

Zephyrhills FREE PRESS

Sports • Church News • Community News • Obituaries

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Lyndra Davis, center, was accompanied by her father, Greg, brother, Noah, and mother, Angela, on May 11 when she signed her commitment to play volleyball for Emmaus Bible College.

Photo by Freeze Frame Photo

Lady Bulldogs Volleyball Star Signs

Davis Overcomes Unimaginable Obstacles

by Keri McAlpine

Bulldog Lyndra Davis had multiple schools pursuing her before she decided to attend Emmaus Bible College in Dubuque, Iowa. The senior outside hitter said it was difficult to narrow it down, but after visiting the Midwest school last week with her father, Greg, she knew it was where she wanted to be come fall.

Davis signed with Emmaus while she was visiting the campus, and had a signing ceremony in the Zephyrhills High School commons area last Thursday to share the moment.

After taking pictures with family, friends and former ZHS volleyball coach Jerry Stacey, Davis was holding back tears.

Davis • Continued on Page 2B

It's More Than Hitting And Cheering



Who is the fastest? Apparently, everybody in coach Damien Pickett's group at the Zephyrhills Athletic League Football and Cheer Camp.

Krusen Camp Delivers Important Life Lessons

Story and photos by **Dave Walters**

Jaylon Pickett and Kevin Lee shared the football field together at Zephyrhills High School. They have since gone along different paths, but shared with other young athletes the keys to getting where they wanted to go.

Pickett will enter his junior season at Eastern Michigan University this year and Lee is serving as a deputy for the Polk County Sheriff's Office.

They stood before athletes ranging from age five to 14 on Saturday morning during the Zephyrhills Athletic League fourth annual Football and Cheer Camp at Krusen Field.

Lee stressed to the wide-eyed onlookers that school grades need to be a top priority starting now. The work

Camp • Continued on Page 2B



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Camp • Continued from Page 1B

ethic in the classroom at an early age sets the stage for a strong educational future.

Pickett stayed on the same subject of grades, but also had another important message.

"I played right here on this field," Pickett said. "Don't let anyone tell you that you can't do something. If you want something bad enough, go get it. Don't let another player or even a coach tell you that you are too slow or too small. You can do it and it's up to you to put in the work to get there."

Pickett had plenty of motivation in his youth coming from a football family that included his father and Zephyrhills



Former ZHS standouts Kevin Lee, left, and Jaylen Pickett came back to offer words of wisdom to the participants of the Zephyrhills Athletic League Football and Cheer Camp.

Athletic League Executive Director Damien Pickett.

"This is where it all started," Pickett recalled. "We practiced right there. The dirt is still messed up in that one spot."

He hopes he can make a lasting impact on the young players just as the older players did for him when he was youngster.

"It means everything to talk to these kids," Pickett said. "I know it meant a lot when the college players came back and talked to us. We looked up to them. They



John Blanford runs through footwork drills under the watchful eye of Kevin Lee during the Zephyrhills Athletic League Football and Cheer Camp.

were role models to us. It was great that they took the time to come back and talk to us."

The camp featured the coaching staffs from the Zephyrhills Athletic League football programs and cheerleading squads.



Cheerleaders learned new moves and routines during the ZAL Football and Cheer Camp at Krusen Filed last weekend.

Davis • Continued from Page 1B

"Most of my family was not supposed to be here today, and they all came," she said with a big smile. "It feels great. I'm finally done with high school volleyball now and moving on to a bigger dream of mine; pursuing something that I've always wanted to do."

Stacey, who coached Davis her first three years as a Bulldog, couldn't stop smiling as she made her signature.

"I've never had anybody play with more courage and passion. A lot of people would have just given up ... but she excelled to this level," Stacey said. "She knows the value of service to other people and I think she'll do an outstanding job."

During her years at Zephyrhills, Davis has encountered more than one obstacle on her athletic journey.

After her first varsity season her sophomore year, she had foot surgery which included breaking two bones, shaving off two bone spurs and tightening up tendons and joints. When her junior year came around, she recognized she was having difficulty breathing halfway through the season.

"They had to remove five ribs. I was supposed to be out of volleyball and any physical activity for about five, four months," she said. However, after her September surgery, she was back in the gym three months later.

"It was a long process, but I never gave up," Davis remembered.

"It's been amazing how much she's overcome," her father Greg said. "She knew what she wanted and she

went for it."

