

HAPPENINGS

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OCTOBER 2023

SERVING PORT ST. JOHN & CANAVERAL GROVES

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

The Holiday Season Is Here!



Fall Craft and Vendor Fair

BPO DOES #183, a non-profit women's charitable organization. Is hosting a Fall Craft and Vendor Fair on Saturday October 14, from 8 am to 2 p.m., at the Elks Lodge, 3450 Kilmarnoch Lane in Titusville.

The DOES volunteer time and funds to a variety of local charities. Proceeds from the fair will help support Hospice of St. Francis, Florida Elks Children Therapy Service and Brevard Homeless Ministries, among others.

Local Artisans and small business vendors will present a variety of seasonal products including quilts, wreaths, dog accessories, home decor and much more. Food and drinks will be available to purchase. Enjoy shopping, food and fall fun.

For more information, contact Betty Parks, 321-446-3442.



Community Harvest Festival

First Baptist Church of Port St. John is hosting their annual Community Harvest Festival on Tuesday, October 31st from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

There will be Bounce Houses, Food, Games and Trunk or Treat. Everyone in the community is invited to attend. Wear your favorite costume!

The church is located at 3900 Fay Blvd., Port St. John and the church office phone number is 321-636-5455.

Come join us for fun, food and games for the entire family!

Pumpkin Patch Indian River City United Methodist Church



Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy the Pumpkin Patch. The event will include food trucks, crafts, vendors, maze, hayride, playground, storytellers, face paintings, animals, balloons, Pumpkin Princess and carriage, photo ops, pumpkins available for purchase and school field trips. Activities may vary from day to day. Please check our website at <https://ircumc.com/>.

Starting September 30 through October 31, 2023, the event will be run Monday - Friday, 3 - 6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

The church is located at 1355 Cheney Highway, Titusville.

Please contact Victoria Ausanka at Vausanka@ircumc.com or 321-267-7922 for more information.

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PSJ Community Center Schedule - October, 2023

The center is open Mondays–Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Fridays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. **Schedule is subject to change.**

For latest information about any of these programs or to register, call 321-633-1904.

Mondays

Seniors At Lunch, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Outside Basketball, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Billiards, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Community Cares Aftercare, 2:30 - 6 p.m.

Tuesdays

Seniors At Lunch, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Outside Basketball, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Billiards, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Community Cares Aftercare, 2:30 - 6 p.m.
Dancing Little Stars - Ballet/Tap Combo (ages 3-6), 5:10 - 5:55 p.m.

Wednesdays

Seniors At Lunch, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Outside Basketball, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Billiards, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Community Cares Aftercare, 2:30 - 6 p.m.
4th and 18th-Culinary Kid's 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Thursdays

Seniors At Lunch, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Billiards, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Outside Basketball, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Community Cares Aftercare 2:30 - 6 p.m.
Gentle yoga - 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Fridays

Outside Basketball, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Game Room/Computers, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Billiards, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Seniors At Lunch, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Dancing Little Stars - Tiny Tots (ages 1-3) (Parent Participation), 10 - 10:40 a.m.
Dancing Little Stars - Beginner Ballet (ages 2-4), 10:45 - 11:15 a.m.
Community Cares Aftercare 1:30 - 6 p.m.

About Kel's Kitchen - Culinary Kids—Every other Wednesday at 4:30-6:00 p.m. A special program for the child who has a keen interest in all things culinary. The focus is on developing foundational skills to carry into your kitchen at home. \$20.00 per class. Adult must accompany child and you must preregister at www.floridake-lskitchen.com.

About Dancing Little Stars - Dancing Little Stars- Professional Ballet, Tap and Hip-Hop classes for boys and girls, ages 2-7. Classes focus on rhythm, concentration, memory and balance... while having fun! Our full-scale dance recital is held at the end of the dance season in May. Enrollment is open through February. Tuition is \$60 per month with the recital costume included with

tuition. Register online at www.dancinglittlestars-brevard.com.

About Yoga With Diane - Gentle Yoga --Thursdays 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Relax, rejuvenate, and enjoy yoga that meets you where you are! Appropriate for beginners, all body types with alternatives offered to accommodate physical conditions. All that is needed is a yoga mat and water bottle. Recommend not eating two hours prior, small fruit snack okay. Price is \$7 per class. Visit www.psjyoga.com for further information.

~Diane Coben~

AECOM Unveils Algae Harvesting Ship to Help Indian River Lagoon

Brevard County Natural Resources Management partnered with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to unveil the AECOM “Algae Harvesting Ship.” The vessel’s launch event was held on Wednesday, September 13, at the Front Street Civic Center in Melbourne. This event highlights the dedicated efforts of the Save Our Indian River Lagoon program and FDEP in spearheading advanced strategies to address nutrient overload and harmful algal blooms (HAB). Attendees wishing to tour the barge should wear closed toed shoes.

Over the next few months this groundbreaking vessel, designed to combat algae in the Indian River Lagoon (IRL), will be mobilized to hot spot areas in the lagoon to demonstrate how it can remove algae and nutrients from the water to curb growth and prevent future algal blooms.

Visit the Save Our Indian River Lagoon website - www.brevardfl.gov/SaveOurLagoon - to learn about the program and our current projects.

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Planning has begun for the 34th Annual Port St. John Christmas Parade. The parade will take place on December 16, 2023, 11 AM, in Port St. John. The parade route will be east along Fay Blvd. from Waterloo Ave. to Carole Ave. We are planning for 70-80 entries this year. Please send your entry in early.

This year's parade theme will be "The Wonder of Christmas Morning." 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. Marching groups should plan for a 20' wide roadway.

For everyone's safety, candy may not be thrown from the floats and vehicles.

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 \$75.00.

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 or needs should be directed to Randy Rodriguez, 321-863-7499 or happenings1@bellsouth.net, or Jeremy Higginbotham 321-576-2818 or Jhigginbotham@orionconnectivity.com.

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, 4742 Brookhaven St., Port St. John, FL 32927

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Good Day!

~ by Maureen Rupe

Florida SPACeREPORT

A few interesting articles in the September 11, 2023 issue of Florida SPACeREPORT:

1. Draper, a research & development nonprofit, is building a \$50-million campus in Titusville. It's replacing a Draper centrifuge facility in Bedford, Massachusetts, which is out-living its usefulness. The campus will test nuclear deterrence systems such as hypersonic missiles and the Trident II D5 missile.

2. The U.S. Army, working with the U.S. Navy, is testing the U.S. Army's Dark Eagle hypersonic missile at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station. The first test was scrubbed due to a battery not activating. The goal is to field the first operational Dark Eagles before the end of this year.

3. SpaceX broke a record by launching 83 Falcon 9 or Falcon Heavy missions over the past 12 months.

4. NASA admits the Artemis program is unaffordable. NASA doesn't seem to show the true cost of the rocket and doesn't account for delays. The article stated: "It is probable that the Artemis II mission, a crewed flight around the Moon, will launch no earlier than 2025. The Artemis III crewed landing will likely slip to at least 2026, if not later, with additional delays down the line. At least one NASA official apparently told the GAO that these delays would have no cost impacts, which seems highly improbable."

5. Elon Musk announced that Starship is ready to attempt its second launch, but approval from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) may take a while. The FAA final report cites 63 corrective actions, including redesigning vehicle hardware due to leaks and fires, redesign of the launch pad, additional analysis and testing of safety critical systems, and adding additional change control practices.

6. In the September 28th edition of SPACeREPORT, NASA is requesting public input for a SpaceX request for expansion at KSC. They want to expand an additional 100 acres on Roberts Road to develop additional office spaces, industrial facilities and utility upgrades. 68 acres of wetland and scrub habitat will be impacted. The total footprint of facilities would not exceed 1.5 million square feet and facility height would not exceed

about 400 feet. They also want to widen Saturn Road by 8 feet from 26 feet to 34 feet wide. This road was used to transport the Saturn Rocket, so we assume this is to move the SpaceX Starship to Launch Complex 39A. Since Texas is wanting Starship gone due to environmental impacts, SpaceX wants to consolidate everything at KSC. Due to the number of launches SpaceX does each year, we hope Playalinda Beach and the Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge will not be permanently closed due to various hazardous operations.

Reference:

<https://mailchi.mp/4a4104308f42/florida-spacereport-899152?e=fe07b1cd51>

Low Impact Development Conference

I am telling you about the below on behalf of the Marine Resource Council (MRC), which I have been a board member of since the mid-1990's. Our mission has always been to save the Indian River Lagoon from pollution, and it is evident at that time it would surely be inevitable if attention wasn't given; fast forward to today with not much time left for the environment.

