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Council Approves Body Cams

Chief Brewer Happy For Police Force

by **Dave Walters**

If you are interacting with Zephyrhills police officers in the near future, you may want to smile, because you'll be part of body-cam footage.

Members of Zephyrhills City Council agreed Monday to add sufficient money to the police budget to purchase body cameras for members of the Zephyrhills Police Department to wear on duty.

Zephyrhills Interim Police Chief Derek Brewer presented the proposal to City Council that called for the purchase of 35 cameras for a first-year cost ranging from \$32,804 to \$44,586, depending on the quality of the equipment. He noted there would be an annual cost for video storage, maintenance and software.

Brewer said the top-of-the-line service, which is the same used by the

Cams • Continued on Page 6A

Zephyrhills FREE PRESS

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Impact Fees Rising By 92 Percent

Increase To Help School District Will Be Phased In Over Three Years

by **Joe Potter**

Pasco County Commissioners unanimously approved the first increase in school impact fees in more than a decade during their meeting Tuesday in Dade City.

But it came after a deal was struck between the Pasco school district and the Tampa Bay Builder's Association, a

compromise that didn't please everybody.

Initially, the ordinance commissioners were scheduled to vote on last month would have granted the school district up to a 100 percent increase they had requested. That ordinance also would have required tiered impact fees to be charged for different types of single-family housing.

But the school district and builders agreed on a plan of lowering the amount of increase to 92 percent, and eliminating the single-family housing tiered approach.

Effective Jan. 1, 2018, the fee on a new house will be \$7,128, instead of the \$9,028 the school board had originally requested in early July. The fee for a new

Fees • Continued on Page 4A



Stylist Julia Richards sculpts a classic look for a youngster during Sunday's promotional event downtown.

First Day Of School Deserves Fresh Look

4/One Gentlemen's Quarters Gives Back With Free Haircuts

Story and photos by **Emily Kochanski**

For many kids a new school year means a fresh start and sometimes there's no better way than to create a new look.

The 4/One Gentlemen's Quarters made sure that Zephyrhills kids were feeling back-to-school ready by providing 147 free haircuts for last Sunday.

Since opening nearly six months ago, the unique Fifth Avenue barbershop has steadily attracted more customers. The free haircut event was a way for owners Rodney Walker and Julia Richards to thank local residents for their patronage.

School • Continued on Page 6A

Swinging It For Sumner

Annual Golf Tournament Benefits Pioneer Museum

by **Keri McAlpine**

The second annual Robert D. Sumner Memorial Golf Tournament is getting ready to tee off.

Funds raised from the tournament will go toward the daily operating costs of the Florida Pioneer Museum & Village in Dade City, according to event coordinator Brenda Minton.

Named after a long-time museum trustee and past president, the tournament honors the memory of Sumner, who passed in May 2011 at the age of 76.

"He was an avid golfer. He wasn't very good, but he loved it," joked Robert's son, Keith Sumner. "We did really well



Robert Sumner, bottom left, with fellow first National Bank of Pasco board members in 2009, the year Sumner became the bank's president and CEO.

Photo Provided

last year. Hopefully this year will be even better and we can keep it going year after year. It's a nice thing for the ladies and gentlemen that knew him."

The nonprofit educational museum runs solely on fundraisers and from hosting events, and the golf tournament will launch their busy fall season.

The Sept. 16 tournament welcomes golfers, in teams of four, for a scramble tournament complete with lunch, cart and optional prize packs. The cost to

register for the tournament is \$50. Last year's inaugural event raised about \$8,000, after expenses.

The Sumner name is one recognized not only in Dade City, but also throughout the county, thanks to five generations of history in Pasco. One of the family's ancestors settled in Dade City in 1865 following the Civil War.

In addition to old roots in east Pasco,

Sumner • Continued on Page 7A

INSIDE:	Pg. 3A - Needy Youngsters To Get School Supplies	Pg. 9A - Leadership Event To Aid Seniors	Pg. 1B - Therapist Provides Clues To Concussions
	Pg. 8A - No End To Hungry Children	Pg. 1B - ZAL Football Kicks Off	Pg. 4B - Karina's Garden Brought To Life



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Zephyrhills Arrests

Faulty Headlight Leads To Drug Arrest

Markus Cody Rutland, 21, of 7724 Shannon Lane, was arrested by Zephyrhills police on Aug. 7 on charges of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, felony violation of probation – grand theft and unauthorized possession of driver’s license/identification. Police stopped a pickup truck Rutland was driving at 6:03 a.m. for an equipment violation – inoperable passenger side headlight. A records check indicated Rutland’s driver’s license had been suspended on July 20, 2016, for failure to pay a traffic fine. Also, it was determined Rutland was on felony probation for grand theft until July 31, 2020, with special conditions. A search of the vehicle resulted in the discovery of seven yellow pills identified as Alprazolam through drugs.com. The pills were in a backpack. Rutland reportedly told police the backpack was his but he believed the pills were Xanax and they did not belong to him. While he was being processed at the Zephyrhills Police Department, Rutland was reportedly found to be in possession of a Florida driver’s license that did not belong to him. Rutland reportedly told police he had found the driver’s license on the ground several days prior to his encounter with law enforcement. Rutland was booked into the Pasco County Jail.



ner. Written statements were provided by people who witnessed the alleged offense. Sheldon was also reportedly observed on surveillance video and was identified as currently residing at the Magnuson Hotel. Post Miranda, Sheldon reportedly said, “It’s not against the law to brush up against someone.” He was booked into the Pasco County Jail.

