

HAPPENINGS

ISSUE NO. 355

DECEMBER 2019

SERVING PORT ST. JOHN & CANAVERAL GROVES



Submissions for publication need to be in before the 18th.

Call 321-633-7499 or e-mail to happenings1@att.net. www.happenings.net

Merry Christmas! Happy Hannukah!

Our 30th Christmas Parade will take place on Saturday, December 21st at 11 AM, brought to you by Happenings and Parrish Medical Center. The parade route will be along Fay Blvd., starting at Waterloo Ave. and going east to Carole Ave. in the eastbound lane. The floats face the south side of Fay Blvd., so viewing will be best on the sidewalk on the south side.

The theme of this year's parade will be "Christmas Carols." Come out and see what the imaginative groups in PSJ and the Groves can come up with, or enter your own group. Entry forms are available at www.happenings.net and inside this issue.

We heard from Santa. He'll be there testing his new sleigh for Christmas.

A HUGE THANK YOU to our Prime Sponsor, Parrish Medical Center, and our Diamond

sponsors, FPL and Higginbotham Companies. We are not government run or funded, so the following wonderful companies make the parade possible, along with the amazing volunteers who work to make the parade happen. It takes a village to put on a parade!

Our Grand Marshal this year is an unofficial group; the Over 25 Club. This is the 30th PSJ Christmas Parade. There are 7 people who have worked 25 or more. Six of us have never seen the parade because we work staging until everyone is out. This year some of our other wonderful volunteers will take over and we will.

Please be thoughtful of the residents along Fay Blvd. and do not litter their yards with candy wrappers and cups. If you bring a plastic store bag for candy and/or trash, it would help a LOT.

Any questions, suggestions, problems or needs should be directed to Randy Rodriguez, 321-633-7499.



Celebrate with PSJFUMC



Please come join us for our Christmas Cantata at First United Methodist Church of Port St. John, 1165 Fay Blvd. at 10 am on December 15th. Please note that the regular 9 am & 11am services are combined.

The choir and Praise Band will present: "Everlasting Light 'The Promise of Christmas'" by Lloyd Larson, Mary McDonald, Jay Rouse and Larry Shackley.



Come join us on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2019, 7:00 pm for Candlelight Service.

December services: December 22 and 29 at 10 a.m. The regular 9 am & 11 am services are combined. Come meet people from both the 9 and 11 am services.

Call (321) 631-0183 or visit fumcpsj.com for more information.

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PSJ Community Center Schedule - December, 2019

The center is open Mondays–Thursdays from 10 AM to 8 PM, Fridays from 9 AM to 6 PM, Saturday 10 AM-2 PM Schedule is subject to change. For latest information or to register, call 633-1904.

Mondays – Fridays

Seniors at Lunch, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Mondays

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Billiards, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Zumba (Adult Class), 6-7 p.m.

Tuesdays

24th - Center Closed for Christmas Holiday

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Game Room/Computers, 6-8 p.m.

Billiards, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

3, 10, 17, Girl Scout Troop 1902, 4-5:15 p.m.

3, 10, 17, Girl Scout Troop 276, 6-7 p.m.

Wednesdays

25th - Center Closed for Christmas Holiday

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Billiards, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Dreamweavers, 1-3 p.m.

Zumba (Adult Class), 6-7 p.m.

Thursdays

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m.- 8 p.m.

Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Billiards, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

19th - Cook's Helper class, 2-3:30 pm

19th - Potstickers Cooking class, 6-7:30 pm

Fridays

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Billiards, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturdays

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m - 2 p.m.

Game Room/Computer, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Winter Break Camp - Come join us for Winter Break Camp 7a.m. to 6 p.m. at Port St. John Community Center. Week 1: December 23rd – 31st; Week 2: January 2nd – 7th. Campers will participate in arts & crafts, indoor games, movies and weekly special events. Camp fees are \$90 per week or \$30 per day, discounts may apply. Field trips & activity fees are additional cost. For more information contact the Port St. John Community Center at (321)633-1904.

Zumba Classes - Zumba incorporates rhythms of Latin and international music to high energy aerobic/fitness dance movements. Zumba tones the body by integrating basic principles of movement and resistance training. Dancers and long-time exercisers thoroughly enjoy the change in pace exercising in a healthy, fun environment. Ages 12 years and up. Classes will be held Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-7 p.m. \$5 per class. For more information contact the Port St. John Community Center at (321)633-1904.

Cook's Helper - Cooking workshop for child/adult pair. Starts on Thursday, Dec. 19th. Everyone will get to make some biscuits which will then be filled and eaten. This is a discounted community outreach hands-on workshop for a child/adult pair. Cost for the pair is \$16. Child must be at least 4 years of age.

Potsticker Make & Take - Have fun learning to make and cook beautiful, tasty dumplings! On Thursday, Dec. 19th. 6-7:30 pm., \$30.

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Good Day! by Maureen Rupe Port St John Sewer Assessment

According to a November 17th Space Coast Daily story titled, "Sanitary Gravity Sewer Assessment for Areas of Merritt Island and Port St. John to Begin Next Week," the story stated the following: "Assessment Will Take Five Months To Complete." Although the article was about both Merritt Island and Port St. John assessments, the completion date only applies to the Merritt Island assessment at the time of writing. We will be started and finished much later.

BREVARD COUNTY • MERRITT ISLAND, FLORIDA – Brevard County Utility Services Department will begin conducting a sanitary gravity sewer assessment in the Brevard County utility service area for both Merritt Island and Port St. John.

The assessment for the Merritt Island service area is slated to begin the week of Nov. 18 and will take an estimated five months to complete. The Merritt Island assessment will start on north Merritt Island and proceed south to cover all service areas.

The Port St. John assessment is targeted to

begin in May, 2020, with notification being provided once a schedule is finalized.

The Brevard County Utility Services Department has contracted RedZone Robotics to perform the assessments with a purpose to identify current condition of the sewer sections and to develop a detailed program addressing needed repairs.

All RedZone employees will have a letter with them to verify they have permission to access county sewer lines. For more information about the work being performed, please contact RedZone Robotics Project Manager Ron Black at 412-477-9722.

The article also stated, "Stay Tuned To Space Coast Daily For Updates." No idea what this means as I just found out, but I will give you updates in the future.

Willow Creek

Preliminary Plat/Engineering have been approved for Phase One of a subdivision consisting of 70 single family homes. We don't know if plans have changed, but the original plans showed 688 acres with a total of 1,277 homes.

A Titusville Small Area Amendment has me

concerned. SSA # 3-2019 is a request to amend the Future Land Use Map to replace the current Open Space and Recreation (OR) to Single Family High Density (R-1C) zoning. The request is to rezone from OR to R-1C the areas that are not wetlands or the mitigation is complete with the St. Johns River Water Management Dept. and the Army Corps of Engineers. These areas are identified in the preliminary plat and the total area of the tracts are 4.53 acres.

The Planning and Zoning public hearing was on November 20, 2019.

The City Council Public Hearing (First Reading) is on November 26, 2019.

The City Council Public Hearing (Second Reading) is on December 10, 2019.

Unfortunately I have to submit my article by November 18th, but will know for the January HAPPENINGS issue.

I found Titusville's Land Development Code at Library.municode.com. Single Family High Density (R-1C) only requires a lot size of 6,500 square feet, and a house minimum of 900 square feet. Density, maximum units per acre is 6.7 DU. Given this is for 4.53 acres, that would be over

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30 units total. Are they building a phase of Tiny Homes? Is this for an affordable housing phase?

Do you realize the consequences this development will have on Port St. John? The traffic this development will bring along Grissom Parkway? Kings Highway will not be wide enough to handle the increase in traffic. I think they will have to 4-lane Grissom from Kings Highway to Port St. John Parkway. There is enough right of way on Grissom to do that.

What about schools? I could go on, but something to think about. We have a small area study going on in Port St. John, thanks to Commissioner Rita Pritchett. I think these future problems should be addressed.

There are also concerns about the endangered wildlife on this property; gopher tortoises, Scrub Jays, etc. If there are endangered or threatened species on the property, then the developers must inform state and federal agencies. I know there are, so we will see.

Reference:

<http://titusville.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Shortlist/index.html?appid=d04e00425e844c7dbaa789d099f8581e>

https://library.municode.com/fl/titusville/codes/land_development_regulations/?nodeId=TILADERE_CH28ZO_ARTVIZODIST_S28-305SIMIHIDE

Annexation

The people of Mims are concerned about annexation by the city of Titusville. This happened after Titusville annexed land within the area of Mims voluntarily. Voluntary annexation is when a land owner that owns a contiguous piece of land next to a city asks the city to be annexed. No referendum is required.

The Mims Community Group invited former Brevard County Attorney Scott Knox to speak on August 29th on annexation, What is it? What are the requirements? What is the process? What are the potential effects? And who has a say in it? I'm putting in word for word answers the Mims Community Group received from these officials.

"As defined in Florida Statute Chapter 171, 'Annexation' means the adding of real property to the boundaries of an incorporated municipality, such addition making such real property in every way a part of the municipality."

The area to be annexed must be contiguous to

the municipality's boundaries, must be reasonably compact and must be developed for urban purposes. "Contiguous" means that a substantial part of a boundary of the territory sought to be annexed by a municipality is conterminal with a part of the boundary of the municipality. He pointed out a few past annexations that did not meet these requirements.

Generally, it requires two public hearings on an ordinance and a referendum by the city. However, voluntary annexation only requires adoption of an ordinance and newspaper publication for two weeks.

