



HAPPENINGS of PORT ST. JOHN Inc.

Weekly Edition
August 7, 2026

August Events at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary

Please note events may be cancelled at any time due to weather or staffing availability.

Regular Guided Hikes-Enjoy a 45-minute guided hike. Please bring a hat, water and closed-toe walking shoes. Please register at least the day before. Sign up at: docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfDpN-C6Ht-BxbhFIZbHAKaxkdL-mcvtVKC_k4xGouPIr7Qxlg/viewform?pli=1

Openings on the following dates at 9:30 a.m.:

Saturday, August 8

Sunday, August 9

Saturday, August 15

Sunday, August 16

Saturday, August 22

Sunday, August 23

Saturday, August 29

Sunday, August 30

Canaveral 101 Talk - Tuesday, August 11 and Friday, August 21 at 11 a.m. Join a ranger from Canaveral National Seashore to talk about the history of the longest stretch of undeveloped beach on Florida's east coast.

Nature Storytime - Wednesday, August 12, 10 to 10:30 a.m. LIMITED SPACE. Geared towards ages 5 years and under. Theme: Alligators & Crocodiles! Please dress appropriately for outdoor weather. Classes are first come, first served, with a limit of 20 children per class.

Sanctuary School - Wednesday, August 19, 10 to 11 a.m. LIMITED SPACE. Geared towards ages 6 through 12. Theme: Alligators & Crocodiles! Please dress appropriately for outdoor weather. Classes are first come, first served, with a limit of 20 children per class.
- Wednesday, August 19, 12 to 1 p.m. Bring your lunch and enjoy a special presentation by Courtney McLean, our marvelous volunteer who will be discussing bioluminescence in the Indian River Lagoon. We will enjoy lunch inside of the discovery classroom.

Nature Science Class - Wednesday, August 26, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Introduce your little ones to the wonders of the natural world with our PreK-4th grade Nature School, where each session blends education

and exploration. This is a volunteer led program.

Yoga in Nature - Every Sunday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Join local yoga instructors for a traditional class for all levels on the porch! Bring water and a mat. Please dress appropriately for outdoor weather. Classes are first come, first served. SPACE LIMITED.

- **School in Brevard County starts on**
- **Monday, August 10 for most students.**
- **Kindergarten starts on August 13 and**
- **preK starts on August 17. Challenger 7**
- **Elementary is already back in session.**

Grand Opening Celebration Arogya Health, Inc.



**HONORING
BANSIBHAI & REKHABEN PATEL**

*"One community,
one family, and
one life at a time."*

We carry the spirit of
service forward to create
a living legacy of equity
and leadership in
healthcare.

**Date:**
August 8th, 2026
Time: 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Location:**
895 Barton Blvd., Suite B,
Rockledge, FL 32955



Our Mission

Arogya Health, Inc. was founded on a simple, powerful conviction: healthcare is a fundamental right. We are dedicated to providing accessible, comprehensive care to all, removing barriers and serving those who need it most.



Free Community Clinic

Our work is profoundly dedicated to our neighbors who cannot afford care. We provide 100% free services because financial status should never be a barrier to health. Your health, your dignity, and your life matter.

100% FREE CARE – NO CHARGE – EVERY PATIENT, EVERY VISIT

Free medical consultations, diagnostics, and essential medications.

**Please RSVP**
by calling 732.715.1125
or emailing kevatbpatel@gmail.com



Becker's Hospital Review Tabs Parrish Medical Center CEO George Mikitarian for 4th Time as One of "Community Hospital CEOs to Know"



*George Mikitarian, DHA, FACHE
President and CEO of Parrish Medical Center*

A leading hospital and health care publication has for the fourth consecutive year named Parrish Medical Center President and CEO George Mikitarian, DHA, FACHE, as one of the nation's top "Community Hospital CEOs to Know."

Becker's Hospital Review, a national publication focusing on health care news and analysis, previously cited Mikitarian as one of its "Community Hospital CEOs to Know." According to Becker's, the leaders selected are "community stewards, strategic visionaries and patient advocates...Simultaneously, they are shaping the cultures that attract and retain talented caregivers, building the long-term strategies that position their hospitals for growth and maintaining the financial discipline that keeps high-quality, cost-effective care within reach for their communities."

In June 2026 Becker's also recognized Parrish Medical Center (PMC) as a Top 100 Community Hospital.

Community hospitals "are often the unsung heroes in healthcare, and CEOs are tasked with managing the delivery of coordinated and affordable community care," Becker's writes.

"George Mikitarian has earned national recognition from Becker's Hospital Review multiple times because of the benefits his vision and leadership bring to the patients and families served by PMC," said Robert Jordan, Chairman, Parrish Medical Center Board of Directors.

