

HAPPENINGS

ISSUE NO. 410

JUNE 2024

SERVING PORT ST. JOHN & CANAVERAL GROVES

HAPPENINGS
BRIDGE
PUBLISHING, LLC

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

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

Thunder Over the Indian River Is Coming!

Once again, the entries were so great the judges had a difficult time deciding. And it was remarkably close. Randi Sims is this year's winner of the TOIR 2024 Logo Design Competition. Randi is in the ninth grade. Randi said, "I thought about America and I instantly knew that I had to have the American flag. And I thought of the stars because of the ones in the flag and because America is a STAR."

2nd Place winner this year is Makenzie Frahm.

The 3rd Place winner is Riley Metzger.

From the Port St. John Community Foundation and all who enjoy our Independence Day celebration, Thank you Randi, SCHS Media teacher Candace Harlan and all the students who participated in the contest for their hard work to make this contest a success! Your time and talent are very much appreciated.

A big THANK YOU to all the students who participated in the contest and to SCHS Media teacher Candace Harlan for working hard

We look forward to next year!



Thunder Over the Indian River (TOIR) will be held on Saturday, July 6th. The gate to the event is on Kings Highway, directly across from Capron Road. Gates open at 4 p.m. Sunday will be the rain-out date.

Enjoy an evening including inflatables, DJ, demonstrations, BBQ Competition, food/dessert trucks, raffles and of course, the best fireworks show in Brevard county!

To hold this event, the Port St. John Community Foundation (PSJCF) needs volunteers and sponsors to help make this the great event as it has been in the past. Businesses and residents are invited to join planning meetings and participate for all or any event. Visit portstjohncommunityfoundation.com for more information.

Save the BEST FOR LAST and Join us for THUNDER OVER THE INDIAN RIVER.

If you would like to party with us as a Vendor or compete in the Annual BBQ Competition, the Registration form is ready! Visit <https://portstjohncommunityfoundation.com/events.html#toir>. First Come First Served!

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PSJ Community Center Schedule - June, 2024

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

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

Summer Camp 2024

Monday-Friday / 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. /
May 28-August 9 / Children Ages: Completed
Kindergarten – 6th Grade / Cost \$100.10 per
week or \$33.37 per day (additional fees apply for
fieldtrips, camp activities & t-shirt. Please contact
the center for more information.

Mondays

Summer Camp 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Seniors At Lunch, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Tuesdays

Summer Camp 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Seniors At Lunch, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Wednesdays

Summer Camp 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Seniors At Lunch, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Thursdays

Summer Camp 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Seniors At Lunch, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Gentle Yoga 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Fridays

Summer Camp 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Seniors At Lunch, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

About Kel's Kitchen (starting in August) 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

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>

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

~Diane Coben~

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New Emergency Operations Center Open Houses

Brevard County is thrilled to announce the grand opening of our new Emergency Operations Center, a pivotal milestone in our commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our residents and visitors. To mark this occasion, the public is invited to join us for a tour at one of our open houses at the new Emergency Operations Center, located at 1751 Huntington Lane in Rockledge. Open House details:

- Saturday, June 1 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Sunday, June 2 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Attendees will gain valuable insights into Emergency Management procedures and have the opportunity to visit tables hosted by our community partners like the National Weather Service, Salvation Army and county departments.

The new Center is located adjacent to the original building opened in 1964, stands as a testament to the progress and preparedness of Brevard County. The 54,000 square-foot facility is:

- Located on land owned by Brevard Public Schools and is leased to the County under a 99-year lease at an annual cost of \$1.
- Fortified to withstand Category 5 hurricane-strength winds.
- Contains the latest technology to better serve our community.
- Will serve as the permanent home of the Emergency Management Department and the Unified Communications Center, which includes the Brevard County Sheriff and Fire Rescue 9-1-1 Dispatch.

For more information on the Emergency Operations Center and Brevard County Emergency Management, visit www.EMBrevard.com.

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Blue Origin Resumes Passenger Flights

Ed Dwight, a 90-year-old artist and former Air Force test pilot, finally rocketed into space on Sunday, fulfilling a cherished dream. Dwight and five crewmates — venture capitalist Mason Angel, French entrepreneur Sylvain Chiron, software engineer Kenneth Hess, retired accountant and adventurer Carol Schaller and Gopi Thotakura, a commercial airline pilot and the second Indian national to fly in space — blasted off from company owner Jeff Bezos' west Texas launch site in a Blue Origin New Shepard capsule.

It was the company's first New Shepard flight with passengers aboard since a booster failure two years. A successful uncrewed mission late last year cleared the way for the resumption of passenger flights.

The New Shepard's single-stage hydrogen-fueled rocket accelerated the crew capsule to more than 2,100 mph at an altitude of 185,000 feet before releasing it to continue coasting upward. The crew reached an altitude of about 65 miles, a few miles above the internationally recognized level for outer space.

After booster cutoff and before the capsule's re-entry, crew members were able to unstrap and enjoy about three minutes of weightlessness and spectacular views of the Earth before descent to a parachute-assisted touchdown a few thousand yards from the launch pad.



Blue Origin's New Shepard booster and crew capsule

One of the three main parachutes failed to fully inflate during descent, but the spacecraft is designed to safely land with just two parachutes and the crew had no problems.

At 90 years and eight months old, Dwight is the oldest person to ever fly in space, edging out actor William Shatner, who launched aboard a New Shepard at age 90 in 2021, by a few months. Aviatrix Wally Funk from the company's first piloted flight ranks third, flying at age 82.

Blue Origin's New Shepard is competing against Virgin Galactic to carry space tourists, professional astronauts and others on sub-orbital space flights. Virgin Galactic has launched 55 passengers on 11 flights so far while Blue Origin has now launched 38 men and women on 7 flights.

A ticket to ride on a New Shepard is believed to cost around \$500,000. Dwight's seat was sponsored by the non-profit Space for Humanity with support from the Jaison and Jamie Robinson Foundation. Jaison Robinson flew aboard a New Shepard in 2022. Dwight's crewmates are believed to have paid for their seats, but the actual costs are not known.

Blue Origin also is building a moon lander and a partially reusable orbital-class rocket named New Glenn to compete against SpaceX's work-horse Falcon 9 and Falcon Heavy boosters.

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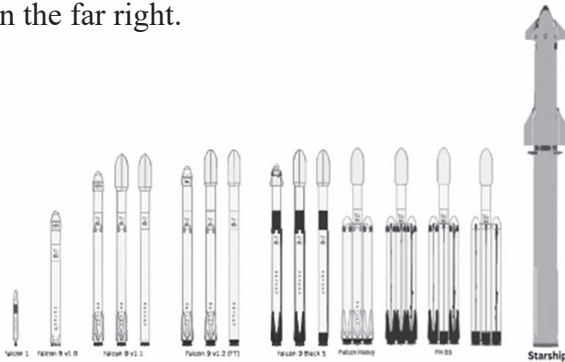
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AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER NETWORK

Good Day!

SpaceX Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Pad 39A

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is preparing an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts if they give SpaceX a commercial launch Vehicle Operator License for the Starship Super Heavy launch vehicle for Launch Complex 39A. They have an EIS for 39A now, but it is for the Falcon 9 Medium lift rockets and the Falcon Heavy lift rockets. If you look at the image below, you can see there is quite a bit of difference between the Falcon 9 rockets and Falcon Heavy Rockets and the Starship... Not really in the same ballpark. The Falcon 1 rocket is at the far left, then the single cylinder rockets are the Falcon 9 versions, and the rockets with boosters attached (3 cylinders) are the versions of the Falcon Heavy rockets. Starship is on the far right.



The FAA and NASA did an earlier EIS to allow the Falcon 9 and Falcon Heavy to launch from Launch Complex 39A. As Launch Complex 39A had been used for the Space Shuttle, it is understandable that they said in the EIS that there were “No Significant Impact” as you can see above the Falcon 9 is smaller, and the Falcon Heavy is about the same size as the Space Shuttle and its boosters.

