

# HAPPENINGS

Weekly Edition  
December 27, 2024

## Parrish Healthcare Donates 220 Toys to Local Community In Support of Toys for Tots Initiative

Parrish Healthcare, a proud supporter of many community outreach initiatives, is spreading even more holiday cheer this year by donating more than 220 new, unwrapped toys to Toys for Tots.

Parrish Healthcare Care Partners, (employees, medical staff members and volunteers), patients and community members rallied together to donate toys for North Brevard children and families most in need.

“The holiday season is a time for joy and generosity. Guided by our vision of Healing Families—Healing Communities®, we are honored to partner with organizations such as Toys for Tots to help ensure every child and family in need experiences the magic of the season,” said Parrish Healthcare President and CEO George Mikitarian.

Toys were collected at three of Parrish Healthcare’s facilities, including Parrish Medical Center, Parrish Healthcare Center at Titus Landing and Parrish Healthcare Center in Port St. John for the last several weeks.

“Our Care Partners and community never cease to amaze me with their involvement in outreach efforts such as this,” said Natalie Sellers, Senior Vice President of Communications, Community & Corporate Services at Parrish Healthcare. “We extend a heartfelt thank you to all who donated to this year’s toy drive and made it such a successful endeavor.”



Toys for Tots, a program run by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, has delivered millions of toys to underprivileged children since its founding in 1947. Contributions like those from Parrish Healthcare help sustain this legacy of giving, creating cherished memories for children and their families.

For more information about Parrish Healthcare and its community initiatives, visit [parrishhealthcare.com/news](http://parrishhealthcare.com/news).

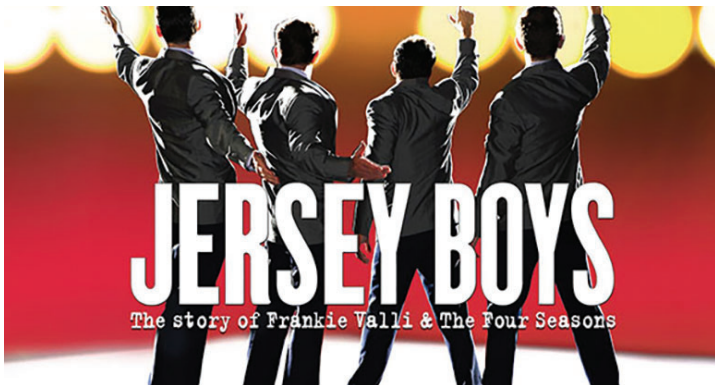


*From left to right: Matthew Graybill (Assistant Vice President, Operations), Chris McAlpine (Senior Vice President, Transformation and Network Development), Natalie Sellers (Senior Vice President, Communications, Community & Corporate Services), Lisa Dickerson, (Vice President, Nursing and Chief Nursing Officer) and Reagan Wagner (Infection Prevention Professional) posing as a gingerbread man.*

## PSJ Christmas Parade Winners:

### Best Overall - Enterprise Elementary

- 1st Place Creativity - Parrish Healthcare
- 2nd Place Creativity - Wildflower Beauty
- 1st Place Christmas Spirit - Enterprise Elementary
- 2nd Place Christmas Spirit - PSJ Golf Carts
- 1st Place Theme - Port Java
- 2nd Place Theme - Butternut Farm
- 1st Place Marching Musical
  - Space Coast Vipers Marching Band
- 1st Place Non-Musical - Space Coast HS SFROTC
- 2nd Place Non-Musical
  - Space Coast Jr/Sr High School Cheerleaders



## JERSEY BOYS

JANUARY 10–FEBRUARY 23, 2025

They had a look, an attitude and a sound like no other. Who knew four guys from New Jersey would turn the world upside down? With a unique sound that nobody had heard, Jersey Boys is the Tony® Award-winning true-life musical of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. While their harmonies were perfect on stage, their offstage relationships were a different story.

### Titusville Playhouse 2024-25 Season

The Titusville Playhouse, Inc. is located within the Historic Emma Parrish Theatre 301 Julia St., providing professional quality entertainment on the Space Coast. The MainStage theatre includes a 150 seat orchestra section and a 124 seat Balcony Section. Balcony seats are only accessed by a flight of stairs. THERE IS NO ELEVATOR.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit <https://titusvilleplayhouse.com/> or call 321-268-1125.



## JERSEY GALS – OH, WHAT A DRAG!

January 17 & 18 Rated R

Two nights only! Join us after Jersey Boys as the Queens visit the Jersey Shore!

Doors open at 10:30 p.m. with an 11:00 Showtime!!

### Stage 2

STAGE 2 is located in an outdoor, but covered pavilion. Performances will occur rain or shine. The gates are located at 316 South Palm Avenue and open 30 mins before your show. Please dress and be prepared for the weather. For show times, more information or to purchase tickets, visit <https://titusvilleplayhouse.com/>.

