

# HAPPENINGS

ISSUE NO. 420

April 2025

SERVING PORT ST. JOHN & CANAVERAL GROVES

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

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

## Thunder Over Indian River Golf Classic

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

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

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

Anyone who does not play golf can still participate by sponsoring a golf hole for \$125, or attend the awards luncheon for \$20.00. For an application or additional info, email PSJCom-

munityFoundation@gmail.com or visit <https://portstjohncommunityfoundation.com/>. This is a great way to get some exercise, support our community, and most of all, have fun!

The deadline to register is April 4th.



### FUMC Easter Services and Easter Egg Hunt

Palm Sunday Service at 10:00 on April 13

April 17: Maundy Thursday Service, 6:00 p.m.

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

**Easter Sunday (April 20)**

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service

10:00 a.m. worship service

11:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

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



or current resident

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Brevard County, FL

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ECRWSS

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[parrishmedgroup.com](http://parrishmedgroup.com)

# PSJ Community Center Schedule - April, 2025

The center is open Mondays–Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Fridays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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

## **Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

### **Mondays**

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

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Game Room, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Billiards, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Community Cares Aftercare, 2:30 - 6 p.m.

Zumba, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

### **Tuesdays**

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

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Game Room, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Billiards, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Community Cares Aftercare, 2:30 - 6 p.m.

Dancing Little Stars-Ballet/Tap Combo Classes,  
(ages 3-6) 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. & 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.

### **Wednesdays**

Home School Class P.E. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

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

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Game Room, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Billiards, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Community Cares Aftercare, 2:30 - 6 p.m.

### **Thursdays**

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

Billiards, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Outside Basketball, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Game Room, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Community Cares Aftercare, 2:30 - 6 p.m.

Gentle Yoga, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

### **Fridays**

Outside Basketball, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Game Room, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Billiards, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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

Dancing Little Stars, 10:00 – 10:45 a.m. and  
10:45 - 11:15 a.m.

Community Cares Aftercare, 1:30 - 6 p.m.

**ZUMBA – STARTING MONDAY, APRIL 7th  
– every Monday at 5:30-6:30 p.m.**

**About Dancing Little Stars** - Tuesdays 4:00-  
4:45 p.m./5:00-5:45 p.m. & Fridays 10:00 – 10:45  
a.m./10:45 – 11:15 a.m.

Ballet, Tap and age appropriate Hip-Hop classes  
for boys and girls, ages 2-7. Classes focus on  
rhythm, concentration, memory and balance...  
while having fun! Our full-scale dance recital is

held at the end of the dance season in May. En-  
rollment is open. Tuition is \$65 per month with  
the recital costume included with tuition. Regis-  
ter online at [www.dancinglittlestarsbrevard.com](http://www.dancinglittlestarsbrevard.com)  
<http://www.dancinglittlestarsbrevard.com>.

### **About Yoga With Diane -**

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

### **About Homeschool Class P.E.**

Wednesdays, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

This is a great opportunity for exercise and so-  
cialize in a fun nature. Price is \$2 per class. Call  
321-603-2118 for more information about the  
class and what to bring.

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## **Food For Thought**

### **A Unique Experience Close to Home**

Have you ever been to The White Sand Bud-  
dhist Monastery in Mims? If not, this is your sign  
to plan a trip to visit this hidden gem. White Sands  
can be accessed by bike, as it is situated right off  
the East Central Regional Rail Trail. If you're  
not quite ready to make the 8-mile bike ride from  
Draa Park to the monastery, take the narrow dirt  
road that'll have you wondering, "Am I lost?"  
Spoiler alert: you're not! You'll know you've ar-  
rived when you're greeted by the biggest granite  
Buddha statue in all of Florida. Yep, The White  
Sands Monastery boasts not one, but four colossal  
granite Buddhas.

Situated within the woods, the site thrives with  
an abundance of nature. Take a walk on the paved  
path that loops around the large pond. There are  
plenty of granite benches along the way if you  
want to take some time to enjoy some prime turtle-  
watching, bird-gazing and Koi fish admiration.  
Flowers are constantly in bloom, ranging from  
orchids and azaleas to hibiscus and beyond.

On the other side of the temple is a small but  
well-maintained garden with different herbs, fruit

trees and vegetables that might just end up on your  
plate during their Sunday lunch - stay tuned for  
that. Even better, the friendly folks who tend to  
this monastery are super welcoming and inspire  
the community to participate in the ongoing events  
and festivities happening throughout the year.

Everyone is invited to visit from 8:00 a.m. to  
5:00 p.m. Meditation services take place every  
Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. All are  
welcome to join, with the service available in  
both English and Vietnamese. I personally at-  
tended one of these sessions, which concluded  
with a meditation that seemed to fly by, followed  
by an uplifting teaching relevant to daily life. I  
was pleasantly surprised by the humor that was  
woven into the lesson.

Public volunteers are encouraged to participate  
in weekly grounds-keeping activities. You can  
subscribe to their monthly newsletters to stay in-  
formed about events such as one-day meditation  
retreats, celebrations, lectures, guitar lessons and  
more. Most activities are free, though donations  
are appreciated.

Now, let's talk about the food! White Sands of-  
fers lunch on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. You  
can typically find pho, spring rolls and banh mi on  
the menu. Additionally, they feature dishes like  
papaya salad, sesame rice balls and my personal  
favorite, the Vietnamese pancake, which is quite  
different from what you might expect. All of these  
dishes are prepared fresh, offering a variety of  
healthy options and everything is truly delicious.  
You must try it for yourself!

So, if you're seeking a unique experience with-  
out the need to travel far, definitely take a trip to  
The White Sands Buddhist Monastery, a place that  
provides serenity, calmness and delicious food!