At the MRC, we have held a Low Impact Development conference for the past 3 years. Our next conference is a 2-day event on Thursday, October 19th and Friday, October 20th.

Please support our IRL with Low Impact Development. Please support the MRC efforts to achieve this and forward to all individuals listed below who can influence or control how we develop around the IRL that covers so much of Eastern Florida. This means so much to how we protect this precious commodity.

"If we poison the Lagoon, the Lagoon will poison us."

The following is from Steve Sharkey, the MRC Conference Manager:

"The Marine Resources Council is pleased to present the 2023 Low Impact Development conference, as we have challenged Florida communities to reduce the amount of polluted stormwater entering coastal waterways, especially the Indian River Lagoon. Low Impact Development (LID) and Green Infrastructure (GI) represent the most advanced trends in stormwater management to protect water quality and reduce flooding.

The conference covers a full range of LID/GI tools from design, modeling, construction and maintenance to funding and cost analysis. In ad-

dition, experts will share design tools, policies, projects and case studies to set and meet pollution load reductions, recharge groundwater aquifers, and prevent flooding.

Elected officials, community leaders and managers, engineers, planners, builders, developers, resource managers, landscape architects, public works and stormwater personnel, environmental professionals, scientists, educators and advocates will all benefit from the experience of Florida's leading LID/GI experts.

Registration & details are available at: <https://2023mrclidcon.eventbrite.com/?aff=mr>.

*Anything you can do to help promote this opportunity is greatly needed and appreciated. Please share this event link with your family, friends, and professional networks.

Conference location: Center for Collaboration at 1100 Rockledge Blvd., Rockledge, FL.

Now Seeking Conference Sponsors, Exhibitors, & Donors!

Your contribution will go to MRC's efforts to promote and implement LID, GI and advanced stormwater management practices in Florida. Contact conference management for details.

ACT TODAY: Exhibit space and sponsorships are limited and confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Add to the Program! We dare you to inquire about presenting your ground-breaking and cutting-edge expertise at the conference.

Questions & Contact Information: Please contact Conference Manager Steve Sharkey ~ Call: 321.978.8862; Email: SharkeyMRC@gmail.com.

Anything you can do to help promote the opportunity is greatly needed and appreciated. Please share the event details and registration link far and wide.

<https://2023mrclidcon.eventbrite.com/?aff=mr>.

This is a great article for the conference:

<https://savetheirl.org/whats-new/a-sustainable-tomorrow-for-development/>

Please let me know if you need anything from me."

Regards,

Steve Sharkey

MRC, 321.978.8862, LoveTheIRL.org

Space Coast Solar CO-OP

When a solar co-op is announced in a specific

geographical area, (ours is Brevard County), the online portal of the co-op begins to accept members within that area. The Space Coast Solar Co-op opened in August, 2023 and will close on November 30, 2023. Sign up at the following <https://www.solarunitedneighbors.org/co-ops/florida/space-coast-2023-solar-co-op/>.

After the first 30-35 homeowners have signed up for the co-op, there will be a meeting of the co-op members and representatives from Florida Solar United Neighbors (FL SUN) to determine what criteria is important to the homeowners when thinking of purchasing rooftop solar.

Using information from this meeting, FL SUN will draft a Request for Proposal and send it to local solar installers. Interested contractors will send their bids to FL SUN, who then put all the information from the bids into a spreadsheet format to make comparison easier for the homeowners. FL SUN also verifies each contractor's license and insurance.

The next step is another meeting with co-op members and FL SUN representatives to compare the bids and select a contractor. This can be a lengthy meeting as there are usually many questions and concerns. Once a contractor has been chosen, they are notified by FL SUN and given the information of the co-op members who wish to purchase rooftop solar. The contractors then contact the members and set up times to view their homes to determine their energy needs and feasibility for solar. During this process, FL SUN representatives are available to answer questions should they arise. After that, individual contracts are drawn up with the parameters agreed upon in the group bid and installation then commences.

During this whole process, until November 30, 2023, the co-op portal is open to new homeowners in Brevard County. However, you can see that it is advantageous to sign up early and become one of the members making the decision of who the contractor will be.

Joining a co-op does NOT mean you have to purchase rooftop solar. It only means that you are interested enough to spend some time with friends and neighbors to learn more about the equipment involved and the process of purchasing and installing solar on your roof.

Please see <https://www.solarunitedneighbors.org/florida/> for much more information.

Anyone Out There??? NASA Search for UFOs

I keep reading of extra-terrestrials, so there must be some scientific proof they can't explain. I will tell you what I think.

The Universe is so vast that the Law of Averages say there must be life on other planets. If they have technology to travel and observe us, then they are more advanced than us. If they are, they are understandably very wary of us and our behavior, which could be considered barbaric. Evolution has work to do.

Cheerio,
~ Maureen Rupe
rupe32927@gmail.com

The Great Pumpkin Rescue

You are invited to dive in for some splash-tacular fun! Forget the pumpkin patch; we are rescuing pumpkins from a floating pumpkin patch! Brevard County, Central Area Parks and Recreation will host its

The Great Pumpkin Rescue, cont.

annual Great Pumpkin Rescue from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 7, at McLarty Aquatic Center located at 790 Barton Boulevard in Rockledge.

Participants will be given a number which corresponds to a floating pumpkin in the pool. Participants will search for their number to rescue their pumpkin. Once a pumpkin has been rescued, attendees will be directed to our decorating station. A pumpkin decorating contest will be held at 7:00 p.m. and prizes awarded for each age group. There will be pumpkin rescuing, swimming, a pumpkin decorating contest and treat bags.

Bring everyone for this great family event. You must register in advance. There will be no on-site registration, as space is limited. Ages 4-15 years old are invited to participate in rescue and the decorating contest. Cost is \$6.00 for participants and \$2.00 for all other swimmers.

For more information or to register, please call Debbie Bowling, Recreation Program Coordinator, at 321-633-1874 or email at debbie.bowling@brevardfl.gov.

Due to health reasons, all Build-A-Brain Workshop classes will be postponed until November. Professor Darin was hospitalized and will be getting shoulder surgery in a few weeks. Due to these events there will be no classes until November.

A notice will be sent out at the beginning of October to let people know when registration is opening for the November Cryogenics class.



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Santa Claus At PSJ Library

All the children in Port St. John are invited and should not be late, as Santa is on a tight schedule. December is his busiest month and he wants to hear what every child wants for Christmas.

The Friends Of The Library are busy planning this year's arrival of Santa Claus on December 2nd, 10 a.m. until 12 noon. Santa's helpers will also have a craft project, coloring, letter writing, a snack and a special bicycle giveaway!

Make plans early.

Last year over 100 children attended!



Experimental Aircraft Meeting

Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 724 holds regular scheduled gatherings for fun and fellowship on the 2nd Wednesday of each month - October 11th this month - at 7:00 p.m. in the club house on Merritt Island Airport.



If you have a passion or interest in aviation, then EAA 724 will bring you closer to the action. You don't have to be a pilot or aircraft owner to enjoy our group. Our chapter is a mixture of pilots, wannabe pilots and non-pilots. If you like aircraft and aviation, you are welcome. Each month we have an interesting speaker and lots of hangar flying.

The airport is approximately 2 miles south of SR 520 on Courtenay Parkway. Turn off Courtenay onto the airport and then bear right. Across from the Fire House is the club house with the EAA logo on the end of the building.

For more information, call 321-514-9456, email watersdwayne@yahoo.com, or visit the website at www.eaa724.org.



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Parrish Medical Group Welcomes Dr. Matthew Musto, DO, MS

Parrish Healthcare and Parrish Medical Group are pleased to welcome Orthopedic Surgeon Matthew Musto, DO, MS, to the North Brevard community.

Dr. Musto, who will serve as director of total joint replacement, completed his orthopedic surgical fellowship training at the Minnesota Center for Orthopedics. He was the first surgeon to be accepted for the one-year Fellowship training program.

Dr. Musto earned his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree with honors at Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine in Spartanburg, South Carolina. He also holds a Master's degree in Medical Science and a Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of South Florida in Tampa.

Dr. Musto is an expert in direct anterior total hip



replacement utilizing intra-operative computer navigation, robotic-assisted total knee replacement, shoulder reconstruction and replacement. He also specializes in total hip, total knee, and total shoulder revisions and treating peri-prosthetic infections.

A native Floridian, Dr. Musto grew up in Sebring, FL where he played baseball and volunteered at the local hospital and in the community. He now lives in Titusville with his wife and three children where he enjoys spending time outdoors and with his family.

