

Discover Paradise in Pinellas County - November and December, 2017

EXHIBITS

Our Wildest Place: The Environmental Education Center at Brooker Creek Preserve is a permanent, hands-on educational exhibit that helps visitors understand how natural Florida has changed over time and the ecological footprints left by those changes. The Windows to Our Wildest Place exhibit allows visitors to experience the life of a gopher tortoise and includes educational videos and a touch-and-feel display of animal, insect and reptile skins and skeletons that have been preserved. Visitors will also find interpretive trail signs located throughout the boardwalks of the preserve that feature educational information about its ecosystems. Brooker Creek Environmental Education Center, 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs. Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday through Saturday and Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed all Pinellas County holidays. (727) 453-6800; www.brookercreekpreserve.org.

People and Place: The Cultural and Natural History Center at Weedon Island Preserve is an art-inspired, permanent hands-on educational exhibit that reveals the area's history, ecology and people. Exhibits include Connecting People and Place, Uncovering Past Cultures, Understanding Culture through its Pottery, A Gallery of Memories, Mischief and Movies, Discovery of Hidden Worlds, What a Watershed Is and a virtual tour of the Smithsonian Institution's collection of Weedon Island artifacts. Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center, 1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg. Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday through Saturday and Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed all Pinellas County holidays. (727) 453-6500; www.weedonislandpreserve.org.

Objects from the Turner Family Permanent Collection: Geraldine "Jere" Turner bequeathed her family home to Pinellas County along with \$100,000 in moving costs and the contents of her 1915 bungalow. When it was moved to Heritage Village in January 2014, thousands of objects and archival materials spanning 100 years of family history were discovered in the house. These included toys and games, glassware and china, personal accessories, pottery, clothing, furniture, artwork and items from the Belleview Biltmore Hotel. These objects are on display in the Ralph Reed Gallery in the Visitor Center. Heritage Village, 11909 125th St. N., Largo. Open Wednesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m. (727) 582-2123; www.pinellascounty.org/heritage.

Pinellas Passport: Your Ticket through Time: This exhibit illustrates major areas of development in Pinellas County, including coastal living with a focus on the sponge industry, agriculture featuring citrus industry artifacts, community life through newspapers and a printing press, and tourism. These objects are on display in the Roy Helms Gallery in the Visitor Center. Heritage Village, 11909 125th St. N., Largo. Open Wednesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m. (727) 582-2123.

ONGOING

Lawn and Garden Help Desk: UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County Lawn and Garden Help Desk provides solutions for all types of questions concerning insects, garden, lawn and landscape care. Residents can visit the help desk at UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County, (727) 582-2100; 12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo. Walk-in hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding holidays.

Master Gardener Help Desk at Palm Harbor Library: UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County Master Gardeners provide solutions for all types of questions concerning insects, lawn and landscape care. Open Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Palm Harbor Library, 2330 Nebraska Ave., Palm Harbor.

Landscape Maintenance Best Management Practices in English and en Español: This class provides an overview of landscape care including Florida Friendly Landscaping Principles, turf types and mowing heights, proper pruning of shrubs and trees, signs of irrigation stress, and how to protect water resources. The program is free for homeowners, Landscape Professionals pay \$15 for certification. Classes are held monthly, class time is 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Advance registration required. www.landscapebmp.eventbrite.com select English or Spanish class. UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County, 12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo.

NOVEMBER EVENTS

November 2

Salty Topics: Symbiosis and Slime: Corals and Their Microbial Partners: The ecological, economic, and aesthetic importance of coral reefs is widely recognized, as is the threat to corals throughout the world from a variety of anthropogenic stresses. Such stresses can lead to loss of the corals' microbial symbionts, namely the algae that lives inside their tissues, resulting in coral "bleaching" and death. 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Free; register online at: www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com Weedon Island Preserve, (727) 453-6500; 1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg.

