

HAPPENINGS

ISSUE NO. 371

MAY 2021

SERVING PORT ST. JOHN & CANAVERAL GROVES



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

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

Happy Mother's Day to All Moms!

Fireworks In Port St. John

Our Independence Day celebration and fireworks show is back and will be held on Saturday, July 3rd at Fay Lake Wilderness Park at the west end of Fay Blvd. We just got the approval, so planning is in high gear. More to come next month.

This year's event will have a full day with food and cold drinks available to purchase, and a terrific slate of games, live entertainment, demonstrations, live music and we're hoping to have the Patriotic Pooch Parade again leading up to the fireworks show at dark (usually about 9:30). Weather conditions may cause the fireworks to be a little early to avoid rain.

No fireworks or alcohol are allowed on the park property. You are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs to sit on, insect repellent and sun block. It's Florida in July!

Vendor space is still available. Email Coastcoach@aol.com. For more information on Thunder Over the Indian River, visit www.portstjohncommunityfoundation.com for the

entire entertainment schedule.

We need a new name this year since we're not over the Indian River. Please send your suggestions to happenings1@att.net. Remember we're in a wilderness park, so it's best not to use the words "fire" or "burn."

So far we have Light Up PSJ and Big Badda Boom. Help!

PSJ Housewives Softball League

The Port St. John Housewives Softball League is gearing up for another fun season!



Don't let the name fool you...women of all playing abilities are invited to join our league.

As of July 1st, you must be 19 years of age or older. **Sign-ups will be on Saturdays and Sundays, May 15th, 16th, 22nd and 23rd from 10:00AM to 2:00PM, at Fay Park, east parking lot.** Cost is \$50, which includes approximately 20 softball games, team shirt, and end of year party and awards.

The season starts in July and continues through mid-October. Games are on Tuesday and Thursday nights at Fay Park. This is a great way to make friends and get some exercise. You do not have to live in PSJ to join our league.

We are also accepting applications for sponsors and experienced umpires.

For more information, call: Shannon Freeland, President, at 321-543-5175; Kim Myrick, Vice-President, at 321-536-1372; Angie Burris, Treasurer, at 321-480-1052; or Joan Sottoriva, Secretary, at 321-537-9605. You can also find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/PSJHSL.

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Parrish Health & Fitness Center Will Become An Orthopedic and Sports Performance Center of Excellence

Parrish Healthcare today announces its plan to convert Parrish Health & Fitness Center, located at 2210 Colonial Drive (Hwy. 50), into an orthopedic and sports performance center of excellence. The plan includes moving the fitness center operations to a new location inside the Cross Roads Market Place (Target) Shopping Plaza.

At the height of the COVID-19 emergency, Parrish Healthcare closed its Parrish Health & Fitness Center to adhere to public health and safety guidelines. The center remains closed as a gym facility due to the realities of its design and how combatting viruses such as COVID-19 require different environments.

“With the necessity to shut down fitness center operations and the prevailing uncertainty about when the center could safely re-open, it offered Parrish Healthcare leaders the time and opportunity to accelerate our plans to grow and enhance access to quality orthopedic and sports medicine programs and services, while also

sustaining our commitment to wellness,” said Natalie Sellers, Parrish Healthcare spokesperson.

“Today, we are pleased to announce that we will convert the existing Parrish Health & Fitness Center into a state-of-the-art orthopedic and sports performance center of excellence featuring orthopedic medical specialists, sports medicine specialists, physical therapy, rehabilitation, and science-based sports performance training and services. The conversion will take place over the next several months and slated to open by the fall. In the meantime, the center will continue to be used as PMC’s COVID-19 vaccination clinic throughout the summer,” Sellers said. Additional operational details are not yet available.

As development continues on the planned orthopedic and sports performance center of excellence, Parrish Healthcare plans to open a new Parrish Health & Fitness Center at the Cross Roads Market Place (Target) Shopping plaza by

June. The new 5,500-square-foot fitness center will operate seven days- a-week from 6 am to 10 pm and will feature 24 individual exercise stations equipped with cardio and weight training equipment. A web-based scheduling system will be available to allow individuals to self-schedule 45-minute blocks of time per individual station. Monthly membership (\$35/month) and daily (\$10/day) use options will be available. Build out of the new fitness center is scheduled to begin late April.

“We will design and set up the new fitness center location to operate using the very latest infection prevention best-practices to provide a safe workout environment for everyone and look forward to welcoming former and new members to the new fitness center site,” said Sellers.

For additional information about Parrish Health & Fitness Center at Cross Roads Market Place, visit parrishhealthcare.com/crossroad-shealthfitness.

Randy Rodriguez - Realtor

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Office: 321-799-0221

The 10 Commandments of Buying A Home

1. Thou shalt not change jobs, become self-employed or quit your job.
2. Thou shalt not buy a car, truck or van (or you may be living in it).
3. Thou shalt not use credit cards excessively or let current accounts fall behind.
4. Thou shalt not spend money you have set aside for closing.
5. Thou shalt not omit debts or liabilities from your loan application.
6. Thou shalt not buy furniture.
7. Thou shalt not originate any inquiries into your credit.
8. Thou shalt not make large deposits without checking with your loan officer.
9. Thou shalt not change bank accounts.
10. Thou shalt not co-sign a loan for anyone.

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PSJ Community Center Schedule - May, 2021

The center is open Mondays–Thursdays from 10 AM to 7 PM, Fridays from 9 AM to 6 PM, Saturdays 10 AM-2 PM Schedule is subject to change. For latest information or to register, call 633-1904.

Mondays

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
 Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
 Billiards, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
 Cooking Around the World, 12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
 ·for age 6 years and up, May 24th
 Community Cares Aftercare, 2:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.
 Zumba (adult class with Jackie), 5:30 – 6 :30 p.m.

Tuesdays

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Community Cares Aftercare, 2:30-6 p.m.
 Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
 Billiards, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Wednesdays

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Billiards, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Community Cares Aftercare, 2:30-6 p.m.

Thursdays

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m.- 7 p.m.
 Game Room/Computers, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Billiards, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Community Cares Aftercare, 2:30-6 p.m.

Fridays

Outside Basketball, 9 a.m.- 6 p.m.
 Game Room/Computers, 9 a.m.- 6 p.m.
 Billiards, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
 Petit Chef, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
 ·for Preschool ages, 3- 5, May 21st
 Community Cares Aftercare, 1:30-6 p.m.

Saturdays

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m - 2 p.m.
 Game Room/Computer, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

About Zumba Classes With Jackie - A total workout, combining all elements of fitness - cardio, muscle conditioning, balance and flexibility, boosted energy and a serious dose of awesome each time you leave class.

Details about my class - We social distance with flair! * Bring your water bottle* Bring your towel* Bring a buddy* Only \$5 for an hour of fun while you work out and torch the calories!
 ~ Jackie Lewis

About Kel's Kitchen - The "Cooking Around the World" program provides hands-on cooking classes for children in home and virtual school (6 years and up). **An adult must attend with the child/children.** Classes are scheduled Monday, May 24th. Each class focuses on a different world cuisine.

We will be cooking lunch for ourselves. Every session teaches the concept of food safety, kitchen organization and cooking skills. Cost is \$18.00 per class for child/adult pair. Register at www.floridakelkitchen.com. Call Chef Kelly for more information at (321) 506-1682.

The "Petit Chef" program provides hands-on culinary lessons for preschoolers (3 – 5 years old). **An adult must attend with the child/children.** Lessons are scheduled Friday, May 21st.

We will be "digging in" to a simple, tactile cooking experience each week and Chef Kelly will have a short read to share relating to the subject. Cost is \$12.00 per child/adult pair. Register at www.floridakelkitchen.com. Call Chef Kelly for more information (321) 506-1682.