Conveniently located at Parrish Healthcare Center in Port St. John and Parrish Healthcare Center at Titus Landing, Dr. Musto welcomes new patients and accepts most insurance plans. For an appointment at either location, please call 321-433-2247.



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~ Rose Padrick



Past Halloween Fun

When my last offspring graduated from high school and joined his siblings by becoming a decent, respectable member of society, I thought my days of apologizing for them were over.

I should have known better.

At a recent family get-together, the subject turned to previously secret tales of Halloween's past and I was once again amazed at my darlings' ability to pull off the most outrageous stunts without my knowledge.

My mouth went agape when my first born poked her sister and giggled, "Remember the man who always cracked the door just enough to shove that bowl of candy through, and it was always old leftover Christmas candy, and after you slipped the frog in that bowl, he never opened his door on Halloween again?"

Daughter number 2 (widening her eyes in a "Shut up, Mom is listening" manner) answered, "I may or may not have been responsible for a TOAD inadvertently landing in a certain bowl, but you can't deny kidnapping all the potted plants from Mrs. Smith's yard and placing them in exactly the same position in Mr. Jones yard! Do you realize how hard it was to keep Mom occupied long enough for you to finish?"

Heir number 3 chimed in with, "You think that was hard? I'm the one who had to convince her you two were mature enough to take the little kids out by yourself the year Mom was so sick she almost cancelled Trick or Treating!"

Not even noticing my incredulous stare, she continued, "It was a good idea to dress them up in overlapping costumes so we could shed one, then come back and hit the same houses twice, but you should have asked Roy if he LIKED wearing

that nightgown, so we could have avoided him screaming so loud when we tried to take it off that a police officer stopped to see if we were OK."

While my darlings lost themselves in convulsive laughter, I looked to Roy for denial. There wasn't any. Being the baby and the only boy with 4 sisters, wearing a nightgown was a form of self defense.

I have a feeling I will be adding a therapist to my list of people I will be apologizing to. I'm just not sure if it will be his or mine.

There is something immensely satisfying about scaring the be-jeebers out of, "I'm too cool to be scared" pre-teens – especially if they're not yours.

Called (translate that into "Tricked") into portraying a Gypsy Fortune Teller for a 12-year-old grandchild's Halloween party, I prepared by paying close attention to which child was a tiny bit edgy, but putting up a good front, and which truly believed a Fortune Teller was lame. The latter were the ones I set out to rattle.

Sitting very still in an enclosed area in an already darkened boudoir, eyes closed behind a golden veil, I delighted in these 'cool' kids' reactions. Allowed into the room one at a time, the first young lady flopped into the chair, crossed her arms and dared me to scare her.

Sitting quietly just until I heard a fake yawn, my eyes flew open – I leapt to my feet – screeched "WHY DO YOU DISTURB ME!!" – leaned in close, and barely stifled the huge belly laugh that threatened to escape when the poor girl almost flipped over backward in the chair.

The next customers were twin disbelievers clutching each other for support. The same Gypsy trick with an added dash of Spirit Water thrown in had even better results...for the Gypsy.

But the best by far were the two boys who sauntered in elbowing each other and snorting. Sensing they would not fall for the same act, I handed them Tarot/Uno cards. Silently staring, wild eyed at first, one, then the other for a full minute made them uncomfortable enough for my hysterical, "YOU WILL ALWAYS BE UNLUCKY IN LOVE!" to bring them to their feet, heading for the door.

Leaping to my feet set off 'Bob,' my animated crystal ball, causing the whites of their eyes to show. Spirit water to the back of their necks offset by cackling had them fumbling for the door knob

and the Gypsy Fortune Teller in stitches.

One of the boys approached me later, asking, "That stuff about being unlucky was just a trick... right?" That assured me all male bravado, no matter what age, can be shot down, You just have to know which ammunition to use.

Trunk Or Treat

Celebrate the Fall and Halloween season with a FUN and relaxing Trunk-or-Treat! The North Brevard Fall Festival Trunk-or-Treat is scheduled for Saturday, October 21st at Fox Lake Park in Titusville from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Come celebrate the season by attending in costume and visiting and interacting with local groups and organizations while enjoying FREE activities.

Families can enjoy a FREE trunk-or-treat experience. Kids and Teens receive a FREE Goody Bag filled with candy and activities. These are limited; first come, first serve, while supplies last! In addition to the traditional treat experience, families can also look forward to enjoying other FREE services:

- Trophies awarded to "BEST of the Event" across different categories: private business, nonprofit, local city government (Titusville) and Brevard County government.

- Caricatures
- Costume Contest (Group & Individual)
- Elect to enter for FREE then take a "Spirited Picture"; winners selected and highlighted on social media after the event
- Face Painting
- Food (Seasonal Carnival-type Food)
- Hay Ride
- Music
- Networking opportunities (seasonal, part-time, permanent employment opportunities with local government)
- Photo Opportunity
- Playground

To better serve the public, exhibitors and vendors are assigned numbered spaces for the event. An "Event Map" will be distributed a few days before the event.

For questions or to find out how you can be a part of this event, contact North Area Parks Operations at 321-264-5105 or 321-264-5037 during normal business hours or email at NorthArea@BrevardParks.com.

FAA Closes Investigation of SpaceX's Starship Launch Mishap

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has closed its investigation into the debut flight of SpaceX's giant Starship vehicle, which ended with the rocket being destroyed in April. The investigation identified "multiple root causes" of the April 20 launch failure and 63 corrective actions the company "must take to prevent mishap reoccurrence," FAA officials said in an emailed statement in September.

The end of the investigation marks a major step toward the second-ever Starship test flight, which SpaceX wants to launch soon from its Starbase site near the South Texas town of Boca Chica. But, FAA officials stressed, it doesn't clear the path completely. "The closure of the mishap investigation does not signal an immediate resumption of Starship launches at Boca Chica," they said in the statement. "SpaceX must implement all corrective actions that impact public safety and apply for and receive a license modification from the FAA that addresses all safety, environmental and other applicable regulatory requirements prior to the next Starship launch."

Starship is the biggest and most powerful launcher ever built, boasting nearly twice the thrust at liftoff of NASA's Space Launch System megarocket. Starship consists of two fully reusable elements, both powered by SpaceX's Raptor engine: a giant first-stage booster called Super Heavy and a 165-foot-tall (50 meters) upper stage known as Starship. The April 20 flight marked the first time the duo had flown together. But Starship suffered a number of problems, chief among them the failure of its two stages to separate. Thus, Starship's Autonomous Flight Safety System was engaged, destroying the vehicle high above the Gulf of Mexico.

Other issues became apparent after the dust had cleared. For one, the self-destruct command took longer than expected to manifest. Also, the power of Super Heavy's 33 Raptor engines caused considerable damage to Starbase, blasting out a crater beneath the site's orbital launch mount, launching chunks of concrete high into the air.

SpaceX has already done much of this work, according to company founder and CEO Elon

Musk. In a post in early September, the billionaire entrepreneur said the company has made "thousands of upgrades" to Starship, the launch pad and Starbase's huge launch tower.

Perhaps the biggest of these upgrades is the switch to "hot staging," a strategy in which a launch vehicle's upper stage begins firing its engines before it has fully separated from the first stage. This shift required the installation of a heat shield and "vented interstage" on the Super Heavy being prepped to fly next, a prototype called Booster 9.

SpaceX has also fortified the ground beneath Starbase's orbital launch mount with a steel plate, which spouts water to dissipate the destructive power of Super Heavy's 33 Raptors.

Charity Auction of Space Memorabilia

Get ready for a cosmic event of astronomical proportions! The American Space Museum is thrilled to announce an exhilarating online-only charity auction of space memorabilia, set to take place from now until October 7.

Prepare to be astounded with over 350 lots of authentic space artifacts, including some rare gems:

- The historic first-ever Silver Snoopy Award presented to a space worker.
- A dazzling collection of Robbins Medallions, all the way through STS-51L.
- A treasure trove of original NASA Red Numbered Photographs, capturing the awe-inspiring moments of Apollo missions.
- The chance to own a piece of history with original firing room badges from the Launch Control Center.
- Hold a piece of the moon with a lunar surface safety line section carried by the legendary Edgar Mitchell.

- Elevate your collection with a genuine Gold STS-51 G Robbins Medallion, flown in space and now seeking a new home.

But there's more to this auction than meets the eye. It's not just about the items; it's about reaching for the stars together. Proceeds from this out-of-this-world auction will directly benefit the American Space Museum, an institution with a mission to preserve and share the captivating

history of space exploration.

