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The Zephyrhills News

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Thursday, December 27, 2018 107th Year - No. 15

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A Year In Review

Inside this 2018 issue we share the top 10 news and sports stories for the past year. The local news scene was highlighted by political issues, newly opened buildings and recognition of local leaders. On the local sports front, Zephyrhills High football and basketball teams had impressive seasons. We wish all of our valued readers a Happy New Year.



Weather

Although not as chilly as last week, temperatures will remain seasonably low with only a slight chance of precipitation for the weekend and beyond. Unlike some places up north there will be no white Christmas in our area. Still, the cooler weather will be nice to go out in.

► 3A

Sports

At this time of year *The Zephyrhills News* highlights the goals, achievements and efforts of our local athletes and sports teams. Don't miss the list of our top 10 sports stories for 2018. Some school records were set while other marks came to a halt. Plus, accolades are well-deserving for youth teams and Special Olympics participants. Additionally, one of the top shuffleboard players in the area, as well as the state, was recognized for a long and successful career with Earl Ball earning a prestigious green jacket.

► 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.

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NO. 1 Zephyrhills City Hall opens in grand fashion



Local dignitaries and civic leaders gathered in front of the new city hall for a traditional ribbon-cutting ceremony. **STEVE LEE**

Dignitaries, business owners and local residents unite for traditional ribbon-cutting

By **STEVE LEE**
News Reporter
Nov. 29, 2018

Monday was a work night in city council chambers. About 24 hours later, residents, the business community and local dignitaries came together for a ribbon-cutting in celebration of the new Zephyrhills City Hall.

While official business has been conducted at the newly opened brick two-story structure since early October and the final touches are still under way, Tuesday night marked the official grand

opening. "We moved in early and they worked around us," said city manager Steve Spina, thanking the construction workers who adapted to the early move-in. "It was just a great effort. We are so excited about this building and what we think it represents to our community."

The new city hall is flanked by two other relatively new facilities as the library and fire station have opened in recent years. The city hall building, which cost more than \$6 million, encompasses 19,615 square feet on the site of the old city hall. "The first thing I thought when I came in here is wow," mayor Gene Whitfield said. "This is a wow building."

Former mayor Cliff McDuffie was among several former and retired employees in attendance. That list included former council members Clyde Bracknell and John and Liz Geiger, along

► **CITY HALL:** See Page 2A

The Zephyrhills News top 10 news stories of 2018

We welcome our readers to enjoy some of our most newsworthy stories in 2018 as we turn the page to 2019

By **STEVE LEE**
News Reporter

As Zephyrhills continues to expand and grow, much like the rest of Pasco County and the entire state for that matter, one thing that never changes is *The Zephyrhills News* being the best local source for news and advertising in the area. No wonder way the weekly newspaper, founded in 1911, celebrated a milestone 107th anniversary in 2018 and continues to thrive. A heartfelt thanks to our readers and advertisers.

Aside from Christmas and Hanukkah, another annual tradition is the printing of our top stories of the year, separated into news and sports sections. If you missed some of these articles while you were away, enjoy catching up and learning in depth about newsworthy events. If you were here all year long, we hope it's a pleasurable endeavor to read some of these compelling stories once again.

So, without further adieu to the past year, let's take a look at the best stories 2018, shall we.

A shining jewel — not to mention long-awaited project — was the grand opening of the new city hall. It is the latest symbol of just how much Zephyrhills is growing and it fits in nicely with library and fire station, both of which opened in recent years. The city hall cost more than \$6 million to build and design. The two-story building, which features numerous technological upgrades, consists of 19,615 square feet and is located on the site of the old city hall.

There will be a new face in that building as well as a familiar one that will not be around much longer. Longtime city manager Steve Spina, who served two terms in that prestigious role, will soon retire and end his 20 years of service to the city.

In his place steps assistant city manager William C. Poe Jr., a former city manager in Dade City and assistant planner for Zephyrhills before that. If Poe's name is familiar it should be. His wife, Kim, once was a principal at Woodland Elementary and she now works in administration for the Pasco School Board. Son Josh was a standout soccer and baseball player and Madison, their daughter, is a three-sport athlete.

Florida Hospital Zephyrhills will become AdventHealth Zephyrhills and Florida Hospital Dade City is

► **NEWS INTRO:** See Page 2A

NO. 2 City Council taps William C. Poe Jr. for assistant city manager

Weighing two highly qualified candidates, the Zephyrhills City Council went with a familiar face and more direct experience in city management in Poe

By **ANDY WARRENER**
News Reporter
Nov. 15, 2018

The Steve Spina era is coming to an end. The city manager that is closing in on his 20th year of service to the City of Zephyrhills, is retiring. Spina served as city manager from 1996 to 2011 and has been back at the post since 2014. It's time for Spina and the city to move on.

Spina has graciously agreed to stay on while the new city manager finds his feet. It should not take long as both applicants that made presentations last Wednesday, Nov. 7, at a special session of the city council, were highly-qualified.

Council president Lance Smith commented on the two great choices the council had during deliberations.

The two candidates were William Poe Jr. and Melanie Kendrick Romagnoli. Poe brought a wealth of pertinent experience to the table, having served as Dade City's City Manager since 2008. Prior to that, he was the assistant planner for the City of Zephyrhills.

Romagnoli had served as program administrator for the Office of Economic Growth for Pasco County from 2010 to present and was the community and economic development director for the City of Urbana in Ohio, from 2005 to 2010. Both had worked with Zephyrhills City Council members and municipal departments in the past. What set Poe apart, according to the council, was his familiarity with the job and with the people of Zephyrhills.

"He (Poe) will be doing the exact job, just on a smaller scale," councilwoman Jodi Wilkeson said during deliberations.

"We want someone local, who will



City manager Steve Spina (left) and incoming assistant city manager William Poe Jr.

ANDY WARRENER





The Zephyrhills News



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Mon. 1, 4, 7

CINEMA 2 PG13
BUMBLEBEE
Fri. - Sun. & Tues.-Thurs. 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45
Mon. 1:15, 4:15, 7:15

CINEMA 3 PG13
HOLMES AND WATSON
Fri. - Sun. & Tues.-Thurs. 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45
Mon. 1:15, 4:15, 7:15

CINEMA 4 PG13
AQUAMAN
Fri. - Thurs. 2, 5, 8

CINEMA 5 PG
MARY POPPINS
Fri. - Sun. & Tues.-Thurs. 1, 4, 7, 10
Mon. 1, 4, 7

CINEMA 6 R
MULE
Fri. - Sun. & Tues.-Thurs. 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10
Mon. 1:30, 4:30, 7:30

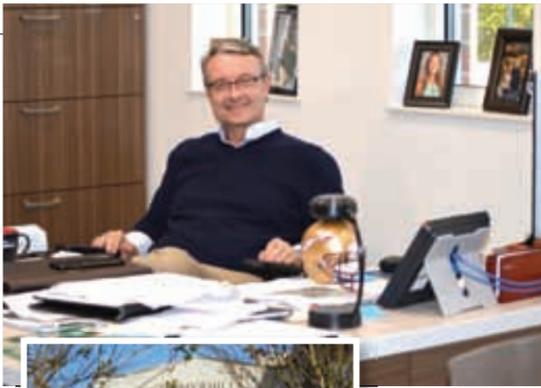
CINEMA 7 PG13
SECOND ACT
Fri. - Sun. & Tues.-Thurs. 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:45
Mon. 1:30, 4:30, 7:30

CINEMA 8 R
VICE
Fri. - Sun. & Tues.-Thurs. 1, 4, 7, 10
Mon. 1, 4, 7

CINEMA 9 PG
THE GRINCH
Fri. - Thurs. 1:45, 4:45

PG13
MORTAL ENGINES
Fri. - Sun. & Tues.-Thurs. 7, 10
Mon. 7

CINEMA 10 PG
SPIDER-MAN
Fri. - Sun. & Tues.-Thurs. 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:45
Mon. 1:30, 4:30, 7:30



Above: Like many city employees, city planner Todd Vande Berg is thrilled with his new digs. He is located on the second floor.

Left: Many people passed through the entrance of the new building.

STEVE LEE

CITY HALL: From Page 1A

with retired city clerk Linda Boan.

"It's beautiful and it has room to grow," said Boan, who worked for the city for 28 years and passed out keys to the city tokens in the main lobby.

