

# HAPPENINGS

ISSUE NO. 421

May 2025

SERVING PORT ST. JOHN & CANAVERAL GROVES

HAPPENINGS  
**BRIDGE**  
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Call 321-633-7499 or e-mail to happenings1@att.net.

www.happenings.net

## 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 about the league, 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).

Port St John COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
TODAY | TOMORROW | TOGETHER

Funraiser for Thunder Over the Indian River

**RED WHITE & BAGS CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT**

**SATURDAY • MAY 17TH**

**COCOA ELKS LODGE #1532**  
315 Florida Avenue • Cocoa

SIGN UP 9:00AM  
BAGS FLY AT 10:00 (TOURNAMENT STARTS)  
\$20 Per Player / Blind Draw

**RAFFLE BASKETS & 50/50 RAFFLE**

TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR:

**SOUTHERN KINGS CORNHOLE**

Visit our Website  
For Information to Play or Sponsor:  
[PortStJohnCommunityFoundation.com/events](http://PortStJohnCommunityFoundation.com/events)

Email: [PSJCommunityFoundation@gmail.com](mailto:PSJCommunityFoundation@gmail.com)  
Contact Southern Kings Cornhole  
321-289-7876

or current resident

Resident  
Brevard County, FL

PRSRST STD  
U S POSTAGE  
PAID  
COCOA, FL 32922  
PERMIT NO. 53

ECRWSS

## Meet Tanya Itani Taival

### Tanya Itani Taival, DO

Dr. Taival has served the North Brevard community for nearly 20 years as a board-certified Obstetrician/Gynecologist (OB/GYN). Dr. Taival is fluent in English, Arabic and medical Spanish.

### TANYA ITANI TAIVAL GYNECOLOGY

2507 Garden Street  
Suite 102  
Titusville, Florida 32796  
Phone: 321-269-0748

For more information, visit  
[parrishhealthcare.com/taival](http://parrishhealthcare.com/taival)



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# PSJ Community Center Schedule - May, 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.

**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. Enrollment is open. Tuition is \$65 per month with the

recital costume included with tuition. Register 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 accommodate 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 to exercise and socialize in a fun nature. Price is \$2 per class. Call 321-603-2118 for more information.

### **ZUMBA with Beverly**

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

Zumba is a dynamic, dance-based fitness program that combines Latin and International music with energetic dance moves, creating a fun and effective workout for all fitness levels. It's a cardio workout disguised as a dance party, with an instructor leading participants through choreographed routines set to upbeat music.

### **Summer Day Camp 2025**

Summer Day Camp is June 2nd – August 8th for children ages 5 years old (on or before September 1, 2024) to 12 years old. Please contact the center at 321-633-1904 for more information.

## **Food For Thought**

### **Dairy Free Milk Swaps**

Dairy allergies and intolerances are on the rise, and as a dietitian I see it all the time, especially in kiddos. In most cases, removing dairy from the diet and making a switch to a milk alternative can provide relief. However, parents often worry that their kids might not receive the same nutritional benefits from non-dairy milk compared to cow's milk. Fortunately, the food industry has responded to the growing demand for plant-based milk alternatives, now offering an array of options: almond, coconut, oat, hemp, rice—what can't we convert into a milk substitute? Perhaps this

could inspire a series titled, "Will it Milk?" Nonetheless, it's crucial to remember that not all milk alternatives are equal, so selecting one that provides similar, or even greater nutritional value than cow's milk is important.

There are some essential nutrients to consider. Protein plays a crucial role in the growth and development of children, with one cup of milk typically providing around 8 grams. Both soy and pea milk offer similar protein content, while other plant-based options don't come close. Almond milk, the most widely consumed plant-based milk, contains only about 1 gram of protein per serving.

Cow's milk is naturally rich in calcium and potassium and is fortified with vitamin D. Many popular milk alternatives are fortified with similar levels of these three nutrients, but it's important to check the nutrition facts label to be sure. Vitamin B12 is found in cow's milk but not in many dairy-free choices, except, drumroll please, soy and pea milks. With both soy and pea milk tied for first, soy stands out as the more budget-friendly choice. If you're avoiding dairy due to intolerance or allergy, I recommend choosing soy milk provided there are no soy allergies, as it is the closest nutritional alternative to cow's milk.

Unfortunately, soy milk often receives negative attention due to misinformation propagated by pseudoscience. However, research indicates that soy products offer protective health benefits, such as lowering blood pressure and reducing cancer risk. That said, I occasionally encounter both adults and children who simply cannot stand the taste, and if that's you, it's totally okay. Thankfully, there are many other plant-based alternatives for you to explore.

A couple of tips when shopping: always check the nutrition facts labels on the back of products, as nutritional content can differ by brand. Steer clear of added sugars. Look for appropriate alternatives that provide similar nutritional advantages without compromising on taste, health or your budget. While soy milk is the more nutritionally comparable choice, it's important to consider your personal preferences and tolerances. Aim to choose a milk substitute that aligns with both your dietary needs and personal tastes.

Amanda Mahaleris, MS, RDN, LDN  
Indian River Nutrition Services  
[dietitian@irnutrition.com](mailto:dietitian@irnutrition.com)

## On the Road With Rose



### Kelly Park, Merritt Island

West-2455, East-2550 N. Banana River Dr.  
Merritt Island 321-633-1874

As we enjoy our little piece of paradise, know if you or loved ones are facing the hardships of today's world, you or they are not alone, prayers are being sent.

