

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FROM THE DESK OF DEBORAH BUTLER

Annual Easter at Butler Event Drew Over a Thousand Visitors

Gainesville, FL – April 1, 2024 – Hosted by <u>Butler Enterprises</u>, the annual Easter Extravaganza community event held on Sunday, March 24, from 1 pm -4 pm, was a resounding success, welcoming over 1,200 visitors from Gainesville and North Central Florida. Sponsored by <u>SnG Pavement Marking</u>, Florida Green Keepers, <u>Joyner Construction</u>, <u>LifeSouth</u>, and <u>Senator Keith Perry</u>, and expertly managed by <u>Keith Watson Events</u>, the event was a delightful annual celebration of Easter.

Guests of all ages enjoyed a wide array of activities designed to spark joy and creativity. <u>Whole Foods</u> offered guests the opportunity to sweeten their icing skills, while <u>Hibbett Sports</u> provided materials for crafting personalized Easter baskets. At <u>Allie Allure</u>, attendees showcased their artistic flair through egg decorating. Additionally, <u>UrgentVet</u> delighted guests with the chance to take a photo with their inflatable bunny mascot and receive treats for their furry companions.

The excitement continued with thrilling prize opportunities from <u>5.11 Tactical</u>, <u>Tilly's</u>, and <u>Massage Envy</u>, as guests spun the wheel for enticing rewards. Indulgent treats were available from <u>Menchie's</u>, <u>Foxtail Coffee</u>, <u>Chuy's</u>, <u>Jeremiah's Italian Ice</u>, <u>P.F.</u> <u>Chang's</u>, and <u>Chicken Salad Chick</u>, adding to the festive atmosphere. Attendees also had the chance to snag fun freebies and participate in activities offered by <u>T-Mobile</u>, <u>J.Crew Factory</u>, and <u>Alumni Hall</u>.

The event welcomed repeat community vendors such as <u>Gainesville Rabbit Rescue</u>, accompanied by some of their adorable furry friends, as well as representatives from the <u>Gainesville Police Department</u>, <u>Alachua County Sheriff's Office</u>, <u>Fun 4 Gator</u> <u>Kids</u>, and the <u>Child Advocacy Center</u>, further enriching the community spirit of the Easter Extravaganza.

The event featured beloved characters such as Alice, the Mad Hatter, the Queen of Hearts and, of course, the Easter Bunny. Attendees enjoyed a variety of entertainment options, including face painting, balloon twisting, and a trackless train ride, enhancing the festive atmosphere and creating lasting memories for all. On stage, audiences were treated to captivating performances by <u>Danscompany of Gainesville</u>, IndepenDANCE, The Sedoctaves, Sun Country Dance, and the <u>Mayra Kucera</u> <u>Music Academy</u>, adding to the excitement and enjoyment of the Easter Extravaganza.

<u>Butler Enterprises</u> expresses sincere gratitude to all attendees for participating in the Easter celebration. They extend special appreciation to <u>Johnston Photography</u> for skillfully capturing the essence of the event, ensuring that the cherished memories will be preserved for years to come. Additionally, heartfelt thanks are extended to <u>Lisa Saccacio</u>, our exceptional event emcee, for her invaluable contribution to the success of the festivities.

Furthermore, the event served as a platform for community health initiatives. <u>LifeSouth</u> was present to collect blood donations, highlighting the importance of giving back to the community. Additionally, <u>UF Health HealthStreet</u> provided free vaccinations, promoting health and well-being among attendees.

In closing, <u>Butler Enterprises</u> expresses their gratitude to all sponsors, participants, volunteers, and attendees who contributed to making the Easter Extravaganza a remarkable success. Plans are already underway for next year's event, promising even more joy and excitement for Alachua County and surrounding communities.

About Butler Enterprises

Contact:

Butler Enterprises offers over 150 stores and restaurants spanning 1.5 million square feet. Butler Enterprises is the largest retail center in North Central Florida. Locally owned by the Butler family, Butler Enterprises has been in business in Gainesville for over 83 years. Each year, Butler Enterprises has over 19 million visits to Butler Plaza, North, and Town Center. Additional information about Butler Enterprises is available at <u>www.shopatbutler.com</u>.

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