As for McDuffie, he mentioned one addition he would have liked to see included in the plans.

"One thing they need is a small room for the mayor," he said, recalling how "I used the council chambers. They kidded me about having a closet."

Nonetheless, McDuffie was impressed with the new building and echoed a familiar refrain when he said, "It's about time."

Bracknell, who spent 29 years on the council, was equally impressed.

"It's great," he said. "It's about 10 years behind, maybe longer. We've grown too much. It's real hard to stay up with the growth."

"This is a much-needed facility for our city," said Melonie Monson, executive director for the Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce. "They came from a place that was in desperate need for a new facility."

Lori Hillman, the city clerk, was among a handful of city employees giving tours on Tuesday. Zephyrhills resident Frank Hauser and his wife Denise were among the visitors.

NEWS INTRO: From Page 1A

being renamed AdventHealth Dade City. They are part of the Adventist Health System that includes 50 campuses and more than 80,000 employees nationwide.

On the political front, Danny Burgess, a former mayor and city councilman, was reelected for a third term as a state representative. A Republican representing District 38, Burgess defeated newcomer T.K. Hayes, an independent best known as the former general manager of Skydive City.

On the city council, Charlie Proctor maintained his seat while former councilwoman Jodi Wilkeson was voted back on. They were clearly the most experienced candidates in a field that included William Seville, a young Pasco-Hernando State College student and first-time candidate, as well as Cory Sommers and Devin Alexander.

We lost a dear friend this past year with the passing of

longtime golf course owner and land owner Brantley Smith. The owner of Silverado, who gave so much to youth and community organizations, is fondly remembered. He was 77 and will be remembered with an annual golf tournament named in his honor.

Business was thriving in Zephyrhills as Culver's, which specializes in burgers and custard, expanded into the city and the ever-popular Sunrise Eatery relocated within the same retail center at Gall Boulevard and Geiger Road. Another newcomer was Wawa, a convenient store that opened near Culver's off Gall Boulevard and County Road 54.

Being in the Sunshine State has its blessings with great year-round weather. On the flip side, there always are potential hurricanes and tornadoes lurking. For the 2018 hurricane season, our area was largely spared as Hurricane Alberto did most of its damage in the panhandle.

"It's really nice," Hauser said. "I think it was worth every penny. It's well-planned for the future."

Comments from other visitors echoed that sentiment.

"Just beautiful," said Zephyrhills' Nancy Bravinder, who toured the facility with her husband Jon.

"It's impressive," said Elaine Lawrence, of Zephyrhills. "I was a very peaceful type of place. I just think it makes people want to come to work."

Among those workers who likes the new digs is city

planner Todd VandeBerg, who said, "I'm still moving in. Just being in a new building and the modern spaces that we have now... and the technology has really changed."

The building is equipped with numerous smart televisions that enable city workers to utilize that technology for power point presentations and other things.

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Above: City planner Todd Vande Berg (at left) welcomed numerous visitors to the new city hall. Shown are several people who gathered in the new city council chambers.

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THURSDAY
81|66
 Mostly Cloudy
 SUNRISE: 7:19am MOONRISE: 11:18pm
 SUNSET: 5:40pm MOONSET: 11:31am



FRIDAY
82|65
 Showers
 SUNRISE: 7:19am MOONRISE: NONE
 SUNSET: 5:41pm MOONSET: 12:11pm



SATURDAY
82|64
 AM Showers
 SUNRISE: 7:20am MOONRISE: 12:20am
 SUNSET: 5:41pm MOONSET: 12:48pm



SUNDAY
81|62
 AM Clouds/PM Sun
 SUNRISE: 7:20am MOONRISE: 1:20am
 SUNSET: 5:42pm MOONSET: 1:25pm



MONDAY
77|61
 Partly Cloudy
 SUNRISE: 7:20am MOONRISE: 2:18am
 SUNSET: 5:43pm MOONSET: 2:02pm



TUESDAY
74|56
 Partly Cloudy
 SUNRISE: 7:20am MOONRISE: 3:16am
 SUNSET: 5:43pm MOONSET: 2:41pm

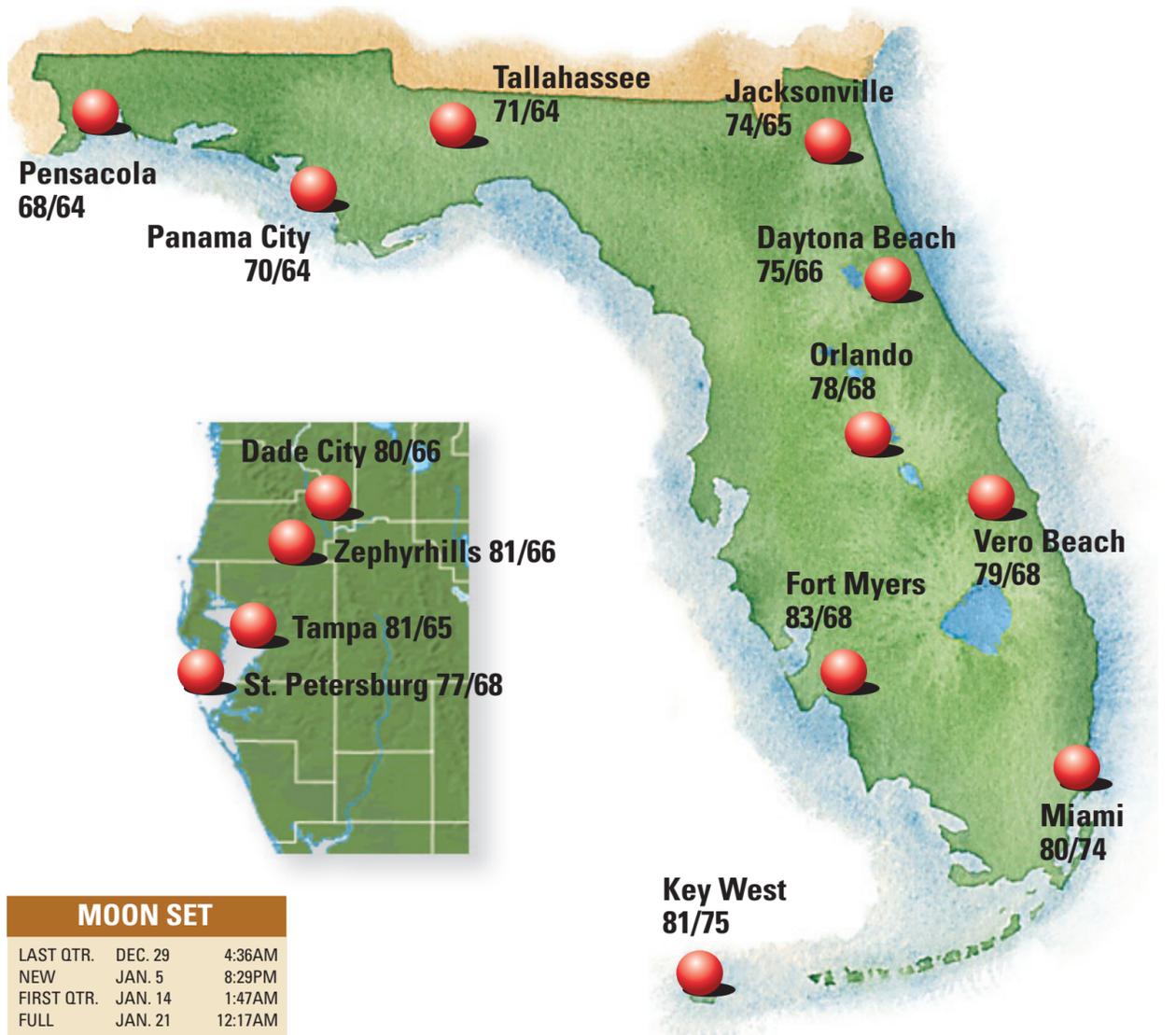


WEDNESDAY
71|54
 Showers
 SUNRISE: 7:21am MOONRISE: 4:14am
 SUNSET: 5:44pm MOONSET: 3:21pm



weather forecast

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ANDY WARRENER

Above: William Poe Jr. gives his presentation during the city council's Nov. 7 special meeting.

Right: Melanie Kendrick Romagnoli gives her presentation from the Nov. 7 meeting.