Residents of the annexed area get municipal services (water, sewer, etc.) and pay different taxes (frequently, higher taxes) than they paid as a county resident.

"Parties affected" means any persons or firms owning property in, or residing in, either a municipality proposing annexation or owning property that is proposed for annexation to a municipality or any governmental unit with jurisdiction over such area. Residents owning adjacent properties are not considered "affected parties."

cont., next page

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STEVEN ALLENDER

Good Day!, cont.

He pointed out that the statute only allowed 30 days to file a protest in court before the annexation became official.

When asked how residents of Mims could prevent the continued piecemeal annexation of Mims by the city of Titusville, he said there are two ways; incorporate into a city or ask the State Legislature for help (such as creating a special district).

Questions/Answers from State Representative Plasencia:

1. Could the Annexation Statute be changed so that persons owning property within 500' of the property being annexed be considered "Parties Affected"? See Florida Statute 171.031(5). These are people who will be directly affected by annexation, but who currently have no say in the legal process.

The current definition in s.171.031(5), F.S., defines as "parties affected" those with a clear legal interest in the annexation; either they are in the municipality, the area proposed for annexation, or a governmental unit with some authority over the proposed annexation area.

A standard such as distance-from-border could be seen as subject to frequent change, possibly creating uncertainty in the annexation process, possibly leading to uncertainty as to the authority of a municipality to respond to growth. Such uncertainty could even impact the perception of a municipality's financial stability, adversely affecting the municipality's ability to borrow money and issue bonds.

2. Is there some kind of Special District that could be created by the Legislature that would establish a boundary between Titusville and Mims that would prevent Titusville from annexing other portions of Mims without said district having its own government (still use Brevard County as its governing body)?

The Legislature may be able to create a special district for the Mims area with primary authority over zoning and land use decisions and prevent municipal annexation of the district. I say "may" because to my knowledge such a district has not been tried before. Such a "zoning district" may be an alternative to seeking full-blown municipal incorporation in a given area. However, ch. 189, F.S., requires that the charter of any "independent

special district" must provide for the district to be self-governing, through a district board of commissioners (in a "dependent district," the board may be composed of the County Commission). While the district could remain under county authority for other purposes, there would have to be the additional layer of government in order to comply with ch. 189. I'm not sure whether placing the County Commission in control of the district, making it a "dependent district," would provide the protection sought.

Summary from the State's view:

Incorporation of Mims into a city appears to be the only way to prevent annexation of areas of Mims into Titusville.

For everything above, it could all apply to Port St. John or Canaveral Groves. We have two cities north and south of us; the city of Titusville and the city of Cocoa. Forewarned is forearmed.

Mosaic Mining Expansion OK'd

A November 6 article in the Tampa Bay Times by Craig Pittman, titled, "Appeals court ruling OKs Mosaic mining expansion in Central Florida," tells about a lawsuit concerning Mosaic mining. I wrote an article a couple of years ago about



May your holidays be joyful and bright.



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Jennifer Neumann-Dicadio

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a sinkhole opening underneath a pile of Gypsum back in 2016. The sinkhole allowed 215 million gallons of acidic slightly radioactive water to leak into the Florida Aquifer. In 2017, the Center for Biological Diversity, People for Protecting Peace River, ManaSota-88 and Suncoast Waterkeeper sued the Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for permitting 50,000 acres of phosphate mining in central Florida that the groups said violated the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act. The article states, "The Mosaic permits cover parts of Hillsborough, Hardee, Manatee and Polk counties."

According to the article, "A federal judge disagreed. He ruled that Mosaic's phosphate mining is separate from their fertilizer processing plants and thus the permit didn't need to cover the processing plant's production of waste material."

A dissenting opinion by Judge Beverly Martin contended that because the Corps' responsibility is keeping the nation's waters clean and the phosphogypsum stacks have had spills, "...the Corps should have assessed the environmental impacts that leaky phosphogypsum stacks might have on ... the environment at large."

If not these agencies that permitted the mining, who is responsible? The Environment Protection Agency (EPA)? The EPA has been cutting back on water and air protection regulations in last few years, so who will protect us? The article even stated, "Prior to issuing the Mosaic permit, the Corps produced a 2013 study that said creating those mines will destroy nearly 10,000 acres of wetlands and 50 miles of streams across the state, causing a 'significant impact.'"

Reference: <https://www.tampabay.com/news/>

environment /2019/11/06/appeals-court-ruling-oks-mosaic-mining-expansion-in-central-florida/
www.tampabay.com/news/environment/wetlands/environmental-groups-sue-federal-agencies-over-effects-of-phosphate-mining/2316750/
Pharmacists treating ailments?

In an article on the University of South Florida's Health News Florida Website, a November 14, 2019 News Service of Florida article by Christine Sexton titled, "Pharmacists Could Get Power to Treat Flu, Strep" tells of a Florida House Bill 389 in the House Health Quality Subcommittee sponsored by Rep. Tyler Sirois which would permit pharmacists to test and treat both the flu and strep throat. The article says Rep Sirois says it will give to Floridians more and cheaper access for these minor health ailments.

cont., next page



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Good Day!, cont.

The Food and Drug Administration has in recent years approved rapid diagnostic tests for both conditions. Currently, Florida law permits pharmacists to become certified to administer certain immunizations or vaccines after they complete a 20-hour board-certified course and besides other things, have at least \$200,000 of liability insurance.

But there are Florida doctors who are opposed to the bill. Chris Nuland, a Jacksonville attorney and lobbyist for the Florida Chapter of the American College of Physicians Services states they are worried about the trade-off between access and quality. What about people who go to pharmacists and are told the test shows they don't have the flu or Strep? You should still determine why the person is sick and doctors have to go to school for seven years to make that determination.

The article went on to say, "The bill cleared the subcommittee in an 11-3 vote. It would have to be approved by two more health-care panels before it could be considered by the full House during the 2020 legislative session, which starts Jan. 14. An identical bill (SB 714) has been filed by Sen. Travis Hutson, R-St. Augustine."

Reference: health.wusf.usf.edu/post/pharmacists-could-get-power-treat-flu-strep#stream/0

This is the last Happenings of 2019. Christmas has always given us a chance at a new beginning. Jesus was born to change things, to bring love, not wars. We can all celebrate that hope, even other religions. I hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Cheerio,

Maureen Rupe

rupe32927@earthlink.net

Road Closures for Parades

PORT ST. JOHN - On December 21, Fay Blvd. will be closed from Waterloo Ave. (east of Fay Park) to Carole Ave. from 9:45 am to 12:30 for the Port St. John Christmas Parade. Curtis Blvd. will be the alternate route. For residents living near the PSJ Library, you will have to turn right at Fay Blvd. The road will be closed to west-bound and through traffic.

BCSO will close Courtenay Parkway (SR 3) from Grove Boulevard to Merritt Avenue and Merritt Avenue east to Plumosa Avenue at 9:30 a.m. until approximately noon. on Saturday, Dec. 7, for the Merritt Island Holiday Parade. The traffic will be re-routed to Tropical Trail, SR 520 and SR 528.

Brevard County Parks and Recreation in conjunction with the City of Rockledge and City of Cocoa Police Departments will begin closing select streets starting at 2 p.m. until approximately 5 p.m. on Saturday, December 14 for the Cocoa/Rockledge Holiday Parades. The parade route begins at Rockledge High School and heads north on Florida Avenue before taking a slight right on Brevard Avenue near Oak Street. Continuing north, the route turns right at Maryland Avenue, then left heading north on Delannoy Avenue. The route concludes by turning right on Harrison Street, where the parade ends in the parking lot of Lee Wenner Park. Traffic will be re-routed to alternate routes in the area.

Motorists wishing to drive through these areas are cautioned to allow extra time. Pedestrians are also encouraged to exercise caution along the parade route. For additional information about the county parades, please call 321-633-1874 or email Rhonda.McConnell@brevardfl.gov.

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In the picture the back row is Brianna S. and Chloe W. The middle row is Coach Meagan, Brixley K., Lillian G., McKenzie M., Danielle S., Savanna H., Emma M., Addielynn B. Front row - Shelby T., Lexi B., Emma P., Ryleigh B. Not pictured: Hannah T, Coach Craig Calhoun

Winning Girls of PSJ

The U12 Port St. John United girls soccer team, coached by Meagan Garrison, won 1st place in the Brevard Recreational Classic Tournament on November 17th weekend! The girls played their hearts out and brought home a win!

The tournament was held at Chain of Lakes Park in Titusville with nearly 50 teams represented in several categories by almost as many clubs from all over Brevard.

After Saturday's tournament games the teams were in 2nd place. The semi-final game was played at 8am on Sunday against the 3rd place team - Space Coast Wildfire. The team won that game 2-1, with Brianna and Danielle scoring a goal each. Danielle's goal was scored on a penalty kick in the box.

The final match was against the Indiantown Warriors. Lilly scored the team's first goal to tie

the game at 1-1, then Emma M. scored the second goal to take the lead. The team won 2-1.

In the photo above, they look so cute and sweet. I'm sure the other teams have realized that's a wrong assumption to think they're just cute and sweet. They are a fierce group of athletes! They put in the hard work to get ready for the tournament, then fought the cold and the rain and other tough teams to achieve their goal of winning the tournament. Congratulations, girls!

