

HAPPENINGS

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SERVING PORT ST. JOHN & CANAVERAL GROVES

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

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

Spring Is Here. Get Out And Play!

PSJ Housewives Softball League

The Port St. John Housewives Softball League is gearing up for another fun season! Don't let the name fool you...women of all playing abilities are invited to join our league.

As of July 1st, you must be 19 years of age or older. **Sign-ups will be on Saturdays and Sundays, May 15th, 16th, 22nd and 23rd from 10:00AM to 2:00PM, at Fay Park, east parking lot.** Cost is \$50, which includes approximately 20 softball games, team shirt, and end of year party and awards.

The season starts in July and continues through mid-October. Games are on Tuesday and Thursday nights at Fay Park. This is a great way to make friends and get some exercise. You do not have to live in Port St. John to join our league.

We are also accepting applications for sponsors and experienced umpires.

For more information, call: Shannon Free-

land, President, at 321-543-5175; Kim Myrick, Vice-President, at 321-536-1372; Angie Burris, Treasurer, at 321-480-1052; or Joan Sottoriva, Secretary, at 321-537-9605. You can also find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/PSJHSL.



Post 359 - American Legion Riders presents **Bike Days at the Tiki**

Saturday, April 3rd
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Good food on the grill with Fixin's, \$6.
Listen to live music.

Drawings, 50/50. All proceeds to benefit veterans and veterans' families.

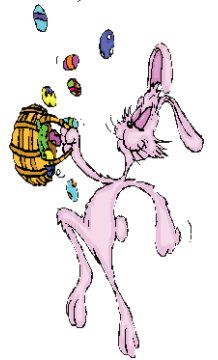
All veterans and families are welcome!

7260 S. US Hwy. 1 Bellwood (just north of Port St. John), 321-268-1632.

Contact Joe Marino, Events Coordinator, American Legion Riders Post 359 at info@alr359.org or visit our website, alr359.org, for more information.

Easter Celebration

Walter Butler Community Center, 4201 N. Cocoa Blvd., Cocoa, will be hosting their 10th Annual Easter Celebration with egg hunt, games, prizes and lots of fun on Friday, April 1st from 3:00 - 5:00. This event is open to the public. Bring a bag or basket for the eggs you find.



For more information, contact Janette Jordan, Recreation Leader at janette.jordan@brevardfl.gov, or call the center at (321) 433-4448.

John 13:34 -

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.

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Vashti Verschoor: April Spotlight Artist at the Downtown Art Gallery in Titusville



Vashti Verschoor is the April Spotlight Artist at the Downtown Art Gallery in Titusville. Her acrylic paintings are colorful, often whimsical interpretations of tropical themes. Waves splash out of the painting onto the frame. Sea horses

swim among black-eyed susans. Peacocks frolic amid sea grapes. The paintings are sure to make you smile while challenging you to expand your view of the world.

Vashti was born and raised in Brevard County. Living in coastal, central Florida has been a primary focus.. "I don't always paint beaches or sea-grass, boats and fish, but everything I do paint is inspired by the colors & lifestyle that living by the sea brings!"

Vashti's art is expressive and full of joy reflecting her loving outlook and delight in being a wife and mother. Life is a process, and like the reclaimed wood she often uses, love and care can be transformative. Art can create Beauty from Ashes, Strength from Pain, and Joy from Mourning. She hopes her work inspires others to find the joy in their lives.

You can view Vashti's work at the Downtown Art Gallery, 335 S. Washington Ave in historic downtown Titusville. The gallery is open 11 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday, Saturday 11am to 3 pm, and by appointment. Vashti's work can also be seen online at www.ovashti.com

For more information call 321-268-0122.

About Kel's Kitchen -

The "Cooking Around the World" program at the Port St. John Community Center provides hands-on cooking classes for children in home and virtual school (6 years and up). An adult must attend with the child/children. Classes are scheduled Monday, April 12th and Monday, April 26th. Each class focuses on a different world cuisine. We will be cooking lunch for ourselves.

Every session teaches the concept of food safety, kitchen organization and cooking skills. Cost is \$18.00 per class for child/adult pair. Register at www.floridakelskitchen.com. Call Chef Kelly for more information at (321) 506-1682.

The "Petit Chef" Program provides hands-on culinary lessons for preschoolers (3 - 5 years old). An adult must attend with the child/children. Lessons are scheduled Friday, April 9th and Friday, April 23rd. We will be "digging in" to a simple, tactile cooking experience each week and Chef Kelly will have a short read to share relating to the subject. Cost is \$12.00 per child/adult pair. Register at www.floridakelskitchen.com. Call Chef Kelly for more information (321) 506-1682.

Randy Rodriguez - Realtor

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Office: 321-799-0221

Homes are going fast this year in spite of the pandemic. The Space Coast is living up to our name and we have new neighbors coming every day.

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PSJ Community Center Schedule - April, 2021

The center is open Mondays–Thursdays from 10 AM to 7 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

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
 Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
 Billiards, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
 Cooking Around the World, 12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
 ·for age 6 years and up, April 12th & 26th
 Community Cares Aftercare, 2:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.
 Zumba (adult class with Jackie), 5:30 – 6 :30 p.m.

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

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.

Thursdays

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m.- 7 p.m.
 Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Billiards, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Petit Chef, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
 ·for Preschool ages, 3- 5 April 9th & 23rd
 Community Cares Aftercare, 2:30-6 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.
 Community Cares Aftercare, 1:30-6 p.m.

Saturdays

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

Family Fun-Fit Day, April 24th , 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Fay Lake Wilderness Park, 6300 Fay Blvd.

About Zumba Classes With Jackie - A total workout, combining all elements of fitness - cardio, muscle conditioning, balance and flexibility, boosted energy and a serious dose of awesome each time you leave class.

Details about my class - We social distance with flair! * Bring your water bottle* Bring your towel* Bring a buddy* Only \$5 for an hour of fun while you work out and torch the calories!
 ~ Jackie Lewis

A Flashlight Egg Hunt

April 3,2021: Fay Blvd. Park: 6315 Depot Road, Port St John, FL 32927 Bring your basket
 Egg Hunt Times:

6:30 pm - For ages 2 - 5 years
 8:15 pm - For ages 6 - 12 years

Please call (321) 633-1904 for more information

Family Fun-Fit Day

April 24· 9:00 am - 12:00 pm at Fay Lake Wilderness Park, Located on 6300 Fay Blvd, Port St. John, Fl. 32927.