Nichole Kay Mangold, 38, of 5211 First St., was arrested by Zephyrhills police on July 24 on a charge of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription. Police responded to 5211 First Street at 10:28 p.m. regarding a disturbance. The reporting party asked police to enter the residence to get her cousin to leave. After the cousin had exited the residence, Mangold told police the cousin had stolen some of her Xanax pills. She reportedly gave police permission to search the living room, including her own bags and purse, for methamphetamine allegedly hidden there by her cousin. During the search, seven morphine pills were located in a gym bag that Mangold reportedly admitted belonged to her. Post Miranda, Mangold said a relative was in the hospital and another person had asked her to hold the relative’s medications. Mangold was booked into the Pasco County Jail.



methamphetamine. Bullins was stopped while riding a bicycle at 6:13 a.m. at Fourth Street and Ninth Avenue. A syringe was observed sticking out of her bra. The syringe field-tested positive for methamphetamine. Bullins was booked into the Pasco County Jail.

Toni Nicole Hernandez, 31, of 18251 Bruce Road, Dade City, was arrested by Zephyrhills police on July 25 at Amscot, 7707 Gall Blvd., and charged with uttering a forged check. Hernandez allegedly attempted to pass a check at Amscot. An Amscot employee called the victim for verification and the victim reportedly said Hernandez had no authorization to cash the check. Post Miranda, Hernandez reportedly admitted having signed the check and not receiving permission from the victim or any other person to cash the check. The victim reportedly told police she knows Hernandez and that Hernandez had likely got the check when she had been inside the victim’s house. Hernandez was booked into the Pasco County Jail.



Troy Dakota Cochran, 26, of 38705 Rose Lane, was arrested by Zephyrhills police on July 28 on a charge of disorderly conduct, resisting an officer without violence, and criminal mischief – \$200 or less. Police responded to Rose Lane regarding a report of a person yelling and destroying his property in his front yard late at night. Cochran was reportedly given an order to cease and desist his actions and Cochran said he was done for the night. Police received a second complaint at 11:45 p.m. about Cochran allegedly knocking on a neighbor’s car and screaming out her name, which caused her and other neighbors to exit their residences, disturbing the peace and quiet of the neighborhood. Cochran had fled the scene prior to the arrival of law enforcement. Cochran could reportedly be clearly heard yelling and screaming throughout the neighborhood and was located after a brief chase by other responding units. He was booked into the Pasco County Jail.



Noah Eugene Norman, 37, of 4542 Lane Road, was arrested by Zephyrhills police on July 24 on charges of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription and violation of probation – possession of methamphetamine. Police responded to 5211 First Street at 10:28 p.m. regarding a disturbance. Norman was reportedly observed standing by a coffee table inside the residence. A baggie containing one Alprazolam 1 mg pill was observed in plain view on the coffee table. The reporting party told police Norman had brought the pill with him to the residence. A records check disclosed Norman was on probation and had a 10 p.m. curfew. Post Miranda, Norman said the reporting party was setting him up and that he did not think he was in violation of his probation as long as he was inside and not on the streets. Norman was booked into the Pasco County Jail.



Kaylee Elaine Ryan, 19, of 5636 Fifth St., was arrested by Zephyrhills police on July 28 on a charge of domestic battery. Ryan reportedly told police she had been involved in a physical altercation with her boyfriend (victim) inside the residence. Ryan allegedly kicked down a bathroom door and struck the victim in the face and head. The victim reportedly told police Ryan kicked down the door and struck him, causing him to have lacerations to his head and face. Ryan and the victim have reportedly lived together for the past two years. Post Miranda, Ryan said she struck the victim in a jealous rage. She was booked into the Pasco County Jail.

Patricia Nicole Bullins, 26, of 6925 Sylvan Lane, was arrested by Zephyrhills police on July 30 on charges of possession of paraphernalia, violation of probation – possession of methamphetamine with a consent to search clause expiring Dec. 19, 2018, and possession of

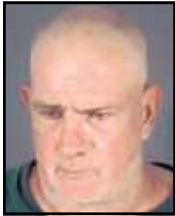


Benjamin Joseph Browne, 21, of Wesley Chapel, was arrested by Zephyrhills police on July 26 on a charge of retail grand theft. Brown allegedly took 10 Pokemon cards from Walmart, 7631 Gall Blvd., on July 14 and attempted to leave the store without paying for the items valued at \$399.80. He abandoned the items when he was stopped by a loss prevention employee and reportedly left the store via another exit. Brown was identified by Plant City Walmart on July 25 for the alleged theft of Pokemon cards valued at \$249. Brown was booked into the Pasco County Jail.



Scott Robert Gilbreth, 56, of 38621 Fir Ave., was arrested by Zephyrhills police on July 29 on a charge of trespass after warning. Police were dispatched to Domino’s Pizza, 5050 Gall Blvd., regarding an unwanted guest. Gilbreth had previously been issued a trespass warning from the business on June 16. Post Miranda, Gilbreth said he only went to Domino’s to order a pizza. He was booked into the Pasco County Jail.

Johnny Ray Kenner, 45, of 5215 18th St., was apprehended by Zephyrhills police on July 20 on a Pasco County warrant charging him with grand theft – more than \$5,000 but less than \$10,000; and contracting license – first violation. He was booked into the Pasco County Jail upon confirmation of the warrants.



Sammy Ezra Ladd, 51, of 3627 Morris Bridge Road, was arrested by Zephyrhills police on July 27 on a charge of petit retail theft. The theft reportedly occurred on Jan. 7 and police were notified of it by Walmart, 7631 Gall Blvd., on Jan. 20. Ladd was reportedly viewed on store surveillance video entering the store on Jan. 7 and selecting two items, valued at \$35.23. He then allegedly took the items to customer service and returned the items without a receipt and received a cash refund for them. Ladd was booked into the Pasco County Jail.



Shmeka Shonta Wilson, 39, of 38552 Ninth Ave., was apprehended by Zephyrhills police on July 29 on a Pasco County warrant charging her with failure to appear – expired driver’s license over six months. She was booked into the Pasco County Jail upon confirmation of the warrant.

The information provided in the Zephyrhills Police report is taken from public record. All parties are considered innocent until proven guilty.