2019 Holiday Shipping Deadlines

To get your packages delivered by Christmas, 2019 you will need to have your packages sent with Fedex Ground by December 16, 2019, Fedex Express by December 20th, UPS Ground by December 13th or UPS Express by December 20th, US Postal Service Ground by December 14th, First Class Mail by December 20th, Priority Mail by December 21st and Priority Mail Express service offered after that date.

Packages shipped after these dates will not have arrival guarantees from the carriers. Fedex and UPS will offer overnight services if shipped domestically before December 23rd, depending on weather and distance.

For any item shipped after these dates, there is no guarantee for delivery in time for Christmas. Also, during the holiday season it is suggested that you have signature services on any item of value to stop Porch Pirates from stealing your packages.

Our 2020 magnetic calendars are now in. Please stop by.

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Men's Reproductive Health Program

Parrish Medical Group (PMG) in Titusville has established the region's only medical practice focusing on men's reproductive health. Prostate health, male fertility, vasectomy reversal, erectile dysfunction and incontinence are treated at PMG by Dr. Mark Licht, a board-certified and fellowship-trained urologist.

Dr. Licht says that men's urology issues are very common, but most men avoid talking about them, and worse, hesitate or fail to seek treatment. "I want every man to know that most male urology problems are almost always treatable," says Dr. Licht. "The reason I focus on this area of medicine is seeing men who thought there was no hope, or no chance for improvement or recovery feel as if they have been given a new life."

Patients are traveling from Miami, Jacksonville and other Florida communities to seek treatment from Dr. Licht. One patient from Boca Raton says Dr. Licht is a life-changer. "Dr. Licht enabled me to get my confidence back as a man," the patient said. "I traveled to see Dr. Licht from Boca and I am so glad I did."

Dr. Licht received his medical education and specialty training at Columbia University, Cleveland Clinic Foundation and Mayo Clinic, regularly ranked at or near the top among American's health care providers by U.S. News & World Best Hospital list and other ratings organizations. Parrish Medical Center is a member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network.

"These important clinical services for men, provided by a physician who is an acknowledged medical authority in these areas, comes out of our continuing assess-

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ment of community needs," says George Mikitarian, Parrish Healthcare President and CEO. "It's another component of Parrish Healthcare's integrated care program that provides healing experiences for everyone all the time."

All women, ladies, girls are invited to:

"A Woman's Walk with Jesus The Mary and Martha in Each of Us"

Luke 10:38-42

The event will be held on Friday, January 24, 2020, 6:30-9 pm at 1st United Methodist Church of PSJ on 1165 Fay Blvd., then again on Saturday, January 25, 2020 at 7:45 am-1 pm at Indian River City United Methodist Church at 1355 Cheney Highway in Titusville. The cost is \$20.00.

What y'all get:

1/24/20: Refreshments, handouts

Dr. Margaret Britt / "Finding the Mary in You"

Singing, Fellowship, Prayer

1/25/20: Continental Breakfast

Rev. Patricia Pena / "Finding the Martha in You"

Breakout Session

Lunch / Firehouse Subs

Singing, Fellowship, Prayer, Closing

The retreat is designed to help each woman find the balance as hearers and doers of God's word. Come meet and greet women from our community in this casual and spiritually motivating experience. For more information and a registration flyer, email MaryMarthaRetreat@gmail.com.

St. Peter's Orthodox Catholic Church

In The Western Rite

FIRST FRIDAY ROSARY - Dec. 6th, 2019 6 P.M.

Followed By Divine Liturgy

Church Yard Sales

Friday Dec. 6, 2019, 8 A.M.--3 P.M.

Saturday Dec. 7, 2019, 8 A.M.--3 P.M.

Friday Dec. 13, 2019, 8 A.M.--3 P.M.

Saturday Dec. 14, 2019, 8 A.M.--3 P.M.

3805 Fay Blvd.

Port St. John, FL 32927

**Schedule For Christmas is
December 25th at 4 P.M.
Christmas Divine Liturgy**

Please come to help support our little church. There will be cheap yard sale items along with inexpensive gift ideas, holiday jewelry, gift card holders & ornaments.

Monthly Tax Update

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has reminded employers and other businesses of the Jan. 31st filing deadline that now applies to filing wage statements (W-2's) and independent contractor forms (1099-Misc's) with the government. These forms need to be filed and mailed to the recipients by January 31st. This deadline makes it easier for the IRS to verify income individuals reported on their tax returns and helps prevent fraud. Failure to file these forms correctly and timely may result in severe penalties. In the past, these penalties have not been issued, but this is changing. One of our clients was penalized over \$3,000 for being one day late.

You are also urged to take advantage of the accuracy, speed and convenience of filing these forms electronically the day before they are due. You should start verifying current and terminated employees' information as soon as you can. This includes names, addresses, Social Security or individual taxpayer identification numbers. Also, be sure to verify your own information is correct and active with the Social Security Administration before January. If you think an extension of time may be needed to file, it's no longer automatic. The IRS will only grant extensions for very specific reasons.

Okay, now let's talk about the new 2020 adjustments. The standard deduction for Married Filing Jointly rises to \$24,800 for tax year 2020, up \$400 from the prior year. For single taxpayers and married individuals filing separately, the standard deduction rises to \$12,400 for 2020, up \$200, and for Heads of Households, the standard deduction will be \$18,650 for tax year 2020, up \$300. The personal exemption for tax year 2020 remains at 0, as it was for 2019. This elimination of the personal exemption was a provision in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

Tax bracket rates remain the same at 10%, 12%, 22%, 24%, 32% and 35% for all filings and only the taxable income amounts were increased.

The annual exclusion for gifts is \$15,000 for calendar year 2020, as it was for 2019. For tax year 2020, the Foreign Earned Income Exclusion is \$107,600, up from \$105,900 for tax year 2019.

Oh, and on a penalty, the Taxpayer First Act of 2019 increased the failure to file penalty to \$330 for returns due after the end of 2019. The new penalty will be adjusted for inflation beginning with tax year 2021.

Finally, take care in deciding who is going to assist you with preparing your taxes. There are various types of tax return preparers, including certified public accountants, enrolled agents,

attorneys and many others who don't have a professional credential. You expect your preparer to be skilled in tax preparation and to accurately file your income tax return. You trust him or her with your most personal information. They know about you, your income, your children and your social security numbers – the details of your financial life. Therefore, you should make sure they have taken adequate security measures to protect your information, along with tax knowledge.

There you have it. I want to wish everyone a very merry and joyous holiday season. I also hope that everyone will always remember the ones who aren't presently with us and still with us in our hearts forever. Love your family, forgive the ones who need forgiven and enjoy each other. Happy Holidays!!!

This information is a very brief overview. For details and specific assistance in applying the general information in this article, call us at your earliest convenience or contact your tax advisor. Provided by Tracey C. Higginbotham, E.A., (321) 632-5726, a member of the National Society of Accountants.

**TAX APPOINTMENTS
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Dear Neighbor,

This letter is to invite your organization to participate in the 30th Annual Port St. John Christmas Parade. The parade will take place on December 21, 2019, 11 AM, in Port St. John. The parade route will be east along Fay Blvd. from Waterloo Ave. to Carole Ave. We are hoping for 80-90 entries again this year. Please send your entry in early.

This year's parade theme will be "Christmas Carols." Floats and decorations should be planned toward the theme. All entries will be judged and plaques awarded. Categories include Theme, Christmas Spirit, Creativity, Marching Musical and Marching Non-Musical.

Floats should be no more than 17' high to clear power lines, and be 8' wide or less to travel to and from the staging area. They can be wider on the parade route. Marching groups should plan for a 20' wide roadway.

For everyone's safety, **CANDY MAY NOT BE THROWN FROM THE FLOATS AND VEHICLES.** Thrown candy ricochets and small children chase it into the street where they might be hit by the next vehicle. If you want to hand out

2019 PSJ Christmas Parade

candy, please be sure to have walkers accompany your float.

There is a \$30 charge for any float or vehicle which advertises a business. The fee does not go up if there are multiple businesses on the same float. Nonprofit community support groups and public schools are \$15, unless they display banners and logos for a business on their float or vehicle(s).

Call us to find out how to get your name on

the parade shirts! Your business name will be added to all the Parade T-shirts, staff and public, for a minimum donation of \$50.

If there are noise considerations for your entry, please let us know immediately. We will try to spread out the bands and musical participants.

Any questions, suggestions, problems or needs should be directed to Randy Rodriguez at Happenings, 321-633-7499.

Port St. John Christmas Parade Entry Form

NAME OF GROUP: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

CONTACT PHONE: _____

CONTACT ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

Are you having music? Y N Type of music: Band Caroling Other _____

Music Volume: Loud Moderate Soft

Do you have animals? Y N Type & number: _____

Approx. number of marchers in group (include moms, coaches, etc.): _____

of vehicles (include follow vehicles): _____ Type: _____

Include or attach a description of your entry for the Parade Announcer.