The FAA will hold three in-person scoping meetings and one virtual public scoping meeting. The meetings will allow the public to receive information on the Proposed Action, meet lead and cooperating agency representatives, and provide comments to the record.

Two Meetings on June 12, 2024: 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. EST, IN-PERSON:

Radisson Cape Canaveral, Jamaica Room
8701 Astronaut Blvd., Cape Canaveral

June 13, 2024, 6-8 p.m. EST, IN-PERSON

Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex
Space Commerce Way, Merritt Island

June 17, 2024, 6-8 p.m. EST, VIRTUAL

URL and call-in information will be provided prior to the meeting at https://www.faa.gov/space/stakeholder_engagement/spacex_starship_ksc.

SpaceX's Starship will be the most powerful rocket in history. They will carry humans and cargo to Earth orbit, the moon and even Mars. Both the Saturn 5 Moon Rocket and the new NASA Space Launch System were both smaller and only produced half as many pounds of thrust. The Saturn 5 rocket had a total of 7.5 million pounds. The Super Heavy booster with 33 Raptor engines stands 394 feet tall and generates 16.7 million pounds of thrust.

No matter how much sound suppression is used, this will make everyone notice. It will be very loud and probably will shake every house in Brevard.

I'm sure nothing will stop the Starship, but we need to ensure they realize the environmental impact for such a large rocket can't be considered as a "NSI (No Significant Impact)" site upgrade as everything has so far.

Reference: https://www.faa.gov/space/stakeholder_engagement/spacex_starship_ksc

Split Oak Forest Update

According to the Land Trust Alliance; “A conservation easement is a voluntary legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust or government agency that permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values. Landowners retain many of their rights, including the right to own and use the land, sell it and pass it on to their heirs.”

But their definition isn't always the case. We are starting to understand that we and other organizations like the Land Trust Alliance have it all wrong. Conservation land is just a way to save a property from development until a developer comes along with an important enough reason for the government to take away the status to build something.

The Express Authority has decided a toll road through the Split Oak Forest was needed to support developments in the area and offered Florida Fish and Wildlife 1,550 of wetlands, pine scrub and previous farmland, along with \$43 million, to purchase 60 acres. In addition, it separates another 100 acres from the rest of Split Oak Forest.

Conservation easements placed in perpetuity

can no longer mean what they say. Split Oak Forest is an amazing forest protecting wildlife and keeping it together to ensure wildlife like gopher tortoises and others are kept safe. Otherwise, as you see every day, numerous roadkill are happening all over the state.

I am bloody angry. If anyone thinks they can live without wildlife, you can put your name down to occupy Mars. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Committee called this a “Big Victory for the Public.” How wrong they are. Now no land is safe from development.

Reference: <https://www.orlandosentinel.com/2024/05/09/toll-authority-approves-split-oak-forest-road-and-a-timeline/>

<https://landtrustalliance.org/take-action/conserv-your-land/frequently-asked-questions>

Derelict Boats in the Indian River Lagoon

I know there have been a few stories in Florida Today concerning derelict boats, including where the Brevard County Commission has designated up to \$150,000 from the tourist development tax revenue for the removal of derelict boats. I couldn't find anything on how many derelict boats there are in Brevard County. I've also heard from a Boat Captain that the homeless may be using these derelict boats as their home. I've seen stories in south Florida, but nothing here, so I asked Matt Culver, Brevard County's Boating & Waterways Program Coordinator about both.

Concerning the number of derelict boats in Brevard, Matt sent me to <https://gis.myfwc.com/DerelictVessel/>. It's an active website maintained by Florida Fish and Wildlife tracking all derelict boats. I think I counted 48 in Brevard county. I may be wrong so feel free to go to the site for your numbers.

Matt said there were no direct details showing any homeless using any derelict boats for their homes, but he's sure there are. The Boat Captain I know said he's seen and heard stories concerning this activity. The trouble with this is human waste ends up in the Indian River Lagoon along with any other oil and gas that could be leaking from the boats. The Captain was hoping “the state would eventually enact new laws for live aboard vessels that enforce where they can anchor long term, enforcement to ensure they are pumping out wastewater and throwing out trash.”

It's only been recently that the state has re-

quired owners to register boats in their name and the state hasn't done a very good job enforcing this. Plus, the fact that it takes so long tracking down the owners and the strung-out process to remove derelict boats compounds the problem.

Oh well, this is one more problem that works against our Indian River Lagoon cleanup, and hopefully someone will help us get this problem taken care of.

Reference: <https://gis.myfwc.com/DerelictVessel/>

<https://www.floridatoday.com/story/news/local/2024/01/31/why-it-takes-so-long-to-remove-derelict-boats-from-indian-river-lagoon-brevard-space-coast-florida/71969560007/>

Fight for Zero

I am writing on an extraordinary human being who lives with us in Port St. John. Her name is Stel Bailey. She did live in Patrick AFB Base housing in Satellite Beach where she found out the Department of Defense exposed her and her family to PFAS chemicals. I've included her words below:

“The year 2013 marked a turning point in my life as my family faced multiple cancer cases. The sequence of unfortunate events began when our uncle passed away from cancer. Shortly after, our beloved family pet lost the battle to Lymphoma. Following that, my younger brother, only 21 years old, received the heartbreaking news of being diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Not long after, at the age of 26, I also received the devastating diagnosis of the same cancer, and then our father was diagnosed with multiple myeloma. Going through the struggles of being both a cancer patient and a caregiver sparked a deep passion for environmental health.

Notated in my medical records is the fact that environmental factors likely caused our cancer. This rare occurrence prompted us to undergo genetic testing, which ultimately showed no genetic mutations. Research led me to uncover the possible toxic exposures that could have impacted my family's health. What I found was shocking—a dark reality of environmental harm in Brevard County. Digging deeper, I unearthed pollution by surrounding industries and the Department of Defense. Fueled by my discoveries, I launched a campaign to gather cancer cases in our community, bring awareness and seek justice for those affected.

Through tireless efforts spanning numerous years, I dedicated my time to preventing others from experiencing the same hardships my family faced. My days became consumed with helping families facing cancer, requesting documents, seeking advice from professionals and eventually connecting with an Oncologist in Satellite Beach. There, we made a startling discovery - PFAS chemicals were lurking in the groundwater and a military landfill was underneath homes in the South Patrick Shores community. Through this work, I crossed paths with dozens of cancer survivors who had bravely fought the disease from such a young age. Inspired by action, we established Fight for Zero, a nonprofit organization offering crucial resources such as scientific testing, studies, research and data.

Our efforts have resulted in inviting renowned environmental advocate Erin Brockovich to Brevard County, the designation of a Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) in South Patrick Shores, a countywide study on PFAS chemicals in partnership with the University of Florida, the first-ever National Drinking Water standards and classification of hazardous substances

for PFOA and PFOS under the Superfund Law, allocation of funds in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for cleaning up military installations, health guidance with the National Academies of Sciences and a seat at the table with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Council on Environmental Quality within the Executive Office of the President.

Growing up on Florida's space coast filled me with an overwhelming sense of pride. I cherished the memories of witnessing shuttles soar into the unknown, venturing beyond our atmosphere right from my backyard. Most of my childhood was spent exploring the enchanting waterways and I couldn't have asked for a better place to call home. I felt like the luckiest little girl, capturing seahorses with my bare hands, searching for stingrays and being mesmerized by the breathtaking sunrises on the East Coast. Unfortunately, my children miss out on these precious experiences due to the ongoing pollution and issues plaguing our waterways. Their absence from these moments fuels my determination to fight for change. We firmly believe that by combatting pollution at its source, we are fighting for a cleaner environment and a healthier future, free from the shackles of disease.”

