

# HAPPENINGS

ISSUE NO. 412

AUGUST 2024

SERVING PORT ST. JOHN & CANAVERAL GROVES



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

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

## Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday

Florida's second 2024 Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday begins on Saturday, August 24 and ends on Friday, September 6. During these sales tax holiday periods, tax is not due on the retail sale of eligible items related to disaster preparedness. Sales tax holidays do not apply to:

- Commercial purchases of pet evacuation supplies.
- Sales within a theme park, entertainment complex, public lodging establishment or airport.
- The rental of any eligible item listed below.

### Sales price of \$20 or less:

- Reusable ice (reusable ice packs)

### Sales price of \$40 or less:

- Any portable, self-powered light source\* (powered by battery, solar, hand-crank or gas):
- Candles • Flashlights • Lanterns

### Sales price of \$50 or less:

- Any gas or diesel fuel container, including LP gas and kerosene containers. Batteries, including rechargeable batteries, listed sizes only (excluding automobile and boat batteries):

- AAA-cell      • AA-cell      • D-cell

- 6-volt      • C-cell
- 9-volt Portable Radios\* (powered by battery, solar or hand-crank)
- Two-way      • Weather band
- \* Eligible light sources and radios qualify for the exemption even if electrical cords are included.

### Sales price of \$60 or less:

- Coolers and ice chests (food storage; nonelectrical)
- Portable power banks

### Sales price of \$70 or less:

- Carbon monoxide detectors
- Fire extinguishers
- Smoke detectors or smoke alarms

### Sales price of \$100 or less:

- Bungee cords
- Ground anchor systems
- Ratchet straps
- Tarpaulins (tarps)
- Tie-down kits
- Visqueen, plastic sheeting, plastic drop cloths and other waterproof sheeting

### Sales price of \$3,000 or less:

- Portable generators used to provide light or communications, or to preserve food in the event of a power outage

### Eligible Pet Evacuation Supplies

**Sales Price of \$10 or less per can or pouch (or equivalent if sold in a box or case):**

- Wet cat or dog food
- Cat litter pans
- Collapsible or travel-size food or water bowls
- Hamster or rabbit substrate
- Manual can openers
- Pet waste disposal bags

### Sales Price of \$15 or less per item:

- Cat litter pans
- Collapsible or travel-size food or water bowls
- Hamster or rabbit substrate
- Manual can openers
- Pet waste disposal bags

### Sales Price of \$20 or less per item:

- Collars      • Muzzles
- Leashes      • Pet pads

### Sales Price of \$25 or less per item:

- Cat litter weighing 25 lbs. or less

### Sales Price of \$40 or less per item:

- Pet beds
- Bags of dry cat or dog food weighing 50 lbs. or less
- Pet carriers and portable kennels
- Over-the-counter pet medications

or current resident

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ECRWS


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# PSJ Community Center Schedule - August, 2024

The center is open Mondays–Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Fridays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Schedule is subject to change.

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

**Fall Schedule Begins Monday, August 12th**  
**After Summer Camp Concludes.**

## **Mondays**

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

## **Tuesdays**

Seniors At Lunch, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Outside Basketball, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Game Room, 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 Classes,  
(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 10, a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Billiards, 10 a.m. - 7 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, 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, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Billiards, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Seniors At Lunch, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Dancing Little Stars-Tiny Tots (ages 1-3) (Parent  
Participation), 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.  
Dancing Little Stars-Beginner Ballet (ages 2-4),  
10:45 - 11:15 a.m.  
Community Cares Aftercare, 1:30 - 6 p.m.

## **Coming soon on Monday evenings:**

### **Zumba Fitness with Diana**

I will take the “work” out of workout by mixing low-intensity and high-intensity moves for an interval-style, calorie-burning dance fitness party. Once the Latin and World rhythms take over, you’ll see why we call Zumba exercise in disguise. Super effective? Check. Super fun? Check and check.

What do you need in my class: \*Bring your water bottle \* use close-toed tennis shoes \*bring a small towel\*bring your smile \*bring a friend!!\* only \$8 per class.

### **About Kel’s Kitchen (starting in August)**

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**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. This program runs every other Wednesday. The focus is on developing foundational skills to carry into your kitchen at home. \$20.00 per child. Adult must accompany child and you must preregister at [www.floridakelskitchen.com](http://www.floridakelskitchen.com)

**About Dancing Little Stars (starting in August)**  
**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.dancinglittlestarsbrevard.com](http://www.dancinglittlestarsbrevard.com) <http://www.dancinglittlestarsbrevard.com>

### **About Yoga With Diane -**

Gentle Yoga - Thursdays 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.  
Gentle Yoga with Diane - 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](http://www.psjyoga.com) for further information.

~Diane Coben~

## **Alcoholics Anonymous**

**Saint Patrick’s Church**

**Port St. John**

4797 Curtis Blvd. - East off Grissom Pkwy.

### **Sunset Group Meeting**

(C) Sunday 5:00 Closed topic

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## Parrish Healthcare Proud to Partner With Who We Play For

Parrish Healthcare is proud to partner with Who We Play For, a nonprofit organization that exists to eliminate preventable sudden cardiac death in young athletes, for a sixth consecutive year.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is a life-threatening condition that causes a person's heartbeat to stop abruptly and unexpectedly. SCA is usually caused by an abnormality in the heart's electrical system. When this happens, blood flow to the brain, heart and the rest of the body stops. If standing, a person experiencing SCA usually collapses. SCA can occur in people of all ages, including children and teenagers who are otherwise very healthy. In partnership with Who We Play For, the Parrish Medical Group Athletic Training Program within the Parrish Healthcare Network provides student athletes with access to affordable athletic physicals, heart screenings and electrocardiogram testing in the North Brevard community.

The nonprofit Who We Play For was created in memory of high school soccer athlete Rafe Maccarone, who suffered from SCA during soccer practice. It was later discovered that Rafe had Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy, a condition that could have been both discovered and diagnosed had he completed electrocardiogram testing prior to beginning the soccer season.

Parrish Medical Group physician Anthony Allotta, DO, speaks on the importance of pre-participation sports physicals. "This is an opportunity to ensure student athletes are physically able to participate in sports for the upcoming school year. If an individual has a physical condition that would

prevent or prohibit his or her participation in sports and other activities, we can identify that early on and address accordingly."

Evan Ernst, Executive Director of Who We Play For, thanks Parrish Healthcare for their ongoing support. "We are incredibly grateful for the wonderful partnership of Parrish Healthcare. Between 2023-2024, 621 students and student athletes were screened at schools in Parrish's service areas. Of these students, 6 were flagged as needing follow up care to identify the cause of heart abnormalities, two of which were flagged with a potentially life-threatening heart condition. The impact our continued partnership has on the Brevard community allows us to create safer schools and communities."

Parrish Medical Group is offering two pre-participation sports physical events for the upcoming school year. The first will be held Saturday, July 20 from 8 a.m.-noon at Parrish Healthcare Center at Titus Landing, 250 Harrison Street, Floor 1, Titusville. A second event will be held Saturday, August 10 from 8 a.m.-noon at Parrish Healthcare Center in Port St. John, 5005 Port St. John Parkway, Suite 2100, Port St. John. The cost will be \$10 per student. No appointment is necessary. A parent and/or guardian must accompany athletes to their physical.

For more information about Who We Play For, Parrish Healthcare or the upcoming pre-participation sports physicals, please visit parrishhealthcare.com or contact Kellie Way, Athletic Training Director, at 321-433-2247 ext. 8225.



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# Good Day!

## Space Coast Airport, also known as Spaceport West

Space Coast Airport is also known as Titusville – Cocoa Airport (TI-CO Airport). The Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) is working on a new site plan for Space Coast Regional Airport. It states the following:

### EXPLORATION SPACEPORT

@ Space Coast Regional Airport

Director: Kevin Daugherty, A.A.E.

Address: 51 Bristow Way, Titusville, FL 32780

Phone Number: (321)-267-8780 [www.explorationspaceportf.org](http://www.explorationspaceportf.org) (website doesn't work)

### MISSION

- To provide unique opportunities for diverse aerospace business growth, unparalleled customer experiences and a destination for global aerospace research, testing, assembly and potential launches.