Return to: HAPPENINGS, 600 Aloha Ave., Port St. John, FL 32927

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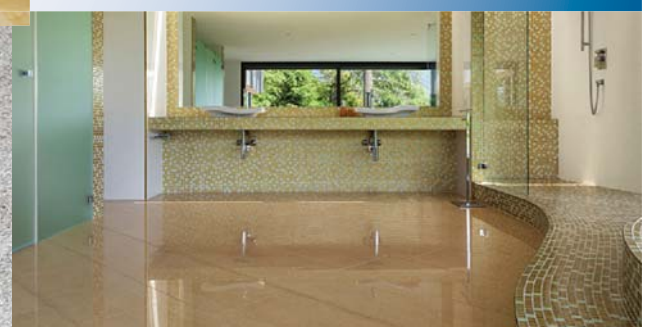
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**Mon - Fri: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Saturday - 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Sunday - CLOSED**



Holiday Art Show And Sale

At The Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Central Public Library
December 14th and 15th, 2019

The Central Brevard Art Association is presenting its first annual holiday Art Show and Sale at the Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Central Library, showcasing the unique talents of local artists. The artists will be showcasing and selling their fine art and prints, photography, jewelry, clay, sculpture, mixed media and much more! Many unique items will be available for holiday shopping! Gift Baskets will be raffled with 100% going to the CBAA scholarship fund.

The Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Central Library is located at 308 Forrest Avenue, Cocoa. Admission is free. Parking is Free. Show hours are Saturday, December 14, 9 AM to 5 PM; and Sunday, December 15, 1 PM to 4PM.

CBAA is a not-for-profit organization of local artists serving Brevard County for over 59 years. CBAA was created to promote community appreciation of visual arts, provide educational opportunities in visual arts to the local community and support our members through education, instruction, encouragement and promotion. Through community support, CBAA also provides an annual scholarship award to a local graduating high school senior who wishes to pursue a college education in art and sponsors a scholarship at Eastern Florida State College for students pursuing the arts. To learn more visit www.cbaaartists.com, or call us at 321-632-2922.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

Friday, 11/29 thru Monday, 12/23

Monday thru Friday, 3:00 - 8:00

Saturdays 9:00 - 8:00, Sundays, 12:00 - 6:00



ALL PROCEEDS go to KofC Charities, which include: Habitat for Humanity, Brevard County Special Olympics, Food for Families, VA "Home At Last" project and educational scholarship programs.



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Randy Rodriguez

321-631-2128

Cell: 863-7499



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COME SEE YOUR NEW MINI-ESTATE! This lovely CBS home on 3 lots has a sprawling fenced yard, live pond with fish, and lots of large trees. The interior has solar tubes, a huge master bedroom, a stone fireplace with an electric option, huge great room, eat-in kitchen with a bow window and 2 pantries, vaulted ceiling, wood flooring in the great room, tile in the dining area, carpeted bedrooms, 2 sets of French doors. Includes a Centurion propane backup generator. The 24' x 12' shed in the back yard has electricity.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Alcoholics Anonymous meets in PSJ on **Sundays** at 5 PM, Tuesdays and Fridays at 6:00 PM at 4797 Curtis Blvd. (St. Patrick's Church).

Overeaters Anonymous meets in PSJ on **Saturdays** at 9:30 AM at the PSJ Library. Visit spacecoast.org for other meeting locations.

Nar-Anon: Support group for those affected by someone else's addiction, meets on Mondays, 7:00 - 8:00 PM at St. Patrick's Anglican Church, 4797 Curtis Blvd. - www.naranonfl.org.

12-3 Compassionate Friends Support Group meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6 PM in Cocoa Beach at the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, 525 Minuteman Cswy. west of A1A, Fellowship Hall. Call 610-7875 for info.

12-4 American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 359, General Membership Meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month, 6 PM at the Post Home, 7260 S. US 1, just north of PSJ. Call President Valerie Helmer at 321-268-1632.

12-4 PSJ Startups & Founders Club, a group for new business owners and entrepreneurs, meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Port Java in Fay Plaza. We'll begin our program at 8 AM. The Port St. John internet site

can be viewed at www.meetup.com/Port-St-John-PSJ-Startups-Founders-Club/.

12-13 Brevard Women's Connection meets at Space Coast Convention Center (Holiday Inn Express) on Hwy. 520 from 11 AM until 1 PM on the second Friday of each month. The program includes a luncheon plus an inspirational speaker. For more information, call Mary at 636-4713 or e-mail her at mdean44@cfl.rr.com.

12-8 Multiple Sclerosis Self-Help Group meets on the 2nd Sunday each month (except Mother's Day & Nov.), 2 PM, Cocoa Library.

12-8 Word Weavers Space Coast, a critique group for Christian writers, meets the 2nd Sunday at 2:00 PM at the Central Brevard Library in Cocoa. Visitors are always welcome. Email angelagardnerwrites@gmail.com for info.

12-8 Calling all Christian authors! Dynamic writers group in Cocoa, Fla. offers training, critiques, and paid writing opportunities (2nd Sundays 2-4:30 PM at Cocoa library). Contact D.P. Clarke at 1royaldy@gmail.com for more information. Print "Writers Group" in Subject.

12-14 Canaveral Groves Homeowners, Inc. meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month, 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Room of Discovery Christian Church, 3925 Grissom Pkwy. in the Groves.

12-20 PSJ Business Connections Luncheon, sponsored by the Titusville Chamber of Commerce, meets on the 3rd Friday of the month at 12:00, PSJ Library on Carole Ave. Call Dennis Watkins at 267-3036.

12-16 Moonport Modelers RC Club meets at 6:30 PM, 3rd Monday each month at the N. Brevard Library, 2121 S Hopkins Ave., Titusville. For more info, call Wayne Mendez, 505-2361.

12-18 American Legion Post 359 meets at the Post Home at 7260 S. US 1 in Bellwood, (2 miles north of PSJ), 6:00 PM. All Legionnaires and new members are welcome. The Post meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Please contact the Post at 268-1632 for assistance with your membership or information.

12-21 Winter Begins

12-21 PSJ Christmas Parade

12-22 Hanukkah Begins

12-24 Moonlight Quilters Guild meets at the North Brevard Library in Titusville, 2121 Hop-

kins Ave. on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Meet and greet & refreshments at 6:15, meeting at 6:30 usually followed by show and tell or a guest speaker. Call 321-720-6232 or 321-720-1584 for more info.

12-25 Merry Christmas!

12-26 Kwanzaa Begins

12-30 Hanukkah Ends

12-31 New Year's Eve

Congratulations to:

Erin Lilly turns **25** on the 1st.

David Fine turns **15** on the 1st.

Destiney Anthony turns **23** on the 2nd.

Mark Emr turns **29** on the 3rd.

Jennifer Giles turns hotter on the 6th.

The editor is more ancient on the 6th.

Ashley Neal turns **23** on the 6th.

Cherie Brown (Hardin) parties wild on the 7th.

Brandon Weimer turns **13TEEN** on the 8th

John Hansen turns **65** on the 9th.

Steve Velligan gets kisses on the 12th.

Cary Troxel os the King on the 12th.

Betty Couch turns prettier on the 13th.

Jackie Jordan parties all night on the 13th.

Kiera Ward turns **14** on the 13th!

Kathy Ridgely turns wilder on the 15th.

Billy Treadway, Sr. turns cooler on the 18th.

Brianna Hardin turns **19** on the 18th.

Candace Mattox has a spanking day on the 19th!

Teresa Miller turns cuter on the 20th.

Tommy Mattox turns **11** on the 20th.

Cody Hardin turns **24** on the 20th.

Winter Erff turns **5** on the 23rd.

Ryan Erff turns **23** on the 23rd.

Deanna Wiedman is the Queen on the 26th.

Monika Williams turns **13TEEN** on the 28th.

Nathan Travis turns **13TEEN** on the 28th.

Paul Mann parties all night on the 28th.

Bob & Lossi Lacoste celebrate their **51st** on the 7th!

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Good Kwanzaa... Have a joyful holiday.

Randy Rodriguez - Happenings

Email to happenings1@att.net.

Important Phone Numbers

County Commissioner -	607-6901
Sheriff: Non-Emergency -	633-7162
Fire Station 26 (Port St. John)	633-2056
Emergency Operations Center	637-6670
Waste Management -	636-6894
Roadway Maintenance -	264-5084
SCAT Bus Information -	633-1878
Port St. John Library	633-1867
PSJ Community Center -	633-1904
Florida Power & Light -	723-7795
City of Cocoa Water Dept. -	433-8400
Parrish Medical Center	
Port St. John -	636-9393
Titusville -	268-6111
Atlantis Elementary School -	633-6143
Challenger 7 Elementary -	636-5801
Enterprise Elementary School	633-3434
Fairglen Elementary School -	631-1993
Space Coast Jr/Sr High School -	638-0750
Sexual Offender Registry -	
www3.fdle.state.fl.us/sexual_predators/	

Rose's Room

~ Rose Padrick

rosepadrack@gmail.com

Ready or not, The Season is upon us. It's time to dust off decorations, favorite recipes, good will toward all human-kind and old family traditions.

Not having been privy to many of my family's traditions, when the Big Guy began blessing us with family expansions, my husband and I began our own. Our first born was just six-months-old when our first Christmas-With-Child rolled around. I knew she would not remember, but hubby and I wanted everything to be very special. We sorta' slid into our own roles in the tradition making. Hubby bought, untangled and hung the outside lights. I held the ladder and the colicky baby intermittently. Hubby bought, leveled and screwed the tree into the stand. I held the saw horses and colicky baby intermittently. Hubby bought, read the 'simple' assembly directions and assembled a cardboard fireplace that included a little light bulb that heated a small metal flange that then turned and made the cardboard fire appear to be real (if you closed one eye and squinted the other). I held the colicky baby and covered her ears when the cardboard fireplace assembly reality did not match the cardboard fireplace 'simple' assembly instructions.

Being an old fashioned soul at heart, (so he said), hubby stuck to these traditions in all the years to come with the exception of becoming the assigned driver on the drives through well Christmased neighborhoods.

