

HAPPENINGS

Weekly Edition February 14, 2025

Meanwhile, In Outer Space...

2025 is set to dazzle with a wide array of exciting and spectacular space missions. Intuitive Machines, which landed on the moon with its robotic IM-1 mission in February, 2024, will be launching IM-2. The mission is optimized for the lunar south pole — including a payload to hunt for water — and will aim to set down in an area of Shackleton Connecting Ridge.

IM-2 also carries rovers and hoppers from U.S., Japanese and Finnish partners and payloads for NASA's Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS) program. IM-3, a third Nova-C lander from Intuitive Machines, could launch later in 2025. Blue Origin could also launch its MK1 Lunar Lander pathfinder mission in 2025, while Astrobotic's Griffin Mission 1 is also slated for 2025, following its failed attempt with the Peregrine lunar lander in 2024.

Despite still being part of a test and demonstration program, Starship launches are some of the biggest, most spectacular and most popular space events these days. With SpaceX likely to gain approval for up to 25 Starship launches in 2025, the largest, most powerful rocket ever built will be a main event. The flight program could potentially even include docking two Starships in orbit to demonstrate propellant transfer, and even an uncrewed demo of the Starship Human Landing System, a lunar variant of Starship, that is to be used for NASA's Artemis 3 mission in mid-2027.

As the age of the International Space Station comes to a close, commercial space stations are set to step up. California-based startup Vast plans to launch Haven-1 on a Falcon 9 no earlier than August, with the outpost designed to host a four-person crew for up to 30 days. The private station would be a stepping stone to a larger, modular private space station named Haven-2. It promises to be a glimpse of the future of crewed spaceflight in low Earth orbit.

The Spectro-Photometer for the History of the Universe, Epoch of Reionization and Ices Explorer, (or SPHEREx), is a NASA observatory designed to perform an all-sky survey in near-infrared wavelengths to create a 3D map of over 450 million galaxies, as well as 100 million stars in our own Milky Way. The conical, car-sized spacecraft is set to launch on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California in February.

China has hit a number of major milestones in recent years; building its own space station, collecting the first samples from the far side of the moon and landing on Mars to name but a few. Tianwen 2 will visit the near-Earth asteroid Kamo'oalewa and use two different types of landing and sampling technologies. It will then drop off a return capsule to Earth in 2026 before the main spacecraft heads off on an extended journey to study a main-belt comet. The mission could determine if the asteroid is actually a piece of the moon blasted off by a meteor impact and open up possibilities for future Chinese sample-return missions to objects in deep space.

India is bidding to join Russia (and the former Soviet Union), the United States and China as having independent human spaceflight capabilities, with its Gaganyaan program. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is planning a first crewed flight in 2026, but 2025 will see crucial test flights as part of this road map. These will include the G1 uncrewed test flight carrying a humanoid robot named Vyomitra (Sanskrit for "space friend").

Along with all of these exciting missions scheduled to launch in 2025, there will also be a number of flybys of planetary bodies by ongoing missions, including BepiColombo (Mercury), Europa Clipper and Hera (Mars), Lucy (asteroid 52246 Donaldjohanson) and JUICE (Venus), providing chances to snap spectacular images and test out science instruments.

- Thanx to Andrew Jones

George the Antique Nomad Is Coming To Titusville

Curious how much that family heirloom is worth? Or do you just want to meet George Higby, Certified Appraiser and YouTube personality George the Antique Nomad?

The Dusty Rose Antique Mall, located at 1101 S. Washington Ave., Titusville, will be hosting an appraisal fair featuring George on Saturday, February 22. Bring the item to be appraised on the 22nd from 1-5 p.m. There is a limit of one item per person with a nominal \$5 fee.

You can also spend some time browsing through the many independent stores, artists and vendors on display. For more information, call Dusty Rose Antique Mall at 321-567-4580.

Parrish Healthcare and Community Partners Participate in National Point in Time Count Uniting to Count and Support Unsheltered Homeless Persons in North Brevard



Care Partners (employees, physicians and volunteers) from Parrish Healthcare assist Under the Bridge Ministries with serving food to our unsheltered community at Sand Point Park on Monday, January 27.