### SPACEPORT HIGHLIGHT

- 1,500+ developable acres
  - Development of 1.9 million square feet of leasable space
  - Future “point-to-point” launch terminal
- ### MASTER/LONG-TERM PLAN
- Rehabilitation of runway 18/36 and Safety Area enhancements
  - Extension of Challenger Avenue to S.R. 407
  - Replacement of current Air Traffic Control tower
  - Taxiway A reconstruction and extension
  - Development of 1.9 million square feet of build-to-suit space
  - Horizontal launch/landing; future “point-to-point” excursions
  - FTZ (Foreign Trade Zone) 136

### NEW FEATURES OF THE SPACEPORT

- Development of new facilities that may contain clean rooms, high bays and SCIFs, as well as capabilities for manufacturing, assembly, research and development, and flexible office space

### LOCATION ADVANTAGE

- Spaceport Territory tax-related and fiscal benefits
- Close proximity to major arteries - I-95, U.S. 1, S.R. 528, S.R. 407, and S.R. 405 (NASA Causeway)
- FEC Railway
- Within one hour of several international airports
- 6 miles from Kennedy Space Center
- 8 miles from Port Canaveral

- Foreign Trade Zone 136 (duty-free trade, shipping, etc.)
- Florida weather provides opportunities for year-round outdoor activities
- Pristine beaches
- Indian River Lagoon (boating, fishing)
- 40 minutes from Orlando and its legendary theme parks and amenities

### SPACEPORT ACCESSIBILITY

- Multi-modal transportation gateway, including roadways and highways, railways, maritime, air travel, and space capabilities and highways, railways, maritime, air travel, and space capabilities.

It still seems to be named Space Coast Regional Airport, but it's gained another name - Spaceport Florida West.

### Sampling of Beach Waters and Public Bathing Spaces (CS/CS/HB 165)

This bill prevents local governments from imposing higher wage requirements on contractors. This was a good environmental bill for the benefit of Florida Citizens. DeSantis vetoed the bill that would have increased warnings of polluted water. The Bill required the Florida Dept. of Health to issue warnings if water quality failed to meet standards and the bill required closure of polluted beaches to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

This sounded bad, so I did research and found it's not as bad as it seems. The Florida Department of Health collects beach water samples at a number of beaches around the state, including Brevard. The beaches they test are Jetty Park, Cocoa Beach Pier, Pelican Beach Park, Paradise Beach Park, Spessard Holland North and Sebastian Inlet North. They no longer sample National Sea Shore and Patrick SFB North as they are federal property. They also don't sample at Cocoa Beach – Minutemen Causeway and Indialantic Boardwalk. The sampling results are on the Environmental Protection Agency website at <http://watersgeo.epa.gov//beacon2/>.

I studied the changes in HB165 and it was forcing notifications between counties, municipalities and boat dock owners within 24 hours and posting of signs. I'm sure someone complained it was too much work and just let the swimmers beware. The testing still remained at every two weeks, so the water could be bad, but we wouldn't know it until two weeks from the testing.

### Clean Water SRF Parity Act (HR 250)

This federal Congressional bill would allow large investor-owned wastewater utilities to access the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, including the \$12.7 billion in funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. This would take federal clean water funding away from our municipal sewer systems and give it to for-profit wastewater utilities. 46 environmental, labor, religious, social justice and community-based organizations sent a letter opposing this proposal. It was introduced in February, 2023 but hasn't gone anywhere since then, so I'm not sure how concerned we should be.

### Heat and Wage Restriction Bill (HB 433):

The heat portion of this bill takes away from local authority the ability to protect workers from climate-caused extreme heat. The bill also prevents local governments from imposing higher wage requirements on contractors. More than 90 organizations, including the League of Women Voters of Florida, the Farmworker Association of Florida and the NAACP Florida State Conference signed letters opposing the bill seeking a veto. Unfortunately, the Governor signed this bill and I'm not sure how outdoor workers will be protected.

An April 15, 2024 article in the Tallahassee Democrat by Samantha Neely, stated "...roughly two million people in Florida, from construction to agriculture, work outside. On average, the state's summer can reach up to 95 degrees, with the humidity and blazing sun making it feel over 100."

I thought the bill was against heat protections, but it's more trying to keep one set of protections for the state instead of different protections for each county or municipality. The article went on to say, "Rep. Tiffany Esposito of Fort Myers sponsored the House version of the bill, told outlets her husband has worked in South Florida's construction sector for two decades and added she knows the industry takes worker safety seriously. This is very much a people-centric bill," Esposito said. "If we want to talk about Floridians thriving, they do that by having good job opportunities. And if you want to talk about health and wellness, and you want to talk about how we can make sure that all Floridians are healthy, you do that by making sure that they have a good job. And in order to provide good jobs, we need to not put businesses out of business."

But I'm not sure if I like this standardization

or the state has to do a bit better job protecting its citizens. The Article stated “From 2010 to 2020, the University of Florida recorded 215 heat-related deaths occurred in Florida, with the number of yearly deaths varied between 10 and 28. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, average annual heat-related deaths have risen 95% from 2010 to 2022.

So I’m sure the state or OSHA can do better if deaths have gone up so much, as the temperature seems to be getting hotter because of Climate Change (can I still say Climate Change?).

### **Taking of Bears (CS/HB 87):**

This bill allows killing a bear without penalties if someone feels in danger to their lives or property. The Bill requires any killed bear to be disposed of by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and doesn’t allow the person that killed the bear to possess, sell or dispose of the bear or their parts. Already a grown bear and baby bear have been found shot and killed with no proof they had done anything besides trespass.

There has not been one incident of a bear killing a human in Florida.

### **What’s in our Storm water?:**

Besides oil and rubber from our highways, there are many more things that can show up in our stormwater, such as:

Class: Medications: Valium, Diazepam - used to treat a range of conditions and one of the most frequently prescribed medications in the world; Ibuprofen – an anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) used to relieve pain, fever and inflammation, a widely used over the counter medication; Tylenol - is a non-opioid agent used to treat fever and mild to moderate pain, a widely used over the counter medication; Chloramphenicol - an antibiotic useful for the treatment of a number of bacterial infections.

Class: Sunscreens: Sulisobenzone - UVA UVB inhibitor found in sunscreens, etc. Its sodium salt, sulisobenzone sodium, is also referred to as benzophenone-5; Oxybenzone - is widely used in sunscreen formulations, plastics, toys, furniture finishes and other products to limit UV degradation.

Class: Herbicides: Atrazine - a chlorinated herbicide of the triazine class used to prevent pre-emergence broadleaf weeds; Glyphosate (phosphonomethyl)glycine) is a broad-spectrum systemic herbicide used to kill weeds, especially annual broadleaf weeds and grasses that compete with crops.

Class: Plastics: Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) - a chemical perfluorosulfonic acid and is an anthropogenic (man-made) fluorosurfactant, now regarded as a global pollutant. PFOS was the key ingredient in Scotchgard, a fabric protector made by 3M, and related stain repellents.

Cheerio,  
~ Maureen Rupe  
rupe32927@gmail.com

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## **321Transit Moving Into Future**

Gone are the days of waiting at a Brevard County bus stop wondering when your bus will come. The future is here and Space Coast Area Transit saved you a seat! “With our state-of-the-art website, 321Transit.com, and the 321Transit bus tracking app, riders can view a bus or trolley

on its route in real-time and get a text notification 5, 10, or 15 minutes prior to its arrival. It’s easy to locate a route by name, address, area, location or landmark and to personalize your ride by using the Trip Planner to navigate multiple stops and routes,” Transit Director, Terry Jordan said.

Contactless mobile ticketing - powered by Token Transit - makes it convenient to purchase a bus or trolley pass on a smart-phone. When boarding with an electronic pass, no cash or contact is required. Once onboard, riders enjoy free Wi-Fi throughout their trip. In addition, all buses have bike racks and are wheelchair accessible. Public transit not only conserves energy, it efficiently connects workers with their jobs, links student with universities and transports residents to hundreds of locations throughout Brevard with 23 routes and over 1,100 bus stops to get where you need to go.

New technology is a valuable tool that helps them serve their community in more efficient and effective ways. New advancements will forever change the way you ride Space Coast Area Transit. You can connect with Space Coast Area Transit through interactive multimedia at 321Transit on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Google Business. Search 321Transit.com to download the bus tracker app at the Apple App store on or Google Play. Log on to their ADA accessible website at 321Transit.com. Invite them to your civic group, homeowners association, or school to share the many transit services that are available throughout Brevard by calling 321-635-7815 x 52937. View maps and schedules at 321Transit.com or call RideLine at 321-633-1878.

