

# TRACKS OF TIME

Monthly Publication from the Zephyrhills Historical Association

Volume 20 - Number 12

December 2018

There will be a **business meeting only** on Tuesday, January 8, 2019, in the meeting room of the Zephyrhills Public Library. We are meeting on the second Tuesday of the month because the first Tuesday is New Years Day. Since we are following an event already scheduled in the meeting room, and the room will not be set up in our customary manner, we are limiting our meeting that night to just a business meeting. No refreshments will be served!

### **Speakers**

There was no meeting in December, so there was no need for a speaker. We did have some fun decorating the Pennsylvania Tree at the hospital on December  $2^{nd}$ , and we had a wonderful time breaking bread together at our annual Christmas Party on December  $3^{rd}$ .

There will be no speaker for January, since our meeting will be limited to a business meeting in the interest of time. I do have speakers lined up for February and March. Duke Chadwell will be coming in February to talk about his father and his memories of growing up here. Lance Smith will be our speaker in March to talk about the history of the Smith Family in Zephyrhills.

## From the Desk of the Editor

Membership and Advertising

It's time again to ask for your monetary support in regard to our organization and this newsletter. Dues are \$15 per year, advertising for members is \$15 (non-members is \$25), Boardwalk Booster is \$5, and contributions to the scholarship fund are welcome in any amount. Please mail your checks to *Andrew Nagy*, *5548 23<sup>rd</sup> Street*, *Zephyrhills*, *FL 33542*, or bring them to a meeting or get-together. Thanks in advance.

Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, is our next Give-Back Scholarship Fundraiser at **Sergio's Italian Restaurant** on Hwy. 54 West in **Zephyrhills**. We are meeting at 4 p.m. Contact Patty Thompson (813-780-8559 – <a href="mailto:pattycakeclown1@aol.com">pattycakeclown1@aol.com</a>) for information.



## Jeff Miller Pasco County Historian

For a walk down memory lane visit www.fivay.org

Please consider contributing old photos for the website.

My email address is on the opening page

#### ZHA Mission Statemen

The mission of the Zephyrhills Historical Association is to research, gather, and share local historical information with all generations, through our literature, programs, and scholarships, and to volunteer assistance to the Zephyrhills Depot Museum and WWII Barracks Museum.

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## MEETING NOTICE FOR THE PASCO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Friday, January 18, 2019

The next meeting of the Pasco County Historical Society will occur on <u>Friday</u>, <u>January 18</u>, <u>2019</u> <u>at 7:00 p.m.</u> at the Pioneer Florida Museum & Village at 15602 Pioneer Road, Dade City, Florida, 33523, in the Mabel Jordan Barn.

The speaker for the Friday, January 18, 2019, meeting of the Pasco County Historical Society meeting will be **JENNIFER BUSH\_**from the Publix Corporation. This program will take members and guests through the evolution of the general store to the state-of-the art supermarket, Publix. Jennifer is the official historian of the Publix Corporation

The title of Jennifer Bush's presentation will be:

"Before the Shopping Cart" – the history of supermarkets with a focus on Publix (of course). I take the audience from the general store/mercantile stores of the late 1800s, to the first food stores, then the supermarket. I share about which company was the first to have self-service markets, who invented the shopping cart, and how Publix impacted the food industry along the way, said Jennifer.



To set the ambiance for this special program, Stephanie Black, Executive Director of the Pioneer Museum & Village has also arranged for the C. C. Smith General Store to be unlocked and for members and guests to do a quick walk-through prior to the meeting. The Smith General Store was built in Lacoochee in the 1920s and served the community for fifty years as a gathering place for folks to trade news, a post office, and restock.

Jennifer will also weave in the impact of George Jenkins, founder of Publix, and his philosophies in management, as well as his famous quotations.

Background of **JENNIFER BUSH**: from Justine Griffin, March 4, 2017, reprint from *The Tampa Bay Times* 

Jennifer Bush knows a lot about Publix, having worked there 35 years.

Like, did you know that body weight scales have been in Publix stores since the beginning? The iconic green scales found in store lobbies are still a staple in Florida supermarkets, but they don't exist in Publix locations outside of the state. They've always been free to use.

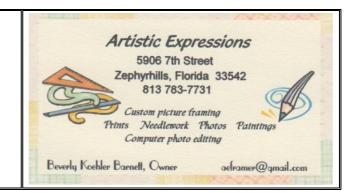
Bush started working for Publix part-time in the accounting department when she was still in high school in 1980, when company founder George Jenkins was still there. She worked in advertising and public relations, too, serving for some time as the company's spokeswoman. Now she's the manager of special projects and the company historian.



Gina King Granger

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Bush loves working at Publix, a common theme among the grocer's 179,000 employees across six states. Publix's turnover rate is just 5 percent, compared to the retail industry average of 65 percent. It's what landed Publix on Fortune's 100 Best Companies to Work For list every year since it was first published in 1998. This year, Publix came in at No. 67.

Bush's love for her employer goes a little further than most.

In 2014, she and her husband, Anthony, found a safe in Georgia that dated back to 1873 and belonged to Jenkins' father. Her husband brought it home to Lakeland, where it was restored.

Jenkins was born in 1907 and grew up in Harris, Ga. There, he learned the tricks of the retail trade while working in his father's general store. He left for Atlanta to strike out on his own in the 1920s.