CITY MANAGER: From Page 1A

feel like part of the family," Smith said. Additionally, there was concern over how quickly the new assistant city manager would pick up the job. Spina plans to stay on as city manager through 2018 and into 2019. "We wanted to do a succession plan like what we did with the city clerk position," Spina said. "We're planning for the end of May or June to be handing over the reins. If we're in the middle of something, I might stay longer, if everything goes well, it'll be shorter." Spina turns 66 in July. The plan is for the newly-hired assistant manager to take over the head position. The assistant city manager position was created for that purpose. The council brought in the candidates, one at a time, listened to their presentations and then asked questions of the two applicants. While, Poe's familiarity with Zephyrhills and the people that work for the city, is a plus, councilman Alan Knight brought up the notion of Poe being able to detach from his personal relationships while serving as city manager. "Dr. Spina doesn't take sides," Knight said. "He is able to distance himself from community ties to make decisions."

Poe admitted that this would be a challenge but that he would do his best to make decisions that are, "best for Zephyrhills" and that situations like that often come with the position. Romagnoli brought a wealth of experience working across multiple agencies and interfacing with different city and county departments, as well as a PR/marketing element. In the end, it came down to how quickly the new assistant city manager would adapt, how well they would interface with the city's 12 departments and 180 employees, and how well they can prepare budgets. The decision was made to go with Poe. "I hope to live up to the expectations," Poe said. "I think there's even more pressure because it's my home town but I think what I learned in 11 years in Dade City, I will be able to apply that here." The next step is finding Poe's replacement in Dade City. Poe had to give Dade City 90 days of advance notice before taking a new position but it was revealed by Poe that the advance notice could be negotiated down if an adequate replacement could be found sooner. From there, Spina will have a shadow for the next few months as he trains up his replacement.

NO. 3

Adventist Health System announces plans to become AdventHealth



Aug. 23, 201

Altamonte Springs-based Adventist Health System, one of the nation's largest faith-based health care systems, with nearly 50 hospital campuses and more than 80,000 employees, announced that it will soon become AdventHealth. With the name change, the health system will move to being one consumer-centric, connected and identifiable national system of care for every stage of life and health. Florida Hospital Zephyrhills will become AdventHealth Zephyrhills and Florida Hospital Dade City will be known as AdventHealth Dade City. As part of this transition, all of Adventist Health System's wholly owned hospitals and hundreds of care sites across its footprint will adopt the AdventHealth name and logo beginning Jan. 2, 2019. The naming structure will allow consumers to more easily distinguish AdventHealth's care locations and services. While its name is changing, the organization is not changing in ownership or business structure. "We are transforming to be a more consumer-focused health care system to better meet the needs of those we care for and the communities we serve," said Terry Shaw, president/CEO for Adventist Health System. "Becoming AdventHealth allows us to be a fully integrated and distinguishable health system across all aspects of the care continuum, while also speaking to our Christian healing ministry, message of wholeness and our rich Seventh-day Adventist roots. The name AdventHealth signals the arrival or beginning of health and expresses a strong and clear connection to the healing and salvation that God has promised. Adventist Health System's promise of wholeness is an expression of the belief that caring for the physical,

emotional and spiritual needs of every person is the key to good health. "We want our hospitals and care sites to be places where people can experience hope as well as healing, and the AdventHealth name so appropriately expresses that sense of expectation and optimism while also connecting with our promise of wholeness and our rich faith-based heritage," said Gary Thurber, board chairman for Adventist Health System. "Florida Hospital Zephyrhills and Florida Hospital Dade City are very excited about the name change," said Amanda Maggard, local president and CEO. "It's just one more step in the right direction as we take a united approach to embracing our mission, vision and values system wide." In preparation for the launch of a system-wide brand, the organization spent eight months focused on deploying consistent culture and service practices to solidify the consumer-centric approach that will inform every interaction and experience that patients have with caregivers and team members across all care settings. "This is a wonderful and exciting time for the organization. We are united by our mission of Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ, as well as our vision, values and service standards to provide best-in-class, consumer-centric care," said Shaw. "In continuing our tradition of healing and hope, we will work to make an even greater impact and foster abundant life in the communities we serve." In September, a transition campaign featuring television and print ads will begin in various markets across the country. Changes to signage and visual elements at hospitals and other facilities are expected to take place in January when the AdventHealth name is fully adopted system wide. Joint venture locations will not change as part of this rebrand.

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CHURCH NEWS

First Presbyterian Church of Zephyrhills, 5510 19th St., invites everyone to attend Sunday worship service at 10 a.m. Communion is observed the first Sunday of the month. Sunday school for adults is at 8:30 a.m. Children and youth are dismissed to classes during the 10 a.m. worship service. A nursery is provided during the service. In the fellowship hall after worship will be time for conversation and a light snack.

REFRESH Wednesdays begins with a meal at 5:30 p.m. and then a break into separate classes as follows, kindergarten-first grade; second-fifth grade; F.R.E.S.H. Youth Group; and adult Bible class at 6 p.m.

Choir practice is Wednesdays, 7 p.m.
 First Presbyterian Church of Zephyrhills is a Stephen Ministry Congregation. For more information, call (813) 782-7412 or visit www.firstpcz.org.

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

The children ministry, TeamKid, is Wednesdays at 6 p.m. with director, Lorraine McKinney, and teachers, Carol Arnold and Sarah Lutz.

The teen TRUTH ministries, is Wednesdays at 6 p.m., with director Jason Hicks and youth leader, Barbara Hicks. Bus transportation is available.

The Sunrise Prayer Warriors meet weekdays, 8-9 a.m. in the church conference room.

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

Dade City Grace Bible Church, 15000 U.S. Hwy. 301, Dade City Business Center, Suite 403, meets Sundays, 9:30 a.m. for fellowship and refreshments followed by a service at 10 a.m. There are adult and children classes Sunday mornings.

Pastor Willard L. Sessoms teaches a live chat-room Bible study through www.PalTalk.com, Thursdays, 6:45 p.m. from the church. You may register for this free study on-line through PalTalk, and then open the chat room.

For more information, visit www.Bible-TruthForToday.com or call (352) 567-3955.

First Christian Church, 6040 8th St., invites you to Sunday worship service at 10 a.m. Communion is available to everyone.

There is an active women's group. For more information, call (813) 782-1071 or visit www.firstchristianzhillz.org.

Atonement Lutheran Church, 29617 S.R. 54, Wesley Chapel invites you to Godify Worship Service on Saturday at 5 p.m. and a Sunday traditional worship service 10 a.m.

For more information, call (813) 973-2211.

Bible Missionary Church, 5521 23rd St., Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. followed by a Sunday worship service at 10:45 a.m. and an evening service, 6 p.m. There is a Wednesday evening service at 6 p.m.

For more information, call (813) 782-8772.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, 5626 20th St., invites you to Sunday worship service at 10 a.m. and Sunday school and Bible class at 9 a.m. There is a Saturday service at 5:30 p.m.

For more information, call (813) 782-1369.

Zephyrhills Wesleyan Church, 38924 C Ave., invites the community to a regular traditional worship service at 9 a.m. and contemporary service at 11 a.m. Children's Ministry is available during the 11 a.m. service for children birth to fifth grade. There is Sunday school at 10:15 a.m.

Wednesdays there is a sermon based adult Bible study at 4 p.m. There are student ministries for elementary, middle and high school students at 6 p.m. For more information, visit www.zwconline.com or call (813) 782-7510.

East Pasco Seventh-day Adventist Church, 7333 Dairy Rd., has a mission to reach others by living and sharing God's love. Bible study is Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. and church service, 10:45 a.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous group meets Friday, 10 a.m. and Narcotics Anonymous meets Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (813) 782-2000 or visit eastpascoadventist.com.

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.

High and middle school students are invited Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m. for P.O.W.E.R. Currently the youth are studying the book of Genesis.

The WWJD Food Ministry is open every Tuesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. for those in need of food. Bring a picture ID for registration.

For more information, visit www.thechurchatanceyroad.com.

First United Methodist Church of Zephyrhills, 38635 5th Ave., along with Pastor Jim Thomas invites the community to traditional Sunday worship services, 8 and 11 a.m.; contemporary service, 9:30 a.m.; coffee and fellowship, in Cooper Hall, 9-10:30 a.m.; adult Sunday school, 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.; and children's church, 10:45 a.m.

There are many programs available at the church. The Parish Nurses provide free screenings and health information and referrals for those concerned about their health.