Read more at <https://brevardfl.gov/Newsletter/321transit-moving-brevard-into-the-future>.

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saved an average  
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STEVEN ALLENDER

## Food For Thought

### Lunch Ideas for Back to School

Back to school is quickly approaching. Along with preparations for back to school, one of the considerations is what your child will eat for lunch. Some children will eat anything, while others are picky. Some could have diet restrictions, or you could be sending your child to school for the first time and you're unsure if they will eat school lunch.

Lunches provided by schools are regulated by the National School Lunch Program that is set by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). School lunches must offer the following daily: fruits and vegetables, protein, grains (half of which must be whole grain) and low-fat or fat free milk. These food groups can be used as the foundation for making balanced school lunches at home. Here are some examples of cold lunches that can be prepared at home.

Lunch option 1: Turkey and cheese roll-ups served in a whole grain tortilla with a side of blueberries, baby carrots and a ranch dip.

Lunch option 2: Pasta salad with a side of chicken sausage or boiled egg, string cheese and sliced apples with peanut butter or nut free butter.

Lunch option 3: Whole wheat mini pancakes with strawberries and yogurt (Greek yogurt for higher protein) and pretzels for something crunchy.

Lunch option 4: Homemade Lunchables with whole wheat crackers, cheddar cheese and sliced meat served with banana and sliced sweet peppers.

Lunch option 5: Cheese quesadilla made with whole wheat tortilla

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**Katie**  
**Delaney**

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with the option to add chicken or other source of protein, fruit salad and chips.

Lunch option 6: Peanut butter or nut free butter and banana sandwich with whole wheat bread, cottage cheese and grapes.

Lunch option 7: Pita bread served with hummus, grape tomatoes, sliced cucumber and granola bar.

These lunches are high in fiber and protein, which will keep your little one full for longer. You can mix and match these lunch options to meet your child's food preference. There's no need to worry if your child likes having the same food for lunch, that is typical behavior. Making school lunches at home doesn't have to be complicated. See the following tips that can make packing school lunches easier:

- Make lunches ahead of time, either the night before or on Sundays.

- Mix up lunches so your child does not get bored. Include a variety of fruits, veggies and snacks in your lunch rotation.

- "Eat the Rainbow!" By adding different colors of food, it can make your child's lunch more appealing and fun.

- Involve your child in packing their lunches. This may motivate them to eat something they normally would not and make it fun for them.

- If you are short on time, use convenience pre-packaged foods such as fruit and vegetable cups and other snack items for easy grab and pack meals.

- Ask your child if they have noticed what other kids bring for their school lunch and ask if they

would like to try something similar.

Having a mix of new and familiar food choices included in your child's lunch can help aid into a smoother transition into the new school year.

~ Hillary Haas, DTR

### National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE)

NARFE Apollo Chapter 1137 meets monthly on the second Monday of each month. Our meeting place is Kay's BBQ Restaurant, 1552 W. King St., Cocoa.

The July meeting will be on the 8th. You are invited to join us for lunch at 11:30 and an interesting speaker at 12:15.

The website address is [www.NARFE.org/Chapter1137](http://www.NARFE.org/Chapter1137).



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## UF/IFAS Checklist To Prepare For A Busy Hurricane Season

Now that Hurricane Season is here, it's best to get your home and business ready for one of the fierce storms before it comes to your doorstep.

University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) experts have created a simple-to-follow checklist for hurricane preparedness steps you can follow. According to forecasters at Colorado State University, the 2024 hurricane season will bring 23 named storms and 11 hurricanes, five of which will be Category 3 or above.

Step 1: Create a disaster supply kit to ensure that you and your family have the resources you need to stay indoors during and immediately after a hurricane for at least three days. It includes:

- a battery-powered radio
- hand sanitizer
- two-week medication supply
- extra clothing
- first aid kit
- blankets and pillows
- non-perishable food supplies & can opener
- cooking supplies
- surge protectors
- books and activities
- flashlights
- safe water supply
- cash
- special needs items (infant formula or other diet needs)
- toiletries/hygiene items
- bug spray and sunscreen
- pet supplies and food
- important documents
- portable cellphone chargers.

You will need one to 1.5 gallons of water per person per day, with extra for children, nursing parents, the elderly and pets.

For pets, include a carrier and leash, ID tags, proof of ownership, medications and pet first aid supplies, medical and vaccination records and your veterinarian's phone number and address.

A generator can be useful in a disaster situation. Never use gas generators inside your home or attached garage, but do have carbon monoxide alarms in your home and do not place the generators anywhere where people or animals gather.

Step 2: Create a family communication plan in case your family gets separated or various

branches of your family aren't able to reach one another due to cellphone outages.

If your family is separated, set a predetermined meeting place, such as a shelter or your home. Choose an out-of-town point of contact for your family so all answers can be routed through one person who isn't in the path of the storm.

Create an information card for every member of your family that includes contact information, insurance information and important addresses of places to meet during emergencies. Practice your emergency plan with your family ahead of time.

If the internet is working but cellphones are not, use social media to let your family and friends know you are OK and for them to remain patient.

Step 3: Prepare your pantry. Stores tend to sell out of essentials quickly. Buying non-perishable goods now will help avoid a headache later. Buy enough food for two weeks at home.

Frozen foods (or freezing fresh foods) will be useful for the first day or two in a power outage.

Shelf-stable foods like pasta, dried beans, grains, dried fruit, jerky, pancake mix, canned milk, sugar, baking supplies, coffee, tea, herbs and spices will provide a well-rounded mix of foods.

Don't forget necessities like aluminum foil, parchment paper, plastic wrap, zippered bags, soap, paper products, over-the-counter medicine, a thermometer, vitamins and electrolyte supplements.

Step 4 (if needed): Buy bottled water to drink and cook with during the disinfection process, which takes a day or so. To be ready to disinfect a private drinking well after a hurricane, follow these tips after testing your well if bacteria is detected.

Buy regular household bleach, but not splashless bleach because it is not strong enough to sanitize and disinfect your well. Use only unscented bleach. Bleach should be diluted with 10 parts water before adding it to the well for best results. To disinfect, pump out the well for at least one hour. Flush out household plumbing, including the water heater. Make sure the water is clear and free of sediment.

Turn off electric power to the pump and remove the well cap. Prepare the solution of bleach and water and pour the solution into the well. The amount of bleach depends on the depth of water

in the well and the diameter of the well casing. Recirculate the water by connecting a hose to a faucet and spraying the water back into the well for at least 10 minutes.

Open every faucet in the system and let the water run until you cannot smell chlorine anymore. Then close all the faucets and seal the top of the well.

Allow chlorinated water to stand in the system for at least 12 hours but no longer than 24 hours. Do not use any water during this time. Use an alternative water supply during this time.

The next day, turn on all faucets, beginning with outside and flushing out the water until there is no chlorine odor. Retest the well water in five to 10 days. If bacteria is still present, you may need to repeat the process.

For more disaster preparedness information, visit <https://disaster.ifas.ufl.edu/>, which has critical information about what to do before, during and after a hurricane or other natural disaster.

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## Learn the Basics of Canning

Join us at the UF/IFAS Extension Office in Cocoa to learn all about the basics of canning! This August we are offering two different canning classes to teach you how to preserve your own food safely, while also creating the best quality product.

You will be able to take your food home, so please bring a box with you as the jars will still be hot. All other materials are provided in class. The cost of each class is \$35 per person, and space is limited to 8 people. To register and learn more, please visit the links in the schedule below.

Upcoming Classes:

**Canning: Jams and Jellies Registration**

August 13, from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

**Canning: The Pickling Process Registration**

August 17, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

If you have any questions, please call us at 321-633-1702 or email [Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu](mailto:Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu).

The University of Florida is committed to providing universal access to all of our events. For disability accommodations such as sign language interpreters and listening devices, please contact the UF/IFAS Brevard County Extension Office at [Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu](mailto:Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu) or 321-633-1702 at least 2 weeks in advance. Advance notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs.



## Rose's Room

~ Rose Padrick



### Birthdays in the Keys

Hopefully by the time my pecking hits, some of the evilness around the world has been stopped or at least lessened. While it seems like some things will never end, we can only hope for better times to come and somehow keep faith in something bigger than our mere selves. If you're reading this and have a loved one in pain, please know prayers are being sent.

Being time once again for the celebration of my latest trip around the sun, (I still wonder how the heck they all came and went so swiftly), my thoughts have turned to previous such occasions...