Kelly Park is actually a two-fer. East Kelly Park and West Kelly Park are located on the northern end of North Banana River Drive, just a little south of SR-528. Turning off SR-528 onto North Banana River Drive, the first little road on the left is one entrance to the East park. It leads past the bathrooms and a large open field perfect for kite flying or any running games the kids (of any age) are not able to do in their own back yard. The parking lots face a small pavilion with a BBQ grill and picnic tables and a beautiful sandy river beach. My family has used the beach to launch canoes, kayaks, water boards and just plain swimming. Horse shoe crabs, fiddlers, fish, minnows and much more water life are plentiful for viewing and many tracks in the sand tell us raccoons, 'possums, armadillos and all kinds of birds are present.

Paved pathways lead to one side of the cove and another pavilion with BBQ grill and tables where the boats are launched and to the bathrooms, play grounds and fishing docks.

The second entrance leads to the huge parking lot that services the two boat launches and a large pavilion with several BBQ grills and many picnic tables. There are docks on either side of the boat launches and just past the playground. There are also horse shoe pits and a volley ball court.

A block or so south, the entrance to the West park is clearly marked on the right. Encompassing 40 acres, West Kelly Park also has several large open fields perfect for kite flying, butterfly

chasing and any form of racing (foot, butt, wheel barrow, etc.). There is more than ample parking, also several pavilions with BBQ grills and bathrooms divided between the north and south areas.

There's a huge basketball court, very nice tennis court, soccer field and a large beautiful lake. In the few moments I stood on the dock, I saw a coot swimming, an egret (?) darting for minnows, several gator slides and a raccoon peeping at me from the bushes.

Surrounding the whole thing is a beautiful paved walkway that meanders from the flat grassy areas to the shaded bushy areas running past the lake. Making my way past the huge old oak tree, I was passed by a family jogging. I couldn't help but think they looked like they were adding a new dimension to the concept of togetherness.

I also couldn't help thinking if I tried for that concept by jogging, my family would experience their togetherness by racing their old Grammy to the ER.

Dogs are allowed on the west side. If you bring your fur baby, please keep them leashed and don't let them or small children wander around the edge of the lake. As with any other body of water in the Sunshine State, there are alligators and they don't know the difference between Fido and whatever it is that they should be eating.

Once again, please take only pictures and leave only footprints, be kind to Mother Nature and each other.

## Viper Project Graduation Seeks Donated Storage Space



Viper Project Graduation is looking for a donated 10x20 or 10x10 storage unit to help reduce expenses and keep funds focused on supporting our graduating seniors. In the past, a 10x20 unit was generously donated. This year, we've received a discounted rate, but it remains a significant cost.

The storage unit is used to pass along essential supplies—like Viper Vortex and fundraiser items—from year to year. The 2025 committee's term ends in June, when the 2026 team will take over. If you can help by donating a storage unit, please email [scviperspg@gmail.com](mailto:scviperspg@gmail.com). Thank you for your continued support!



## 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

There are a number of organizations in Florida working to collect petitions for the following Citizen Initiative including the Sierra Club, the League of Women, Thousand Friends of Florida and numerous other environmental groups.

## **Florida 2026 Right to Clean Water Amendment**

It is critical that 900,000 signatures are collected for the Right to Clean Water by December 2025 or it will never be voted on. If you signed a petition before, you need to sign it again.

From the Right to Clean Water Website: “Florida is 1st in the nation for most lakes polluted. Florida is 2nd in the nation for the most impaired estuaries (lagoon). 4/5’s of all Florida springs are impaired. 9,000 miles of Florida’s rivers and streams are impaired by fecal bacteria. Approximately 1 million acres of Florida’s coastal estuaries are contaminated by fecal bacteria.

Taxpayers shouldn’t be paying for damage from polluters. 10 million people depend on the Florida Aquifer for their primary source of drinking water. The phosphate industry threatens our water. Phosphate mining and phosphogypsum stacks occur over a critical area of the Floridian Aquifer. The region of Florida known as Bone Valley, which covers part of four counties including Hardee, Hillsborough, Manatee and Polk, are known as the nation’s largest known deposits of phosphates. The movie “Phosphate” is available and streaming now for free on TUBI and shows the damage this mining can do.

Reference: [www.floridarighttocleanwater.org/](http://www.floridarighttocleanwater.org/)  
**Florida Citizen Initiative Requirements Are Changing**

Florida is pushing through new requirements that will change any future Citizen Amendment Initiatives. According to a story in the Guardian titled, “US lawmakers to vote on bill targeting non-citizen voting,” “There will be extensive uncertainty.” Senate Bill (SPB 7016) and House Bill (1205) add more requirements on collecting signatures. They would impose new requirements on ballot campaigns, including needing a \$1 million bond before you could begin collecting signatures and restrictions on signature collectors. They also reduce the deadline for submitting petitions and increase fines for late submissions.

References: [www.theguardian.com/us-news/2025/apr/01/save-act-republicans-trump-noncitizen-voting](http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2025/apr/01/save-act-republicans-trump-noncitizen-voting)

<https://finnoexpert.com/florida-house-cracks-down-on-ballot-initiatives/>

## **Port St. John/Canaveral Groves MSTU**

The Port St. John Homeowners Association (PSJHOA) started in the 1980’s. It was voluntary and members attended many Brevard County Commission meetings, working to get a lot of quality-of-life improvements for the community like the fire station and the library. The PSJHOA was disbanded in the early 2000’s. The PSJHOA helped the community get the Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) so we could purchase extra things the community wanted. Florida Statutes allows a community to vote to tax themselves to pay for facilities.