There will be FREE fun activity stations, inflatable for kids and free gift bags to the first 100 children that participate.

For more information, call (321) 633-1904

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Good Day! by Maureen Rupe
Mobile Home Development South Of Port St. John Behind Winn Dixie Continues

The Port St. John Dependent Special District Board heard the rezoning request on March 3, 2021, 6 pm at the County Commissioners Chambers in Viera.

As a member of this recommending board, I had reservations, which was confirmed when I saw how many neighbors of this property had come to the meeting to oppose the rezone. The Port St. John Dependent Special District Board unanimously denied the request.

The following week the rezoning went before the County's Planning and Zoning Board, who unanimously approved the rezoning.

The underlying reason the PSJ Homeowner's Association in the late 1990's asked for it's own board made up of people living in Port St, John was so we'd have people familiar with our problems to have a say in our issues and quality of life.

There are a few factors that are still concerning to me. This request goes before the Brevard County Commission on March 23, 9 am at Viera Building C in the Brevard County Commission

chambers. I have to submit my article by March 18th for the April Issue, so the full story will be in the May Happenings edition.

New Port St. John/Canaveral Groves Bus Route

Parts of Port St. John and Canaveral Groves are getting a bus route. I'd have to walk a mile to get to any bus stop, but for many individuals this will be a help. The route connects the Cocoa Commons Shopping Center on 524 in Cocoa and Grissom Blvd., the Social Security office in Canaveral Groves, Fay Blvd. and U.S. 1, and Parrish Healthcare Center on Port St. John Parkway and stops on both the front and back of Port St. John. I hope this is just a start as like I said. I am sure many others have a significant walk to any stop Map and Stop schedule shown adjacent. Other county routes can be accessed from the Publix Shopping Center at Clear Lake Road and Grissom Blvd. I assume we can give feedback on this route in the future.

Reference:

https://321transit.com/wp-content/uploads/documents/SCAT2021_ENGLISH_WEB_ROUTE11.pdf

New Bus Route 11



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JERRY ALLENDER



STEVEN ALLENDER

Florida Manatees

The following is by Bill Klien, a good friend of mine, an engineer and also a volunteer water tester for the Marine Resource Council. He wrote a great summary on the Manatee deaths here in Brevard County:

Why did Brevard County have 179 manatee deaths, more than any other county in Florida?

There has been a record of 432 deceased manatees reported to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) by March 5, 2021 this year. More than 254 reported manatee deaths were within the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary watershed. Brevard County reported an incredible 179 manatee deaths. Could the Titusville 7.2-million-gallon sewer spill have been a major cause?

There were over 1,000 manatees in the warm

water discharge from the electric power plant in Port St. John. There are more manatees in the IRL in Brevard County. A manatee can eat about 150 pounds a day. Then assume that over 1,000 manatees eat more than 150,000 pounds of food a day or 2,300,000 pounds (1,150 tons) of food from November through March. Most of Brevard's shorelines are lined with seawalls or impoundment dikes. There isn't much living shoreline remaining. The Indian River Lagoon has lost 54% of the seagrass coverage since 2007 from nutrient pollution and algae blooms.

Indian River Lagoon Manatee Mortality - Indian River Lagoon News

You can view the 2021 year to date manatee mortality table at <https://myfwc.com/research/manatee/rescue-mortality-response/statistics/mortality/2021/>.

There is also a very good article on the Indian River Lagoon News site, <https://indianriverlagoonnews.org/guide/>. The article is "Manatee Deaths Can Be Reduced In Brevard County."

I do not know why Brevard County does not act to prevent the manatee deaths in the IRL. I do not know why they are not willing to spend the money to determine the main cause, the loss of the seagrasses, that the manatees depend on for food. The answer to the manatee deaths could be as simple as measuring the nutrient concentrations in the stormwater ponds that empty into the IRL and listing the ones that are causing the pollution.

The fix could be as simple as maintaining these ponds, installing aquatic plants and planting littoral zones around these ponds. That is simi-

cont., next page



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Good Day!, cont.

lar to the way that water treatment facilities use wetlands for their final nutrient removal before it is released into a natural water body. These ponds need to be tested and their outputs regulated.

Discussion

The algae blooms prevent the light from penetrating the water down to the seagrasses and they die. The algae blooms start when the rainy season washes nutrient pollution from land into the ponds and storm sewer pipes, then out into the IRL. The biggest problems?

- Thousands of polluted stormwater ponds that overflow into the IRL without any treatment
- Stormwater pipes that dump directly into the IRL
- Loss of natural shorelines being replaced with concrete and rocks
- Millions of gallons of raw untreated sewage that is spilled into the IRL

Brevard County could eliminate the biggest cause of pollution by testing the nutrients and algae

- In the stormwater ponds
- The effluent flowing from the stormwater ponds
- The effluent flowing from the stormwater sewer pipes.

The ponds are mainly designed to collect the stormwater and slow down the flow in light rains. This allows the ponds to become super saturated with nutrients. There is no nutrient removal in these ponds. Then when the heavy rains come, great quantities of supersaturated nutrient water is flushed out and the summer

algae blooms start.

This year the 7.2 million gallons of sewage caused the algae bloom to start in the North IRL, which has lasted through March and maybe the rest of the year.

The FDEP, SJRWMD and FDOH do not require testing these ponds, do not require maintaining these ponds, and they do not require removing the nutrients in these ponds.

If the ponds were tested, then Brevard County could see which ponds are the major polluters. Then they could design nutrient removal systems. Aquatic plants in the ponds and around the ponds could remove most of the nutrients. However, if no tests are done and no design changes are made, the IRL will continue to get worse.

Cheerio!

Maureen Rupe

rupe32927@earthlink.net

Rose's Room

~ Rose Padrick

Water Skiing

I, along with millions of others, are praying we are nearing some kind of end to the worst year in the history of the earth health wise. As always, everyone who has been touched by this terrible illness please know there are those of us who are praying and sending virtual hugs your way; know you're not alone.

Summer is here! Back in the water ASAP!

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Neither Kathy nor I learned to water ski. Our respective husbands did, and all of our kids learned by age six. Nearly every weekend, holiday, and summer day used to find us at Kiwanis Island with our little old 16-foot Cobia.