My idea of a perfect birthday dinner is shrimp and mango enjoyed on a lawn chair wiggling my toes in the Atlantic Ocean somewhere in the Florida Keys. I have been so very blessed to have done just that more than several times, sharing my elation with loved ones. Sometimes freaking said loved ones out...through no fault of my own.

The time I jumped off the opposite side of the snorkel boat as everyone else to avoid Michael – as in, “Michael, stop!” “Michael, don't!” “Michael, sit down!” “Michael, stop jumping on everyone!” - alone in my own quiet world surrounded by little fish of every color, I noticed a movement in the corner of my mask. Hoping to meet a sea turtle I slowly turned my head and came face to eye with the biggest shark I have ever seen! In the ten seconds before I almost drowned, I watched his eye look me up and down... totally forgetting how to swim, I flailed my way back to the boat and a frantic husband.

It was my sister-in-law who freaked the year we read the poster listing the fish we might see snorkeling around our campground and learned the fish I had been playing, ‘you move forward

and I'll move backward' with all afternoon was a Barracuda protecting its nest, one of the meanest fish in the ocean.

I can't say I actually freaked myself out the year we were once again camping at Bahia Honda, possibly my favorite place on earth, and rushed to grab a coffee and my bike to experience the sunrise on the other side of the island. My ever-helpful husband reminded me I have enough problems walking while carrying something and he didn't consider it a good idea for me to try riding a bike while doing so. Remarking he should consider pulling his ever-present hat down over his mouth, I situated myself on the bike, coffee in hand and pushed around the corner...promptly wrecking and covering my left arm and leg with coquina road rash. Since it was our last day there, I only had to wear the sweat pants and shirt for one day. But I never had to hear, “I told you so.”

My sister's birthday is close to mine, so one year we arranged a sister weekend in Key West to celebrate. Coordinating dates is the problem with Carol and I doing anything together. On this particular year, our August birthdays were held on the end of October. I can only promise we did not have any inkling that's Fantasy Fest week. I wish I could have been a fly on the wall the first time a couple walked past us clad only in body paint. Our expressions must have been hilarious! Stumbling on the seemingly mile long line of mostly naked, but oh-so-funny and nice, fantasy costumed party-goers, we overcame our embarrassment fairly quickly... mostly by keeping our eyes at head height. While Carol and I stayed fully clothed the whole trip, meeting and spending those moments with them turned out to be the highlight of our trip. I think this was the first time her kids and my kids got together and agreed we shouldn't be left alone together.

These and other memories of snorkeling with grandkids, jet skis with my kids, my daughter-in-law's use of the Robert Doll in dealing with my smart aleck son and most of my family sitting around a fire late into the night will probably have to do me this year, but Carol and I are already planning next year, with no intention of advising our kids.

***Do you ever feel like your body's Check Engine light has been on, but you're still driving it like, "Nah, it'll be fine."***

## Post 359 - American Legion Riders



presents

### Bike Days at the Tiki Saturday, August 3, 1 - 5 p.m.

Good food on the grill with Fixin's, \$10. Listen to live music, take part in drawings, 50/50. All proceeds to benefit veterans and veterans' families.

**8-7 Auxiliary** General Membership Meeting - 1st Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m.

**8-12 Sons of the Legion**, 6 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of the month at the Post.

**8-18 American Legion Riders** General Membership Meeting- 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m. Director Wayne Fowler, Director, 321-307-1450 or visit our website, alr359.org.

**8-21 General Membership Meeting-** 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m., 7260 S. US Hwy. 1, Bellwood, (just north of Port St. John), 321-268-1632. Contact Commander Michelle Aaron at 321-289-2880 for more information.

The Post is located at 7260 S. US Hwy. 1, Bellwood, (just north of Port St. John), or call 321-268-1632.



## Amvets Post 2415

**8-7 Sons of Amvets 2415** General Membership Meeting -1st Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m.

Commander Chuck Harrington, 321-208-7897.

**8-8 Amvets 2415 Ladies Auxiliary** General Membership Meeting - 2nd Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. President Theresa Nikki Anderson, 321-208-7897.

**8-10 Amvets Riders Chapter 2415** General Membership Meeting - 2nd Saturday of the month at 12 noon. Pres. Steve Carman, 321-446-3394.

**8-10 Bike Night!** 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. on the 2nd Saturday of the month at the Post.

**8-14 General Membership Meeting-** 2nd 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 located at 688 West Ave., (adjacent to Hwy. US 1), 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 at 321-208-7897.

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## Parrish Healthcare And Health First Resolve Differences; Structure A New Relationship



Parrish Healthcare and Health First leaders announce a new day for Brevard's not-for-profit health systems. The two health systems have resolved their legal differences and are structuring a new relationship that is focused on the future of healthcare on behalf of the Brevard community. While the details

of the new relationship are not yet finalized, the community can expect the lawsuit between the two organizations to be settled and the two organizations working more collaboratively together with a focus on the future of healthcare for Brevard and expanded access to affordable care for all.

Parrish Healthcare President/CEO George Mikitarian and a team of Health First leaders including Paula Just, Chief Administrative Officer, Nicholas Romanello, Chief Legal Officer and Brett Esrock, then Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer met together upon the departure of Health First's former leaders to structure a new collaborative relationship between the two organizations.

"It was time for our two organizations to come together to do the right thing for the community and Brevard," said Just. "With barriers removed, differences were set aside, relationships mended and a path forward for healthcare in Brevard is being paved," added Just.



"I want to recognize and acknowledge Health First's Paula Just, Nicholas Romanello and Brett Esrock personally," said Mikitarian. "Without their leadership, tenacity to reach common ground and unwavering commitment to doing what's right for the people and communities we both serve, this would not have been possible. I have long advocated that collaborative partnerships over costly competition or disruptive acquisitions are the way to improve quality, safety, service and reduce costs," Mikitarian continued.

Of this newly structured relationship, Jordan, commends Mikitarian and the Health First team for their integrity and character in placing priority on the health needs of the people we have the honor to serve above all else. Introductory meetings have already occurred between incoming Health First CEO Terry Forde, slated to take the helm at Health First in August, and Parrish's CEO Mikitarian.

Health First's Forde is fully supportive and expressed his appreciation to all involved for their leadership to amicably resolve the long-standing legal issues between the two organizations and looks forward to both not-for-profit organizations focusing their resources and attention to fulfilling their respective missions for the benefit of the people of Brevard County.

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## Monthly Tax Article

This month, I bring the FinCEN (Financial Crimes Enforcement Network) update on BOI reports for corporations, partnerships and sole proprietorships registered in SunBiz. One of the most frequently asked questions is about entities that have ceased to exist. Is a company required to report its beneficial ownership information to FinCEN if the company ceased to exist before reporting requirements went into effect on January 1, 2024? Here is the response: A company is not required to report its beneficial ownership information to FinCEN if it ceased to exist as a legal entity before January 1, 2024, meaning that the entity entirely completed the process of formally and irrevocably dissolving. We can conclude that a company that ceased to exist as a legal entity before the beneficial ownership information reporting requirements became effective on January 1, 2024, was never subject to the reporting requirements and, in that case, is not required to report its beneficial ownership information to FinCEN. Although state or Tribal law may be different, a company typically completes the process of formally and irrevocably dissolving by, for example, filing dissolution paperwork with its jurisdiction of creation or registration, receiving written confirmation of dissolution, paying related taxes or fees, ceasing to conduct any business and winding up its affairs (fully liquidating itself and closing all bank accounts).

Moreover, if a reporting company continued to exist as a legal entity for any period of time on or after January 1, 2024 and did not entirely complete the process of formally and irrevocably dissolving before January 1, 2024, then it is required to report its beneficial ownership information to

FinCEN, even if the company had wound up its affairs and ceased conducting business before January 1, 2024.

Nevertheless, if a reporting company was created or registered on or after January 1, 2024, and subsequently ceased to exist, then it is required to report its beneficial ownership information to FinCEN even if it ceased to exist before its initial beneficial ownership information report was due.

Next, a company that is administratively dissolved or suspended because, for example, it failed to pay a filing fee or comply with specific jurisdictional requirements, generally does not cease to exist as a legal entity unless the dissolution or suspension becomes permanent. I need to clarify that if a reporting company created or registered in 2024 or later winds up its affairs and ceases to exist before its initial BOI report is due to FinCEN, the company is still required to submit that initial report.