## Meanwhile, In Outer Space...



NASA astronauts sent a “Merry Christmas” message to Earth from the International Space Station. You can search the video on the internet and it’s available on multiple sites, or you can visit [www.nbcnews.com/video/astronauts-send-christmas-message-to-earth-from-international-space-station-227861061561](http://www.nbcnews.com/video/astronauts-send-christmas-message-to-earth-from-international-space-station-227861061561).

The astronaut duo who flew the first-ever crewed mission of Boeing’s Starliner capsule will have to wait a little longer to rejoin us on Earth. Suni Williams and Butch Wilmore have been stuck in space since their Boeing Starliner spacecraft was forced to return to Earth without the astronauts aboard due to vehicle complications and safety concerns in June.

The next crew rotation mission to the International Space Station (ISS), SpaceX’s Crew-10, has been delayed to no earlier than late March 2025, NASA announced on Dec. 17. Crew-10 was originally slated to fly in February, but it has been pushed back to allow time for SpaceX to complete work on a brand-new Crew Dragon spacecraft for the mission, NASA said in the statement. The delay means at least an extra month aboard the ISS for the astronauts of SpaceX’s Crew-9 flight.

Adding a fifth Crew Dragon to the SpaceX fleet will allow more versatility in its commercial offerings and NASA some extra flexibility in its mission manifests as well. Had a fifth Dragon been available to launch without disruption to the Crew-9 and Crew-10 missions, it’s possible NASA could have utilized such a vehicle to bring Starliner’s Wilmore and Williams home at an earlier date.

The new delay will bring Wilmore and Williams’ time in space to around nine months in total — far longer than the 10 days or so their mission was originally expected to last.

Though unexpected, nine months is not a new length of stay. Other NASA astronauts have stayed on the ISS for far longer. The space agency’s year-long “twin study” kept Scott Kelly aboard the ISS for 340 days in 2015 and 2016. And more recently, Frank Rubio became the first American to spend more than 365 straight days in space, after he and two Russian crewmates were forced to prolong their ISS mission when their Soyuz spacecraft sprang a leak.

# Launch Credit Union and Community Credit Union of Florida End Merger Plan

Launch Credit Union and Community Credit Union of Florida have announced that they have mutually decided not to move forward with their previously proposed merger. In a joint statement, Joe Mirachi, Launch's President and CEO, along with Laurie Cappelli, President/CEO of Community Credit Union shared that, "The reasons why are varied, and the decision to step back from the merger was not driven from financial reasons. Rather, it reflects a mutual recognition that our organizations, while both strong and well-positioned, have unique needs and priorities that didn't fully align at this time."

The statement continued, "From the onset of our merger announcement, we committed to transparency and maintaining open lines of communication with our employees and members. The merger process itself is a long journey with many measures along the way to ensure a strong partnership is compatible for our respective credit unions, our members and employees, and the communities we serve."

Going forward, both credit unions emphasize there will be no disruption for members or employees as they remain financially healthy and positioned for success.



## Post 359 - American Legion Schedule



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

**1-4 Bike Days at the Tiki** - 1st Saturday of the month, 1 - 5 p.m. presented by American Legion Riders. 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.

**1-13 Sons of the Legion**, 6 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of the month at the Post.

**1-15 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.

**1-19 American Legion Riders** General Membership Meeting- 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m. Call 2nd Vice Director Janice Anderson, Director, 321-210-6234 or visit our website, alr359.org.

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

If you are a veteran and would like to visit the Post or would like more information about American Legion, contact Commander Michelle Aaron at 321-289-2880 for more information.

## 2025 Volunteer Opportunities Available at the UF/IFAS Brevard County Extension

Looking to make a meaningful impact or know someone eager to volunteer? Join us in the new year for exciting opportunities! Whether you're passionate about food, plants, wildlife or empowering youth through 4-H, we have a role that's perfect for you. Together, we can make a difference!

Opportunities and Deadlines:

**Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer Program** - Apply by January 13. Cost: \$100. Sign up on Eventbrite or email us, [Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu](mailto:Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu).

**Master Gardener Volunteer Program** - Apply by January 8. Cost: \$250. Sign up on Eventbrite or email us, [Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu](mailto:Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu).

**4-H Club leader volunteer opportunities** - Visit: <https://loom.ly/qb5W7o8>.

**Horseshoe Crab Watch** - Apply by January 17, Contact Holly Abeels, our Sea Grant Agent, for more details and to sign up. [habeels@ufl.edu](mailto:habeels@ufl.edu) or call 321-633-1702 x52333.

Training for most but not all will be held at the UF/IFAS Extension Office in Cocoa (3695 Lake Dr., Cocoa) There is a cost for some of these. Have questions or would like more information on any of the opportunities? Call our office at 321-633-1702, or email [Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu](mailto:Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu).