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27 YEARS IN THE SAME LOCATION

Needy Youngsters Get School Supplies

Rotary Clubs Donate Backpacks To Sunrise Of Pasco

Story and photos by **Keri McAlpine**

Zephyrhills Daybreak and the Dade City Noon Rotary clubs came together for a backpack collection, which ended Aug. 7. After weeks of collecting backpacks and supplies to stuff them with, the backpacks were brought to Sunrise of Pasco County Domestic and Sexual Violence Center.

A total of 30 backpacks were filled, and some additional supplies were also provided that could not fit into the packs. The materials were distributed to children in Sunrise’s shelter and outreach programs, just in time for the first day of school.

“We appreciate Rotary going out and collecting all of these things together for us. It definitely makes a difference for the kids to have something new on their back when they go to school,” said Vicki Wiggins,



Standing, from left, with 30 backpacks recently donated to Sunrise of Pasco County are: Vicki Wiggins, director of development, Sunrise of Pasco County; Mignon Edwards, Interact sponsor and career specialist, Pasco High School; Jeannie Germain, assistant governor, Rotary Area 5; Cliff Martin, Dade City Noon Rotary; Kelly Sinn, CEO, Sunrise; Jodi Wilkeson, president, Zephyrhills Daybreak Rotary Club; and Nicole Newlon, president, Dade City Noon Rotary Club.



Zephyrhills Daybreak Rotary President Jodi Wilkeson, left, Sunrise of Pasco CEO Kelly Sinn, center, and Green Dot Coordinator Aubrey Hall haul in backpacks and school supplies donated by Zephyrhills and Dade City Rotary clubs.

director of development for Sunrise.

This is the first time the two clubs have participated in a backpack drive, but not the first time they have pitched in together for Sunrise. Two years ago, the clubs worked to renovate Sunrise’s Smith Road volunteer center and conference room in Dade City.

A recent conversation between Sunrise CEO Kelly Sinn and Nicole Newlon, president of the Dade City club, clued the clubs in to just how they could help the nonprofit.

“We stepped up like we always do and it was a great interactive experience for us and we’re very happy with the turnout,” said Zephyrhills Daybreak Rotary President Jodi Wilkeson. “If one child can go to school feeling great about what’s in their backpack and they’re ready to learn that day then it made a difference.”

In addition to the clubs’ participation, Pasco High School’s Interact Club and the Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce stepped in to help.

The Chamber donated some supplies, and Interact club members volunteered to sort and bag the supplies.

“They’re (backpack recipients) just going to be so proud to have that new stuff on them. It’s going to be really awesome,” Wiggins said.



Jeannie Germain, assistant governor, Rotary Area 5, left, and Nicole Newlon, president of the Dade City Noon Rotary Club, deliver backpacks filled with school supplies to Sunrise of Pasco County.

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East Pasco Events

Aug. 17 – Stress: the Underestimated Assassin – Definitely a silent killer. This session will talk about how stress impacts our body and techniques for minimizing it. Held from 1-2 p.m. at Florida Hospital Zephyrhills’ Creation Health Wellness Center, 38233 Daughtery Road. Call (813) 779-6476 for information and required reservation.

Aug. 19 – Thumbprint Art Workshop – Held at Life’s Treasures Thrift Store, 4910 S. Allen Road, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Designed for kids (and adults, too), the workshop shows children how to use their thumb to create unique art creations using an ink pad, paper and add “equal parts imagination, doodles and dots”. Life’s Treasures will supply everything free for the workshop. Space is limited and registration is required. Contact Life’s Treasures at (813) 355-4830 for information.

Aug. 19 – Childbirth Education Class – The Baby Place at Florida Hospital Zephyrhills, 7050 Gall Blvd., is offering a childbirth education class from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Florida Hospital Zephyrhills’ Magnolia Room off the main lobby, 7050 Gall Blvd. The class provides those who are expecting a baby with information about pregnancy, labor, natural childbirth, Cesarean sections, pain intervention, epidurals and relaxation techniques. Postpartum and newborn care area also covered.

Aug. 25 – Movie Mania: “Miracles from Heaven” – A 2016 Christian drama recounts the true story of a girl who had a near death experience and was later cured of an incurable disease. Healthy popcorn provided for a small donation. Held from 1-3 p.m. at Florida Hospital Zephyrhills’ Creation Health Wellness Center, 38233 Daughtery Road. Call (813) 779-6476 for information and required reservation.

Aug. 26 – Saturday in the Square – Main Street Zephyrhills presents a downtown event from 5-8 p.m. Live music will be performed by The Time Travelers. Enjoy local craft food and beverages and sidewalk sales up and down Fifth Avenue. Free parking and no street closures. Come meet local Main Street business members. Call (813) 780-1414 for information.

Aug. 29 – Big Brother Big Sister Orientation – Have you ever thought about becoming a Big Brother or Big Sister? You can help change the lives of children facing adversity for the better, forever. The first step is to attend a Big orientation and training session, which will be held at Wesley Chapel Honda, 27750 Wesley Chapel Blvd. from 5:30-7 p.m. No RSVP required. Contact Deb Kristol-Irwin at DebK@bbbstampabay.org or (813) 997-6881 or visit bbbstampabay.org for information.

Sept. 7 – Lions Club Sight Program – The Zephyrhills Lions Club, located at 5827 Dean Dairy Road, will be accepting applications for its Sight Program from 9-11:30 a.m. Applicants must bring required documents, which can be found on www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/zephyrhills. The program is open to all Pasco County residents in need of basic eye care. Contact the clubhouse at (813) 788-1441 for information.

Sept. 9 – Plants for Winter Color – Winter can have color. Come to this seminar and learn how to select plants that will add sparkle and splash to your yard. Held from 10-11 a.m. at the Zephyrhills Library, 5347 Eighth St. Hosted by University of Florida/IFAS Pasco County Extension Service. Call (352) 518-0156 for information.

