IPAC won't just help local and regional students. It plans to network with local theatre and performance groups, as well.

"We anticipate great collaboration with the local schools and arts communities in central and east Pasco County," O'Farrell said.

O'Farrell anticipates even more collaboration but also accessibility as plans for an I-75 exit on Overpass Road are in the works. It could be two full years before that project is online but it will set a decent runway for IPAC to start developing the connections. Staff is currently working on a virtual tour, they hope to be able to offer ahead of the anticipated grand opening.

Left: Even the back entrance and courtyard pop at the new facility.

Below: The main lobby of the new performing arts center.



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79|37

Scattered Showers

SUNRISE: 7:18am

MOONRISE: 2:07pm

SUNSET: 5:39pm

MOONSET: 2:22am

FRIDAY

55|30

Partly Cloudy

SUNRISE: 7:18am

MOONRISE: 2:39pm

SUNSET: 5:39pm

MOONSET: 3:14am

SATURDAY

54|34

Sunny

SUNRISE: 7:19am

MOONRISE: 3:13pm

SUNSET: 5:40pm

MOONSET: 4:07am

SUNDAY

68|43

Sunny

SUNRISE: 7:19am

MOONRISE: 3:51pm

SUNSET: 5:40pm

MOONSET: 5:02am

MONDAY

72|46

Sunny

SUNRISE: 7:19am

MOONRISE: 4:35pm

SUNSET: 5:41pm

MOONSET: 5:58am

TUESDAY

68|43

Sunny

SUNRISE: 7:20am

MOONRISE: 5:24pm

SUNSET: 5:42pm

MOONSET: 6:55am

WEDNESDAY

72|52

Sunny

SUNRISE: 7:20am

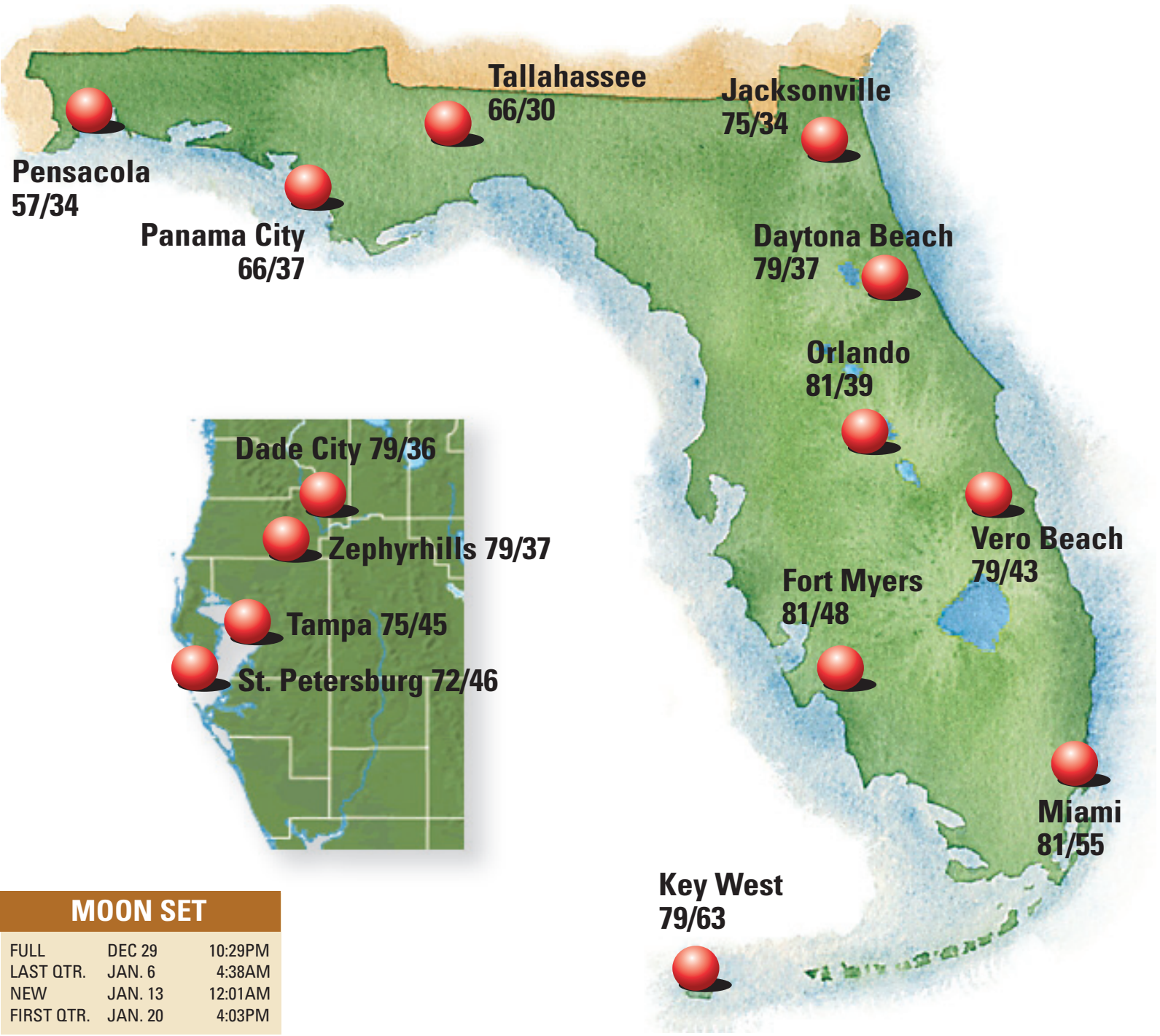
MOONRISE: 7:18pm

SUNSET: 5:42pm

MOONSET: 8:41am

weather forecast

FOR ZEPHYRHILLS



MOON SET		
FULL	DEC 29	10:29PM
LAST QTR.	JAN. 6	4:38AM
NEW	JAN. 13	12:01AM
FIRST QTR.	JAN. 20	4:03PM

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Right: Among the peddlers in the mock village's marketplace were these folks hawking vegetables.



Left: A group of reenactors, comprised of some local high school students from Zephyrhills and Pasco, literally walk through Bethlehem.

Right: Volunteers dressed up as Roman soldiers guard the entrance to the mock village.



Below: The tax collector aimed to fill his basket.



STEVE LEE

► **WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM:** *From Page 1A*

other. We just go to a different church. The more the better.”