The Port St. John/Canaveral Groves Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) was voted for by both Port St. John and Canaveral Groves back in the 1990’s to purchase (and now maintain) the Port St. John Community Center, Fay Lake Park (240 acres), and Space Coast Communities Sports Complex (207 acres) in Canaveral Groves. Our area was the first in Brevard to vote to tax ourselves for our quality of life improvements. We are paying off the facilities next year. We’ll pay off the purchase debt, but we still have to pay for maintenance, a requirement of the county.

All North Brevard’s other parks are covered within North Brevard Parks and Recreation MSTU. We in PSJ and Canaveral Groves are paying for two MSTUs; the PSJ/Canaveral Groves Parks MSTU, plus the North Brevard Parks MSTU for all our other District 1 parks. I can understand as we can attend all parks, not just the parks close to home, and we can go to all the other parks in the other Districts throughout the county: District 1 has 25 parks paid for by MSTU, North Brevard Special District (north of Kings Highway to Scottsmoor), has 22 parks, plus the 3 within our PSJ/Canaveral Groves MSTU. Merritt Island has 15 parks paid for by MSTU. District 4 has 23 parks paid for by MSTU, and South Brevard has 35 parks paid for by MSTU.

I initially talked to the Interim County Manager, Jim Liesenfelt, a month or so ago and was told the PSJ/CG MSTU would be paid off in 2026. As I was typing up the May Happenings,

there were a lot of questions, especially, “Will we be paying less or will our MSTU be folded into the North Brevard Recreation MSTU”, and that one be adjusted. I called Jim Liesenfelt back this month and he sent me the slides for the Brevard County Budget. That was an eye opener.

The Budget slides showed we had paid off the PSJ/CG MSTU in 2016. The slides also showed we are still paying both MSTUs since that date. As a matter of fact, the residents between Kings Hwy. and Ranch Road on the north to Canaveral Groves Blvd. on the south have been paying 0.4281 millage to the North Brevard Recreation MSTU and 0.2682 millage to the PSJ/CG MSTU, even though they are overlapping.

Randy Rodriguez and I are meeting with District 1 County Commissioner Katie Delaney on our concern on why we are paying more than other residents in District 1. We will give you all information as soon as we have answers.

Cheerio,  
[rupe32927@gmail.com](mailto:rupe32927@gmail.com)

*This article expresses the views of its author.*

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## **Red White & Bags Cornhole Tournament**

Come out to Cocoa Elks Lodge #1532, 315 Florida Ave., on Saturday, May 17th to play in this fundraiser for Thunder Over the Indian River. The entry fee is \$20.00 per player. Teams will be by blind draw. Sign up starts at 9:00. Bags fly at 10:00.

The day will also include raffle baskets and 50/50 drawings. For more information, visit [PortStJohnCommunityFoundation/events](http://PortStJohnCommunityFoundation/events). There is also information on becoming a sponsor.

The tournament is conducted by Southern Kings Cornhole. Call 321-289-7876 for more information about this tournament or their others.

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## **Ink and Ivy Book Club**

Come join us at The Plant Shack, & Beer Garden, 5800 N. Highway 1, PSJ, 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!

## Rose's Room

~ Rose Padrick



### Whose Day?

Our hearts go out to the mothers in not-so-far away places facing the horribleness going on at this time. I'm sending extra prayers from mother for mother and invite anyone who wants to join me.

In a few days the work and sacrifices of mothers everywhere will be celebrated in grand style... depending on your conception of style. One of my most memorable was when certain humans connected to me were little and breakfast in bed consisted of water – the juice mysteriously disappeared - toast drowning in grape jam, because someone finished the homemade strawberry preserves hidden behind the container of vegetable soup, and a spoon. Served with a personally scrawled card with five little signatures and smears smelling suspiciously like strawberries.

I also remember pulling and washing the wet, grapey sheets when the tray tipped and my awe at how every inch of kitchen counter space could be stickily taken over by just making toast.

My adorable offspring declared everything should be about Mom today as in, "It's your day and we think you would really enjoy a trip to the park...or zoo!" "We know how much you like the beach. How about we take you there for Mother's Day? All you have to do is drive!" Dear old Dad had tiptoed out to work before the 'chefs' began their surprise...convenient.

Locating bathing suits, assisting eager little bodies into them, changing said suits because sister number two decided to wear sister number one's suit and sister number one objected mightily, piling forty-five pounds of towels, toys and whatever else they could grab into the car, we headed off to a fun day at the beach in honor of

mothers everywhere.

Just a short four hours of, "Stop throwing sand at your sister! Don't go out so far - the waters too deep! Do not shove sand down your brother's bathing suit," it was time to try to beat the obligatory afternoon thunderstorm for slip-n-slide and backyard shower fun for sand removal.

Three loads of laundry and uncounted hours of cartoons later, hubby breezes in with, "How was your Mother's Day? What's for dinner?"

Except for the last part, I miss and relive this chapter of my life almost every day. I thank The Big Guy every day for gracing me with the most amazing family on the planet...and for getting me through their teenagerhoods!

Children are exhausting, infuriating and God's gift ... hold them as long as possible.

And remember, grandchildren are your best revenge.

- rosepadrick@gmail.com



### Paws for Cinco de Mayo

You are invited to "Paws for Cinco de Mayo," hosted by Tails at the Barkery on Sunday, May 4th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., at Milpa Tacos y Tortillas, 207 Brevard Avenue in Cocoa Village.

