



# The Zephyrhills Aeus

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1911

**Thursday, December 3, 2020** 109th Year - No. 12

thezephyrhillsnewsonline.com

50¢

# **Community News**

Groundbreaking for new San Antonio Citizens **Federal Credit Union** 

A groundbreaking ceremony for the San Antonio Citizens Federal Credit Union's new operations center took place on Nov. 13. The 11,000-square-foot facility will be located adjacent to the current branch in San Antonio and is expected to open in late 2021.

#### **Stewart Middle School** honors its Top Dogs

Stewart Middle School's Top Dogs for the first quarter were recently honored as part of a program started by the Pilot Club of Zephyrhills.



# Weather

Mostly sunny days, with just a few clouds, are in store for the area over the next seven days. Temperatures continue to drop, as is expected for this time of year. Daytime highs will be primarily in the 60s and drop into the 40s on some nights.

> 3A

# **Sports**

Long playoff run and recordbreaking season is over for the Bulldogs

Zephyrhills, which advanced to the third round of the football playoffs for the first time in school history, had its recordbreaking postseason run end with a Class 5A region semifinal loss to Orlando Jones.

#### Zephyrhills splits preseason games on its home court

The Zephyrhills boys basketball team hosted a preseason classic for a fifth straight year. Last week, the host Bulldogs split a pair of games on Alan Reed Court against two tough opponents from Polk County.

#### **Bulldogs lose close one to** Sunlake in girls basketball

The Zephyrhills girls basketball team came up just short in a valiant comeback bid against Sunshine Athletic Conference rival Sunlake. The Bulldogs nearly overcame a 10-point deficit with a late run before eventually losing to the Seahawks by four points. ➤ 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: the zephyrhills news@gmail.com.



# Saint Leo University begins **Christmas Season with** blessing of Nativity, tree



Saint Leo University celebrated its annual Christmas tree lighting a little early this year on Nov. 18.

Saint Leo University kicked off the Christmas season Nov. 18, a little early this year in order for students, faculty, and staff to celebrate together before Thanksgiving break. The last two weeks of the Fall 2020 Semester will be completed online (Nov. 30-Dec. 11) so many students will not be on campus.

The Saint Leo community was joined by members of the Pasco County community for the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony at University Campus, 33701

PHOTOS BY SAM GONZALEZ, SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY

S.R. 52 in St. Leo. Father Randall Meissen, university chaplain, blessed the university's Christmas tree and Nativity as the university prepares for Advent. Saint Leo Student Government Union president Ashley Butler read the Christmas story from the Gospel of Luke 2: 1-14. Students, faculty, and staff provided Christmas music for everyone's enjoyment.

➤ **SAINT LEO**: See Page 4A

# Pasco County School officials amend ban on spectators

Two fans per player now allowed at school events, a reversal of no spectators allowed a week earlier

> By Steve Lee News Reporter

A week after banning spectators at extra-curricular events, Pasco County School officials reversed that decision and two fans per player is now allowed. The ruling came down on Nov. 30.

Among those not overly thrilled with the timing is Zephyrhills football coach Nick Carroll, whose team had a home playoff game last Friday until the ruling came and the Bulldogs opted to travel to Orlando Jones for a Class 5A region semifinal that they ultimately lost.

"Obviously, we would've loved not to have traveled to Orlando," Carroll said. "It's unfortunate that after one week it was changed."

With a distinct possibility of cancelling all extracurricular activities altogether due to a November spike in coronavirus cases, last week Pasco School Superintendent Kurt Browning announced that spectators would not be allowed at events. Mask wearing and social distancing guidelines already were in

"Starting on Nov. 23, planned extracurricular activities will be allowed to continue, but without spectators," said Browning, who contracted the virus this past summer. "Whether it is a sporting event, musical program or theatrical performance, we will not have an audience or spectators. Arrangements can certainly be made for a live, virtual audience, or performances or athletic events can be recorded."