It is unclear where the Walk Through Bethlehem will take place next December with the Richland Baptist congregation expected to make a decision on the matter by next summer. If that church declines to host it, however, Guynn said that Family of God Baptists would gladly step in again.

As for this year, more than 800 visitors came through the mock village during three nights, Dec. 11-13. “That was a good turnout for the first time of us having it,” Guynn said.

While many of the nearly 100 volunteers have attended one or more of the aforementioned churches, plenty of people keep returning as costumed characters. Count the White family among them.

Rachel and her father Lamar were tour guides this year while her brother Sam played Jesus after He was crucified and resurrected from the tomb. The Whites have played numerous characters throughout the years including Sam as the baby Jesus one year.

“It’s a really good experience and I just love spreading the gospel to everyone,” said Rachel White, who said her family has been involved with the Walk Through Bethlehem since its inception in 1996 at Richland Baptist. “I like walking through (the village).”

Other tour guides were pastor Guynn, April Jordan, Cindy Wilt, Alicia VanDassen and Pat Nesbit. Just beyond the main entrance to the village and past the Roman soldiers who served as guards and were equipped with spears, Guynn’s brother Rex played the role of the census taker while David Moyer was the tax collector nearby.

“Nobody likes me,” said Moyer, shaking his head from side to side while staying in character.

Basket makers, fruit and vegetable peddlers, a wine maker, fish merchant, bread maker, cloth weaver — all of those characters lent a bit of authenticity to the mock village.

Further into the walls of Bethlehem were shepherds with live sheep, goats and donkeys. While there were plenty of elderly folks playing various roles, some of the characters depicted were high school students from Pasco and Zephyrhills. Like Vicky Brandel and Jack Holloway, who watched over the animals in a wooden pen.

At the end of the village, visitors were greeted by pastors from the four churches. Aside from Guynn that group included Claude English, Mike Thacker and Robert Perkins.