November 2, 9, 16 and 30

Book Time at Brooker: Bring your preschooler to this program designed to connect them to the wonders of the natural world. In addition to hearing a great story, your child will participate in a craft, game or other hands-on activity related to the story that is read. This activity is recommended for ages 3 to 5. 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Free; register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 2 and 16

Weedon Walkabout: Hike through coastal mangrove and upland ecosystems of the preserve and learn about the coastal environment and the early residents of Weedon Island Preserve. A hat, closed-toe shoes and water are also recommended. Best for ages 6 and older. 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com. Weedon Island Preserve, (727) 453-6500; 1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg.

November 3

Florida Forests Guided Hike: Join your local UF/IFAS Pinellas Extension Natural Resources Agent, Lara Milligan, for a hike through the forest at Brooker Creek Preserve. We will explore the woods of our "wildest place:! Come prepared with your binoculars, cameras and questions. 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Free, advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 3

Master Gardener Help Desk at Weedon Island: Our Master Gardeners provide solutions for all types of questions concerning garden, lawn, and landscape care. With the backing of research based information from the University of Florida our staff of horticulturists offer sound expert advice to walk in customers. The help desk is available first-come, first served, but to assist with staffing we request that walk-ins register for service. 10:00 a.m. Register online at www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com. Weedon Island Preserve, (727) 453-6500; 1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg.

November 4

Rainwater Harvesting and Vegetable Gardening: Water-Wise Landscaping: Participants will learn about rainwater harvesting, and preparing a fall vegetable garden in this Water-Wise Landscaping workshop. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free; advance registration required. http://waterwisenovember.eventbrite.com Rain barrels available for \$40. UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County, (727) 582-2100; 12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33774.

November 4

Friends of Brooker Creek Readers Club: Join the Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve for the Brooker Book Club every first Saturday of the month. This club is geared towards adults. Please note that registration is required due to a limited amount of seats. Please meet in the Conference Room inside the Visitors

Center. Note that books will not be provided for you; check the website for the current title. 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 4

Explore the Ecosystems Guided Hike: Brooker Creek Preserve is where you can explore some of the last natural habitats left in Pinellas County. Find out what makes and maintains forested wetland, oak hammock and pine flatwood ecosystems, and the plants and animals associated with these different ecosystems. 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

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November 5

Nature of Change Guided Hike: Brooker Creek Preserve is the largest natural area in Pinellas County where changes in weather, seasons, water levels and human impact result in a different experience each time you visit. Come explore what "today brings" on this one mile hike on trails and boardwalks. 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 9

Growing Vegetables in Containers: You want vegetables but the sunniest part of your yard is on your patio or lanai? or you have no yard, only a lanai or patio or balcony or...? Try growing vegetables in containers. This class will discuss all aspects of vegetable gardening in containers, including container selection, watering, fertilizing and possible pests and diseases with their controls. Two classes: 2:00 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. Free; register online at Eventbrite.com and search for title. Palm Harbor Library, 2330 Nebraska Ave.. Palm Harbor.

November 9

Wee Time at Weedon: This program is designed to introduce pre-school children to the wonders of the natural and cultural world. Every second and fourth Thursday of each month, children are treated to a variety of stories and hands-on activities that connect them to their environment. This activity is recommended for ages 3 to 5. 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com. Weedon Island Preserve, (727) 453-6500; 1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg.

November 11

Music in the Woods: The trio "2PM" will be playing songs from their latest album, Writing on the Wall, as well as other favorites at our outdoor music pavilion. So bring a lawn chair and a picnic and enjoy their wonderful harmonies and contemporary folk music in the woods! Sorry, no alcohol or pets allowed. 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 11

Birds of Brooker Hike: Have you wondered what bird is singing in your backyard? Do you see and hear birds but don't know who they are? If so, join us for a Beginning Bird Hike to learn how to identify the county's common birds as we meander along a one-mile trail. 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. Free; Advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 11

Kitchen Botany: Kitchen Botany: You may know more than you think about botany from everyday interactions with plants in the kitchen. We will explore where our fruits, vegetables, herbs and spices really come from and how many of them were "domesticated" from wild plants. Recommended for adults and youth over 12. 10:30 a.m. to noon. Free, advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 12