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Good Day! by Maureen Rupe Mobile Home Development South of Port St. John Decided

I first brought this up in the February Happenings. On January 6, 2021, it was planned for the Port St. John Dependent Special District Board to hear a request for: 5971 Cedar Lake Drive Revocable Land Trust and U.S. Highway No. 1 Commercial Land Trust (Kim Rezanka) requests a change of classification from RU-1-11, TR-2, and BU-1, with a BDP, to TR-1 with a BDP limited to 200 units. (20Z00036) (Tax Accounts 2310971, 2310861, and 2316173) (District 1). TR-1 means the zoning is for Mobile Homes, and BDP is the acronym for Binding Development Plan.

The property is bordered on the north by Vineland St., Winn Dixie Blvd. on northeast side, the railroad tracks on the entire west border, Cedar Lake Drive on the south, and FPL on the east, as well as the trailer park along Clearlake Drive on the east, just south of the Winn Dixie Shopping Center.

This meeting was scheduled for January 6, 2021 at the PSJ Library on Carole Ave. There

were too many people for the size of the room. The meeting was rescheduled for February 10, and that was the first time we didn't have a quorum for years, largely due to the county's unannounced return to in-person only attendance rather than remote attendance (pandemic social distancing protocol), but then the Port St. John Dependent Special District Board heard the rezoning request on March 3, 2021, 6 pm at the County Commissioners Chambers in Viera.

As a member of this recommending board, I had reservations, which were confirmed when I saw how many neighbors of this property had come to the meeting to oppose the rezone. The Port St. John Dependent Special District Board unanimously recommended denying the request.

On March 8th, the rezoning request went before the County's Planning and Zoning Board, who unanimously approved the rezoning. The underlying reason the PSJ Homeowner's Association, in the late 1990's, asked for its own board made up of people living in Port St. John was so we would have people familiar with our problems to have a say in our issues and quality of life.

On March 23rd, the Brevard County Commission gave their verdict on this rezone/change of the Binding Development Plan. The applicant and attorney had compromised some; it had been revised on March 22nd, a day before the hearing.

The BDP did change units to 150 mobile homes, still on the Atlantic Ridge 0.4 miles from the Indian River Lagoon. The attorney for the applicant stated there would be a 15-foot buffer limit across to Cedar Drive and an opaque 6-foot fence adjacent to anyone's property. The mobile homes would be 100 mph wind resistance in case of hurricanes. The applicant had arranged with City of Cocoa to supply sewer service to the site, and this was all included in the new Binding Development Plan. The Brevard County Commission unanimously approved the changes. My concerns:

1. The Binding Development Plan: This means nothing but a way a developer uses to get their plans passed at city or county level by making those opposed to development think the rules they decide at that time is permanent. What does Binding mean? Limits and holds someone to an agreement. In business or real estate, it means a

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legal obligation to an agreement. It means basically nothing in Building & Development, as it just says it's binding until it's changed. And it can be changed every year, so I feel it's more of a scam than what should be considered binding. Think how many residents next to a development are satisfied when they say a Binding Development Plan is in place? The rules on a Binding Development Plan need to be revised by both the state and our local governments.

2. A developer can acquire the services of a Private Environmental Specialist to perform an assessment of the developer's site. The developer doesn't have to give that evidence to the county or board. If the developer uses the report as evidence to make statements, such as there are no scrub jays on a property, they should have to submit the findings. Otherwise, aren't these statements

hearsay? They say there are no Scrub Jays on the property when all the neighbors said they saw them daily. The attorney also stated to the PSJ Board that the sick Gopher Tortoises would be buried, which is illegal. Ms. Razanka had to retract this statement at the County's Planning & Zoning meeting, saying the rule was changed by the state in 2007!

The PSJ Board had to make a decision on her statements. How can an attorney make untrue statements when it is imperative that the facts are told? Especially since the PSJ Special District and the County Planning & Zoning Boards are both Quasi-Judicial. Quasi-Judicial means the board, in a limited capacity, has been given power to conduct fact findings like a court of law. This allows the applicant's representative to perform cross examination. In fact, a resident was cross-

examined on a concern he had on his property's value being diminished with mobile homes next to his \$350,000 home. The attorney's answer was that it was purely speculative, and no proof exists that his home would be devalued.

- <https://brevardfl.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Save The Lagoon Self Imposed Tax

Everyone knows that we have a ½ cent self-imposed tax to repair the Indian River Lagoon that was voted in in 2016. There are a few people that do not know where we are spending the funds and wonder why the Indian River Lagoon seems to be getting worse, not better.

Brevard County has a Save Our Indian River Lagoon home page:

<http://www.brevardfl.gov/SaveOurLagoon/Home> that explains in detail how, "It is estimated

cont., next page



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Good Day!, cont.

that the plan will bring in up to \$489 million in revenue over 10 years to fund projects that will reduce or remove about 1.3 million pounds of excess nitrogen and 105 thousand pounds of phosphorus annually from the Indian River Lagoon.” The site also has a Project Plan that is updated annually, maps of where the projects are taking place and explains the role of the Citizen’s Oversight Committee that annually evaluates alternative proposed projects received from the community and recommend adjustments to the Project Plan, which is approved by the Brevard County Commission.

There is also a Save Our Lagoon Dashboard that shows three measurements. First, under funding, it shows the “Current Trust Funds Collected totals 185.7 million dollars and Current Trust Funds Spent totals 23.2 million dollars of a projected 489 million dollars over 10 years.”

Secondly, it states, “Current Projects Contracted totals 95 and Current Projects Finished totals 39 out of 313 total projects and 142 original projects.”

Thirdly, it states “Current Nitrogen Removed or Prevented totals 67,811 pounds of a projected total of 1,272,347 pounds over 10 years. Current Phosphorous Removed or Prevented totals 5,350 pounds of a projected total of 105,125 pounds over 10 years.”

The Project Plan goes into great detail in spelling out the impact on the lagoon of all the projects. Inside the plan it states, “The economic value of the lagoon system was evaluated during development of this plan. It was estimated that at

least a total present value of \$6 billion is tied to restoration of the Indian River Lagoon (IRL). There is approximately \$2 billion in benefits from restoration and an estimated \$4 billion in damages if the IRL is not brought back to health during the next decade.

If viewing this Project Plan purely as a financial investment that pays the \$2 billion in benefits alone, (i.e., not counting the avoidance of the \$4 billion loss), the projected pretax internal rate of return is 10%, if the plan takes 10 years to implement.”

There is only one place in the Project Plan that addresses the two 800-pound gorillas; one is the continual approval of higher density development continuing around the lagoon. The Project Plan, under a second risk assessment of the projects, states the following, “...However, the scientists continued to voice concern about the restoration of the IRL in the absence of regulatory reform needed to prevent new development from adding more septic system and stormwater pollution to the lagoon. Therefore, updated regulations are needed as a complement to this plan to ensure timely and sustained success in restoring health to the IRL.”

The second 800-pound gorilla is bio-solids. Even though there is much discussion within the Project Plan to help the county and cities repair and improve their sewer infrastructure and converting septic to sewer close to the IRL, it doesn’t mention where the solid waste from sewers are allowed to be spread around the lagoon or the other major water body beside Brevard County, which is the St. John’s River.

Thank You Brevard Healthcare Super Heroes



In May, many of our community healthcare partners celebrate national recognition weeks:

National Nurses Week (May 6-12) • National Hospital Week (May 6-12)

National Nursing Home Week (May 13-19) • Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week (May 20-26)

St. Francis Reflections Lifestage Care would like to express our sincere gratitude to these Healthcare Super Heroes and all those who dedicate their life’s work to the art and science of medicine in service to others.

Your heroism and dedication are tremendous inspirations and powerful forces of good in our midst!

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In a roundabout way, the Project Plan does address both 800-pound gorillas when it talks about projects concerning stormwater runoff.

I'm not saying the Project Plan is not a good plan. It goes into much detail on, "...a multi-pronged approach to reduce pollutant and nutrient inputs to the lagoon, remove the accumulation of muck from the lagoon bottom, and restore water-filtering oysters and related lagoon ecosystem services.

This plan also recommends funding for project monitoring, needed for accountability and to respond to changing conditions and opportunities. Response funds will be used to track progress, measure cost effectiveness, and report on performance."