“We’re not in it to be recognized,” English said. “It’s about doing something for the Lord and to get the gospel out. Right now, we need that more than ever.”



Below: Two volunteers are shown with their wares at the brass and metal shop.



Above: Two ladies are dressed as characters at the cloth making stand.

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CHURCH NEWS

First Baptist Church of Zephyrhills, 38231 5th Ave., invites you to Sunday services with Pastor Rob McKinney.

Christmas Eve Service will be at 6:00 pm. The Sunday services are: Sunday school for all ages, 9:30 a.m.; worship service, 10:45 a.m.; and evening service at 6 p.m. Wednesday mid-week service, 6 p.m. and choir practice is at 6 p.m. For more information, call the church at (813) 782-5574.

Crystal Springs Worship Center, 2155 Paul Buchman Hwy. is an Assembly of God Church. Adult Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. followed by the morning worship at 10:30 a.m.

The Ladies of Light Ministry Bible Study meets on Tuesdays 9:30 a.m. Wednesday night service starts at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (813) 788-1612.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, 5626 20th St., invites you to Saturday worship service at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday worship service at 10 a.m. You can also watch live on Sunday at 10 a.m. at <https://www.facebook.com/OurSaviorLutheranChurchOfZephyrhillsFL>. For more information, call (813) 782-1369.

Dade City Grace Bible Church, 15000 U.S. Hwy. 301, Dade City Business Center, Suite 403,

will meet 9:30 a.m. for fellowship. The Song and Devotional Bible Thought for the Week begins at 10 a.m. along with Pastor Willard L. Sessoms preaching the morning Grace Bible Study message. Youth Bible study lesson, for ages 6-10 years old, is during the morning Message Hour.

The church provides a Tract and Literature Ministry at the Webster Flea Market on Mondays during the season. For more information, visit www.BibleTruthForToday.com or call (352) 567-3955.

The Church at Chancey Road, 34921 Chancey Rd., and Pastor Tim Mitchell would like to invite you to Sundays at 10:15 a.m. and Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m. for worship, Bible study and communion. Nursery and kids programs are available at all services.

The Abundant Blessings Food Pantry is open, Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. For those in attendance at either the Sunday 10:15 a.m. or Wednesday 6:45 p.m. services the Food Pantry will be open after each service.

For more information, visit: www.the-churchatanceyroad.com.

Zephyrhills Church of Christ, 5444 4th St. welcomes you to visit with them for Sunday Bible study, 9:30 a.m. followed by Sunday worship at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. There is a midweek Bible study on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

If you have any questions you can contact Preacher Kevin Heaton, at (205) 405-7700 or heatonkevin@yahoo.com.

Victory Baptist Church, 6950 Forbes Rd., invites you to join them for their services on Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday school is at 10 a.m. There is a mid-week service on Wednesday, 7 p.m. Nursery and children's programs are available. For more information, visit www.vbczhills.com or call (813) 783-8300.

First United Methodist Church of Zephyrhills, 38635 5th Ave. will have Christmas Eve Candlelight services, Dec. 24, with a contemporary service starting at 6 p.m. and a traditional service at 8 p.m. All attending must wear a mask and follow social distancing guidelines.

For more information, call (813) 782-5645.

OBITUARIES



Steven Andrew Brown

BROWN, Steven Andrew, 52, of Dade City passed away Dec. 10, 2020, of Covid-19 and pneumonia. He was the youngest child of the late Lee and Jeanette Brown, and spent most of his life in Dade City. Steven was a proud graduate of the University of Florida, president of Phi Kappa Tau fraternity at UF, a member of Florida Blue Key, and a loyal Gator fan. He was gifted with a dry wit and loved making those around him laugh. Steven loved to travel and was a friend to all. Like his father, Steven was a dedicated Rotarian and counted many devoted friends at the Dade City Rotary Club. Like both of his parents, Steven was honoured as a Paul Harris Fellow and was deeply committed to Rotary's ideal of "Service above Self". Lee, Jeanette and Steven all gave generously of their time and resources throughout their lives. From a young age Steven showed an affinity for working with his hands, one that led naturally to an interest in carpentry and to a first career in the construction industry. After embracing a second career as a long-distance trucker, he continued to work diligently on the family property, often referred to as "the Brown compound". He always felt a particular attachment to Dade City and to the beauty of rural Florida. Steven was preceded in death by his beloved parents Lee Gilbert and Jeanette Marvin Brown, who died in 2008 and 2019, respectively. He is survived by his brother, Mark and his wife, Margaret (Meg) of Lisbon, Portugal; by brother, Paul and his wife,