For an outside hitter standing at 5'5", Davis also had to face some challenges when considering colleges. Many schools were looking for players a half-foot taller, her mother, Angela, said. When Emmaus approached Davis, it was a lock.

"They also have nursing and that's the degree she's going for. So, she's having both," Angela said.

"They took a lot of time and effort into getting to know me better and wanted me up there as an athlete on their team," Davis said. "Yeah, I'm excited, but I'm a little nervous for the snow."

Davis assured she has already begun stocking up on heavy-duty winter clothes for her move to Iowa.







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Zephyrhills Shufflers Win National Championships

Zephyrhills shuffleboard players turned out in force for the Summer National Championships that wrapped up May 2 on the Lakeland courts. Zephyrhills fielded a powerful group of teams and came away with both the men's and women's championships and won three of the four top brackets in the men's field as well as the top two positions in the women's field.

John Houghtaling (Zephyrhills Shuffleboard Club) won his first National Championship and awarded the coveted, once in a lifetime, National Pin. His partner, Earl Ball (Betmar Shuffleboard Club), notched his record-extending 20th National Championship, and although they had some close games they won all of their matches in two straight games.

In the women's competition Pauline Murphy (ZSC), who turns pro in October, was awarded the National



John Houghtaling and Earl Ball



Pauline Murphy and Joan Cook

Pin for her victory as she teamed up with 1000 Point-Green Jacket Master, Joan Cook (BSC), who won her 11th National Championship. The quarters and the semis went to a third game but neither was close. Murphy and Cook beat Joanne Allen and Katy Walker (both of ZSC) in the finals. When asked after the tournament if anything spectacular happened, Murphy said, "Joan". I guess you would expect a Green Jacket Master to be spectacular.

Murphy, McNeil **Each Win Pro Division**

Pauline Murphy (ZSC), fresh off winning the National Championship, showed it was no fluke by winning the Pro Division with a perfect 8-0 record in the leadoff Mingles / Singles Championship on May 4 at the Betmar Shuffleboard Club. She won't be a Pro until the fall but is playing up every chance she gets to gain the experience of playing against the best. Don McNeil (BSC) is one of the area's



top amateurs. He suffered a heartbreaking quarterfinal match loss in the Nationals but redeemed himself by winning the Amateur Division with a perfect 8-0 record.

Moulton, Branham Win Betmar Mingles/Singles

Two of the Zephyrhills Shuffleboard Clubs best won the Mingles/Singles Championships at the Betmar Club on May 15. Jerry Branham won the Amateur Division with a 7-1 record and Chuck Moulton won the Pro Division with the same record. Both had to pull out close games with weaker partners, which are the true measure of a champion.







Jerry Branham

Ball Wins ZSC Mingles/Singles Championship

The Zephyrhills Shuffleboard Club hosted the Mingles/Singles Tournament on May 7 and Earl Ball (BSC) swept the field by winning all six games and outpointing the other two that won all of their games.

Summer Shuffleboard Tournaments Underway

Zephyrhills Shuffleboard Summer Tournaments are off to a great start as Betmar hosted the kickoff tournament April 23 with 75 players competing from all around the state. The local talent showed through with Walt Shine (BSC) winning the Pro Division with a perfect 8-0 record - quite a feat considering he did it with eight different partners on eight different courts. Shine is one of the areas great pros who has been recovering from several surgeries in recent years. Sharon Henderson (ZSC) won the amateur championship with a 6-2 record. She had a very successful winter season and it looks like she is going to continue that success through the summer.



Walt Shine Sharon Henderson



Thomas Promise Receives Helping Hands



Students from Wiregrass Elementary School recently visited The Thomas Promise Foundation in Zephyrhills for a field trip, split into two days. Between both days, the students helped pack 1,000 bags with meals for needy Pasco County students.

Photo Provided

**P

Mobile Vet Center, Homeless Outreach Available May 24

The Pasco Mobile Vet Center (MVC) and Pasco CareerSource will be onsite at 6038 Gall Blvd. in Zephyrhills. Homeless outreach personnel, readjustment counseling services and CareerSource will be providing services to Veterans in Zephyrhills and the surrounding area. Services will be available from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Services provided include counseling for homelessness, career possibilities, VA enrollment, post-traumatic stress disorder, military sexual trauma, bereavement counseling, marriage and family counseling, and resources like VA benefits information and suicide prevention referrals. All services onboard the MVC are confidential and provided at no cost to the Veteran and family members.

