

# HAPPENINGS

**Weekly Edition**  
April 18, 2025

## **Parrish Healthcare Shows Support for National Child Abuse Prevention Month**



*Leaders plant blue pinwheels in the atrium at Parrish Medical Center.*

*From left to right: Chris McAlpine, Melinda Hodges, Robert Jordan, Lisa Dickerson and Ericka Jacobs.*

In observance of National Child Abuse Prevention Month, April, Parrish Healthcare has placed blue pinwheels throughout planters in their main hospital atrium to raise awareness and show support for preventing child abuse and neglect, and to highlight the role of families and communities in creating safe environments for children.

The first National Child Abuse Prevention Month was proclaimed in 1983, and the blue pinwheel is the national symbol of child abuse prevention. Parrish Healthcare remains committed to supporting children and families, and this display of pinwheels is part of a broader effort to bring awareness to the public and encourage communities to take-action in preventing child abuse through education and advocacy.

“Child abuse is a deeply troubling issue that affects children, families and communities. By displaying these blue pinwheels, we are helping to bring much-needed attention to this important cause,” said Director of Parrish Medical Center’s Women’s Center and Emergency Department, Ericka Jacobs.

Blue pinwheels are used for National Child Abuse Prevention Month to symbolize the bright future that all children deserve, as well as the importance of creating safe, healthy environments for them to grow and thrive. The pinwheel represents childhood in a joyful, playful way.

If you believe a child or vulnerable adult is in immediate danger, please call 9-1-1 or a toll-free abuse reporting hotline at 1-800-962-2873.

For more information about National Child Abuse Prevention Month, including resources for increasing awareness, please visit [preventchildabuse.org](http://preventchildabuse.org).

### **Easter Services and Easter Egg Hunt** **First United Methodist Church** **1165 Fay Blvd., Port St. John**

April 18: Good Friday Service, 6:00 p.m.

#### **Easter Sunday (April 20)**

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service

10:00 a.m. worship service

11:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

Our food pantry is open the 3rd Friday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

### **St. Patrick’s Anglican Church** **4797 Curtis Blvd., Port St. John**

Good Friday, April 18th:

12:00 - 3:00 p.m.- Good Friday Meditation

3:30 p.m. - Stations of the Cross

4:30 p.m. – Mass of the Pre-Sanctification

#### **Easter Sunday, April 20th:**

7:00 a.m. - Easter Sunrise Service

10:00 a.m. - Easter Eucharist or watch on

Facebook Live:

[www.facebook.com/StPatspsj](http://www.facebook.com/StPatspsj)



***HAPPENINGS wishes everyone a very  
Happy Easter and joy, good health  
and peace to your family.***

## Thunder Over Indian River Golf Classic

The 7th Annual Charity Golf Classic will be held on Saturday, April 19th at Indian River Preserve Golf Club. The cost is \$80 per person or \$300 per team and includes greens fee, cart, lunch, range balls and on-course contests.

Registration will begin at 7:00 a.m. with the tournament officially starting at 8:00 a.m. Afterwards, please join us for lunch, awards and raffle at about 12:30 p.m.

All proceeds benefit the Port St. John Independence Day events and fireworks. In addition to prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, there will be two "long drives," two "closest to the pin" challenges, along with a putting contest. A hole-in-one wins \$25,000 toward the purchase of a new vehicle sponsored by Starling Buick/ GMC, a 15 SEERA/C system sponsored by Freedom Air and Plumbing or a Hybrid Water Heater provided by Freedom Air and Plumbing.

The registration site is closed, but there are still 4 spots left and you can register at the event on Saturday until 7:30.

Visit <https://portstjohncommunityfoundation.com/> for more information.

---

## Veterans and First Responder Breakfast

The Veterans and First Responder Breakfast will be held on Saturday, April 26th, at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall at St. Patrick's Anglican Church, 4797 Curtis Blvd. in Port St. John. It is open to all veterans, spouses of veterans, police, fire and emergency services individuals.

For more information, call 321-802-1311 or email the church at [stpatrickspsj@gmail.com](mailto:stpatrickspsj@gmail.com).