Diane of Denver, Co.; by sister, Gail Brown Slane and her husband, Harold and niece, Sara Slane, all of Belleville, Ill.; by nephew, Lt. Calin Slane of San Antonio, Texas; and by niece, Lindsay Brown of Jacksonville. Steven's last days of illness were quite difficult, but he was comforted by the sensitive and highly-professional care he received at AdventHealth Zephyrhills. In these difficult moments Steven's family would like to express their deep gratitude to these health professionals and caregivers, and to the many thousands like them around the country who are working with such courage and dedication against the scourge of Covid-19. Thank you. A Celebration of Life will be held at a date to be determined. Donations in Steven's memory can be made to the Rotary Foundation.



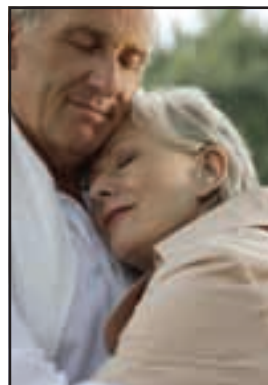
Gary Lee Killeen

KILLEEN, Gary Lee, 54, of Zephyrhills passed away Dec. 8, 2020. He was born June 7, 1966, in Dade City and was a lifelong area resident. He was a 1985 graduate of Zephyrhills High School and had worked as a Medical Equipment Transporter. Gary is survived by his wife, Regina "Gina" Killeen; his mother, Dorothy and David Hayes; six children, Ashlee Killeen, Jessica Killeen, Sean Killeen, Robbie Killeen, John Killeen and Tommy Locke III; his sister, Lorie Sink; 10 grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his infant brother, Robert Alan Killeen. Funeral services were Dec. 12 at the 301 Chapel of Hodges Family Funeral Home. Burial is at Floral Memory Gardens.



Barry Lynch

LYNCH, Barry, 89, of Ridge Manor passed away Dec. 9, 2020. He was born June 14, 1931, in Boston to Joseph and Claire Duby Lynch. While serving in the U.S. Navy, he met the love of his life, Helen, to whom he was married for 62 years. Barry was a longtime partner in a local CPA firm, where he served with honesty and integrity as a trusted advisor to many local businesses and families. He was predeceased by his loving wife, Helen; his parents; and his brother, Arthur. He is survived by his five children, Cheryl (Fred) Brannen, Mark Lynch, Christy (Harry) Tomlinson, Scott (Kelly) Lynch and Gregg (Robin) Lynch; 10 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. Barry was an avid golfer and fly-fisherman, as well as a fan of youth sports and performing arts. He and Helen attended countless games, shows, and performances in the Dade City area, cheering on several generations of many area families. Barry served as the treasurer for the local Little League for 43 years. Due to concerns with COVID, the family has chosen to not have a public memorial service at this time; there will be a family ceremony at the Florida National Cemetery, where his remains will be interred with Helen's. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Dade City Little League, Gulfside Hospice, or a charity of your choosing.



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FROM THE MANGER TO THE CROSS

Where our Saviour 'suffered, bled and died.'

Let us never forget, it was for us,
That our Lord was crucified.

He came unto his own, and his own received him not,
Even while suffering in anguish, upon that cruel cross,
The soldiers laughed and jeered him,
For his robe they cast their lots.

As believers we think of our blessed Saviour,
Upon that cruel cross,
To those who chose not to believe,
One can only imagine how great will be their loss.

From the manger to the cross,
To that tomb so bleak and so cold,
He has risen and lives for us,
THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD. AMEN!