Unfortunately, our state and local governments are not helping outside of this 1/2 cent sales tax and projects that try to convince the layperson they are trying to be proper guardians. All seem to be more worried about increasing our tax base, and not how it affects our quality of life. All say they are worried about the environment, but at the same time have been approving anything that increases development density and voting against anything that hinders development. If they were worried, why were we still dumping raw sewage into the Indian River Lagoon until 1996?

Even now, the development attitude hasn't changed. There is so much development going on in Brevard County, and no one is even looking at whether we will ever clean up the Indian River Lagoon, or are we just keeping up with the damage caused by the increased development?

I have a t-shirt that I have had for 30 years and have worn to county meetings that says, "Smart Quality Growth in Brevard." Still Waiting!!! Changes that could have been made like

LID – Low Impact Development have not been implemented.

Reference:

<http://www.brevardfl.gov/SaveOurLagoon/Home>

Phosphate Mining Is A Homegrown Looming Disaster

I've written about Phosphate mines in the past, but I had never realized how much of a problem they pose until I started researching. Piney Point is just the latest in a long line of disasters that will probably happen again, and if we do not find a better way of producing phosphate for fertilizer and dog food, will probably destroy our environment or cost us more than the product is worth.

Florida supplies 25% of the world's phosphate (the US ranks third in the world). Florida supplies 80% of all phosphate that is used here in the U.S. Most of that goes into fertilizer. In order to produce the phosphate, the ore is strip mined from 60 – 80 feet below the surface, then sulfuric acid dissolves it into a "slurry." The phosphate is separated from the slurry, leaving behind phosphogypsum. For every ton of the phosphoric acid produced for fertilizer, there is five tons of this phosphogypsum waste that is left to damage the environment.

Since phosphogypsum is radioactive, the phosphogypsum slurry goes into phosphogypsum stacks. The water pools on the top and solids settle to the bottom and are used to form the containment walls. These "stacks" grow into 200-foot mountains and can be as wide as 600 football fields. There are 26 phosphogypsum stacks across Florida.

As most of Florida is built on porous rock, it is susceptible to sinkholes. I wrote about the

cont., next page

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Wednesday: 6:00 PM Eucharist

Friday: 6:00 PM Evening prayer

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Good Day!, cont.

one in 2016 that sent 215 million gallons of contaminated water and waste into a major drinking water aquifer, and before that in 1994 there was a sinkhole at another phosphogypsum stack. In 1997 a phosphogypsum stack collapsed where 50 million gallons of contaminated water went into the Alafia River. Piney Point had a previous leak in 2011, where it spilled 170 million gallons of wastewater.

The Florida legislature has proposed spending \$200 million to clean up and close the Piney Point phosphogypsum stack. Unfortunately, Manatee County Commission Chair Vanessa Baugh announced their county board of commissioners authorized the use of a deep injection well to store the remaining wastewater from Piney Point into the brackish area of the Florida Aquifer once it's been treated. What guarantees this contaminated water will not move?

Florida has issues. What to do with the more than 1 billion tons of radioactive phosphogypsum waste? Can we really reclaim the land after the mining industry finishes with it? How do we protect Floridians from spills into our surface waters, ground water and our aquifer? If we cannot stop phosphate mining, can we at least find the technology to produce phosphate without so much destruction?

Reference:

<https://www.theverge.com/22371931/fertilizer-toxic-legacy-florida-wastewater-disaster-piney-point-phosphate>

Cheerio,

~ Maureen Rupe

rupe32927@earthlink.net

Parks & Recreation Meeting

The North Brevard Commission on Parks



and Recreation will hold its next monthly meeting on Thursday, May 13th, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held in the Brevard Room at 518 South Palm Avenue in Titusville. The public is invited to attend. The Brevard Room is located in a building on the north side of the parking lot behind the Brevard County Government Center-North.

For questions, call Jeff Davis at 321-264-5105.



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Proceeds to benefit Rescue Rebels by Cash 4 Canines Inc.

<http://www.rescuerebels.org/>

Rescue Rebels' mission is to provide a better life and second chance for companion animals. Dedicated and devoted to saving dogs that are left abandoned in shelters, surrendered by their owners, and those that are abused and neglected, Rescue Rebels rescues them, gives them the care they need, and finds them loving forever homes.

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, call: (321) 305-4584.

You are invited to the 14th Bark Brew Fest presented by Tails at the Barkery and the Dirty Oar Beer Company on Saturday, May 15th at the Dirty Oar Beer Company from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Cocoa Village.

Play Bingo to win a fabulous Prize! Bring your canine companion, sip your favorite libation, enjoy delicious food from Burger Rob's Food Truck, and join us for an evening of fun, including raffle baskets and a 50/50 drawing.

All proceeds to benefit Rescue Rebels by Cash 4 Canines, Inc., an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide a better life and second chance for companion animals. Dedicated and devoted to saving dogs that are left abandoned in shelters, surrendered by their owners, and those that are abused and neglected, Rescue Rebels rescues them, gives them the care they need, and finds them loving forever homes.

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.

We hope you can join us!

Rescue Rebels, www.rescuerebels.org/
Pam Shaia at Tails at the Barkery, (321) 305-4584
Dirty Oar Beer Company, (321) 301-4306

Avoid Contractor Fraud

Many people are taken advantage of by unscrupulous contractors. Lately the largest scam group is roofing. How does it work?

You are approached at home (solicited) by a contractor who offers you payment or a gift card to conduct a free inspection of your roof. Upon completing the inspection, the contractor advises you of damage to your roof. You have never noticed the damage but you trust the contractor as a professional.

The contractor states that your roof is badly damaged and that you need a new roof. He states that your insurance company will cover the cost and there is no expense to you. He promises to communicate directly with your insurance company and handle the claim on your behalf. The contractor asks you to electronically sign a document on a tablet authorizing the work on your roof. The contractor scrolls to the signature area of the document and you sign.

Unbeknownst to you, you do not need a roof replacement; however, you have signed an Assignment of Benefits, a legal contract that transfers your insurance rights to the contractor. This authority allows the contractor to file an insurance claim on your behalf, receive direct payment of your insurance payouts, file a lawsuit against the insurance company and more.

Because you signed the form electronically, you do not have a copy and do not know exactly what you've signed. The contractor may charge the insurance company an unnecessary or inflated amount for the roof.

The contractor may never complete the work but is still able to be paid by the insurance company due to the requirement included on

the contract you signed. The contract may also limit you from communicating directly with your insurance company, which means if you have questions about the insurance claim, you will not be able to ask the insurance company.

Oftentimes, these fraudulent, possibly unlicensed contractors target neighborhoods and take advantage of multiple homeowners. The contractor may complete the roof of one home to use as an example or proof to other homeowners.

If a roofing contractor - or any other contractor - comes to your home telling you of a problem and promising to take care of it for free, you should be suspicious. Call a local professional who is known and has a good reputation in the area. Don't be dazzled by flyers with great claims brought by the contractor.

You can also check with the Better Business Bureau and you can contact the Office of the Insurance Consumer Advocate, (850) 413-5923 or email YourFLVoice@MyFloridaCFO.com.

Be safe out there.

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE)

NARFE Apollo Chapter 1137 meets monthly on the second Monday of each month at Kay's BBQ Restaurant, SR 520 in Cocoa. You are invited to join us for lunch at 11:30 and an interesting speaker at 12:15.

Our next meeting will be May 10th. Our speaker will be Marge Clericuzio who will bring us up to date on the latest changes to filing our income taxes. No reservations required.

Our website address is www.NARFE.org/Chapter1137.

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On the Road With Rose

Wickham Park

2500 Parkway Drive, Melbourne

321-255-4307

<https://www.brevardfl.gov/ParksRecreation>

I'm sure most everyone reading this has been affected in one way or another by this widespread illness. Please just know prayers and good wishes are being sent your way - along with the prayers that these terrible times will be in our rear-view mirror very soon and the pain will be fading from our collective memories. We can breathe a sigh of relief and resume life as close to normal as possible.

With winter over and hurricane season not yet looming, these days are the perfect time to get out of the house, take in the fresh air and find some family fun. There are so many beautiful places to visit in our little piece of paradise, boredom should never raise its ugly head.