Amanda Mahaleris, MS, RDN, LDN

Indian River Nutrition Services

[dietitian@irnutrition.com](mailto:dietitian@irnutrition.com)

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## **National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE)**

NARFE Apollo Chapter 1137 meets monthly  
on the second Monday of each month - April 14th.  
Our meeting place is Kay's BBQ Restaurant, 1552  
W. King St., Cocoa. You are invited to join us for  
lunch at 11:30 and an interesting speaker at 12:15.

The website address is [www.NARFE.org/](http://www.NARFE.org/)  
Chapter1137.

## On the Road With Rose



We still seem to be embroiled more and more conflict in our old world, but some of us refuse to think that's all there is. I'm hoping all who are still being touched by it knows they are being thought of and prayed for.

Almost Summer has hit once again. Ol' Sol not at full force yet and longer days make for great forays into the great outdoors and some great family memories. We are lucky enough to be virtually surrounded by parks, rivers, lakes and an ocean just waiting for us to take advantage and boating - especially air boating - is one of the best ways to do so.

There are several places in our area that offer airboat rides. My kids have enjoyed the Twister Air Boat Rides, 321-632-4199, in the past and I'm hoping to take a couple of grandkids this summer. Based at the Lone Cabbage Fish Camp on Hwy. 520, they offer 30, 60 and 90-minute rides. There's no guarantee, but it's rare not to spot many varieties of Florida wildlife and the scenery is amazing. It's a wonderful way to teach kids about the wonder that is old Florida. The menu and music at Lone Cabbage also dregs up the old south and their gator meat snacks are the best.

Airboat Rides at Midway on Hwy. 50 west of Titusville, 407-568-6790, is another provider I am familiar with, albeit a little further out. In addition to the 30 minute rides for school groups and 90 minute rides for groups only, the normal 60-minute airboat rides also include a free alligator encounter. I'm not sure if I enjoyed more holding a small alligator for a photo op or watching my 'North of the Mason Dixie line' relatives do so. Gator Boys they ain't!

We were lucky enough to be able to get on a boat without a reservation with just a short wait while wandering in the gift shop, enjoying an ice cream and checking out the resident birds and snakes. Rides at Midway is one of the oldest on

the Saint Johns River and the captains are most knowledgeable about the animals and the ever-changing river. Going ever deeper into the wilderness, it's easy to imagine why the first settlers decided to put down roots.

Whether you choose either of these places, another airboat ride provider, take a river tour or just grab a fishing pole and head for the lakes, rivers or our beautiful beaches, Florida is just too beautiful to be sitting inside glued to a tube or other device.

As always please take only pictures and leave only footprints, use pest spray and sunscreen.



### THE 39 STEPS

April 4-20, 2025 Rated PG

Combine a film masterpiece by Alfred Hitchcock with a juicy spy novel and add a large splash of Monty Python humor. The result? A fast-paced, hilarious whodunit with versatile actors portraying more than 50 roles! London, 1935. The rather dull Richard Hannay encounters a woman who claims to be a spy. When she is suddenly murdered, Richard finds himself the focus of a nationwide manhunt led by a mysterious organization called "The 39 Steps."

This play is a hilarious comedy full of dazzling, inventive stagecraft and virtuoso performances that will have you rolling in the aisles until the death-defying, climatic finale.

#### Stage 2

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



## PORTSTJOHN-OPOLY

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

<https://portstjohncommunityfoundation.com/PORTSTJOHNOPOLY/>.

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

Events by the Port St. John Community Foundation could not be carried out without the donations of time, money, supplies and resources of this community and the surrounding areas. We appreciate and thank all the volunteers, businesses, partners and sponsors for participating in these community events. All members are volunteers who donate their time and services to help hold community events and keep our community STRONG!

To read more about the Foundation and future planned community events, visit our website; [portstjohncommunityfoundation.com](http://portstjohncommunityfoundation.com). There is no cost to join, no dues. The Foundation encourages residents and business owners to join and take part in making fun events for our residents.

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

# Good Day!

~ by Maureen Rupe

## Brevard County Professional Firefighters Local 2969

Florida Today did a survey of whether or not Brevard residents would be willing to pay higher taxes to fund raises for the Brevard firefighters. The results were YES: 79.1%; NO: 20.9%. So why is there a problem paying our firefighters?

In the past year, Brevard has lost over 20% of their staff primarily due to pay and the number of hours they have to work because of the number of staff they have lost. A Florida Today Dec. 18, 2024 article titled, "Mass exodus is coming: Brevard firefighters push county on pay issues, turnover," stated, "One challenge is the county charter restrictions on property tax increases have prevented them from boosting firefighter pay. A voter-approved cap in the county charter limits year-to-year percentage increases on how much money can be raised through property taxes. It would take the support of four out of the five commissioners to raise taxes the necessary amount to increase pay."

According to a December 11 story on Channel 6, on starting salaries, Orange and Seminole Counties have pay of \$22.72 and \$25.19, but that is just during their orientation. As soon as that is completed and the fireman is assigned a station, they go to a 56-hour week and their pay rate converts into \$16.18 and \$17.97. Also Marion County starting salary is \$15.25 per hour and Flagler County is \$15.91 an hour, so pay varies a lot and the rate changes based on a normal week's hours (40, 56, or ?). Fast food workers in Brevard County start at \$13 - \$15 an hour. I would think our firefighters would be making more than someone dishing out your french fries.

Do you support the Brevard County firefighters in their fight for a living wage? If they all resigned, what would you do? Do we fight fires ourselves? Would you work in such a dangerous job for low pay?