Remember, God loves You, Christ died for You, was buried for You,
and He arose from the dead for You (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)!

WHY NOT BELIEVE GOD'S WORD in the BIBLE,
And then, You will pass from death unto life!
(Eternal Life in Heaven)
"THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD?"

(p.s. It is impossible for God to lie)

- YouTube link is: Dade City Grace Bible Church
- Email us at: Dadecityfellowship@bibletruthfortoday.com
- KJV BIBLE – STUDY AND RIGHTLY DIVIDE ACCORDING TO 2 TIMOTHY 2:15
- www.BibleTruthForToday.com

DADE CITY GRACE BIBLE CHURCH

P.O. Box 2274, Dade City, FL 33526
Dade City Business Center Office Plaza, Suite 403
15000 U.S. Hwy 301 N., Dade City, FL 33523
Look for the Water Tower
Meeting Time: Sundays—10 A.M., PH: 352-567-3955

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Festival Christmas Service 9:00 pm

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Worship.....10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wednesday
Bible Study.....7:30 p.m.
www.zephyrhillschurch.com

FIRST UNITED METHODIST

38635 5th Ave.
(813) 782-5645
Senior Pastor Steve Ezra
Sunday Services
Contemporary.....9 a.m.
Traditional.....11 a.m.
Christmas Eve
Contemporary.....6 p.m.
Traditional.....8 p.m.
www.fumczhills.org

CRYSTAL SPRINGS WORSHIP CENTER

2155 Paul Buchman Hwy.
(813) 788-1612
Pastor Linda Davis
Sunday
Adult Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Tuesday
Ladies Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.
Wednesday
Evening Service.....6:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

5510 19th St.
(813) 782-7412
Pastor Denise Lay
Sunday
Worship.....10 a.m.
Sunday School
(Nursery/Grades K-12).....10 a.m.
Adult Study.....8:30 a.m.
Coffee fellowship after worship
Wednesday
REFRESH Supper.....5:30 p.m.
REFRESH Youth Group.....6 p.m.
Adult Bible Study.....6 p.m.
Choir Practice.....7 p.m.
Second Saturday King's Men
(in fellowship hall).....9 a.m.
www.firstpcz.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ZEPHYRHILLS

38231 5th Ave.
(813) 782-5574
Pastor Robert McKinney
Sunday
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wednesday
Service.....6 p.m.
Choir Practice.....6 p.m.
Children's Activities.....6 p.m.
TRUTH teen ministries.....6:15 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

38710 5th Ave.
(813) 782-2813
Reverend Allan Tupa
Sunday
Mass.....7, 9, 11 a.m.
Saturday
Mass.....4 p.m.
Weekday Masses
Monday.....8 a.m.
Wednesday.....8 a.m.
Friday.....8 a.m.

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

5434 7th St.
(813) 783-2727
Pastor Stephen R. Lamb
Sunday
Adult Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
Coffee and Donut Fellowship.....10:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.....11 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6 p.m.
Wednesday
Prayer and Praise Service...6 p.m.
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5521 23rd St.
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Pastor Isaiah McCarthy
Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:45 a.m.
Evening Service.....6 p.m.
Wednesday Service.....6 p.m.

DADE CITY GRACE BIBLE CHURCH

Dade City Business Center
Suite 403
15000 U.S. Hwy. 301
(352) 567-3955
Pastor Willard L. Sessoms
Fellowship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Service.....10 a.m.
www.bibletruthfortoday.com

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH

6950 Forbes Rd.
(813) 783-8300
Pastor David Toulson
Sunday School.....10 a.m.
Morning Worship.....11 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6 p.m.
Wednesday
Bible Study/Prayer.....7 p.m.
Kids Club.....7 p.m.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

5626 20th St.
813-782-1369
Reverend Tod A. Shouse
Saturday
Worship Service.....5:30 p.m.
Sunday
Worship Service.....10 a.m. stream
at www.oursaviorlutheranzephyrhills.org