I, on the other hand, expanded my tradition duties yearly. The next year the baby 'helped' make handprint cookies. The following year her little sister kept the colicky baby tradition alive while she and I hung ornaments on the tree that hubby had bought, leveled and screwed into the stand.

Finding new and simple things the new and un-simple additions to our family could do to be a part of the celebration as the years passed was usually my favorite duty of the holiday seasons. I would love to say I relished every moment young feet thundered (not one of my children ever pitty-patted on our wooden floors) through the house, dusted every corner with flour and played catch with glass ornaments, but I would be telling one whopper of a whopper.

In reality I think all of us love to recapture the warm and fuzzy feelings we get when we traipse through old happy memories and tend to bury the negative thorns in these rose gardens.

But... Some of the thorns are what make the traditions much more enjoyable.

When all of my offspring were under the age of nine I gave each one something to do so they would feel they were an important part of the dinner. Wonderful idea – not so wonderful reality.

One asserted her independence by not waiting for me to open the stuffing box and ripped it with such flair that I was still finding bread crumbs under and behind stuff after New Year's Eve. Then they all (I admit, me too) doubled over with laughter when her sister felt it hit her head, thought something had flown into her hair and ran down the hall shrieking. Another one thought fresh green beans made much better fresh green things hanging from his nose. He stuffed as many as he could up his nose and chased his sisters around the room – only to discover they wouldn't slip out as easily as they went in and spent 20 minutes spread-eagle on the table while mom pulled pieces of fresh green bean out of his nose with tweezers.

Years to come brought many new and treasured hand-made ornaments, outside additions to our family and hubby passing on some of his traditions.

It also brought time spent trying to slip obscene Christmas cookies past mom, trying to take full advantage of the Mistletoe with the boy next door and Emmett Otter's Jug Band Christmas.

Children acquiring in-laws was the impetus for celebrating with brunch instead of dinner for a couple of years. We moved to having a Thanksmas in a park sometime between Thanksgiving and Christmas when grandchildren aged to the extent they had other commitments.

Discussions of who will prepare what never fail to produce memories and laughs – usually beginning with something like the Great Green Bean Episode to the recent year when the 'I Don't Cook' sibling was assigned cranberry sauce and forgot the can opener. An unopened can of cranberry sauce has been a table center piece ever since.

I never know what the next memory will be or how it will arrive, but I eagerly look forward to each one. I hope everyone reading this will be doing the same.



Pancake Breakfast With Santa

Space Coast HS Project Graduation 2020 is hosting a Pancake Breakfast with Santa on December 14th, 8 am - 11 am at First United Methodish Church, 1165 Fay Blvd. in Port St. John. The cost is \$5 per person. Bring the whole family and support the graduating class of 2020!

(3 2 1)6 3 3 – 1 5 0 0 | www.thecanopyagency.com



From our family to yours, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a wonderful holiday season!

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Public Notice

The American Police Hall of Fame in Titusville, FL will be constructing a heliport for helicopter tours beginning first quarter of 2020.

For more information please contact Mr. Shepherd at (321) 264-0911.

SCHS Project Graduation 2020 Quarter Auction

Support our 2020 Seniors by joining us for a Quarter Auction where you will bid on donated items from local vendors to raise money for Project Graduation. There will be door prizes, raffles, food and more. Auction paddles will be \$3 each or 2 for \$5.

The Quarter Auction will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 10 AM – 12 pm at Coastal Community Church of Port St. John, 5795 Falcon Blvd., Port St. John. The event is open to the public, hosted by Shandelyn Stokes and Tammy McLachlan. Visit Project Graduation Community Quarter Auction on Facebook for more information.

VIPERS
COME Support our SENIORS!
Quarter Auction
Space Coast High School is hosting a Quarter Auction to raise money for
PROJECT GRADUATION
COME SUPPORT OUR LOCAL SENIORS, HAVE A GOOD TIME AND WIN SOME AWESOME PRIZES!
SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH 10AM-12PM
COASTAL COMMUNITY CHURCH
5795 Falcon Blvd. PSJ
Paddles \$3 Each/2 for \$5
Doors open at 9:30AM
COME BID ON FABULOUS ITEMS FROM LOCAL BUSINESS
BRING YOUR QUARTERS OR TRADE IN SOME DOLLARS ON SITE.
DOOR PRIZES, RAFFLES, FOOD AND MORE...
Class of 2020

Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival

The 23rd Annual Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival, January 22 - 27, 2020, is headquartered at Eastern Florida State College Campus, Titusville, located near the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge and Cape Canaveral National Seashore.

Keynote speakers, spotlight presentations, workshops, classroom presentations, pontoon and airboat activities, and a photography strand make up the core of the festival along with over 70 exhibitors from all over the world in our free exhibit center. The festival offers over 85 field trips including full, half-day, evening and offshore boat trip, and visits to various habitats with excellent experienced guides and more than 180 species possible.

The festival also features the 2nd Annual Space Coast Family Wildlife Adventure Day, Saturday January 25, 2020 9:00am - 5:00pm.

Come experience the nature and wildlife the Space Coast has to offer. Visit www.scbwf.org for registration and more information.



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(321) 631-5600

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- MINI IMPLANT DENTURES

- ROOT CANALS
- TOOTH COLORED BONDING/FILLINGS
- WISDOM TEETH REMOVED
- PERIODONTAL THERAPY
- NITROUS OXIDE AND ORAL SEDATION
- IV SEDATION OPTIONS
- ONE HOUR TOOTH WHITENING
- ASK US ABOUT DRILL-LESS DENTISTRY!

IV sedation now available for our anxious patients – Have all your dental care completed in 1 or 2 appointments and wake up to a new “SMILE”!

Port St. John Public Library

6500 Carole Ave., Port St. John

Lena Penna, Director

(321) 633-1867

December Calendar of Events

Mon., Tues., Fri., 9 am - 5 pm; Wed., 12 - 8 pm;

Thurs., 10 am - 6 pm; Sat., 10 am - 2 pm

No Storytime sessions on Nov. 28 and Nov. 29.

Dec. 24 & 25. Library is Closed.

Adult Programs:

Master Gardener. Tuesdays, 2-4 pm,

Conference Room.

SHINE – Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders. Tues, 12-3 pm. Counselors assist seniors and the disabled with Medicare and Medicaid questions. Call for an appointment time 321-222-7981.

Infant Laptime: Tuesdays, 9:15-10:15 am. Fingerplay, songs and free play. Ages 3 months - 24 months.

Brick by Brick: Lego freeplay. Thursdays, 3:30 pm.

STIR: Story Time for Independent Readers: Thursdays, 3:30 pm. School aged kids.

Story Time: Fridays, 10:30 am. Ages 2-5.

Overeaters Anonymous: Saturdays, 9:30-10:30 am.

Meetings and Events:

Dec. 7, 10 am. - Cookies with Santa!

Dec. 11, 5:30 pm. - Adult Craft. Free. Sign up in Reference.

Dec. 11, 6:30 pm. - Bookworms Book Club.

Dec. 20, 11:45 am. - Titusville Chamber of Commerce.

We are hoping to be a location for the free AARP Tax Preparation beginning in February, 2020, but they are in need of volunteers! It has been a few years since they have been able to have a regular presence here. They usually are in Cocoa and Titusville libraries and one of the Titusville Community centers and maybe a week here, so we are hopeful.

Do you want to be of service to your community? Consider becoming an AARP Taxaide volunteer. The program helps thousands of residents with income taxes each year throughout Brevard county, including here at the library. Please email Jennifer Ward at ward638@gmail.com to find out more about this wonderful service and how you can help.

December

(First week)

By paying for all of the above you have already guaranteed yourself a little bonus of sorts, perhaps to be used on a day at a local spa...you DO have all that free time now.

Go over your gift list. Now is the time to purchase those last few. I learned the hard way to also buy one or two male and female "Just in case..." gifts.

Hang the outside lights. Make a date with a loved one to stand in the middle of the street in the middle of the night to just watch them.

Clean the tree stand and buy freshening mixture. Decide where the tree will be placed and move any furniture necessary. Pick up the tree as soon as possible. Cut at least an inch off the trunk and allow to stand in the freshening mixture at least overnight. The branches will relax and open much further than you anticipated, resulting in further furniture movement.

Pick an evening that a holiday classic is playing on television, drag out the decorations and the kids (teenagers not withstanding) and make memories. Keep an open mind; the placement of the decoration is not nearly as important as who placed it there. Spending an entire season with all the blue bulbs on the bottom two branches is real 'Remember when...' fodder. Take lots of pictures.

The neighborhood drug store might have a little something for your husband's Great Aunt Prudence...?

Christmas Party for the Kids

Mr. and Mrs. Santa are coming to town!

The Port St John Library will host Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus at 10 am on Saturday, December 7. Mrs. Claus will read to the children and Santa will talk to each child. There will be cookies and milk and a book for each child. Also, a chance to write a letter to Santa, so he won't forget what the kids have told him. And, of course a table and coloring materials to color holiday pictures will be available to kids of all ages. (We know that Moms and Dads love to color, too!)



(Second week)

Designate one weekend morning for cookie making, inviting cousins (Yes ALL of them) and friends. Buying or borrowing six or eight large cookie sheets allows you to have two in the oven, two waiting to go in the oven and two or more being filled at all times. This shortens the wait time, thereby shortening the dough tasting/sprinkle shaking/doughy hands on face time. Parchment paper shortens clean up time, can be used several times and does not scorch like some non-stick sprays. Imaginations should run amok; a green reindeer tastes just as good as a purple Santa. Take lots of pictures.