Bring your canine companion and join us for an afternoon of fun, including raffle baskets, a 50/50 drawing and games of Bingo. For purchase, there will be delicious food, beverages and Artist Lori Prell will be on hand for caricature drawings and face painting.

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.

All proceeds to benefit Touch of Grey Rescue, an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide foster care, re-homing assistance and hospice care to senior dogs that have been left behind by their owners or who are residing in shelters.

Contact Touch of Grey Rescue, [www.touchofgreyrescue.com/](http://www.touchofgreyrescue.com/) or Tails at the Barkery, 321-305-4584 for more information.

## Parrish Healthcare Open Interviews

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 or the Open Interviews, please visit [parrishhealthcare.com/careers](http://parrishhealthcare.com/careers).

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Special.**

**Be a Parrish Care Partner!**

**How do you reach 12,500  
homes in Port St. John &  
Canaveral Groves?**

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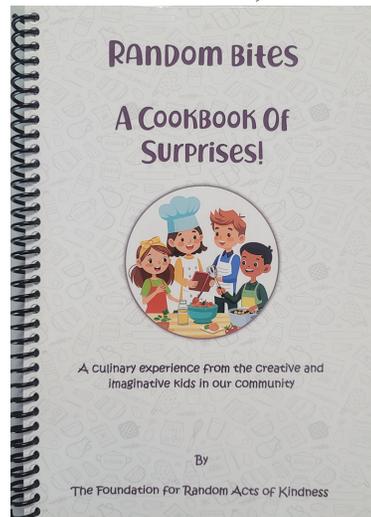
Call Randy at 321-633-7499

We take VISA & MasterCard

## Local Foundation Publishes Children's Cookbook to Fund Education Initiatives

The Foundation for Random Acts of Kindness has released a new children's cookbook, combining culinary creativity with charitable giving to support educational opportunities for local youth. The cookbook, featuring recipes contributed by children from across Brevard County, represents more than just a collection of kid-friendly dishes. Each purchase directly funds the Foundation's Education/Life Funds program, which establishes \$2,500 in education funds for children ages 4-10.

"We wanted to create something meaningful that would showcase children's creativity while also providing sustainable funding for our programs," said Neesha Peters, Foundation President. "The response from the community has been overwhelming."



The response from the community has been overwhelming."

The cookbook includes everything from simple snacks to surprisingly sophisticated meals, each accompanied by the young chef's story and aspirations. Many

recipes feature family traditions passed down through generations, creating a unique cultural tapestry reflecting the diverse community.

In just four years, the Foundation has established education funds for 77 children across the county, primarily focusing on student loan debt, financial literacy and supporting our community. Local businesses have stepped up to support distribution, with Sam's Mart and Tropic Ice Cream currently serving as the primary retail locations.

"These cookbooks represent hope," said Sarah McClure, whose daughter contributed her family cookie recipe. "When she sees her recipe in print, she's already thinking about college and her future. That's powerful."

The cookbooks are available for purchase at Sam's Mart and Tropic Ice Cream, and at Foundation events for \$20. The Foundation is

planning several book signing events where young contributors will autograph copies and share the stories behind their recipes. A paperback version can also be found on Amazon.

For more information about the cookbook or the Foundation's programs, contact [foundationforrak@gmail.com](mailto:foundationforrak@gmail.com) or visit their upcoming Spirit Market Event at Space Coast Nutrition.

For more information, visit the Foundation's website, [www.foundationforrak.org](http://www.foundationforrak.org)

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

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

The storage unit will be used to store everything safely indoors where everything can be maintained and ready for use. If you have a shed or know of an available shed that could be donated, please email [psjcommunityfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:psjcommunityfoundation@gmail.com). It's a 501c3 non-profit, so a tax deductible receipt can be provided.

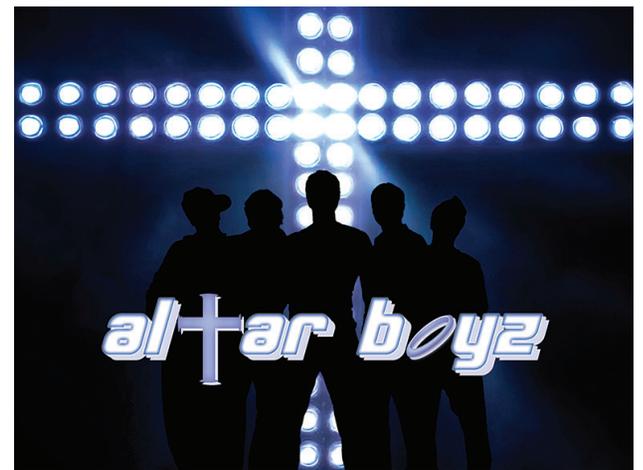


## Viper Nation Supply Station

The Viper Nation Supply Station is always in need of food. They have families that shop there on a regular basis and students go every Tuesday and Thursday.



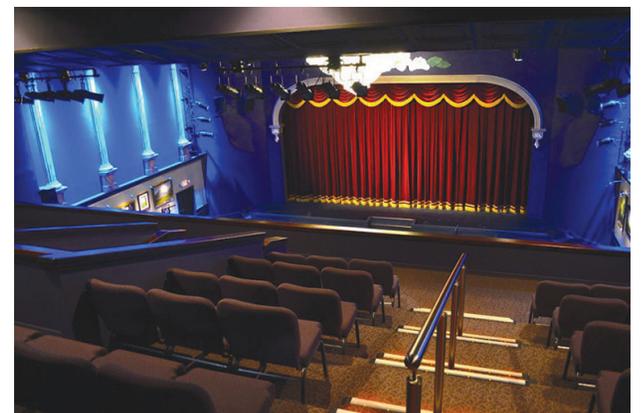
Contact the front office of Space Coast Jr/Sr High School at 321-638-0750, ext. 27009 or visit the school to help.