To participate in this celestial event, simply visit our website at <https://spacewalkoffame.org/news-and-events/auctions>. Bidding has commenced and concludes on October 7th. Mark your calendars for a thrilling grand finale as live online bidding begins at noon on Saturday, October 7.

For more details about this stellar auction, please contact Chuck Jeffery at auctions@AmericanSpaceMuseum.org.

The American Space Museum is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of space exploration. They have an exceptional educational program and feature "Stay Curious," a video podcast that airs weekdays at 4:00 p.m. and is available on YouTube.

The museum's collection includes thousands of artifacts, including flown items, Shuttle and Launch Complex Consoles, and mission memorabilia. They are open for public tours.

American Space Museum & U.S. Space Walk of Fame Foundation is located at 308 Pine Street, Titusville. For additional information, please call 321-264-0434 or write info@americanspacemuseum.org.

Parks & Recreation Meeting

The North Brevard Commission on Parks and Recreation will hold its next monthly meeting on Thursday, October 12th, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held in the Brevard Room at 518 South Palm Avenue in Titusville. The public is invited to attend. The Brevard Room is located in a building on the north side of the parking lot behind the Brevard County Government Center-North.

For questions, call Jeff Davis at 321-264-5105.

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Martin Andersen Senior Center Dances

Martin Andersen Senior Center will host Singles/Couples Ballroom Dances on Saturday, October 7th and Saturday, September 21st. Music will be provided by Janice and Rene.

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For both dances, doors open at 6:30 p.m. and dancing begins at 7:00 p.m., ends at 10:00 p.m. Free snacks, BYOB. Adults of all ages are welcome. The cost is \$8; \$7 for members.

Adults of all ages are welcome to our dances. MASC is located at 1025 S. Florida Ave., Rockledge. Call Martin Andersen Senior Center at 321-631-7556 for more information.



FEARLESS: The Harry T. Moore Story - |Rated PG October 13-15, 2023

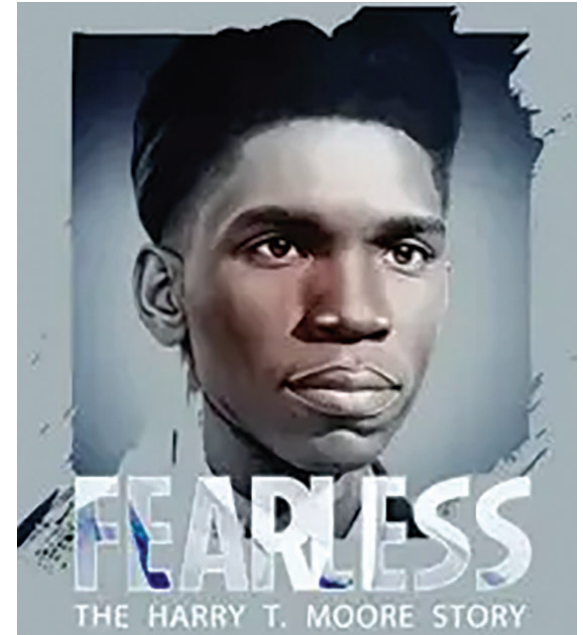
Based on the life and times of Harry T. and Harriett V. Moore. An amazing retelling of the night of December 25, 1951 with history that has happened in our own backyard. The play tells the story of that eventful night and the ramifications that sparked from that evening. Presented in cooperation with the Moore Cultural Complex and Museum.

MainStage Show:

Show times are Friday, Saturday and select Thursdays at 8:00 p.m., Sunday and select Saturdays at 2:00 p.m.

Ticket prices from \$30 to \$40. Season tickets available. Visit the website or call 321.268.1125 for tickets.

Lobby Doors open and seating begins 30 minutes before show time.



Titusville Playhouse 2023-24 Season

The Titusville Playhouse, Inc. is located within the Historic Emma Parrish Theatre 301 Julia St., (corner of Hopkins Ave. - US1 southbound), providing professional quality entertainment on the Space Coast. The MainStage theatre includes a 150 seat orchestra section and a 124 seat Balcony Section. Balcony seats are only accessed by walking up a flight of stairs. THERE IS NO ELEVATOR. For more information, visit <https://titusvilleplayhouse.com/>.



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Monthly Tax Update

Let's discuss Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs). There are two versions; a traditional and a Roth. Pre-tax money goes into a traditional IRA, and in most cases, the contribution is tax deductible.

There are no income limits for contributing to a traditional IRA, but the deductibility of contributions may be limited based on your income, if you or your spouse participate in an employer sponsored retirement plan.

Roth IRA contributions, on the other hand, are made with post tax dollars, and there is no immediate tax break or any tax savings. This downside, however, is offset by a couple of key advantages. There are strict income thresholds for eligibility to contribute to a Roth and could be subject to a 6% excise tax if monies are contributed to the Roth, and you are above the income thresholds. In most Roth situations, there are no required minimum distributions. You can leave Roth IRA money in the account for as long as you want. And when you do take a distribution, you will not owe any taxes, as long as you have the funds in the Roth IRA for five years or more and have reached the age of 59½ or older.

As you continue to invest for your retirement, you may be faced with a decision as to whether you should convert some of your pretax contributions into your Roth IRA. This would depend on your individual financial circumstances, goals and tax considerations. Here are some factors to consider when making this decision:

Tax Implication: When you convert from a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA, you will have to pay taxes on the converted amount because traditional IRA contributions are typically tax-deductible when you contribute, whereas Roth IRA contributions are made with after-tax dollars. The converted amount is considered taxable income for the year in which you make the conversion. Make sure you have the funds available to cover the tax liability.

Future Tax Bracket: Consider your current and expected future tax brackets. If you believe you will be in a higher tax bracket in retirement, it might be advantageous to pay taxes now at a lower rate through conversion, rather than paying taxes on withdrawals from a traditional IRA in the future.

Time Horizon: A longer time horizon before retirement can potentially allow your investments to grow and compound more in a Roth IRA, since withdrawals in retirement are tax-free. If you are close to retirement, the benefits of conversion might be less significant.

Financial Goals: Assess your financial goals. Roth IRAs do not have required minimum distributions (RMDs) during your lifetime, which means you can let your investments grow tax-free for as long as you want. This can be beneficial if you plan to leave the assets as a legacy to your heirs.

Estate Planning: Roth IRAs can be useful for estate planning since they can provide tax-free income to beneficiaries. Traditional IRAs, on the other hand, require beneficiaries to pay income tax on distributions they receive and the funds in the plan need to be distributed within ten years of the inherited date.

Ability to Pay Taxes: Can you afford to pay the taxes owed on the converted amount without dipping into your retirement savings? If you use money from the traditional IRA to pay taxes, you lose the potential for compounding on that amount.

Diversification: Having both traditional and

Roth accounts can provide you with tax diversification in retirement. This can allow you to choose which account to withdraw from based on your tax situation at that time.

Consult a Financial Advisor: Given the complexity of the decision and the potential tax implications, it is wise to consult with a qualified financial advisor or tax professional who can analyze your specific situation and provide personalized advice. When deciding the best way to allocate your retirement funds, we encourage the use of a professional to assist you with the information you need to make an informed decision. A financial planner can run "what-if" models for you on your investment options and our office can help you with the tax considerations. Easy, right? Ask for help.

This is only brief overview. It is your responsibility to discuss anything in this article, prior to making any changes, with your professional advisor to assist you in evaluating your situation.

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

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Happy Halloween!!!

Dist. 1 County Commissioner Seeks Applicants For Advisory Board Positions

District 1 Commissioner Rita Pritchett is seeking applicants to fill openings on a variety of Brevard County citizen advisory boards. Applications for all boards listed below are available on the Brevard County website, www.brevardfl.gov, and by clicking on Advisory Boards listed under Frequent Searches.

- Building and Construction Advisory Committee - Contractor Licensing Board -- (Being sought are a plumbing contractor, Fire Safety Professional, Roofing Contractor and a Contractor Licensing Board Alternate).

- Planning & Zoning Board/Local Planning Agency.

- North Brevard County Hospital District Board.

- North Brevard Public Library Advisory Board.

- Port St. John Dependent Special District Advisory Board.

- South/Central Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Investment Committee.

- Transportation Planning Organization Citizens Advisory Committee.

Information about each board may be found at <https://brevardfl.granicus.com/boards/w/cbe4088b3c65a780/boards>.

Applications are available on the Brevard County website, www.brevardfl.gov, and by clicking on Advisory Boards listed under Frequent Searches.