Reference: [www.floridatoday.com/story/news/2024/12/18/brevard-firefighters-bcfr-county-commission-pay-attribution-turnover-negotiations-union/Brevard-Fire-Station-62](http://www.floridatoday.com/story/news/2024/12/18/brevard-firefighters-bcfr-county-commission-pay-attribution-turnover-negotiations-union/Brevard-Fire-Station-62).

As if the Firefighters' pay wasn't bad enough, Brevard hasn't been doing a good job keeping up their facilities. Fire Station 62 problems were first

reported 7/14/2021 in a letter to Commissioner Jason Steele from firefighter Mike Jaffe. The problems included a dangerous mold condition where many have developed respiratory issues. There is mold and water dripping from the ceiling in both the dining area and sleeping quarters. The station also has a bad rat problem. Apparently, this and God knows how many other problems the county has with their facilities have gone ignored for a number of years now.

This is not good enough for men and women who will battle a fire at your home or business to save you or your children, pets and fellow workers. Please write or call your County Commissioners and beg for help for these brave men & women.

District 1: Katie Delaney, 321-607-6901, [D1.Commissioner@BrevardFL.gov](mailto:D1.Commissioner@BrevardFL.gov)

District 2: Tom Goodson, 321-454-6601, [D2.Commissioner@BrevardFL.gov](mailto:D2.Commissioner@BrevardFL.gov)

District 3: Kim Adkinson, 321-633-2075, [D3.Commissioner@BrevardFL.gov](mailto:D3.Commissioner@BrevardFL.gov)

District 4: Rob Feltner, 321-633-2044, [D4.Commissioner@BrevardFL.gov](mailto:D4.Commissioner@BrevardFL.gov)

District 5: Thad Altman, 321-253-661, [D5.Commissioner@BrevardFL.gov](mailto:D5.Commissioner@BrevardFL.gov)

### Florida State Park Preservation Act

Last year, Floridians throughout the state erupted in protest at Gov. Ron DeSantis' sneaky scheme to develop hotels, pickleball courts and even golf courses in our pristine state parks. DeSantis was forced to abandon his plan, but he also signaled his intention to revive it by going "back to the drawing board."

Right now, the "State Park Protection Act" (SB 80/HB 209), which aims to prevent DeSantis or any future governor from recklessly paving over our beloved state parks, is moving through the Legislature. Please visit <https://act.progress-florida.org/letter/state-parks-protection/?t=32&akid=36370%2E218206%2E7jiRpB>

Use this website to send a letter to legislators. Better yet, write to you legislators or modify the letter at the website. The problem is, the "State Park Preservation Act" does not address the following points:

- 1) List prohibited uses in State Parks.
- 2) Ban activities that disturb park resources
- 3) Remove loopholes that allow harmful development
- 4) Extend protections to state forests and

wildlife areas.

The people do not want any golf courses or such taking our wildlife areas. We have already seen them try. We must make that point clear to our elected officials.

Reference: <https://act.progressflorida.org/letter/state-parks-protection/?t=32&akid=36370%2E218206%2E7jiRpB>

### Artificial Grass Very Bad Idea

Putting in artificial grass on your lawn is a very bad idea. Artificial grass uses huge volumes of plastic. If you see the news lately, microplastics are increasingly being found in animals and humans as plastics never go away and just break down to microscopic pieces.

Artificial Grass can't or won't be recycled. It is made from unnatural materials including polyethylene, polypropylene and nylon. They are built to last for centuries and although each material could be recycled, grass can't, as the materials can't be separated and after spending years on dirt is too full of dirt and debris to clean.

Artificial grass breaks down and contaminates the soil for centuries. It breaks down, but microplastics get into the soil and soil micro-organisms, which are impossible to extract from the soil. It also kills the soil life underneath as leaf litter and grass clippings essential for feeding soil organisms like worms to survive.

Artificial grass has no wildlife benefit at all. Ordinary lawns provide homes to millions of soil dwelling creatures like worms, grubs, grass eating caterpillars, slugs and snails that feed birds. Even wildflowers that may grow support thousands more bees and other pollinators than artificial grass.

Artificial grass retains heat and can make it too hot to walk on. It constantly needs cleaning and can cause friction burns for anyone skidding with bare knees. It's best just to stay away from artificial grass.

Reference: <https://www.jackwallington.com/17-reasons-to-avoid-fake-lawns-how-bad-is-artificial-grass-for-the-environment/>

### Final remarks:

I was watching the reporting about the tornado warning north of Orlando. It was obviously no warning, as it was only a minute or two before the tornado struck. I turned my thoughts to Port St. John and decided to share with you what I was

told 40 years ago. We were in the military at that time and my husband had just transferred from Vandenberg AFB, California to Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (before it became a Space Force Station).

I was in the waiting room of a doctor in Titusville and a much older man sat next to me, and we talked. He asked if I was in Titusville and I said no, I was in Port St. John (PSJ). "Oh," he said, "then you will be OK in real bad storms and tornados." I asked why. He replied that his father had told him that his grandfather has said that the native Indians that lived in Port St. John at the time had a name for PSJ that meant "Where the winds part" in the native Ais Indian language. He then said he had never heard of a tornado in PSJ. I do remember one in the 1990's, but no damage was done. I often thought of this elderly man and his thoughts, as PSJ does not seem to have many naturally bad weather events. We can only hope.

Cheerio,

~ Maureen Rupe

rupe32927@gmail.com

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## Port St. John 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 Saturday, May 10th and then again on Saturday, May 17th and Sunday, May 18th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., 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 Port St. John to join our league.

We are also accepting applications for sponsors and experienced umpires.