Go over the gift list one more time; double check all the names and throw the list away, do not allow yourself to obsess about gifts any further.

Take the kids to a baby-sitter and spend a few hours

wrapping all those gifts you already have tagged and bubble wrapped.

Soak in a hot bubble bath for an hour before you pick up the kids and order pizza for dinner.

Have your husband pick up a box of candy for his Great Aunt Prudence... Surely she learned her lesson last year and won't eat the chocolates.

Things To Remember Next Year

Who really liked their gifts and what they were....

Who gave you something this year and what it was...

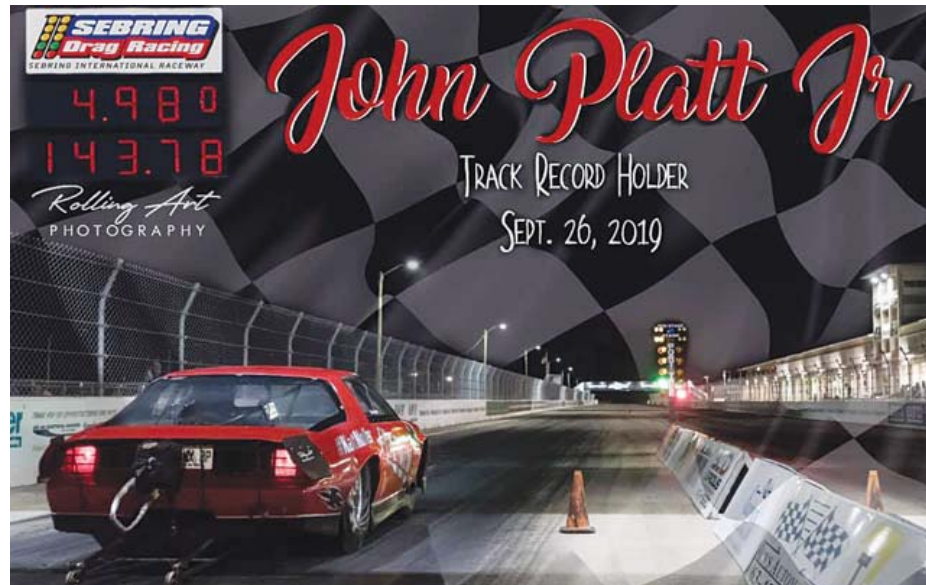
What your 'less than favorite co-worker brought to the office - (and what to bring to top it)

Readers... I hope you enjoyed and took some pointers from the excerpts of my book, 'The Absolute Best Way To Make The Holidays Totally Stress Free... Almost.' It and some others I have written or contributed to are on Amazon. 'The Blinks' by Steven Sommer is a childrens book with a wonderful message we could all learn from. Have a great holiday and keep reading!

~ Rose Padrick



PSJ Drag Racer Sets New Track Record at Sebring



John Platt, Jr., 36, of Port St. John made history by running the first ever 4 second pass at Sebring International Raceway on September 26, 2019.

Most know the iconic Sebring as strictly a sports car/endurance track, but in recent times the track has embraced the highly popular “no prep” drag racing by using the front stretch as a drag strip. The Sebring set up is complete with a dual beam activated Christmas tree and computer calculated timing.

Platt entered the race holding the track record at 5.036 he set in June of this year. The Battle at the Bridge race held this past August had a \$1,000 bounty on the head of the local racer for any car that could beat it. One racer came ever so close with a 5.038. Platt had hoped to break his own record that day, but the car and the track conditions wouldn't give him the speed or the traction needed to do so.

The September event, billed as Quick 8 at 8 was another chance for Platt to go for another record. The car and driver did not disappoint.

Platt's first qualifying run came in at a respectable 5.07 in the 1/8 mile. It was his next pass and broke his own record at 4.993, and then backing it up with an even better 4.980. The car was more than ready for the elimination rounds and Platt was in the finals.



“John Platt has become a very popular competitor at Sebring and our fans and business partners appreciate the fact that he and his family regularly compete at our legendary facility,” said Sebring Drag Racing Director Matt Muha. “It was only a matter of time before someone broke the five second barrier and the fact that John broke the record and then lowered his own time again on the same night was a thrill for fans and all of us on the Raceway team that have been waiting to see a sub five-second run. Sebring International Raceway is a sportscar racing facility with a non-prepped drag strip. That shows the effort and skill John put into his record run. He's set a new mark for others to chase and if he or any other driver lowers it again, we'll be happy to pay out another \$1000 track record bounty.”

Platt's trip to the winner's circle was met with cheers and applause. “I can't thank the entire Sebring track personnel enough for once again putting together a great drag racing event. I wouldn't be here without the tremendous support of Platinium Products and Atlantic Wire & Rigging. It's an amazing feeling to be standing here with the track record and I hope to go even quicker at an upcoming event.” said Platt.

Photo credits: Rolling Art Photography

Out on The Town - Dogs are Us, T-ville



If you're into old cars and trucks and some bar food, check out Dog's R Us in Titusville on the 4th Saturday of each month. A local car club called “Southern Classics” meets there every 4th Saturday, 2-5 pm during the winter and 4-7 pm in spring and summer. If you have an old vehicle you'd like to show off, you don't have to be a member of their club. They welcome anyone who wants to display their old or classic ride.

I try to make this show every month. It's nice to see a large selection of local classic rides. Some are restored professionally and some are in long term stages of restoration by their owners. Stands to reason since the car clubs' motto is; “From Rust 2 Riches.”

Even though I currently don't have a show car, I still enjoy seeing the variety of vehicles that show up at Dogs every month. Most of the owners will show up early, park their vehicles and then go into Dogs and grab something to eat.

I usually meet up with friends. We'll grab a meal with a couple of beers and then go view all the cool vehicles. I try to order something different every time I go. I like their burgers, Rueben's and Buffalo chicken sandwich, but the wings are tiny. Most people who read my article know I consider myself a French fry and Buffalo wing connoisseur.

I planned on doing a review on their wings a couple of months ago, but the wings were so small I thought it would be better to try them on another occasion. I figured maybe they just got a batch of small wings. But on my next visit, the wings were still very little, about 2” long. I will say they were cooked perfectly. Crispy on the outside and still juicy and moist inside and the sauce is tangy with just the right heat level. But I have never seen bone in wings this small.

I was also disappointed in their fries. On both visits, I asked the waitress what kind of fries do they serve. She said what do you mean. I said I prefer real French fries, not those coated type fries that a lot of restaurants are serving nowadays. She said they serve the traditional type French fries and on both visits I got served coated fries. What most people don't realize is, these fries, often called coated, breaded or seasoned, aren't 100% potato. They are full of fillers and are the result of the bean counters coming up with a way to sell potatoes that don't make the cut (no pun intended).

I don't recommend the wings or fries, but Dogs does have great sandwiches, hot dogs and my favorite beer on tap, Coors Light.

- Ken Carson



Domino's

**ONCE AGAIN, WE WILL BE PROVIDING COUPONS AT
THE PORT ST. JOHN CHRISTMAS PARADE FOR**

Cash Only!

Cash Only!

**A FREE MEDIUM
1/2 CHEESE / 1/2 PEPPERONI PIZZA
WITH THE PURCHASE OF A 20 OZ. SOFT
DRINK! ENDS AT 5 PM.**

The coupons will be valid with CASH ONLY, NO CREDIT OR DEBIT CARDS.

We want to share happiness and good pizza with our friends, customers and neighbors here in Port St. John. Credit card fees make it impossible to run this special. Thank you for understanding.

December 2nd thru 8th, Dominos is having the best week ever!!!

\$5.99 Large 2 Topping Pizzas

for carryout only!!!!

Also, 50% OFF regular menu priced Pizzas only

(online only - delivery or carryout!) **Port St. John Domino's only**

Giving Back



Between December 2nd and 15th we will be offering

**A Free Medium 1 Topping Pizza
for an Unwrapped Toy of a \$10 Value or more.**

(2 toys maximum, new toys only)

Carryout only - **Port St. John Domino's only**

**THANK YOU to the SCHS Vipers
Basketball teams for passing our
our cups and coupons at the parade
while we get ready to make your
pizzas!**



When I received my spiritual calling to ministry in 2013, I wasn't sure what it meant. But then scripture opened my eyes. "...We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28 NRSV). As I reflect on the time since my calling, I am truly blessed to have spread God's love to so many, both inside and outside the church.

As Head Verger of St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church in Titusville, I created the Verger's ministry to provide guidance, leadership, training and organization to the Acolytes, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Lay Eucharistic Visitors, Worship Leaders and Ushers. More importantly though, this allows my rector to focus on pastoral duties, knowing the services will go as planned under my guidance...the Verger.

One of the highlights of my young spiritual journey is the mentoring and training of my two padawan Vergers. Having just completed their formal training with the Vergers Guild of the Episcopal Church, Fellows Ellie Crockett and Jenni Hill will be commissioned and installed as Vergers of St. Gabriel's on December 8th, 2019.



Like a proud father, I swell with emotions, knowing all too well the accomplishment they have achieved and the journey ahead of them.

When I talked to Jenni about her accomplishment, she told me, "The Verger Ministry allows me to use my God-given talents to serve the church. Being a Verger means we are organized yet flexible, graceful and encouraging, and multi-taskers - we watch, listen and be aware of Clergy, parishioners' and visitors' needs. We enjoy tradition, yet we are open to new possibilities. Through training and spiritual reflection, we strengthen our understanding of the Episcopal Church Liturgy and most importantly, our relationship with Jesus. Got Vergers? Yes, we have three and we love the Ministry!"