Our kids grew up with a great appreciation of the outdoors, and many great memories. I do wish they would forget most of the ones about their mother's attempts at water-skiing, or at least stop laughing so hard they collapse into a lump of teary hiccups. It's not that we didn't have advice or demonstrations. We heard "Straighten your legs out!" "Bend your knees!" "Hunch over a little!" "Hold your head up!" "Pull the rope in to your chest!" "Let the rope pull you!" "Mom! She hit me again!" at least 1000 times.

The outcome was always the same. I could hang on long enough to pull the upper half of my body out of the water, but for some reason as soon as my derriere left the water I fell over to the right, my left ski winding up behind my right shoulder, I became quite expert at detangling myself in the same amount of time it took for my husband to stop laughing.

Kathy usually got about the same percentage of body mass out of the water as I did; only she always fell forward, many times forgetting to let go of the tow rope. Her husband nearly drowned himself laughing as he swam out to help her. He was the designated lifeguard.

After we provided the entertainment for a while, the kids would ski one by one, exclaiming, "Did you see? It's easy!" "I went all the way around! Twice!" "Raymond didn't even have to help me get up this time!" "Is lunch ready?"

Then of course, our husbands just had to demonstrate how it's done. If wishes could come true, both sets of male legs would have shrunk to six inches in length and both sets of male hands

would have become glued to the tow rope.

One bright summer day Kathy was finally able to get all her body parts out of the water, hanging on to make almost a whole circle! She was elated but exhausted, and not able to pull herself into the boat.

My husband, being ever helpful, leaned over, grabbed one arm and one leg, and hauled her in as one would a big fish. The maker of her bathing suit must have neglected to include extra strength for fish hauling when he designed the top strap. She ended up head down, arms tightly crossed over her chest, legs straight up.

My husband, not knowing there is a problem, suggests she should upright herself, to which Kathy suggests he immediately test the water himself.

Meanwhile, back at my little corner of the river, I am in waist deep water struggling to put skis on. To their credit, my kids are yelling encouragement.... I think. "Come on Mom, if Kathy can do it, you can too!" "Don't forget to let go!" "Watch out for sharks!" "She's touching me!" "She touched me first!"

Warmed by their emotional outbursts, I was able to force a foot into the whatchamacallit on one ski. Noticing that ski waving in the wind, me trying vainly to balance on the other foot, and push my head above water long enough to catch a breath, Kathy's husband waded over, pulled my head above water, and asked if I needed help.

When I nodded yes, he dropped my head, grabbed my ski-less foot, shoved it into the whatchamacallit, and hurried off to grab his fishing pole, mumbling something about scaring the fish, to which I suggested a place he could put the fishing pole.

So-- Kathy and I cannot ski, and.... WE DON'T CARE!!

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Easter Week Service Schedule

03/29 (Sun) – Palm Sunday:

8am/10:00am

03/31 (Wed) Holy Wednesday:

6 pm

04/01 (Thurs) Maundy Thursday: 6 pm

04/02 (Fri) Good Friday: 12 pm - 3 pm

04/04 (Sun) Easter Sunday:

7 am/10 am

Children's Easter Egg Hunt,
11 am.

Everyone is welcome to attend.



Service Times

Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Eucharist

10:00 AM on Facebook Live

www.facebook.com/StPatspsj/
Children's Sunday School

during 10:00 am service

Wednesday: 6:00 PM Eucharist

Friday: 6:00 PM Evening prayer



For more information see our website:
www.stpatrickspsj.org

Parrish Healthcare and Orlando Health Bring Specialized Pediatric Care to Brevard County



Parrish Healthcare and Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children have formed a collaborative agreement to bring Orlando Health-employed pediatric specialists to Parrish Healthcare. The agreement includes a pediatric hospitalist program as well as an outpatient children's multispecialty center.

Orlando Health Arnold Palmer physicians will provide in-hospital care to babies born at Parrish Medical Center (PMC), as well as all other hospitalized pediatric patients.

The pediatric hospitalists stay in close communication with the families' primary pediatrician and once released to go home, the pediatric specialists will continue to follow up with the families' primary pediatrician to assure a safe transition to home.

"We believe in bringing together the best and brightest for a common purpose and in this case it is to provide the families we serve with convenient access to highly-specialized pediatric care close to home," said George Mikitarian, Parrish Healthcare president & CEO.

"We are thrilled to partner with Parrish Medical Center to bring our pediatric services to Brevard County," said Cary D'Ortona, president of Orlando Health Arnold Palmer. "Our team is eager to help expand the great care already being provided in this community."

National Day of Prayer

National Day of Prayer is on Wednesday, May 5, 6:30 p.m. at Nicol Park on US1.

This is a joint effort with the First United Methodist Church of PSJ, First Baptist Church of PSJ and Frontenac Baptist.

Please come pray with everyone. Please follow CDC COVID safety measures recommendations.



Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children Multispecialty Care at The Children's Center

Additionally, Orlando Health Arnold Palmer will establish a pediatric multispecialty care center at The Children's Center, a service of Parrish Healthcare, located at 5660 S. Washington Avenue (U.S. Highway 1) in Titusville. The center will specialize in child cardiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, urology, neurology, and pulmonology conditions.

The Children's Center is a one-stop childhood development resource center, providing an array of health, education and human services through many nonprofit community agencies for children of all ages and abilities and their families.

Pediatric patients throughout the county with serious heart, lung and other conditions can see Orlando Health pediatric specialists and subspecialists and other healthcare professionals at the center in Titusville.

"Through this arrangement, Orlando Health is a member of the Parrish Healthcare nationally certified integrated care system," said Mikitarian. "Parrish Healthcare is a collaborative system whereby all members work together for the patients in our care in a proven way parents can trust."

"Our primary care pediatricians saw this as a twofold advantage: first, they could spend more time at their offices serving patients and not have to be continually traveling to and from the hospital," Mikitarian added. "They also are able to collaborate with Orlando Health specialists, and vice-versa."

"Parents shouldn't have to sacrifice quality for convenience," said D'Ortona. "Thanks to this partnership with Parrish, families in Brevard County can receive the highest level of care close to home." The relationship also gives Parrish Healthcare access to Orlando Health Arnold Palmer pediatric-focused patient education and professional continuing education.

"PMC's vision is 'healing families, healing communities,'" said Mikitarian. "Working with Orlando Health further fulfills that vision, and we're excited about what the future holds."