There is a 12-step program for people to come and find healing and wholeness in life. Biblical counseling to those needing guidance and direction in some phase of their lives is available.

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

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. You may also reach one of the members: Joe Bates (813) 846-9441 or Wayne Frye (352) 424-0144. Visit zephyrhillschurch.com or the blog page at acordofblue.wordpress.com.

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

OBITUARIES

Robert Perkins Jr.

PERKINS, JR. Robert, 81, passed away Dec. 18, 2018. He was born Oct. 23, 1937 in Rice Lake, Wis. to Robert and Thelma Perkins. Robert graduated from Beloit Memorial High School in 1955 and took a job writing commercials for WCLO radio. After developing a passion for photography, he was hired as manager of Midwest Camera next to Craig High School in Janesville. In March of 1960 Bob married Diane Hallett. He was a member of the 32nd Division Quartermaster Unit of the Wisconsin

National Guard. During the Berlin crisis of 1961, he spent 11 months on active duty at Fort Lewis, Washington. In 1975 Bob started Perkins Camera Center on East Milwaukee Street in Janesville, Wis. He sold the camera store and started PECA Products; a photographic manufacturing company with worldwide sale. Until he retired in 1999, Bob obtained several patents on photographic accessories he invented. After his retirement, Robert and Diane spent the winter months in Zephyrhills, where he became a rated professional shuffleboard player.

March of 2018 brought one of Bob's proudest and happiest achievements. He was inducted into the Florida Central District Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. His contributions to the sport were highlighted by his purchase of a 16 court shuffleboard facility in Zephyrhills. Shortly after forming a board of directors, he donated the facility to its members. It is known as one of the most active clubs in the State of Florida. Another of Bob's achievements and contributions to the sport of shuffleboard came in 2017 when Bob completed and published a book, "The

History of Shuffleboard Zephyrhills, Florida." Bob was an avid collector of antique cameras, chess sets, model cars and early postcards. Also, his passion for beautiful rocks and plants was undeniable. After the death of his wife, Diane, from cancer; Robert married Donna Couillard from Greenville, Wis. in 2014. His wife, Donna; two brothers, John and Kerry; two sisters, Charlotte and Jean; four children, Brenda, Richard, Jeffery and Denise; and a total of eight grandchildren and three great-

grandchildren, survive Bob. Two brothers, Ralph and Albert; two sisters, Pat and Linda; and his daughter, Charlene, precede him in death. A Celebration Memorial of Bob's life will be Dec. 30, 1 p.m. at the ZSC Perkins Courts, 5209 8th St. All are welcome. Please join us.



Obituaries are available in The Zephyrhills News for just \$10 and \$20 if a picture is to be included. Information is due Monday before noon in order to appear in the same week's publication.

I broke a bone, Now what?

Seth Cooper, MD, orthopedic surgeon, who specializes in orthopedic trauma injuries, is your first line of defense if you've broken a bone. Join him for an interesting and upbeat presentation provided by Florida Hospital Zephyrhills Jan. 7, 12-1 p.m. This lunch and learn will take place at the East Pasco Seventh-day Adventist Church, 7333 Dairy Rd.

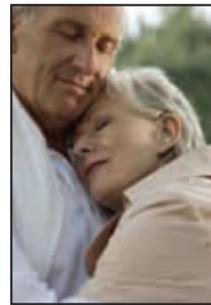
Dr. Cooper will share steps one should take to avoid risking further injury and how the cases he commonly sees are treated. He will also be happy to answer questions. Dr. Cooper is Florida Hospital Zephyrhills' Physician Champion for the Own the Bone program. Florida Hospital Zephyrhills is one of only three hospitals in Florida to have this program.

For more information or a reservation, call (877) 534-3108.

Relief for lower back pain

If you suffer from lower back pain, this lunch and learn on Jan. 4, 12-1 p.m. at Florida Hospital Zephyrhills is for you. Navdeep S. Jassal, MD, who is both board certified in interventional pain medicine and physical medicine and rehabilitation, will speak on a new, minimally-invasive procedure that puts a spacer between the lumbar vertebra. This decompresses the spine and improves lumbar spinal stenosis.

For more information or a reservation, call (877) 534-3108.



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A Call To **WORSHIP**

<p>EAST PASCO SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH 7333 Dairy Rd. (813) 782-2000 Ray Pichette, Lead Pastor Ricardo Barriffe, 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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH 38710 5th Ave. (813) 782-2813 Reverend Allan Tupa Sunday Mass.....7, 9, 11 a.m. Saturday Mass.....4 and 6 p.m. Weekday Masses M, T, Th, F.....8 a.m. Wednesday.....8 a.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday and Holidays 8 a.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday Morning.....8:30 a.m. Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday.....8:30-9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH 5626 20th St. 813-782-1369 Reverend Tod A. Shouse Sunday Worship service.....10 a.m. Sunday school/Bible class...9 a.m. oursaviorlutheranchurchzephyrhills.org</p>	<p>VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH 6950 Forbes Rd. (813) 783-8300 Pastor David Toulson Sunday School10 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m. Evening Worship 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer.....7 p.m. Kids Club.....7 p.m.</p> <p>DADE CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH 11800 Windsorwood Blvd. (352) 518-0072 Pastor Keith Smith Sundays Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship.....10:30 a.m. Wednesdays Worship.....6:30 p.m. www.dadecitycc.net</p> <p>BIBLE MISSIONARY CHURCH 5521 23rd St. (813) 782-8772 Pastor Wayne Taylor Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. Evening Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Service 6 p.m.</p>	<p>THE CHURCH AT CHANCEY ROAD 34921 Chancey Rd. (813) 317-4975 Pastor Tim Mitchell Sunday Worship.....10:15 a.m. Worship, Bible study & communion Monday Prayer and Bible reading....12 p.m. Tuesday Ladies Bible study.....6:30 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship.....6 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m. followed by Bible study for all ages at 6:45 p.m. Thursday Heart dance ladies group...10 a.m. Friday Morning prayer.....7:45 am. Evening prayer.....6 p.m. Saturday Morning Prayer.....5 a.m. www.thechurchatanceyroad.com</p> <p>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</p>	<p>FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH 6040 8th St. (813) 782-1071 Sunday Sunday School9 a.m. Morning Worship10 a.m. Second Saturday of the month Men's Breakfast.....8:30 a.m. Third Wednesday of the month Women's Group.....9:30 a.m.</p> <p>ZEPHYRHILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST 5444 4th St. (205) 405-7700 Evangelist Kevin Heaton Sunday Bible Study.....9:30 a.m. Worship.....10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study.....7:30 p.m. www.zephyrhillschurch.com</p> <p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST 38635 5th Ave. (813) 782-5645 Pastor Jim Thomas Traditional Worship... 8 and 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship...9:30 a.m. Sunday School.....9:30 a.m. Sunday Youth.....5 p.m. Wednesday Children.....6 p.m. Nursery provided. www.fumczhillz.com</p>
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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form five ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to write the empty word, which will complete the page.

Covel: **FAULTHE** _____
 Area: **ANGER** _____
 Ensemble: **SOCHUR** _____
 Understudy: **NURVETE** _____

TODAY'S WORD _____

Go to your old mask, gloves, goggles... medicine...

Kids' Maze

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Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

RIDDLE SEARCH - FEEL AFFECTION FOR

Look up, down, and diagonally, both forward and backward to find every word on the list. Circle each one as you find it. When all the words are circled, take the UNUSED letters and write them on the blanks below. Go from left to right and top to bottom to find the answer to this riddle: **Why does everyone like Frosty the Snowman?**

ADMIRE	Y	O	J	N	E	R	I	M	D	A
ADORE	C	E	C	L	A	S	P	B	P	D
APPRECIATE	N	R	H	A	I	L	T	P	E	O
CARE FOR	A	U	C	A	R	U	R	E	S	R
CLASP	F	S	D	O	T	E	O	N	E	E
DOLE ON	A	A	L	E	C	H	F	E	L	M
ENJOY	V	E	I	H	O	N	O	R	S	S
ESTEEM	O	R	A	S	K	O	V	C	R	O
FANCY	R	T	O	L	R	E	G	A	R	D
FAVOR	E	S	I	A	R	P	R	I	Z	E
HAIL										
HONOR										
LIKE										
LOVE										
PRAISE										
PRIZE										
REGARD										
TREASURE										

Riddle answer: _____

Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

Each row and column contains one letter that does not belong. Circle the misfit, then delete it from the grid. Only one letter will be left in each row and column. For example, if you selected the letter M in the first row and the letter K in the first column, the letter D would be the letter left in the first row and the letter L would be the letter left in the first column.