For more information, call: Veronica Ordner, President, at 321-698-3863; Matt Evans, Vice-President, at 321-360-9272; 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](http://www.facebook.com/PSJHSL).

## Rose's Room

~ Rose Padrick



### Short Visit to Memory Lane

The urge to jump and change the channel when news comes on is strong, but knowing what's going on all over our planet is so very important. We are blessed to live in a country where we can have opinions and voice them peacefully. My prayers are being sent for those living in fear and destruction. If you know of someone in that situation or are fighting demons of your own, please know you are not alone.

A trip down memory lane brought me a smile; hope you join me.

When my granddaughter called to ask if she could bring a "friend" to a family function, I wondered if he was becoming "special." Lord knows it takes a special person to spend a whole holiday with our large collection of "personalities."

I smiled when I saw the young man stroll into the house with a confident smile and outstretched hand. I wasn't smiling several hours later as I watched him exit hurriedly through the garage door without looking back.

I suspected the quickness of his step was somehow linked to the innocently angelic smile on several of my supposedly adult children's faces. When pressed, my clan was eager to help me ascertain the motive of his speedy departure.

Oldest daughter Kim offered, "Darlene upset him when she told him the guest is always the first one dad throws in the pool when his 'problem' flares up."

Darlene quickly passed the beach ball - "Cindy is the one who blurted that she has not been able to find the hamster since it was sniffing around the roast before she put it in the oven!"

Not willing to face the heat alone, Cindy dragged her brother into the fray - "If you are mad at anyone, it should be Roy. He told the guy

when we sing Happy Birthday, he has to get up on the table with him and do the birthday dance."

Believably faking wide-eyed astonishment, Roy retorted, "Why would you think I would say something so totally immoral? I am shocked and hurt by your accusations!"

Quiet little Thomasina just grinned.

My children's assorted spouses were of no help, laughing so hard tears were streaming down their cheeks.

Arms crossed in anger, I turned to assure my granddaughter her relatives would be making apologetic phone calls to her friend.

I needn't have bothered.

Holding ribs sore from laughing and wiping tears of hilarity, my granddaughter squeaked, "He is a nice guy and I like him as a friend, but I have been trying to get him to back off without hurting his feelings for a long time, and I knew spending time with this family would scare him so bad I would never hear from him again.

I know exactly how he feels.

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## Earth Day History

Earth Day seeks to highlight and promote efforts dedicated to the protection of the environment. As we enter the 21st century, we face many environmental crises including global warming, deforestation, endangered wildlife, shortages of potable water and widespread pollution. These crises negatively affect our planet's resources and they pose serious risk to our long-term lifestyles and health.

In 1970, a US Senator named Gaylord Nelson was inspired to raise public awareness about environmental problems. He campaigned across the nation with the hopes of gathering public support. He hoped to have environmental protection included in the national political agenda. His efforts were rewarded in July of 1970 when the United States Environmental Protection Agency was created. With it came the passing of the Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts.

Today, Earth Day is celebrated by billions of people around the world and is observed in over 190 countries. Worldwide, Earth Day celebrations utilize educational programs to inform people of ways that can help protect the environment and its natural resources. It is observed annually on April 22nd.

## Parrish Healthcare Donates TV to Port St. John Library to Enhance Community Programs

Parrish Healthcare was proud to answer the call for help from the Friends of the Port St. John Library. The Port St. John library was in need a large screen television to enhance and expand upon the many community programs hosted at the library. Parrish Healthcare donated a large screen, 98" television to the Port St. John Library.

The donation of the television allowed the Friends of the Library to use the additional funds donated towards this project to purchase additional accessories, including speakers and audio equipment. These enhancements will further elevate the library's ability to provide high-quality, interactive experiences for families and individuals of all ages.

"We are so grateful for the generosity of Parrish Healthcare and their contribution to the Port St. John Library, the Friends of the Library and our community," said Shelley Macon, Director of the Port St. John Library. "This TV will enable us to offer new, exciting and interactive programs

like karaoke, movies and presentations that foster literacy and education, helping us to build a strong and connected community."

"Libraries are more than just a place for books—they are a hub for connection, learning and growth," said George Mikitarian, President and CEO of Parrish Healthcare. "We're honored to contribute to the Port St. John Library's mission of bringing people together through engaging activities and are excited to see the positive impact this donation will have on the Port St. John community and beyond."

The Port St. John Library continues to be a vital resource for residents, offering a welcoming space for education, creativity and shared experiences. This partnership with Parrish Healthcare ensures that the library can expand its programming, making events even more accessible and enjoyable.

For more information about Parrish Healthcare and its commitment to the community, please visit [parrishhealthcare.com](http://parrishhealthcare.com).



Left to Right: George Mikitarian (President/CEO, Parrish Healthcare), Janice Murray (Library Area Director, Brevard County Libraries), Griselda Clarke (Assistant Library Services Director, Brevard County Libraries), Kevin Kelley (Friends of the Port St. John Library member), Maureen Rupe (Board Member, Parrish Medical Center Board of Directors), Terry Mazeika (President, Friends of the Port St. John Library), Ashley Scott (North Brevard Public Library Advisory Board Member and Vice President of the Friends of the Port St. John Library), Shelley Macon (Director, Port St. John Library), Natalie Sellers (Senior Vice President, Communications, Community & Corporate Services, Parrish Healthcare) and Ed Mazeika (Treasurer, Friends of the Port St. John Library).