## ALTAR BOYZ

May 2-25, 2025 Rated PG

Hailed as "high-octane entertainment" (Talkin' Broadway), Altar Boyz tells the holy inspiring story of 5 small-town boys – Matthew, Mark, Luke, Juan and Abraham – trying to save the world one screaming fan at a time. Their pious pop act about a fictitious Christian boy band on the last night of their national "Raise the Praise" tour. With angelic voices, sinfully spectacular dancing and a touching story, Altar Boyz is destined to rock the masses of all denominations!



## 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. Balcony seats are only accessed by walking up a flight of stairs. THERE IS NO ELEVATOR.

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.**

### 5-3 Kentucky Derby

#### 5-3 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.

### 5-4 Int'l Firefighters Day

### 5-5 Cinco de Mayo

### 5-6 Nurses Day

### 5-6 Teachers Day

**5-6 Compassionate Friends Support Group** meets the first Tuesday of each 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.

**5-7 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.

**5-7 Sons of Amvets 2415 Meeting-** 1st Wednesday of each month, 6 p.m. 688 West Ave., PSJ. Commander Chuck Harrington, 321-208-7897.

**5-8 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.

**5-9 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.

### 5-11 Mother's Day

**5-11 Word Weavers Space Coast**, a critique group for Christian writers, meets the 2nd Sunday each month at 2 p.m. at the Central Brevard Library in Cocoa. Visitors are always welcome. Email angelagardnerwrites@gmail.com for info.

### 5-17 Armed Forces Day

**5-19 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.

**5-21 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.

**5-27 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.

### 5-31 Memorial Day

**5-31 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.

## Post 359 - American Legion Post 359 - American Legion



**5-3 Bike Days at the Tiki** - 1st Saturday of the month, 1 - 5 p.m. presented by American Legion Riders. Good food on the grill with Fixin's, \$10. Listen to live music, take part in drawings, 50/50. All proceeds to benefit veterans and veterans' families.

**5-7 Auxiliary General Membership Meeting** - 1st Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m.

**5-12 Sons of the Legion**, 6 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of the month at the Post.

**5-18 American Legion Riders** General Membership Meeting- 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m. Call 2nd Vice Director Janice Anderson, Director, 321-210-6234 or visit our website, alr359.org.

**5-21 General Membership Meeting-** 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m.

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

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

*Of course I talk to myself.  
Sometimes I need expert advice.*

### Congratulations to:

**Anthony Piazza** for getting accepted into **FIT flight school!**  
**Cathy Rodriguez** turns prettier on the 11th.  
**Stephanie Hilde** turns **31** on the 1st.  
**Emily Waters** turns **19** on the 1st.  
**Kaitlyn Davis** turns **19** on the 4th.  
**Eric Bray** turns **29** on the 4th.  
**Sarah Travis** turns prettier on the 5th.  
**Finley Link** turns **10** on the 9th.  
**Jacob Prentis** turns **31** on the 10th.  
**Ryan Maxwell** turns **19** on the 10th.  
**Brandy Lampton** turns hotter on the 11th.  
**Jesse Jordan** turns **27** on the 11th.  
**Christopher Pistilli** is **22** on the 12th.  
**Anthony Baum** turns **34** on the 14th.  
**Cathy Unrue** turns more lovely on the 15th.  
**Tim Unrue** turns buffer on the 15th.  
**Peyton Anderson** turns **14** on the 15th.  
**Harry Weidman** turns cooler on the 16th.  
**Ruthe Middleton** turns cuter on the 18th.  
**Alynza Sladyk** turns **18** on the 19th.  
**Jake Wardlow** turns **4-0** on the 20th.  
**Sandy Link** dances till dawn on the 20th.  
**Ellie Grace Moore** parties wild on the 27  
**Delaney Hermes** turns **12** on the 28th.  
**Allison Henzmann** turns **25** on the 28th.  
**Madison Firth** turns **12** on the 29th.  
**Brittany Benoff** turns **17** on the 31st.  
**John Phipps** turns wiser on the 31st.  
**Steve Prentis** turns wilder on the 31st!  
**Diane Rivers** is the Queen on the 31st.  
**Carol Horsman** gets kisses this month.  
**Christopher Spears** turns **31** this month.  
**Irene Spears** has a spanking day in May.  
**Joe & KC Casey** celebrate their **58th** wedding anniversary on the 1st.  
**Paul & Kathi Hildebrandt** celebrate **37** on the 10th.  
**Harry & Vickie Weidman** celebrate **42** on the 17th.  
**Robert and Vonnie** celebrate **69** on the 21st.  
**Michiyo Hall** - Happy **49th** anniversary to my Beautiful Bride on the 21st.  
**Joe & Leigh Waters** celebrate **23** on May 30th.  
Email inputs to happenings1@att.net.

# SLEEPY HOLLOW



## Fruit From The Groves



At the south end of Pine St., white safety markers have been added to the roadway. Florida Power and Light has added bright LED lights to light up the corner at Coconut.

At the north end of Adamson Road, a fence and a concrete barrier was installed. These improvements have made the roadway safer, but they will not work unless people obey the speed limits and use due care.