It's a bit of a drive to Wickham Park in

Melbourne, but very much worth the effort. Calling or visiting the website is the best way to check what's going on the day you want to visit as there is an event of one kind or another almost every weekend. Along with shows and festivals of every kind from art/craft and car shows to events from Greek dancing to the moving Viet Nam wall with memorials to 9-11 and other 'conflicts,' there is something for everyone large and small.

The Wickham Park Community Center and Senior Center is located inside the park. Going through the main entrance, you are facing the larger of the almost natural lakes, usually occupied by ducks and geese. Swimming is not allowed this year, but hopefully sometime soon there will once again be splashing, laughter and squealing. There are also several smaller lakes where I heard the fishing is almost as good as the afternoon spent holding a pole while swishing your feet in the water. Please remember you are in Florida and so are alligators. Keep a good eye out while swishing, don't allow pets or small children to wade in the shallow water alone and never feed alligators

Besides water fun, there are so many amenities you'll have to visit several times to check them all out. There is a five-mile trail for walking, cycling or jogging, two large fields for soccer, football, sack races and anything the exercise oriented

may come up with.

Those more sedentary can enjoy open and target archery, you can rent/borrow horseshoes and volleyballs, spend an afternoon making memories with the family playing disc golf and more.

I recently saw some beautiful horses at the stables and riding rings, but I was not able to contact anyone for information on horseback riding this year. I have included Wickham Park's phone number if you're interested.

All the many picnic pavilions have BBQ pits and the bathrooms throughout the park are cleaned regularly. The man-made log playground was over-run by young people running and laughing. Picnic tables allow for parents or Grammys to enjoy the festivities from the sidelines and theres a bathroom close by.

A large off-leash dog park is divided into small dog and large dog areas with a washing station to cool fur-babies off after a romp with friends.

The whole park is heavily wooded with pine, oak, palm and many other native trees hosting all manner of feathered and furred friends easily seen during a quiet walk on one of the many pathways.

One hundred and thirty three sites offer the best in RV and tent camping, most of which are shaded with water and electric. Laundry facilities, shower rooms and large gathering areas make this campground one of the very best. Boy and girl scouts have learned about fire-building, tent building and S'more perfection for years.

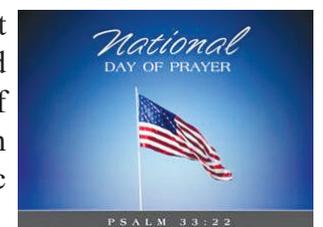
One warning...several years ago while enjoying a leisurly afternoon wandering the woods with several of my children, we were joined by a couple of lovely children bemoaning the fact they had not been able to find a home for the last puppy in their dog's litter.

National Day of Prayer

National Day of Prayer is on Wednesday, May 6, 6:30 p.m. at Nicol Park on US1.

This is a joint effort with the First United Methodist Church of PSJ, First Baptist Church of PSJ and Frontenac Baptist.

Please come pray with everyone. Please follow CDC COVID safety measures recommendations.




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Monthly Tax Update

Every taxpayer needs to be aware on ways to pay if you find you owe taxes or need to make estimated tax payments. Therefore, it may be of interest to know the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) offers several payment options. Here are some key points to keep in mind.

- Never send cash! Electronic payment options are the quickest and easiest way to pay your tax. Check out IRS Direct Pay or EFTPS to pay directly from your bank account at www.irs.gov. It's secure and free. You'll get instant confirmation your payment has been submitted. You can pay taxes electronically 24/7. Just click on the payments tab near the top left on the home page.

- If you filed an extension, you may be able to pay through your tax software when you file the return.

- Another method is to choose the option to pay with a credit or debit card. This is also accomplished by going to the irs.gov website and be advised that the company processing your payment will charge a processing fee.

- You may enroll in the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS). The EFTPS method permits you to pay your federal taxes electronically and remembers all of your pertinent information. You have a choice to pay using the Internet, or by phone using the EFTPS Voice Response System.

- If you can't pay electronically, you can still pay by a personal check, cashier's check or money order. Make it payable to "United States Treasury." Be sure your name, address and daytime phone number appears on the front of your payment. Also, write the tax year, Form 1040, and your Social Security number in the memo section of the check and you'll use the social security number shown first if it's a joint return payment. You will also send a completed Form 1040-V payment voucher in the envelope with your payment or mail it with your tax return to the IRS. Make sure you send them to the correct address listed in the instructions for the Form 1040-V. This will help the IRS process your payment and post it to your account correctly. You can get the form on IRS.gov/forms at any time.

If you can't pay your tax in full, the IRS

urges you to still file your tax return on time. You should pay as much as you can with your tax return. This will help keep your penalty and interest costs down.

If the amount you owe is more than you can pay in full, then establish an installment agreement which will allow you to pay the balance over time. There will be a processing fee charged by the IRS when you establish this arrangement. There is an Online Payment Agreement tool on IRS.gov that makes it a real easy way to apply if the amount due is under \$50,000.

Finally, if the amount is more than you can handle and you know there isn't any way that you'll ever pay it off, you may feel enticed to call one of the scammer advertising entities that will charge you unbelievable fees and never settle the debt. I would advise you to determine if an Offer in Compromise is possible first. You can go to the website "http://irs.treasury.gov/oic_pre_qualifier/" to determine if an Offer In Compromise is possible. If you find you fall within the parameters, I recommend you seek the assistance of a local Enrolled Agent, Certified Public Accountant or an attorney to prepare the documentation and settle the debt. Steer away from the "We can reduce your tax liability" nationwide advertising solicitors due to excessive

billing techniques.

Any tax strategy depends upon the totality of your own circumstances. Before engaging in any tax strategy, you should first consult competent advisors to whom you make full disclosure of all the relevant facts and circumstances of your case.

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 Tracey C. Higginbotham, E.A., (321) 632-5726, a member of the National Society of Accountants.



Post 359 - American Legion Riders presents

Bike Days at the Tiki

Saturday, May 1st
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Good food on the grill with Fixin's, \$6.

Listen to live music.

Drawings, 50/50. All proceeds to benefit veterans and veterans' families.

7260 S. US Hwy. 1 Bellwood (just north of Port St John), 321-268-1632.

Contact Joe Marino, Events Coordinator, American Legion Riders Post 359 at info@alr359.org or visit our website, alr359.org, for more information.

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We Found Out Why Some People Won't Experience Any COVID-19 Vaccine Side Effects

Clinical trials suggest that most vaccinated individuals will not experience side effects after their first shot, with more experiencing no side effects at any point. **Your immune system is working against COVID-19 even if you do not exhibit any symptoms.**

Experts say two demographics may be more likely to experience no vaccine side effects, and not to be alarmed if your vaccine doesn't impact what's known as reactogenicity.

There has been plenty of talk about potential side effects associated with a COVID-19 vaccine. Most commonly, people have experienced one or more temporary symptoms like fatigue, body pains and aches, chills, a slight fever or just a very sore, tender arm. And experts have also spotlighted increasingly rare reactions to the COVID-19 vaccine, like a delayed rash at the injection site that's being referred to as "COVID arm" in clinical research. National healthcare officials are taking each and every report of adverse side effects seriously — a major reason why the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine is currently on pause following 6 incidents of extremely rare blood clotting.

With all this talk of side effects, you may be building up expectations in your head to be bedridden for a few days after your first or second dose. But if your shot is largely uneventful? No, nothing is wrong with you — or the dose you've received, regardless of who has manufactured it. Many fail to realize that vaccine side effects are actually scientifically rarer than they are common. During accelerated clinical Pfizer vaccine trials in 2020, more than 50% of participants didn't experience any side effects after being vaccinated.

The most common side effect currently is temporary arm pain, according to newly released data from the CDC Control and Prevention's V-Safe system, which helps patients report any adverse reactions to a COVID-19 vaccine. Most people weren't likely to experience significant reactions in general, especially not after the first dose. Arm pain, headaches and chills were more common after the second dose, but only in a minority of patients.