## WAITRESS

MARCH 14–APRIL 13, 2025

Sara Bareilles' uplifting and inspiring musical celebrating friendship, motherhood, and the magic of a well-made pie. *Waitress* features original music and lyrics by six-time Grammy nominee Sara Bareilles ("Brave," "Love Song"), and a book by acclaimed screenwriter Jessie Nelson. Jenna, a waitress and expert pie maker, is stuck in a small town and a loveless marriage. Faced with an unexpected pregnancy, Jenna fears she may have to abandon the dream of opening her own pie shop...until a baking contest in a nearby county and the town's handsome new doctor offer her a tempting recipe for happiness. Supported by her quirky crew of fellow waitresses and loyal customers, Jenna summons the secret ingredient she's been missing all along — courage. "A delicious tale that's not simply about getting Prince Charming but getting its heroine to take action and discover her worth!" — *Variety*

### Titusville Playhouse

The Titusville Playhouse, Inc. is located within the Historic Emma Parrish Theatre 301 Julia St., (corner of Hopkins Ave. - US1 southbound), providing professional quality entertainment on the Space Coast. The MainStage theatre includes a 150 seat orchestra section and a 124 seat Balcony Section.

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

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Alcoholics Anonymous** meets on **Sundays** at 5 p.m. **Women's AA** meets on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. **Both AA Groups meet at St. Patrick's Church, 4797 Curtis Blvd.**

### 4-1 April Fools Day

**4-1 Compassionate Friends Support Group** meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. in Cocoa Beach at the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, 525 Minuteman Cswy., west of A1A, Fellowship Hall. Call 610-7875 for info.

**4-2 American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 359,** General Membership Meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month, 6 p.m. at the Post Home, 7260 S. US 1, just north of PSJ. Call President Valerie Helmer at 321-268-1632.

**4-2 Sons of Amvets 2415 Meeting-** 1st Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m. 688 West Ave., PSJ. Commander Chuck Harrington, 321-208-7897.

**4-5 Amateur Backyard BBQ Contest!** At F. Burton Smith Park in Cocoa from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### 4-5 Bike Days at the Tiki, 1:00 - 5:00 PM

First Saturday of each month. 7260 S. US Hwy. 1, Bellwood, (just north of Port St. John), 321-268-1632. Contact Wayne Fowler, Events Coordinator, American Legion Riders Post 359 at 321-307-1450 or visit their website, alr359.org.

**4-10 Amvets Ladies Auxiliary 2415** General Membership Meeting on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. President Theresa N. Anderson. 321-208-7897.

**4-10 North Brevard Parks and Recreation** meets at 4 p.m. at 518 South Palm Ave., Titusville. For questions, call Jeff Davis at the North Area Parks Office, 321-264-5105.

**4-11 Brevard Women's Connection** meets at Space Coast Convention Center on Hwy. 520 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., 2nd Friday of each month. Call Pam at 321-752-6896 or e-mail bwc0020@gmail.com.

### 4-12 to 20 Passover

### 4-13 Palm Sunday

**4-13 Word Weavers Space Coast,** a critique group for Christian writers, meets the 2nd Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Central Brevard Library in Cocoa. Visitors are always welcome. Email angelagardnerwrites@gmail.com for info.

### 4-15 TAX FILING DUE DATE

**4-16 American Legion Post 359** meets at the

Post Home at 7260 S. US 1 in Bellwood, (2 miles north of PSJ), 6:00 p.m. All Legionnaires and new members are welcome. The Post meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Contact Commander Michelle Aaron at 321-289-2880 for more information.

### 4-18 Good Friday

### 4-20 Easter

**4-21 Moonport Modelers RC Club** meets at 6:30 p.m., 3rd Monday each month at the N. Brevard Library, 2121 S. Hopkins Ave., Titusville. For more info, call Wayne Mendez, 505-2361.

### 4-22 Earth Day

**4-22 Moonlight Quilters Guild** meets at the First United Methodist Church, 206 S. Hopkins Ave., Titusville on the 4th Tuesday of each month (no meeting in April or December). Meet and greet refreshments at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 6:15 p.m., usually followed by show and tell or a guest speaker. Email Moonlight.Quilters@yahoo.com for more information.

### 4-23 Holocaust Remembrance Day

### 4-25 Arbor Day

**4-26 Veterans & First Responders Breakfast -** Last Saturday of each month, 9:00 a.m. at Saint Patrick's Anglican Church, 4797 Curtis Blvd., Port St. John. This is open to all veterans, spouses of veterans and all first responders.

### 4-29 Yom HaZikaron Begins

### Experimental Aircraft Meeting

Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 724 holds regular scheduled gatherings for fun and fellowship on April 10th - at 7:00 p.m. in the club house on Merritt Island Airport. If you have a passion or interest in aviation, then EAA 724 will bring you closer to the action. You don't have to be a pilot or aircraft owner to enjoy our group. Our chapter is a mixture of pilots, wannabe pilots and non-pilots. If you like aircraft and aviation, you are welcome. Each month we have an interesting speaker and lots of hangar flying.

The airport is approximately 2 miles south of SR 520 on Courtenay Pkwy. Turn off Courtenay onto the airport, then bear right. Across from the Fire House is the club house with the EAA logo on the end of the building. For more information, call 321-514-9456, email watersdwayne@yahoo.com, or visit the website at www.eaa724.org.