We are still in the dry/ fire season for a couple of more weeks. The fire department has responded to a number of calls about brush fires. All it takes is a brush fire to start and some wind and we all could be in danger. A lot of people out here now do not know about the large fires that were here in the past and how dangerous they were. The Groves was lucky there was no loss of life and only a couple of small structures were lost.

It is now time to get ready for Hurricane Season. There are plenty of lists out there on what is needed. Now is the time to drive around and see where streets go, so you can get out in case of an emergency if needed.

They are putting transmission conduit along the right of way on some of the streets for communication services to be installed at a later date.

People have already asked to have another

Grove Wide Yard Sale in the fall. This will be discussed at a later date.

Ed Silva  
President  
Canaveral Groves Homeowners Assn.

## Merfolk Academy

Brevard County Central Area Parks and Recreation is hosting a Merfolk academy from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 24, at McLarty Aquatic Center, located at 790 Barton Blvd. Rockledge.

Ever dream of being a mermaid or merman? At Merfolk Academy, we will make that dream come true. We start our Merfolk-in-training with basic swimming skills before transitioning into the monofin. Instructors will teach safe fin use and proper breathing while swimming.

Participants must complete a swim test before registering for the academy. The swim test consists of being able to swim 12 yards without stopping and being able to float on their front or back.

Merfolk tails and monofins are provided. Space is limited to 10 participants and mermaid tail size. The cost will be \$28.94 per student. For additional information, call 321-302-1658

***A winner is a loser who tried  
one more time.***

## Eyes on Seagrass Blitz

If you spend time out on the Indian River Lagoon, whether boating, canoeing, fishing, kayaking, snorkeling or just soaking up the sun in these critical estuaries, Florida Sea Grant is calling on volunteers for the Eyes on Seagrass Blitz, May 1 to May 31. This program serves as an effort to collect data on the presence and absence of seagrass in the Indian River Lagoon.

The Indian River Lagoon is a vibrant ecosystem full of important seagrasses. Those seagrasses act as habitats and nurseries for marine species like manatees, sea turtles, fish, crabs and more, and the seagrasses also serve as their critical food source. Seagrasses also play a vital role in enhancing water quality by stabilizing sediments, removing nutrients, producing oxygen and sequestering carbon dioxide. After years of decline, seagrasses in the Indian River Lagoon are showing signs of regrowth in some regions, said Lisa Krinsky, regional water resources agent with Florida Sea Grant.

The blitz will rely on residents and visitors to report seagrass, using this online form. Participants will take photos, go online, upload the photos and answer a few questions about their location and click "submit." More information is available from this Florida Sea Grant website. This community-driven seagrass monitoring event takes place throughout the Indian River Lagoon region, including Mosquito Lagoon and the Banana River in Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin counties. With this large-scale citizen-science effort, volunteers will contribute valuable data on seagrass health, crucial to restoring the lagoon's fragile ecosystems. This data will help identify areas and the types of monitoring needed for future monitoring and surveys.

This event is unique because anyone can participate, with no special equipment or training needed. To participate, visit [bit.ly/ReportSeaGrass](http://bit.ly/ReportSeaGrass), then choose "Open in Browser" and fill out the form through the website and submit.

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Won't you join us?**

# 10th Annual Backyard BBQ Competition Sizzles with Community Spirit

Blue skies, smoky grills, and a whole lot of heart marked the 10th Annual Sharing Center Amateur Backyard BBQ Competition on April 5th, drawing hundreds of attendees for a day of food, fun, and fundraising. With perfect spring temperatures and a festive atmosphere, the community came together to celebrate a decade of delicious competition and support a vital local cause.

This year's competition featured eight talented teams vying for the coveted titles of Grand Champion and People's Choice Awards, along with best Brisket, Chicken and Pork. As the scent of smoked meat filled the air, the stakes were high. After a closely fought contest, the Brevard County Sheriff's Office Marine Unit once again claimed the Grand Champion title, proving their pitmaster skills are just as sharp as their service to the community.

guests dancing and singing along. With more than 100 raffle prizes up for grabs and a hearty lunch prepared and donated by local chefs, the event turned into a full-on family festival. Kids played, neighbors caught up, and the community spirit was as warm as the grills.

"This is what community looks like," said one attendee. "Great food, good music, and coming together for a purpose."

And that purpose? Supporting The Sharing Center of Central Brevard, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping individuals and families in need with food, housing assistance, and other critical services. This year's BBQ competition raised over \$55,000; an amount badly needed by the organization as demand for services grow.

David Brubaker, President and CEO of The Sharing Center, expressed heartfelt gratitude for the overwhelming support.

"And we thank them from the bottom of our hearts."

Sponsors also stepped up in a big way, with dozens of local businesses contributing funds, raffle items, services and supplies to ensure the event's success. Their generosity was matched only by the smiling faces of those in attendance, who were eager to support a cause that continues to make a difference in the lives of so many.

As the last brisket was served and the raffle tickets drawn, the message was clear: this community knows how to come together, and how to throw one unforgettable BBQ bash.

With another successful year in the books, the Sharing Center's BBQ Competition has proven once again that a little smoke, some good tunes, and a lot of heart can go a long way.

***Ed. Note - Big THANKX to Dave Brubaker, the event organizer!***



**Grand Champion - Brevard County Sheriff's Office Marine Unit**

**People's Choice - Smoke On the Water**

Meanwhile, the People's Choice Award went to a familiar name: 'Smoke on the Water', a returning fan favorite, who won the crowd over with their perfectly seasoned and tender pork butt. Cheers erupted as their team proudly lifted the award, having earned the admiration, and taste buds, of over 1400 attendees.