In conclusion, once the entity is created or registered in 2024, it must report its beneficial ownership information to FinCEN within 90 days of receiving actual or public notice of creation or registration.

Finally, if a reporting company files an initial beneficial ownership information report and then ceases to exist, there is no requirement for the re-

porting company to file an additional report with FinCEN, noting that the company has ceased to exist.

More good tax stuff in September. Remember, this is a very brief overview. It is your responsibility to discuss any tax and financial changes with your professional advisor for assistance 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 tax advisor. Provided by Pedro L. Baldeon, E.A., (321) 632-5726, a member of the National Society of Tax Professionals.

## Martin Andersen Senior Center Dances

Martin Andersen Senior Center will host Singles/Couples Ballroom Dances on Saturday, August 10 August 24. Music will be provided by Janice and Rene. 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.



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# Parrish Healthcare Community Support Groups - August

Parrish Healthcare offers a variety of support groups as a free service to the community.

## **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, August 5, 12, 19, 26, 10-11 a.m.
- Where: The Children's Center, 5650 S. Washington Ave., Titusville
- For additional information and to register, visit [parrishhealthcare.com/Moms](http://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, August 7, 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](http://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, August 5, 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](http://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, August 12, 6-7:30 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](http://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, August 8 and 25, 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](http://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, August 20, 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](http://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, August 28, 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](http://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, August 21, 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](http://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, August 27, 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](http://parrishhealthcare.com/quitsmoking).

## **Parrish Healthcare's Amputee Support Group of Titusville**

A safe and supportive environment for individuals living with limb loss or limb difference as well as their family. Join us for resources, education, fellowship, refreshments, and snacks on the second Tuesday of every month.

- When: Tuesday, August 13; 3-4:30 p.m.
- Where: Manatee Conference Room, Parrish Healthcare Center Port St. John, 5005 Port St. John Pkwy., Port St. John
- For more information and to register, visit [parrishhealthcare.com/amputeesupport](http://parrishhealthcare.com/amputeesupport).

## **Kidney Smart Class**

Take control of your kidney health by attending a 90-minute, no-cost Kidney Smart class led by expert educators in your community. You'll learn about chronic kidney disease and its causes, diet and nutrition, benefits of employment and managing insurance, and treatment choices that may be available to you.

- When: Thursday, August 22; 1-2:30 p.m.
- Where: Heritage Hall, 931 N. Washington Ave., Titusville
- For more information and to register, visit [parrishhealthcare.com/kidneysmart](http://parrishhealthcare.com/kidneysmart).

For more information about available classes, support groups and events, visit [parrishhealthcare.com/events](http://parrishhealthcare.com/events).



## Trees and Power Line Safety

Hurricane Season has reached it's most active period. Hurricanes have been larger than usual for the past two years and are expected to continue the trend, so the possibility - probability - or downed power lines is greater than usual. Don't put your life on the line. Know what to do before we get a dangerous storm.

On any day, if you decide to work outside, look up and note the location of power lines before you begin. Careful avoidance of power lines is extremely important during yard work, especially when using tools, ladders, poles or pruning saws.

Keep your distance Be sure that ladders or scaffolds are far enough away so that you – and any tools you are using – don't come within 10 feet of neighborhood power lines or 30 feet of all other power lines. You can be seriously hurt or killed if the object you are holding contacts a power line. Even nonmetallic ladders and equipment can conduct electricity. Stay at least 10 feet away from any power line, from the end or tip of your own extended reach or tip of any object you are holding or carrying. Please note that you must allow even greater distance for safety near higher voltage lines such as transmission lines.

Never attempt to trim vegetation or vines growing near power lines or on poles. Only specially trained line-clearing professionals should work around power lines. Check your local listings to locate a contractor qualified to trim vegetation around power lines.

Typically, you don't have to worry about coming into contact with power lines since they are either buried safely underground or mounted on poles a safe distance from expected activity. However, you must always assume that all overhead wires and cables and any underground wires or cables that you may encounter are energized and potentially dangerous.

Electric lines are usually located at the top of the utility pole, farthest from the ground. Cable television and telephone lines run below power lines. Contact your local cable and phone utilities for information about trimming requirements or problems with their lines.



Call before you dig. Planning a home improvement project? Planting a tree? Installing a fence or deck? Wait! Florida law requires that you call 811 to locate and mark buried power lines and other utilities before you dig, whether you're planning to do the work yourself or hire a professional. Call 811 or visit [www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com) at least two business days before you begin work to avoid unintentionally hitting underground utility lines. This free service helps keep everyone safe.

If you see a downed power line or other damaged electrical equipment, be sure to stay far away and immediately call 911 or FPL at 1-800-4OUTAGE (1-800-468-8243).

### Storm safety

When a power outage occurs, your safety is FPL's main concern. Here are some basic tips to keep your family safe while the power is out:

- Assume all cables and wires are energized and stay away.
- Keep away from flooded and debris-laden areas because they may be hiding downed lines.
- Avoid driving in damaged areas. You might interfere with rescue or restoration efforts, as well as jeopardize your own safety.
- Report downed power lines by calling FPL at 1-800-4OUTAGE (1-800-468-8243).

For tips on keeping your home safe from fire, visit the Florida Division of Forestry website, [www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service](http://www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service).

Safety is no accident. Be alert so you won't get hurt!

### What Is VPK And What Should I Know Before Deciding On A VPK Provider?

VPK is short for Voluntary Pre Kindergarten. This is a free voluntary program for children who turn 4 before September 1 of that program year. VPK helps prepare your preschooler for kindergarten. There are many different types to consider. There are private, Christian, and also public school providers. Here are things that we as preschool teachers would like you to know before the school year starts.

1. This is your child's first formal education. They will be assessed 3 times during the year to see where they are and where they need to be.

2. Being on time. This is so important that your child be on time. Many VPK programs do their large group first thing in the morning. This is where your child will be introduced to letters, numbers, shapes and colors. This is usually a teacher instruction time before center time begins. Singing, sharing and other activities usually happen during this time as well.

3. Have open communication with the teacher and staff. If your child had a difficult morning, had issues going to bed or sleeping through the night, let the office staff or teacher know that they may need some extra attention or quiet time to self regulate.

4. Do homework with your child. If your child's teacher asks for homework, please take the few minutes each night to do it. Everything that is sent home to do is just reinforcing what is being done in the classroom. (If homework isn't being asked of you, PLEASE read each night with your child.)

5. If your child's VPK requires you to send a lunch, please make sure your child is able to open the items in their lunchbox with minimal help.

6. And lastly, If you have concerns about your child's education or general care, let the teacher know.

7. Here are some other items that may be helpful when choosing where your child should attend.

- a. Does the center have an open door policy?
- b. What credentials or certifications do the teacher and staff have?
- c. What is the teacher to child ratio?
- d. What is the center's discipline and sickness policy?
- e. How are the teachers background screened and do they have CPR training?
- f. Do they have their last health inspection posted?

Do your research and decide if VPK is something your child needs to help them be successful in Kindergarten.

~ Billie Smith, VPK Teacher



## JOIN US IN REBUILDING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW!

THE BREVARD HUMANE SOCIETY IS CLOSE TO OUR FUNDING GOAL ON THIS **CRUCIAL MISSION TO REBUILD OUR SHELTER AND PROVIDE A SAFER, MORE COMFORTABLE HOME FOR OUR FURRY FRIENDS. AT NO COST TO THE TAXPAYER.**



**OUR CURRENT BUILDING, CONSTRUCTED IN THE EARLY 60S, WAS DESIGNED TO WAREHOUSE ANIMALS. IT'S TIME TO EVOLVE! ANIMALS DESERVE AMPLE LIVING SPACE FOR A HAPPIER AND HEALTHIER STAY.**



### ? How can I help?



- Donate: Your contribution makes a significant impact on our shelter rebuild project.
- Spread the Word: Share our mission with friends, family, and colleagues.

### Contact Us:



321.636.3343  
ext. 204  
BrevardHumaneSociety.org



### What will our Rebuild accomplish?

#### Upgrading Sanitary Infrastructure:

- The cast iron pipes used for sanitary sewer are corroding; will be replaced with materials that adhere to the latest standards.

#### Electrical Systems Overhaul:

- Updating the electrical systems to meet current Florida codes and standards.

#### ADA Compliance for All:

- We believe that everyone should have access to our facilities. The current building lacks ADA compliance, and our reconstruction will address this, providing an inclusive space for everyone.