Please “Carry on Regardless” as they said in WW2, but we are also in a war against pollution in our waterways. We are also fighting for the “Right to Clean Water” at the state level. We will surely win our fights when we have people like Stel in our corner.

You can find the Fight for Zero website at <https://www.fight4zero.org/>.

Cheerio,

~ Maureen Rupe

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SCHS Summer Sports Camps

Space Coast High will be hosting two camps this summer for K-6 students. Soccer camp June 10-13, and Tennis camp June 17-20.



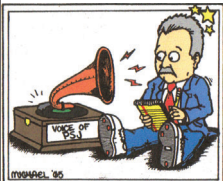
To register for soccer, visit <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSemUk3R4NArQ1RMBdCP5osbsixo-GiCUhgMdpfgOgDcVZ48zQ/viewform>.



To register for tennis, visit [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdZvkckTQws63-7w9OvucRLETYm2pVkg-](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdZvkckTQws63-7w9OvucRLETYm2pVkg-711X3MA0mxUSLw9Q/viewform)

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For more information, email Dwayne Davis, Space Coast Jr/Sr High School at [Davis.Dwayne@Brevardschools.org](mailto:Dwayne@Brevardschools.org).



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Two FPL Rates Decreases

Florida Power & Light Company is pleased to have dropped rates for the second month in a row. Here's why you are seeing back-to-back rate decreases:

Rates decreased in April because a temporary surcharge to pay for past hurricane restorations ended March 31.

Rates decreased May 1 because of lower projected fuel prices for the rest of the year.

FPL is working hard to keep bills as low as possible by becoming more efficient and investing in low-cost power generation to save on fuel costs.

A typical 1,000-kilowatt-hour residential bill is now more than \$14 lower than it was at the beginning of the year. To save more and take control of your energy usage ahead of summer, check out their helpful tips at <https://www.fpl.com/save/lower-my-bill.html>. You'll need to click the "I am not a robot" box.



PORTSTJOHN-OPOLY

PORTSTJOHN-OPOLY games are on sale for \$25.00. The game is made up of some of your favorite local businesses. You can see the layout and purchase your game at: <https://portstjohn-communityfoundation.com/PORTSTJOHNOPOLY/>.

This fundraiser will help support the many events and projects planned for our community by the Port St. John Community Foundation (PSJCF), a 501(c)3 charity. Donations are tax deductible. Thunder Over the Indian River will be the next event.

Events by the Port St. John Community Foundation could not be carried out without the donations of time, money, sup-



plies and resources of this community and the surrounding areas. We appreciate and thank all the volunteers, businesses, partners and sponsors for participating in these community events. All members are volunteers who donate their time and services to help hold community events and keep our community STRONG!

To read more about the Foundation and future planned community events, visit our website; portstjohncommunityfoundation.com. It's no cost to join, no dues. The Foundation encourages residents and business owners to join.

PSJCF meetings are posted on our Facebook page and are usually held at the PSJ Beef O' Brady's and are posted on our Facebook site.



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Food For Thought Summer Fun with Nutrition

Summer is here and the kids are excited to take a break from the pressure accumulated throughout the school year. This is an important time for children and their families to take a step back and relax. The summer offers special opportunities for kids to have more hands-on experiences that keep them actively learning, whether they realize it or not. There are many subjects and life skills that can be taught over the summer months that don't fit in strict curriculum guidelines. For instance, try incorporating some activities related to food and nutrition. It is one of our most basic needs, after all. Some of the suggested activities below can even be expanded upon to incorporate other valuable skills.

Play with your food! Having fun with food is an excellent strategy to help your kid become more excited toward trying and learning about different foods. Make new snacks with fruits, vegetables, whole grains and lean protein sources that your child has never tried before. It can be as simple as pushing grapes together on skewers to make caterpillars or using cookie cutters to create fun shapes with bell peppers. Allow your child to help with the preparation and find some cool facts online about the foods you're serving for a fun learning activity.

Take your child to the grocery store. No, not dragging them along for your dreaded weekly grocery trip. Try a new grocery store to check out different foods available. Stores like Thrifty in Merritt Island or Rockledge have a variety of produce and shelf stable items that may be completely different than what your child is used to seeing in Publix or Walmart. Use this as an opportunity to discuss how foods vary amongst cultures. Pick out fruits like lychee, persimmons and dragon fruit to try back at home or allow your child to choose a food item that interests them!

Other life skills like budgeting or social interactions can be taught while learning about food and nutrition. Help your child go through the process of planning and preparing a meal for your family. Assign your child a budget, allow them to pick out a recipe, write a grocery list and take them shopping to buy the foods required. Give them some independence by having them ask for help if needed. With adult supervision, encourage them

to cook the meal, helping them follow the recipe along the way.

It's easy to integrate these fun nutrition activities into the summer schedule. Kids can explore the world of food and nutrition while enjoying their summer break. Activities like these provide practical life skills and instill an appreciation for their health. Have a great summer!

Interested in growing a community garden? Contact me! amandamahaleris@yahoo.com
Amanda Mahaleris, MS, RDN, LDN
Lighthearted Nutrition

Get Hoppin' to the Wildest Weekend Down Under!

First Baptist Church of Port St. John Outback Rock Vacation Bible School will be held June 24-26, 2024, 6:00-8:00 p.m., for age 4 - grade 6.

G'day, mates! Get ready to chuck a ripper of a time at our Aussie-themed Vacation Bible School program this summer! We've got heaps of fun activities lined up for you, from games to crafts, music, and a whole lot of fun!

We'll be throwing around the footy, playing some classic Aussie games like backyard cricket, and maybe even having a go at some bush tucker challenges! And don't worry, we've got plenty of corker crafts planned, too, from making boomerangs to creating Aboriginal art.

But it ain't just about the activities, coppers. We'll be diving into the good book, learning some ripper stories and singing along to some fair dinkum tunes that'll have you singing along like a true blue Aussie.

So, chuck on your sunnies, slap on some sunscreen and join us for a bonza time at our Aussie-themed Vacation Bible School program this summer. See ya' there!

Register at: <https://www.firstbaptistpsj.org/vbs>
Our church is located at 3900 Fay Blvd., Port St. John. For questions or more information, the church office telephone number is 321-636-5455.

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 to help.



St. Patrick's Anglican Church
4797 Curtis Blvd., Port St. John
321-802-1311

Classical Christianity Engaging the World

June is a suitable time for us to be prepared, not just for the possibility of tropical storms, but the protection against storms in ourselves, our families and the world at large. For the tropical variety we can stockpile water and canned goods, but how do we prepare for the spiritual and emotional storm? Prayer! Monday through Friday St. Patrick's conducts Morning Prayer on Facebook at 9:00 a.m. with Reverend Tim Gouge; <https://www.facebook.com/StPatspsj>. You can find the morning prayer booklet and scriptures on our website: <https://stpatrickpsj.org> (scroll down to the middle of the page under Morning Prayer).

Here at St. Patrick's Anglican Church, we are looking forward to June, and although June is a very quiet month for us, we still have our regular meeting groups continuing through summer.

Please check out our Ladies Fellowship and Craft Group on the third Monday in June – June 17th. Bring a craft to work on and join us for great fellowship and a light snack.

Veterans' and First Responder Breakfast will be Saturday, June 29th 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. and Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. (Both services are in person and Facebook Live - www.facebook.com/StPatspsj).

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

We will continue our Sunday Adult Bible Study in June on the Psalms; the study is between the 8 and 10 a.m., service at 9 a.m. and will be taught by Reverend Michael Kerouac. Student Summer School is on hiatus till August.

Are you interested in finding out more about the Anglican Church and St. Patrick's Anglican Church? Feel free to contact us at: St. Patrick's Anglican Church, 4797 Curtis Blvd., Port St. John, 321-802-1311, or stpatrickpsj@gmail.com.

How To Negotiate A Better College Financial Aid Offer

College admissions offers and financial aid award letters have arrived. It is time to choose a college based on academic fit, social fit and financial fit. Your child got into their dream school, but it is beyond your financial reach. How do you increase their financial aid offer?