### Congratulations to:

**Brianna Romans** turns **30** on the 1st.

**Joe Lessey** parties wild on the 2nd

**Michiyo Hall** is the Queen on the 1st.

**Jeremy Rausch** turns **23** on the 1st.

**Vickie Wiedman** turns classier on on the 2nd.

**Jennifer Maxwell** rules the world on the 3rd.

**April Staner** dances all night on the 3rd.

**Bobby Hudspeth** turns crazier on the 5th.

**Lydia Hudspeth** turns prettier on the 6th.

**Bill Aglitz** turns **57** on the 8th.

**Dylan Thomas** turns **26** on the 9th.

**Madison Thomas** turns **20** on the 9th.

**Lori Johnson** rules the world on the 9th.

**Jason Wolfe** turns **23** on the 10th.

**Travis Elmore** is a party monster on the 11th

**Amanda Hosler** turns hotter on the 12th.

**Ryland Travis** turns **13TEEN** on the 12th.

**Dawne Parker** turns cuter on the 14th.

**Joel Smith** has a party day on the 14th.

**April Blake** has a spanking day on the 16th.

**Jamie Kline** turns wilder on the 16th.

**Christina D'Amico** turns **30** on April 18th

**April Higgs** turns more lovely on the 19th.

**Donnie Crouse** turns buffer on the 20th.

**Dusty Stricker** turns **31** on the 24th.

**Pamela Mann** turns cooler on the 25th.

**Kolby Davis** turns **21** on the 26th.

**Wanda Daugherty** gets presents on the 27th.

**Sharon Hightower** gets kisses on the 28th.

**KC, Happy Birthday** on the 28th! Love, Joe.

**Elizabeth Blum** turns **24** on the 29th.

**Jaden Travis** turns **20** on the 29th.

**Sonny & Gayle Wardlow** celebrate **46** on the 14th. It's Party Time!

**Randy & Michele DeVane** celebrate their **29th** on the 14th.

**Paul and Sarah Bennett** celebrate their **11th** wedding anniversary on the 5th!!

**Brenda and Bill Townley** celebrate their **27th** wedding anniversary on the 5th.

**Michael & Cheryl Rausch** celebrate their **40th** on the 17th.

**James and Jennifer Maxwell** celebrate their **21st** anniversary on the 26th.

**Gary & Holly Turner** celebrate their **47th** anniversary on the 28th.

*We have lots of room for more good news.*

**Email inputs to happenings1@att.net.**

# SLEEPY HOLLOW



## Fruit From The Groves



On March 13, 2025, there was a meeting of the Canaveral Groves Homeowners Association. I want to thank County Commissioner Katie Delaney for coming to our meeting. It was very informative and she answered a lot of questions.

There are still problems with the amount of speeding and traffic violations out here in the Groves. There have already been too many deaths and injuries out here. Brevard County Sheriff's Office is out here, but due to the size of the area it's hard to patrol the entire Groves.

The Guardians of the Groves Station 29 of Brevard County Fire Dept. have been very active here with car accidents, fires and medical calls. Please adhere to the fire restrictions during the BURN BAN times since we are in a dry season.

It is a shame that there is so much litter around the roadways. If you see someone dumping, please call the Brevard County Sheriff's Office immediately.

In advance of Hurricane season, we need to start preparing.

It's too bad that more people don't come to the Homeowners Association meetings so they can be informed of what's going on in the Groves, Due to space, most times this article is a short synopsis

of what happened at the meetings.

I was asked to let those who live in the Groves know about a Neighborhood Garage/Yard Sale on Friday, April 4 and Saturday, April 5 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days. Sales will be at individual homes. This is NOT an HOA event.

Ed Silva, President

Canaveral Groves Homeowners Association

## Dog Surfing Festival!

The Brevard Humane Society is thrilled to announce the return of its East Coast Dog Surfing Festival on Easter Sunday, April 20, at Lori Wilson Park in Cocoa Beach. This festival brings together surfing pups, creative canine contests, live music, food trucks and family fun—all to benefit homeless animals in Brevard County. The event will run from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and helps raise critical funds for homeless animals cared for by the Brevard Humane Society. The main event is proudly sponsored by Ron Jon Surf Shop.

Event Highlights:

- Bunny Paddle Out (9:00 a.m.) – Free bunny ears for the first 50 surfers (dogs & humans!)
- Intro to Dog Surfing Lessons – \$10
- Dog Surfing Championship (12:00- 1:00 p.m.) – Featuring surfing dog Gnarly Charley
- Doggy Easter Outfit Contest – 10 a.m.
- Doggy Bikini Contest – 1:00 p.m.

- Over \$500 in contest prizes
  - Food Trucks, Vendors, Live Music from “Nowhere to Rum,” Alcohol Sales & More
- Dog Beach Access is \$5 (with proof of current vaccinations). Parking is \$10 (cash only).

### Wags & Waves Pre-Party:

The fun starts early on Saturday, April 19th at Cocoa Beach Fish Camp Grill (5602 N Atlantic Ave.). From 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Enjoy a Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle and a chance to mingle.

## 2025 Underwater Eggsplosion

Brevard County Parks & Recreation, Central Area Operations will be hosting two Underwater Eggsplosions:

Joe Lee Smith Aquatic Center, located at 415 Stone Street in Cocoa will take place on Saturday, April 5, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

McLarty Aquatic Center, located at 790 Barton Boulevard in Rockledge will take place on Saturday, April 19, 2025, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

You are invited to dive in for some EGG-sational fun! Forget the lawn; we're hunting for eggs underwater!

Prizes awarded for the Easter Bunny's lost eggs! Some eggs will float for the little tykes and there will be sinkers for those needing a challenge. Collected eggs will be turned in for a goodie bag. Pictures will be available with the Easter Bunny or the Easter Chicken. Children will be grouped together by age and have their own special time to hunt for eggs. Please bring a waterproof basket or egg holder to store your eggs, and a towel.

Bring everyone for this great family event. Pre-registration is required. There is no on-site registration as space is limited. Ages 4-16 years old are invited to participant in rescue and decorating contest. Cost is \$6.00 for participants and \$2.00 for all other swimmers.

For more information or to register, please call 321-633-1874. Registration is also available online at [registration.brevardfl.gov](http://registration.brevardfl.gov).