At any rate, a lack of a physical reaction (caused by what's known as your body's

"reactogenicity") to the COVID-19 vaccine doesn't mean your body isn't working on building immunity to the disease, explains Stanley Martin, M.D., an infectious disease clinician at Geisinger, a Pennsylvania-based healthcare system.

"Lots of vaccines work in different ways, but they are all stimulating your immune system to one degree or another; if you look at reactogenicity and those side effects, they vary a bit depending on the vaccine. There's not necessarily any correlation between the reactogenicity side effects you experience and the success of your vaccine taking hold."

Who is more likely to experience no vaccine side effects?

Everyone's immunity is different, so it can be true that two similar individuals experience vastly different side effects after vaccination... or none at all. But clinical trials in the US suggested that certain demographics may be more likely to experience reactogenicity side effects while others are less likely overall.

Older individuals have historically reported fewer side effects when it comes to COVID-19 vaccines. The younger you are, the more likely it may be that your immune response includes noticeable side effects, Dr. Martin explains.

CDC officials noted in clinical trials that side effects were higher for those under age 55; data suggested, at the time, that younger people would experience more side effects than those who were older, especially after the second dose.

Women are more likely to experience noticeable vaccine side effects than men, per CDC data. Out of nearly 7,000 reports of side effects in early January, 80% were filed by women, most often citing headaches, dizziness or fatigue. Teams behind the Moderna mRNA vaccine have shared that 77% of its reported side effects have come from women as well.

Why do some people have no side effects?

It's a question that healthcare providers can't answer just yet. "There isn't one specific reason, per se; it's a multifactorial issue, where age and gender are just two small factors associated with the dilemma," Dr. Martin says. "There's a lot of other things that have to do with the way the immune system works: If you're someone who historically tends to experience side effects

with vaccines, then you may be someone who's likely to experience side effects with COVID-19 vaccines as well."

Vaccine trials for both Pfizer and Moderna products suggested that a significant amount of people didn't experience side effects at one point or another, and yet, it proved to be 95% effective at preventing serious COVID-19 illness for all involved. Whether or not you've experienced one or four or six side effects during your vaccination process doesn't mean you're less or more protected than those who experienced none.

Rest assured that you haven't done anything wrong; your immune system is working even if you don't experience side effects.

Thank to ~ Zee Krstic



Free Community Flea Market/Yard Sale

Buyers And Sellers, come and join a FREE Community Flea Market/Yard Sale on Saturday, May 22nd, 8-1 at 1165 Fay Blvd. in Port St. John.

For you sellers out there, clean out the garage, do some early Spring cleaning, get rid of unwanted stuff and MAKE SOME MONEY!!

It is being offered by the Port St. John 1st United Methodist Church, but you bring your stuff, sell your stuff and you keep the money! Come early if you're a seller, (setup starts at 7a.m.), because this will be a really, really BIG event and obviously there's only so much space.

Some tables are available, (first come, first served), but bring your own to set up on, just in case.

For those buyers among you, come anytime; there will be lots and lots of stuff to peruse, ogle and get a deal on!

Please be aware, social distancing will be observed.

Oh, and there's food too. Hot Dogs, chips and soft drinks will be available for a nominal charge (proceeds of which will support the Port St. John 1st United Methodist Church). For more information, call 321-631-0183.

Rose's Room

~ Rose Padrick

We can do this. Please know prayers go out for all who have been affected in any way by this terribleness. It appears we can seemingly sigh with some relief as we look toward what we hope is a light at the end of a long dark tunnel. But, keeping our guard up while we move forward in this next phase of what has become our lives is still prudent.

Using a small swipe of antiseptic wipe and keeping a mask on until the food came was a small price to pay when having one of the best pastrami sandwiches ever with one of the best old friends ever is the reward. That is a small step, is a great pleasure...we can do this.

Sitting comfortably and enjoying comfortable conversation, we hardly noticed the service was a tad sluggish, but I did notice the young mother keeping a small one quietly occupied with her phone. Some people of my 'vintage' snort haughtily and proclaim they would have never let an electronic device babysit their children. Their children knew how to be seen and not heard. I proclaim many of my 'vintage' have really lousy memories.

But then, recent conversations with several of my own offspring prove their memories are not exactly on point either, especially when it comes to time spent in public places.

Like the wonderful mother I was, I took my gang to the Mouse House for a weekend getaway. These dear children have warm memories of quietly skipping or running from Tea Cups to Space Mountain. This dear mother has memories of hanging on to the back of the youngest child's shirt while screeching, "Wait! Don't run! Where's (insert any child's name here-they all got separated at one time or another)? Stay TOGETHER!"

Unable to drag them from the motel pool from dawn until check out time, we munched on donuts in the car. They remember a peaceful short ride dozing quietly in the bosom of loving family. My gray matter dregs up, "Don't touch me!" "That ones mine!" "Moommm! She took the last chocolate and she knew I wanted it!" "Mommmmm! He's touching me and he stinks!" for a thousand (OK, maybe fifty) miles.

The buffet style restaurant we visited on the way home may have had to run out for more chicken and potatoes when we left.

They remember slowly walking in a single file line into the restaurant, taking their seats and waiting to be told they could politely fill their own plates. I remember unloading five sugared up, car cramped, done-with-each-other kids into a place where fried chicken, mashed potatoes and anything that did not have vegetable in the description, (yes I did that!), elicited apologies to the staff.

They remember having to straighten their halos after the dinner prayer before excusing themselves to fill their plates. I remember passing around glares and threats should any of them even think of bumping, pushing, fork stabbing, buttery knife wiping, gagging at a siblings choice of food, loudness, forgetting please and thank you's and anything else they should consider fun.

I must say on the mother's scale of 'Great Kids' to 'I'll Never Take Them Out In Public Again,' this dinner was pretty high on the 'Great Kids' side, right up until the staff sang Happy Birthday to the old guy at a table around the corner.

Knowing my kids quiet snickers usually meant someone was doing something that I was going to either tell them to stop or have a panic attack, I turned from watching the festivities just in time to catch my youngest enjoying the moment by standing in his chair doing the Munchin dance.

Bringing him to his seat with a pointed glare and a raised eyebrow, I remember reminding myself he was really a great kid and he would eventually grow out of this kind of behavior, just as his sisters would grow out of prodding him on.

I must say, when the girls used a family gathering to share a (previously unknown to me) memory of the same kid standing in the same chair and doing the same dance to the same song at the same prodding at his End of Bootcamp celebration fifteen years later, I was not the least surprised. Also previously unknown to me... glares and eyebrow raising have expiration dates.

We have to be more a tad more careful these days and make the most of our memories outside, but we can and should make them and revisit as often as we can... glares and eyebrow raising notwithstanding.



Laura Kucharyson, May Spotlight Artist Downtown Art Gallery, Titusville

Visit Titusville's Downtown Art Gallery this May to view the beautiful oil and acrylic paintings by award winning landscape artist Laura Kucharyson. Her colorful depictions of Florida, be it the sea at sunrise, gently swaying palms or a happy manatee miniature, the paintings are sure to give you a new appreciation of the world we live in.

Laura has been painting since she was 12 and has studied with famous artists. From them she has learned attention to detail and mastery of color mixing. While living in Colorado, Laura took advantage of hiking and camping with family to capture the golden colors of aspen trees in autumn and the snowy wonderlands of the Colorado winters. After moving to Melbourne in 2006, the ocean called to her and became her new passion.

One unique item that you will find in every painting is a scripture verse. Some are easier to locate than others, so let your search begin. Laura's goal is to capture God's creation and to share this with others. It is her love for God, family and friends that motivates Laura to continue painting.

Laura enjoys teaching in her home studio and offers painting parties as well as ongoing classes. She says the secret to growing as a person and an artist is to, "Always surround yourself with others who are excellent in their craft so you may continue challenging yourself and never think you are too old to learn."