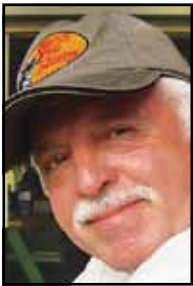
Sept. 20 – Free Small Business Seminar – Learn how to start a new business successfully. We will discuss the idea, testing the idea and protecting the idea. We will review key issues for starting a business: finding good people, structuring the business, understanding cash flow, finding the money and the business plan. Held from 1-3 p.m. at SMARTStart Dade City Entrepreneur Center, 37837 Meridian Ave., #309. Visit pascohernando.score.org to register.

Sept. 26 – Big Brother Big Sister Orientation – Have you ever thought about becoming a Big Brother or Big Sister? You can help change the lives of children facing adversity for the better, forever. The first step is to attend a Big orientation and training session, which will be held at Wesley Chapel Honda, 27750 Wesley Chapel Blvd. from 5:30-7 p.m. No RSVP required. Contact Deb Kristol-Irwin at DebK@bbbstampabay.org or (813) 997-6881 or visit bbbstampabay.org for information.

Oct. 14 – Dentistry from the Heart – Free dental care will be provided at at Premier Community Healthcare, 37944 Pasco Ave. in Dade City from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. No appointments necessary. This event is first come, first served. Community members 18 and older without access to dental care may choose one of the following: one filling, one extraction or cleaning services. First 100 patients guaranteed to be seen. Call (813) 971-1688 for information.

For more events visit www.pasconewspubs.com

Commentary



First Things First

Greg First

Cuteness Rules On Facebook

Last week my wife Jenny took an early morning stroll around the Ellie Shiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park. If you have never been there before it is a little more than an hour north of here just off of U.S. 19, also called Suncoast Boulevard. The best time to visit is in the morning. It is much cooler and the animals are more animated before the hot summer sun starts to take its toll on man and beast. A trip to the park would be an awesome one-tank trip. You can see manatees every single day of the year. They actually have an underwater observatory where you can see them up close and personal. A few of the manatees are now residents because, for one reason or another, they spend the entire year in the 72-degree water of the crystal clear spring. About the time of year when the winter residents return to Florida the West Indian Manatees make their trip back to the warmth of the springs to escape the cold waters of the north during winter. They are a sight to behold.

Years ago Jenny and I joined the Friends of the Homosassa Springs Wildlife Park. The organization is a not-for-profit group that provides financial support, volunteers

and programs that will benefit the park and its visitors. The group goes above and beyond what the park gets in funding and has provided many enhancements that would not have happened if not for the Friends. One of the benefits of supporting this organization, in addition to helping support the above mentioned causes, is you receive a Friends membership punched card which allows the cardholder and one guest 12 visits to the park during the year starting the month of your membership. You can use the card any day of the year.

Anyway, while Jenny was in the park last week she took about a 30-second video of a manatee getting what looked like a bath by park staff. I understand they were also doing a visual exam from nose to tail. When Jenny got back home she showed me the video and I thought it was awesome and put it on my Facebook page with the title “Homosassa, Gotta Love It,” and couldn’t believe what happened soon after. In a little less than a week the video got more than 550 likes on my page, nearly 1,850 shares and more than 75,000 views, which reached more than 166,000 people. Oh, my page also picked up more than 350 new followers in less than a week. Normally we get a few dozen a week.

Wow, the power of social media.

Again, it was a video we thought was pretty cute. Apparently so did thousands of others. Who would have ever guessed? You just never know who will like something that is posted. But I was also reminded that if you put something up you will be ashamed of later you better think twice before you post it or you will suffer the consequences. Many have lost their jobs or didn’t get the dream job they wanted because of a stupid post. You have always heard, “Think before you speak.” This also applies to the internet: “Think before you post.”

Fees • Continued from Page 1A

house will be \$7,728 in 2019 and \$8,328 in 2020.

The ordinance also said the fee assessed for multi-family (apartments, etc.) would be \$4,182 per dwelling unit for 2018; \$4,533 for 2019; and \$4,884 for 2020.

The ordinance commissioners adopted Tuesday also stipulates that no additional school impact fee increases would occur within five years, unless the amount of development in the county requires further study.

School Superintendent Kurt Browning said in July he was pleased with the increase the commissioners were considering.

“We wish we could have gotten more but it is a compromise. We are able to meet the needs of our students while addressing the concerns of the builders.”

Estimates of how many multi-family units will be built in the Pasco is, of course, unknown at this time but the district just opened four new schools to deal with the population surge and more development is planned.

“This doesn’t solve all of our future needs but it will have a positive impact on meeting the rampant growth in Pasco County,” School Board Chairman Alan Altman said regarding the compromise.

Assistant School Superintendent Ray Gadd told commissioners in July the proposed 92 percent increase would provide enough money for the district to build four new schools in Trinity and Wesley Chapel where significant development is occurring. He said the original increase the district had sought would likely have funded five schools.

Enrollment countywide grew by about 1,200 students when school started on Monday.

Pasco News Publications

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Commentary



The Rest Of The Story

Dave Walters

New School Year Always Starts With Anxiety

I have watched both of my daughters and my son get their kids ready for that first day of school.

My kids, like every other parent, have a lot on their plate – mortgage payments, jobs, paying bills and raising my grandkids, just to name a few.

As the new school year wraps up its first week here in Pasco County, they face additional stress when it comes to paying for back-to-school supplies, clothes and fees.

Many parents out there in east Pasco may also be worried about their children starting a new school, changing school districts, facing a more rigorous academic year or dealing with difficult social situations.

There is that fear of the unknown for parents and students. What you don't know about classmates, teachers, the school building (my granddaughter got lost twice at Zephyrhills High School on Monday) is the most stressful.

Standing around Monday and watching kids hop on the school bus or watching parents wave goodbye was

stressful for me as an adult.