Parrish Healthcare collaborated with the Brevard Homeless Coalition, North Brevard Charities, LifePointe Ministries and Under the Bridge Ministries to help coordinate and participate in the annual Point in Time (PIT) Count. This is part of a national annual initiative, held during the last full week in January, to gain a snapshot of homelessness and service gaps in communities across America.

In North Brevard, dozens of volunteers from the four organizations, and several other supporting local organizations, dedicated January 23-29, 2025, to this endeavor to get as accurate a count as possible. Over the course of the week-long PIT initiative:

- Volunteers conducted walking surveys in the community, canvassing North Brevard to conduct a count;
- LifePointe Ministries hosted a “Sleep Easy” event in which they opened their cold night shelter, regardless of the temperature, for three nights (Jan. 23-25) and provided all attendees with breakfast lunch and dinner each day, a safe place to sleep and access to essential support services;
- North Brevard Charities played a key role in volunteer coordination and logistical support;
- Parrish Healthcare participated in the planning and coordination of the events as well as having prepared and served dinner during the Under the Bridge Ministries Monday night (Jan. 27) services.
- Jess Parrish Medical Foundation donated gift cards totaling \$2,000. The gift cards were given out each night of the LifePointe Ministries Sleep Easy event and at Under the Bridge Ministries’ Monday night dinner and service.
- Rolle Insurance assisted individuals with food stamp applications, insurance applications and phone/internet services.
- Space Coast Health Centers conducted medical screenings and provided on-site mental health support, care coordinators, SOAR specialists and haircuts.

- Competent Operational Testing Group (COTG) 2021 administered free flu shots and provided additional gift cards.

- Defeat Diabetes Foundation distributed free glucose meters and supplies to diabetic individuals and offered educational resources.

- Recovery Connections of Central Florida & National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Brevard provided peer support and mental health resources throughout the event.

- Circles of Care and its Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) team provided information and support.

- Curative Care provided free HIV and Hepatitis C testing as well as bags of hygiene products.

“Accurately counting our unsheltered population is essential to understanding the full scope of the issue and ensuring that resources are allocated where they are needed most,” said Lara Chicone, Behavioral Health Navigator at Parrish Healthcare. “Without precise data, we risk underestimating the need for housing, healthcare and support services, which will leave vulnerable individuals without the help they need.”

“We understand first-hand the needs of our community and have made addressing those needs through community partnerships like this one our mission for more than 60 years serving as North Brevard’s public, community health system,” said George Mikitarian, President and CEO of Parrish Healthcare. “By conducting a triennial community health needs assessment and working together with our community partners on initiatives like the Point in Time Count, we are making a real impact, bringing immediate relief to those in need, while advocating for lasting solutions.”

To learn more about Parrish Healthcare’s outreach initiatives and community impact, please visit parrishhealthcare.com/communitybenefit.



Care Partners (employees, physicians and volunteers) from Parrish Healthcare assist LifePointe Ministries with serving food to our unsheltered community on Thursday, January 23.



Wine & Chocolate

Love is in the air, and Downtown Art Gallery invites you to a romantic Valentine's evening filled with art, wine & chocolate! Friday, February 14 from 5 to 8 p.m. at 400 Orange St., Titusville. Join us for a night designed to tantalize your senses in a romantic gallery setting. Stroll through an array of art exhibits as you sip on fine wines and savor decadent chocolate pairings.

Celebrate Valentine's Day at Downtown Art Gallery with "Wine & Chocolate." Whether you're planning a date night, celebrating with friends, or enjoying a self-love evening, this event promises an atmosphere of elegance and charm, perfect for making Valentine's Day truly special. This is a free event. You must be 21 to enjoy wine pairings. Non-alcohol drinks will be available.

Don't miss this chance to connect with art lovers and celebrate love in all its forms.

For questions or additional information, please contact Heidi Thamert at the Downtown Art Gallery. 321-268-0122.

Free Pet Adoptions

Brevard County Animal Services is offering free adoptions on dogs and cats for the month of love in February. The offer includes spay/neuter, a microchip, current vaccinations, free medical insurance through Trupanion and a county tag (with an approved application). South Animal Care Center located at 5100 West Eau Gallie Blvd. in Melbourne.