That ban has since been amended. For now, each county player on a varsity, junior varsity and middle school team is allotted two spectators — parents, grandparents, siblings, other relatives and friends — per game. Mask wearing and social distancing still will be rein-

➤ **SPECTATORS**: See Page 7A

# East Pasco Republicans earn bids in house and senate

Wilton Simpson is Senate President, House Representative Randy Maggard retains seat and Danny Burgess is elected to State Senate

> By Steve Lee News Reporter

A trio of East Pasco legislators are among the winners of recent elections in the state. Wilton Simpson is now the Senate President, House Representative Randy Maggard retained his seat and Danny Burgess has been elected to the State Senate. All are Republicans

"I'm pretty sure that combo has never happened," said Maggard, who defeated Democrat Brian Staver in District 38 and has held that seat since a special election in 2019. "It's exciting. The relationship that the three of us have is very close. I think that between the three of us Pasco's future is very bright.

"Serving with others who I consider my family is the blessing of a lifetime," said Burgess, who serves District 20. "I've known representative Maggard and president Simpson long before I started running for office. Their commitment to not only East Pasco but to



▶ **POLITICIANS:** See Page 2A State Senate President Wilton Simpson is sworn in. The Trilby native has been a state legislator since 2012.

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# The

# Zephyrhills Aews





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Right: Randy Maggard, vice president of Sonny's Discount Appliance in Dade City, is shown with family members during the race for House Representative in District

PHOTOS PROVIDED



**▶ POLITICIANS**: From Page 1A

the state of Florida is unwavering. I'm excited to serve alongside them and to continue the fight in Tallahassee."

Simpson included two more republicans representing Pasco County in the group. Ardian Zika, a House Representative in the 37th District, and Amber Mariano, a State Reprentative in District 36. Zika is an immigrant from Kosovo who Simpson said is living "the American dream," while Mariano is the daughter of Pasco County Commissioner Jack Mariano.

"I'm very proud of what I would call the Pasco County delegation," Simpson said. "It's an incredible honor to serve with such distinctive people.'

Maggard, 57, ran as a fiscal conservative in a district that covers eastern Pasco County and has a two-year term. He is the vice president of Sonny's Discount Appliance and vows to improve water quality and access to healthcare. Maggard has served on the Southwest Water Management Governing Board and was the chairman of the Republican Party of Pasco from 2006 to 2012.

"At the end of the day we can plan for everything ... but if we don't have water to drink all of it's for naught," Maggard said. "Water, it just defines our state. Making sure we don't

lose sight of that resource is a big thing."
Burgess, 34, is a U.S. Army veteran and University of South Florida graduate who most recently served as the executive director of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs. Before that he won three terms as a House of Representative. Additionally, he was the youngest mayor of Zephyrhills.

"First and foremost I want to continue the work I've done at the Department of Veterans' Affairs and continue to address the issue of veterans suicide," Burgess said. "Other things I want to focus on include our recovery from

Along those lines Burgess also spoke of supporting "our health care heroes" and families affected by the coronavirus.

"Finally," Burgess continued, "I want to be a leader who will help restore some faith in our

Simpson, 54, has served in the legislature for eight years with two years remaining, was initially elected to the state senate in 2012. Top bills he has worked on have focused on education and natural gas.

"I knew there was a Senate President, but it wasn't something on my radar," he said.

Among some immediate challenges the legislators must address are the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, recession issues and budget shortfalls.

Simpson described his new role as "humbling" and said his job is "to make sure that the integrity of the Florida Senate is maintained and to make sure we are conducting the will of our senate."



Above: Danny Burgess was elected to a State Senate seat and serves District 20



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SUNRISE: 7:05am SUNSET:

MOONRISE: 8:25pm 5:32pm MOONSET: 9:55am

FRIDAY **75**|63

SUNRISE:

7:05am SUNSET: 5:32pm

MOONRISE: MOONSET:

MOONSET:

MOONRISE:

MOONSET:

MOONSET:

SATURDAY

Cloudy

SUNRISE:

MOONRISE: 10:25pm 7:06am MOONSET:

SUNDAY **66** 48 Partly Cloudy

SUNRISE: 7:07am MOONRISE: 11:26pm 5:32pm

MONDAY **66**|41 Partly Cloudy

SUNRISE: 7:08am 5:33pm

TUESDAY

7:08am MOONRISE: SUNRISE:

5:33pm WEDNESDAY

**66**|46

SUNRISE:

SUNSET:

7:09am MOONRISE: 5:33pm MOONSET:

9:24pm

10:44am

12:11pm

12:49pm

12:28am

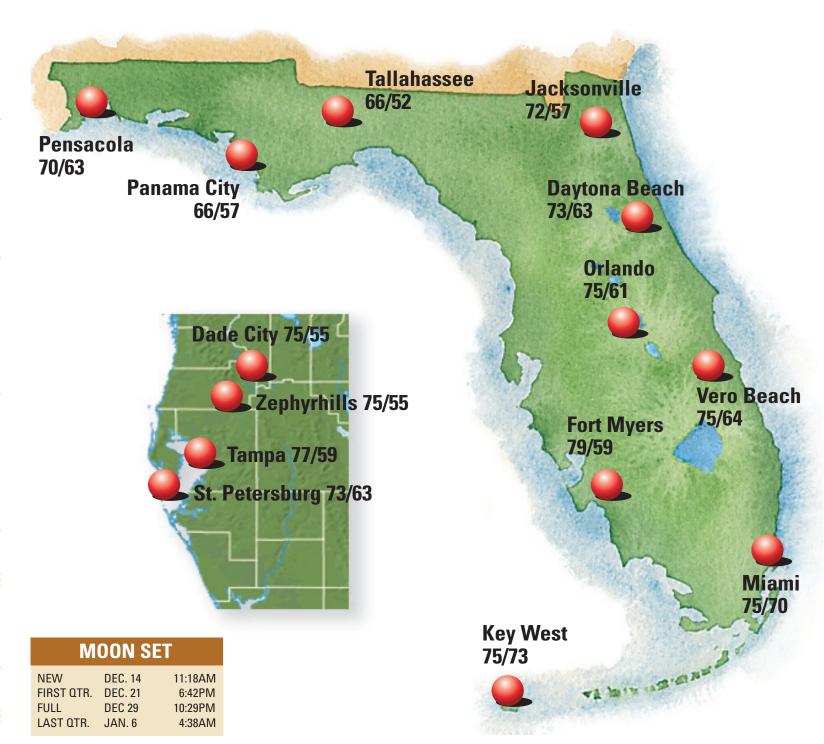
1:25pm

1:31am

2:01pm

# weather forecast

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# Tax collector Mike Fasano announces holiday season giving opportunities

announces that his office is sponsoring the following events to help the community during the 2020 holiday season: Toys 4 Tots - the five tax collector's office locations in Pasco County are all drop-off sites for the Marine Corps League's annual toy drive. The locations are: the West Pasco Government Center, 8731 Citizens Dr., Room 120, New Port Richey; Gulf Harbors, 4720 U.S. Hwy. 19, New Port Richey; Land O' Lakes, 4135 Land O' Lakes Blvd. (US 41), Land O' Lakes; Wesley Chapel, 4610 Pet Lane, Room C 101, Lutz/ Wesley Chapel; and the East Pasco Government Center, 14236 6th St., Room 100, Dade City. Toys for children of military personnel and others in need will be collected up to Dec. 15.

Salvation Army's Red Kettle Drive – The Gulf Harbors and Wesley Chapel offices will be Red Kettle donation sites on Dec. 12 and 19. Please stop by between 8:30 a.m. and noon either day to make a contribution to the important programs the Salvation Army provides throughout the year. Volunteers from the Salvation Army will be at each location collecting

Pasco County Tax Collector Mike Fasano donations during the week of Dec. 14-18 as

Farm Share Holiday Food Giveaway - collection jars will be on display in December in each of the five tax collector offices in the county. Donations made will help purchase fresh food for families in need this holiday season and into 2021. The Farm Share Holiday Food Giveaway will be Dec. 18, 9-11 a.m. at Faith Baptist Church, 9230 Ridge Rd., Port Richey.

"Please join the staff of the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office as we celebrate the holidays by reaching out to those most in need," said Fasano. "Your support of these wonderful local programs will help countless people enjoy the holidays this year. Your gift of any amount will go a long way towards helping our community have a joyous holiday season.

For details about each program, information regarding hours and locations, or general questions about the services provided by the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office, contact Greg Giordano, assistant tax collector/communications and special projects at (727) 847-8179.





To help with SACFCU groundbreaking are: Jay Vogel, supervisory committee chair: Billy Cowan, Consultants & Builders, Inc; Jack Vogel, board chair: Tim Baldwin. director; Bob Hatfield, Gus Bilirakis office: and Patty Sarne, president and CEO.