Music with Mar. with Miss Karen: Enjoy a fun music and movement show for babies six month through age 5, including all of Mr. Froggy's favorite songs about nature and animals! Karen Gliddon from Music with Mar. presents an interactive show where learning is "unFROGettable". Join us for this free program! 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Free, advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 14

Sustainability Connections – The Secret Life of Your Clothes: Ever wonder what happens to your donated clothes? Turns out a lot of them end up in Africa, creating a multi-billion dollar industry. Come join us for a film screening followed by a community discussion on the beautiful USF St. Pete campus. Free; advance registration at http://bit.ly/2upCCCs. University of South Florida St Petersburg – Lynn Pippenger Hall, (727) 582-2517; 700 4th St South St. Petersburg.

November 15

CORE: Pesticide labels, calibration and safety will be covered. CEU's available. 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. \$20; County employees free. Register online at www.eventbrite.com and search keyword "CORE." UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County, (727) 582-2100; 12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo.

November 15

Right Plant, Right Place: Right Plant Right Place: Properly chosen, installed and established shrubs and trees are healthy, help to hold the ground, reduce stormwater runoff, and tend to use fewer resources to enhance nature. This program will cover the standards that must be considered to select proper plants for a certain location. 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Register online at www.eventbrite.com and search keyword "CORE." UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County, (727) 582-2100; 12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo.

November 16

Vegetable, Herb and Tropical Fruit Garden Tour: Explore the Vegetable Garden and Compost Demonstration Areas to learn more about growing your own food. Marvel at the eye-catching array of culinary, medicinal and aromatic herbs, trees and flowers in our enclosed Herb Garden. Wander the brick paths between the Egyptian, Mediterranean, Asian and Beverage plantings and learn how the featured plants can be used in your home. Discover the tropical fruits that do well in our Florida climate. 9 a.m.; Free; limited to groups of 4-16 people. Register online at www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com Recommended for adults. UF/IFAS Extension Center/Florida Botanical Gardens, 12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo.

November 17

Going Coastal: Lookout Point Hike: Dust off your trail shoes and join Sea Grant Agent Libby Carnahan on a hike to some of the lesser traveled trails of Weedon Island Preserve. Participants must be able to walk approximately 2 miles. Libby will share information on the research, monitoring, and management of the coastal ecosystems of Tampa Bay. Questions from participants will be encouraged to help guide the discussion on topics of most interest. Good walking shoes, appropriate dress for the weather, and a water bottle are recommended. 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com. Weedon Island Preserve, (727) 453-6500; 1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg.

November 17

Master Gardener Help Desk at Weedon Island: Our Master Gardeners provide solutions for all types of questions concerning garden, lawn, and landscape care. With the backing of research based information from the University of Florida our staff of horticulturists offer sound expert advice to walk in customers. The help desk is available first-come, first served, but to assist with staffing we request that walk-ins register for service. 10:00 a.m. Register online at www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com. Weedon Island Preserve, (727) 453-6500; 1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg.

November 17

Family Fun Friday Mornings: Join us for a series of family & youth-oriented programs at Brooker Creek Preserve! Help your children build an interest in the natural world through fun and educational activities you can do together! 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Free; advance registration at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 17

Native Plants Guided Hike: Join UF/IFAS Extension Specialist, James Stevenson, to explore the fascinating plants found at Brooker Creek Preserve. WE will identify wildflowers, ferns, epiphytes, trees and more. The ecology of various plant communities will also be examined. Best suited for adult participants. 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Free; advance registration at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 18

Night Hike – Brooker Creek: Join the Friends of Brooker Creek for a one-mile hiking experience along the Ed Center Trail...at night! At night, the world is full of sounds and smells very different from the daytime. Open to the public and limited to 20 people. A \$3 per person donation is requested. Experienced guides will lead you through an evening you will talk about for some time. 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 18

Footprints on the Land Guided Hike: Discover the many "footprints" that have been left on the land during this casual and entertaining hike. Native American, early settler and modern developers have changed our native habitats, find out how a preserve like Brooker is a place where those habitats can be restored for the health of the whole county. 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 18

Weedon Photography Hike: Hike the Preserve in search of that perfect shot. This program provides great opportunities for photographers of all levels to hone their skills. After a brief classroom session, Center volunteers highlight seasonal features of the Preserve, as well as specific wildlife behaviors that help participants capture the natural beauty of Weedon Island Preserve. 8:30 a.m. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com. Weedon Island Preserve, (727) 453-6500; 1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg.