#### Enhanced Fire Safety for Rescue Operations:

- The existing building does not meet current Fire Safety codes.

## Rebuilding for a Better Future: Help Us Rebuild Our Cocoa Campus

The Brevard Humane Society's Cocoa Campus, located at 1020 Cox Road, has been a cornerstone of animal welfare since 1962. Initially, the goal was to "warehouse" as many homeless pets as possible. However, over the past two decades, the mission has evolved to providing a safe, secure and caring environment for pets awaiting their forever homes.

Today, the Cox Road facility is in dire need of repair. Built over 60 years ago, it now faces issues such as faulty wiring, failing underground metal pipes, cramped spaces for both pets and staff, ADA challenges and outdated fire and safety systems. Despite these challenges, the facility provides valuable resources to the community. In 2022, it took in over 1,500 surrenders alone and successfully matched those pets with loving families. However, as Brevard County continues to grow, so do the demands on the shelter. With increasing numbers of animal intakes, it is often forced to turn away many surrenders due to space limitations. The Cocoa Adoption Center is currently open seven days a week to meet these demands, but there is a need to expand and improve the facilities to better serve the animals and the community.

The cost of the necessary renovations is estimated at approximately three million dollars (\$3,000,000). Thus far, \$2.4 million of the \$3 million needed to begin construction has been accumulated. This means there is still \$600,000 needed to meet the goal. With construction scheduled to begin in January 2025, the Brevard Humane Society is asking for the community's support now more than ever.

The funding goal to rebuild the shelter and provide a safer, more comfortable home for the furry friends is close—at no cost to the taxpayer. The new facility will feature several critical upgrades:

- Upgrading Sanitary Infrastructure: Replacing corroding cast iron pipes with materials that meet the latest standards.

- Electrical System Overhaul: Updating the electrical systems to meet current Florida codes and standards.

- ADA Compliance: Ensuring that the facilities are accessible to everyone.

- Enhanced Fire Safety: Meeting current fire safety codes to protect the rescue operations.

- Re-imagined Front Lobby: Reconstructing the front lobby as a first floor wing to include twenty-nine kennel runs, two free-roaming cat rooms, separate cat and dog exam rooms, a consultation suite and an entryway to the parking lot for greater visibility.

There are two ways to help:

1. Donate: Contributions make a significant impact on the shelter rebuild project. Donors are also encouraged to take part in "Christine's Challenge." Long-time volunteer Christine Lance is challenging people to match her \$50,000 contribution.

2. Spread the Word: Share the mission with friends, family and colleagues.

Together, with support from the community,

## WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!!! LET OUR EXPERIENCE HELP YOU WITH YOUR FAMILY DECISIONS

Higginbotham Companies, Inc.



"Providing Peace of Mind"

3790 N. U.S. 1  
Cocoa, Fl. 32926  
(321) 632-5726



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Proud Sponsor of Space Coast Viper Sports!!!

GO VIPERS!!! GO VIPERS!!!

the Brevard Humane Society can create greater utilization of their building space for the benefit of the homeless pets in their care while providing a welcoming atmosphere for all who enter.

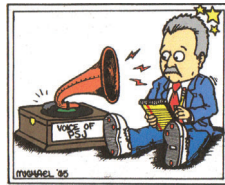
For those interested in donating to help rebuild the shelter, please visit <https://brevardhumanesociety.org/cocoa-rebuild/>. For more information, please contact 321.636.3343, ext. 204.

## 5065 Mayflower St., Port St. John



### 5 BR/3 Bath \$450,000

A screened in-ground pool with a Barracuda cleaner and new deck is ready for Florida heat. It's also solar heated for winter. All new dual pane glass windows. Enjoy the quartz countertop in the kitchen lined with stainless appliances including a built-in microwave. Enjoy the Florida room, eat-in kitchen, tile floors, a beamed cathedral ceiling, a solar tube, privacy fencing, bay window, pantry, a garage with insulated doors, a deep sink and a 10,000 btu air conditioner, well and pump, shed has electricity. Wired for 200 amp service.



**Randy Rodriguez**  
Realtor

Cell: 321-863-7499  
Office: 321-799-0221



**COLDWELL BANKER**  
REALTY

## Viper Project Graduation 2025

Thank you, PSJ Community Foundation, for the opportunity to participate in TOIR! We're grateful to everyone who visited our booth.

Follow us on Facebook: Viper Project Graduation 2025 Booster Club Inc. for upcoming events.

Bunco Fundraiser - September 7th at Coastal Community Church. Check-in at 3 PM. Come at 2:30 for a lesson. \$20 per player.

Flamingo Flocking - Starting August 1st. Flock-a-yard with 20 flamingos (\$25) or 45 flamingos (\$50).

"Friendsgiving" Purse Bingo - November 16th at Merritt Island Moose Lodge, 6 PM. Win designer purses! \$40 pre-event, \$50 at door. Table of 8 - \$320. Includes 12 bingo cards, dauber, wine and raffle tickets.

Shoe Fundraiser - Details coming soon.

Next meeting: August 22nd at Space Coast HS in the Innovation Lab.

Thank you for your support! To volunteer or sponsor, email [scviperspg@gmail.com](mailto:scviperspg@gmail.com).



## Paws and Plants

Join Lowrider Dachshund Rescue of Florida, at "Paws and Plants," sponsored by Tails at the Barkery, on Saturday, August 17th at the Dirty Oar Beer Company in Historic Cocoa Village beginning at 11 a.m.

You will be guided step-by-step through the session by Jenn Gallo of Jenn Gallo Art Studio. The session costs \$20 to create a small "dish bowl" or \$25 for a medium "dish bowl" and includes 3 to 5 plants, soil, stones, your choice of a "one-of-a-kind" special art piece by Jenn Gallo and light refreshments. Beer and wine will be available for purchase. This is a "ticketed event" with limited seating. Call Tails at the Barkery, 321-305-4584 to reserve a spot.

All proceeds from this event will be donated to Lowrider Dachshund Rescue of Florida, an all-volunteer, nonprofit rescue organization specializing in the rescuing of dachshund and dachshund mixes in memory of Leroy and Drusilla. They are provided with needed medical care, emergency care, qualified foster homes and then adopted out to their forever homes all over Florida.

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.



5370 US-1, Cocoa FL 32927

321-305-5440

Hours: 11 am - 10 pm

Wednesday - Monday



## Waterfront Dining in PSJ! Pet Friendly out door seating.

Let our friendly staff  
serve you riverfront!

*GREAT VIEWING FOR LAUNCHES*  
*10% OFF LAW ENFORCEMENT & MILITARY*



DOCK AVAILABLE FOR BOATS  
LARGE PARTIES & FAMILIES WELCOME  
PICK UP AND DELIVERY AVAILABLE @  
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HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS DAILY

3PM - 6PM

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FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM FOR  
MONTHLY SPECIALS  
@INDIANRIVERBARANDGRILL



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Alcoholics Anonymous** meets on **Sundays** at 5 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.**

### **8-3 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.

### **8-3 National Watermelon Day**

### **8-4 Friendship Day**

### **8-4 National Sister Day**

**8-6 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.

**8-7 Sons of Amvets 2415 Meeting-** 1st Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m. 688 West Ave., PSJ. Commander Chuck Harrington, 321-208-7897.

**8-7 American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 359,** Gen-

eral 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.

**8-8 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.

**8-9 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 321-7

**8-10 Amvets Riders meeting,** 2nd Saturday at 10 a.m. Call President Craig Doan, 321-208-7897. 52-6896 or e-mail bwc0020@gmail.com.

### **8-11 Summer Olympics Ends**

**8-11 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 angelagardnerwrites@gmail.com for info.

**8-11 Multiple Sclerosis Self-Help Group** meets on the 2nd Sunday each month (except Mother's Day & November), 2 p.m., Cocoa Library.

### **8-12 International Youth Day**

### **8-12 Tisha B'Av**

**8-19 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.

**8-20 North Brevard Republican Club** meets 3rd Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. at the Police Hall of Fame, 6350 Horizon Dr., Titusville. All are welcome.

### **8-21 Senior Citizen Day**

**8-21 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. Contact Commander Michelle Aaron at 321-289-2880 for more information. .

**8-21 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.

### **8-26 National Dog Day**

**8-27 Moonlight Quilters Guild** meets at the First United Methodist Church, 206 S. Hopkins Ave., Titusville on the 4th Tuesday of each

month (no meeting in April or December). Meet and greet 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.