College financial aid administrators do not like the term “negotiate,” because they think that their financial aid offers are based on objective criteria and therefore not subject to bargaining. To get a better financial aid offer, you need to understand how the system works. The first step is to avoid using words like “negotiate” that will antagonize financial aid administrators.

Negotiating for a better aid offer is not like negotiating price in a car dealership or antique shop. Bluff and bluster will not get you a better deal. Lying to the college financial aid administrator can get you prison time.

You need to understand the flaws in the financial aid formulas used by college financial aid administrators and use that knowledge to your advantage. The ultimate goal of a financial aid formula is to evaluate the family’s ability to pay for college during the academic year. Where that formula falls short is an opening to negotiate.

Don’t bargain based on the quality of the student. Good grades and test scores prove that the student can do the work, but they do not affect eligibility for need-based financial aid. If you want an academic scholarship because the student’s grades and test scores have improved, talk to the admissions office, not the financial aid office. If you can’t afford to pay for the college because of your financial circumstances, then talk to the financial aid office.

The top tier colleges do not award financial aid based on merit, even if the student is an Olympic athlete or ranked #1 in science and math competitions. They consider only financial need.

Second and third tier institutions might award academic scholarships to attract talented students. At many of these colleges, the academic scholarship is just \$500, \$1,000 or \$2,500. Only about 5% of colleges award half tuition or better academic scholarships. These scholarships are limited and are based on the student’s academic performance exceeding specific GPA, SAT/ACT score and class rank thresholds.

These colleges might also engage in preferential packaging, where the mix of grants and loans is more favorable for students they are trying to recruit. At these colleges, however, the size of the financial aid package is based on financial need.

To negotiate based on financial need, you need to demonstrate that your financial need is greater than what is reflected in the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), CSS Profile or other financial aid application forms. Financial aid applications are based on two-year-old income and tax information and current asset information. Financial aid applications are standardized, one-size-fits-all forms that do not address unusual financial circumstances.

Thus, negotiating a better financial aid offer is based on providing documentation of differences, such as changes in income from the prior year to the present year or differences between your family’s financial circumstances and those of the typical family. These are known as “special circumstances.”

A recent application for or receipt of unemployment benefits is sufficient documentation of job loss, as is a layoff notice, pink slip or furlough. Death or severe illness or disability of a wage-earner can also qualify.

Special circumstances can also include high un-reimbursed medical and dental expenses, high dependent care costs for a special needs child or elderly parent, disability-related expenses, private K-12 tuition for siblings, the end of child support or Social Security benefits for a child, income from a Roth IRA conversion, unusual capital gains, hardship distributions from retirement plans and a change in marital status or family size.

To file a financial aid appeal, write a short letter to the college financial aid office that summarizes the special circumstances and their financial impact on the family. Be specific as to dates and amounts. Some colleges have a form they would like you to submit with the appeal.

Keep the letter short and to the point, a maximum of 1-2 pages. Colleges do not want to hear your entire life story. Include copies of documentation of the special circumstances with the appeal letter.

Do not ask for a specific sum of money, as this can reduce the amount of financial aid you receive.

If a college decides that the special circumstances justify an adjustment to the financial aid package, the process is formulaic.

- Thanx to Forbes.com

Central FL Accordion Club

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



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

CFAC is a Not-for-Profit Florida Corporation, and is tax exempt under Section 501c4 of the Federal Tax Code. The club is dedicated to promoting the visibility and value of the accordion as a multi-cultural musical instrument in Central Florida.

For more information, contact Rod Hall, 866-455-2322.

Experimental Aircraft Meeting

Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 724 holds regular scheduled gatherings for fun and fellowship on the 2nd Wednesday of each month - June 12th this month - at 7:00 p.m. in the club house on Merritt Island Airport.



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

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

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

Jess Parrish Medical Foundation Awards Scholarships for Study in Healthcare and Medicine

Jess Parrish Medical Foundation (JPMF) awarded \$30,500 in scholarships to 25 outstanding college students and graduating high school seniors who distinguished themselves through passionate dedication to their communities and a pursuit of studies in the fields of medicine and healthcare. Since 1990, JPMF has awarded more than \$537,000 to deserving students.

Dedicated to supporting future generations of healthcare professionals, Brevard Indo-American Medical and Dental Association (BIMDA) Scholarship in honor of Ashok C. Shah and Glad Kurian, committed funds through 2034 allowing for two additional \$1,250 scholarships to be awarded annually. "BIMDA is honored to partner with Jess Parrish Medical Foundation in supporting the educational endeavors of our future healthcare professionals," said Glad Kurian, honorary executive director. "It is gratifying to know that BIMDA's contributions to the scholarship program are assisting the award recipients in pursuing their educational and career goals."

This year's scholarship winners include: from Astronaut High School, Addison Flake, Lilliana Koch and Zoe Schroyer; Cocoa Beach Jr./Sr. High School awardee Isaac Cerveny; from Merritt Island Christian School, Samantha Belle Donahoe and Solomon Van Horn; from Space Coast Jr./Sr. High School, Olivia Banachoski; and Titusville High School awardees Angela Al-

varez, Violet Dobbs, Megan Duncan, Samantha Rose Fisher, Alyssa Schneerer, Matthew Sluka and Emma Tomlinson.



PARRISH HEALTHCARE

College students awarded scholarships include: Alexis Mills from Daytona State College; Eastern Florida State College awardees Bailey Hamilton and Embily Smith; Kalyn Rubio from Florida State University; Arun Jagarlamudi and Sadhna Seth from Nova Southeastern University; Southeastern University recipient Sydney Van Horn; Isabella Padgett from the University of Alabama; Jady Gillingham and Noah Lange-

lier from the University of Central Florida; and University of Florida awardee Tessa Mitzlaff.

Scholarship committee co-chairs Barbara Terhune and Philip Simpson, PhD led the committee through the process of evaluating applicants in the areas of academic performance, awards and honors, extracurricular activities, leadership, community service, work experience, recommendation letters, application essay and Parrish Healthcare/JPMF affiliation.

"This year's scholarship recipients were again outstanding, and we look to them to lead the next generation in shaping the future of healthcare," said Randy Coleman, JPMF board chair. "The Foundation is honored to support the future education endeavors of such accomplished and well-deserving students."

Scholarship committee members include Barbara Terhune; Philip Simpson, PhD; Santi Bulnes; Deborah Cox; Dot Hudson; Terry Lee; Josh Norris; Howard Rinker, DDS; and Natalie Sellers.

JPMF is investing in the future by awarding medical scholarships to residents in North Brevard County who are pursuing careers that one day will provide healing to our community. To learn more about JPMF scholarships, contact the Foundation at (321) 269-4066 or visit, www.parrishmedfoundation.com/scholarships.



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Wednesday - Monday



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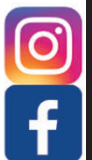
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Monthly Tax Article

The month of June is here and almost half of the year is over in a blink of an eye. We have been receiving some phone calls where the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has been taking too long to process their tax returns, even with the same filing status, dependents, credits and tax situation is the same as the prior year. This year IRS seems to be taking longer to review the tax returns.

When you check the IRS website for the status on your tax return, it may be showing it was received and in process. Usually, your tax refund will not take longer than 21 days. However, it may take longer due to you claiming Head of Household, Child Tax, Education, and/or Other Dependent Care Credits.

Nowadays, some people with tax returns are experiencing a longer time. When this occurs, the IRS should send correspondence to you reflecting they are working on your taxes and should be resolved in no longer than 60 days. Last week though, I received a call from someone who got a second letter reflecting their tax return should be resolved within an additional 60 days. If your tax circumstances are similar, you may contact The Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS), an independent organization within the IRS, that helps taxpayers and protects taxpayers' rights. They can offer help when tax problems seem to drag on forever. The taxpayer should contact TAS after they have tried and have been unable to resolve their issue with the IRS, or a taxpayer believes an IRS system, process, or procedure just isn't working as it should. Additionally, all taxpayers qualify for this assistance, which is always free. TAS will do everything possible to help them.