November 18

Archaeology Works: Mounds and Middens: What's the best way to learn about a person, whether they lived thousands of years ago or today? Look through their garbage of course! Archaeologists study prehistoric trash piles or middens to gain a wealth of information about the past. They also investigate purpose built mounds that still dot the Florida landscape in order to learn about prehistoric societies. Learn the difference between a mound and a midden, and the archaeology of Weedon Island, in this fun and hands-on workshop. Recommended for all ages. 10:00 a.m. to Noon. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com.

Weedon Island Preserve, (727) 453-6500; 1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg.

November 25

Extended Brooker Creek Guided Hike: Join us for a 2.8 to 4 mile walk as we look at how the land has changed over time and discuss the ecological footprints left by those changes. Hike trails will be determined by trail condition. Sturdy closed-toe shoes are a must, and water and a hat are recommended. 9:00 a.m. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 25

Nature Photography Hike: Join photographers and interpretive naturalists Karl and Kathleen Nichter for a hike at Brooker Creek Preserve. We will discuss photography and nature while hiking, stopping when we find subjects to photograph. We start with a short classroom session on some of the basics just to get us all thinking about photography, then we talk about what we might see based on the season and that day's weather. After that we head out to the trails. Each hike has a slightly different theme based on what nature might have on offer that day, the photo techniques we discuss, and the interests of the group. If it rains, we stay inside for a presentation and lively discussion of nature photography. 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Free; Advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

November 26

Swamp and Sandhill Surprises – Guided Hike: Every day the preserve reveals new natural wonders. Join us on this leisurely 1-mile hike to uncover the latest secrets of nature in Brooker Creek's wet and dry habitats. Led by a volunteer hike guide. 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Free; Advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

DECEMBER EVENTS

December 1

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December 1 and 15

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December 2

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December 7, 14, 21 and 28

Book Time at Brooker: Bring your preschooler to this program designed to connect them to the wonders of the natural world. In addition to hearing a great story, your child will participate in a craft, game or other hands-on activity related to the story that is read. This activity is recommended for ages 3 to 5. 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Free; register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

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December 9

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December 9

The Great Weedon Bird Quest: Join us on a quest to find Weedon Island Preserve birds! Learn the identifying marks and behaviors of our feathered year-round residents and seasonal visitors while helping us compile an annual checklist of the Preserve's birds. These hikes are designed to take advantage of all levels of birding experience. Binoculars and bird guides are available. Please join us for a relaxing morning outing led by experienced birders. Recommended for adults. 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.; Free, advance registration required. Register online at www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com. Weedon Island Preserve, (727) 453-6500; 1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg.

December 10

Music in the Woods: Featuring the Meriggiare String Quartet: The Meriggiare String Quartet will be playing in the Auditorium from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. We were happy to host them again, they came last November and it was marvelous! Free; more information online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

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December 13

Dunedin Documentaries – Just Eat It: We all love food - so why are we throwing so much of it away? Filmmakers and food lovers Jen and Grant dive into the issue of waste from farm, through retail, all the way to the back of their own fridge. Join us for a film screening followed by a community discussion. Free; advanced registration at http://bit.ly/2ylo5E9. Dunedin Community Center, (727) 582-2517; 1920 Pinehurst Road Dunedin.