San Antonio Citizens Federal Credit Union held its official ground breaking ceremony on Nov. 13 for its new operations center. Expected to open in late 2021, the 11,000-square-foot facility will be located next to the current branch in

"Building this facility is an example of our commitment to our members, our staff and our communities. As banking continues to move into the digital era, the board of directors saw the need to provide a state-of-the-art facility that promotes collaboration and communication for support staff in the areas of lending,

marketing and human resources. As our membership and our communities continue to grow, this facility will help us attract highly talented individuals to join our team, provide additional job opportunities and advancement for our current staff, and expand our footprint in our membership field. We are proud to build the operations center in the town where we began, San Antonio, Florida," said Patty Sarne, president and CEO.





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# Stewart Top Dogs honored



The Top Dog winners from Stewart Middle School were honored for the first quarter. This program was started over 30 years ago by the Pilot Club of Zephyrhills to honor students not just for academics but for their leadership roles in the school. One student is selected by the teachers from each team of 125 students each quarter. Top Dogs received a certificate, a special gold tag, gift bag and gift card. Honored were Stewart Middle First Quarter Top Dogs: Kylie Meszaros, Henry Hart, Mia Caprigliona, Natalie Fasig, Nathaniel Webb and Kammie McHenry.

SAINT LEO: From Page 1A



Above: Students practice social distancing at Saint Leo University's Christmas tree lighting ceremony.

Below: Saint Leo University's Nativity was blessed by Father Randall Meissen, university chaplain. The manger awaits the Christ child.



# **O**BITUARIES

### Joshua Matthew Miller

MILLER, Joshua Matthew, 29, of Wesley Chapel passed away Nov. 13, 2020. He is survived by his parents, Bruce and Kathy Miller.



**Kenneth (Ken) C. Bean** BEAN, Kenneth C., 73, passed away Nov. 22, 2020 peacefully at home with his loved ones by his bedside. He was born on July 1, 1947. Ken was a 24-year Veteran of the U.S. Navy. He is preceded in rest by his father and mother, Howard and Sylvia Bean; his brother, Richard, and his former wife, Shirley (Gregory) Bean. Ken is survived by his wife, of 24 years, Donna (Kirrane) Bean; father of Deena Powers and husdand, Andrew, Tracy Campbell and her husband, Matthew; stepson, Brian Marcum and his wife, Mary Jo; brothers, Frederick, David and Robert; sisters, Shelia, Sharon and Bonnie; five grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. Services will be Dec. 5, 11 a.m. at the First Congregational Church, 7900 Fort King

Joseph Kler officiating. Family and friends are invited. Interment will be in the spring (TBA) at Gerald B.H. Soloman National Cemetery in Saratoga County, N.Y.



### **Denise Podosowski**

PODOSOWSKI, Denise, 55, of Wesley Chapel passed away Nov. 24, 2020. She is survived by her companion, Sergio; father, Marty (Patricia); and children, Dustin and Austin.



### Robert Blanchard, Sr.

BLANCHARD, SR., Robert, 63, of Wesley Chapel passed away Nov. 17, 2020. He is survived by a son, Robert, Jr. (Malena); four sisters: and four grandchildren.



### Craig Paul Cant

CANT, Craig Paul, 49, of San Antonio passed away Nov. 14, 2020. Craig is survived by his wife, Sabrina; and daughters, Lillie and Darla.



### Paul A. Dixon, Jr.

DIXON, JR., Paul A., 29, of Zephyrhills passed away Nov. 20, 2020. He was born in Zephyrhills on Aug. 5, 1991. He was an air conditiong technician and of the Baptist faith. Paul enjoyed hunting and fishing, but mostly spending time with his son. He is survived by his father, Paul A. Dixon, Sr. of Zephyrhills; mother, Donna Dixon of Zephyrhills; son, Milo Dixon of Zephyrhills; sister, Heather Dixon of Zephyrhills; nephew, Braylen Dixon of Zephyrhills; uncles, Steve Dixon, Joel Dixon and David Hamm; and aunts, Myra Dixon, Diane (Donny) Dobbs, Gail McKinney and Kerry (Jay) Holt. Graveside services were Nov. 25 at Oakside Cemetery.





### **Gail Marie Smith Geiger**

GEIGER, Gail Marie Smith, 81, went home to be with the Lord, Nov. 28, 2020 after complications from a short illness. Gail was born in Zephyrhills, to Eileen Reichart Smith and Austin C. Smith on May 28, 1939. Gail was a longtime resident to Zephyrhills area, known most for her sweet smile and loving kindness to everyone she met. She and her husband of 59 years, Nathan, owned and operated Geiger's Feed Store for 40 years.