While being a Verger is a formidable task with never ending responsibilities, it is the Verger that ensures the church is ready for service and orchestrates the logistics to make it so. This responsibility does not end after services on Sunday, but is a 24/7 job. You never know when your rector will contact you and say something like...oh by the way, there is a wedding at 11 am tomorrow and

expect 150 guests!...you guessed it, the Verger pulls everything together; liturgy, flowers, seating, servers and the list goes on and on.

Verger Ellie told me when I asked her, what does the verger ministry mean to her? She said, "This mind-boggling inquisition stumped me for days and not that it was unanticipated, but rather the sheer weight that this question holds for me. When I think of being a Verger, I think of responsibility, organization skills to sum it up, a job that resembles hard work and dedication. These things are all indeed true, however there is so much more that I was missing. Some things that were unaccounted for by me was that this job - this tradition - has been around since the 12th century upheld by hard working men and women serving their church and God. The Verger ministry means creating a relationship with everyone throughout your church. It means serving under God with love, passion and dignity.

By now, you have probably asked yourself... what is a Verger? The history of the Verger dates back to the middle ages, as early as the 12th century with the Church of England, when the Verger was the "Protector of the Procession." He would lead the way, making room for the procession to enter the church from the town square, and with his virge (mace) in hand he would literally clear the way if necessary. In today's Episcopal church the Verger is a minister who assists the clergy in the conduct of public worship, especially in the marshaling of processions. The basic vestments of the Verger are a black cassock, black sash, and chimere. The ministry of the Verger is through the authority of, and supported by, the Vergers' Guild of the Episcopal Church.

Vaughan Kimberling, Head Verger
St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church
Titusville, FL

Word Weavers

Do you enjoy writing? If so, then join our Creative Writing Group.

- A place to share your writing
- A place to receive feedback
- A place to give feedback
- A place to be encouraged
- A place to meet new people
- A place to have fun
- A place to network

The group meets on Mondays, 9:15 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Port St. John Library. Writers and potential writers ages 18-118 are encouraged to attend. All levels are welcome!

For more information, call 321-720-3881.

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LIFE • HEALTH • ANNUITIES

Walter Butler Community Center - December, 2019

Bernice G. Jackson Park, 4201 North US Hwy. 1, Sharpes

The center is open Monday–Thursday from 10 - 8 p.m., Fridays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Schedule is subject to change. Call 321-433-4448 for latest information.

Mondays

Open Computer Lab, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. & 6-8 p.m.
Pickleball, 11a.m.-2 p.m.
Kids in Motion, 3-6 p.m.
Chess Club, 4:30-5:15 p.m.

Tuesdays

24th - Center Closed for Christmas Holiday

Kids in Motion, 2-6 p.m.
4-H Garden Club, 3-4 p.m.
Open Computer Lab, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. & 6-8 p.m.
Pickleball, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Lego Club, 4:30-5:15 p.m.

Wednesdays

25th - Center Closed for Christmas Holiday

Open Computer Lab, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. & 6-8 p.m.
Kids in Motion, 3-6 p.m.
Pickleball, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Volleyball, 5:30-8 p.m.

Thursdays

Open Computer Lab, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. & 6-8 p.m.
Kids in Motion, 3-6 p.m.
Pickleball, 11 a.m.- 2 p.m.
Youth League Basketball Practice, 6-8 p.m.

Fridays

Open Computer Lab, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Pickleball, 11 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.
Kids in Motion, 2-6 p.m.
4-H Garden Club, 3-4 p.m.

Saturdays

Open Computer Lab, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Basketball League Games, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Sharpes Community Brunch

Hosted by The North Cocoa Civic League every third Wednesday of the month, 10:15-11:30 a.m., this event is free.

For more information, contact Jared Lewis at 321-412-0577 or the Walter Butler Community Center (321)433-4448.

Volleyball Fundamentals - Teaching proper playing techniques and teamwork. This class focuses on teaching beginners how to properly bump, set, spike and more.

Classes will be held on Wednesdays & Thursdays 5-8 p.m. For more information, contact the Walter Butler Community Center (321) 433-4448.

Winter Break Camp

Come join us for Winter Break Camp 7a.m. to 6 p.m. at Walter Butler Community Center. Week 1: December 23rd – 31st; Week 2: January 2nd – 7th. Campers will participate in arts & crafts, indoor games, movies and weekly special events. Camp fees are \$90 per week or \$30 per day, discounts may apply. Field trips & activity fees are additional cost. For more information contact the Walter Butler Community Center (321)433-4448.

Persons With Disabilities Dances are held at WBCC every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month from 7-9 p.m. all ages welcome. Contact Andrea Chestnut, 321-264-5058 or 321-264-5105.

4-H Junior Master Gardner Program

The Junior Master Gardner Program engages participants in novel, hands-on group and individual learning experience that promote a love of gardening, develop an appreciation for the environment, and cultivate the mind.

Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Fridays 3-4 p.m. For more information, contact the Walter Butler Community Center (321)433-4448.

Youth Basketball League

Program designed for boys and girls ages 7 to 12. Games played each Saturday 8 a.m.-2 p.m., tentatively October 5 through November 23. Primary focus will be to build upon and improve skills sets of each participate. Practices are held Thursday evening 5-8 p.m. cost is \$20 per player. For more information, contact the Walter Butler Community Center at (321)433-4448.

Pet Photos With Santa

Bring your pet and children, too, and join The Animal Sanctuary (TAS), a non-profit, volunteer organization, for Photos with Santa! The event is Sunday, December 8, 2019, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Myrt Tharpe Square in Cocoa Village.

Sponsored by Tails at the Barkery, this event will help raise much needed funds for the animals TAS rescues and the building of Brevard County's first no-kill, no-cage, animal sanctuary. The majority of animals who come to TAS have medical conditions resulting from neglect or abuse, some have behavioral and emotional issues, some arrive as strays, suffering from illness and injury, and all are in need of love and attention, which TAS is happy to provide.

For a \$10.00 donation, receive a goody bag and a framed 4x6 color photo with Santa. No appointment necessary! All pets must be on a leash, or in appropriate carriers, and have current vaccinations and county tags for the safety of our animals and friends.

All donations are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.

The Animal Sanctuary
5000 N. Wickham Road, Suite 110
Melbourne
Ph. (321) 259-9627

<http://www.theanimalsanctuary.org>

Tails at the Barkery
308 Brevard Avenue
Cocoa

Ph. (321) 305-4584

<http://www.TailsAtTheBarkery.com>

For additional information, please visit Tails at the Barkery in Cocoa Village or call (321) 305-4584.

Meet your neighbors and stay informed of Events & Community Happenings!

CANAVERAL GROVES HOMEOWNERS INC.

If you'd like to join and support our Homeowners' group, just cut out and fill out this form and mail with a check for \$15 to cover the current year's membership dues. Mail to: CGHI, P.O. Box 675, Sharpes, FL 32959



Name _____

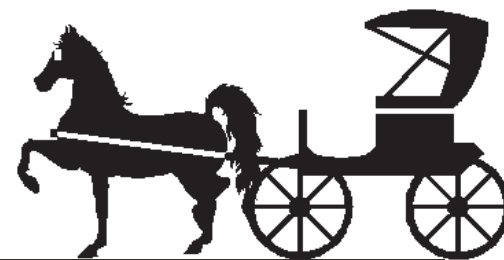
Address _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____ May we include your phone number on our membership roster to CGHI members? Yes No

Won't you come join us? We meet the 2nd Thursday of the month at Discovery Church, 3925 Grissom Pkwy. at 7:00 PM. www.CanaveralGrovesHOA.com

SLEEPY HOLLOW



Fruit From The Groves

At the November meeting of the Canaveral Groves Homeowners there were many subjects brought up:

The high speed train is a done deal and it is too late to do anything about it. This train may end up costing us in added time when we want to cross US 1 in Cocoa and further south. There also may be more cost for emergency equipment for a "just in case..." scenario.

A question was brought up about Pine St. going north to Port St. John Parkway. It was explained that when it was brought up the last time, there were a lot of state natural resources lands in the area and a lot of lots are plotted and not surveyed.

Home safety - with the upcoming holidays, which includes fire safety with lights and deep fry cooking. Please remember to check your smoke detectors.

Personal safety - when shopping and around the home, be aware of what is going on around you. As an idea, place a blanket in your car to cover your purchases or packages so they can not be seen or place them in your trunk.

Of course speeding and other traffic problems were talked about. Please be safe out there.

It was brought up about having a Groves-wide yard sale on the second weekend in December. Most thought it was a good idea and are going to do it. This is not a HOA sponsored function.

The December meeting will be on the 12th at Discovery Church at 7 pm. At that time, a slate will be made up for the election of officers in January.

**Please have a Safe and
Happy Holiday Season!**

Ed Silva
President
Canaveral Groves Homeowners

Holiday Art & Craft Fair

Edgewood Project Graduation will be hosting a Holiday Art & Craft Fair on Saturday, Dec 14 ,9:30 am-2:30 pm at Edgewood JSHS, 180 E. Merritt Ave, Merritt Island. Come and do some holiday shopping from unique vendors, crafters and artists! You'll find handmade crafts, art and jewelry, unique gifts and home decor, and vendors like Premier, ColorStreet, Pampered Chef and Thirty-One.