The end of summer and the beginning of a new school year was stressful for me as a kid. That Sunday before the first day of school was the worst day. That was the last day of freedom. As the day faded away to evening, the dread grew and when my parents said that it was bedtime at 9 p.m., I knew that was it. I was about to lie in bed staring at the ceiling wishing I had just one more day of summer.

The next day, I was sitting at a desk in homeroom waiting for my name to be called.

My kids went through it and now my grandkids face it.

I have to praise my children for their involvement in their kids' schoolwork. My wife and I were involved in their academic careers and thankfully they realized the importance to be there for their kids.

My kids and their spouses manage work and manage the household without overlooking their children's feelings of nervousness or anxiety as school started. My grandkids were ready.

I think my kids had more anxiety wondering if they adequately prepared their children and bought the right supplies.

The bottom line is another school year has begun. Parents went into the drop-off line ready to cling to their children and not let go. Once the hugs and sobbing were over, reality set in and a sense of relief filled them.

Yes, your children are back in school for another academic year. Whether it's the first day of Kindergarten or your child's last first day of school, you can breathe easy.

You did it and they will do the rest.

Blessing Of The Backpacks



Florida Hospital Zephyrhills staff, under the leadership of CEO Randy Surber, center, donated 130 backpacks filled with school supplies and stacks of extra school materials to children and teens through the Samaritan Project of Zephyrhills on Aug. 8. The annual Blessing of the Backpacks, a FHZ tradition, took place in the hospital's chapel with a prayer given by FHZ senior pastor and Samaritan Project Board Member Doug Higgins. Nick DeFord, second from left, pastor for First Church of the Nazarene in Zephyrhills and the Samaritan Project's executive director, then took the backpacks to the church for distribution. Also in the photo are Deford's wife, Amie, third from left, and FHZ staff who helped promote the backpack drive.

Photo Provided

Pet Adopt-A-Thon Set For Saturday

The Pasco County Animal Services Department shelter is filled with adoptable cats and dogs as summer months bring in more strays than average. PCAS is joining NBC, Telemundo and nearly 700 shelters across the country for a nationwide pet adopt-a-thon. This major event will take place on Aug. 19 from noon-6:30 p.m. at 19640 Dogpatch Lane in Land O' Lakes. All of the pets will leave the shelter spayed, neutered, microchipped and vetted. During this special event, PCAS is waiving all adoption fees. Also ask about PCAS' special training offer for only \$75 for six weeks.

PCAS is open Tuesday through Saturday from noon-6:30 p.m. Visit www.pascocountyfl.net/PAS for information, including volunteer opportunities.

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Jassmine Wilkins



Randy Light

New Slate Of Leaders Join Chamber Board

by Joe Potter

There will be three new faces on the board of directors of the Greater Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce when the board is installed in September.

They are Kathy Britton, Randy Light and Jasmine Wilkins, and will serve three-year terms. There are 11 board members.

Britton is a Realtor with Berkshire Home Services/Florida Property Group, and she just joined GZCC after serving as a member of the Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce’s board for several years, including a stint as its president.

“I don’t know why but I was asked to let my name be placed on the ballot for director,” Britton said. “I was honored to be on the ballot.”

Britton noted her work as a Realtor is mainly in the Zephyrhills market and she knows most of the people on the local Chamber’s board.

The Dade City native and her husband, Dave, have been married for 38 years.

Light owns Light Insurance and has been a Chamber member for four years. He sells medical insurance.

“It’s an honor. It’s very important,” Light said regarding being a member of the Chamber’s board. “It’s not something that you take lightly.”

He sold durable medical equipment

in Ohio for more than 30 years before moving to Zephyrhills five years ago to be closer to his family.

Light is a Chamber Ambassador and is also involved with Elks Lodge #2731. He coached wrestling at Zephyrhills High School for three years and is currently president of ZHS Booster Club.

He has been married for 34 years and has two adult sons.

Wilkins also recently joined the Chamber. She is Vice President Area Manager for San Antonio Citizens Federal Credit Union, where she has worked for five years.

“I greatly appreciate the opportunity to contribute and to serve the community in a different way than I have been doing so far. It is exciting,” Wilkins said, regarding her election to the board.

“I know a lot of people at the Chamber and we do a lot of events together,” Wilkins said. She was referring to ways in which the credit union is involved in the community.

They will be installed during the Chamber’s Annual Member Appreciation and Awards Banquet to be held Sept. 28 at St. Joseph Parish Hall. Tickets for the banquet may be purchased through Sept. 15.

Contact the Chamber office at (813) 782-1913, or visit www.zephyrhillschamber.org for more information.



A pair of young customers pass the time with a game of chess until it was time for their free back-to-school haircut at 4/One Gentlemen’s Quarters.

School • Continued from Page 1A

“The people that have been coming in and helping us as we are opening and growing ... we wanted to give something to them in return,” said Walker.

Though the shop primarily caters to men, the quality of its services has become quite popular with local women as well. Alexis Humphries, a Zephyrhills resident, and her family are frequent customers. She couldn’t

think of a better place to bring her boys for a new back-to-school look.

“I’ve been here before. 4/One is just such a nice place,” Humphries said. “This event is just such a great thing that they are doing for the community. And they do great work here.”

Sunday’s event was a roaring success and 4/One is looking forward to offering similar promotional events in the future. In the meantime, a lot of Zephyrhills children will be headed back to class sporting the latest look.

Cams • Continued from Page 1A

Pasco County Sheriff’s Department, would serve as an all-encompassing evidence management system.

Research has shown body cameras improve civilian encounters with police and ultimately reduce the use of force and reduce community complaints. The video obtained from these cameras can help paint a much clearer picture of what happened during an incident.

Council president Alan Knight has been a strong proponent of equipping officers with body cameras.