December 14 and 28

Vegetable, Herb and Tropical Fruit Garden Tour: Explore the Vegetable Garden and Compost Demonstration Areas to learn more about growing your own food. Marvel at the eye-catching array of culinary, medicinal and aromatic herbs, trees and flowers in our enclosed Herb Garden. Wander the brick paths between the Egyptian, Mediterranean, Asian and Beverage plantings and learn how the featured plants can be used in your home. Discover the tropical fruits that do well in our Florida climate. 9 a.m.; Free; limited to groups of 4-16 people. Register online at www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com Recommended for adults. UF/IFAS Extension Center/Florida Botanical Gardens, 12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo.

December 15

Archaeology Works: Pottery: Pottery was a vital part of life in Florida for the past 3,000 years, but it is also an important clue for archaeologists today. Learn to identify different prehistoric pottery types from around Florida and the ways archaeologists use them to learn about people in the past. Recommended for all ages. 10:00 a.m. to Noon. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com. Weedon Island Preserve, (727) 453-6500; 1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg.

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Master Gardener Help Desk at Weedon Island: Our Master Gardeners provide solutions for all types of questions concerning garden, lawn, and landscape care. With the backing of research based information from the University of Florida our staff of horticulturists offer sound expert advice to walk in customers. The help desk is available first-come, first served, but to assist with staffing we request that walk-ins register for service. 10:00 a.m. Register online at www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com. Weedon Island Preserve, (727) 453-6500; 1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg.

December 15

Wildlife Hike: Join an experienced naturalist as you hike along boardwalks and natural trails at Brooker Creek Preserve. This will be a learning experience for everyone! Come prepared with your binoculars and questions as we enjoy "Our Wildest Place"! 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Free; advance registration at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

December 16

Footprints on the Land Guided Hike: Discover the many "footprints" that have been left on the land during this casual and entertaining hike. Native American, early settler and modern developers have changed our native habitats, find out how a preserve like Brooker is a place where those habitats can be restored for the health of the whole county. 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

December 21

Archaeology Lecture Series: Florida's Container Revolution – The Historical Consequences of Late Archaic Pottery Adoption: Traditional accounts suggest that the adoption of pottery technology in Florida approximately 4,700 years ago came with few, if any, discernible impacts on the hunter-gatherer societies involved. Recent research has revealed a number of important cultural transformations that coincided with pottery's appearance, including shifts in settlement, exchange, monument construction and mortuary traditions. 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.weedonislandpreserve.eventbrite.com. Weedon Island Preserve, (727) 453-6500; 1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg.

December 23

Extended Brooker Creek Guided Hike: Join us for a 2.8 to 4 mile walk as we look at how the land has changed over time and discuss the ecological footprints left by those changes. Hike trails will be determined by trail condition. Sturdy closed-toe shoes are a must, and water and a hat are recommended. 9:00 a.m. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

December 30

Nature Photography Hike: Join photographers and interpretive naturalists Karl and Kathleen Nichter for a hike at Brooker Creek Preserve. We will discuss photography and nature while hiking, stopping when we find subjects to photograph. We start with a short classroom session on some of the basics just to get us all thinking about photography, then we talk about what we might see based on the season and that day's weather. After that we head out to the trails. Each hike has a slightly different theme based on what nature might have on offer that day, the photo techniques we discuss, and the interests of the group. If it rains, we stay inside for a presentation and lively discussion of nature photography. 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Free; Advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

December 31

Swamp and Sandhill Surprises – Guided Hike: Every day the preserve reveals new natural wonders. Join us on this leisurely 1-mile hike to uncover the latest secrets of nature in Brooker Creek's wet and dry habitats. Led by a volunteer hike guide. 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Free; Advance registration required. Register online at www.brookercreekpreserve.eventbrite.com. Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.



Pinellas County complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in an event or class, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. At least seven days prior to the event or class, please contact the Office of Human Rights, 400 S. Fort Harrison Ave., Suite 500, Clearwater, FL 33756, (727) 464-4062 (Voice/TDD).

The Pinellas County "Doing Things for You" app is available for residents to report issues and access useful resources. Pinellas County can also be found on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram. More information is available on the county website, www.pinellascounty.org, which features LiveChat for assistance.

Our Vision: To Be the Standard for Public Service in America