Saturday
April 17
7 PM - 10 PM
SANDPOINT
PARK
Titusville

Grab Your Ticket & Join Us for the 3rd Annual Adult Flashlight Egg Hunt! Admission includes a Hunt for 4000+ Eggs at Night with your Flashlight at Sand Point Park! This fun and exciting Adults Only event (18 years and older) allows you to participate for a chance to win amazing prizes!

Prizes include candies, tchotchkes, tokens, event tickets and much more! Regular eggs will score you some nice treasure, but not all eggs are created equal...can you find the elusive 20 Gold Eggs!?

Tickets and Registration are available online at tinyurl.com/b4c526ff. Tickets are "First Come, First Serve." The price is \$10 per adult (age 18+). Individuals are limited to (x10) tickets per purchase/registration.

This event is LIMITED to (200) tickets, so get yours soon!

Registration is required. No resale of tickets is authorized.

For questions or to find out how you can be a part of this event, contact Chris Clark, (North Area Parks Operations, Activities, Programs, Events & Services Coordinator), at (321) 264-5105, ext. 42120, or visit Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/events/226050672533258>.

The event may change or be canceled in the event of severe weather or other unforeseen

circumstance.

We encourage individuals to follow CDC-recommended guidelines when attending large gatherings.

Space Coast Health Centers Now Open

Space Coast Health Centers (SCHC) is now open and accepting patients to provide behavioral health, OB/GYN and primary care services to north Brevard County and the surrounding communities. The center is open from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday with locations in Titusville and Cocoa.

"We are proud to begin providing unconditional, high-quality services to patients regardless of their ability to pay," said SCHC CEO Arvin Lewis. "74% of north Brevard County patients that can access a healthcare center, don't receive all the services they need. Our principles of C.A.R.E. (compassion, accountability, responsiveness and effectiveness) keep us focused as we deliver services to the medically underserved."

To fill the gap needed for broader healthcare services, SCHC collaborates with area hospitals/health systems; state and local agencies; foundations and other local healthcare providers. This healthcare model allows for proactive patient-focused preventative care.

SCHC will offer telemedicine for those who prefer or need care from the comfort of their home. For more information about SCHC and services provided, please visit www.spacecoasthealthcenters.org or call 321-268-6836.

Space Coast Health Centers is located at 836 Century Medical Dr., Titusville.

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Parrish Medical Center on Track to Earn Baby-Friendly® Designation

International distinction for exceptional care of breastfeeding moms and their babies

Having a healthy baby is about more than what happens during labor and delivery. Parrish Medical Center (PMC) is committed to making the birth of your baby a beautiful healing experience. To enhance the birth experience, Parrish Medical Center has joined the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) and is working toward receiving their designation by December 2021.

The Baby-Friendly designation is based on stringent global criteria for the WHO/UNICEF Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) and adapted for the U.S. Initiative. The criteria set high standards for providing the best possible breastfeeding support for moms and babies in the maternity setting. This is done by focusing on key initiatives to include, but are not limited to:

- Breastfeeding education
- Providing mothers with safe and consistent lactation assistance
- Individualized care for mom and baby
- Practicing rooming in—keeping moms and babies together throughout the birth hospitalization
- Post-stay breastfeeding support



First row, L to R: Melinda Hodges, RN, BSN, Manager Women's Services; Rita Jordan, RN, IBCLC; Amanda Griffin, CNA; Mariah Jackson, RN BSN; Christina Caito, DO; Tanya Taival, DO. Second row, L to R: Christina Wildman, RN; Lorraine Cunniff, RN; Ashley Antun, RN

“It is a tremendous opportunity for families in Brevard County who are looking for a birth hospital that is held to the highest standards in maternity care,” said PMC Lactation Consultant Rita Jordan, RN, IBCLC. “Being able to assist concerned moms beginning breastfeeding and for them to know resources are plentiful here— is huge! We have an entire team of professionals

willing and ready to help moms reach their breastfeeding goals.”

Upon adopting the Baby-Friendly® practices in 2019, 70% of all babies born at Parrish Medical Center were exclusively breastfeeding for the entire birth hospitalization by the end of 2020.

According to Baby-Friendly USA, immediate and uninterrupted skin-to-skin contact and breastfeeding within the first hour after birth are essential to providing the nutrients and energy needed for physical and neurological growth and development of infants. Parrish Medical Center will be joining 595 Baby-Friendly® facilities in the United States, representing 28.07% of annual births.

The Baby-Friendly® initiative also includes support for mothers who prefer or are medically required to formula feed.

You can find more information on the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative and the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding and the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes at <https://www.babyfriendlyusa.org/about/>.

Spring Central Florida Car Show

The Spring Central Florida Car Show will be held throughout Historic Cocoa Village on Saturday, April 10, 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Trophies in 14 classes will be given, plus Mayor's Choice and Best in Show!

Dash Plaques will be given for the first 100 entries.

Register at VisitCocoaVillage.com. Entry Fee: Pre-Registration: \$15. Show Day: \$20

Admission is free to the public! Kid and pet friendly.

Live entertainment!

COVID 19: All exhibitors and the attending public will be required to follow the City of Cocoa ordinance for masking and social distancing.

For more information email: Info@VisitCocoaVillage.com, or call 321-631-9075.

www.visitcocoavillage.com




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Monthly Tax Update

This month I want to make sure everyone knows the deadline for filing your personal Federal tax return is now May 17, 2021.

Note; if you need to file a state return, you'll need to check with each state to see if they extended the date also.

Another important item is Unemployment Benefits you received in 2020. The first \$10,200 of benefit for each taxpayer will not be taxed, if your adjusted gross income is less than \$150,000. This limit is applicable if you're filing Single or Married Filing Joint.

There is also a provision involving the Health Insurance Premium Tax Credit permitting recipients of the unemployment compensation to use the 133% household income federal poverty level to determine if any repayment or additional credit is required.

There's another change associated with the Earned Income Credit (EIC). The age of the taxpayer to receive the credit was between 25 and 65. However, it has been changed to any taxpayer over the age of 18.

Also, don't forget taxpayers may use their earned income from their 2019 tax year to determine their EIC for the 2020 or 2021 tax year, if their 2020 or 2021 earned income was less than their 2019 earned income.

Other issues you'll need to review are the expansion of the Child Tax Credit, modification of the student loan forgiveness, and special tax treatment for restaurant owners who received grants from the Small Business Administration.

My recommendation for taxpayers who haven't filed: They should evaluate if they should file now or wait to file their return until the Internal Revenue Service Center provides instructions on how to file and avoid having to file an amended return later with all the changes I have discussed.