Now some good news from the Florida Department of Revenue, effective June 1, 2024, the state sales tax rate imposed under section 212.031, Florida Statutes (F.S.), on the total rent charged for renting, leasing, letting or granting a license to use real property (also known as "commercial rentals") is reduced from 4.5% to 2.0%. Some examples of real property rentals include rentals of commercial office or retail space, warehouses, and self-storage units or mini-warehouses. The total rent charged includes all consideration due and payable by the tenant for the privilege or right to use or occupy the real property. The local option discretionary sales surtax imposed by the county

where the real property is located continues to apply to the total rent charged. Sales tax is due at the rate in effect during the time the tenant occupies or is entitled to occupy the real property, regardless of when the rent is paid.

Rental charges paid on or after June 1, 2024, for rental periods of December 1, 2023, through May 31, 2024, are subject to 4.5% state sales tax plus any applicable discretionary sales surtax. Rental payments made prior to June 1, 2024, that entitle the tenant to occupy the real property on or after June 1, 2024, are subject to 2.0% state sales tax, plus any applicable discretionary sales surtax.

It is important to clarify that the reduced state sales tax rate on commercial rentals does not apply to the state sales tax rate on rentals or leases of living, sleeping or housekeeping accommodations for six months or less (also known as "transient rentals"), parking or storage spaces for motor vehicles in parking lots or garages, docking or storage spaces for boats in boat docks or marinas, or tie-down or storage space for aircraft at airports.

More good tax stuff next month. 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.

Dinner And Bible School

Historic St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church at 414 Pine St. in Titusville is holding a Vacation Bible School from July 29th through August 3rd. Families are invited to come with their children for dinner at 5:30, followed by crafts, games, Bible study and fun until 8:00 for the children.



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Parrish Healthcare Community Support Groups - June

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, June 3, 10, 17, 24, 10-11 a.m.
- Where: The Children's Center, 5650 S. Washington Ave., Titusville
- For additional information and to register, visit parrishhealthcare.com/Moms.

Parrish Healthcare's Fearless Café

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

- When: Wednesday, June 5, 10-11 a.m.
- Where: Heritage Hall, 931 N. Washington Ave., Titusville
- Facilitated by Janet Rooks, MA, CDP
- For additional information, please contact Janet Rooks at 321-268-6800.
- To register, please visit www.parrishhealthcare.com/FearlessCafe.

Parrish Healthcare Diabetes Support Group

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

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

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

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

- When: Monday, June 10, 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.
- 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, June 13 and 27, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- Where: Heritage Hall, 931 N. Washington Ave., Titusville
- Facilitated by Janet Rooks, MA, CDP
- For additional information, please contact Janet Rooks at 321-268-6800.
- To register, please visit www.parrishhealthcare.com/CaregiverSupport.

Parrish Healthcare Stroke and Heart Survivors Support Group

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

- When: Tuesday, June 18, 2-4:00 p.m.
- Where: Heritage Hall, 931 N. Washington Ave., Titusville
- Facilitated by Janet Rooks, MA, CDP
- For additional information, please contact Janet Rooks at 321-268-6800.
- To register, please visit www.parrishhealthcare.com/StrokeandHeartSupport.

Early Steps Community Play Date

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

- When: Wednesday, June 26, 9-10:30 a.m.
- Where: The Children's Center, 5650 S. Washington Ave., Titusville
- Facilitated by Mary Cancel, Family Resource Specialist
- For additional information, visit parrishhealthcare.com/EarlySteps.

Parrish Healthcare Cancer and Survivor Support Group

This group is for cancer patients, cancer survivors and anyone touched by the disease. Enjoy refreshments and talk with others sharing similar situations and experiences.

- When: Wednesday, June 19, 4-5:30 p.m.
- Where: Heritage Hall, 931 N. Washington Ave., Titusville
- Facilitated by Shannon Luker, RN, BSN, OCN, CBCN
- For additional information, please contact Shannon Luker at 321-268-6111, ext. 3544.
- To register, please visit www.parrishhealthcare.com/CancerSupport.

Tools to Quit Smoking Now

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

- When: Tuesday, June 25, 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.

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, June 11; 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.

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, June 27; 1-2:30 p.m.
- Where: Heritage Hall, 931 N. Washington Ave., Titusville
- For more information and to register, visit parrishhealthcare.com/kidneysmart.

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



Signs and Symptoms of Alzheimer's and Dementia

Memory loss that disrupts daily life may be a symptom of Alzheimer's or other dementia. Alzheimer's is a brain disease that causes a slow decline in memory, thinking and reasoning skills. There are 10 warning signs and symptoms. If you notice any of them, don't ignore them. Schedule an appointment with your doctor.

Here are 10 Early Signs and Symptoms of Alzheimer's and Dementia:

1 - Memory loss that disrupts daily life. One of the most common signs of Alzheimer's disease, especially in the early stage, is forgetting recently learned information. Others include forgetting important dates or events, asking the same questions over and over, and increasingly needing to rely on memory aids (e.g., reminder notes or electronic devices) or family members for things they used to handle on their own.

2 - Challenges in planning or solving problems. Some people living with Alzheimer's or other dementia may experience changes in their ability to develop and follow a plan or work with numbers. They may have trouble following a familiar recipe or keeping track of monthly bills. They may have difficulty concentrating and take much longer to do things than they did before.

3 - Difficulty completing familiar tasks. People with Alzheimer's or other dementia often find it hard to complete daily tasks. Sometimes they may have trouble driving to a familiar location, organizing a grocery list or remembering the rules of a favorite game.

4 - Confusion with time or place. People living with Alzheimer's or other dementia can lose track of dates, seasons and the passage of time. Sometimes they may forget where they are or how they got there.

5 - Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships. Some people living with Alzheimer's or other dementia could experience vision changes. This may lead to difficulty with balance or trouble reading. They may also have problems judging distance and determining color or contrast, causing issues with driving.

6 - New problems with words in speaking or writing.

They may have trouble following or joining a conversation. They may stop in the middle of a conversation and have no idea how to continue

or they may repeat themselves. They may struggle with vocabulary, have trouble naming a familiar object or use the wrong name (e.g., calling a "watch" a "hand-clock").

7 - Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps. They may put things in unusual places. They may lose things and be unable to go back over their steps to find them again. He or she may accuse others of stealing, especially as the disease progresses.

8 - Decreased or poor judgment. Individuals living with Alzheimer's or other dementia may experience changes in judgment or decision-making. For example, they may use poor judgment when dealing with money or pay less attention to grooming or keeping themselves clean.

9 - Withdrawal from work or social activities. A person living with Alzheimer's or other dementia may experience changes in the ability to hold or follow a conversation. As a result, they may withdraw from hobbies, social activities or other engagements. They may have trouble keeping up with a favorite team or activity.

10 - Changes in mood and personality. Individuals living with Alzheimer's or other dementia may experience mood and personality changes. They can become confused, suspicious, depressed, fearful or anxious. They may be easily upset at home, with friends or when out of their comfort zone.

There are also typical age-related changes:

- Developing very specific ways of doing things and becoming irritable when a routine is disrupted.

- Making a bad decision once in a while.

- Missing a monthly payment.

- Forgetting which day it is and remembering it later

- Sometimes forgetting which word to use.

- Losing things from time to time.

If you notice any of the 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's in yourself or someone you know, don't ignore them. Schedule an appointment with your doctor.

With early detection, you can explore treatments that may provide some relief of symptoms and help you maintain a level of independence longer. Sometimes just making some diet changes or medications can make a great difference.

Post 359 - American Legion Riders presents



Bike Days at the Tiki Saturday, June 1, 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.