Together they help support many FFA students treating each and every one as family. The store was a center point in town for people to stop by and talk. After the store closed, she enjoyed being a merchandiser for Hallmark for 15 years, where she continued to visit the folks she knew and loved as she did at the Feed Store on a daily basis. Gail gave of her talent playing the piano for 70 years in local churches. She was a devoted Wife, Mother and Nana. She is survived by her husband, Nathan Geiger; daughter, Sharon Geiger of Zephyrhills; grandsons, Matthew Akins (Amanda) and Brent Akins; great-grandchildren, Sydney, Grayson and Easton of Webster; sisters, Peggy Davis (Earl) of North Carolina and Mildred Carter (Bill) of Tampa; sister-in-law, Phyllis Geiger Debien of Dunedin;

son, Alan Geiger and family of Virginia; and many nieces and nephews. Service are Dec. 5, 1 p.m. at Family of God Baptist Church, 10331 Old Lakeland Highway, Dade City, with social distancing and masks re-

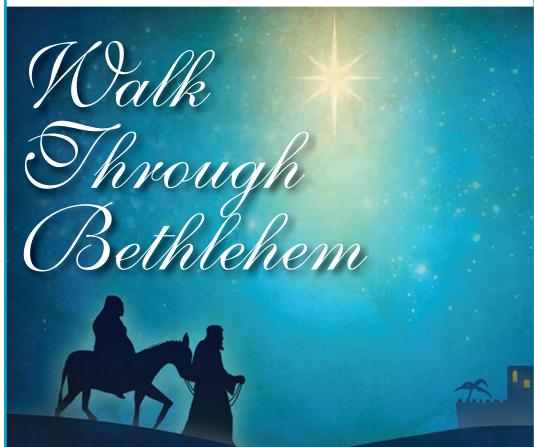


*Obituaries are available* in The Zephyrhills News. Information is due Monday before noon in order to appear in the same week's publication.

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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.

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)

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

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...9:30 a.m. .10:30 a.m Ladies Bible Study.. ...9:30 a.m Wednesday Evening Service.. ...6:30 p.m.

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### **FIRST BAPTIST** CHURCH OF **ZEPHYRHILLS**

38231 5th Ave. (813) 782-5574 Pastor Robert McKinney Sunday

.9:30 a.m. Sunday School. 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.

...6:15 p.m.

TRUTH teen ministries.....

# **CHRISTWAY BAPTIST CHURCH**

38543 4th Ave. (813) 715-2940 Pastor Scott Hall Sunday Morning Worship... Evening Worship... Wednesday Evening Prayer ...

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...7 p.m.

Bible Study

**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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# **BIBLE MISSIONARY**

CHURCH 5521 23rd St. (813) 782-8772 Pastor Isaiah McCarhy ..9:45 a.m. Sunday School... .....10:45 a.m. Morning Worship. Evening Service.. ...6 p.m. Wednesday Service......6 p.m.

## ST. JOSEPH **CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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

Monday .....

Friday ..

Wednesday..

#### **DADE CITY GRACE BIBLE CHURCH** Dade City Business Center Suite 403

15000 U.S. Hwy. 301 (352) 567-3955 Pastor Willard L. Sessoms . 9:30 a.m. Fellowship... 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. Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer.... Kids Club..

## **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

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Ladies Bible Study.. 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

## **ATONEMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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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 am. www.thechurchatchancey road.com





..8 a.m.

.8 a.m.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You might feel that you have all the answers right now. But it might be wise to listen to other ideas before you decide to close the lid on other possibilities.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Bovines give and expect loyalty, so it might not be easy to reconcile with someone you feel let you down. Why not ask a neutral party to set up a clear-the-air meet-

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Anticipating the holidays with family and friends fuels your mustdo Gemini energies. But try to pace yourself so you'll be up for whatever comes along later.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) More background information might come through regarding a decision you expect to make. Be sure to check the source carefully before you move.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) The strong, nurtur-

MAGIC MAZE • FOUND BY DIGGING T A X V T Q O M J H T C A Y T WU S SUPNITHE STORY I XX LIRQOMB KIRLD1 R Z Y W T V S N O T T U B T S S R O D S S O L Y R L L L D P DOKELLM STUVE TERM HI S S (A K R D W H I A D S) L COLNSDOLAZAWA I LIBDIG R S M LIMM Y LIND M ROTT CKS REDMARKET O S M K T T H T R T S A T R T Fig. 11. God for estimate, the solution of the control of the solution of the Third by the control of a Section of God Noney Normy čo s Carrends Addition Three creations in Europe Poster r

ing nature of the Lion comes through this week as you reach out to family and friends in need of your warm and loving support.