There will also be raffles and food trucks, like Big Don's BBQ, EatQual Vegan Street Food and LenAnd10!

For more information, email EPGCraftFair@gmail.com.

Art & Craft Holiday Bazaar

Over 200 Unique Artisans will be lining the streets of Historic Cocoa Village for two days of fabulous Art & Crafts! Come out on Saturday, December 7, 10 am - 5 pm and Sunday, December 8, 10 am - 4 pm and enjoy fantastic street food and live entertainment throughout the Village.

Free admission, free parking and as always, kid & pet friendly!

For more information, call 321-631-9075, email info@VisitCocoaVillage.com or visit our website, www.VisitCocoaVillage.com.

Fundraising Event

December 7th, 3:30 pm- 7:00pm

Jabbers Sports Bar and Grill

HELLO! MY NAME IS SAVANNAH!



I'm 3 years old and have Cerebral Palsy. I've been in physical, occupational, and speech therapy for 2 years. I'm doing amazing things with all the new skills I've learned. But ... There are opportunities out there waiting for me, that would be life changing! I have been accepted to receive 3 weeks of Intensive therapy at NAPA Center in Boston, a world-renowned therapy center! Unfortunately our Insurance is not accepted. Will that stop me? Absolutely not! Help me get there!

Raffle



Diamondback Firearm AR-15



Airboat ride for 2
Backwoods Airboat Adventures



Brows by
Tiffany Microblading
Session



Teeth Whitening Kit,
Hismile



AUTO WINDOW TINT



2 Yeti cups
Dockside Titles

Come and see All of our Raffles- There's much, much more!

www.gofundme.com/f/savannahs-journey-to-walk

Egg Foo Young

Omelette Prepared with Bean Sprouts, Onions, Chinese Cabbage Served with Choice of Meat and White Rice. Lg.

Roast Pork Egg Foo Young.....	9.95
Chicken Egg Foo Young.....	9.95
Shrimp Egg Foo Young.....	9.95
Beef Egg Foo Young.....	9.95
House Special Egg Foo Young.....	9.95
Vegetable Egg Foo Young.....	9.95

Mai Fun

Rice Noodles Prepared with Vegetables, Scrambled Eggs and Choice of Meat. Not Served with Sauce. Lg.

Vegetable Mai Fun.....	9.25
Roast Pork Mai Fun.....	9.25
Chicken Mai Fun.....	9.25
Beef Mai Fun.....	9.95
Shrimp Mai Fun.....	9.95
House Special Mai Fun.....	10.50
Singapore Mai Fun.....	10.50

Moo Shu

Cabbage, Scallions, Bean Sprout, Carrots, and Scrambled Eggs in a Special Sauce. (Served with White Rice & Pancakes) Lg.

Moo Shu Vegetable.....	10.95
Moo Shu Pork.....	10.95
Moo Shu Chicken.....	10.95
Moo Shu Beef.....	10.95
Moo Shu Shrimp.....	10.95
Moo Shu House Special.....	10.95

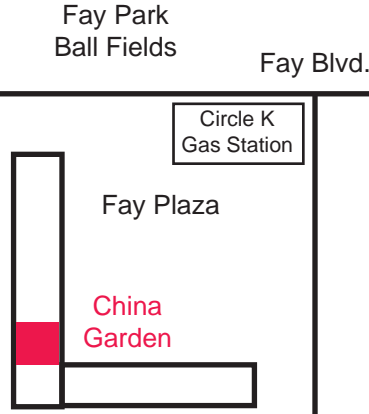
Diet Corner

(No Sugar, No Corn Starch, No Oil, No M.S.G., Steamed) (w. White Rice)

Per Order	
Steamed Mixed Vegetable.....	(L) 8.00
Steamed Mixed Vegetable w. either: Beef, Shrimp, Chicken or Tofu	(L) 9.50

HOT & SPICY

Grissom Pkwy.



Chef's Specialties

(With White Rice)

GENERAL TSO'S CHICKEN	10.50
SESAME CHICKEN	10.50
BOURBON CHICKEN	11.00
FOUR SEASONS	11.95
Sliced roast, pork, chicken breast, beef, and jumbo shrimp and mixed vegetables stir fried with brown sauce.	
SEAFOOD DELIGHT	14.00
Shrimp, scallops, imitation crab, and lobster stir fried with mixed vegetables in a white sauce.	
HAPPY FAMILY	12.95
Shrimp, scallop, chicken, beef & pork w. vegetable in brown sauce.	
HOUSE TRIPLE CROWN	11.95
Chicken, beef, shrimp w. vegetables in chef's special sauce.	
FIVE "O"	12.95
Shrimp, scallops, chicken beef, roast pork w. broccoli & baby corn green peppers, mushrooms w. garlic sauce.	
ORANGE CHICKEN	11.00
Terdaton beef steak w. orange peel in a spicy sauce.	
KUNG PAO THREE DELIGHT	11.95
Chicken, beef & shrimp w. peanuts in red spicy brown sauce.	
SZECHUAN SHRIMP OR BEEF	10.95
SHRIMP & SCALLOP W. GARLIC SAUCE	12.95
CHICKEN & SHRIMP W. GARLIC SAUCE	11.95
HUNAN TRIPLE DELIGHT	11.95
SHRIMP & CHICKEN HUNAN STYLE	11.95
HUNAN CHICKEN OR ROAST PORK	10.50
SZECHUAN CHICKEN, PORK	10.50
HUNAN SHRIMP OR BEEF	10.95
MONGOLIAN BEEF	10.95
Onion, scallion, bamboo shoots with beef stir fried in a chef's special sauce.	



Bourbon Chicken



Sesame Chicken

Special Combination Plates

(Served with Pork Egg Roll & Roast Pork Fried Rice)

C 1. Chicken or Pork Chow Mein.....	8.95
C 2. Shrimp or Beef Chow Mein.....	8.95
C 3. Roast Pork or Chicken w. Chinese Vegetable.....	8.95
C 4. Pepper Steak with Onions.....	8.95
C 5. Lo Mein (Chicken, Pork, Beef or Shrimp)...	8.95
C 6. Sweet & Sour Pork or Chicken.....	8.95
C 7. Orange Chicken.....	8.95
C 8. Shrimp w. Chinese Vegetables.....	8.95
C 9. Bar-B-Q Boneless Ribs.....	8.95
C10. Sweet & Sour Shrimp.....	8.95
C11. Moo Goo Gai Pan.....	8.95
C12. Chicken or Pork w. Broccoli.....	8.95
C13. Shrimp or Chicken w. Cashew Nuts.....	8.95
C14. Sesame Chicken.....	8.95
C15. Shrimp or Beef w. Broccoli.....	8.95
C16. Chicken or Roast Pork w. Mixed Vegetables.....	8.95
C17. Shrimp or Beef w. Mixed Veg.....	8.95
C18. Chicken or Roast Pork Chop Suey.....	8.95
C19. Shrimp or Beef Chop Suey.....	8.95
C20. Hunan Chicken or Pork.....	8.95
C21. Hunan Beef or Shrimp.....	8.95
C22. Honey Chicken.....	8.95
C23. Shrimp in Garlic Sauce.....	8.95
C24. Szechuan Chicken or Pork.....	8.95
C25. General Tso's Chicken.....	8.95
C26. Fried Chicken Wings.....	8.95
C27. Bourbon Chicken.....	8.95
C28. Mai Fun (Chicken, Pork, Beef or Shrimp)...	8.95

China Garden

Chinese Restaurant Eat In & Take Out
Cantonese, Szechuan Style

WWW.CHINAGARDENPSJ.COM

4795 Fay Blvd. Unit 8
Port St. John, FL 32927

(321) 636-1788
(321) 636-1662

BUSINESS HOURS

Sun. - Thurs.: 3:00pm to 9:30pm
Fri. & Sat.: 3:00pm to 10:00pm



DELIVERY Fee \$3.00

CHINESE DONUTS

1 ORDER
WITH \$40 FOOD PURCHASE

(Excludes drinks and delivery charge)
One coupon per order
Expires 1-31-2020

3 FREE EGGROLLS

WITH \$30 FOOD PURCHASE

(Excludes drinks and delivery charge)
One coupon per order
Expires 1-31-2020

2 FREE EGGROLLS

WITH \$20 FOOD PURCHASE

(Excludes drinks and delivery charge)
One coupon per order
Expires 1-31-2020



HERE ARE FIVE TIPS

1

PORTION CONTROL



We will be tempted with an array of delicious food during the holiday season. You can enjoy your favorite foods, but take smaller portions. This will help you avoid over eating and you'll feel better the next day.

2

READ THE LABEL



You can still make your favorite recipes, but keep healthy substitutes in mind. Use a non-fat milk option or light butter when creating your famous mac and cheese.

STAYING HEALTHY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Remaining healthy during the holidays is difficult. We have the opportunity to indulge in a variety of foods and treats, but it's important to keep health in mind.



3

STAY ACTIVE

You might have extra time off during the holidays, don't spend it on the couch! Continue your exercise routine or invite your friends and family to your favorite workout class.

TO HELP YOU STAY HEALTHY DURING THE HOLIDAYS



4

KEEP HYDRATED

Choose water for your drink. Remember we should be having eight glasses a day.



5

EAT SLOWLY

Don't rush through your plate of food. According to The Center for Disease Control, you should take about 20 minutes to eat. This is the amount of time your brain needs to register that you're full.