6-5 Auxiliary General Membership Meeting - 1st Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m.

6-10 Sons of the Legion, 6 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of the month at the Post.

6-15 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.

6-19 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).



Ammvets Post 2415 Schedule

6-5 Sons of Amvets 2415 General Membership Meeting -1st Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. Commander Chuck Harrington, 321-208-7897.

6-8 Amvets Riders Chapter 2415 General Membership Meeting - 2nd Saturday of the month at 12 noon. Pres. Steve Carman, 321-446-3394.

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

6-12 General Membership Meeting- 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m.

6-13 Amvets 2415 Ladies Auxiliary General Membership Meeting - 2nd Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. President Theresa Nikki Anderson, 321-208-7897.

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.

Rose's Room

~ Rose Padrick



Kinda' Cheated?

If I heard the news correctly this morning, just perhaps there may be a tiny speck of light in the terribleness seemingly to surround the whole earth these days. I'm certainly going to be asking the Big Guy to help us out ASAP.

And invite all who read this to do the same.

The old saying "Why be normal?" certainly applies to my only female sibling and myself... If you read my putterings you already know that there is very little in my life (or mind) that could be categorized as normal, but I'm talking about normal for normal people.

We were born a decade apart, of the same couple at very different times in their life and could not have been raised more differently or in more different types of locales.

Carol and our older brother played Kick the Can and Dodgeball in the cobbled streets of Brooklyn and Astoria in New York City. Surrounded by tall buildings with very little greenery, the kids of the neighborhood played in the area in front of their apartment buildings, assigning the youngest kid car watch duty. Their job was to yell if a car headed in their direction so the game players could scatter and reconvene after it passed.

Our younger brothers and myself played kick the coquina rock and dodge the alligator on the then dirt road in Angel City, Merritt Island. Surrounded by swamp on one side and fruit trees on the other, we spent most of our days in the river that we were lucky enough to have right across the street



6360 Arborwood Ave, Cocoa FL
For more information contact:
Kyra Mecum at 321-614-2586

2024 Summer Horsemanship Camp



Join us for our 2024 Summer Horsemanship Camp where kids will be learning and honing their horsemanship skills. Ages 7-18

Activities include grooming, groundwork, leading and lunging, games, horse care (first aid/leg wraps), herd dynamics riding and horse related activities. Parents invited on last day of session for skill demonstration.

- June 3-7 (Beginner)
- June 17-21 (Beginner)
- June 24-28 (Intermediate)
- July 8-12 (Vaulting)
- July 22-26 (Beginner)



9:00am – 2:00pm daily

Cost is \$350/student with a \$100/down payment due one week prior to start of the class. Classes limited to 10 students
** Students bring lunch/snacks



Click here for more info and payment options.
Or go to GiveButter.com/SummerHorseCamp2024

Note: Please annotate student's name in the Notes of the ticket

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Register Now

June 10-13 Soccer Camp



June 17-20 Tennis Camp



from our house. We all kept a sharp eye out for the porpoise or manatee that would visit us at our swimming hole occasionally.

I cannot imagine what a culture shock it was for our parents to leave very northern friends, family, including our brother in the Navy and sister already on her own, shopping and weather to become the new family with the funny accents in the very southern, close knit fishing community where we were the only ones not related to anyone nor raising okra and chickens.

I used to listen to other girls my age complain about their older sisters' bossiness, how their parents always loved the older girls the best, how tired they were of having to take big sisters' hand-me-downs, getting blamed for stealing her clothes while I wished I had one here to complain about.

I need to remember to be careful about what I wish for... Maybe...

As life always does, it recently handed us a whirlwind ending in a once in a lifetime chance for us to be lucky enough to spend several weeks alone together.

We envisioned long talks late into the night, finally getting to really know each other, cooking up a storm and laughing in the kitchen a la those finding family shows on TV.

The first evening found us exhausted from carrying stuff up one flight of stairs at least three

times, getting to know which bedroom we preferred and laughing until we had to cross our legs while trying to decide if 9:00 or 9:30 p.m. is considered 'late into the night.'

'Cooking up a storm' consisted of laughing our way through the grocery store looking for turkey meatballs because we try to stay away from red meat, no pasta because carbs, canned veggies because we don't use a microwave, Fro-Yo-because no dairy and wine because grape juice is good for you.

Taking turns came easy... The stove for breakfast, the TV for different news channels, the washer/dryer. Learning from each other also came easy... I learned she kept her girlish figure with an egg and avocado for breakfast... she learned a donut and soda for breakfast does not keep any figure girlish. I learned exfoliating and moisturizing daily is not a myth... she learned a quick face wash and fast trip down the stairs when the dog's tears are yellow works.

I feel kinda' cheated... I still can't complain about my sister, even though the numbers on her scale are 30 notches less than mine. The only hand me down I ever got was mom's womb and I swear I've never seen her blue blouse that matches my jean shorts perfectly.

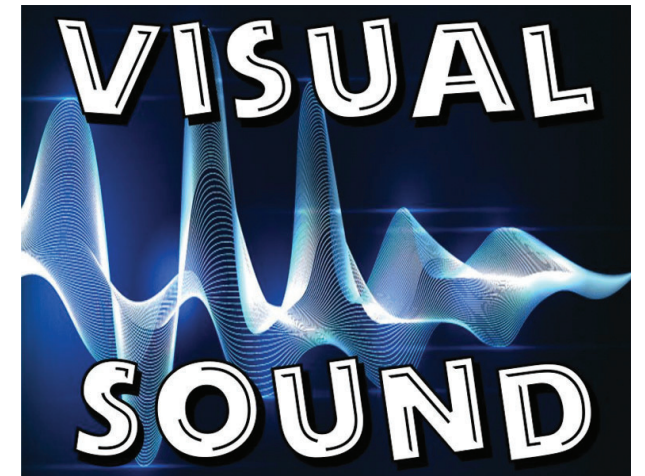
Life doesn't get any better.

I love you, Carol.



**American
Space
Museum &
Space Walk of Fame**

ASM Build-A-Brain Presents



Visual Sound

Ever wonder what Sound looks like? This month we will be seeing what a standing wave-form looks like, what kinds of patterns we can make with changing frequencies, and more crazy ways to interact with soundwaves.

June 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26

The workshop will be offered at 10:00, 12:00, and 2:00 on the dates previously listed for June.

Be sure to register soon at <https://spacewalkoffame.org/register> to reserve a spot, as class sizes are limited to 12 students per class time, for children grades 1-6. For more information, please contact the American Space Museum at 321-264-0434 or write info@americanspacemuseum.org. The address of the museum is 308 Pine Street, Titusville. It will be lots of fun, as well as educational and it's FREE.

Please be sure to park in FRONT parking lot, and enter through the REAR of the building at the door by the trailer.

Sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

American Space Museum & U.S. Space Walk of Fame Foundation is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) charitable organization. The museum is open for public tours Monday thru Saturday 10 to 5.



MEDICARE QUESTIONS...

PART A, PART B, PART C, PART D...

TURNING 65...

CONFUSED???

LET US ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS!!!

Higginbotham Insurance Agency

"Offering Personal Unexpected Protection"

3790 N. Highway 1

Cocoa, Fl. 32926

(321) 632-5726




LIFE●HEALTH●ANNUITIES

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.**

6-1 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.

6-3 World Bicycle Day

6-3 Sons of Amvets 2415 Meeting- 1st Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m. 688 West Ave., PSJ. Commander Chuck Harrington, 321-208-7897.

6-4 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.

6-5 World Environment Day

6-5 Port St. John Zoning Board meets at PSJ Public Library, 6 pm.

6-5 American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 359, General Membership Meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month, 6 p.m. at the Post Home, 7260 S. US 1, just north of PSJ. Call President Valerie Helmer at 321-268-1632.

6-8 Amvets Riders meeting, 2nd Saturday at 10 a.m. Call President Craig Doan, 321-208-7897.