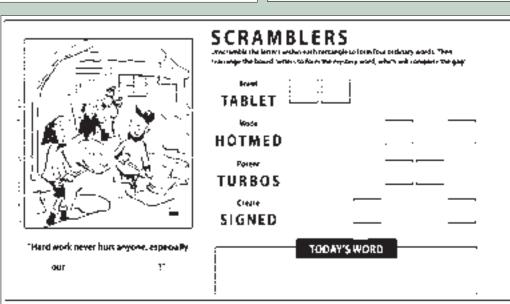
VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A relationship that has almost totally unraveled could be close to being restored with more effort on your part to be more patient and less judgmental.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your sense of fair play is strong this week, which can cause a problem with a longtime relationship. But in the end, you'll know what decision to make.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You might not know all the facts behind an unwelcome development, so keep that Scorpion temper in check and resist lashing out at anyone.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) This is a good time to reinforce relationships -family, friends, colleagues -- that might have been





overlooked in recent years.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Family situations continue to thrive. Business associations also improve. Some holiday plans might have to be shifted. Be flexible.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Avoid any influence of negative energy in this week's aspect by not allowing small problems to grow into large ones. Work them out immediately.

15

18

1.11

23

24 Z5

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A friend might need advice on how to deal with a challenge to his or her moral values. And who better than you to give the honest answer? Good luck.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a sense of adventure that inspires others to follow your lead.

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# KING CROSSWORD - DEC. 3

### **ACROSS**

- "Grand" Letterman's network
- Out of control
- 12 Suspend
- 13 Weeding tool 14 Wise one
- 15 Killer whale
- 16 Lineage
- Astronauts' descent to Earth
- 20 Locations
- Comic DeLuise 21
- 22 Satchel
- 23 "Forget it!"
- 26 Nation
- 30 Lawyers' org. 31 Sly one
- 32 Nay opponent
- 33 Racism, e.g.
- 36 Aden's land 38 Bill and --
- 39 Adams or Ameche 40 Clean software
- Turducken, e.g. 47 Immoderate devotion
- 49 Met melody
- 50 Taj Mahal city
- 51 Trouble
- Ring up 52
- 53 Lecherous look
- 54 Possess
- 55 Duel tool

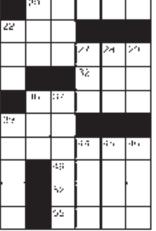
### **DOWN**

- Valhalla VIP
- Aesopian also-ran 3 Formerly
- 4 Landlocked African nation
- 5 Amulet Skeletal 6
- Moment
- 8 Delegate

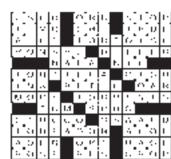
- Dillon or Damon 10 Shrek, for one
- 11 Jailer's janglers
- Jacob's brother
- 19 Plaything 22 Carton
- 23 Apprehend
- 24 Japanese sash 25 Witty one
- Coquettish
- 27 Scot's hat
- Deli bread
- Longing
- 31 To and --
- Eye-related 35 Forum garment

**ANSWERS** 

**TO KING CROSSWORDS NOV. 26** 



- 36 Second person
- Intertwine
- Senior member
- 40 Soap brand 41 Advantage
- 42 Drill
- 43 Front of a ship
- 44 Snare
- 45 Irritate
- 46 New Haven campus 48
- Pair



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# Even Exchange by Donna Pettman Factionarbeiled row combins two class and ow collecting (sweets). The two answers differ from each

other by only one totals, which has a ready becomisered. For example, if you exchange the A Don't SEASTER for a Chyologici MINTER. Diopor change the order of the federal

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13	يالج		P					Become hight-headed		W				

# by Linda Thistle.

The idea of Co Figure is to arrive at the tigures given at the bottom and right hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use: only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the rone numbers only unite.