The University of Florida is committed to providing universal access to all of our events. For disability accommodations such as sign language interpreters and listening devices, please visit [Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu](mailto:Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu) or call 321-633-1702 at least 2 weeks in advance.

## Amvets Post 2415 Schedule



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

**1-8 General Membership Meeting**- 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m.

**1-9 Amvets 2415 Ladies Auxiliary**

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

**1-11 Amvets Riders Chapter 2415** General Membership Meeting - 2nd Saturday of the month at 12 noon. Pres. Steve Carman, 321-446-3394.

**1-11 Bike Night!** 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. on the 2nd Saturday of the month at the Post.

**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.



**NEW 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. The Library will be closed on January 1 for New Year and January 20 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

#### **Adult Programs:**

**Paint Party with the Friends of the Port St. John Library.** Saturday, January 4 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: Join the Friends of the Port St. John Public Library for a paint party every first Saturday of the month. During this class you will create custom wooden door hangers. Adults and teens ages 16+, \$40/per person. Payment is due at sign up. Deadline to register at the Reference Desk by Tuesday, December 31.

**Community Support Advocate:** Mondays, January 6th from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. The community support advocate provides assistance with housing, SNAP, social security, healthcare and insurance, and senior resources.

**Memory Kits.** Brevard County Libraries is now offering Memory Kits available for check out at select locations. Memory Kits are specially designed activity kits that include resources and hands-on activities for persons living with dementia, Alzheimer's and other forms of cognitive impairment. Each kit includes curated materials such as interactive books, puzzles, arts and crafts, and guided discussion prompts for caregivers.

Kits currently focus on three different themes: 1960s Nostalgia, Animals and the Great Outdoors.

**Bookworms Book Club:** Wednesday, January 15th at 6:30 p.m. Book discussion. See the reference desk for this month's selection and the next meeting date. This month the book club will be discussing Cinder by Marissa Meyer.

**Port Readers Book Club:** Wednesday, January 22 at 6:30 p.m.: This book club meets on the fourth Wednesday. January's featured book is No Country for Old Men by Cormac McCarthy. Books are available at the Reference Desk.

#### **Family Programs:**

**Escape the Blizzard Escape Room:** Come escape the blizzard at the Port St. John library Winter Escape Room! Dates are Sunday Jan. 12, 3:00-4:30, Monday Jan. 13, 4:00-5:30 and Tuesday Jan. 14, 4:00-5:30. We recommend groups of 4 people. Call ahead to reserve your 20-minute time slot.

**Family Spice Club:** January 17th 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. Family Fun for the entire family.

**Bats! by the Florida Bat Conservancy:** Wednesday, January 22nd 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Join us for a presentation courtesy of the Florida Bat Conservancy and special guest stars: real Floridian bats, about the importance of bats in the ecosystem, what this organization does for the community, and what you can do for your local bat population. All are

welcome to attend this family-friendly event!

**Game Day:** Sundays, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Join us every Sunday 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.

#### **Youth Services**

**Sensory Sundays:** Sundays, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Every Sunday children can join the library staff for quiet time with sensory bins and activities. Sensory bin activities are exciting and engaging ways for kids to explore different textures, colors, and materials. Designed for children ages 6-12, these activities help develop fine motor skills, encourage imaginative play and offer a hands-on learning experience. This event requires parent or adult supervision at all times.

**STEAM Activity Time:** Tuesdays 4:30-5:30 p.m. STEAM time at the Port St. John public library is every Tuesday afternoon in the meeting room. Come build and make things with us! We will have activities centered around science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics. This event is for ages 6-11 and requires parent or adult supervision at all times.

**Read Your Way to K: Babies:** Fridays, 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. We invite babies, young toddlers and their caregivers to join us for an hour of stories, songs, and games. As they begin the journey toward kindergarten, reading and storytelling allow babies to discover speech patterns, new words, and language. Our fun and informal program is designed to enhance those skills. Baby story time is from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. every Friday morning in the meeting room. It is for babies ages three and under and requires parent or adult supervision at all times.

**Read Your Way to K: Toddlers:** Fridays, 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. We invite babies, young toddlers, and their caregivers to join us for an hour of stories, songs, and games. As they begin the journey toward kindergarten, reading and storytelling allow babies to discover speech patterns, new words, and language. Our fun and informal program is designed to enhance those skills. Toddler Story Time at the Port St. John public library is every Friday morning for ages 3 to 5 and requires parent or adult supervision at all times.

**Teen Art League:** Saturday, January 11th and 18th 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 your personal art projects. Various art supplies will be provided by the library, but you are welcome to bring your own supplies. Staff will have optional creative projects to work on if you need some inspiration!

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