“Without a doubt, we need to buy our men good body cameras,” said Knight. “I think it would be excellent to have body cameras.”

Brewer echoed the need for the cameras on his officers.

“I am a proponent for them and I always have been,” Brewer said. “The large cost associated with it sometimes is the drawback. I can think of instances in the last two weeks that I wish we had them.”

Councilman Ken Burgess asked if there was any data available as to how officers across the country like using the cameras.

Brewer pointed out that he spoke with members of the Pasco County Sheriff’s Department and the cameras have received great reviews. It was also noted that dash cams would remain in all police vehicles.

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Updraft Winds Damage Museum Attraction

‘At Least We Can Say It Flew’

Story and photo by **Dave Walters**

U.S. Army Air Corps mechanics patched up the heralded C-53D aircraft after taking enemy fire during World War II. That same effort will take place in Zephyrhills in the near future.

The C-53D that sits outside the Zephyrhills Museum of Military History will need some patch work after was unceremoniously lifted airborne and damaged Aug. 8. That’s when updraft winds from an evening thunderstorm lifted the Skytrooper, turned it 180 degrees and dropped it back on the ground. The rear of the plane crushed part of the Zephyrhills Municipal Airport fence along South Avenue.

In the spirit of the museum, loyal volunteers removed the plane from the fence and used a chain-equipped Ford F-350 to haul it back to its original position. The tail of the WWII troop transport suffered an unknown amount of damage. As of press

time no estimates have been determined to repair the plane or the airport property.

According John Bolender, the volunteers at the museum will fix the fence and patch the tail section of the plane.

“We will do some cosmetic patches on the plane and it won’t be a big deal, because that plane is full of patches anyway,” Bolender, the museum’s director, said.

The C-53D was introduced during World War II as a troop transport developed from the DC-3 airliner. The plane at the airport arrived in Zephyrhills in 2011 and was restored by volunteers. It has been a large static display at the museum since that time.

Bolender noted that winds came through the airport from the south down the main runway and when it hit the hangars, it swept through the area where the plane sat.

“There were no marks on the ground from the pad to the fence,” Bolender said. “The winds picked it up, turned it and put



Originally restored by volunteers, the C-53D arrived in Zephyrhills in 2011 and will soon receive a facelift following its stormy, wind-induced flight when it crashed into a wire fence.

it back down.

“At least we can say it flew.”

Volunteers have kept the museum going for several years and it operates through donations from visitors and fundraisers.

“We have a great core group of volunteers,” Bolender said. “We have our Saturday guys and our guys who work on the plane. We don’t have a lot of young blood here, but they are dedicated.”

Sumner • Continued from Page 1A

the family has old roots in the United States, tracing back to the 1600s, according to Keith.

For as long as he can remember, his father, grandfather and so on have been interested in their family lineage, and Keith followed suit.

“It’s something they passed on,” said Keith, who is a current museum trustee. “I’ve always been interested in genealogy and the people who settled here.”

His father was one of the key museum board members responsible for raising the funds necessary to move the museum to its current location at 15602 Pioneer Museum Road in Dade City. It’s previous set up at the Pasco County Fairgrounds became too small for the growing collection of pioneer and old Florida memorabilia.

“He always helped out if people needed help,” Keith said.

The patriarch worked as an attorney in a private practice in Dade City for at least 25 years, before taking on the role of Pasco County Attorney.

Robert Sumner served as interim county attorney for about five years before taking on the position full time from 1999 to 2008.

“He was a very giving, loving person. He cared about his community and the county and that’s way he was so excited about being the county attorney,” Keith said.

His father played an active role in the community, fundraising for local charities and nonprofits as well as serving on local boards, including at the First National Bank of Pasco, where he



