



Pax's puppy raiser was away, so he was shown by puppy sitter, Dan Housinger.

Dogs Inc Puppy raisers raise funds at community garage sale

The Dogs Inc South Shore Puppy Raisers and Puppy Sitters raised more than \$2,500 during a garage sale, April 18, held in conjunction with Fishhawk Ranch's neighborhood-wide sale.

Proceeds will support Dogs Inc, formerly known as Southeastern Guide Dogs, a nonprofit that raises and trains dogs to assist people in need across the United States at no cost to recipients.

Volunteers donated items and staffed the sale, offering shoppers a range of goods while sharing information about the organization's puppy-raising program. Puppy raisers take dogs into their homes and, with guidance from Dogs Inc, help them become well-mannered and socialized. Puppy sitters assist by caring for the dogs when primary raisers are unavailable.

After completing basic training, the dogs return to the organization's campus in Palmetto for advanced instruction to become

guide, service, skilled companion or therapy dogs. The trained dogs are then matched with recipients free of charge.

Dogs Inc is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that relies on volunteers and donors to carry out its mission.

"We're so grateful to this puppy raiser group for their generous support of our mission," said Jillian Hinton. "It's generosity like this that allows us to provide a world-class experience to all who need our dogs, from a comfortable stay on campus to a life-changing partnership with an extraordinary dog. Thanks to this group, we can continue giving hope to the people who need it most."

Leftover items from the sale were donated to Hope for Her, which helps women experiencing crisis or trauma rebuild their lives.

For more information about Dogs Inc and its puppy-raising program, visit dogsinc.org/get-involved/.



From left: Peggy McGillivray, Lynn Malarz, Karen Johnson, Sharon Woodruff, Kathy Norton (co-captain), Mary Huntington (captain), Kathy Gafarian, Deb Lowe, Renee Hovden and Sharon Cucas Not pictured: Kelsey Nix, Tina Nethers and Nan Matuszak

The SCC Bumblebees win women's state championship

On April 17-18, the SCC Bumblebees competed in the 2026 65 and over 3.0 State Sectional Championships held in Naples, Florida. Facing four teams representing three counties, the Bumblebees delivered an outstanding performance, defeating each opponent to capture the Florida state title.

With this victory, the team has earned the honor of representing Florida at the na-

tional championships, scheduled for February 2027 in Surprise, Arizona. This marks a continued tradition of excellence for the Bumblebees, who previously advanced to the nationals in 2022 and 2023.

The team expressed great pride in once again representing the state on the national stage.



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