

Rotarians Deliver Magnets For Students

The Rotary Club of The Villages - Evenings' Youth Services Committee members Phil and Cathy Taggart and committee chair Al Martine delivered 260 car magnets to Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary School. These magnets will be given to students who are recognized through the school's Student of the Month program. For more information, visit rotaryvillagesevening.com.

DATAWATCH

\$5,000

The Orange Blossom Gardens Lions Club in Lady Lake donated \$5,000 to St. Theresa's Food Pantry. The pantry provides food support to people living in Belleview, The Villages, Lady Lake and Ocala. Visit oblions.com.

814

During four phlockings, The Villages Parrot Heads Club collected 814 school-related items and donated them to Wildwood Middle High School.

3

The Hometown Civitan Club of The Villages donated a total of \$5,000 to three groups. Beacon College got a \$2,000 donation, Celebrate Differences received a \$1,500 grant and My Special Place got a \$1,500 donation.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

TOM LEUGERS EASTPORT SUN DRAGONS



The Village of St. Johns resident is a member of the Eastport Sun Dragons Boating Team. Members volunteer their time to support the Marine Toys for Tots program and participate in roadside cleanups via the Adopt-A-Highway initiative. For more information, email Eastportdragons@gmail.com.



Becky Elbing, right, of the Village of Calumet Grove and a volunteer with Friends of SoZo Kids is collecting new Christmas presents for her family in 2024. Friends of SoZo Kids is collecting new items to become part of this year's Christmas shopping experience held by the organization.

Local Nonprofit Household Goo

Friends of SoZo Kids expects to serve 200 to 250 children and their families through a shopping experience this holiday season.

By CHASITY BOATMAN
Daily Sun Staff Writer

For many children, choosing a Christmas gift for a parent or grandparent is part of the holiday magic. For children living in the Ocala National Forest, that experience can be harder to come by.

Friends of SoZo Kids is working to change that by collecting new

and gently used items through Oct. 30. The items will become part of a Christmas shopping experience for children and their families. The idea was born from the Help Agency of the Cynthia Derling SoZo Kids program. Santa would visit the Community Center and donate toys.

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