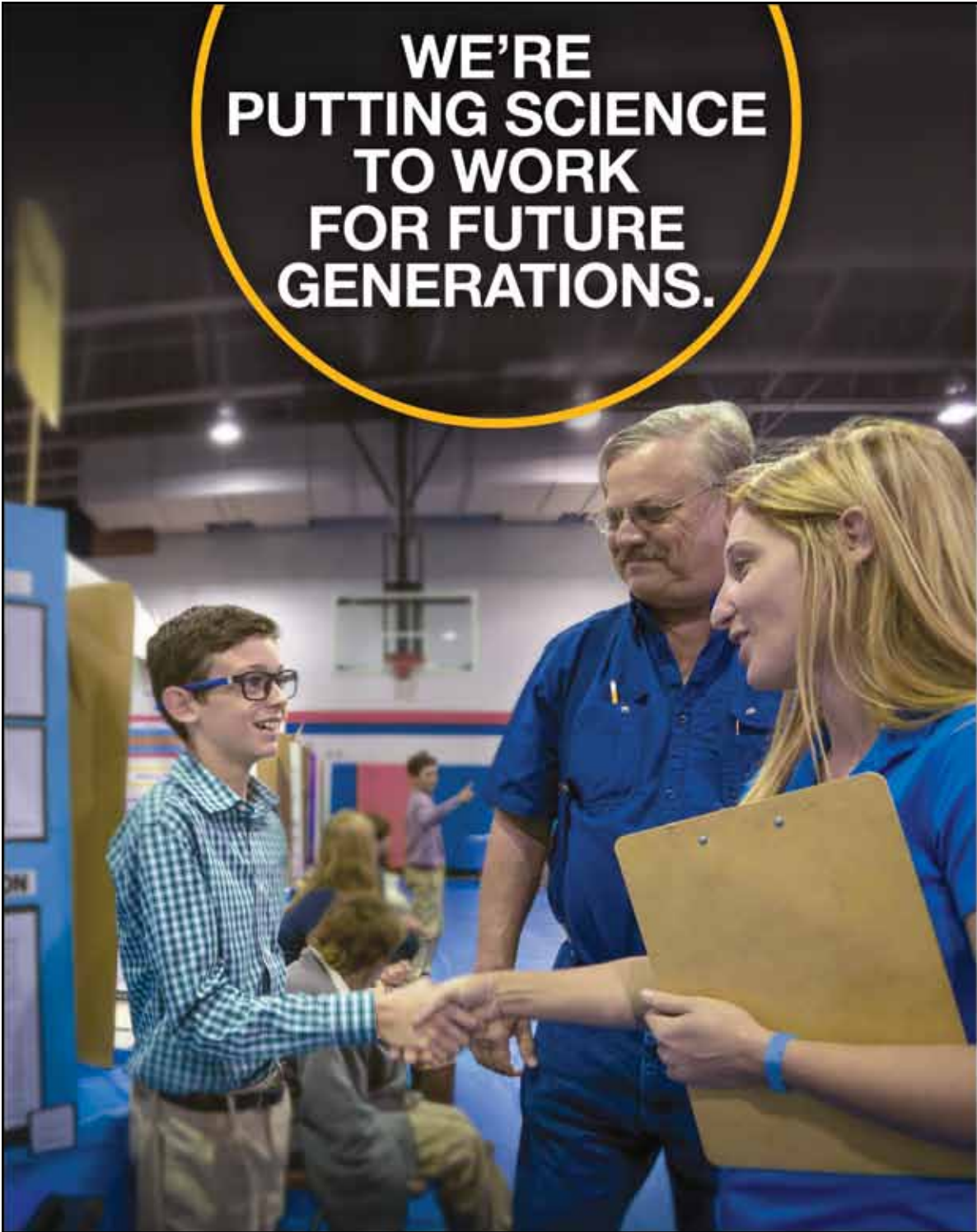
Robert Sumner

also served as president. The Robert D. Sumner Judicial Center on Live Oak Avenue helps locals remember his contributions to Pasco.

Golfers are encouraged to register before the event, but will be able to register onsite before the 8:30 a.m. shotgun start at Silverado Golf & Country Club, 36841 Clubhouse Drive in Zephyrhills.

Find the application and more information on the museum Facebook page, by visiting pioneerfloridamuseum.org or by stopping by the museum Tuesday-Saturday between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Items for a Chinese auction and golfer goody bags are also being accepted.

Sumner was the fundraising chairman for the museum and understood how important it is to support it so future generations can learn about the pioneer heritage.



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Zephyrhills Police Capt. Reggie Roberts talks to a youngster during last week’s end of summer party. Police officers, firefighters and paramedics frequently visited with the children during the Feed The Kids program that was held through the summer.



The children shown here were just a few of the students who have received free homemade meals provided by Elks Lodge #2731 as part of its Feed The Kids program held from June 5 through Aug. 11.

No End To Hungry Children

Summer Meals Program Continues Success

Story and photos by Joe Potter

Elks Lodge #2731 has been offering meals to children during the summers for the past three years. The Pasco County School District provided the meals the first year and the Elks prepared homemade meals for the past two years, said Barbara Mason of the Elks Lodge.

A party with a luau theme was held at the Lodge on Wire Road last Friday to close out this year’s program. Visitors were presented leis as they entered the lodge and some participants wore grass

skirts over their slacks. Joining the party were members of the Zephyrhills Police Department, Zephyrhills Fire Rescue, Westbrooke Manor Assisted Living & Memory Support and East Pasco Meals On Wheels.

Susan H. Longman of Midlife Crisis Entertainers of Brooksville provided music. She and partners, Debbie Desmond and Cathy Kelly, have been performing a variety of genres in the Tampa Bay and surrounding area for the past 10 years.

Approximately 50 children enjoyed a meal of pulled pork sandwiches, corn on the cob, cake and ice cream. The summer-

long program provided meals for students ranging in age from Kindergarteners to high school seniors. Most of the attendees at Friday’s event were elementary and middle school students.

Interim Police Chief Derek Brewer, Capt. Reginald Roberts Sr. and Officer David Wainright visited with the children.

Wainright frequently reads to the children during the daily summer feeding program that began June 5 and ended Aug. 11.

Brewer and Roberts entertained the children by joining others in dances under Longman’s enthusiastic direction.

Alyson Truons, Westbrooke’s activities director, also danced. She announced afterwards that her heart rate had reached 148.

Westbrooke representatives have been

coming to the Elks Lodge every Monday to help out.

“It’s a great program,” Truons said.

Dianna and Brooke Thomas of the Thomas Promise Foundation passed out backpacks filled with school supplies. Food was also distributed to families that needed it for the weekend to feed their children before classes began on Monday.

The Elks’ Feed The Kids program has grown significantly in the past three years. Six hundred children were served during the first year. The number more than doubled to 1,300 in the second year and more than doubled again this year to 3,500.

“This event is a collaborative effort,” said Moyer, a Past Exalted Ruler. She and her husband, David Moyer, who is the current Exalted Ruler, remain active in the Feed The Kids program.



Children picking up backpacks filled with school supplies during an end of summer party held last Friday at the Elks Lodge.



Members of the Zephyrhills Police Department and Zephyrhills Fire Rescue join Elks and students in dancing during last Friday’s end of summer party held at the lodge on Wire Road.

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Leadership Event To Aid Seniors

Elderly Nutrition Program Needs Help

by Keri McAlpine

For some elderly residents of Pasco County, the only smiling face they see is a volunteer delivering them their daily, guaranteed meal.

According to the Pasco County Elderly Nutrition Division, one in six seniors in the county are hungry or termed “food insecure”. They are sometimes referred to as the “hidden hungry” since many do not leave their homes. The Elderly Nutrition Division works to raise money to allow more seniors to benefit from the county’s senior meal service.

Since the introduction of the Annual Ambassador Breakfast two years ago, the county has taken a waiting list of more than 200 seniors and reduced it to less than 50. They accept new seniors to the program constantly, but the list is ever growing.