---

## Port St. John Community Foundation Seeks Donated Storage Space

The PSJ Community Foundation is looking for a donated 10' x 20' (or larger) storage unit to store the vast collection of stands, supplies, signs, tables, photo booths and other items that are required to put on Thunder Over the Indian River, Fay Lake FestiFALL, the PSJ Christmas Parade, the Chili Cook-off, the BBQ Contest, the new 5K Run next year and all the other events we do and help with around PSJ. The storage unit will be used to store everything safely indoors where everything can be maintained and ready for use.

If you have or know of an available shed, please email [psjcommunityfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:psjcommunityfoundation@gmail.com).



## Implications of Space Junk

The European Space Agency built a short documentary titled, "Space Debris: Is it a Crisis," stated, "Around 70% of the 20,000 satellites ever launched remain in space today, orbiting alongside hundreds of millions of fragments left behind by collisions, explosions and intentional destruction." If one satellite collides with another or collides with any object with the speeds involved around the earth, the satellites will be damaged, possibly unusable. The space race seems to be ramping up quickly, with some experts saying there will be an additional 58,000 satellites by 2030, while others say there may be mega-constellations for a total of 500,000 or more powering the satellite internet. SpaceX Starlink will create a lot of them, as nearly 12,000 satellites are planned to be deployed with a possible later extension to 34,400 just for Starlink. And depending on the issue, any of these could become space junk that could fall uncontrollably down somewhere to earth.

The latest Space Debris Environment Report issued by ESA's Space Debris Office states the following: currently 1) 40,500 space debris objects greater than 10 cm; 2) 1,100,000 space debris objects from greater than 1 cm to 10 cm; 3) 130 million space debris objects from greater than 1 mm to 1 cm. This includes the number of satellites still in space, functioning or not functioning, and the number of space objects regularly tracked by Space Surveillance Networks and maintained in their catalogue. It stated that the estimated number of break-ups, explosions, collisions or anomalous events resulting in fragmentation is more than 650.

Reference: [www.space.com/the-universe/earth/esas-new-documentary-paints-worrying-picture-of-earths-orbital-junk-problem?utmterm=5465FD4C-04EF-418E-B046-A5787F52E895&lrh=1fccfaf17c397d296e0b\\_cd58faa8645bf48195dea894516bda5ee3cf6b667c0f&utm\\_campaign=58E4DE65-C57F-4CD3-9A5A-609994E2C5A9&utmmedium=email&utmcontent=9B48D69E-9855-48B8-805A-0702F76E2320&utmsource=SmartBrief](http://www.space.com/the-universe/earth/esas-new-documentary-paints-worrying-picture-of-earths-orbital-junk-problem?utmterm=5465FD4C-04EF-418E-B046-A5787F52E895&lrh=1fccfaf17c397d296e0b_cd58faa8645bf48195dea894516bda5ee3cf6b667c0f&utm_campaign=58E4DE65-C57F-4CD3-9A5A-609994E2C5A9&utmmedium=email&utmcontent=9B48D69E-9855-48B8-805A-0702F76E2320&utmsource=SmartBrief)

<https://sdup.esoc.esa.int/discosweb/statistics/>

Cheerio,

~ Maureen Rupe

*This article expresses the views of its author.*

---

## Ink and Ivy Book Club

Come join us at The Plant Shack on the last Tuesday of each month - April 29th this month - at 7 p.m. to discuss that month's selection. We can't wait to support this awesome new locally owned business, too! Join us as we meet each month to discuss a diverse range of books covering different genres, cultures, periods, etc., courtesy of the Friends of the Port St. John Library. All are welcome!

The Plant Shack & Beer Garden is located at 5800 N. Highway 1, Port St. John, 321-208-8001.



# Jess Parrish Medical Foundation Golf Classic

## Attracts Record Breaking Sell-Out Crowd and Surpasses Fundraising Goal

More than 70 sponsors, 61 teams, 244 players and dozens of volunteers participated in the annual two-course Jess Parrish Medical Foundation (JPMF) Fran Gerrett Memorial Golf Classic on Friday, April 4, at Indian River Preserve Golf Club and The Great Outdoors Golf Club. Since 2011, the tournament has raised more than \$800,000 to support the vital work at The Children's Center. The law firm Zumpano Patricios presented the 18-hole scramble for the eleventh consecutive year.