Veterans and family members interested in learning more about services provided by the Vet Center are encouraged to attend the event or contact AJ Jones, Readjustment Counseling Tech at (727) 372-1854 for information.

ZHS Art Show Delivers Multiple Forms

by Keri McAlpine

At the end of each school year, Zephyrhills High School art teachers host a show for their students to display and show off their art.

Three-dimensional art teacher Cat Burgess said there were about 300 students who participated in this year's show, held the evening of May 5 in the commons area of the school.

"It was fabulous. It was well attended and everyone enjoyed themselves," Burgess said.

Burgess and two-dimensional art teacher Melissa Ponella assisted the setup but allowed the Advanced Placement art students to curate the show. The school chorus, under the direction of Louise Gore, performed while guests mingled and viewed the different art pieces. Works were comprised of various levels of skill from beginners to third year students. Mediums included paintings, drawings, ceramics, sculpture, digital art and photography.

"Art is a nonverbal form of communication and if nobody looks at it then you're not completing the big circle of art life," Burgess said. "I think it's equally important for our community because Zephyrhills is a little isolated sometimes and it's good for the kids to get an experience at the cultural level."

Although selling art was not the purpose of the show, students were able to sell some of their artwork to interested buyers if that was their goal.



The art students and teachers of Zephyrhills High School responsible for this year's successful student art show held at the school on May 5.

Photo Provided

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Church News

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

Our teen ministry (TRUTH Ministries) is held on Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m. with director Jason Hicks and youth leaders Barbara Hicks and Kaylee Hickey. Bus transportation is available.

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

The Sunday services are: Sunday school for all ages, 9:30 a.m.; worship service, 10:45 a.m.; evening service, 6 p.m.; and Wednesday mid-week service, 6:30 p.m. Children's activities and choir practice are at 6 p.m. Call the church at (813) 782-5574. First Baptist Church is located at 38231 Fifth Ave. in Zephyrhills.

Trinity Church of Wesley Chapel – Sunday school is at 9 a.m. Traditional service is held at 8:30 a.m. and a contemporary service at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday. Family night is every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. There is a monthly Fish Fry on the last Friday of every month from 4-7 p.m. The price is \$7 for fish, two sides, dessert and a drink. The church is located at 33425 S.R. 54 in Wesley Chapel. Call (813) 788-2898 for information.

Heart of Worship – Heart of Worship is a family friendly non-denominational church located at 10628 U.S. 301 (at the Market Hill Shopping Center) between Zephyrhills and Dade City. Pastor Tony Disano is committed to his faith in God and preaching the Bible.

Sunday service is at 11 a.m. You are welcome to come early for a cup of coffee and a bite to eat. Bible study class is at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. We have a praise team and great music. Family fun night is the last Sunday of the month

with activities for children and adults. There are graded school rooms for the children and teens as well as a nursery. All are welcome to attend. Visit www. thehowchurch.org for information.

Zephyrhills First Church of the Nazarene – Men's breakfast is held on the first Saturday of each month at 8 a.m. in the Errickson Auditorium. Church bowling is held the second Saturday of every month at 2 p.m. at Pin Chasers.

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

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

Christway Baptist Church – Come visit our new church located at 38543 Fourth Ave. in Zephyrhills. Sunday service times are: Sunday school at 10 a.m.; morning service at 11 a.m. and evening service at 5:30 p.m. There is also a mid-week Bible study on Wednesday at 7 p.m. Call (813) 838-0086 or visit christwaybaptistchurch. com for information.

Cornerstone Community Church – Service times are Sunday school at 9 a.m.; Sunday worship at 10 a.m.; children's church at 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m.; and Saturday Night Life at 6 p.m.

Worship with us at 8527 Old Lakeland Hwy. in Zephyrhills. Call Pastor John Faughnan at (352) 567-6494 or visit www. mycornerstonecc.com for information.

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

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

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

The Men's Breakfast is held in the education building at 8 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month.

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

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

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

Wesley Chapel Church of the Nazarene

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

Everyone is welcome and invited to attend any or all of our services. The church is located at 34106 State Road 54

Email Church News to church@pasconewspubs.com

West and you may call (813) 780-7600 for more information.