As another reminder, if you have foreign financial accounts, you may be required to report them. For single taxpayers, you must file Form 8938 if the total value of foreign assets is more than \$50,000 (\$100,000 for joint filers) on the last day of the tax year or more than \$75,000 (\$150,000 for joint filers) at any point during the tax year. You may also be required to file

FINCEN Form 114.

Okay, let's talk business. The tax treatment of the Economic Injury Disaster Loan advances, also known as the EIDL Loans, has been changed from taxable to tax exempt income for partnerships and S Corporations. It also allows deductions for expenses paid with the loan proceeds and does not reduce any tax attributes or reduce basis in property.

Another change involves the Form 1099-K, where transactions of sales for goods and services was required if the transactions totaled more than \$25,000 annually. It is now reduced to total transactions of \$600 annually.

This information is important for you to take the appropriate action.

In closing, to my clients, THANK YOU!!!. Because of you, my office had another successful tax season.

Also, to the many of you who read my articles, THANK YOU. I hope it helps. God Bless and hope you Stay Coronavirus free!!!

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



You are invited to the 13th Bark Brew Fest, presented by Tails at the Barkery and the Dirty Oar Beer Company on Saturday, April 17th at the Dirty Oar Beer Company from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Cocoa Village.

Play Bingo to win a fabulous prize! Bring your canine companion, sip your favorite libation, enjoy delicious food from the Donkey's BBQ Food Truck, and join us for an evening of fun, including raffle baskets and a 50/50 drawing.

All proceeds to benefit Touch of Grey Rescue, an all-volunteer, nonprofit 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to provide foster care, re-homing assistance and hospice care to senior dogs that have been left behind by their owners or who are residing in shelters.

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.

We hope you can join us!

For more information, contact Touch of Grey Rescue, www.touchofgreyrescue.com/ or Pam Shaia at Tails at the Barkery, (321) 305-4584 or Dirty Oar Beer Company, (321) 301-4306.

**TO ALL OUR CLIENTS...
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Space Coast Jr/Sr High Stars

Space Coast wants to give a big shout to our amazing Business Partners and Volunteers of the Year. Your generous hearts and willing to take action when there was a need is appreciated beyond words.

Domino's



Integrity Construction & Home Renovation



Coastal Community Church



Senior Volunteer of the Year Brenda Gaedcke



Volunteers of the Year Alan & Lisa Armstrong



Student Volunteer of the Year Thomas Frost



Way to go, Reed!

Space Coast Jr/Sr High School is proud to announce that Reed Dix - #53 Defensive Line-man - signed on March 1st to Bethany College in Kansas.



Trashing Our Community

One of our winter guests started walking for exercise while here and also started picking up trash along Curtis Blvd. from Dodge Rd. to Fay Blvd. It's frustrating. I don't know why people cannot take their trash home and dispose of it properly. There is about a 1/2 mile section from Song Dr. to the car wash that is largely undeveloped. This is a popular stretch to dispose of trash.

There is no group responsible for cleaning the roadside in PSJ. We can do better for our home!

Pillage the Village Sidewalk "Sail"

Grab yer crew and sail on over to Historic Cocoa Village on Saturday, April 17th, 11:00am-5:00 pm, for our Pillage the Village Sidewalk "Sail"!

Plunder yer perfect treasure at our unique shops and sit back and enjoy some grog at our many pubs and dining establishments.

There will be live entertainment throughout the Village!

And, as always, we are kid & pet friendly!

For more information, call 321-631-9075 or visit www.VisitCocoaVillage.com.

Amateur Backyard BBQ Contest

The Sharing Center of Central Brevard 6th Annual Amateur Backyard BBQ Contest is back. On April 10, 2021, come out to F. Burton Smith Park on Hwy. 520 west of I-95 in Cocoa to sample some of the best local BBQ around.



Amateur BBQ Teams from across the county will vie for the title of Amateur Champion Griller in three categories: beef, pork, and chicken. Each team will be providing samples of their delicious BBQ for you, the public, who will be voting for the People's Choice Champion Griller. While serious competitors are sweating it out, we will be soaking up the rays with great food and live entertainment.

The event's proceeds will benefit the Sharing Center's Children's Weekend Feeding Program, a program designed to empower families with children by providing access to healthy food on the weekends during the school year.

Tickets for the event are \$15.00. This includes entry to the event, 1 BBQ dinner and samples from the BBQ teams. Come enjoy live music by Just Us Band, 50/50, and raffles including a large Big Green Egg Smoker!

Don't wait until the last moment to get your tickets! Tickets can be purchased at the following locations:

- Sharing Center's Thrift Store at 113 Aurora Street, Cocoa
- West Cocoa Pharmacy at 2711 Clearlake Rd., Cocoa
- Jenniffer Neuman Dicandio's Allstate Insurance, 950 Fay Blvd., Port St. John
- Sharing Center's Thrift Store at 95 E. Merritt Island Causeway, Merritt Island
- Sharing Center's Boutique and Donation Center at 7720 N Wickham Road, Suntree

Tickets are also available the day of the event. Come join us for some great BBQ and help feed hungry kids here in our own community.

COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOL // KEEP-ING YOU SAFE AT THE BBQ.

Your health and safety are of the utmost importance to us. We will be implementing many safety protocols in accordance with local and

state guidelines, including enhanced cleaning and sanitizing measures, options for contact-free communication and transactions, and adjustments to program and BBQ Competition layout to accommodate for social distancing.

\$1000 PRIZE
to
Winning BBQ Teams

Sharing Center of Central Brevard presents

Bag pack 4 Kids
Weekend Feeding Program

Just Us Band

BBQ * BEER * MUSIC FEATURING LIVE MUSIC BY

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RAFFLES & 50/50'S

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Alcoholics Anonymous meets on **Sundays** at 5 PM, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 PM.

Women's AA meets on Thursdays and Fridays, 10 AM. **Both AA Groups meet at St. Patrick's Church, 4797 Curtis Blvd.**

Overeaters Anonymous - Due to Covid-19 we are meeting on Zoom. For meeting times or contact info, please visit oaspacecoast.org.

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.

4-1 April Fool's Day

4-1 Holy Thursday

4-2 Good Friday

4-2 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 Pam at 321-752-6896 or e-mail bwc0020@gmail.com.

4-4 EASTER

4-4 Passover Ends

4-6 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.