JPMF hosted another sell-out crowd at this year's tournament and exceeded its fundraising goal of \$75,000, raising more than \$85,000 to benefit The Children's Center, a service of Parrish Healthcare and one-stop childhood development resource center. The Children's Center provides a safe and healing environment for special needs and typically developing children to learn and grow, along with an array of health, education and human services under one roof.

The annual golf tournament lives on as a tribute to Fran Gerrett's longtime dedication to our community and his favorite charity, The Children's Center. Fran, a former Parrish Medical Center Materials Management Director, was famous for saying, "It's all about the kids!"

"My family would like to express our sincere gratitude to the sponsors, committee, volunteers, course partners and everyone who played a part in making this event such a tremendous success," said Parrish Healthcare Emergency Services Specialist and Fran Gerrett's daughter, Leigh Spradling. "We are truly honored and humbled to carry on our father's legacy while supporting the vital services that The Children's Center provides to children and families in our community. I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude as I watch the event grow and evolve year after year." Leigh also serves as event chair of the annual tournament.

Event partners included Presenting sponsor Zumpano Patricios. Platinum-level sponsor HHS; and Gold-level sponsors were Injury Centers of Brevard; Josh & Laura Norris; RUSH Construction, Inc.; and RW Services, LLC. Silver-level sponsors included CTS Electric; FinThrive; MedFast Urgent Care Centers; Regions Bank; and UBS Financial Services / Susan Morse & Daniel Levy. Bronze-level sponsors were Advanced Care Partners PPEC; Anderson Financial Partners, Inc.; The Broome Law Firm/ Chris & Kelley Broome; Certified Plumbing of Brevard, Inc.; Cintas Corporation; Coastal Health Systems of Brevard; Randy and Mary Coleman; ERDMAN company; McDonald's Garden Street / the Rodriguez Family; Parrish Home Health / LHC Group; Howard W. Rinker, D.D.S.; and The Watauga Company. Supporting-level sponsors included Boggs Gases; Herman and Joyce Cole; Enrad



Services Inc.; Florida Health Care Plans; GEICO Titusville; Lightle, Beckner, Robison Inc.; Edwin and Nancy Loftin; the Mikitarian Family; Palm Point Behavioral Health; Parrish Orthopedics and Sports Medicine; Starling GMC, Honda, Ford; Greg and Kathy Sparkman & Allen and Diane Taylor Families; Termine's Specialty Supply of Melbourne; Bill and Rachel Terry; Village Flooring Plus LLC; and WFTV – WRDQ.

Other generous sponsors were recognized at the tournament.

Taking home top honors were the men's division first-place teams of Tim Fields, Jeff Marr, Mike Pavick and Jason Snodgrass at The Great Outdoors, and Tommy Bradford, Chase Freeman, Grant Matzen and Eric Silva at Indian River Preserve Golf Club. The mixed division first-place teams included the foursomes of Nick Cerrato, Tim Liston, Jordan Pemberton and Kyle Pemberton at Indian River Preserve, and Lynne Anderson, Harold Gero, John Gero and Susan Jensen at The Great Outdoors. Claire Charron, Kathy Myer, Jeanne O'Bryan and Toni Thigpin took top women's division honors at the Great Outdoors. Closest to the Pin honors were awarded to Rhonda Bradfield and Greg Gilkey.

The tournament planning committee included members Leigh Spradling (event chair), Santi Bulnes, Anita Currie, Tammy Hebert, Nadine Itani, Kathy Myer, Jeff Riley, Joe Rodriguez, Christie Rimsky, Kathy Simonsen, Greg Sparkman and Kristina Weaver.

Next year's tournament is scheduled for April 3, 2026. For more information about Jess Parrish Medical Foundation, or to secure your 2026 event partnership, please contact Jess Parrish Medical Foundation at 321-269-4066 or visit [www.parrishmedfoundation.com/golf](http://www.parrishmedfoundation.com/golf).