1 Tally	O	F	E	I	A
2 Freshly applied	L	S	H	O	I
3 Lazy	A	R	E	R	H
4 Wholly worthless	V	A	D	R	N
5 Dislike	V	A	D	R	N
6 Fetch	G	T	H	E	K
7 Hitting	U	R	B	A	A
8 Victim	A	R	E	R	H
9 Food part	K	S	H	O	I
10 Shady dresser	S	H	O	I	A

SALOME'S STARS ★★★★★

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) It's a good time to take a much-needed break from your recent hectic schedule and spend some time in quieter surroundings. Important news could arrive early next week.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The Taurean traits of reliability and thoroughness could be well-tested when decision-makers consider your proposals and/or requests. Be prepared to answer some probing questions.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A sudden attack of boredom leaves you with some tasks undone. It's OK to take a short respite. But get back to work by week's end so that you have time for other projects.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Avoid prejudging a situation just because it looks bad. Facts could emerge that would make your position uncomfortable, to say the least. A relative has interesting news to share with you.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) This is a good time to begin reassessing some of your recent decisions about your long-range goals to see if they still have merit. Spend more time with loved ones this weekend.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) An unsettled situation at home or on the job early in the week could drain your energy levels, making it difficult to get your work done on schedule. But things improve by midweek.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A temporary setback could give you time to go over your plans to find weaknesses you might have overlooked before. A romantic getaway with that special person is favored this weekend.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Professional and personal situations benefit once you set a positive tone in getting things off to a good start. Honest dialogue smoothes over any occasional display of balkiness.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A problem with workplace colleagues or family members seems to defy even your sage counsel. But be patient. Your words eventually will lead to a resolution.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Don't just wait out that unexpected and unexplained delay in your career move. You could gain added respect if you ask why it happened and what you can do to move things along.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Although your workplace strategies usually are accepted, you could be challenged by someone who isn't so favorably impressed. Be prepared to defend your positions.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Your friendship circle expands, with new people coming into your life at this time. Welcome them warmly. But don't neglect those cherished longtime personal relationships.

BORN THIS WEEK: You love to search for knowledge and share it with others. You would make an especially fine teacher.

KING CROSSWORD - DEC. 27

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18				19	20					
		21			22					
23	24	25		26	27		28		29	30
31		32	33	34		35				
36		37		38	39		40			
	41		42		43	44				
45	46			47		48	49	50		
51				52	53					
54				55			56			
57				58			59			

ACROSS

- Lather
- Diner order, for short
- Unwanted email
- On
- Always, in verse
- Patriot Nathan
- Irrational suspiciousness
- Artillery
- Follow relentlessly
- 1984 Tom Hanks movie
- Flightless bird
- Knoll
- Energy
- North Pole staffer
- Surveys
- Leading man?
- A mere handful
- Cry
- Sweat outlets
- Sweet potato
- Meadow
- Comotions
- Actor Diesel
- Walk like a duck
- Bursts forth
- Satanic
- Pet bird, often
- Got up
- de-France
- Sea flier
- Basin accessory
- Help
- White-glove detection

DOWN

- Enervates
- Western state
- Nickelodeon's "Explorer"
- Card symbol
- Grendel's slayer
- Island souvenir
- Garbage
- Not deep
- Like some lines
- Charitable donations
- Netting
- City in Alaska
- 4-Down, e.g.
- Tase
- Altar affirmative
- Eden
- "30 Rock" cast member
- Shelter
- Hot tub
- Busybody
- Fluctuated
- Scale member
- Actress Sorvino
- Old photo tint
- Microwaved, slangily
- Existed
- Acknowledge
- Lima's land
- Sawbucks
- Undo a dele
- Baba

ANSWERS TO KING CROSSWORDS DECEMBER 20

H	O	R	N	S	F	T	R	E	K		
C	O	D	E	O	W	L	H	E	R	E	
G	I	V	E	A	W	A	Y	R	I	N	G
S	E	E	L	J	O	N	E	S			
		B	O	T	A	N	E	W			
E	S	T	R	E	C	L	T	A	W	A	Y
L	I	F	D	O	N	W	A	V	E		
F	L	Y	A	W	A	Y	K	A	R	A	T
		K	I	D	A	R	Y				
H	O	M	A	N	U	P	O	S	E	E	
S	L	A	W	S	T	O	W	A	W	A	Y
V	I	S	A	G	A	P	B	A	S	F	
P	O	K	Y	T	H	E	A	N	S		

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

FEAR & KNIGHT

By RJ Johnson

DOUBT... OR DARE?

KLE
 BIOMAK
 ARFIK
 ♥EKBA
 ♥ENDPAT
 PBU
 ♥ATEL
 KUBON
 ♥ATF
 ABDALM
 ♥ALTNO
 PKTE

Unscramble these letters and arrange them to form each of an ordinary word. **MAGNEC** becomes **CHANGE**. Prepare to use only ONE word from the menu. ♥ All words are 4 letters long. The more than one word in ♥ **RATHE** becomes **HATER OF EARTH OF HEART**. Each starting letter is the address of how to solve the puzzle.

SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆◆◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆◆ Difficult

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STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

•It was way back in the 17th century when noted Scottish scholar Patrick Young made the following sage observation: "The trouble with weather forecasting is that it's right too often for us to ignore it and wrong too often for us to rely on it."

•As 2018 winds down, you might want to keep this crime fact in mind: Those who study such things say that New Year's Day is the No. 1 holiday for car theft. Perhaps they're making up for Christmas Day, which is typically the holiday with the fewest auto thefts.

• I bet you didn't know there's a word specifically used to refer to the space between your eyebrows. Yep: It's called the "ophryon."

•Fans of old Westerns have doubtless seen depictions of Native Americans scalping their enemies. Most probably don't realize, though, that the brutal practice didn't originate with the Indians. When the Dutch and English settlers were trying to clear out the natives, they were paid a bounty for each scalp they brought back. The Native Americans adopted the practice only after the Europeans' arrival on the continent.

•If you're a runner -- and a compulsive counter -- you might already be aware of the fact that the average person's feet hit the ground approximately 800 times per mile when running.

•The food eaten by a typical American travels between 1,500 and 2,500 miles from the farm where it was grown to the plate where it's consumed.

•Paleontologists claim that Neanderthals used toothpicks. How can they tell, you might well ask? It seems that toothpick use leaves distinctive grooves on teeth.

Thought for the Day: "We should not be simply fighting evil in the name of good, but struggling against the certainties of people who claim always to know where good and evil are to be found." -- Tzvetan Todorov

STICKELLERS

by Terry Stickels

In the figure below, how many times do the faces or sides of each block touch other blocks? To get you started, Block A has two touches on Blocks B and D. Block B has two touches on Blocks A and E. How many touches for each block?

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Mega Maze

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the letter L, X for the letter O, etc. Single letters, as well as the length and formation of the words, are all the same. Each word in the code letters are different.

SOL BPRMNU CJO KIRBQ UX
QEGCJJCUURMN CU LCBFPRMN
HXIJ GXUU VX UXEQBPRMN
HXI ZIUB UGRV FXIDVM'B GO
VXMQ. — XJRNRM XGUFIFO

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. You must find the key to solve the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: JOEJASE

AJ HSC EPSL MJZJS HA
OJJZJ RDS OPSJMHQ. PTHJS
PNN. AJ ARDNLM'H APMH HA
SDTTVJ PMC TPHEJSQ.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

3		8		9				5
	6		4					2
1					6	9		4
	1			4		6		
2			1		8			9
		6	2					1
4				7				6
	9	2			3	7		
	8		9			3	5	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3-by-3 square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO ROY!