Brightline High Speed Rail Orlando Station Opens

The Orlando station opens on Friday, September 22, connecting South Florida and Orlando with high speed rail for the first time ever. One-way SMART fares start at \$79 for adults and \$39 for kids. Groups of 4 - 29 automatically save 25% on SMART fares.

For an elevated experience, upgrade to PREMIUM. Exclusive lounge access, priority seating, complimentary snacks & drinks, and checked baggage are all included. One-way PREMIUM fares start at \$149. Tickets are on sale now.

FDA Approves Updated COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters

The Food and Drug Administration approved updated COVID-19 vaccines made by Moderna and Pfizer on Monday, in an effort to make them available before respiratory illness season — including the flu and RSV — strikes in the fall. The updated vaccines are approved for individuals 12 years of age and older and are authorized under emergency use for those 6 months through 11 years old, according to the FDA. With this approval, the previous bivalent Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines — which targeted Omicron subvariants BA.5 and BA.4 and the original SARS-CoV-2 virus — are no longer authorized for use in the U.S., per the FDA.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), which provides recommendations on how vaccines should be used, voted 13-1 to approve the use on September 12th.

According to Dr. William Schaffner, an infectious disease specialist at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, getting a COVID-19 booster has been something that's recommended after a person completes the initial COVID-19 vaccine series. The initial vaccine was designed to target the original strain of the virus. That was followed by bivalent shots that targeted multiple variants.

Schaffner says that people who haven't been vaccinated against COVID-19 will likely still need "at least one dose, and then periodically get these boosters as they become newly available." However, that recommendation will ultimately be dictated by the ACIP.

The updated booster is monovalent, specifically targeting Omicron variant XBB.1.5. However, the current dominant strains in the U.S. are EG.5 (Eris) and FL.1.5.1, according to CDC data. The BA.2.86 variant, known as Pirola, has also been spreading, with the CDC warning that it "may be more capable of causing infection in people who have previously had COVID-19 or who have received COVID-19 vaccines."

Schaffner says that "all the recent data would indicate that the updated booster will cover all of these variants." The booster focuses on the Omicron lineage, and the presumption is that this is going to provide protection against whichever of these Omicron descendants are circulating.

The FDA stated recent studies show the updated vaccines do help protect against the current variants going around right now, including EG.5 and BA.2.86. "This suggests that the vaccines are a good match for protecting against the currently circulating COVID-19 variants," according to the FDA.

Moderna, one of the pharmaceutical companies that manufactures COVID vaccines, said in a press release on September 6 that the updated booster generated a nearly nine-fold increase in antibodies against Pirola (BA.2.86).

The booster may be available as early as September 13. "The companies that make these vaccines probably have them packed up and ready to go. As soon as the CDC director signs off, the trucks will be pulling out like deployment of the Army," Dr. John Sellick, an infectious disease expert at the State University of New York at Buffalo said.

How often you will need to get a booster is still to be determined, but Sellick predicts that it will be recommended as an annual shot. He says, "Recommending something more often than annual is probably not going to work."

It seems that the booster will be updated on an annual basis. "The intention is to have everybody get a booster every year," Schaffner says. "That program has not been finalized, but we've started the early steps moving in that direction." Still, he adds, it's important for people to be flexible just in case. "In the event the virus changes and mutates in some way, we may have to change our plan."

Sellick says he anticipates that the COVID booster will be like the flu vaccine, recommended every fall to help target whatever dominant strains are circulating at the time.

If you're in a recommended demographic or category for getting the booster, Schaffner says it's important to not hesitate. "Don't underestimate this virus," he says. "We anticipate that these variants are very contagious."

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Parrish Healthcare Community Support Groups - October

Parrish Healthcare offers a variety of support groups as a free service to the community. The October 2023 schedule is as follows:

Parrish Healthcare Mom's Support Group

A group for mothers with babies ages birth to six months. During this time, moms will be able to discuss topics such as infant feeding, sleeping, milestones, car seats, play, development, post-partum care, birth control, post-partum depression, dietary needs and much more. Space is limited.

- When: Mondays, October 2, 9, 16, 10-11 a.m.
- Where: The Children's Center, 5650 S. Washington Ave., Titusville
- For additional information and to register, visit parrishhealthcare.com/Moms.

Parrish Healthcare's Fearless Café

A collaboration with St. Francis Reflections Life Stages Care, this group shares a casual discussion about advanced directives, power of attorney, wills, living wills and all of the often scary conversations about death and dying.

- When: Wednesday, October 4, 10-11 a.m.
- Where: Heritage Hall, 931 N. Washington Ave., Titusville
- Facilitated by Janet Rooks, MA, CDP
- For additional information, please contact Janet Rooks at 321-268-6800.
- To register, please visit www.parrishhealthcare.com/FearlessCafe.

Parrish Healthcare Diabetes Support Group

This support group is for anyone age 18 and older with diabetes. Join us for tips to live better with this disease.

- When: Monday, October 9, 3-4:30 p.m.
- Where: Heritage Hall, 931 N Washington Ave., Titusville
- Facilitated by Peggy McLaughlin, BSN, RN, CDCES
- For additional information, please contact Peggy McLaughlin at 321-268-6699.
- To register, please visit www.parrishhealthcare.com/DiabetesSupport.

Parrish Healthcare A.W.A.K.E Sleep Support

This group is dedicated to exchanging information and increasing awareness of sleep, sleeping disorders, and related health concerns. Everyone with an interest in sleep and health is encouraged to attend.

- When: Monday, October 9, 6-8 p.m.
- Where: Manatee Conference Room, 5005 Port St. John Pkwy., Port St. John
- Facilitated by Kristina Weaver, Sleep Center Director
- To register, please visit www.parrishhealthcare.com/SleepSupport.
- For additional information, please contact the Sleep Center at 321-268-6408.

Parrish Healthcare's Caring for Caregivers Support Group

Care giving is a rewarding, yet demanding labor of love. Join us to learn how to care for yourself while you care for your loved one.

- When: Thursdays, October 12 and 26, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- Where: Heritage Hall, 931 N. Washington Ave., Titusville
- Facilitated by Janet Rooks, MA, CDP
- For additional information, please contact Janet Rooks at 321-268-6800.
- To register, please visit www.parrishhealthcare.com/CaregiverSupport.

Parrish Healthcare Stroke and Heart Survivors Support Group

If you've experienced a diagnosis or event, or are caring for someone living with heart disease or stroke, our community is here to support you.

- When: Tuesday, October 17, 2-4:00 p.m.
- Where: Heritage Hall, 931 N. Washington Ave., Titusville
- Facilitated by Janet Rooks, MA, CDP
- For additional information, please contact Janet Rooks at 321-268-6800.
- To register, please visit www.parrishhealthcare.com/StrokeandHeartSupport.

Early Steps Community Play Date

A special play date for children five and under and their parent(s)/guardian(s).

- When: Wednesday, October 18, 9-10:30 a.m.
- Where: The Children's Center, 5650 S. Washington Ave., Titusville
- Facilitated by Mary Cancel, Family Resource Specialist
- For additional information, visit parrishhealthcare.com/EarlySteps.

Parrish Healthcare Cancer and Survivor Support Group

This group is for cancer patients, cancer

survivors and anyone touched by the disease. Enjoy refreshments and talk with others sharing similar situations and experiences.

- When: Wednesday, October 18, 4-5:30 p.m.
- Where: Heritage Hall, 931 N. Washington Ave., Titusville
- Facilitated by Shannon Luker, RN, BSN, OCN, CBCN
- For additional information, please contact Shannon Luker at 321-268-6111, ext. 3544.
- To register, please visit www.parrishhealthcare.com/CancerSupport.

Tools to Quit Smoking Now

We know quitting tobacco isn't easy, but finding help should be. Parrish Healthcare has partnered with Tobacco Free Florida to offer this free class which equips those who use tobacco with tools and services to quit.

- When: Tuesday, October 24, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Where: Parrish Medical Center, 951 N. Washington Ave., Titusville
- For more information and to register, visit parrishhealthcare.com/quitsmoking.

For more information about available classes, support groups and events, visit parrishhealthcare.com/events.



**Post 359
American
Legion Riders
presents**

Bike Days at the Tiki

Saturday, October 7th

1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Good food on the grill with Fixin's, \$6. Listen to live music, take part in drawings, 50/50. All proceeds to benefit veterans and veterans' families.

7260 S. US Hwy. 1, Bellwood, (just north of Port St. John), 321-268-1632. Contact Wayne Fowler, Events Coordinator, American Legion Riders Post 359 at 321-307-1450 or visit our website, alr359.org, for more information.