### Meet your neighbors and stay informed of Events & Community Happenings!

#### CANAVERAL GROVES HOMEOWNERS INC.

If you'd like to join and support our Homeowners' group, just cut out and fill out this form and mail with a check for \$15 to cover the current year's membership dues.  
Mail to: CGHI, P.O. Box 675, Sharpes, FL 32959



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Won't you join us?



## “WHEELS IN MOTION” Car Show

If you enjoy a nice day in a beautiful outdoor setting and old cars, then the Titusville Sunrise Rotary Car Show would be a great event to attend. The April 13th event will be the 4th Annual “WHEELS IN MOTION” Car Show in beautiful Fox Lake Park, Titusville. Enjoy the shade and comfort of the cool environment of the treed park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. while inspecting the various exhibitors’ cars from very old classics to new “to become” classics and modified cars. Last year we had 200 exhibitors.

This year our Chief Judge will be Trooper Steve of WKMG, Channel 6 News. Entertainment will be provided by COCKERHAMS Band, a Spruce Hills Special band, which is a classic country rock bluegrass band that has been playing together since 1980. They will be broadcasting their delightful music through all the car FM radios in the park area, so the exhibitors can tune their car radios to that frequency and hear the entertainment and the messages.

In addition to local vendors, there will be food trucks to satisfy everyone's appetite, 50/50 raffles, gift baskets raffle, and door prizes.

The primary goal of the Car Show is to raise funds for two incredible charities in North Brevard: the North Brevard SPCA and The Children’s Hunger Project.

Plus, during the year we supply donations to other Brevard needs, such as scholarships for students to further their education after high school. Every year we change our target charities to spread the wealth.

So come join us for a day of fun, of interesting cars, great music and wonderful, tasty food and maybe talk to us about joining Rotary.

## Ink and Ivy Book Club

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

The Plant Shack & Beer Garden is located at 5800 N. Highway 1, Port St. John, 321-208-8001. They also have a Boutique Store, Beer Garden and Wine Bar. See their events page on Facebook.



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4797 Curtis Blvd., Port St. John  
321-802-1311

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He is Risen He is Risen – Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!! Join us this Easter for Holy Week and Easter Sunday Services.

Holy Wednesday, April 16th, 6:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 17th, 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18th:

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

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

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

Easter Sunday, April 20th:

7:00 a.m. - Easter Sunrise Service

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

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

Ladies' Fellowship and Craft Group meet on Monday, April 21st at 6:00 p.m. Bring a craft to work on and we will provide the space and great fellowship.

The Veterans and First Responder Breakfast will be held on Saturday, April 26th, at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. It is open to all veterans, spouses of veterans, police, fire and emergency services individuals.

The Regular Service Schedule is: Holy Communion Service – Sunday, 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. (During Lent we will be doing Stations of the Cross at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays).

Morning Prayer is at 8:00 a.m. (available through Facebook Live only at [www.facebook.com/StPatspsj](http://www.facebook.com/StPatspsj)). You can view our Sunday 10:00 a.m. and Wednesday Communion and Stations of the Cross on [www.facebook.com/StPatspsj](http://www.facebook.com/StPatspsj).

## Parrish Healthcare Open Interviews & Job Opportunities for Healthcare Workers Affected by Rockledge Hospital Closure

Parrish Healthcare recognizes the dedication and expertise of the health care professionals affected by the planned closure of Rockledge Hospital. Parrish Healthcare is hosting several hiring events for those seeking immediate employment opportunities.

**Parrish Healthcare hosts open interviews every Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Parrish Medical Center; 951 North Washington Avenue, Titusville.**

- 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

For additional information regarding open positions within Parrish Healthcare, please visit [parrishhealthcare.com/careers](http://parrishhealthcare.com/careers).

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

#### Youth Services

#### Family Programs

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

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

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

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

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

#### Adult

**Community Advocate** - Mondays, April 14 and 28, from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. The community support advocate assists with housing, SNAP, social security, healthcare and insurance, and senior resources.

**Book Worms Book Club:** Monday April 2nd

at 6:30 p.m.: Book discussion. See the reference desk for this month's selection and the next meeting date. This month, the book club will discuss Dictator by Robert Harris.

**Port Readers Book Club** - Wednesday, March 26, at 6:30 p.m. March's title is Vampires El Norte by Isabel Cañas. See the reference desk for this month's selection and the next meeting date.

**Florida Orchid Presentation** - April 16th at 6 p.m. Join The Park Biologist Mike Owen in a very informative and exciting presentation on his knowledge and experience with the orchids of South Florida. Mr. Owen is featured in several books including The Orchid Thief by Jeff Klinkenberg. Check out Orchidswamp.org.

**Paint Party at the Port St. John Library** - Saturday, April 5th from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. During this class you will create custom wooden door hangers. Adults and teens ages 16+. \$40/per person. Payment is due at sign up. Deadline to register at the Reference Desk by Wednesday, April 2nd.

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

#### Youth Programs

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

**Library Egg Hunt**— Kids five and under can participate in an egg hunt in the Port St. John Library's youth services section. Trade any eggs you find to the Youth Services staff for mystery prizes!