Faith Baptist Church – Sunday morning worship service is held at 10:15 a.m. The church is located at 38634 C.R. 54 in Zephyrhills. Faith Baptist Church has been loving the Zephyrhills community for 44 years, providing answers for a changing world, strengthening marriages, and giving practical help in times of trouble. Check us out on the web at fbczephyrhills. org or call the church office at (813) 782-0880 for information

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

First Presbyterian Church – Located at 5510 19th St. Worship services are at 10 a.m. on Sunday. Dinner is served on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. followed by classes from 6-7 p.m. for all ages, including an adult Bible study. Choir practice begins at 7 p.m. Call (813) 782-7412 for information.

Drong Ngur Buddhist Dharma Center – Sunday meetings are open to all and are held from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Located at 30520 Lynne Drive in Wesley Chapel. Visit www.dnjus.org or call (727) 809-0867 for information.

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









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Community & Club News

Email Club News to clubs@pasconewspubs.com

Pasco County Historical Society

The next meeting will be held May 19 at 7 p.m. at the Pioneer Florida Museum & Village, located at 15602 Pioneer Museum Road. The speaker will be a Florida veteran who fought the Vietnam War with a rifle and a camera, and returned home with more than 2,500 photographs of soldiers of his company in the field, as well as civilians and landscapes. James Allen Logue presents his photos in 'Life of Infantrymen in Vietnam.' Logue served in combat in 1969 and 70, with Alpha Company 4/31st 196th LIB Americal Division, and then returned to his career as a professional photographer.

A covered-dish dinner precedes the program – bring something to share, your own cutlery kit (knife, fork, and spoon), disposable plates and your beverage of choice. Disposable serving utensils and plates are suggested unless the permanent utensils are clearly marked for identification. Historical society meetings are free and open to the public. Contact Glen Thompson at (352) 567-7449 or bookbollard@iCloud.com for information.

East Pasco Networking Group

The next EPNG meeting will feature Leja Apple, former Miss Pasco. This meeting will be held at 7:30 a.m. at The Village Inn in Zephyrhills, 5214 Gall Blvd. on May 23. Apple is a dynamic speaker who has spoken for the EPNG quite a few times over the years and is always well received. Contact Nils Lenz at (813) 782-9491 or nilslenz@gmail.com, or Vicky Jones at (813) 431-1149 or donlvicl@yahoo.com or manager@palmtreemhp.com for more information or suggested topics or speakers. If you would like to speak, contact us now as there are only a few open dates remaining.

AMVETS Post #550

Monday is Bingo from 1-4 p.m. and the kitchen is open from 12-2 p.m. Every Tuesday is Karl Sapp from 4-7 p.m. with the kitchen open from 4-6:30 p.m. Wednesday is Ship, Captain and Crew from 1-3 p.m.; the Queen of Hearts is at 5 p.m.; and Corn Toss is also on Wednesdays. Music on Thursdays from 4-7 p.m. along with a meat raffle. Friday is our famous Fish Fry from 4:30-6:30 p.m. with other menu choices available. Entertainment is from 7-10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. On Sundays join E-bowling at 1:30 p.m. AMVETS is located at 4645





Benji is a sweet middle aged man. He has been a part of our Canine Good Citizen program. He is a happy boy who loves to sit and cuddle, investigate vards and hang around. We would recommend a meet and greet or as an only pet.

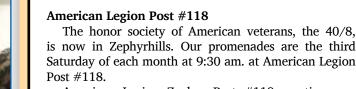




Rome is 4 months old. This little man enjoys being cuddled in his bed and carried around. He likes to chirp at other cats. With love and attention we are sure he would come out of his shell. He is already neutered, microchipped and vaccinated.

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is now in Zephyrhills. Our promenades are the third Saturday of each month at 9:30 am. at American Legion

American Legion Zephyr Post #118 meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at 5340 Eighth St., Zephyrhills, at 7 p.m. Auxiliary meets at 1 p.m. the

Airport Road in Zephyrhills. Find us on Facebook or call (813) 780-8180 for information.

Heartbeat Support Group

Florida Hospital Zephyrhills will host its monthly support group for anyone affected by cardiac disease from 3-4 p.m. on May 24 in the Education Room at the Creation Health Wellness Center, 38233 Daughtery Road. Jaime Caballero, MD, FACC, a cardiologist with Premier Heart and Vascular Center, Zephyrhills, will be present to answer questions related to heart disease as part of an open forum. No reservations are taken for this free group.