St. Patrick's Anglican Church
4797 Curtis Blvd., Port St. John
321-802-1311
Classical Christianity Engaging the World

We have made it to October and soon we will be thinking of decorating for Halloween, and shopping for our Thanksgiving dinner. As you prepare for these two events, take a moment to think about the origin of these two important, largely American holidays.

Halloween, which is All Hollows Eve, is actually the night before the amazing Christian holiday of All Saints Day, where we remember and pray for all those Saints and loved ones who have gone before us and are now Saints in Heaven.

Thanksgiving was recognized as a holiday in the United States in 1863 by President Abraham Lincoln as a holiday of national unity, and formalized by President Kennedy as a national holiday in 1963. And although the pilgrim and native American story may not be 100% accurate, the premise of having a day to celebrate national unity in prayer and thanks giving should be.

On Saturday, October 7th we have our annual "Blessing of the Animals," followed by our amazing Spaghetti Dinner. Blessing of the Animals will be held at 5:00 p.m. in the grassy area on the west side of the church parking lot and usually takes about 20 minutes.

The Spaghetti Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m. and is a love offering which will benefit a local community group.

On Monday, October 9th and continuing the second Mondays of the month in November and December, we will have our Crafty Ladies Group for all women in Port St. John who are interested in doing crafts. We will meet in the Parish Hall from 6 to 9 p.m. It's a great opportunity to learn a new craft or prepare for Christmas.

We are continuing our Adult Bible Study on Sundays between services from 9:00 - 9:40 a.m. on the Book of Revelation, as well as our Children's and Teen Sunday School during the Sunday 10:00 a.m. service.

Our Veteran's and First Responder breakfast will be Saturday, October 28th at 9:00 a.m. All veterans, spouses of veterans, police, fire and EMT are welcome.

Regular service schedule is:

Holy Communion Service – Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Guests and new members are always welcome.

Morning and Evening Prayer Services are – Monday through Friday – 9:00 a.m. (available through Facebook Live only - <https://www.facebook.com/StPatspsj>) and Friday 6:00 p.m. (In person and Facebook Live).

Please see our website for service information., (www.stpatrickspsj.org), or call our church office at 321-802-1311.

Blessed Sacrament's 3rd Annual



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023

5135 NORTH COCOA BLVD

COCOA, FL 32927

OPEN TO PUBLIC 9AM TO 3PM

You are invited to be a vendor at our Blessed Sacrament Craft Show. Vendor set up would begin at 7am and completed by 8:45. All vendors are responsible for the collecting and reporting of all Florida State Sales Tax

At the Shuler Stage:



EVIL DEAD the MUSICAL - Rated R - October 6 - 15, 2023

Evil Dead The Musical takes all the elements of the cult classic films, The Evil Dead, Evil Dead 2 and Army of Darkness and combines them for one of the funniest and bloodiest theatrical experiences of all time. Five college students go to an abandoned cabin in the woods and accidentally unleash an evil force that turns them all into demons. It's all up to Ash, (a housewares employee, turned demon-killing hero), and his trusty chainsaw to save the day. Blood flies. Limbs are dismembered. Demons tell bad jokes... and all to music. You don't need to be a fan of Evil Dead to love this show. Is it scary? No! Is it gory? No. This is pure comedy start to finish. It's the only show with a "Splatter Zone" – a section of the audience that gets covered in fake blood. Unlike any live show you've ever seen.

ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW - Rated R - October 20–29, 2023

The show follows innocent couple Brad and Janet as they seek shelter at a mysterious old castle on a dark and stormy night, where they encounter transvestite Dr. Frank N Furter and his "perfect" creation Rocky. This event is for ages 18+ due to mature content.

The Shuler Stage is an open-air pavilion with amphitheatre-style seating at 316 S. Palm Ave., Titusville. Show times are Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Sunday at 3:00 p.m. Doors open 30 minutes before showtime. Seating begins 30 minutes before showtime. NO Late Seating or at the discretion of the House Manager. \$20 VIP Seating* (No Discounts) \$15 General Admission* (No Discounts)

Amvets Post 2415 Schedule

10-4 Sons of Amvets 2415 General Membership Meeting, at 6 p.m. Commander Chuck Harrington, 321-208-7897.

10-12 Amvets 2415 Ladies Auxiliary General Membership Meeting - 2nd Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. President Theresa Nikki Anderson, 321-208-7897.

10-14 Bike Night! 3:00 - 7:00 on the 2nd Saturday of the month at the Post.



10-14 Amvets Riders Chapter 2415 General Membership Meeting- 2nd Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m. President Craig Doan, 321-208-7897.

10-18 General Membership Meeting- 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m.

Meat Shoot - 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 2-4 p.m.

Karaoke every Friday with Bone, 6-10 p.m.

Bingo Sundays 1-?

Post 2415 is at 688 West Ave., Port St. John.

If you are a veteran and would like to visit the Post or would like more information about Amvets, contact Commander Larry Lonneville.

**MEDICARE QUESTIONS:
PART A, PART B, PART C, PART D:
CONFUSED????
LET US ANSWER YOUR
QUESTIONS!!!**

Higginbotham Insurance Agency

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3790 N. U.S. 1

Cocoa, Fl. 32926

(321) 632-5726



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Alcoholics Anonymous meets on **Sundays** at 5 p.m., **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** at 6:30 p.m. **Women's AA** meets on **Mondays**, **Thursdays** and **Fridays**, 10 a.m. **Both AA Groups meet at St. Patrick's Church, 4797 Curtis Blvd.**

10-3 Compassionate Friends Support Group meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. in Cocoa Beach at the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, 525 Minuteman Cswy. west of A1A, Fellowship Hall. Call 610-7875 for info.

10-4 American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 359, General Membership Meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month, 6 p.m. at the Post Home, 7260 S. US 1, just north of PSJ. Call President Valerie Helmer at 321-268-1632.

10-4 Sons of Amvets 2415 Meeting- 1st Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m. 688 West Ave., PSJ. Commander Chuck Harrington, 321-208-7897.

10-5 World Teachers Day

10-7 Simchat Torah Starts

10-7 Bike Days at the Tiki, 1:00 - 5:00 PM

First Saturday of each month. 7260 S. US Hwy. 1, Bellwood, (just north of Port St. John), 321-268-1632. Contact Wayne Fowler, Events Coordinator, American Legion Riders Post 359 at 321-307-1450 or visit their website, alr359.org, for more information.

10-8 Multiple Sclerosis Self-Help Group meets on the 2nd Sunday each month (except Mother's Day & November), 2 p.m., Cocoa Library.

10-8 Word Weavers Space Coast, a critique group for Christian writers, meets the 2nd Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Central Brevard Library in

Cocoa. Visitors are always welcome. Email angelgardnerwrites@gmail.com for info.

10-8 Multiple Sclerosis Self-Help Group meets on the 2nd Sunday each month (except Mother's Day & November), 2 p.m., Cocoa Library.

10-12 North Brevard Parks and Recreation meets at 4 p.m. at 518 South Palm Ave., Titusville. For questions, call Jeff Davis at 321-264-5105.

10-12 Amvets Ladies Auxiliary 2415 General Membership Meeting on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. President, Theresa N. Anderson, 321-208-7897.

10-13 Brevard Women's Connection meets at Space Coast Convention Center on Hwy. 520 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., 2nd Friday of each month. Call Pam at 321-752-6896 or e-mail bwc0020@gmail.com.

10-14 Amvets Riders meeting, 2nd Saturday at 10 a.m. Call President Craig Doan, 321-208-7897.

10-16 Moonport Modelers RC Club meets at 6:30 p.m., 3rd Monday each month at the N. Brevard Library, 2121 S Hopkins Ave., Titusville. For more info, call Wayne Mendez, 505-2361.

10-17 North Brevard Republican Club meets 3rd Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. at the Police Hall of Fame, 6350 Horizon Dr., Titusville. All are welcome.

10-18 American Legion Post 359 meets at the Post Home at 7260 S. US 1 in Bellwood, (2 miles north of PSJ), 6:00 p.m. All Legionnaires and new members are welcome. The Post meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Please contact the Post at 321-268-1632 for assistance.

10-18 Amvets Post 2415 General Membership Meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at 688 West Ave., PSJ. Commander Larry Lonneville, 321-208-7897.

10-24 Moonlight Quilters Guild meets at the North Brevard Library in Titusville, 2121 Hopkins Ave. on the 4th Tuesday of each month (no meeting April or December). Meet and greet and refreshments at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 6:15 p.m., usually followed by show and tell or a guest speaker. Email Moonlight.Quilters@yahoo.com for more information.