4-7 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.

4-7 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/.

4-8 Holocausts Remembered

4-11 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.

4-11 Calling all Christian authors! Dynamic writers group in Cocoa 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.

4-11 Multiple Sclerosis Self-Help Group meets on the 2nd Sunday each month (except Mother's Day & Nov.), 2 PM, Cocoa Library.

4-12 Ramadan Begins

4-12 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.

4-16 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.

4-21 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 321-268-1632 for assistance with your membership or information.

4-22 Earth Day

4-27 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.

4-30 Arbor Day

Congratulations to:

Brianna Romans turns 27 on the 1st.
Jeremy Rausch turns 20 on the 1st.
Vickie Wiedman is the Queen on the 2nd.
Jennifer Maxwell turns more lovely on the 3rd.
April Staner has a party day on the 3rd.
Bobby Hudspeth turns wilder on the 5th.
Lydia Hudspeth turns 23 on the 6th.
Bill Aglitz turns 54 on the 8th.
Dylan Thomas turns 22 on the 9th.
Madison Thomas turns 17 on the 9th.
Lori Johnson turns prettier on the 9th.
Jason Wolfe turns 18 on the 10th.
Amanda Hosler is 28 on the 12th.
Ryland Travis turns 10 on the 12th.
Dawne Parker turns cuter on the 14th.
April Blake is the dancing queen on the 16th.
Jamie Kline turns hotter on the 16th.
Christina D'Amico turns 27 on April 18th
April Higgs turns 32 on the 19th.
Donnie Crouse turns wiser on the 20th.
Dusty Stricker turns 28 on the 24th.
Pamela Mann turns classier on the 25th.
Kolby Davis turns 29 on the 26th.
Wanda Daugherty gets spanked on the 27th.
Sharon Hightower parties wild on the 28th.
KC, Happy Birthday on the 28th! Love, Joe.
Elizabeth Blum turns 20 on the 29th.
Jaden Travis turns 17 on the 29th.
Sonny & Gayle Wardlow celebrate 42 on the 14th. It's Party Time!
Randy & Michele DeVane celebrate their 26th on the 14th.
Paul and Sarah Bennett celebrate their 5th wedding anniversary on the 5th!!
Brenda and Bill Townley celebrate their 24th wedding anniversary on the 5th.
Michael & Cheryl Rausch celebrate their 37th on the 17th.
James and Jennifer Maxwell celebrate their 19th anniversary on the 25th.
Gary & Holly Turner celebrate their 44th anniversary on the 28th.

We have lots of room for more good news.

Email inputs to happenings1@att.net.

Important Phone Numbers

County Commissioner -	264-6750
Sheriff: Non-Emergency -	633-7162
Fire Station 26 (Port St. John)	633-2056
Emergency Operations Center	637-6670
Waste Management -	636-6894
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

Parrish Healthcare Offers Breakthrough Sleep Apnea Treatment

Parrish Healthcare is among the first health systems in the state to offer Inspire, a breakthrough treatment option for obstructive sleep apnea patients unable to use or get benefit from the traditional continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) machine. Similar to a pace maker, the Inspire device is implanted under the skin and uses a remote control to synch your breathing while sleeping.

Inspire works inside the body with a patient's natural breathing process to treat sleep apnea. Mild stimulation opens the airway during sleep, allowing oxygen to flow naturally. The patient uses a small handheld remote to turn inspire on before bed and off when they wake up.

The Inspire system consists of a stimulation lead and a breathing sensor, powered by a small battery. The system is placed under the skin of the neck and chest through three small incisions during an outpatient procedure. Most patients return home the same day and take over-the-counter pain medications as needed.

"Parrish Healthcare is proud to be Brevard County's leader in sleep medicine with the innovative therapy for obstructive sleep apnea, Inspire. Inspire fills the gap needed for management of obstructive sleep apnea patients who cannot tolerate CPAP. This new treatment will improve the quality of life for many patients in our community" says Parrish Sleep Center's Medical Director, Dr. Rivera-Morales MD.

Inspire therapy is for patients who can't tolerate or get consistent benefit from traditional CPAP therapy, however the line of treatment for sleep apnea is CPAP therapy, according to Dr. Rivera-Morales. The CPAP system takes air from the room and humidifies the air that blows into the mouth and/or nose of the patient through a hose and face mask. That continuous air keeps the airway open to prevent snoring and trouble sleeping. Patients must first fail on CPAP before sleep doctors consider them for Inspire.

The inspire sleep apnea treatment is the latest advancement offered as a part of Parrish Healthcare's sleep medicine services. Other services include consultations with sleep physicians,

sleep coaching, mask fitting, oxygen testing and narcolepsy testing. For more information and to learn if the Inspire treatment may be right for you, call 321-268-6408 or visit www.parrish-healthcare.com/InspireSleep.

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Family Fun-FIT day
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SATURDAY, April 24, 2021

Fay Lake Wilderness Park
6300 Fay Blvd | Port St. John FL | 32927

9:00am - 12:00pm

For more information on Family Fun - Fit Day call (321) 633-1904

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Family Fun

Saturday, April 10th

9AM TO 2PM

RACE CARS DOWN A TRACK
CHECK OUT FIRE TRUCKS!
FOOD AVAILABLE!



Parks & Recreation Meeting



The North Brevard Commission on Parks and Recreation will hold its next monthly meeting on Thursday,

April 8th, 2021, at 5:00 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.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Port St. John

Saint Patrick's Church

4797 Curtis Blvd. - East off Grissom Pkwy.

Sunset Group Meeting

(C) Sunday 5:00 BIG BOOK

(C) Tuesday 6:30 12 STEP

(O) Thursday 6:30 Beginners Mtg

Port St. John Public Library

6500 Carole Ave., Port St. John

Lena Penna, Director

(321) 633-1867

PSJ Library Is Open

The Port St. John Library is now open with limited hours. The library's hours are currently 9 am-5 pm Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 12-8 pm on Wednesdays and we are back to being open on Saturdays 10 am-2 pm.

We are still unable to have any in person programming like we normally would at the library but groups are starting to return!

The Florida Master Gardeners come to provide gardening assistance and plant identification help every Monday from 2-4pm.

~ Mary Lena Penna

Library Director

Port St. John Library

6500 Carole Ave.

(321)633-1867

All libraries still offer curbside pickup for library holds even if the library is open to the public. Place a reserve in the computer, or call your local library, and they will contact you as soon as the items are ready to be picked up.