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7333 Dairy Rd.
(813) 782-2000
Ray Pichette, Lead Pastor
Ricardo Barriette, Associate Pastor
Saturday
Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.
Worship Service.....10:45 a.m.
Thursday
ALNON.....7 p.m.
Ladies Bible Study.....7 p.m.
Friday
Alcoholics Anonymous.....10 a.m.
Overeaters Anonymous
Monday, 5:30 p.m. and Friday
11:30 a.m.
Narcotics Anonymous
Sunday, Wednesday and
Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
www.eastpascoadventist.com

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(813) 973-2211
Pastor Scott Lindner
Saturday
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Sunday
Worship Service with
Communion.....10 a.m.
discoveryalc.com

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34921 Chancey Rd.
(813) 317-4975
Pastor Tim Mitchell
Sunday
Worship.....10:15 a.m.
Worship, Bible Study and
Communion
Monday
Prayer and Bible Reading.....12 p.m.
Overcomers Bible Study.....6 p.m.
(12 step program)
Tuesday
Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.
Wednesday
Fellowship Dinner.....6 p.m.
followed by Bible study for all ages
at 6:45 p.m.
Thursday
Heart Dance Ladies Group.....10 a.m.
Friday
Prayer and Bible Study.....7:45 a.m.
www.thechurchatanceyroad.com





Staff and management from the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office present a check to Cathy Cruz of the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation.

Tax collector Mike Fasano and staff raise over \$9,000 for Florida Breast Cancer Foundation

During the month of October Pasco County Tax Collector Mike Fasano's five offices partnered with the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation to help raise funds and awareness of breast cancer, its symptoms and treatments. October, which was national Breast Cancer Awareness Month, was the perfect time to feature the sale of the foundation's "End Breast Cancer" specialty tag. Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women in Florida (excluding skin cancer). It is estimated that about 12,000 new cases are diagnosed each year.

The five branches of the Pasco County Tax Collectors Office promoted the sale of the "End Breast Cancer" specialty license plates as well as the voluntary check-off donations on automobile registrations. Twenty three plates were sold in October. Combined with cash donations, a total of \$9,018.97 was raised to help "End the Suffering Caused by Breast Cancer."

"The relationship we have with the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office is one that the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation values more and more with every passing year," said Tracy Jacin, president and CEO of the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation. "The support they give us allows us to further our mission to end the suffering caused by breast cancer by funding research that will change the breast cancer landscape and education that will save lives. Our

deepest appreciation to Mr. Mike Fasano and his passionate staff for their continued support over the years and dedication to making their efforts a great success."

"It is a great honor to work with The Florida Breast Cancer Foundation each year to assist in raising awareness of the needs of breast cancer patients, educate the public on the importance of early detection and to help fund organizations that are working to find better treatments and ultimately a cure," said Fasano. "The foundation encourages regular screenings to detect breast cancer in its earliest stages, for both women and men. Thank you to a very generous community that once again supported our efforts to help find a way to end a disease that afflicts so many."

For more details regarding charitable promotions or services provided by the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office contact Greg Giordano, assistant tax collector for communications and special projects at (727) 847-8179 or visit www.pascotaxes.com.

For more information about the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation and how you can support its efforts contact Cathy Cruz, marketing communications manager at (305) 631-2134 or visit www.FloridaBreastCancer.org.

Kaitlyn Pipkin named to Fall 2020 Dean's List

Kaitlyn Paige Pipkin earned a 3.5 GPA in the fall 2020 semester, securing a prestigious position on the Southern Arkansas University's Dean's List. Pipkin is a senior pre-health major from Wesley Chapel. A total of 577 students were honored on this semester's Dean's List.

SAU "feels like home" and continues to build on its dedication to student achievement and success in a caring atmosphere, both on campus and online. With more than 80 degrees in four distinct colleges and the School of Graduate Studies, SAU initiates new degree programs to fit the needs of career and professional trends of today.

Pasco County community clean-up events make a difference



Proactive efforts remove nearly 167 tons of trash from four west Pasco communities

In an effort to combat blight and beautify our neighborhoods, Pasco County's Code Enforcement PACE (Proactive Code Enforcement) team and Solid Waste Department joined forces to host four community clean-up events in west Pasco this fall. The collaborative efforts produced big results with nearly 167 tons of trash and debris removed from Tahitian Gardens, Country Club Estates, Moon Lake Estates and Holiday Lake Estates.

