

# FOOD4THOUGHT

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

August 2017 Edition

## Mark Your Calendar

PHP's Celebration Dinner is scheduled for October 21 at the Heffernan Hall in Brooksville. This year the theme is *Hoedown for the Hungry* and the event will recognize and honor Mel and the late Judy Greene. Judy Greene was one of the founding members of PHP and Mel continues to financially support PHP.



## Paul Venti Joins Board

It was only a few months ago that Paul Venti moved to Florida from Connecticut, retiring from a career as a pipefitter and plumber. From All of us at PHP were impressed with Paul's work with the Pipefitters Union helping impoverished and homeless individuals in Connecticut. Furthermore, Paul not only lead this initiative, but traveled to Washington to speak before national union conferences to address homelessness and poverty. In July, Paul was invited to be a director on the PHP board.



## Transportation Needs

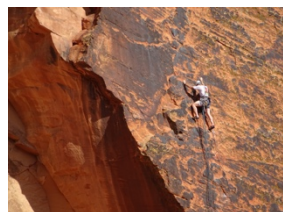


Thanks to the Bicycle Ministry at the Grace Presbyterian Church on Spring Hill Drive, PHP can provide bikes to individuals who have no other means of transportation.

This month PHP provided bikes to a young couple whose home burned down and now live in the woods near the Senior Citizens Center. Most, but not all of the bicycles PHP gives out, go to the homeless. In addition to bikes, PHP has bus tokens for THE Bus in Hernando County.

## Living on the Edge

On a recent Tuesday, two individuals talked with us about their living conditions while eating a meal at Kass Circle. Both guys live in houses in Spring Hill, but neither have electricity.



One told us that he could not afford a water bill, so he collects rain water in buckets to use his toilet, boils it for drinking and uses a camp stove for cooking. Both fellows have medical conditions that won't allow them to work. We should count our blessings because in comparison we live a far distance from the edge.



### Hungry?

Need a job?  
Clean Clothes?  
Health Care?

If you're hungry and need food assistance, call our **Hunger Hotline: (352) 405-1115**

Each week on Tuesdays at \_\_\_\_\_  
we'll have food and toiletries at \_\_\_\_\_

The flyer pictured above is designed to assist PHP volunteers locate homeless and hungry people in Hernando County. It can be posted or given to someone panhandling. Recently, many owners of vacant property have posted "No Trespassing" signs and the law enforcement is adhering to the owners wishes. Therefore, many existing camps are off-limits which has effected the number of homeless on Tuesday and Sunday feedings. Many have moved deeper into the woods and are at a location too far to walk to our feeding locations.

Besides food, PHP's Neighborhood Blessings program provides toiletries, tarps and necessities to people living in the woods or in their cars. PHP feels that our assistance may prevent crime by proving food and necessities to individuals who are struggling or unemployed.

## Jeff Thomas of Reliable Contracting & Plumbing



Jeff Thomas of Reliable Contracting and Plumbing is serving as PHP's general contractor for the remodel at Kass Circle. Since 1987 Reliable has worked in designing, engineering and constructing both residential and commercial buildings. Reliable also does remodeling, construction projects as well as new and repair plumbing jobs in Hernando and surrounding counties.

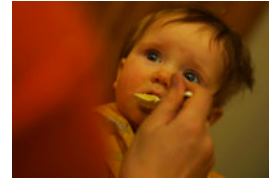
Jeffrey Thomas, the president/owner, is a State Certified Building Contractor, State Certified Plumbing Contractor and a Certified Backflow Technician. He actively designs and works on projects daily. Jeff prides himself on knowing every individual associated with a project and supervising activities himself. Currently, Jeff is navigating the Hernando County Building & Planning Department to get PHP a construction permit for our Kass Circle project. He expects us to receive a permit soon, with plumbing and electrical work to begin first, so bathrooms and the commercial kitchen can be installed.

## Sam's Club Helps PHP

The Brooksville/Spring Hill Sam's Club has been very generous to PHP. For three months now, Sam's Club manager, Victoria, has given PHP five pallets of food for the hungry people we serve. This food will supplement the food we must purchase for all four feeding programs at PHP. All of us at PHP appreciate Sam's Clubs generosity.



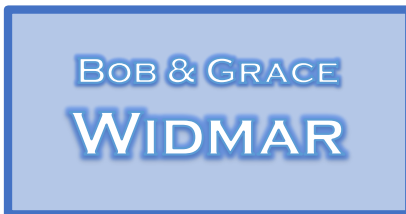
## Homeless Kids in Hernando



The total number of homeless children that attend Hernando County School is 510 based on data from 2015 (the latest statistics). Visit <http://atrueface.org/> to learn more about homeless children in

Florida. PHP's Weekend Blessings program delivers backpacks to kids selected by the administration from 13 schools in the County. A donation of \$150 to PHP will fill a backpack with nutritious food for a child for the entire school year.

## A Giant Thank You to PHP's July 2017 Sunday Blessings Meal Sponsors



**Hernando YMCA**



**Brooksville Elks #2582**