VFW #8154

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

Disabled American Veterans #65

The new Commander of DAV Post #65 wants to meet you. Dale Sloan, a 21-year veteran of the U.S. Navy served from 1971-1992 on three destroyers and three aircraft carriers. Sloan wishes to convey his gratitude for your service. Due to the condition of the present building in Zephyrhills and money constraints, the DAV will be selling the building to the City and relocationg to the American Legion Post #15 at 37745 Church Ave. in Dade City. Meetings will be held at the new location on the second Thursday of the month at 1 p.m. We have service officers from both the Legion and DAV to handle your claims and concerns on Mondays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Please join us.

Fraternal Order of Eagles Ladies Auxiliary

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

Military Order of the Purple Heart

Chapter #705 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) is calling all combat wounded veterans to join us promoting patriotism, history, fraternalism and assistance. We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at AMVETS Post #550, 4645 Airport Road, Zephyrhills. Life membership is available for all combat wounded veterans, their dependents and survivors, for \$50, payable in two convenient payments of \$25 each. Call Earl McMillan at (813) 782-3425 or email emcmillan1@verizon.net, or contact Guy Patterson at (864) 561-6644 for information.

Humana Clubs and Events

The Zephyrhills Humana neighborhood location is open to the public and offers a variety of fun and educational health/wellness, nutrition, technology, games and social events all month long at no charge. Come play Canasta on Tuesdays from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; Bridge on Thursdays from 12-3 p.m. and more. Give us a call at (813) 780-7300 for information or stop by and see us for a full calendar.

Do you enjoy group exercise or do you need to kick up a notch? BOOM MOVE IT meets every Monday from 2-2:45 p.m. at the Neighborhood Humana, located in the Zephyr Commons Shopping Center at 7920 Gall Blvd. Call (813) 780-7300 for information or visit us in person to get a copy of our full calendar of events for this month.

> The Zephyrhills Historical Association meets every for information.

first Tuesday at the Zephyrhills Public Library, 5347 Eighth Street. The business meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. followed by the program at 6 p.m. All are welcome to attend and refreshments will be served. Contact Clereen Brunty at (813) 782-8763 or clereen@tampabay.rr.com

Zephyrhills Family Moose Lodge

Mondays - Corn Hole Toss, 7 p.m. in the SQ and Spagetti/Chicken dinner from 5-7 p.m.; Tuesdays – Ship Captain Crew at 2 p.m. in the SQ, darts at 7 p.m. and taco Tuesday from 5-7 p.m.; Wednesdays – Dance on Hall Side and Karaoke with Cathy on SQ Side Wind Night from 5-7 p.m.; Thursdays - Live music in SQ from 2-5 p.m.; and burgers from 5-7 p.m.; Fridays – Fish Fry 4-7 p.m. every Friday.

third Wednesday. The club is open for Legion members,

veterans and guests at 3 p.m. Monday-Saturday and

Sunday at 1 p.m. Canadian veterans are welcome.

Membership is open to all eligible veterans. Call (813)

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

Elks Lodge #2731

782-0481 for information.

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

Zephyrhills Eagles #3752

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

Marine Corps League

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

Marine Corps League Auxiliary

Ladies Oriental Shrine Cairo Court #97

The Marine Corps League Auxiliary meets the first Saturday of each month at 11 a.m. at the Zephyrhills V.F.W. Post #8154 located at 3954 State Road 39. Call Vanice Holland at (772) 480-0658 for information.

There are 22 Shriners' Hospitals for Children in North

America. Children with scoliosis, cleft palate, burns,

spinal cord injuries, orthopedic conditions, and other

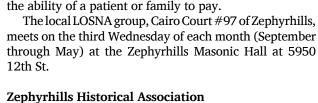
serious conditions are eligible for care. Patients are cared

for in a family-centered environment and are provided

with medical treatments, psychological support services,

transitional services and rehabilitation, regardless of race,

color, creed, gender or sect, disability, national origin, or







Obituaries

Email Obituaries to jpotter@pasconewspubs.com

Billy Beckham

BECKHAM, Billy, 64, passed away April 26, 2017. He was born Sept. 29, 1952, in Atlanta, Ga. He had been a resident of Zephyrhills for 33 years. His wife, Pamela; sons, Brian (Joan) Beckham and Andy Beckham; and the mothers of his children, Cassandra Higgins and Natasha Cochran, survive him, along with a sister, Darlene (Frank) Cooper; a brother, Leroy (Debbie) Beckham; seven grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. His parents, Leacle and Dorothy Beckham; and a sister, Laura Beckham Jackson, preceded him in death. Whitfield Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Frederick 'Fred' W. Clark