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Above: Zephyrhills defensive linemen get off the ball in a regular-season game against district rival River Ridge. Off in the distance is a view of the visitor's stands at Bulldog Stadium.

Right: Attendance also has been sparse at Alan Reed Court. Few fans were on hand for a Zephyrhills girls basketball game against River Ridge.



Compromise is the operative word here with several coaches and athletic directors of-

fering a variety of responses to the recent news. "The fact that we're going to two is a positive step," said Peter Livingston, who coaches the Wesley Chapel girls basketball team. "I think it's a good compromise. I don't envy the people who made that call. It was a tough deci-

"It will be nice to have a couple of people in the stands," he continued. "It's more about the parents getting to watch their kids play. It'll be more exciting for the parents of seniors."

Having people in the stands usually is not much of a concern for boys and girls basketball, which at the high school and middle school levels, are the top draws. High school wrestling, high school and middle school soccer for boys and girls, along with weightlifting, are usually not well-attended.

Nonetheless, that does not mean coaches and athletes in sports that draw fewer fans are not appreciative of those who chose to come out and support their respective teams. Mike Martinez, a former Zephyrhills wrestling assistant who now is the head coach at that school, is clearly disappointed with any kind of ban, limited or otherwise.

'I need the spectators in the stands because it helps me recruit kids to come out," he said. "At least parents can come out and see their

The back-to-back changes in direction, however, can result into a controversy on its

"It puts everything up in the air, especially when teams travel to different counties," Martinez said. "Are you going to have fans (at an out-of-county school)?"

Wiregrass Ranch athletic director Dave Wilson, who also coaches boys soccer and boys tennis, is glad that some fans can come to games.

"I think it's more reasonable than no fans," he said, adding that allowing 25 percent of attendance rather than two people per studentathlete "would have been easier to work with and more manageable. It's just a lot more work than it sounds.'

For his part, Martinez is wary that the recent measures, which could change is COV-ID-19 cases spike again, still might lead to a shutdown of prep sports in the county.

'I think this is probably just a precursor that we tried," he said.

The Zeplandills News

Above: Attendance at Bulldog Stadium has been limited to 50 percent capacity during the football season.

Left: Stewart and John Long girls basketball players squared off in a recent game at Stewart.

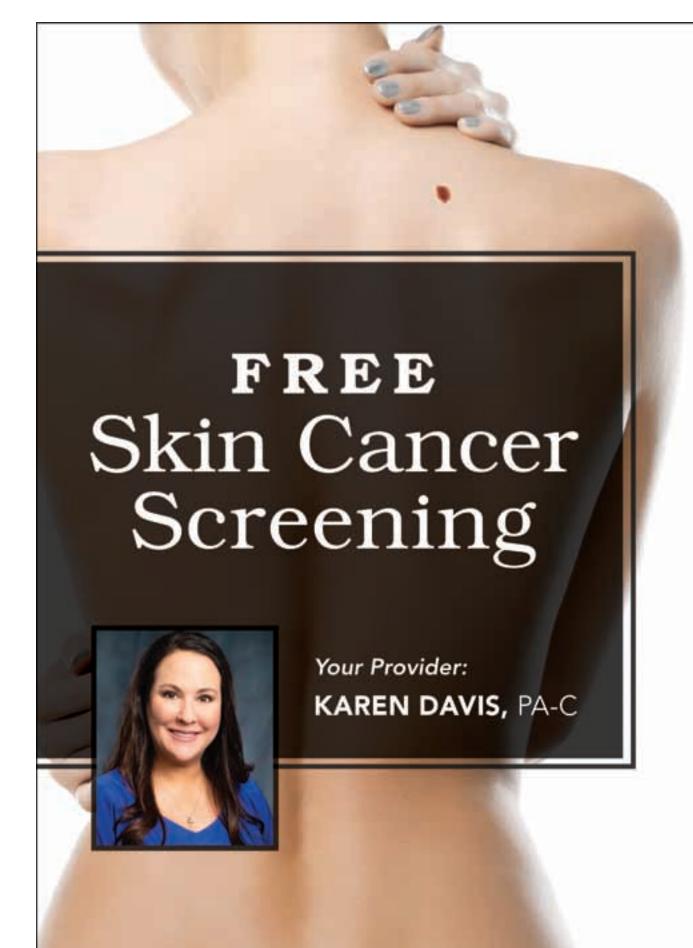
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