6-9 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.

6-9 Multiple Sclerosis Self-Help Group meets on the 2nd Sunday each month (except Mother's Day & November), 2 p.m., Cocoa Library.

6-11 to 13 Shavuot

6-13 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.

6-14 Flag Day

6-14 Hajj Starts

6-14 Brevard Women's Connection meets at Space Coast Convention Center on Hwy. 520 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., 2nd Friday of each month. Call Pam at 321-752-6896 or e-mail bwc0020@gmail.com.

6-16 Father's Day

6-16 to 18 Eid Al Adha

6-17 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.

6-18 North Brevard Republican Club meets 3rd Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. at the Police Hall of Fame, 6350 Horizon Dr., Titusville. All are welcome.

6-19 Juneteenth

6-19 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. .

6-19 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.

6-20 Summer Solstice

6-25 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.

6-29 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:

Sandy Messer turns younger this month.

Jordan Arthurs turns **37** on the 2nd.

Lauren Grinstead turns **26** on the 4th.

Chase Gulbrand turns **11** on the 6th.

Rhonda Bradley turns prettier on the 7th.

Jordan Ragan turns **26** on the 7th.

Nathan Firth turns **8** on the 8th

Kirra Orend turns **25** on the 8th.

R.J. Arnone turns **49** on the 9th.

Drae Robinson turns **27** on the 10th.

Jonathon Benoff turns **21** on the 10th.

Billy Harrison Jr. turns **1** on June 10

Robert Owens turns **31** on the 12th

Stephen Crawford Jr. turns **19** on the 17th.

Lisa Siegel, the blue-haired lady, turns 39 (again) on the 14th.

Devon Anthony turns **25** on the 18th.

Holly Strickler is the Queen on the 20th.

Cheyenne Wiedman turns **23** on the 20th.

Charles Bertrand turns wiser on the 20th.

Ingebork Centi Thompson turns **92** on the 24th.

Archie Williams turns **46** on the 24th.

Jasper Niehoff turns **16** on the 25th.

Keli McCormack is the Party Girl on the 25th.

Melanie Hannen rules the world on the 27th.

Brett Benoff turns wilder on the 27th.

Don Crouse is the Boss on the 28th.

Trisha Orend turns hotter on the 29th.

Colton Osburn turns **14** on June 30

Jill and Bill Hill celebrate **33** on the 2nd.

Craig & Jennifer Engelson celebrate **25** years on the 6th.

Carl & Debbie Anderson celebrate **30** on the 18th.

Bob & Judie Petrowski celebrate **58** on 19th.

We have lots of room for more good news.

Fax your inputs to 633-4313 or email inputs 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 Center	321-637-6670
Waste Management -	321-636-6894
Port St. John Library	321-633-1867
PSJ Community Center -	321-633-1904
Florida Power & Light -	321-723-7795
City of Cocoa Water Dept. -	321-433-8400
Parrish Medical Center	
Port St. John -	321-636-9393
Titusville -	321-268-6111
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

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.

Youth -

6/4 2 p.m.: Summer Reading Kickoff Foam Party. Join us for an outdoor foam party! Registration Required. Ages 6-12

6/6 3 p.m.: Kids Summer Craft - Outdoor Adventure. Registration Required.

6/12 2 p.m.: Sci-Fi Kinetic Sand Lab. Registration Required.

6/13 3 p.m.: Kids Summer Craft - Sci-Fi Adventure. Registration Required.

6/19 2 p.m.: Build a Fantasy Castle Playhouse. Registration Required.

6/20 3 p.m.: Kids Summer Craft - Make a Fantasy Creature Headband. Registration Required.

6/26 2 p.m.: Build a Boat that Floats. Registration Required.

6/27 3 p.m.: Kids Summer Craft - Ocean Adventure. Registration Required.

6/28 2 p.m.: Craft with Brevard County Recycling. Registration Required.

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

Fridays 9:30-10 a.m. Baby Storytime. Ages 3 and under. Songs, short stories and surprise activities!

Fridays 10:30-11 a.m.: Early Bird Toddler Storytime. Ages 3-5. Songs, short stories and a craft!

Fridays 11:15-11:45 a.m. : Later Gator Toddler Storytime. Ages 3-5. Same songs, short stories and craft as the early storytime, just later!

Adult -

Adult Summer Reading BINGO: Pickup your BINGO card at the library for your chance to win prizes.

6/1 10:30 a.m.: Summer Theme Painting & Craft class. \$40 fee due at signup. Registration ends 5/29. See Reference Desk for more information and to sign up.

6/6 10 a.m.: One-On-One Tech Help. See Reference for information and to sign up.

6/10 & 6/24 1:30-5 p.m.: Community Support

Advocate office hours. Can help with Housing Assistance, SNAP Benefits, Social Security/Medicare Benefits and more.

6/12 6:30 p.m.: Bookworms Bookclub, see the Reference desk for monthly book selection.

6/20 2:00 p.m.: Spice Travelers Spice Club! Pick up a kit including this month's featured spice at the Reference Desk beginning 4/1. Join us on the third Thursday at 2 p.m. to discuss and share recipes.

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

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.

Artificial Intelligence Fraud – How to Protect Yourself

AI fraud is the use of artificial intelligence to deceive or defraud individuals or organizations. To pull off a scam, fraudsters use AI algorithms to create convincing fake identities, manipulate social media, generate realistic fake images and videos (AKA “deepfakes”) and more. The scammers then create fake social media profiles and email addresses using these bogus identities and footage. Often, they'll pretend to represent family members, friends, celebrities or other famed personalities for soliciting money and information.

In another form of AI fraud, scammers use social engineering tactics to trick people into giving them their personal information or money. They may create fake websites or emails that appear to be from legitimate sources, such as financial institutions or government agencies, and ask people to provide their personal information or login credentials. AI fraud is especially dangerous because scammers appear to be legitimate, increasing the likelihood that people will fall for their scams.

Are you being targeted by AI fraud? These red flags may be your first clue of an AI scam:

- Multiple unsolicited emails and/or text messages
- Being asked to provide personal information

or login credentials by an unverified contact

– Unusual and/or unexplained activity on your social media accounts

– Receiving financial advice that seems too good to be true

If you notice any of these signs, it's important to be cautious and investigate further. If the contact claims to represent a government agency, do not engage with them. Reach out directly to the agency that supposedly contacted you to see if the communication is legit. Follow the same steps if you've been contacted by an alleged representative of your credit union or bank. It's always better to be on the safe side when it comes to your personally identifiable information and your money.

Don't have to wait to be targeted by AI fraud to protect yourself. Keep your money and information secure by following these precautions at all times:

– Never share sensitive information online with an unverified contact.

– Always check the URL of each landing page when banking online or using another platform to share sensitive information. Look for the “s” after the “http” (<https://>) and the padlock icon, as well as the correct spelling of the company's website to ensure you haven't been lured into a look-alike scam site.

– Use strong, unique passwords across all of your accounts.

– Keep your device's security on its strongest setting.

– Be wary of messages asking for money or information.

– Use updated antivirus software on your personal devices.

Scammers will go to any length to obtain your account information or to steal your identity. Be aware, stay prepared.

If you suspect you've been the victim of AI fraud, it is important to act quickly to mitigate the damage. First, reach out to your credit card companies to let them know about the fraud. Next, report the fraud to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) so they can take appropriate measures in catching the humans behind the bot-generated scam. Change your passwords and login credentials and consider a credit freeze. If your identity has been stolen, reach out to identitytheft.gov to learn your next steps.

SLEEPY HOLLOW



Fruit From The Groves

ON JUNE 13, 2024, CANAVERAL GROVES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION WILL BE HOSTING A MEETING TO "MEET THE CANDIDATES" FOR DISTRICT 1 COMMISSIONER. THIS MEETING IS GOING TO BE HELD AT BREVARD CHRISTIAN CHURCH LOCATED AT 3925 GRISSOM PARKWAY IN COCOA. THE MEETING WILL START AT 7:30 PM, SHARP. ALL RESIDENTS IN DISTRICT ONE ARE INVITED.