10-28 Veterans & First Responders Breakfast - 9:00 a.m. at Saint Patrick's Anglican Church, 4797 Curtis Blvd., Port St. John. This is open to all veterans, spouses of veterans and all first responders. Last Saturday of each month.

10-31 HALLOWEEN

Congratulations to:

Ryan Kremer turns **15** this month.

Danny Huegel turns **29** on the 1st.

Stephanie Puckett turns more lovely on the 2nd.

Lisa Troxel keeps turning heads on the 3rd.

Connie Partin turns prettier on the 3rd.

Adam Niehoff turns **40ish** on the 3rd.

Loni Phipps rocks the night on the 5th.

Gary Turner has a spanking day on the 5th.

Happy **13th Birthday Gracie**, on the 6th.

Ryan Brackin turns **30** on the 6th!

Jimmy Scott turns **15** on the 10th!

Helen Lapardo turns 50"ish" on the 10th!

Karrson Unrue turns **26** on the 10th.

Caelyn Smith will turn **18** on the 12th.

Nicholas Snavelly turns **6** on the 12th.

Kensli Davis turns **3** on the 14th.

Nicole Long turns **20** on the 14th.

Kimberly Nicole Kremer turns **16** on the 14th!

Kenny Gow turns wilder on the 15th.

Sophia Kelderhouse turns **26** on the 16th!

Christina Crouse turns hotter on the 16th.

Alex Nero turns buffer on the 17th.

Ryan Kremer turns **36** on the 17th.

Susan Kadlac dances till dawn on the 18th.

George Fontaine will rock **75** on the 19th.

Sharon Brown turns more lovely on the 20th.

Tyler Gaddy turns **24** on October ??

Duane Gaddy parties all night on the 20th.

Danny Bowen turns **24** on the 21st.

Kathy Patterson turns cuter on the 24th.

Michelle Kolczynski rules the world on the 25th.

Lisa Merrell turns **29+** on the 26th.

Lauren Hannon turns **28** on the 27th.

Keith Simpson turns **29** this month.

Bud Simpson turns wilder on the 27th.

Kathy Bradley rules the day on the 27th.

Nicole Lessey parties wild on the 28th

Andy Bradley turns crazier on the 28th.

Austin Harris turns **27** on the 28th.

Rachel Erickson turns **25** on the 29th.

Craig Kremer turns **64** on the 29th.

William Scheiner is **41** on the 30th!

Sherri Fogarty is the Queen on the 31st. Again!

Chris & Sherri Fogarty celebrate their **33rd** anniversary on the 6th.

Belinda and Don Crouse celebrate with wildness on the 11th.

Tim and Kelly Rowell will celebrate their **34th** anniversary on the 20th.

Bill & Carol Tyler celebrate their **39th** anniversary on the 20th.

We have lots of room for more good news.

Email inputs to happenings1@att.net.

Important Phone Numbers

County Commissioner -	321-264-6750
Sheriff: Non-Emergency -	321-633-7162
Fire Station 26 (Port St. John)	321-33-2056
Emergency Operations Center	321-637-6670
Waste Management -	321-636-6894
Port St. John Library	321-633-1867
PSJ Community Center -	321-633-1904
Florida Power & Light -	321-723-7795
City of Cocoa Water Dept. -	321-433-8400
Parrish Medical Center	
Port St. John -	321-636-9393
Titusville -	321-268-6111

Port St. John Public Library

6500 Carole Ave., Port St. John
321-633-1867

Mary Lena Penna, Library Director

Library Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday, 12-8 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Meeting rooms are available for reservation by calling the library and study rooms are open on a first-come-first-served basis.

Computers are available and we also offer scanning, wireless printing and faxing. More information on services offered, how to get a library card and events for all the Brevard County libraries can be found at brevardfl.gov/PublicLibraries.

Tuesdays 3:00-4:00 p.m.: **STEAM time**. Ages 6-12. Come build & make things with us! Activities centered around Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Mathematics.

Thursdays, 11 a.m.-noon: **Humanatee Yoga** for Beginners or Intermediate. \$5 Instructor Fee.

Thursdays, 1-3 p.m.: **SHINE Medicare assistance** through the Senior Resource Alliance of Brevard.

Fridays, 9:30-10:00 a.m.: **Baby Storytime**. Ages 3 and under.

Fridays, 10:30 a.m.: **Toddler Storytime**. Ages 3-5.
10/4 6:30 p.m. : Bookworms Bookclub, see the Reference desk for monthly book selection.

10/7 10:30 a.m.: **Doorhanger Craft class**. \$40 fee due at signup. Registration ends 9/13. See Reference Desk for more information and to sign up.

10/11 6 p.m. **Port St. John Special District Advisory Board Meeting**.

10/13 3:30 p.m.: **Creatures of the Night!** with the Florida Wildlife Hospital. Open to all ages 6+. Live animals will be visiting!

10/2, 10/16 & 10/30 1:30-5 p.m.: **Community Support Advocate** office hours. Can help with Housing Assistance, SNAP Benefits, Social Security/Medicare Benefits and more.

10/23-10/27 - **Pumpkin Decorating Contest** for kids. Bring in your decorated pumpkins (no carved real pumpkins) this week. A winner will be announced Friday, 10/27 before 5 p.m. See Youth Services for more information!

10/25 5:30 p.m.: **Day of the Dead Craft**. Ages 6-12. Free, please sign up in advance!

10/28 Noon-1:00 p.m.: **Read-to-a-Dog!** Ages 6-12. Practice reading skills with the best four-legged listeners around from Space Coast Therapy Dogs.

On the Road With Rose



Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge

1987 Scrub Jay Way #32782, Titusville
(321) 861-0669

www.fws.gov/refuge/merrittisland

Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge is a real hidden gem harking back to the real Florida, and we are lucky enough to have it just a short drive away. Operated by the National Wildlife Refuge System, within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, except for a small fee to travel the Black Point Wildlife Drive the refuge is free. It is also a gateway to the Great Florida Birding Trail.

It's very easy to get there; traveling north on US1, make a right turn at the Garden Street stop light onto SR 406/A, Max Brewer Memorial Parkway over the beautiful Max Brewer bridge and past all the river access areas on each side. The drive to the visitor's center is about five miles through some of the most beautiful wetlands and hardwood areas the Big Guy placed on earth.

I'm always amused at the imaginative names for all the tiny dirt roads...Gator Creek Rd. is one of my favorites. Peacocks Pocket Dr. is also good for a smile. I didn't see any peacocks, (with or without pockets), but I did catch a glimpse of what I believe was a little bobcat, turkeys, several different species of ducks and turkey vultures – all before I turned onto SR 402 to get to the Visitors Center. This is fairly unusual because it was mid-day when most animals are resting.

I encountered a family sharing lunch with butterflies at one of the several picnic tables nestled under shade trees between the two parking lots and the Visitors Center building. Dogs are allowed on leashes in this area and on the boardwalk, but not in the building.

The informational plaque tells us the building that houses the exhibits at the Visitors Center is named for two brave Brevardians who lost their lives as a result of injuries sustained fighting

a wildfire on the refuge. Please take your time wandering through all the exhibits. They show the flora and fauna as it is, and the stuffed animals look like they could step out and scurry off. The pamphlets are very informational and make nice keepsakes to share. Unfortunately, the Visitors Center will be closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, and the bus tour of the Black Point Drive is cancelled until further notice.

The boardwalk is a quarter mile loop taking you over lakes and through various types of native vegetation, both scrubland and forest. Cattails and water lillies make it difficult to spot water dwellers, but I saw turtles, a snake, even a couple of large Bream (hint: the Canadian Goose ain't real!).

Moving into the cover of Florida palmettos and pine there are owl houses, song birds, more butterflies and very big spider webs. Wandering the boardwalk usually takes between 20 and 30 minutes, unless you get so carried away by trying to find the reptile – pig frog, bull frog, gator? - that was loudly grunting, seemingly in the mud under the boards, and manage to get yourself turned around, forgetting whether you were traveling east or west... I was very grateful to the kind lady who told me I was heading in the wrong direction and ignored her bemused expression.

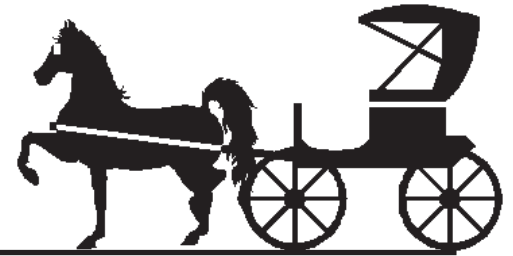
Finding my way back, I was rewarded by the sight of a good sized (8 ft.?) gator, highly agitated and all puffed up on the top of the lake water, trying to make himself look even larger, flipping his tail in response to his neighbor's grunting. I'm pretty sure the aforementioned neighbor wasn't grunting 'Howdy' and I don't want to know what he was grunting back.