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

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

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

4/6 - Feed-the-Bunny Game

4/13 - Egg Letter Match Game

4/27 - Bubble Wrap Beehive Craft

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

4/12— Bubble Wrap Pop Art

4/19— Garden Rock Painting

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

4/5— Nature Bunny

4/12— Box Bunny

4/19— Bunny Head Band

4/26— Spring Lily Handprint

## Book Fest in Cocoa Village

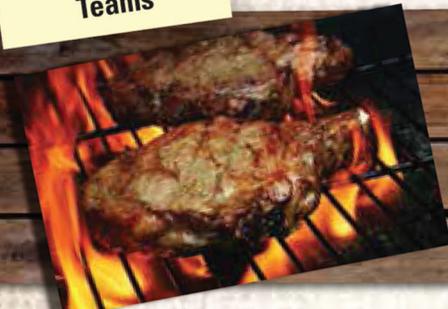
You are invited to the Annual Book Fest in Historic Cocoa Village on Saturday, April 5, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for a day of literary fun. Readers of all ages are welcome to meet writers, purchase some great books by local authors and enjoy a book walk through Historic Cocoa Village. Stores throughout the Village will have guest authors for the day providing you with some literary enjoyment while you shop.

At Tails at the Barkery, Touch of Grey Rescue will be showcasing their books, Farkle Finds His Forever Home, based on the true story of a special needs shelter dog; and, 'Twas The Night Before Dogmas,' both written by local author Wendy Johnson, President and Founder of Touch of Grey Rescue. For the safety of our animals and friends, all pets must be on a leash, or in appropriate carriers, and have current vaccinations and county tags.

For more information, call 321-305-4584.

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321-802-1311 - stpatrickspsj.org  
Service Times

Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Eucharist  
Sunday School during 10:00 AM Service  
Wednesday: 6:00 PM Eucharist  
**Holy Week Service Schedule**

April 13<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday 8:00 am/10:00 am  
April 16<sup>th</sup> Holy Wednesday 6:00 pm  
April 17<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday 6:00 pm  
April 18<sup>th</sup> Good Friday 12:00 pm-3:00 pm  
Stations of the Cross 3:30 pm  
Mass of Pre-Sanctification 4:00 pm  
April 20<sup>th</sup> Easter Service 7:00 am/10:00 am

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## Monthly Tax Update

There are many concerns for this month. If you received a letter from the IRS, you are not alone. Many taxpayers and businesses received those letters in March. This has been one of the biggest concerns for many people receiving letters with only the total balance due in prior years, including the fact that they may levy your assets if you don't resolve the balance due as soon as possible. The first step is to consult with a tax professional. The tax professional will evaluate the letter and could reduce the tax liability by filing an amended return if any expenses on prior tax returns were overlooked or missed, especially with small businesses filing Schedule C on their personal tax returns.

Next will be a temporary update on the FinCen about BOI. This past March 21st, 2025, FinCen has not enforced any penalties or fines related to BOI reporting and has stated that it will issue an interim ruling by March 21st, 2025. I advise you to check for any updates on the FinCen website for any further requirements, which are changing every month.

**Taxpayers who didn't file their outstanding**

**THE PLANT SHACK**  
NOW OPEN  
TUES-SUN 10AM-10PM  
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ART & MUCH MORE!

## The Plant Shack Beer and Wine Garden & Plant Boutique

### The Plant Shack Is Now Open

Port St. John and Four Communities has a new place to relax. The Plant Shack offers craft beverages, cocktails, and community. Our Mission is to create a serene and welcoming environment where the community can come together to celebrate the beauty of art and nature. Through shared experiences and meaningful connections, we strive to inspire a sense of peace, creativity and belonging, fostering a space where everyone can relax, reflect, and enjoy the company of others.

Jim and Kristy's Vision - With over 40 years of connection to Port St. John, Jim and Kristy built The Plant Shack Beer and Wine Garden & Plant Boutique as a reflection of their passions. Combining Kristy's love for plants and Jim's artistic metalwork, they've created a space where nature, art, and community come together. Relax with a craft beer or wine, surrounded by greenery and creativity.

The Plant Shack Beer and Wine Garden & Plant Boutique is open Tuesday - Sunday, 10 a.m. - 10 p.m., days and evenings are full of fun games, classes, music and relaxation. For more information about upcoming events, please visit:  
<https://theplantshackbeerandwinegarden.com/>

**321-208-8001**

**5800 N. Highway 1, PSJ**

**2021 tax return have until April 15th to file their 2021 return to receive any refund due.** After that, any refund you may have qualified for will not be paid to you. You can consult your tax preparer to help you gather your wage and income from the IRS transcripts to complete your 2021 tax return.

Last, I will talk about the Social Security Fairness Act. This Act increases Social Security benefits for certain types of workers, including the following professions: teachers, firefighters and police officers in many states; federal employees covered by the Civil Service Retirement System; and people whose work had been covered by a foreign social security system. However, only people who receive a pension based on work not covered by Social Security may see benefit

increases. These retroactive payments started last February 25th. Those who qualify should receive a one-time retroactive payment by the end of March. Then, some benefits will increase very little, while others may be eligible for over \$1,000 more each month.

**This April 15th is the due date to file your 2024 tax return or file an extension and make payments of your tax liability for 2024.** An extension will give you an extra 6 months to file your tax return - until October 15th - but not 6 months to pay your taxes without approximately 1.2% on penalties and monthly interest for the amount not paid from April 15th until October 15th.

**May 1st - Annual Reports for corporations and LLC's is due with Sunbiz.org.** On-time renewal is \$150. Avoid paying \$400 for late filing.

Remember, this is a very brief overview. It is your responsibility to discuss any tax and financial changes with your professional advisor for assistance in evaluating your situation.

For details and specific assistance in applying the general information in this article, call us at your earliest convenience or contact your tax advisor. Provided by Pedro L. Baldeon, E.A., 321-632-5726, a member of the National Society of Tax Professionals.

## Alcoholics Anonymous

Port St. John

Saint Patrick's Church

4797 Curtis Blvd. - East off Grissom Pkwy.

Sunset Group Meeting

(C) Sunday 5:00 Closed topic



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