



Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen, Inc.

Preserving our equine cultural heritage on public lands for today and tomorrow.

FFBCH NEWS

November 2017

ffbch.org

A Reminder: The November meeting is scheduled for S-U-N-D-A-Y, November 19, 2016. Registration and social begins at 11:00, lunch as close to 12:00 as possible with meeting and speaker/demonstration to follow.

FFBCH will be hosting a pot-luck fall picnic in honor of our members and volunteers at **Tillis Hill**. The club will provide Sonny's smoked chicken, paper plates & silverware. We simply ask that attendees bring a covered dish, lawn chair(s) and your favorite beverage and ice if you need it.

PLEASE, it is very important that you RSVP so we have an accurate head count for purchasing. Simply hit reply to this email or send your RSVP to ffbch.org@gmail.com.

Don't forget!!! Linda Boles of Find-M Friends (www.findmfriends.org) will be the speaker. She will also give us a peek at how these wonderful dogs work with a live demonstration. These scent discriminating blood-hounds and their organization work to help find people who are missing or lost. Check out their facebook page: **Find-M' Friends, Inc.**

DOOR PRIZES from Tractor Supply, Old World, Sonny's, and others! Don't forget to purchase your 50/50 tickets as they will be used in drawing for the door prizes!



LIKE us on Facebook!

FFBCH Website: www.ffbch.org

After scare, missing girl doing well. Rescuers scoured miles of woods for an hour and a half to find Lainey Bramlett.

Citrus County Chronicle

By Buster Thompson January 19, 2017

Quick-acting volunteers, first responders and two of the county's best noses were breathing a sigh of relief Sunday after an hours-long effort to find a missing Floral City girl ended with her safe return to her mother's arms. Lainey Bramlett, 3, was riding a battery powered ride-on toy car along a pathway on her family's 11-acre property off East New Hope Court around noon Saturday while her mother, Malerie Bramlett, kept an attentive ear on her daughter from a nearby picnic table.

After a few moments, Bramlett noticed she could no longer hear the vehicle's whir. She got up to check on her daughter, but all she found was the child's four-wheeler. "I immediately started looking for her and calling for her, and she wouldn't answer," she said Sunday.

It's not uncommon for Lainey to wander off, Bramlett said — what was unusual was that Lainey wasn't responding to her mother's calls. Malerie's thoughts quickly turned to the dense woods and other rough terrain around the property, she said, and the dangers they might hold for Lainey. "That's what really worried me," Bramlett said. "I expected her to be right where she always was."

Bramlett called her husband, Lane Kersey, a firefighter with Citrus County Sheriff's Office's Fire Rescue division. The couple asked for help from their neighbors, who mounted horses and ATVs to search for the girl. Kersey's fellow off-duty firefighters also aided in the search. "We started our own little search party," Bramlett said. "I don't really think I was thinking much at all, I was just acting."

Sheriff's deputies, firefighters, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission staff, Florida Department of Law Enforcement agents, Nature Coast EMS technicians and other volunteers quickly joined the growing search party — **as did Linda Boles and her bloodhound, Winnie. Boles is co-founder of Find-M' Friends, a nonprofit group that educates people on the benefits of using bloodhounds to find lost people. She and Winnie frequently assist the sheriff's office with missing-persons cases.** "It was starting to get a little chaotic," Boles said about the massive search effort. "The sheriff's office was trying to get everyone in motion." Winnie was given an article bearing Lainey's scent, and her nose went to work trying to track Lainey's scent through the underbrush. "It was a bit challenging, but Win worked, worked and worked," Boles said.

K-9 Deputy Justin Williams backed up Boles during the search. Soon, searchers stumbled on Lainey's jacket — hope that she was not far away. Boles and Williams' canines tracked the girl's scent for an hour and a half — and nearly a mile — until Winnie slammed to a halt. There, curled up face-down in thick brush, was Lainey.

"She put her nose right on that baby," Boles said about her canine partner. "We didn't even know what we were looking at." Lainey's first words to her rescuers: "I'm looking for my mommy."

"It was just heart-wrenching and overwhelming joy," Boles said. "I really think she had given up. ... She had hunkered down to rest, and I think it was just by the grace of God that things happened the way it did."

Williams picked up Lainey and wrapped her in a blanket before handing her over to her mom. Bramlett said her daughter is doing well and is back to her normal self, and she cannot thank her neighbors and first responders enough for finding her daughter.

"So many people came out for her," she said. "They all took a lot of initiative to help us find her."

Contact Chronicle reporter Buster Thompson at 352-564-2916 or bthompson@chronicleonline.com.

Please mark your calendars!

FFBCH Christmas Social

Wednesday, December 13, 2016

at

Stumpknockers on the River

Social/Cocktail Hour On The Deck (Full Bar)

By The Withlacoochee River 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Dinner (Inside) 6:00 p.m.

Details will follow in the December newsletter.

Florida Greenways & Trails System 5-Year Plan Update - 2018-2022

Public Open House Workshops

For those of you who love the Greenway, please check out the link below for public workshops. This is your chance to provide input for this great trail system! There are a variety of dates in a variety of places to provide access for all.

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/FGTS%20Public%20Meeting%20announcement%20final.pdf>

2017-2018 Hunting Dates

CITRUS Tract of the Withlacoochee State Forest

Note: For those wanting information on different management areas, please go to www.myfwc.com; click on Hunting; then WMA Brochures. Scroll down and each parcel is listed by region.

ARCHERY Season: November 4-26

MUZZLOADING GUN Season: December 1-3 (Friday, Saturday & Sunday)
December 15-17 (Friday, Saturday & Sunday)

GENERAL GUN Season: December 8-10 (Friday, Saturday & Sunday)
December 29-31 (Friday, Saturday & Sunday)

SMALL GAME Season: January 21, 2018 through February 25, 2018


SPRING TURKEY Season: Youth Turkey: March 10-11
Spring Turkey: March 20-23, April 3-6 and 17-20

Please be safe and courteous.

SUV Trail Update - Mistaken Identity!

The SUV Trail that ran along the section of the Turkey Oak/Thunder Road loop that started at FR15 all the way to FR13 has finally been corrected. The trail should have been from FR13 (just north of FR16) up to FR14 as is now reflected on the Special Use Vehicle Permit Map 2017-2018. The red rings have been removed from this section. Should any hunter that has not obtained and updated map question your use during hunting season, refer him to: www.myfwc.com for updated map information.


This is great news and we appreciate forestry working with FWC to correct this situation!



Want to help? Can't find the time to work on the trails? Can't always make the meetings? That doesn't matter! You can show your support by joining Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen (FFBCH). Individual memberships = \$25 and Family memberships = \$30. Or, make a donation! 100% of a donation goes to the club.

Every member of a local chapter is automatically a member of the Back Country Horsemen of Florida AND Back Country Horsemen of America. Not in the Citrus County area? Then join Back Country Horsemen of Florida as an at-large member until a local chapter is developed in your area. Don't forget Nature Coast Back Country Horsemen serving Hernando, west Sumter and northeast Pasco Counties and Southeast Ocala Back Country Horsemen.

There are many issues facing equestrians today. Help us to preserve the trails we have. Add your voice to those of more than 15,000 of your fellow American horsemen and women. **You only have to look at the Croom and the Citrus Tract of the Withlacoochee Forest as an example of what can be accomplished when we work together and with our land managers!**



Current Officers and Directors
President—Sally McDavid
Vice President—Fred Fulcher
Secretary—Becky Fulcher
Treasurer—Gary Reynolds
Janet Day - Director
Tom Allen—Director
Barb Porch—Director
Cal McDavid—Director

Florida Forest Service
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