Back in the car, I took a right turn and headed east on SR 402 for a couple of miles, passing several walking trails that looked very interesting, but the sun was heading west and I didn't have time to stop. I'll go back as soon as I can, I wanted to get to the Manatee Observation Deck and Haulover Canal in time to get back to civilization before dark. I made it and that will be another column.

As always, please take nothing but pictures and leave nothing but footprints.

Remember the summer heat and remember to take sunscreen and insect spray with you. Also, some cold water or other non-alcoholic beverage in a non-disposable container is advised to avoid dehydration or other heat issues.

SLEEPY HOLLOW



Fruit From The Groves

On October 4, 2023 at approximately 2:20 p.m. there will be a test of the Emergency Notification System. This test will sound on all US cell phones, TV stations and radios. It will be a jarring sound stating it is a test.

There have been numerous complaints about dangerous and stupid driving in the Groves. Some of it can be seen by the marks on the road, spinning and going into the opposite lanes. People are still speeding and going through stop signs. Brevard County Sheriff's Office has issued traffic citations and warnings for these traffic offenses out here in the Groves and surrounding areas. To help catch some of the violations, they are using unmarked vehicles.

Brevard County Fire Stations 29, 26, and Four Communities Fire Dept. have been busy answering calls for traffic accidents, medical as well as fires.

After many years of planning, because of the amount of traffic accidents and deaths along US Hwy. 1, the Florida Dept. of Transportation has installed overhead lighting. This lighting goes from the area of Fay Blvd. to Camp Road on US 1. These lights will not help unless people obey the traffic laws. This includes motor vehicles,



bicycles and pedestrians..

On Canaveral Groves Blvd., there is a new multi family complex going in. This will increase the traffic on Canaveral Groves Blvd. eventually. Also, there is a road planned on Camp Road. This will be an entry/exit planned that will come on to Camp Road.

Ed Silva
President
Canaveral Groves Homeowners
Assoc.

SLS Megarocket For Artemis Moonshots 'Unaffordable' For Sustained Exploration

NASA needs to be more transparent about the costs and schedules associated with its Space Launch System (SLS) moon rocket, a newly released audit has found.

The SLS rocket is NASA's choice for its Artemis program, which aims to establish a permanent, sustainable presence on and around the moon by the end of the 2020s.

According to an audit which was conducted by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) and released last month, that ambitious

goal may be tough to achieve given how expensive the SLS is.

"Senior NASA officials told GAO that at current cost levels, the SLS program is unaffordable," according to the GAO report, which was delivered to the congressional committees that have jurisdiction over NASA's budget. The SLS program's cost "exceeds what NASA officials believe will be available for its Artemis missions," the report's authors added.



October Art Classes

Welcome fall by taking a class at the Studios of Cocoa Beach and reveal your creative spirit. For Halloween spirits, attend Jaymee Weinreich's "Witches Ride" paint party. Or celebrate the beach at her "Sunbathing Canine" party.

Learn to use your camera in "Beginning Digital Photography" with Rebecca Ragain.

Explore "Printmaking" or "Needle Felting" with Glaucia Romano.

We haven't forgotten the kids! Glaucia's "Felted Halloween Cats and Pumpkins" meets every Saturday. Or sign them up for a "Halloween Art Night" party.

Visit the Studios' website, www.studiosofcocoabeach.org, for complete details and registration. The Studios is located at 165 Minutemen Causeway in downtown Cocoa Beach. This non-profit, artist staffed gallery is open Monday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday to Saturday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and 1 to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

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 _____

Won't you join us?

Blessing of the Animals

Please join us as we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, which honors the special role animals play in peoples' lives. This event is conducted in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures. A procession of animals, from dogs and cats to hamsters and even horses, are welcome. Deacon Joseph A. Pecko of Church of Our Saviour, Cocoa Beach, will officiate this special ceremony called the Blessing of the Animals, on Saturday, October 7th, 9:00 a.m., at Myrt Tharpe Square (Gazebo), in Historic Cocoa Village.

Pet photos with Deacon Pecko will be taken immediately following the group blessings (\$5 donation). All donations will benefit the Florida Wildlife Hospital, Palm Shores, Florida, a non-profit organization dedicated to Florida's wildlife in need.

Since 1973, Florida Wildlife Hospital has rescued, rehabilitated and released thousands of sick, injured and orphaned animals in Brevard County. Special ambassadors from the Florida Wildlife Hospital will be in attendance for a unique meet-and-greet. These animals are permanent residents of the hospital that could not be released into the wild.

All pets are welcome on a leash or in appropriate carriers.

Donations are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.

Hosted by Tails at the Barkery, 14 Oleander Street, Cocoa Village, phone: 321-305-4584. email to www.tailsatthebarkery.com.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Saint Patrick's Church, Port St. John

4797 Curtis Blvd., Port St. John

East off Grissom Pkwy.

Sunset Group Meeting

(C) Sunday 5:00 Living Sober book

(C) Tuesday 6:30 AA Topic Mtg

(O) Thursday 6:30 Beginners Topic Mtg

Alcoholics Anonymous meets on **Sundays** at 5 p.m, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. **Women's AA** meets on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m.

Jan Weigold Bryant and Her Class Artists: An Exhibition

The Studios of Cocoa Beach is presenting "Jan Weigold Bryant and Her Class Artists: An Exhibition". Jan is one of the dedicated instructors at the Studios of Cocoa Beach, where she teaches watercolor and acrylic painting. This October, Jan and artists in her classes and workshops will exhibit their works.

Jan taught at two universities, but she prefers, "teaching individuals who aren't looking for a grade, but for the enjoyment of seeing the beauty in the world and transferring it to their chosen medium in their particular style. It's not important to paint like Jan. Each artist has a unique outlook and my goal is to help them open up and allow their creativity to express what they are seeing."

The students in Jan's classes range from the beginner to advanced. Jan's motivational encouragement helps them on their artistic journey with the added benefit of trying new techniques. Several have been with Jan over a length of time and the exhibition is a tribute to their artistic growth.

The exhibit runs from October 3 to 29. The gallery at 165 Minutemen Causeway in downtown Cocoa Beach is open Monday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, 1 to 6 p.m. For information, artist portfolios and class schedule, visit www.studiosofcocoabeach.org or follow them on Facebook or Instagram

PUBLIC BOOK SALE

Also: CDs, DVDs, Audio Books, Text Books and "Special Books"

Catherine Schweinsberg-Rood Central Library
308 Forrest Avenue, Cocoa

Thursday, October 19, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

\$5.00 Admission (No Membership) Thursday Only

Purchase Tickets - Beginning at 4:00 p.m.

Friday, October 20 - 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 21 - 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 22 - 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

This is a public sale performed by "The Friends Group" in support of the Central Library activities.

CASH Sales only. No checks or credit cards will be accepted.

Central Florida Accordion Club



The Brevard Chapter of the Central Florida Accordion Club (CFAC) holds its regular meeting the last Sunday of every month. Members and guests are invited to play accordions or other instruments.

Shows are held on the last Sunday of each month, 2:00-5:00 p.m. at Elks Lodge #1532, 315 Florida Ave., Cocoa. The event is open to the public. Admission is free.

CFAC is a Not-for-Profit Florida Corporation. The club is dedicated to promoting the visibility and value of the accordion as a multi-cultural musical instrument in Central Florida. For more information, contact Rod Hall, 866-455-2322.

Dignity

A lady asks: "How much do you sell your eggs for?"

The old vendor replies, "50¢ an egg, ma'am." The lady says, "I'll take 6 eggs for \$2.50 or I'm leaving."

The old vendor replies, "Buy them at the price you want, Ma'am. This is a good start for me because I haven't sold a single egg today and I need this to live."

She bought her eggs at the bargain price and left with the feeling that she had won. She got into her car and went to a fancy restaurant with her friend. She and her friend ordered what they wanted. They ate a little and left a lot of what they had asked for. They paid the bill, which was \$150. The ladies gave \$200 and told the restaurant owner to keep the change as a tip.

This story might seem quite normal to the owner of the fancy restaurant, but very unfair to the egg seller.

I once read somewhere that a father used to buy goods from poor people at high prices, even though he didn't need the things. Sometimes he paid more for them.

One day his son asked him, "Why are you doing this, Dad?"

His father replied, "It's charity wrapped in dignity, son."

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Before You Expire.***

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