CLARK, Frederick "Fred" W., 84, of Zephyrhills, died April 28, 2017, after a two-year battle with cancer. Fred was born on Jan. 7, 1933, in Fabius, N.Y., to Walter and Pauline (Aley) Clark. He was a proud U.S. Air Force veteran, having served in the Korean War. Also, he was a truck driver and a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church where he enjoyed serving as an usher. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus and a retired Teamsters Local 317 member. Fred was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Catherine Voutinas. His wife of 57 years, Janice Clark of Zephyrhills; children, Joseph of Fabius, N.Y., David of Watkins Glen, N.Y., Paul of Mebane, N.C., Sue of Minoa, N.Y. and Tish Dobrovech of Jamesville, N.Y.; siblings, Edward Clark of Edgewater, Joyce Baine of Howell, Mich. and Gretchen Stappenback of Dewitt, N.Y.; nine grandsons; two granddaughters; three great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews survive him. Services were held May 4 at the U.S. 301 Chapel of Hodges Family Funeral Home.

Marilyn R. Loring

LORING, Marilyn R., 80, of Zephyrhills, passed away

peacefully on May 9, 2017. Marilyn was born in Bangor, Maine, on Oct. 17, 1936, to Ruel and Audrey (Peavey) Hanscom. She was a homemaker and a proud member of the Zephyrhills Moose Lodge #2276, and stayed active with the Women of the Moose Chapter #1682. Her parents and two sisters, Geraldine Graham and Phyllis Topalis,



preceded her in death. Her loving and devoted husband of 57 years, Robert C. Loring, survives. She leaves behind her two children, Karen M. Duneman (Steven) of Nixa, Mo. and Robert C. Loring Jr. of Newburyport, Mass.; two sisters, Charlotte Connelly of Tampa and Patricia Smith of Connecticut; and one grandson, Richard H. Odell of Atlantic City, N.J. Marilyn will be laid to rest at Liberty Plain Cemetery in Hingham, Mass., on May 20. Hodges Family Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Derek S. Mercer

MERCER, Derek S., 40, of Zephyrhills, passed on May 12, 2017. He was born on Oct. 19, 1976. A memorial service will be held on May 20 at 4 p.m. at Hodges Family Funeral Home's U.S. 301 Chapel in Dade City. The family will receive visitors an hour prior, from 3-4 p.m. A celebration of life, with refreshments, will be held at the Mercer residence, 39006 Pattie Road, immediately following the service.

Cheryl Perkins

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Zephyrhills, FL 33541 813-486-3160

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PERKINS, Cheryl, 75, died April 24, 2017. Her husband, Lewis R. Perkins, survives her along with her children, Douglas, Kathlynn and Suzanne. Whitfield Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Marcus Price

IR MLS

Cheryl L. Rabb

RABB, Cheryl L., 63, died April 29, 2017. Her husband, John, and daughter, Angela, survive her. Whitfield Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Virginia Russell

RUSSELL, Virginia, 90, died April 28, 2017. Her children, Bruce, David, Susan and Scott; and stepchildren, Charlene, Ron, Larry, Brenda and Brian survive her. Whitfield Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Ruth Edna Campbell Wright Schofield

SCHOFIELD, Ruth Edna Campbell Wright, 94, of

Elkhart, Ind., passed away on May 5, 2017, at Greenleaf Health Center. Born March 11, 1923, in Buchanan, Mich., to the late Lyman and Mary Campbell, she was predeceased by her brother, Lyman Campbell; and sister, Marion Campbell Kempshall. Ruth was married to Jack Wright of South Bend, Ind., until his death in