But the BBQ wasn't the only attraction on the menu.

Local rock cover band 'Classic Jurassic' kept the energy high with a setlist of hits that had

"We were delighted with the turnout this year," Brubaker said. "It was a fitting celebration of our 10th year and a major boost to our fundraising efforts. But none of this would be possible without the fantastic community support we receive."

Brubaker gave special thanks to the event's organizing committee, who spent months planning and coordinating, as well as the many volunteers from businesses and organizations across Brevard County who donated their time and energy.

"We could not do it alone," Brubaker added.



**Happy Mother's Day  
to all Moms from HAPPENINGS!**



**St. Patrick's Anglican Church**

4797 Curtis Blvd., Port St. John

321-802-1311

Classical Christianity Engaging the World

May is already here, and students in Port St. John are looking forward to the end of the school year. May is a slow month for St. Patrick's, but we do have our regularly scheduled monthly activities and a yearly activity we always look forward to.

If you haven't had a chance to check out our Ladies Fellowship and Craft Group, plan to attend our May meeting on Monday, May 19th at 6:00 PM in the church parish hall. The Ladies Fellowship and Craft group meets on the Third Monday of the month, and meetings are held throughout the summer. Bring a craft to work on and join us for great fellowship, snacks, and drinks are provided.

On Saturday, May 24th at 10:00 a.m., we will be placing American flags in the Memorial Garden and around the church to honor those in our church and community who are no longer with us and served in the military in remembrance of Memorial Day.

The Veterans' and First Responder Breakfast will be Saturday, May 31st, in the Parish Hall at 9:00 a.m. This is open to all veterans, spouses of veterans, police, fire and emergency services individuals. This is a full breakfast and a great opportunity to connect with others who have served or are a part of our first responders.

Regular Service Schedule is: Holy Communion Service – Sunday 8:00 a.m. (no music), 10:00 a.m. (In Person and Facebook Live - <https://www.facebook.com/StPatspsj>), and Wednesday 6:00 PM (In Person and Facebook Live - <https://www.facebook.com/StPatspsj>). Adult Group Study continues starting May 4th on the Twelve Apostles. Class is between services from about 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m., come join us for a great study and fellowship. Morning Prayer Services are – Monday through Friday – 8:00 a.m. (available through Facebook Live only) at <https://www.facebook.com/StPatspsj>.

Are you interested in finding out more about the Anglican Church and St. Patrick's Anglican Church? Please contact us at: St. Patrick's Anglican Church, 4797 Curtis Blvd., Port St. John, 321-802-1311 or [stpatrikspsj@gmail.com](mailto:stpatrikspsj@gmail.com).

Updated event information and services are available on our website: <https://stpatrikspsj.org>.



**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, May 16 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.

**Adult Programs**

**Community Advocate** - Mondays, May 12 and 26, 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** - Wednesday, May 7 at 6:30 p.m. Join the group for a lively discussion of *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell* by Robert Dugoni and pick up the book for June: *The Couple Next Door* by Shari Lapeña. Ebook and Audiobook available on Libby and HOOPLA.

**Port Readers Book Club** - Wednesday, May 28 at 6:30 p.m. Discussing *A God in Ruins* by Leon Uris. Books available at the reference desk. Audiobook available on HOOPLA. The book selection for June is *Annihilation* by Jeff VanderMeer.

**Decoupage framed art craft class FREE** - Saturday May 24 at 2:30 p.m. Limited space so please sign-up Saturday, May 17th at the reference desk.

**Yarn Group of PSJ Library** - The yarn group is a group of adults who enjoy knitting and crocheting. They are happy to help you learn, and all levels are welcome. They donate projects and meet at the Port St. John Public Library every Friday 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.

**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.

5/4— Origami Dog Craft

5/11— Mother's Day Dinosaur Craft

5/18— Cookie Hat Craft

5/25— Bath Bomb Sensory Bin

**Teen Art League** - On May 10th and 17th 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:

5/10— Watercolor Painting

5/17— Air-Dry Clay

**Saturday Craft Crew** - Saturday mornings, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Join us on Saturdays for a fun, hands-on craft time 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!

5/3— "Be Kind to Animals" Dog Craft

5/10— Mother's Day Wreath Craft

5/17— Pom-Pom Stamp Cookie Jar Craft

5/24— Tiara Craft

5/31— Recycled Watering Can Craft

## Recreational Boats And Yachts Can Spread Termites

When you think of termites, you probably don't imagine them aboard yachts, cabin cruisers, sailboats or other watercrafts floating across oceans. A new study by a University of Florida scientist reveals that termites are not simply spreading through natural processes of building new colonies, suggesting humans may be helping them "conquer the world" by transporting them aboard private boats.

According to BoatKeep, as of 2023 there are approximately 11.6 million registered boats in the United States, including powerboats, sailboats and personal watercrafts. Florida leads the nation with 1.03 million registered vessels according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

The study underscores the significant role boats play in the spread of invasive termite species like the Formosan subterranean termite, the Asian subterranean termite and the West Indian drywood termite. The damage caused by these invasive termite species is significant and continues to rise. The numbers are clear and in the double-digit billions.

.Recreational boats and yachts are not routinely checked for termites, allowing infestations to spread unchecked. This lack of awareness means that termites can continue to spread, making eradication efforts more difficult. To curb the spread of invasive termites, boat owners should regularly inspect their vessels for signs of termite infestations, both to protect their property and to help prevent the spread of these destructive pests.