The last few weeks it seems that people have been dumping unwanted items and trash on the sides of the road. All of these items should have been taken to the county landfill or had Waste Management pick them up for disposal. Anyone dropping trash should be reported to Brevard County Sheriff's Office. We need to keep the Groves clean and safe.

At the current time, we are in a burn ban due to the dry conditions. As of June 1st, we will be in hurricane season. That does not mean there cannot be wildfires. Please remove anything that can burn at least 30 feet from your structures. There is plenty of information out there on how to properly secure your property and family in the event of a hurricane. Now is the time, to prepare!



Make sure that you can find an alternate way out of your street if needed. Remember, there are only two roads that completely take us out of the Groves; Canaveral Groves Blvd. and Adamson Road. If we have a storm, PLEASE check on your neighbors, especially the elderly and disabled.

Remember the kids are now out of school. Some of the kids will be out at all hours of the day and sadly at night as well.

The crime rate does seem to go up over the summer. If you see something out of the usual, please contact the Brevard County Sheriff's Office. When I spoke with a Deputy, I mentioned something that someone posted on Facebook. The individual that posted it never notified the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's office can NOT help if they are not notified.

Ed Silva, President
Canaveral Groves Homeowners Association

Martin Andersen Senior Center Dances

Martin Andersen Senior Center will host Singles/Couples Ballroom Dances on Saturday, June 8 and Saturday, June 22. 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.

Pet Costume Parade

Dress your pet in a "Be the Rainbow" costume and join the "Be the Rainbow" Pet Costume Parade, hosted by Tails at the Barkery, in Historic Cocoa Village, on Saturday, June 8th in the Gazebo area at 9:30 a.m.

Enjoy a walk through Cocoa Village for a day-full of Rainbow Adventures. Awards will be presented to the top three "most creative rainbow" dressed pets.

Sponsored by Hello Again Books, Cocoa Village, the "Be the Rainbow" family event welcomes children and adults of all ages. Throughout the day, activities and events will honor and celebrate diversity within our community. Wear your bright colors and come dressed to "Be the Rainbow." Three fabulous raffle gift baskets will be on display at Hello Again Books. Donate \$1 for each raffle ticket for a chance to win. All proceeds collected during this 4th Annual "Be the Rainbow" family event will go to Be the Rainbow, Inc., a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

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. For more information about the "Be the Rainbow" Pet Costume Parade, contact Tails at the Barkery at 321-305-4584.

For more information on the "Be the Rainbow" family event, contact Hello Again Books at 321-877-0351 or visit <https://www.betherainbowfl.org>.

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?

Be Prepared for Hurricane Season

The early forecast for the 2024 Atlantic hurricane season suggests it will be an extremely active season – 23 storms, 11 of which will become hurricanes and five of which will reach Category 3 status or stronger. What we don't know is where or when a storm may impact our area.

Over the past 7 years, Hurricanes Irma, Maria, Fiona, Michael, Ian, Idalia and many more tropical systems have wreaked havoc on local communities with far reaching impacts. The adage “the calm before the storm” has never been more true – now is the time to prepare your workplace, your family and your home! It's always a good reminder to know your risks, build a kit, make a plan and stay informed.



Know Your Risks - Do you live in an evacuation zone or a flood-prone area? Do you live in a mobile or manufactured home? If any of those are the case, ensure that you have a plan in place for yourself and your family by visiting <http://www.brevardcounty.us/EmergencyManagement/>

Preparedness - Does a friend or family member have special medical needs, including electricity? Have them register for a special needs shelter at <http://web.brevardcounty.us/SpecialNeeds/Registration.aspx>.

Build a Kit - Your kit should contain enough non-perishable food, water, and medications to support yourself, your family and your pets for at least three days. Don't forget a solar, portable or automotive cell phone charger, in case your home loses power; gas for your car and generator; and cash. Consider these things: <https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>.

Make a Plan - Create your personal disaster plan at www.floridadisaster.org/family/. Don't wait until an emergency is occurring, and you are under pressure.

Stay informed - Follow @BrevardEOC on Twitter, like “Brevard County Emergency Management” on Facebook, and/or sign up for text messages (Text Follow BrevardEOC to 40404).

Visit the Brevard County Emergency Management website - www.brevardcounty.us/EmergencyManagement - for more information.

On the Road With Rose



In The Dog House Art Studio

<https://inthedoghouseartstudio.com/>
1801 Tropic St., Titusville FL. 32796
321-652-6363

These days when things seem to be going from bad to worse and it seems that there is no safe place to hide, it's difficult to remember to try to look for the good stuff. I find there are moments when I have to turn the TV off, step outside, take a deep breath and try to spot or hear a Mockingbird. I'm certainly not smart enough to know how to end all the evil that's happening, but I can and do tap into my line to the Big Guy several times a day. If you or someone you know has loved ones in danger's path, please know you're not alone and prayers are being sent.

For this column I try to find unique and inexpensive places that are close enough for the whole family to enjoy for the afternoon, stop for hot dogs and ice cream, and still get home in time for bath and bed. In The Dog House is absolutely the most unique-est (of course it's a word...I just used it, didn't I!) conglomeration of old Florida fauna and flora, ancient oak trees complete with ancient moss, beautifully bright color everywhere, from the tiny houses made from old trailers to the fence made entirely of old doors, to the water tower with its own home-made water level indicator, compliments of Jim, the master ‘make something out of others cast-offs and make it work’ genius. I felt a calming presence just driving through the gate and parking under a huge live oak, made even more so as we strolled through various gardens and poked around in the tiny houses.

The very high energy, sweetly hilarious caretaker/owner of this piece of paradise hidden amid an old neighborhood has totally proven anything is possible if you follow your dream. Max is more than happy to walk you through her various projects. Every piece of every building or garden

is totally made from re-purposed materials. She maintains her recovery from breast cancer would never have happened had she not absorbed the healing vibes while building and teaching in her little kingdom. Visiting artists, peace keepers and healers join Max's Healing In The Garden on the second Saturday of every month. She began these special days to offer peace and healing to those who have or have had cancer with special attention to caregivers also.

Max offers painting lessons in her several studios, including a real tree house, and stained-glass lessons in her pole barn studio stocked full of beautiful colored glasses. Sometimes a visiting artist will offer a class or maybe just decorate or paint whatever needs decorating or painting. Be sure to ask about the mural a previous student did to honor his mother and grandmother.

Being from the U.K., Max has a delightful accent, which makes listening to her tales of working so hard to plant a proper English garden when she first landed in the one hundred sixty-year-old cracker house she calls home, only to watch Florida take it over. While she still has a bit of English in the garden she keeps in memory of her mother, Max happily allows native plants to thrive in all her other gardens.

This wonderful place isn't just for adults, kids and dogs are welcome. Leashes are mandatory... for the dogs. There are paths to walk, wildlife to look for, including turtles in the pond they are in the process of cleaning out, art studios complete with supplies and finished product to admire.

While most of the area is shaded, I advise still slathering on the sunscreen and using some form of mosquito protection. And again, as usual, please take only pictures and leave only footprints. And good wishes for a remarkable lady and place.

~ Rose Padrick

Alcoholics Anonymous

Saint Patrick's Church, Port St. John

4797 Curtis Blvd., Port St. John

East off Grissom Pkwy.

Sunset Group Meeting

(C) Sunday 5:00 Closed topic

(Alcoholics Anonymous meets Sundays at 5 p.m.)

Women's AA meets on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m.

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.



*Join us and experience health care at its finest.
Find your provider at parrishhealthcare.com/our-providers*




PARRISH[®]
HEALTHCARE
parrishhealthcare.com

 **Cleveland Clinic** Connected
Healing Families—Healing Communities[®]