1985. She lived in Elkhart from 1941 until moving to Zephyrhills, in 1976. She met her second husband, Frances Clyde Schofield, in Zephyrhills, who passed away in 2010. Ruth was very active and a founding member and president of the Athena Club, Elkhart. After moving to Zephyrhills she became involved as a Realtor/broker for and resident of Betmar Estates. She was also an accomplished watercolor artist/mural artist, member of the Betmar Writing and Poetry Club, and member of the Betmar Thespians Club as the set artist. Ruth and her cherished husband, Clyde, were avid world travelers and enjoyed sharing many traveling experiences together. Her daughter, Gail Wright (Gary) Olinger of Bristol, Ind., her sons, Dan E. (Lynn) Wright of Greensboro, N.C. and L. Paul (Traci) Wright of Brandon survive her along with five grand children and step grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren and step great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren. Ruth is also survived by her beloved niece, Jean Kempshall (Shahid) Aziz of Columbia, Md. Our family is especially thankful for the fine folks, past and present, at Greenleaf Health Center and Heartland Hospice for providing exceptional, loving care for Ruth. Ruth is dearly loved by her family and will be greatly missed. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Heartland Hospice, 230 West Catalpa, Mishawaka, IN 46645.Arrangements for burial are being made by Billings Funeral Home, 812 Baldwin Street, Elkhart, Condolences may be sent to www. billingsfuneralhome.com.

Lowell Steve

STEVE, Lowell, 89, died April 28, 2017. His sons, Gary and Mark; and grandchildren, Jessie, Lindsey, Carley, Leanna and Lauren survive him. Whitfield Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Noelle Wilson Straw

STRAW, Noelle Wilson, was found deceased on March

30, 2017. A Celebration of Life service will be held on May 22, 2017. There will be a time to meet the family at 10 a.m. with the service commencing at 11 a.m. The service will be held at Exciting Idlewild Baptist in Hall 1 (18333 Exciting Idlewild Blvd., Lutz, FL. 33548). The family would like to give a special thank you to Pastor







Greg Murphy and Pastor Jimmy Moore along with the staff at Exciting Idlewild for the assistance provided to the family. Instead of flowers, the family has requested that memorials be directed to Exciting Idlewild Baptist Church, to the benevolence for the widow's fund; 18333 Exciting Idlewild Blvd., Lutz, FL. 33548. Hodges Funeral Home in Zephyrhills has assisted with the burial arrangements. Noelle is placed to rest at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, with her beloved Glenndale Straw.

Frank Tanner

TANNER, Frank, 85, passed away April 28, 2017. His loving family survives him. Whitfield Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Don Wheeler

WHEELER, Don, 72, a resident of Zephyrhills since

1986, passed away on May 11, 2017, at his residence. Don was born in Springfield, Tenn., on March 7, 1945, the son of Clem and Mamie (Rager) Wheeler. His parents, his brother, Larry D. Wheeler, and his sister, Mary Wheeler Burton, preceded him in death. His wife of 30 years, Patricia A. Pruitt Wheeler, survives him along



with his children, Troy (Cathy) Wheeler of Zephyrhills) Tisha Wheeler-Harty of Pontiac, Ill., Tanya (Darrell) Wheeler-Bell of Chatsworth, Ill., Tad Wheeler of Thonotosassa, Donnie Wheeler of Springfield Tenn. and Becky Wheeler of Springfield Tenn.; his sister- in- law, Rita Nasser of Lutz; and his beloved dogs, Princess and Dutches. Don enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, Trey Houser and Thomas Wheeler of Florida, Taylor Harty of Illinois, Megan Wheeler and Laila Wheeler of Florida, Thalen Harty of Illinois, Megan Wheeler, DJ Wheeler and Anthony Green of Tennessee. Don was very proud of his two great-granddaughters, Melody and Taryn Houser of Florida. Don was owner of Zephyr Stripe 'n Seal, Inc., a parking lot maintenance company: in business since 1992, incorporated in 1995. He loved to work, for him working was his vacation. He loved people; all of his customers, to him were his friends. Don loved all animals, most particularly dogs; and they loved him too. Don enjoyed the outdoors and taking care of his lawn and gardens. Don was a collector of antique tractors and enjoyed all farming machinery. Memorial services were held at Hodges Family Funeral Home in Zephyrhills on May 15. Cremation rites were accorded and he will be laid to rest in Cedar Grove Cemetery in Elkton, Ky., with a private service with his family. Don will be greatly missed by his family and friends. Don made the world a special place for others. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in his honor to any animal care or rescue facility of the donor's choice.



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