Please Note: Do not exit your car if the library is depositing your items in your trunk. If the library is leaving the items on a table outside, wait for the staff member/s to put the books outside and return to the library. Then you may retrieve the items and take them home. They will already be checked out to you.

All of our electronic resources and e-books are available to enjoy at any time, including online video story times. Visit <https://www.brevardfl.gov/PublicLibraries/home> for more information.

If you do not have a library card, call your local library. They have permission to issue library cards via phone with proper identification. You will need your driver's license when you call. The physical card may be picked up after the libraries re-open. We want all of our patrons to stay safe and healthy and we are doing as much as we can to assist you in that endeavor. We hope to see you soon!

Please call your local library with questions during open hours, Monday through Friday.

As COVID restrictions ease, new information on classes will be posted.

MEDICARE QUESTIONS...
PART A, PART B, PART C, PART D...

TURNING 65...

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Walter Butler Community Center April 2021

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

The center is open Monday–Thursday from 10 a.m. - 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 – FRIDAYS

Pickleball, 11 am – 2 pm

Open Computer Lab, 11 am – 2 pm & 6 – 8 pm

Kids in Motion, 2 pm – 6 pm

S.T.E.M. Program (3rd to 6th grade), 3– 4 pm

Open Adult Volleyball, 6 – 8 pm

Open Gym, 5 – 8 pm

TUESDAYS

Pickleball, 11 am – 2 pm

Open Computer Lab, 11 am – 2 pm & 6 – 8 pm

Kids in Motion, 2 – 6 pm

S.T.E.M. Program (K to 2nd grade), 3 – 4 pm

Zumba, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Pickleball, 6 – 8 pm

WEDNESDAYS

Pickleball, 11 am – 2 pm

Open Computer Lab, 11 am – 2 pm & 6 – 8 pm

Kids in Motion, 2 – 6 pm

S.T.E.M. Program (3rd to 6th grade), 3 – 4 pm

Volleyball Fundamentals, 5 – 8 pm

THURSDAYS

Pickleball Lessons, 10 am – 12 pm

Pickleball, 11 am – 2 pm

Open Computer Lab, 11 am – 2 pm & 6 – 8 pm

Kids in Motion, 2 – 6 pm

S.T.E.M. Program (K to 2nd grade), 3 – 4 pm

Volleyball Fundamentals, 5 – 8 pm

FRIDAYS

Open Gym, 9 – 11 am

Open Computer Lab 9, am – 2 pm

Pickleball, 11 am – 2 pm

Kids in Motion, 2 – 6 pm

SATURDAY

Open Computer Lab, 10 am – 2 pm

Open Game Room, 10 am – 2 pm

Youth Basketball League, 10 am – 3 pm

Adult Volleyball - Men's and Women's drop-in Volleyball every Monday from 6 pm – 8 pm.

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 from 5 pm – 8 pm. For more information contact Walter Butler Community Center at (321) 433-4448.

Seniors In Motion - Seniors in Motion will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am – 1 pm. Coffee and snacks will be provided. Thursdays are field trip day. Outings are in county and are 2 to 3 hours, depending on the outing location(s). For more information, call (321) 433-4448.

Kids In Motion - After school program that focuses on anti-bullying and educational hands on projects such as the Choice Program, 4-H club and STEM programs, and Kids Art to enhance learning. Monday – Friday 2 pm – 6 pm. Program cost is \$30 weekly. Discounts are available for households living in the target area, eligible for free or reduced lunch and/or qualifies for any other assistance offered. For more information, contact WBCC at (321) 433-4448.

ZUMBA - Let It Move You! There are a lot of ways to lose weight. Some are just more fun. Join the ultimate dance-fitness party that beats a boring old workout any day! Classes are Every Tuesday, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm. Half the class is Zumba Toning, the other half is Zumba. Cost is \$5 per class or \$15 for the month. Adults of all ages/fitness levels are welcome. Wear comfortable clothes and sneakers and be prepared to dance! Bring a towel and water. For more information, call Debbie Kowaleuski at (321) 403-6918.

Futsal - Futsal is a ball sport played on a hard court, smaller than a football pitch, and mainly indoors. It has similarities to five-a-side football. Futsal is played between two teams of five players each, one of whom is the goalkeeper. This

program is FREE & offered on Wednesdays 4 pm – 5 pm

10th Annual Easter Celebration - On Friday, April 1st, Walter Butler Community Center will host their 10th Annual Easter Celebration. This event includes an egg hunt, games, prizes, and lots of fun. Bring a bag or basket for the egg hunt. Start time is 3 pm and scheduled to end at 5 pm. It's FREE and open to the public. For more information, contact Walter Butler Community Center at (321) 433-4448.

Roofing Contractor Fraud

As you've likely seen in the news, roofing contractors across Florida are increasingly soliciting business by going door-to-door through neighborhoods or with promotional mailings. If an offer by a roofing company sounds "too good to be true," then it probably is. Just a reminder... please be sure to read the fine print before you sign on the dotted line! An Assignment of Benefits Agreement is sometimes provided by roofing contractors.

Before signing any document that includes Assignment of Benefits language, please read carefully and consider speaking with your insurance agent. Also referred to as an "AOB," the agreement authorizes the roofing contractor to act on your behalf and may allow the roofing contractor to receive funds directly from your insurance company. By signing an Assignment of Benefits document, you may be signing away your rights. There are several reputable local companies who have been here for years. Choose them first.

Read more on the MyFloridaCFO website about contractor fraud and how you can protect yourself: <https://www.myfloridacfo.com/Division/ICA/Demolish>

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 _____

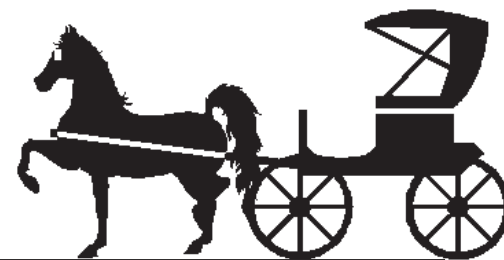
Address _____

E-mail _____

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

Won't you join us? Visit www.CanaveralGrovesHOA.com for information

SLEEPY HOLLOW



Fruit From The Groves



There will be NO meeting of the Canaveral Groves Home Owners in April, 2021.

Brevard County Fire has answered a number of calls out here in the Groves. This includes a structure fire, brush fires, and ATV fire and auto accidents.