So, a new event has been added to this year’s calendar – the Leadership Breakfast – to be held Aug. 25 from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. at Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club. Feeding Pasco’s Elderly will host the event.

A local leader, County Commissioner Ron Oakley, will be honored at the breakfast for his efforts in supporting the senior meal service. The hope, according to Pasco County Elderly Nutrition Division Manager Gabriel Papadopoulos, is that other local leaders will attend the luncheon to learn about the program and see the benefits of donating.

The first two Ambassador Breakfasts raised about \$40,000 each, Papadopoulos said, and he said he would be “beside himself” if the inaugural Leadership Breakfast surpassed that number.

It costs about \$1,600 a year to provide one meal for one senior citizen Monday through Friday, he said.

“The more [money] the merrier, obviously... The wait list is a package that can never empty. We get bombarded with requests on a daily basis.”

After applying, senior applicants are reviewed by program coordinators and, if accepted, are placed either on a general waiting list or a critical waiting list for seniors in more dire need of the service.

Meals are generally either lunchtime



County Commissioner Ron Oakley, District 1, will be the local leader honored at Pasco County Elderly Nutrition’s first Leadership Breakfast on Aug. 25.

File photo

or dinner meals, and are either warm or frozen; the frozen option allows the senior to eat the meal whenever they please.

The core of the program is the volunteers and staff who deliver the meals. Since many seniors live alone, they are often a major point of contact to the world outside their home.

It is not uncommon for the delivery driver to find a senior stuck in a tough situation and come to their aid, whether it is a phone call to emergency response or just being a friendly face.

“They are very frail and unable to get out of their home ... the only contact they have is our driver we send out. That’s the only smile, the only face they see during the day,” Papadopoulos said.

Providing meals to the current roster of 800 seniors is no easy feat. The program is currently in desperate need of more volunteers, he said.

Anyone interested can call (727) 834-3340 or visit www.pascocountyfl.net/index.aspx?NID=366 for information. Also, visit feedingpasco.com for information on Feeding Pasco’s Elderly.

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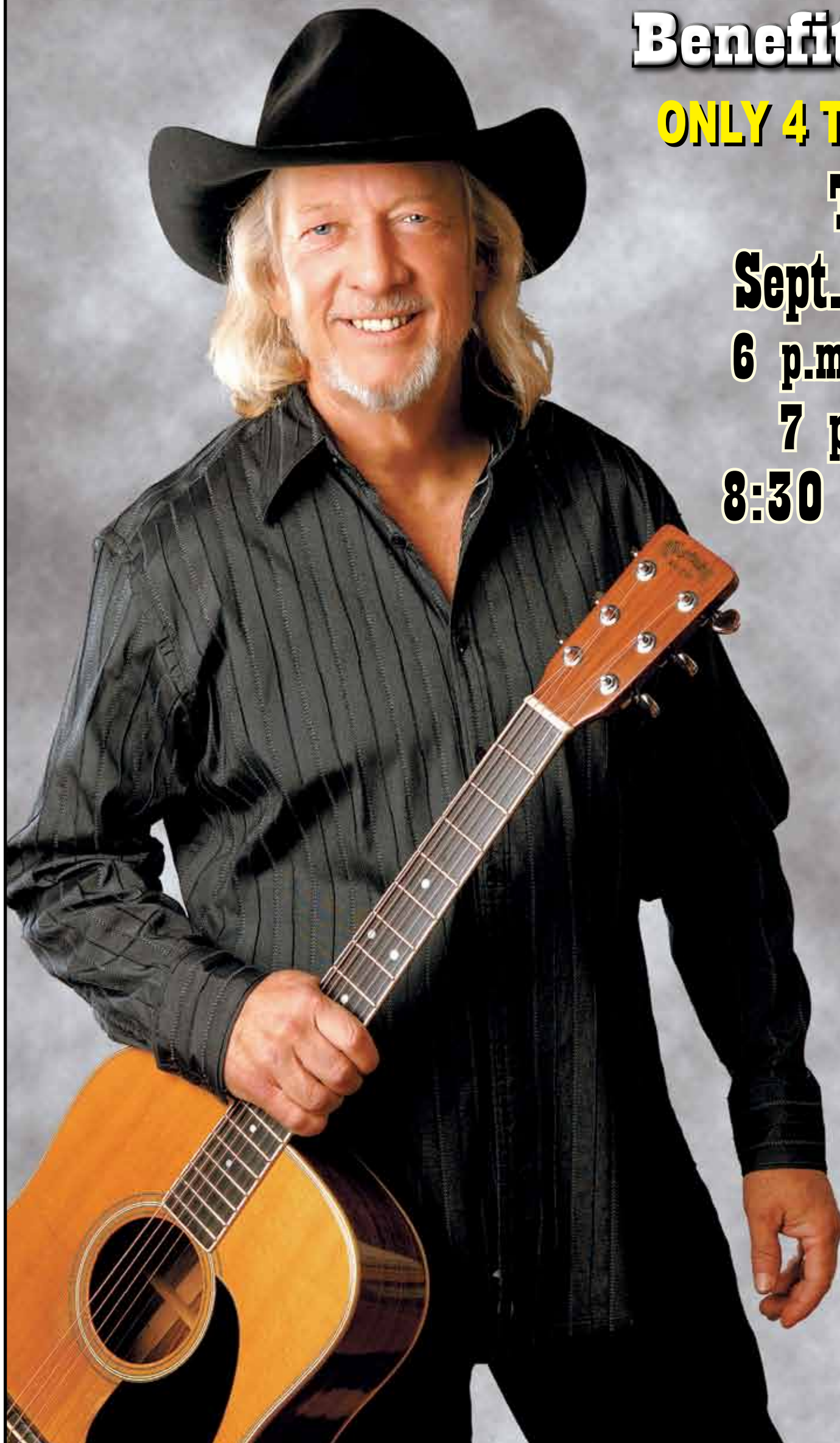
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