After months of online research, Bush's husband traveled to Georgia in 2014 to find out more about the old general store. Turns out, the building was in ruins. But Anthony Bush was able to locate the property owner, who agreed to donate a safe that remained in the building to Publix.

"It was amazing that we were able to save this piece of history and drive it back to Lakeland," Jennifer Bush said. "The safe was so heavy, it made permanent marks in my husband's pickup truck. We can't believe it made it back."

The 4,200-pound safe now sits in the lobby of the Publix headquarters in Lakeland. Bush passes it every day.

*Bush and her husband* — who doesn't work for Publix — went on this quest on their own time.

"It was a personal trip for us," Bush said. "But I think all of it was meant to be."

As the company historian, she has worked on several projects for Florida's largest grocery store chain. She helped get vintage Publix shopping carts from the 1940s into the Polk County History Center. She also restored Jenkins' old office to its original form from the 1970s. It includes his original Rolodex, his personal glasses and an old inventory machine. On the bookshelves in his office are the receipts from the first transaction after Publix installed ATMs. That was in 1982. There also is the first prescription written when pharmacies were added to the stores in 1986.

#### **ESSENTIAL INFORMATION:**

Guests are welcome. A carry-in dinner precedes the program, so bring a dish to share as well as cutlery for your personal use, plate(s), (disposable is fine) and your beverage of choice.

LOCATION: The museum is located *1.3 miles north of downtown Dade City*, at the corner of US 301 and Museum Road, turn east onto Museum Road and cross the railroad tracks.

Special thanks to the Florida Pioneer Museum & Village that allows the Pasco County Historical Society to hold meetings at their facilities. Stephanie Black, Executive Director and the Board have been gracious in allowing the historical society to meet at their wonderful facility which honors the history of Pasco County.

For additional information, please contact Madonna Jervis Wise, Past-President and Secretary at <a href="MadonnaJWise@gmail.com">MadonnaJWise@gmail.com</a> or phone 813 469 8627

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And Great Parents
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From son James

**God Bless America** 

## TREE DECORATING 2018

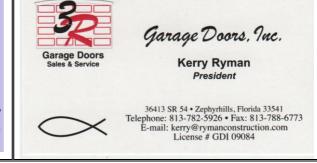




## **CHRISTMAS PARTY 2018**









## ZEPHYRHILLS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

## Business Meeting Minutes November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018

The Regular Monthly Business Meeting of the Zephyrhills Historical Association was called to order at 5:32 P.M. by President Jerry Pricher who gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes from October were read by the Secretary with a motion to approve made by Rod Rehrig, seconded by Clereen Brunty and agreed to.

Treasurer Andrew Nagy gave the Treasurer's Reports from September and October. A motion to approve was made by Clereen, seconded by Sharon Reisman and accepted by all.

There was discussion about using funds from the CD for Scholarships should it become necessary and the subject will probably be revisited in February after dues money comes in. Also, Jerry explained that in addition to the two Scholarship recipients there have been two students chosen to receive funds for continuing education.

We are happy to welcome guest Walter Hill who hails from Zephyrhills and is a graduate of Zephyrhills High, class of 1951.

Old Business: Regarding Fundraising for Scholarships, Patty Thompson brought in flyers for the next event which will be dinner at Sergio's on November 13, anytime from 11 A.M. - 9 P.M. with our group generally meeting at 4 to fellowship. We will probably go to Sergio's again on December 18 and January 15 as Sergio's has been supportive and seems to like us.

Regarding the Depot Museum, Steve Spina will be in touch with Carolyn Dean and Clereen will be seeing to the Jeffries House.

Other Old Business: Regarding decorating our Christmas tree, we will be doing it on December 2 at 12 noon. Patty brought in samples of decorations in keeping with the theme we were assigned, Pennsylvania. Anyone wanting to bring in suitable ornaments should be aware that they will need to withstand rain and wind and also that they might not get them back. We are asked to wear our ZHA tee shirts.

New Business: Since the first Tuesday in January falls on New Years Day, Jerry asks that we consider dispensing with January's meeting or that we have our Business Meeting the following week. If we do meet, the room will not be available until 5:30 and will need to be set up due to a book club using it before us. Jerry says if we miss meeting both December and January, there might be a problem with dues collections though we will see each other at the tree trimming, the Christmas Party and at the Fundraisers at Sergio's. Jerry will put Andy's mailing address in the newsletter for those needing to send their dues in.

Beverly Holmes made a motion that instead of our usual set up for the Business Meeting we have a regular round table meeting on January 8. This idea was seconded by Bob Porter and agreed to by everyone.

Clereen passed out informative sheets regarding the December 2 tree decorating with facts about Pennsylvania and also info. on the Christmas Party, to take place on December 3, the date pending Bill Kustes' club house availability. Clereen passed around a sign up sheet for the pot luck and is requesting \$5 per person for the cost of the meat which she will prepare.

Other New Business: Rod made an announcement about the Veterans Day Parade, which will take place on Saturday, November 10 at 10 A.M. downtown. There will be a Marine Corps Ball from 4-10 P.M. at the Elks Lodge on Wire Road. On November 11, there will be a Veterans Day ceremony at 11 A.M. at the Veterans Walk Way in Zephyr Park.

Rod made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Clereen and agreed to by all present. The meeting concluded at 6 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Anna V. Boone, Secretary, Zephyrhills Historical Association

Clereen showed us slides from her trip to Mount Airy, N.C. the home of Andy Griffith.