

# FOOD4THOUGHT

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VOL. 5—JUNE 2017

Visit us online at [phpinhc.org](http://phpinhc.org)

## HERNANDO COUNTY GRANT HELPS BEAUTIFY KASS CIRCLE

In 2016, Hernando County Government funded People Helping People through its Community Outreach Grant Program. PHP's request was for a public improvement project which would also engage unemployed and/or homeless individuals in meaningful work.

PHP is blessed with a large commercial building in Kass Circle in Spring Hill. We are currently renovating



it to become a community resource center, providing food, among other services. Kass Circle, which was the location of the very first shopping center in Spring Hill, has been designated as a Community Redevelopment Area. Thankfully, new businesses are entering the area, cleanup efforts have been undertaken, and now, the back-side of the Circle is growing more beautifully than ever!

Over the past few months, PHP has paid a number of men to take on large landscaping tasks. The result is 24 crepe myrtle trees and dozens of shrubs have been planted and are receiving reliable irrigation. The visual difference is notable. PHP thanks Hernando County Government, and especially County Planner Patricia McNeese, for the ongoing attention to this historic area of our community. We look forward to continuing as good neighbors in Kass Circle.



## HUNGER AND POVERTY HERE, BY THE NUMBERS

**26,680** = Number of food insecure people in Hernando County (2014)\*

**\$14,506,000** = Hernando County annual food budget shortfall (2014)\*

**12%** = Percentage of Hernando County households in poverty (2015)\*\*

**30%** = Percentage of Hernando County households who are A.L.I.C.E. (Asset limited, Income Constrained, Employed—they earn more than the federal poverty level but less than the basic cost of living for the county)\*\*

**600-800** = weekly number of children in Hernando County schools sent home with a backpack of food on Fridays through PHP's Weekend Blessings program

\*Courtesy of Feeding America: <http://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2014/overall/florida/county/hernando>

\*\*Courtesy of United Way of Hernando: [http://www.unitedwayhernando.org/sites/unitedwayhernando.org/files/uw125\\_files/ALICE/HERNANDO\\_ALICE2017.pdf](http://www.unitedwayhernando.org/sites/unitedwayhernando.org/files/uw125_files/ALICE/HERNANDO_ALICE2017.pdf)

## WALMART NEIGHBORHOOD MARKET SUPPORT



A huge thanks goes out to Walmart Neighborhood Market Store #6207 (at the corner of Spring Hill Drive and Anderson Snow Road) which recently supported PHP with a \$500 grant. The grant will help towards food transportation and handling costs that PHP incurs to deliver food from various sources throughout the county.

## LITTLE FREE PANTRIES POPPING UP ACROSS HERNANDO

A grassroots, citizen-initiated movement to address food insecurity has reached Hernando County, and spread like wildfire. Little Free Pantries are an idea modeled after Little Free Libraries, where individuals place a lending library of books outside their home. Little Free Pantries modifies the idea by making a small place for local neighbors to both donate and receive food and other basic necessities, as needed. An unprecedented seven people in Spring Hill and Brooksville have built and placed Little Pantries in their front yards. Once the pantry is up, it is largely self-managing, with the encouragement to “Take what you need, leave what you can.” Property owners who volunteer to host the pantries keep an eye on the contents, cover them in rain, and are often surprised by the steady flow of traffic. They are heart-warmed by the folks who leave a note of thanks for the help. To make a donation to any pantry, simply add what you want to the box at any time.

- 7407 Holiday Dr., Spring Hill
- 12185 Coronado Dr., Spring Hill
- 10511 Maderia St., Spring Hill
- 10285 Lafoy Rd., Spring Hill
- 27303 Flagler Ave., Brooksville
- 16625 Laura Lee Dr., Spring Hill
- 31095 Cortez Blvd., Brooksville

*For more information on local LFPs, visit the Facebook pages “Spring Hill Little Free Pantry” and “Hernando Country Little Free Pantries.”*



The LFP on Coronado Drive in Spring Hill.



Neighbors making a donation to the Holiday Drive Pantry, which is very active.

## THANK YOU TO OUR MAY AND JUNE SUNDAY DINNER MEAL SPONSORS!



GlenLakes Third Wednesday Golf Group



HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



Marine Corps League  
Brooksville Detachment  
466



La Bella Napoli of Weeki Wachee



Guidos Pizza Café of Spring Hill

PHP Sponsored Meal