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MAGIC MAZE — ACTION

P O G N K H E B Y V S P M J H
F B Y N Y V I T O O I R G D
B A F F I R M A T I V E Y W I
R P M K O K A I G E V D B C O
Y W U S Q A A L O E M E I N K
I F D B Z X S R L C L V A W U
S Q B O N S I R B I I I J H F
D C A O A Y W V U L P S T S Q
P N I L M A N O F O N A L P K
I H C F E G R O U P C V C C B
Z Y W V U S D E Y A L E D R Q

Find the listed words in the diagram. Key in all directions: forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Affirmative	Course of	Legal	Plan of
Braking	Delayed	Lever	Plan of
Capillary	Evasive	Man of	Police
Civil	Group	Mob	

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Wishing Well®

8	2	4	6	5	7	4	8	7	3	4	2	3
A	V	B	C	R	Y	E	P	O	V	G	I	A
2	8	6	2	8	4	6	8	7	3	5	2	3
C	P	A	T	L	E	U	Y	U	R	E	O	I
4	5	7	6	3	5	3	5	6	7	3	7	5
N	M	R	T	E	A	T	I	E	Y	A	N	
7	3	7	2	4	3	7	5	7	4	8	2	7
P	I	R	R	E	S	E	P	W	R	N	Y	A
2	7	2	4	7	8	5	2	7	3	5	2	6
I	R	S	O	D	E	O	N	S	Y	I	E	O
8	6	8	6	4	6	4	6	3	6	3	6	2
W	N	S	A	U	D	S	V	O	I	U	S	A
3	8	6	5	6	8	3	2	5	8	5	8	8
R	K	E	S	D	I	S	R	E	L	D	L	S

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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750 ml. Jose Cuervo Gold/Silver	\$18.99
750 ml. Naked Turtle White Rum	\$9.99
750 ml. Remy Martin Cognac	\$40.99
750 ml. Glenmorangle 10 Year The Original	\$37.99
1.75 L. Canadian Mist	\$17.99
1.75 L. Southern Comfort	\$19.99
1.5 Sutter Home Wines	\$8.99

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NO. 4

Silverado's Brantley Smith is fondly remembered

Longtime golf course and land owner gave so much to youth and community organizations

By STEVE LEE
News Reporter
Oct. 11, 2018

Whether it was high school golfers coming out for a match, local duffers playing in yet another fundraising tournament or a foursome getting together for a little friendly competition and camaraderie — there was one common denominator for anyone and everyone who ever went to the Silverado Golf & Country Club.

"Appreciate y'all comin' out," were the warm words spoken by a kind-hearted, charming man with a smiling face, big glasses and wide-brimmed hat.

You simply could not go to Silverado without running into Brantley Smith. Now, unfortunately, you can't. The longtime owner passed away on Sept. 29 at the age of 77.

"He always made people laugh," said Brantley's daughter Mindy, who as a youngster was coached in golf by her father. "He wanted a place for people to go to be like family. He just wanted people to enjoy themselves."

Sean Klotz, Silverado's general manager and golf professional as well as a former Zephyrhills High golf coach, surely misses the daily morning conversations — about the business, family and life in general — with his mentor.

"It's a different place to work right now," said Klotz, who learned so much from Brantley about how to treat people. "It's his aura; the laughter at the bar, and the good ol' boy. This was his deal from the start."

Following the funeral at the First United Methodist Church in Zephyrhills, family members and countless friends headed to Silverado to share a celebration of Brantley's life. The crowded clubhouse overflowed with laughter and tears intermingled among the people in attendance.

"This doesn't happen at other places," Klotz said.

"I think he would've been shocked at the number of people that were here," added Brantley's widow, Susan. "He was well-loved and he loved well."

Stories abounded, like the one about how he, the Reutimanns and others used to race on some Zephyrhills backroads or how he took Mindy's friend for a ride in his prized possession, a 2006 red Corvette and spun out in a cloud of smoke and squealing tires in the parking lot. A video of the latter scene played on a screen and the crowd burst into laughter upon hearing Brantley chuckling afterward.

"There's my sweet laugh that I'm talking about. There's nothing better than that," Mindy said.

Several people spoke at the celebration of Brantley's life on Saturday, none more humorous or honest than Klotz, who began by including Brantley among many celebrities — Prince, Madonna and Elvis, to name a few — well-known by their first names.

"For the better part of the last 70 years in Zephyrhills, if you were speaking of Brantley people immediately knew who you were referring to," said Klotz. "I will always remember that laugh; that infectious, inviting, heartwarming laugh."

Lance Smith, Brantley's nephew and a city councilman, smiled at that thought, saying, "He's one of those people you loved to talk to. You always felt better."

Lance recalled how Brantley and his brother Buddy, Lance's father, built Silverado and Silver Oaks, a 300-home subdivision off Fort King Road in the 1980s. The family owned thousands of acres, where they had orange groves and raised cattle.

"He created Silverado," Klotz said. "He created this atmosphere and now our privilege is to continue that legacy. Silverado is a place to hang out and meet up with friends."

An avid golfer who played in the numerous tournaments, Brantley also coached Little League baseball and softball, along with youth basketball. Additionally, Brantley's generosity was evident in the many golf tournaments that raised more than \$100,000 in each of the past eight years.



Brantley Smith always had a smile for golfers and visitors at Silverado.

NO. 5

ZNews celebrates 107 years of community coverage



The Zephyrhills News has been a fixture in the community since 1911. The current location is a gateway to the city.

Weekly newspaper has been a longtime journal for locals and visitors alike

By STEVE LEE
News Reporter
Oct. 4, 2018

The Zephyrhills News celebrates its 107th anniversary this week, a longevity streak that has lasted longer than any newspaper in Pasco County. The Zephyrhills Colonist, predecessor to The Zephyrhills News, was initially published on Oct. 5, 1911.

"Happy birthday," city manager Steve Spina said upon being informed earlier this week about the newspaper's historic anniversary.

Only the Tampa Bay Times, which actually began as a weekly publication, and the defunct Tampa Tribune have been around longer in the region, but there's a catch. Both of those newspapers began before 1900 but primarily served Hillsborough and Pinellas counties. Years later they expanded into Pasco and Hernando, as well as Polk and Manatee.

As for the oldest weekly in the county (the Suncoast News in west Pasco and the Laker in Land O' Lakes came around in the mid-to-late 1900s), The Zephyrhills News has a longstanding commitment to being the eyes and ears of the community as well as journalism excellence. It also has touted businesses in and out of the city in an endless effort to help our neighbors.

Indeed, those trademarks evoke what the publication has stood for throughout its history of coverage in Zephyrhills as well as neighboring Dade City, Wesley Chapel, San Antonio and Saint Leo.

"Really, The Zephyrhills News is the heartbeat of Zephyrhills and I wanted to see what was going on," said owner Danny Linville, who purchased the newspaper in 2009.

Linville, whose wife Jan is co-owner and

editor, takes pride in that sense of community that his publication delivers on a weekly basis. As a longtime local resident, he recalled reading the newspaper for years.

"I have lived in Zephyrhills since 1953 and The Zephyrhills News was delivered to our house on East 54," said Linville, who ran a successful chicken farm business for years.

Spina, perhaps more than any other city official, has a first-hand knowledge of the publication's workings. He was a reporter for the newspaper from 1978-87, serving as the editor in the last two years of that stint.

"You were out and involved in everything; every aspect of the community," Spina recalled of his days as a reporter and editor. "I read the sports mostly and news last. All my friends were in the paper for news or sports. It's still the same."

While Spina acknowledged building friendships with city officials, business owners and community leaders during his time spent at the newspaper, he also mentioned the most challenging part of being a community journalist. It was not always fun, he noted.

"The challenging part was when you wrote something nobody liked," Spina recalled.

Linville noted two sides of being somewhat of a point person for the newspaper.

"The people are friendly and easy to talk to," he said. "Every person that has ever called me to ask about something or complain has one thing in common. They all think they own the newspaper and I am taking care of it for them."

When it comes to the small-town feel of The Zephyrhills News, Spina concurred with Linville.

"I think weekly newspapers really help identify communities," Spina said. "You have pictures of the prom, homecoming, parades; it's just another example of living in a small town. It's like a journal. You can go back and see what's happening. It's a fun thing. I think it's part of what makes a small town a small town."

Linville was quick to point out that reporting the news is something his wife has a solid grip on, saying, "My wife has always tried to stay neutral on issues; only the facts."



NO. 6

Third term for Danny Burgess



State representative Danny Burgess gives thanks to his supporters during his watch party at the Zephyrhills Brewing Company.

DeSantis is new governor, Scott takes incumbent Nelson's Senate seat

By STEVE LEE
News Reporter
Nov. 8, 2018

In a tumultuous presidency marred by impulsive decisions, divisive rhetoric and unpredictable behavior, perhaps Donald Trump could take a lesson in civility from Danny Burgess, a local politician with the calm and professional demeanor of a true statesman.