Community clean-up trash/debris collection breakdown: Tahitian Gardens: 46.19 tons, Oct. 11; Country Club Estates: 23.88 tons, Oct. 25; Moon Lake Estates: 64 tons, Nov. 8; and Holiday Lake Estates: 32.92 tons, Nov. 22.

The goal of community clean-up events is to provide residents a convenient opportunity to rid themselves of items and debris that could cause potential code violations. Providing free, accessible drop off locations increases participation and reduces illegal dumping activity in Pasco County.

Remember, you can always report code violations and illegal dumping anonymously via the MyPasco App, or by contacting RIDPasco@mypasco.net or customer service at (727) 847-2411.

County codes are a critical tool in keeping the communities safe and resilient, and we appreciate your cooperation. Learn more about Pasco County's Code Enforcement Department, including frequently asked questions, codes and ordinances, by visiting online at MyPasco.net.

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2019VYAKRX2V12X21C

Scan with camera to view videos, key features and more.



Above: The Moore family is eager to adopt and recently got a helping hand from the Scharber Law Group.

Right: Robyn Moore and Linda Rotz, of Lifetime Adoption, look on during an interview.



Left: Melissa Scharber conducts an interview before the check presentation.

STEVE LEE



► **ADOPTION:** From Page 1A

The money came from community donations and various fundraisers, including t-shirts emblazoned with the following words: FOSTER & ADOPT & SUPPORT & ADVOCATE & MENTOR & PRAY. Because every child deserves a home.

"This makes a difference. It's huge," Angela said. "We've been waiting for a match for a year."

"It's just something that's been heavy on our hearts for quite some time. We wanted to add to the family," Robert added. "The assistance and help and outreach have been huge."

"There are a lot of families who want to adopt, but they can't afford it," Melissa noted.

Both families came together after Scharber noticed the Moore's plight by watching a video presentation.

"I just fell in love with them," she said. "It was an instant connection. I felt like it was just right."

The Scharbers, who adopted Bryn as a newborn three years ago and have a 7-year-old son named Brett, are intent on seeing children with families in homes rather than bouncing around in foster care.

The law firm has handled adoptions for some clients and Melissa noted that it's her favorite type of file to work with.

Melissa gave something for the Moore family to look forward to by recalling her own experience.

"We saved a life and she saved us," Scharber said. "An adoption can be impactful on both sides."

Melissa said meeting her adopted daughter left a life-

lasting impression. "It was overwhelming, but I remember the moment I fell in love with her. It's just an experience I can't describe."

The Scharbers nicknamed their daughter "baby doll," which they said still sticks. Melissa added that Bryn "looks like my son. She fit into our family perfectly. It was a blessing."

Part of the reason the Moores are looking forward so much for their blessing is that Angela lost a child. The Moores had Alayna for 20 weeks before she passed away.

For Robert, a physical therapist, the uncertainty of when the right child will be available at the right time is something the family simply must deal with for now.

"Our faith plays a huge role in this," he said, as he and his wife looked longingly at one another. "While we feel impatient, God's time is everything."

The couple's two daughters — Adalyn, who is 10, and 5-year-old Aubrielle — are just as eager for another young family member.

"Knowing that I might get another sibling makes me excited and I cry sometimes," Adalyn said.

"I need to play games, hug her and be nice to her," Aubrielle added.

SACFCU awards bill pay contest winners



Mila Cordeiro and Jill Evans, of San Antonio Citizens Federal Credit Union, award David and Michelle Smith with a Dyson vacuum.

David and Michelle Smith are the winners of San Antonio Citizens Federal Credit Union's Bill Pay Contest. Jill Evans, VP marketing and Mila Cordeiro marketing assistant, presented the couple with their Dyson vacuum prize.

David said "This is the best thing that's happened to me all year."

All members who were enrolled in bill pay by Nov. 30 were entered to win. The Smith's name was drawn from 3,538 participants.

Watch for the next contest to be held during the first two months of 2021. All members enrolled in e-Statements by Feb. 28 will have a chance to win a Weber Grill.

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