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You are invited to the 38th Bark Brew Fest presented by Tails at the Barkery and the Dirty Oar Beer Company on Saturday, May 17th, at the Dirty Oar Beer Company from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Historic Cocoa Village. Play Bingo to win a fabulous Prize! Bring your canine companion, sip your favorite libation, enjoy delicious food from 56@ and join us for an evening of fun, including raffle baskets and a 50/50 drawing.

All proceeds to benefit Coastal Boxer Rescue of Florida, Inc., an all-volunteer, nonprofit rescue organization dedicated to the successful re-homing of boxers that have been abandoned, neglected or surrendered by their owner. CBR believes that every dog should be given a second chance. Donations are 100% tax-deductible and all proceeds go directly to the boxers under their care.

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.

Contact Coastal Boxer Rescue of Florida, www.coastalboxers.org, 866-281-8209, or Tails at the Barkery, 321-305-4584 or Dirty Oar Beer Company, 321-301-4306.

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## Monthly Tax Update

Finally, the month of April is over. Many taxpayers benefit from the fact that the due date to file and pay the tax returns was May 1st, 2025.

Next, the time came that the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) announced that, consistent with the Department of the Treasury's March 2nd, 2025 announcement, it is issuing an interim final rule that removes the requirement for U.S. companies and U.S. persons to report beneficial ownership information (BOI) to FinCEN under the Corporate Transparency Act. Only foreign entities will be required to file the beneficial ownership information (BOI). Still, these foreign entities will not be required to report any U.S. persons as beneficial owners, and U.S. persons will not be required to report BOI with respect to any such entity for which they are a beneficial owner.

Another concern is that DOGE is laying off IRS agents and how it will affect the tax refunds this year. Good news: Despite layoffs and DOGE cuts, the IRS has been processing tax returns at a pace similar to last year, but a few tax returns have been received with long periods of processing time, especially tax refunds of over \$10,000. Perhaps the reduction affects the number of IRS

agents processing and resolving discrepancies with tax return information missing to complete and submit tax refunds.

For the non-profit organizations, the due date is May 15th, 2025. If you don't have all your documents ready, you can file an extension for 6 months until November 15th. There are many schools where parents organize a non-profit organization for their kids, and many don't know the IRS requirements and the due date for their taxes. It is crucial to remember that the tax-exempt status of an organization that does not file a required return or notice for three consecutive years will be automatically revoked as of the due date of the third unfiled return. Once it is revoked, organizations must file Form 1023 to apply retroactively for the tax-exempt status.

Last, the penalty amount depends on the size of the organization. The penalty for late filing is \$20 a day, not to exceed the lesser of \$12,000 or 5% of the organization's gross receipts for the year unless the organization can show the late filing was due to reasonable cause.

Last, the TCJA's individual tax provisions are set to expire at the end of 2025. Without legislative action, this would result in higher tax rates, reduced standard deductions and changes to

credits like the Child Tax Credit. To prevent this, President Trump and congressional Republicans are working to make these cuts permanent.

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.

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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. Our meeting place is Kay's BBQ Restaurant, 1552 W. King St., Cocoa. The May meeting will be on the 12th. 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/Chapter1137](http://www.NARFE.org/Chapter1137).

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### Experimental Aircraft Meeting

Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 724 holds regular scheduled gatherings for fun and fellowship on the 2nd Wednesday of each month - 14th this month - 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 Parkway. Turn off Courtenay onto the airport and 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](mailto:watersdwayne@yahoo.com), or visit the website at [www.eaa724.org](http://www.eaa724.org).



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## Martin Andersen Senior Center Dances

Martin Andersen Senior Center will host Singles/Couples Ballroom Dances on Saturday, May 10 and Saturday, May 24. Music will be provided by Janice and Rene. For both dances, doors open at 6:30 p.m. and dancing begins at 7:00 p.m., ends at 10:00 p.m. Free snacks, BYOB. Adults of all ages are welcome. The cost is \$8; \$7 for members.

Adults of all ages are welcome to our dances. MASC is located at 1025 S. Florida Ave., Rockledge. Call Martin Andersen Senior Center at 321-631-7556 for more information.



## Central FL Accordion Club

The Brevard Chapter of the Central Florida Accordion Club (CFAC) holds its regular meeting the last Sunday of every month. Members and guests are invited to play accordions or other instruments. Shows are held on the last Sunday of each month, 2:00-5:00 p.m. at Elks Lodge #1532, 315 Florida Ave., Cocoa. The event is open to the public. Admission is free.

CFAC is a Not-for-Profit Florida Corporation, and is tax exempt. The club is dedicated to promoting the visibility and value of the accordion as a multi-cultural musical instrument in Central Florida. For more information, contact Rod Hall, 866-455-2322.



## Space Coast Cars & Motorcycles Show

Come out to Titus Landing, 2520 S. Washington Ave. in Titusville on May 17th, 10:00 a.m. to enjoy a day of hot cars and cruise-ready motorcycles, or enter your own. The Registration Fee is only \$5. Your money benefits Jess Parrish Medical Foundation.

Hosted by Space Coast Cars & Motorcycle, all years, makes and models are welcome. Enjoy vendors, food, ice cream, DJ music and a bounce house for the kids. The Titusville police and fire will be displaying their cool toys, too.

For more information, email mcjoe691@aol.com or visit [www.facebook.com/events/s/space-coast-cars-and-motorcycl/2125466277899021](http://www.facebook.com/events/s/space-coast-cars-and-motorcycl/2125466277899021).



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