Amidst cheers of "Danny, Danny, Danny," on Election Night at the Zephyrhills Brewing Company, the Wesley Chapel resident from Zephyrhills graciously thanked his opponent after winning a third term as a state representative in District 38. Burgess, a Republican, handily defeated independent and Zephyrhills resident T.K. Hayes with 44,006 votes to 22,314.

"I want to say thank you to T.K. Hayes," a humbled Burgess told a crowd of supporters, who clapped unison. "Before we started this race he was a friend and he's going to be a friend after."

That sentiment was hardly surprising to family, friends and supporters at the early evening gathering.

Notably former city clerk of Zephyrhills Linda Boan, who retired in 2016.

"I remember Danny from the city youth council (when he was a Zephyrhills High student) and when he ran for city council at 18," she fondly recollected. "He was mayor (in 2013-14) when he came back from college. He's still

the same Danny; a very conscientious, hard-working and fair person."

Burgess, who on Halloween added a baby girl to his family, thanked all who helped him with his campaign. On Election Day, Burgess spent the afternoon and early evening in front of the Alice Hall Community Center, waving to passersby and speaking with constituents.

"We made it," he said. "All of you are family and thanks for being here. I love this community. I'm going to continue to work hard for you and represent you with all my heart."

The week before the election Burgess and Hayes responded to a question-and-answer format in *The Zephyrhills News*. Among Burgess' responses was this insightful sentence: "With all the nastiness in our politics today, I try to be a refreshing voice."

Burgess, who always has been a staunch supporter of the military and has served in the National Guard, spoke of continuing the area's economic growth, improving education, fixing the state's worker's compensation system and addressing the county's transportation needs among his priority stances.

"This has been a pretty tumultuous election on multiple levels," Burgess said matter-of-factly. "There was a lot at stake. It's the most important election of our lifetime and this time I think it really was."

In the most notable races in the state, Florida's more than 13 million registered voters chose a new governor and voted on a pivotal U.S. Senate contest. Ron DeSantis defeated Andrew Gillum in the gubernatorial race while former governor Rick Scott upended longtime Senator Bill Nelson.

Among the voters emerging from casting their ballots at Alice Hall were newcomers and regulars alike.

"I vote every year," said Debbie Norton of

Zephyrhills, who did not give away who she voted for but hinted at how she did. "The lies I've been hearing. Trump says one thing then turns around and says something different. I don't trust him."

"I vote every year. I think it's important to vote," said Zephyrhills resident Ava Gifford.

Maryliz Fonseca, a former Hillsborough County resident, voted in Pasco County for the first time and, admittedly, took some time to get through the ballot.

"It took me 15 minutes to get it down," she said. "I just want to see new people, because they have different goals."

Zephyrhills' Carolyn Clark had never voted before Tuesday and she cast her ballot in the final hour.

"I should've voted all along," she said. "I want to try to make a difference."

According to Brian Corley, the county's supervisor of elections, final results will not be official until Nov. 16. By then, the tabulations will include all vote-by-mail, provisional and military/overseas ballots.

The county's website listed 353,207 voters with the breakdown as follows: 137,878 Republicans, 110,148 Democrats, 101,751 no-party and 3,430 non-party.

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NO. 7

Culver's burgers and custard restaurant opens in Zephyrhills



Mayor Gene Whitfield, city dignitaries, Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce ambassadors and town residents excitedly cut the ribbon for the grand opening of Culver's.

New, cool and refreshing custard, along with butter burgers, arrives in Zephyrhills

By DALE BLISS
News Reporter
May 3, 2018

With summer approaching and school letting out for the coming of journeys to the beach, sleeping late and part-time jobs, Culver Ice Cream Shop arrived just in the nick of time. Traveling all the way from Mauston, Wis., this new and innovative eatery gives you your food fast. This casual dining establishment is known for "serving fast casual food cooked-to-order."

The northern-born fast food restaurant has blazed a trail from one of the coldest parts of America down to the Sunshine State.

Rod Rehrig, Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce ambassador, with his never ending smile and big heart and strong representative for the friendly little out of the way town of Zephyrhills chatted with a gleeful smile, "The food is excellent. My grandson works here so his grandmother and I were invited last Saturday for a complimentary meal and it was excellent. The caring service was above and beyond service."

LaVonne Seaworth, a patron of Culver's for 20 years, was glad to see Culver's and its wonderful food and service come to Zephyrhills. "We ate at the Culver's in Wisconsin for 20 years. We are looking forward to having one here in our hometown. The food is wonderful."

Seeing the new welcomed Culver's being built from the ground up, Coni Hill, was the first one in the welcoming inviting doors. "I started stopping by and taking pictures when they first broke ground and was so excited for this day to come," the excited and loyal patron

to Culver's spoke with a big kind smile.

Located at 6836 Gall Blvd., this "cool" eatery will be in the heart of Zephyrhills. Being open from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily will give you plenty of time to pull in for a delicious hot made-to-order meal and ending it with some delicious, cool for a hot summer's day, custard.

Murphy, with a big smile and welcoming handshake, along with Greater Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce members and city officials cut the big red ribbon on grand opening day.

"We're thrilled to bring handcrafted, high-quality meals and desserts to Zephyrhills," beamed Murphy. "We think it's a wonderful area and we are excited to become a contributing and active member of the community."

"Culver's was founded on the idea of providing excellent service and high-quality food made with the best ingredients," Murphy explained. "The outstanding people, who serve our guests, from behind the counter have helped us earn our reputation. We are happy to have team members from the surrounding community as part of our team."

Murphy grew up in a small town, Portage, Wis., where he lived most of his life. Starting his Culver's career in 2013 as general manager in the Mauston, Wis. location gave Murphy the opportunity to work with a team that eventually became his Culver's family.

Being one of the first 100 patrons to receive a ticket for a coupon booklet to get a cool refreshing cup of frozen custard for a whole year helped to make Leslie Richardson's day. "I love it," was her reply when asked how she was looking forward to her free custard for a year.

"I am very fortunate to have so many amazing people in my life that have helped me get to where I am today. I look forward to sharing the spirit of Culver's with the Zephyrhills area," the franchise owner chatted with sincerity.

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NO. 8



Some candidates showed up at dawn and stayed until the polls closed to pickup last minute votes.

ANDY WARRENER

Proctor, Wilkeson emerge victorious in city council elections

Zephyrhills voters went with the candidates that had the most experience for the two contested city council seats

By ANDY WARRENER
News Reporter
April 12, 2018

Zephyrhills municipal elections don't happen every year. Oftentimes, council members have uncontested races. However, on a rainy Tuesday two city council seats would be settled at the voting booth or by mailing a ballot in.

Seat 5 had incumbent Charlie Proctor up against William Seville. Proctor served for seven years on the council and was the only incumbent defending his seat. It was Proctor's third time defending his seat. Proctor, a local businessman, did a lot of work going door-to-door to reach out to voters leading up to the election.

"I'm very hands-on, people come to my business with questions, it's part of being a public servant," Proctor said.

Proctor was challenged by 20-year-old Pasco-Hernando State College student William Seville. Seville is a first-time candidate but touted change and more opportunities for young people in the city. He discussed the need for more youth programs and a community center in the city.

It would be Proctor to win the seat with 63.54 percent of the vote. Seville got 36.46 percent. Turnout was dismal. Between the three municipal elections, Zephyrhills, New Port Richey and Port Richey, just 13.9 percent of eligible voters bothered to vote. Most did so by mail. Of Proctor's winning 751 votes, 511 came by mail.

In the race for Seat 3, three different candidates lined up. Jodi Wilkeson had the most experience, having served on the city council from 2008 to 2014. One of her proudest accomplishments while on the council was the funding and construction of the new library.

"I think they (council) could use my help," Wilkeson said. "The council works well as a team and they know me, they know what to expect from me." Wilkeson also brought up a potential budget shortfall if the Homestead Exemption or Amendment 1 set to be voted on in November, passes. The exemption would allow a maximum homestead exemption to rise to \$75,000, up from the current \$50,000. Counties and municipalities will feel the lost revenue the most if it passes, which Wilkeson thinks is likely.

"The Homestead Exemption could cause a \$200,000 deficit in city funds," Wilkeson said.