You can view Laura's mesmerizing ocean scenes at the Downtown Art Gallery, 335 S. Washington Ave in historic downtown Titusville. Laura's work can also be seen online at www.kucharysonart.com. For more information, call 321-268-0122.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Alcoholics Anonymous meets on **Sundays** at 5 PM, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 PM. **Women's AA** meets on Thursdays and Fridays, 10 AM. **Both AA Groups meet at St. Patrick's Church, 4797 Curtis Blvd.**

Overeaters Anonymous - Due to Covid-19 we are meeting on Zoom. For meeting times or contact info, please visit oaspacecoast.org.

Nar-Anon: Support group for those affected by someone else's addiction, meets on Mondays, 7:00 - 8:00 PM at St. Patrick's Anglican Church, 4797 Curtis Blvd. - www.naranonfl.org.

5-2 Orthodox Easter

5-4 Compassionate Friends Support Group meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6 PM in Cocoa Beach at the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, 525 Minuteman Cswy. west of A1A, Fellowship Hall. Call 610-7875 for info.

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

5-5 PSJ Startups & Founders Club, a group for new business owners and entrepreneurs, meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Port Java in Fay Plaza. We'll begin our program at 8 AM. The Port St. John internet site

can be viewed at www.meetup.com/Port-St-John-PSJ-Startups-Founders-Club/.

5-9 Mother's Day

5-9 Lailatul Qadr

5-9 Word Weavers Space Coast, a critique group for Christian writers, meets the 2nd Sunday at 2:00 PM at the Central Brevard Library in Cocoa. Visitors are always welcome. Email angelagardnerwrites@gmail.com for info.

5-9 Calling all Christian authors! Dynamic writers group in Cocoa offers training, critiques, and paid writing opportunities (2nd Sundays 2-4:30 PM at Cocoa Library). Contact D.P. Clarke at 1royaldy@gmail.com for more information. Print "Writers Group" in Subject.

5-9 Multiple Sclerosis Self-Help Group meets on the 2nd Sunday each month (except Mother's Day & Nov.), 2 PM, Cocoa Library.

5-13 Eid Al Fatr Starts

5-13 Brevard Women's Connection meets at Space Coast Convention Center (Holiday Inn Express) on Hwy. 520 from 11 AM until 1 PM on the second Friday of each month. The program includes a luncheon plus an inspirational speaker. For more information, call Pam at 321-752-6896 or e-mail bwc0020@gmail.com.

5-15 Armed Forces Day

5-17 & 18 Shavuot

5-17 Moonport Modelers RC Club meets at 6:30 PM, 3rd Monday each month at the N. Brevard Library, 2121 S Hopkins Ave., Titusville.

For more info, call Wayne Mendez, 505-2361.

5-19 American Legion Post 359 meets at the Post Home at 7260 S. US 1 in Bellwood, (2 miles north of PSJ), 6:00 PM. All Legionnaires and new members are welcome. The Post meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Please contact the Post at 321-268-1632 for assistance with your membership or information.

5-21 PSJ Business Connections Luncheon, sponsored by the Titusville Chamber of Commerce, meets on the 3rd Friday of the month at 12:00, PSJ Library on Carole Ave. Call Dennis Watkins at 267-3036.

5-25 Moonlight Quilters Guild meets at the North Brevard Library in Titusville, 2121 Hopkins Ave. on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Meet and greet & refreshments at 6:15, meeting

at 6:30 usually followed by show and tell or a guest speaker. Call 321-720-6232 or 321-720-1584 for more info.

5-31 Memorial Day

Congratulations to:

Cathy Rodriguez is the Queen on the 11th.

Stephanie Hilde turns **27** on the 1st.

Emily Waters turns **Sweet 16** on May 1st.

Kaitlyn Davis turns **Sweet 16** on the 4th.

Eric Bray turns **26** on the 4th.

Sarah Travis turns **prettier** on the 5th.

Finley Link turns **7** on the 9th.

Jacob Prentis turns **28** on the 10th.

Ryan Maxwell turns **16** on the 10th.

Brandy Lampton turns **27** on the 11th.

Jesse Jordan turns **24** on the 11th.

Christopher Pistilli is **19** on the 12th.

Anthony Nero turns **31** on the 14th.

Cathy Unrue turns **more lovely** on the 15th.

Tim Unrue turns **wiser** on the 15th.

Peyton Anderson turns **12** on the 15th.

Harry Weidman turns **old** on the 16th.

Ruthe Middleton turns **cuter** on the 18th.

Alynza Sladyk turns **Sweet 16** on the 19th.

Jake Wardlow turns **37** on the 20th.

Sandy Link turns **prettier** on the 20th.

Jeff Middleton turns **Happy 51** on the 26th.

Ellie Grace Moore parties **wild** on the 27

Delaney Hermes turns **9** on the 28th.

Allison Henzmann turns **23** on the 28th.

Madison Firth turns **9** on the 29th.

Brittany Benoff turns **14** on the 31st.

John Phipps turns **crazier** on the 31st.

Steve Prentis is the **King** on the 31st!

Diane Rivers turns **wilder** on the 31st.

Carol Horsman parties **wild** this month.

Christopher Spears turns **28** this month.

Irene Spears has a **spanking day** in May.

Joe & KC Casey celebrate their **55th** wedding anniversary on the 1st.

Paul & Kathi Hildebrandt celebrate **34** on the 10th.

Harry & Vickie Weidman celebrate **39** on the 17th.

Robert and Vonnie celebrate **66** on the 21st.

Joe & Leigh Waters celebrate **21** on May 30th.

Email inputs to happenings1@att.net.

Important Phone Numbers

County Commissioner -	264-6750
Sheriff: Non-Emergency -	633-7162
Fire Station 26 (Port St. John)	633-2056
Emergency Operations Center	637-6670
Waste Management -	636-6894
Port St. John Library	633-1867
PSJ Community Center -	633-1904
Florida Power & Light -	723-7795
City of Cocoa Water Dept. -	433-8400
Parrish Medical Center	
Port St. John -	636-9393
Titusville -	268-6111
Atlantis Elementary School -	633-6143
Challenger 7 Elementary -	636-5801
Enterprise Elementary School	633-3434
Fairglen Elementary School -	631-1993
Space Coast Jr/Sr High School -	638-0750

Health First And Parrish Healthcare Collaborate To Encourage Brevard Residents To Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19



With the state having expanded COVID-19 vaccination eligibility, Brevard County's two health care systems—Parrish Healthcare and Health First—are collaborating to encourage area residents to be vaccinated against COVID-19 and to ensure residents know when, where, and how its hospitals are receiving and administering the vaccines.

Health First hospitals and Parrish Healthcare's Parrish Medical Center are each receiving vaccine allocations from the State of Florida; hospitals are sent either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (mRNA-1273) COVID-19 vaccines, depending on availability, but don't choose which vaccine they'll receive. State allocations of the J&J/Janssen vaccine have not been announced at this time.

Per the Governor's Executive Order, effective Monday, April 5, all Floridians will be eligible to receive any COVID-19 vaccine as prescribed by the Food and Drug Administration. This means that the Pfizer vaccine will be available to anyone age 16+. The Moderna vaccine will be available to persons age 18+.

Parrish Healthcare and Health First jointly are saying that the vaccines are safe, effective, and are the single greatest weapon to fight the spread and effects of COVID-19.

"To benefit Americans, some 20 years ago, the federal government embarked on a scientific process to more quickly bring important medications to the public. The vaccines against COVID-19 are the result from that process, and the vaccines' safety and efficacy are based on evidence, which the nation's Centers for Disease Control have evaluated and finds highly successful in combating COVID-19," said Frank Dienst, MD, Parrish Healthcare Intensive Care Medical Director.

"We are excited to expand our vaccination program beginning next week and to do our part to help vaccinate as many residents as want to be vaccinated," added Dienst.

The two health care systems have online capability for Brevard residents to make vaccination appointments. Furthermore, hospital registration systems are continually updated to show available appointment times to minimize waiting and the number of people in the vaccination center at any one time, which makes it more efficient getting vaccine into people's arms for the benefits they'll experience.