**8-31 Veterans & First Responders Breakfast -** Last Saturday of each month, 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.

## Congratulations to:

**Wayne Weathers** turns crazier this month!

**Roman Arieux** turns **10** on the 3rd.

**Jamie Hagar** turns **32** on the 3rd.

**Chase Turner** turns **22** on the 4th.

**Amber Santoso** turns **26** on the 4th.

**Cindy Kolonich** turns prettier on the 4th.

**Cher Turman** is more lovely on the 7th.

**Nicholas Moore** turns buffer on the 8th

**Laura Davis** turns **18** on the 9th!

**Toyia Nguyen** is the Queen on the 10th.

**Mason McGann** turns **18** on the 11th!

**Riley Arieux** turns **11** on the 11th.

**Brittany Osburn** turns cuter on the 12th.

**Dillon DeVane** turns **22** on the 12th.

**Angie Anthony** gets spanked on the 12th.

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

**Marty Grinstead** turns **62** on the 15th.

**Sally Blum** turns **31** on the 16th.

**Austin Travis** turns **41** on the 16th.

**Kyle Maxwell** turns **20** on the 16th.

**Chase & Alex Turman** turn **25** on the 18th.

**Terri & Tera Nguyen** turn hotter on the 20th.

**Marty Kline** is the Boss on the 24th.

**Tommy Nguyen** turns cooler on the 27th.

**Ashley Mae** turns **19** on the 31st.

**Randy & Cathy Rodriguez** celebrate **48** years on the 1st.

**Louis and Deborah Pierce** celebrate 51 years on the 18th.

**Charlie and Debbie DiMaria** celebrate **38** years on the 19th!

**Trisha and Scott Orend** celebrate **31** years on the 28th.

**Brett and Patty Benoff** celebrate their 25th on the 30th.

*We have lots of room for more good news.*

Fax your inputs to 633-4313 or email to happenings1@att.net.

## Important Phone Numbers

County Commissioner -	321-607-6901
Sheriff: Non-Emergency -	321-633-7162
Fire Station 26 (Port St. John)	321-633-2056
Emergency Operations Ctr -	321-637-6670
Waste Management -	321-636-6894
Roadway Maintenance -	321-264-5084
SCAT Bus Information -	321-633-1878
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
Atlantis Elementary School -	321-633-6143
Challenger 7 Elementary -	321-636-5801
Enterprise Elementary School	321-633-3434
Fairglen Elementary School -	321-631-1993
Space Coast Jr/Sr High School-	321-638-0750
Sexual Offender Registry -	
www3.fdle.state.fl.us/sexual_predators/	



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

**Shelley Macon, Library Director**

New Library hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday 12-8 p.m. and Sunday, 12-5 p.m.

**Adult:**

**Paint Party with the Friends of the Port St. John Library** on Saturday, August 3 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Join the Friends of the Port St. John Public Library for a paint party every first Saturday of the month. During this class you will create custom wooden door hangers. Adults and teens ages 16+. \$40/per person. Payment is due at sign up. Deadline to register at the Reference Desk by Wednesday, July 31.

**Right Whale Sighting and Conservation Network** on Thursday, August 8, 2 p.m. Learn about right whales, how to sight and report them as well as the current conservation efforts.

**Community Support Advocate** - Mondays, August 5 and 19 from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. The community support advocate provides assistance with housing, SNAP, social security, healthcare and insurance, and senior resources.

**Bookworms Book Club**

- On Wednesday, August 14 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. This is a Friends of the Library sponsored book club. This month's selection is *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes.

**Spice Travelers Spice Club!** - Join us at 2 p.m. on Thursday, August 15 from 2 to 3 p.m. Pick up a kit including this month's featured spice at the Reference Desk any time. This month's featured spice is star anise.

**Thursdays**

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

**Port Readers Book Club** - Thursday, August 22 from 2 to 3 p.m. This book club meets on the fourth Thursday at 2 p.m. in the lobby meeting room.

Books are available at the Reference Desk. The selection for August is *The Engagement Party* by Finley Turner.

**Youth Services**

**STEAM Activity Time** - Every Tuesday from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the meeting room. Come build and make things with us! We will have

activities centered around science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics. This event is for ages 6 through 12 and requires parent or adult supervision at all times. NEW! - STEAM kits are available in Youth Services!

**Baby Story Time** - Every Friday from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. in the meeting room. Join us for some songs, short stories and surprise activities. This story time is for babies ages 3 and under, and requires parent or adult supervision at all times

**Toddler Story Time** - Every Fridays from 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. in the meeting room. Join us for songs, stories, and a craft. This story time is intended to prepare toddlers for preschool with active listening, group participation, developing fine motor skills, and socializing with others. This story time is for toddlers ages 3 to 5 and requires parent or adult supervision at all times.

**Family:**

**Family Craft Pressed Flower Bookmark** - Thursday, August 29 from 2 to 4 p.m. Make a bookmark using pressed flowers and vintage paper. Ages 10 and up. Bookmarks using various stickers for the little ones, 10 and under. Please register the week before the craft to reserve your seat. Please see the reference desk for more information.

**Friends of the Library:**

The Friends of the Library are looking for people to join and participate in their activities that help grow and support the Port St. John Public Library. Membership fees are \$5 a year for adults.

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](http://brevardfl.gov/PublicLibraries).

**Viper Nation Supply Station**

The Viper Nation Supply Station is always in need of food. They have families that shop there on a regular basis. And students go every Tuesday and Thursday.

Contact Keri Weeks at 321-638-0750, ext. 27009 or [weeks.keri@brevardschools.org](mailto:weeks.keri@brevardschools.org) to help.



**Mediterranean Nutrition Class**

Are you interested in eating healthier? Then consider joining us for our Med Instead of Meds nutrition class! The Med Instead of Meds program teaches participants how to eat like those who live in the Mediterranean region. This style of eating has been shown to promote health and decrease the risk of many chronic diseases, including diabetes and heart disease.

This six-week class series is perfect for anyone looking to improve their eating habits and learn more about healthy eating. Topics covered will include food demonstrations, tastings, tips, menu planning and more! Participants will also have the opportunity to prepare two recipes each night.

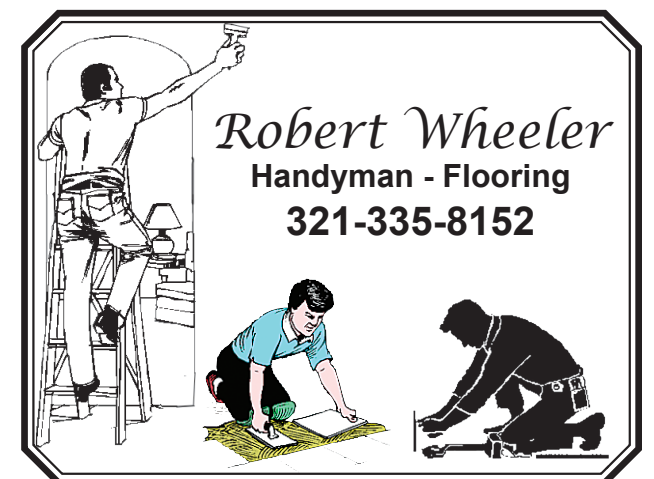
This class costs \$50 per person and will be held at the UF/IFAS Extension Office in Cocoa, 3695 Lake Drive, Cocoa, every Thursday starting August 8 and ending September 12. There are two class times to choose from; 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.. Advance registration is required.

Afternoon class registration: <https://loom.ly/iU2JG4A>

Evening class registration: [https://loom.ly/\\_c6Ty6Q](https://loom.ly/_c6Ty6Q)

If you have any questions, please call 321-633-1702 or email [Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu](mailto:Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu).

The University of Florida is committed to providing universal access to all of our events. For disability accommodations such as sign language interpreters and listening devices, please contact the UF/IFAS Brevard County Extension Office at [Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu](mailto:Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu) or 321-633-1702 at least 2 weeks in advance. Advance notice is necessary to arrange for some needs.



# SLEEPY HOLLOW



## Fruit From The Groves

It's that time of year again; Hurricane season is HERE!! It is time to make preparations NOW! Make sure you have an inventory of all your belongings in case an insurance claim needs to be made.

Trash and debris need to be removed from your property if they can not be secured. Waste Management needs to be called for large items and yard waste that's put on the side of the roadway.