Opposing Wilkeson was Cory Sommers, a former government teacher at Pasco Middle with a degree in Government and World Affairs from the University of Tampa. Sommers is a current learning design coach with the school district and is a 20-year resident of the city.

"I'm raising my kids here and I want to make sure this city is going to be someplace where my kids will want to raise theirs," Sommers said.

Sommers was out at Alice Hall, the lone polling place in Zephyrhills for the municipal election, since dawn like many of the other candidates.

Voting in his very first municipal election was 2016 Zephyrhills High School graduate Kevin Lee.

"(Proctor) has been with the city for years and I like where he's going," Lee said. "(Alexander) is new, has fresh ideas and should fit in well if he gets elected."

When the dust settled, Zephyrhills residents went with the experience of Wilkeson. Wilkeson would win it with 45.89 percent of the vote. Sommers took 31.20 percent and Alexander 22.90 percent. The in-person voting was nearly a dead heat as Sommers actually ended up with the most votes (137). Wilkeson got 132 in-person votes and Alexander got 128. A big haul of 421 votes by mail locked up the win for Wilkeson.

The final total was: Wilkeson 553 votes, Sommers 376 and Alexander 276.

Proctor and Wilkeson will join the Zephyrhills City Council.

NO. 9

Wawa opens in Zephyrhills



Wawa the Canadian goose has fun with the children while dancing the morning away during the grand opening of the Zephyrhills store.

DALE BLISS

The newest Wawa convenient mart opens with music, laughter and generosity

By DALE BLISS
News Reporter
July 5, 2018

As the crowd flowed into the new convenient mart on the corner of Gall Boulevard and County Road 54 there was lots of dancing, music, laughter and many generous pots containing a variety of flavors of piping hot coffee accompanied with delicious flavorful Siptopia and homemade Italian subs. Wawa opened its doors to Zephyrhills with ear to ear smiles, heartwarming hellos and welcomes.

Wawa opened its first store in 1964 in Folsom Pennsylvania. It closed in June of 2016 only to open a new and envisioned super Wawa. With stores trekking up and down America's East Coast you can be sure to find one near you offering scrumptious hot sandwiches made with only the freshest ingredients and homemade bread. Or, if you prefer you can get a fresh, made-to-order salad or choose from ready-made salads to go. And you can always depend on Wawa to have the coldest fountain drinks, the hottest coffee and the most thirst quenching teas or fruit drinks.

Dustin and Samantha Phillips were glad to see Wawa come to Zephyrhills. "I like the air pumps. It is free to air up your tires," Dustin said. His wife, Samantha, said, "I love

it, especially the blueberry muffins, and gas is cheaper."

Wawa General Manager, David Ivey, came from Land O' Lakes. The general manager has been with the northern-born company for about two and a half years. "Today is exciting. The location is great and it's so nice to be a part of the community."

Jenn Townsend, area manager, has been a member of team Wawa for five years. "This is the best job I have ever had. I love it."

"It is such a friendly environment. Wawa is family oriented," Corn Redfield, a new employee of Wawa exclaimed. "Everyone is happy to be here," she chatted with her illuminating smile as she handed out coupons for free coffee, fruit and tea drinks.

Event champion, Doug Errig, has been with Wawa for eight years. "I enjoy interacting with the community and the people that come in. We are about helping to brighten peoples day," he chatted with enthusiasm.

Wawa generously gave out free t-shirts to anyone stopping by as a thank you for coming to the grand opening and helping to make it a successful first day.

As a part of the Zephyrhills Police Department Crime Scene Investigation Unit, Juanita Gonzalez said with a smile, "It's exciting for Wawa to be here. They stay open late and sometimes when you are working at night it is hard to find someplace open as late as they are." When asked what her favorite item at the newly opened mart was, she grinned and said, "The sandwiches."

"I have been waiting so long to get in here," Connie Hill spoke with eagerness. "I love the coffee."

NO. 10

Hurricane season begins with tropical storm Alberto

Your better safe and need to know checklist

May 31, 2018

Most points on the globe have four seasons—spring, summer, winter and fall. Here in Florida we know better. Natives and long-time residents of the Sunshine State also celebrate four seasons—shirtsleeves, tourist, stay inside and hurricane. They may be unofficial, but these are typically a better indicator of what to expect when planning your day.

As of June 1, hurricane season is officially upon us. The southeast got an early preview of coming attractions. Tropical Storm Alberto drenched and deluged Florida before coming ashore on May 28, delivering up to six inches of rain in some places. Storm winds lessened as Alberto made landfall in Laguna Beach near Panama City, but rain and flooding continued for days up through Florida, Alabama and Georgia.

For 2018, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is predicting 10 to 16 named storms, up to nine hurricanes and up to four major storms. While this is more than recent years, it is still within the average range for Atlantic systems.

"National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's observational and modeling enhancements for the 2018 season put us on the path to deliver the world's best regional and global weather models," said Neil Jacobs, Ph.D., assistant secretary of commerce for environmental observation and prediction. "These upgrades are key to improving hurricane track and intensity forecasts, allowing NOAA to deliver the best science and service to the nation."

With only one to four major storms predicted, it's tempting to shrug it off and wait, but storms don't pay attention to the calendar.

Know your flood zone and tendencies. Flooding in Maryland as well as in Florida continues to destroy property and claim lives. Forewarned is forearmed. In an emergency, dial 911, but you should keep these numbers handy.

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Zephyrhills Police Department—(813) 780-0050
Zephyrhills Fire Rescue—(813) 780-0041
Pasco Sheriff—(800) 854-2862

Pasco Fire Rescue—(813) 929-2750
Florida Hospital Zephyrhills—(813) 788-0411
Withlacoochee River Electric—(352) 588-5115 and Duke Energy—(800) 700-8744
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Go online to PascoCountyFL.net and search Emergency Management to get your Disaster Planning Guide, Evacuation Map and Shelter Listing Guide. You may also want to visit www.zaarc.org to get to know the Zephyrhills HAM radio club. This group of amateur radio volunteers assists in communications during disasters or times of emergency.

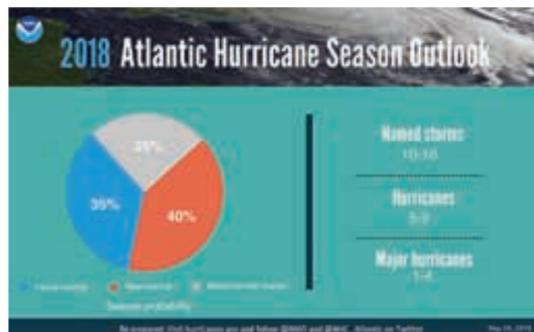
Before you assemble your hurricane preparedness kit, answer a few questions about how you will respond if a storm is on the way. How will you locate family and friends or determine if your parents and children are safe? If you are confined to your home, what will you do in the event your utilities are shut off? If you must evacuate, where will you go? How long will you be prepared to stay there?

Plan your evacuation before you are on the clock. Know what you will bring and why. It's a good idea to pack everything you plan to take in your vehicle just to make sure you and all your stuff will fit.

If you are going to a shelter, call ahead. If you have pet, know how you will arrange care, and know in advance if your shelter is pet friendly. Familiarize yourself with the evacuation steps and cautions available at www.ready.gov.

Local emergency shelters include Stewart Middle School, 38505 10th Ave., Zephyrhills; Centennial Middle School, 38505 Centennial Rd., Dade City; Pasco Middle School, 13925 14th St., Dade City; and Lacochee Elementary School, 38815 Cummer Rd., Dade City.

Be safe and be prepared this hurricane season...well before the wind blows.



Happy Holidays from the **Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #3752** Come out and join in the fun!

DECEMBER CALENDAR

THURSDAYS	Thirsty Thursday 11am-2pm Euchre 1pm \$2 Hot Dogs 4pm-7pm Queen of Hearts 7pm Eagles Nest Card Game 7:15pm	SUNDAYS	Breakfast 8-11am Pool 2pm Euchre 1pm
FRIDAYS	RED Shirt Friday Euchre 12pm Fish Fry 4-7pm Billy Cole Karaoke 7-11pm	MONDAYS	Hank, the Piano Man 3-7pm Philly Cheesesteak 4-7pm Trivia 7:30pm-8:30pm
Dec 28		NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY	Featuring... Cold Iron 7pm to 1am Raffles • Door Prizes Bring a dish to share! Champagne Toast at midnight! \$10 p.p. donation
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