As a reminder, the Brevard County Sheriff's Office South Animal Care Center also offers one (1) hour obedience class each Saturday starting at 9:30 a.m. The class focuses on basic obedience and solving minor behavior issues for your furry friend. The class is open to anyone that has adopted a dog from BCSO Animal Services, as well as community members that have made an appointment to surrender a dog to their shelter.

Brevard Humane Society Hosts "Mardi Gras Paws in the Park" to Benefit Homeless Animals

The Brevard Humane Society, a no-kill shelter dedicated to finding loving homes for homeless animals, is thrilled to announce its upcoming event, "Mardi Gras Paws in the Park," taking place from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on February 23, 2025 at Riverfront Park in Cocoa Village, 401 Riveredge Blvd., Cocoa.

This family-friendly event, inspired by the festive spirit of Mardi Gras, promises a day full of fun, entertainment and activities for animal lovers and their furry companions. The event will feature a lure course, food trucks, pet contests, a silent auction, local vendors, a pet parade, a pet psychic and live music in the spirit of Mardi Gras celebration.

The Mardi Gras-themed event will raise crucial funds to support the Brevard Humane Society's mission of rescuing and rehoming animals in need. All proceeds from the event will directly benefit the organization, helping them continue to provide shelter, medical care and adoption services to homeless animals.

Guests can look forward to a vibrant atmosphere complete with pet/companion look alike, best pet trick, best pet costume and King & Queen of the Park pet contests, food and entertainment. Whether you're interested in watching the adorable pet parade, testing your pup's agility on the lure course, or exploring the various vendor booths, there will be something for everyone to enjoy. Attendees can also bid on unique items in the silent auction, interact with the pet psychic for a fun and lighthearted experience, and enjoy the day with your pet.

For more information on the event, including vendor opportunities, sponsorships and ticket details, visit www.brevardhumanesociety.org.

All proceeds from the event will support the Brevard Humane Society's efforts to find loving homes for homeless pets in the community.

"We are so excited to bring the community together for a fun and meaningful event," said Theresa Clifton, Executive Director of the Brevard Humane Society. "Mardi Gras Paws in the Park is not only a celebration of animals but a way to raise essential funds for our ongoing mission to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome pets in need. We hope to see everyone there to support this wonderful cause as all our efforts are done at not cost to the tax paying community."

I just got a full tank of gas for \$22.

Granted, it was for my lawn mower, but I'm trying to stay positive.



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.

Family Programs:

Family Spice Club: Friday, February 21st 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. Family Fun for the entire family.

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.

Haiku Origami Birds--February is National Haiku Writing Month. Come in and pick up a haiku writing/bird origami kit. Write a haiku on the back of the origami bird and bring one back into the library for display. Several will be chosen for a Port St. John Public Library haiku chapbook.

Adult Programs:

Community Advocate: Monday, February 17 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.

Port Readers Book Club: Wednesday, February 26 at 6:30 p.m. February's title is available at the reference desk. We will be reading "Magpie Murders" by Anthony Horowitz.

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.

Youth Services

STEAM Activity 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.

2/4— Sphero Car Robot Maze

2/11— Kinetic Sand

2/18— Solar-Powered Robots

2/25— Lego Building Contest: Forts and Castles

Read Your Way to K: Babies: Fridays, 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. 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: Toddlers: 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.

Teen Art League: Saturday, February 15th 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!

2/15—**God's Eye Yarn Weaving**

2/16—**Valentine's love bug craft and sensory bins** with toilet paper rolls, tissue paper and cotton balls.

2/23—**Cranberry frozen heart activity** and sensory bins with cranberries, ice and salt.

Be a Part of Something Special. Be a Parrish Care Partner!

Open interviews - every Tuesday, 9 a.m.-noon

Full Time, Per Diem or Part Time jobs available!

- Registered Nurses
- RN Clinical Coordinators
- RN Charge Nurses
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Medical Assistant
- Emergency Medicine Technologist
- Respiratory Technologists
- CT Technologists
- EKG Technologists
- Quality Improvement
- MRI Technologists
- Radiology Technologist
- Phlebotomist
- Identity Access Management Analyst
- Paramedic
- Sterile Processing Technician
- Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist
- Athletic Trainer

Main Hospital: 951 N. Washington Avenue, Titusville
Career Site: www.Parrishhealthcare.com/careers

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is sponsored by
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