Brevard County Sheriff's Office has also answered calls on suspicious vehicles, and also some domestic problems. The speeding is happening all over the Groves. It needs to be reported to the Sheriff's Office so they can make more patrols out here.

We need to get ready for fire season. It's time to move brush and other flammable items from around your homes and structures. Also, it would be a good idea to make plans in case you have to evacuate your animals during a brush fire.

Be careful of the traffic conditions in the area due to road closings due to the train. Leave yourself extra time coming and going.

- Ed Silva



On the Road With Rose

**Brevard Museum of History and Natural
Science**

2201 Michigan Ave., Cocoa

Phone 321-632-1830; www.CocoaFL.org

Those much more learned than I are murmuring there may just be light at the end of this

terrible tunnel we've been traveling. I'm praying we are coming close to the end of the tunnel and things can become more normal soon. But for right now, let's just keep on keeping on...masks and sanitizers...for just a little longer.

The Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science is truly a hidden gem. Tucked between homes toward the west end of Michigan Ave., it's unobtrusiveness belies the wonders within.

On a recent visit, I had the good luck to meet Ben, who was a fountain of knowledge of the museum and how it came to be. He was kind enough to point out a likeness of the Canaveral Lighthouse, complete with a lifesaver from a ship that wrecked off Cocoa Beach in 1887.

Be sure to ask for the Scavenger Hunt page. Kids of all ages enjoy finding and matching all the pictures. The little ones will enjoy the Ice Age room. 'Bones,' the huge mastodon skeleton, competes with the giant sloth and saber tooth tiger skeletons found right here in central Florida. A small window allows touching of one of 'Bones' relative's tooth and leg bone. There is a Discovery room for youngsters (and us oldsters), but I'll have to go back when it reopens.

As you head to the space exhibit, check out the 'small' Blue Whale rib bone (think 50 gallon jug of BBQ sauce).

I found it amazing to walk down the little hall with pictures and memories of the first humans to live and prosper in what is now our neighborhoods. From the world famous Windover dig site offering up complete human remains thousands of years old, to more modern Native American tribes hunting, fishing, killing alligators by hand, and building huts out of palm fronds, all in the same vicinity - some in the very same spot - mighty rockets would one day roar from.

On the opposite wall are American heroes stepping into small modules right here in our own back yard and flying all the way to the epic, "One small step for man..." moment. I stopped for just a moment to watch old footage of that

landing, remembering sitting in front of old Motorola TV with my brothers, wishing we could be there with Neil Armstrong, and later years when Gene Cernan and Jack Schmitt sang and danced on the moon.

The real Florida pioneer hut built on site has moss squeezed between the pine logs to keep out the heat, cold and myriads of pests, including the snakes seeking relief from the sun. There is a nice depiction of life in and around these huts, including how turpentine was gathered and distilled - hot and exhausting work.

You'll want to take just a moment to read some of the real letters from some of the pioneers to families back home covering the wall across from the hut.

When you leave the building and take the nature walk, it's easy to get the feel of how difficult life was in times past, but also how beautiful our area was. I spotted two tortoises, a small rabbit and tracks in the sand I didn't recognize. As always, please take only pictures and memories, and leave only footprints.

Again, thanks to Ben for his information and to the nice lady in the parking lot who was kindly concerned when this Klumsy Kate almost face planted over a root.

P.S.

Ben explained the Historical Society was having such a hard time keeping the doors open that they made a gut-wrenching decision to gift the whole museum and everything in it to the City of Cocoa. This is why there was no admission fee when I visited, but no one knows if the city will keep it open. I hate to think about losing this gem and will be going back with all my grandchildren, hoping if the new landlord realizes it's worth, it will stay open. I invite everyone to do the same, especially while it's free, it really is a treat for the whole family.

~ Rose Padrick

You're not fat, you're just easier to see.

More Vaccine Site Options

As more of the original designated people have received their two doses of COVID vaccine, it is now available to people who are 50 or older, adding the group between 50 and 65, who are eligible to receive the vaccine. But where? And how?

Brevard County Emergency Management is using the Nixle Alert emergency notification system to announce appointment opportunities as they arise, and based on supply availability, for COVID-19 vaccinations. Users will receive alerts on their mobile phone from the Nixle notification system. To register for text alerts, create a new text message on your mobile phone to 888777. In the text message body write Brevardeoc, then hit send.

The Florida Department of Health-Brevard will provide free, appointment-only COVID-19 vaccinations of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. Appointments can now be made online via the Eventbrite platform at <https://brevardcovidvaccine.eventbrite.com>.

You can also visit <https://myvaccine.fl.gov/> to register. Your place in line will be held as vaccines become available. They are using the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines.

Florida seniors who cannot leave their homes have a new way to sign up for an appointment. Email to HomeboundVaccine@em.myflorida.com with your name and phone number and someone will get back to you about setting up an appointment.

Walgreen's has limited amounts of COVID vaccine. Visit [Walgreens.com](https://www.walgreens.com), then log in to your pharmacy account. Creating one is quick and easy.

For Walmart or Sam's Club, to check availability and schedule an appointment, visit www.walmart.com/COVIDvaccine and www.samsclub.com/covid.

To register at Publix, visit <https://www.publix.com/covid-vaccine/florida>.

For CVS, visit <https://www.cvs.com/immunizations/covid-19-vaccine>, then click on Florida. A pop-up will give you a link to "Schedule an appointment now." Click it!



A Day With Your Dog

Sunday, April 11, 2021
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Riverfront Park
Historic Cocoa Village



ACTIVITIES
Tricks & Games for
Dogs and People

Fast Recall

Rally

Agility



Food & Drinks

Raffle Baskets

DJ & Music

Breed Rescue Groups

Meet the Breeds Presentation by the Brevard Kennel Club.



Sponsored by:



308 Brevard Avenue
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(321) 305-4584

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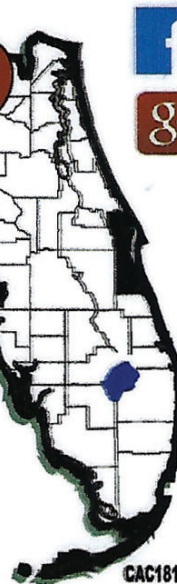
All pets must be on a leash, or in appropriate carriers, and have current vaccinations and tags for the safety of our animals and friends. For more information, call: (321) 305-4584.

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