Make sure you have at least 72 hours of food available. Also, make sure you have enough water for drinking for at least 4 days. It's also a good idea to have water available for flushing toilets in case the water system is down. A bathtub is a good place to store it.

Have at least one week of medications on hand in case you have to evacuate, or the pharmacies are down.

Fuel tanks on all vehicles should be topped off a couple of days before the storm comes.

**REMEMBER: EMERGENCY SERVICES, SHERIFF AND FIRE MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE DURING AND AFTER THE STORM.**

Brevard County Sheriff's Office has been diligently enforcing traffic laws and answering a number of calls out here. Just because you don't see them doesn't mean that they are not here.



Brevard County Fire (Guardians of the Groves) has been busy answering many rescue and fire calls. The problem is continuing with people NOT getting out of their way when they are responding to a call. There is also an issue with people following them too closely after they have gone by.

**BE SAFE OUT THERE!**

Edward F. Silva, President  
Canaveral Groves Homeowners Association

## BCFR Receives Pet Microchip Scanner Donation from SPCA of Brevard

On July 2, the SPCA of Brevard, in collaboration with the Brevard Kennel Club, generously provided Brevard County Fire Rescue with pet microchip scanners. This initiative aims to enhance the reunification efforts for lost pets in the area.

Now, if a lost pet is found in Brevard County, community members can visit any Brevard County Fire Station to use a microchip scanner and help reunite the pet with its family as quickly as possible. Fire stations serve as an excellent resource, especially after hours or on weekends when shelters might be closed. The Brevard Kennel Club sponsored 22 of the 33 scanners needed

for the fire rescue stations.

Sheriff Wayne Ivey attended the event with Junny to demonstrate the new devices to staff members. Sheriff Ivey emphasized the importance of having a plan for your pets during hurricane season and for this weekend's holiday festivities, as many pets are frightened by fireworks.

To find out more about the SPCA of Brevard, visit [www.SPCABrevard.com](http://www.SPCABrevard.com).

## Careersource Brevard And Careersource Flagler Volusia Unite

CareerSource Brevard and CareerSource Flagler Volusia have consolidated their workforce boards. The new name is CareerSource Brevard Flagler Volusia (CSBFV), offering career centers in the tri-county area located in Palm Coast, Daytona Beach, Orange City, Titusville, Rockledge, Patrick Air Force Base and Palm Bay. Marci Murphy, CareerSource Brevard's previous president, has been named the Executive Director of CareerSource Brevard Flagler Volusia.

The workforce board will retain administrative offices in Rockledge and Daytona Beach. There will be no interruption of workforce services across the tri-county area. Driven by a shared vision to offer more employers and jobseekers the workforce services and resources critical to their success, the new workforce board will build a better future for the community through a continued commitment to excellence, efficiency and community growth.

The merger is part of a multi-year comprehensive plan to offer a wider scope of employment services and training programs, and boost collaboration among economic, education, business and government agencies.

For more information about the merger and CSBFV's expanded services, visit [careersourcebfv.com](http://careersourcebfv.com) and opt in to receive email news and updates, or call 321-504-7600.



### 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?**



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

It's always amazing how quickly the summer break goes by. Children will be back in school starting August 12th. We remain busy at St. Patrick's Anglican Church. August is no exception.

One of the most frequent questions I hear when talking about St. Patrick's in Port St. John is, "What is an Anglican Church?" It is a very reasonable question since the Anglican Church in the United States is relatively new compared to other denominations, however, it is an ancient church that goes back to the 1st century in England. If you are interested in learning more about the Anglican Church, we will be holding a 4-week evening course in September – stay tuned for more details.

We are currently collecting school supplies for area schools with our annual Blessing of the Backpacks. If you would like to donate school supplies, please contact the church office at 321-802-1311.

Please check out our Ladies Fellowship and Craft Group on the third Monday in August – August 19th - at 6:00 p.m. Bring a craft to work on and join us for a great fellowship and a light snack.

Veterans and First Responder Breakfast will be Saturday, August 31st in the Parish Hall at 9:00 a.m.. This is open to all veterans, spouses of veterans, police, fire and emergency services individuals.

Regular Service Schedule is: Holy Communion Service – Sunday, 8:00 a.m. (no music), 10:00 a.m. (In Person and Facebook Live - <https://www.facebook.com/StPatspsj>) and Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. (In Person and Facebook Live - <https://www.facebook.com/StPatspsj>).

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

Adult Bible School and Student Sunday School are on hiatus for August. Student Sunday School will restart on September 8th at 10:00 a.m. and is open to students in 1st to 8th grade. Please contact the church for more information: [stpatrickspsj@gmail.com](mailto:stpatrickspsj@gmail.com) or 321-802-1311.

Are you interested in finding out more about

the Anglican Church and St. Patrick's Anglican Church? If so, feel free to contact us at: St. Patrick's Anglican Church, 4797 Curtis Blvd., Port St. John, 321-802-1311 or [stpatrickspsj@gmail.com](mailto:stpatrickspsj@gmail.com).

Updated event information and services are available on our website: <https://stpatrickspsj.org>.

## *On the Road With Rose*



### **Silver Springs Park**

352-261-5840, [Silversprings.com](http://Silversprings.com)

5656 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Silver Springs

As I sit tip-tapping on this small device that keeps us all connected, the back of my mind is still churning with prayers for all of us who have been touched by this terribleness swirling all around us. Please know prayers are being sent.

I'm dating myself, but years ago when Fred Flintstone and I first visited Silver Springs, there was another tourist stop called Six Gun Territory right down the street. Growing up in and around the salt water rivers and the ocean, our heroes were fishermen and hunters; cowboys and gunfighters were only on TV. It was a great show, but nothing compared to Silver Springs.

As exciting as it was then, it's so much bigger and better now.

A short hour and forty-five-minute drive taking I-95 to Daytona Beach, then west on highway 40 through some of the prettiest areas of central Florida brings you right into the parking lot. The gates open at 8 a.m. I would advise to get there early to beat the heat and give you time to explore and admire the beauty of the grounds. The flowers and greenery are amazing.

Admission is \$ 2.00 per person, regular glass bottom boat tours are \$15.00 for adults, \$14.00 for kids and seniors, five and under are free. There are also extended tours for a larger charge.

There are canoes, kayaks and paddleboards available for rent by the hour or the day. You can choose a self-guided tour assisted by the map up

and down the many small spring feeders to the river. The 'trail' is also well marked. You can also opt for opt for the company of a friendly guide eager to show off their waterways. You can bring your own canoes, kayaks and paddleboards with a small launch fee.

I haven't seen them, but I'm told the experience of paddling a clear kayak is almost surreal.

The famous glass bottom boats begin running at 10 a.m. and the mullet, brim and whatever other finny denizens are at the ready to show off. The guides are very knowledgeable of the area and the history, including all the movies that have been filmed in and around the park. Some titles will surprise you. His sharp eyes caught a large gator seemingly sleeping totally camouflaged in the dappled sunlight, but it sprang into the water at lightning speed as the boat neared.

The also famous monkeys are still swinging from tree to tree and the forest is so beautiful you really do expect to see Tarzan joining them. They are adorable, but are still wild animals and have to be respected as such. Feeding and molesting in any way is prohibited.

The restaurants and shops have reopened after repairing storm damage. Also, there are vending machines and picnic tables.

The museum is only open Friday through Sunday and numbers are limited, but it's well worth the wait. From full Mastodon skeletons to stuffed panthers, everything came from right in this area.

The Cracker Village consists of real old buildings, tools and equipment. Some are fixed a little, but not re-fabricated. You'll want to give yourself an hour or so to wander and try to imagine what it must have been to live there. The homes and other buildings are open and there are actors demonstrating and answering questions twice a month. Kids find the riflemen especially interesting.

Hiking the five trails takes you through different elevations, different flora and fauna of the area, and if you keep a sharp eye out, you'll see racoons, possums and armadillos are watching you also. Insect spray and sunscreen are necessary even if the sun is playing peek-a-boo.

Be sure to check out the campground just in case...

As always please leave only footprints and take only pictures, relax and truly enjoy all old Florida has to offer.

# Leapfrog agrees, you can count on our A-Team!

## Leapfrog awards Parrish Medical Center an 'A' Safety Grade

Parrish Medical Center is proud to be nationally recognized with an 'A' Hospital Safety Grade from The Leapfrog Group, reflecting our continued commitment to exceptional care and service. At Parrish Medical Center, excellence isn't just our goal—it's the standard.



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