"Opening up vaccinations to all adults in the state of Florida is critical in the fight against COVID-19," said Dr. Jeffrey Stalnaker, Chief Clinical Officer at Health First. "We look forward to expanding the availability next week, as we will be offering a limited number of Pfizer vaccines on a first-come, first-served basis to those registered. This pertains to all Floridians eligible to receive any COVID-19 vaccine as prescribed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Also, the FDA has authorized an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the Pfizer vaccine to be administered to 16-and 17-year olds who have a parent or legal guardian present. Appropriate documentation will be required."

Appointments can be made online at:

- Parrish Healthcare: vaccine.parrishmed.com
- Health First: HF.org/staywell (Register now for Vaccine Interest List and we will reach out to community members directly next week to schedule an appointment. Direct scheduling will open Tuesday.)

More information on Brevard hospital systems' COVID-19 vaccination programs can be found by visiting either Parrish Healthcare's web site at parrishhealthcare.com or Health First's web site at hf.org.



Additional information is also available through the FL Department of Health; visit floridahealthcovid19.gov.

To make your appointment with Parrish Healthcare, use the QR code below:



Historic Cocoa Village Main Street Presents

Summer Art & Craft Fair

Saturday
May 8th,
10am - 5pm &
Sunday
May 9th,
10am - 4pm

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Enjoy Great Boutiques & Restaurants, Galleries & Unique Collectibles right here in Cocoa Village!

This event will be compliant with all City mask and COVID-19 ordinances in place.

Backyard BBQ Winners

On April 9th & 10th, 2021 the Sharing Center of Central Brevard held its 6th Annual Back Yard BBQ Contest at F. Burton Smith Park in West Cocoa. The event supports the Sharing Center's Children's Weekend Feeding Program. David Brubaker, President & CEO of the Sharing Center stated "more than 1,200 people attended the BBQ and we raised \$75,000.00 at this year's event. We can't say thanks enough to all of our Sponsors! Especially JP Donovan Construction, Brevard Concrete & Paving and Embrace Home Loans.

We are very thankful for all the BBQ competitors, volunteers, and all those who came out to support the event. The success of this event will allow us to add more families in to the program next year."

This year there were 15 BBQ teams who competed. Congratulations to all the winners of the competition.



1st Place in the Chicken Category went to Hold My Rub BBQ, 1st place in the Beef Category went to team Gettin' Piggy Wit It, and 1st Place in the Pork Category went to Smoke on the Water BBQ. This year's People's Choice winner was team Meat Commander and the BBQ Grand Champion was awarded to Hold My Rub BBQ.

Congratulations to Roxi Wandersee of Melbourne who won the Big Green Egg raffle.

The event's proceeds will benefit the Sharing Center's Children's Weekend Feeding Program, a program designed to empower families with children by providing access to healthy food on the weekends during the school year.

For more information about the Sharing Center, visit us on the web at www.sharingcenter.org. Thanks again to the community for supporting our Amateur Backyard BBQ Contest.

We are already looking forward to next year's BBQ!

Port St. John Public Library

6500 Carole Ave., Port St. John

Lena Penna, Director

(321) 633-1867

PSJ Library Is Open

The Port St. John Library is now open with limited hours. The library's hours are currently 9 am-5 pm Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 12-8 pm on Wednesdays and we are back to being open on Saturdays 10 am-2 pm.

We are still unable to have any in person programming like we normally would at the library but groups are starting to return!

The Florida Master Gardeners come to provide gardening assistance and plant identification help every Monday from 2-4pm.

~ Mary Lena Penna

Library Director

Port St. John Library

6500 Carole Ave.

(321)633-1867

All libraries still offer curbside pickup for library holds even if the library is open to the public. Place a reserve in the computer, or call your local library, and they will contact you as soon as the items are ready to be picked up.

Please Note: Do not exit your car if the library is depositing your items in your trunk. If the library is leaving the items on a table outside, wait for the staff member/s to put the books outside and return to the library. Then you may retrieve the items and take them home. They will already be checked out to you.

All of our electronic resources and e-books are available to enjoy at any time, including online video story times. Visit <https://www.brevardfl.gov/PublicLibraries/home> for more information.

If you do not have a library card, call your local library. They have permission to issue library cards via phone with proper identification. You will need your driver's license when you call. The physical card may be picked up after the libraries re-open. We want all of our patrons to stay safe and healthy and we are doing as much as we can to assist you in that endeavor. We hope to see you soon!

Please call your local library with questions during open hours, Monday through Friday.

As COVID restrictions ease, new information on classes will be posted.

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PART A, PART B, PART C, PART D:
CONFUSED????
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Walter Butler Community Center May 2021

Bernice G. Jackson Park, 4201 North US Hwy. 1, Sharpes

The center is open Monday–Thursday from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Fridays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Schedule is subject to change. Call 321-433-4448 for latest information.

MONDAYS – FRIDAYS

Pickleball, 11 am – 2 pm

Open Computer Lab, 11 am – 2 pm & 6 – 8 pm

Kids in Motion, 2 pm – 6 pm

S.T.E.M. Program (3rd to 6th grade), 3– 4 pm

Open Adult Volleyball, 6 – 8 pm

Open Gym, 5 – 8 pm

TUESDAYS

Pickleball, 11 am – 2 pm

Open Computer Lab, 11 am – 2 pm & 6 – 8 pm

Kids in Motion, 2 – 6 pm

S.T.E.M. Program (K to 2nd grade), 3 – 4 pm

Zumba, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Pickleball, 6 – 8 pm

WEDNESDAYS

Pickleball, 11 am – 2 pm

Open Computer Lab, 11 am – 2 pm & 6 – 8 pm

Kids in Motion, 2 – 6 pm

S.T.E.M. Program (3rd to 6th grade), 3 – 4 pm

Volleyball Fundamentals, 5 – 8 pm

THURSDAYS

Pickleball Lessons, 10 am – 12 pm

Pickleball, 11 am – 2 pm

Open Computer Lab, 11 am – 2 pm & 6 – 8 pm

Kids in Motion, 2 – 6 pm

S.T.E.M. Program (K to 2nd grade), 3 – 4 pm

Volleyball Fundamentals, 5 – 8 pm

FRIDAYS

Open Gym, 9 – 11 am

Open Computer Lab 9, am – 2 pm

Pickleball, 11 am – 2 pm

Kids in Motion, 2 – 6 pm

SATURDAY

Open Computer Lab, 10 am – 2 pm

Open Game Room, 10 am – 2 pm

Youth Basketball League, 10 am – 3 pm

Volleyball Fundamentals - Teaching proper playing techniques and teamwork. This class focuses on teaching beginners how to properly bump, set, spike, and more. Classes will be held on Wednesdays & Thursdays from 5 pm – 8 pm. For more information contact Walter Butler Community Center at (321) 433-4448.

Seniors In Motion - Seniors in Motion will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am – 1 pm. Coffee and snacks will be provided. Thursdays are field trip day. Outings are in county and are 2 to 3 hours, depending on the outing location(s). For more information, call (321) 433-4448.

Kids In Motion - After school program that focuses on anti-bullying and educational hands on projects such as the Choice Program, 4-H club and STEM programs, and Kids Art to enhance learning. Monday – Friday 2 pm – 6 pm. Program cost is \$30 weekly. Discounts are available for households living in the target area, eligible for free or reduced lunch and/or qualifies for any other assistance offered. For more information, contact WBCC at (321) 433-4448.

ZUMBA - Let It Move You! There are a lot of ways to lose weight. Some are just more fun. Join the ultimate dance-fitness party that beats a boring old workout any day! Classes are Every Tuesday, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm. Half the class is Zumba Toning, the other half is Zumba. Cost is \$5 per class or \$15 for the month. Adults of all ages/fitness levels are welcome. Wear comfortable clothes and sneakers and be prepared to dance! Bring a towel and water. For more information, call Debbie Kowaleuski at (321) 403-6918.

Youth Basketball League - May 1 – June 5, ages 6 – 14. Registration now open. Games played Saturdays 8 am through 2 pm Player Evaluation on April 24, 9 am – 2 pm Registration \$20. For more information call (321) 433-4448.