---

***I asked Mom if I was a gifted child.  
She said they certainly would not have paid for me.***



**LIBRARY HOURS: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday.  
9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.;  
Wednesday, 12-8 p.m. and Sunday, 12-5 p.m.**

**Youth Services  
Family Programs**

**Family Spice Travelers Spice Club** - Friday, April 18th at 3:30 p.m. This is a family event. Come to the meeting to pick up a spice kit and share food, recipes, and cooking adventures. It's fun for the entire family.

**Game Day** - Every Sunday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Join us to meet other game enthusiasts for an afternoon of board, tabletop and card games in the main library area. Use one of the library-provided sets, or bring your own! All ages are welcome to this family-friendly event.

**Recycling Creative Lab** - Join us on Tuesday, April 22nd, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Large Conference Room for a creative family event! Combine art supplies, recycled items, and your imagination to make something amazing. This hands-on activity is perfect for families with children ages 12 and under. Come and let your creativity shine

**Feathers & Focus** - A Birdwatching Adventure with Becky Bolt, April 23rd 6-7 p.m. Join the Port St. John Library for an exciting birdwatching program with retired NASA ecologist and author Becky Bolt. Becky will give an educational presentation on local birds and birdwatching techniques. Afterward, participants can join in a hands-on birdwatching scavenger hunt outside the library. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about local wildlife in a fun, interactive setting!

**Recycle Brevard** - April 26th, 1:30 to 4 p.m. Pick up FREE reusable materials, Drop off your Terracycle, learn about the work they do, help separate materials received.

**Adult**

**Community Advocate** - Mondays, April 28, from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. The community support advocate assists with housing, SNAP, social security, healthcare and insurance, and senior resources.

**Yarn Group of PSJ Library** - The yarn group is a group of adults that enjoy knitting and crocheting. They are happy to help you learn. All levels are welcome. They donate projects and meet every Friday at the Port St. John Public Library from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

**Youth Programs**

**STEAM Time** - Every Tuesday afternoon from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in the meeting room for children ages six through twelve. We have activities centered around science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics. This event requires parent or adult supervision at all times.

**Library Egg Hunt**— Kids five and under can participate in an egg hunt in the Port St. John Library's youth services

section. Trade any eggs you find to the Youth Services staff for mystery prizes!

**Read Your Way to K: Baby Story Time** - 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. every Friday in the meeting room. We invite babies, young toddlers, and their caregivers to join us for stories, songs, and activities. This storytime is for babies ages three and younger and always requires parent or adult supervision.

**Read Your Way to K: Toddler Story Time** - 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. every Friday in the meeting room. We invite babies, young toddlers and their caregivers to join us for stories, songs and activities. This storytime is for toddlers ages three to five and always requires parent or adult supervision.

**Sensory Sundays** - Every Sunday from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., children can join the library staff for sensory bin activities. This event is for ages six and up and always requires parent or adult supervision.

4/27 - Bubble Wrap Beehive Craft

**Teen Art League** - On April 12th and 19th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Teens ages 13 and up can join other creative-minded individuals for some time to chill and work on their personal art projects. The library will provide various art supplies, but you can bring your own. Try new projects with staff:

4/19— Garden Rock Painting

**Saturday Craft Crew** - Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Join us on Saturdays for a fun, hands-on craft time designed for kids ages four and up. We'll explore a new project or activity each week, helping kids get creative with colorful materials and exciting themes! It's the perfect way to start your weekend with a splash of imagination and fun!

4/19— Bunny Head Band

4/26— Spring Lily Handprint

---

## **Be Healthaware**

### **Know Your Risk | Know Your Score**

Healthaware is a series of free assessment tools that provide awareness and information about your risk for various health conditions. Each assessment takes just minutes to complete.

When you finish, you'll receive a personalized, confidential report of your results. You'll also have the opportunity to connect directly with our patient navigation team. They are ready to assist you in your health care journey.

Assessments are available for orthopedics, cancer, stroke, sleep disorders, Diabetes and more. For more information and to start your journey to knowing your health, visit [www.parrishhealthcare.com/patients-visitors/health-risk-assessment/](http://www.parrishhealthcare.com/patients-visitors/health-risk-assessment/).

*The weekly digital  
edition of  
HAPPENINGS  
is sponsored by  
Parrish Healthcare*