Futsal - Futsal is a ball sport played on a hard court, smaller than a football pitch, and mainly indoors. It has similarities to five-a-side football. Futsal is played between two teams of five players each, one of whom is the goalkeeper. This program is FREE & offered on Wednesdays 4 pm – 5 pm.

Cornhole - Cornhole on Monday's 5 p.m. – 8 pm For more information, call Dominik Lacasse @ (321)433-4448.

All U.S. Adults Are Eligible For The COVID-19 Vaccine

All U.S. adults became eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine as of April 19, 2021.

FEMA has announced additional assistance under its public assistance program for eligible costs to safely reopen and operate certain private nonprofits in response to the COVID-19 emergency, including private nonprofit medical facilities. Authorized by President Biden in January, the interim policy provides 100% federal funding for eligible costs and work conducted January 21 through September 30, 2021, including certain personal protective equipment, cleaning and disinfection, COVID-19 diagnostic testing, screening and temperature scanning, and temporary physical barriers for social distancing.

Also last month, the Food and Drug Administration authorized for emergency use the first prescription antibody test that allows individuals to collect a finger-stick dried blood sample at home for analysis at a Symbiotica laboratory when a health care provider deems it appropriate. The COVID-19 Self-Collected Antibody Test System can help identify individuals with an adaptive immune response to SARS-CoV-2.

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



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Won't you join us? Visit www.CanaveralGrovesHOA.com for information



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**THERE WILL BE
A CANAVERAL
GROVES
HOMEOWNERS
MEETING ON
THURSDAY
NIGHT, MAY 13,
2021 AT BREVARD
COMMUNITY
CHURCH (DISCOVERY CHURCH) ON
GRISSOM PARKWAY AT 7 PM**

All are invited who live in the Groves as always.

There have been more reports of coyotes being seen in the area at night and daylight hours. This is because of all the construction in the area and the low water levels letting them roam a larger area. Pets should be watched when outdoors.

Brevard County Sheriff's Office has been actively patrolling the area and making traffic stops while not on calls in the area. There has also been a number of lost and found pets in the area. If you find one, please call Brevard County Sheriff's Office Animal Enforcement and Services so they can try to reunite it with the owner.

Brevard County Fire Station 29 has been busy answering calls for medical issues, motor vehicle accidents, fires to structures and brush fires. They have also responded to help other stations and cities.

Remember, this time of year the brush fire risk is high and it does not take much to start a wildfire. Please check your property. It is also a good time to prepare for Hurricane Season.

Four Communities Volunteer Fire Dept. also responded to a number of calls. They can always use more volunteers. Stop by their station on US 1 any Tuesday night after 7 pm and see what it is about.

There seems to be some confusion about the geographical status of Breezy Point. It is not in Canaveral Groves, but is in the City of Cocoa

city limits. That property was annexed years ago before the homes were built.

Brevard County Fire and Sheriff's Office may respond there depending on the type of call under the mutual aid agreement. That is why sometimes a Cocoa Police car is seen out here in the Groves. They also are responsible for parts of Adamson Rd. and SR 524.

- Ed Silva

Canaveral Fire Rescue Offering COVID-19 Vaccines

Canaveral Fire Rescue will be administering a limited number of COVID-19 vaccines to eligible Florida residents at drive-thru, appointment-only time slots. These clinics are a collaboration between the Brevard County Emergency Operations Center, the Brevard County Health Department, Canaveral Fire Rescue and the City of Cape Canaveral. This program may continue based on weekly vaccine availability from the Brevard County Health Department.

Appointments can be made by calling (321) 868-1204 and leaving your name and phone number. Your name will automatically be added to a waiting list for an appointment on a first come, first served basis.

Please note that due to limited number of vaccines, being added to this waiting list is not a guarantee you will receive a vaccine.

Please continue to exhaust all other options to secure the vaccine for yourself.

All clients must provide identification. Individuals with an out-of-state ID should also provide proof of residency or semi-permanent residency (examples: utility bill, property tax receipt, lease agreement, etc.).

A comprehensive Vaccine FAQ has been developed by Staff to answer all commonly asked questions regarding vaccine distribution in Cape Canaveral; please review this page in its entirety for additional information: www.cityofcapecanaveral.org/vaccines.

More Vaccine Site Options

You can register with the Brevard County Health Department. Brevard County Emergency Management is using the Nixle Alert emergency notification system to announce appointment opportunities as they arise, and based on supply availability, for COVID-19 vaccinations. Users will receive the alerts on their mobile phone from the Nixle notification system. To register for text alerts, create a new text message on your mobile phone to 888777, and in the text message body write Brevardeoc, then hit send.

The Florida Department of Health will provide free vaccinations of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine through FDOH-Brevard. Appointments can now be made online via the Eventbrite platform at the following link: <https://brevardcovidvaccine.eventbrite.com>.

You can visit <https://myvaccine.fl.gov/> to register and your place in line will be held as more vaccines become available.

Florida seniors who cannot leave their homes but in need of a COVID-19 vaccine have a new way to sign up for an appointment. Email HomeboundVaccine@em.myflorida.com with your name and phone number and someone will get back to you about setting up an appointment.

Visit Walgreens.com, then log in to your pharmacy account. Creating an account is quick and easy. Complete a short eligibility screening.

For Walmart or Sam's Club, visit www.walmart.com/COVIDvaccine and www.samsclub.com/covid.

For Publix, visit <https://www.publix.com/covid-vaccine/florida>. The dates that the next round of appointments are available will be on the site, and the link to apply for them.

For Winn-Dixie, visit <https://www.winndixie.com/pharmacy/covid-vaccine>. Follow the links.

For CVS, visit <https://www.cvs.com/immunizations/covid-19-vaccine>, then click on Florida. A pop-up will give you a link to "Schedule an appointment now." Click it!

Medical Reminders to Help Be Prepared for a Hurricane

2021 is predicted to be an active storm season. Be prepared!

Specific for 2020, make sure you have face masks and protective equipment stored. You may still need to go out for gasoline for the generator, make repairs to wind or rain damage, or to help friends and family.

Get a 30-day supply of necessary medications! If you are taking prescription medications and normally purchase them from your local pharmacy, try to have a 30-day supply on hand. This is not as easy as it sounds — many insurance companies will not authorize the filling of additional days or months worth of a medication unless ordered by the state to do so in emergency situations, such as natural disasters.

Make your medication plan now. This plan should include speaking with a health insurance representative, pharmacist or your physician about options to acquire extra medications, one of which may include paying cash for your 30-

day supply.

If you are on dialysis, call your dialysis center to make a plan of action for your care. Don't count on them being open. Power outages may happen. Do not miss a treatment prior to bad weather and make sure to follow your doctor-ordered diet very closely. Read the patient care information provided to you by your doctor. It includes medical information to assist you and phone numbers to the End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Network. Only your doctor can recommend if it is medically safe for you to miss treatments and can advise you on whether or not you should be admitted to a hospital during a hurricane. Special needs shelters do not offer dialysis and some centers may be closed during a hurricane. When the storm passes, contact your dialysis center for further instructions or go to your hospital for short-term care if your center is closed.

The hospital is not a county shelter. County shelters are designated throughout the county, mostly in elementary schools. The hospital is not a designated shelter and does not take evac-

uees. For more helpful information visit www.brevardcounty.us/emergencymanagement/preparedness/shelters.

Make shelter arrangements if you are oxygen dependent.

You may be eligible for care at a special needs shelter based on your medical needs and availability. If you are an oxygen-dependent person, be sure to get your oxygen tanks filled. You should try to have two days worth of oxygen on hand.

If you do not plan to evacuate, contact the Brevard County Office of Emergency Management at 321-637-6670 for more information on how to register for special needs shelter. If you wait until a hurricane hits to make shelter arrangements, it will be too late.

General Preparation for a Hurricane: For complete information on what you can do to prepare for a disaster or hurricane, go online to the Brevard County Office of Emergency Management Web site at www.brevardcounty.us/EOC. You will find valuable information to help prepare your home and family before a hurricane strikes.



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