"Someone doesn't become exceptional because they decide they want to be exceptional," Jordan added. "They focus on a goal and devote their energy and passion to fulfilling that goal. For George Mikitarian, the goal is health care excellence, and however excellent it was today, to make it better tomorrow. The result is that he, and Parrish, are so often cited as being in the leading ranks of American hospitals."

Since 2001, when Dr. Mikitarian became Parrish president and CEO, he has led Parrish through significant local and national economic and market disruptions. Among these challenges, according to PYA, a highly-cited national accounting firm, were "macroeconomic shocks" to the Brevard County healthcare economy.

Said PYA, "The first was the Great Recession of 2009 that followed the US housing market implosion that hit Florida particularly hard. The second was the end of NASA's space shuttle program in 2011, resulting in over 20,000 job losses that are still being recouped to this day. Third, and most important, was the pandemic, which impacted health system demand in ways never previously experienced by the industry."

While contending with those challenges, under Dr. Mikitarian's leadership and through the work of its staff and volunteers (called Care Partners), Parrish has frequently been recognized for patient care quality, patient safety, and patient experience in the hospital.

Among Dr. Mikitarian's professional honors are: Citizen of the Year by Florida Today/Gannett; Junior Achievement Spirit of Achievement Award; United Way of Brevard County Chairman's Circle Award; Leadership Brevard's Community Leadership National Award and their Rodney S. Ketcham Leadership Icon Award; Business Leader of the Year by Space Coast Business Magazine; and earning the Boy Scouts of America's Golden Eagle and Silver Beaver awards.

Becker's Hospital Review editorial team developed this list based on nominations and editorial research. Leaders cannot pay for inclusion on the list. For more information visit beckershospitalreview.com, 240 Community Hospital CEOs to Know 2026, 207 Community Hospital Presidents and CEOs to Know 2025, 160 Community Hospital CEOs to Know 2024 and 107 Community Hospital CEOs to Know 2023.

Hands-on Cooking & Food Preservation Classes

The UF/IFAS Brevard County Extension is offering a variety of hands-on cooking and food preservation classes, designed to help you build practical skills, improve health, and gain confidence in the kitchen. With limited class sizes, participants are encouraged to register early. All classes are led by knowledgeable instructors and emphasize evidence-based nutrition education in a welcoming, hands-on environment.

Upcoming Classes:

- **Taste of Culture** - African Cuisine- Learn how spices can support your heart health. August 10 at 2:00 or 6:00 p.m.

- **Mediterranean Cooking Class Series** – “Med Instead of Meds”-This six-week series introduces heart-healthy Mediterranean eating habits that participants can incorporate into everyday life. The class runs from August 13 to September 17, with sessions available at 2:00 or 6:00 p.m.

- **Hands-On Homesteading** - Participants will learn about sustainability at home. From making sourdough to canning, growing food, and soil health. 6 Saturdays beginning August 15, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

- **Hands-On Canning Classes** - These interactive workshops teach safe food preservation methods while allowing participants to create and take home their own preserved foods. All supplies are included. Space is limited to eight participants per class. Our next three are:

- **Canning 101** - Friday, August 21, at 10:00 a.m.

- **Jams & Jellies** - Friday, August 21, at 6:00 p.m. Register for Jams & Jellies.

- **Pickling** - Saturday, August 22, at 9:00 a.m.

- **Florida Seafood Cooking Class** - 4 weeks of learning about different types of seafood, cooking them, and yes, eating them! Beginning October 8, 2:00 or 6:00 p.m.

All classes will be held at the UF/IFAS Brevard County Extension Office, located at 3695 Lake Drive in Cocoa. These classes are ideal for anyone interested in learning new skills, improving their health, and connecting with others in the community. Due to limited space, early registration is strongly encouraged.

For more information or to register for all of our classes and programs, visit the UF/IFAS Brevard County Extension Eventbrite page for updates on future offerings: www.eventbrite.com/o/ufifas-extension-brevard-county-18496539748

If you have any questions or would like more information, please call us at 321-633-1702 or email Brevard@IFAS.UFL.edu.

2026 Primary Election

Primary Election Early Voting Dates

Saturday, August 8 - Saturday, August 15, 2026

Early Voting sites will be open:

Monday - Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday - Sunday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

General Election Early Voting Dates

Monday, October 19 - Saturday, October 31, 2026

Early Voting sites will be open:

Monday - Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday - Sunday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The 2026 Primary Election is August 18, 2026. Brevard County voters who are registered with a political party are eligible to vote in that party's Primary Election races. More information and the location of all the Early Voting sites, complete with address and a mapping function to see which is closest to your work or home, is available online at www.votebrevard.gov/Election-Information/Early-Voting.

Parrish Healthcare Open Interviews

Parrish Healthcare hosts open interviews every Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Parrish Medical Center, 951 N. Washington Ave., Titusville.

• Registered Nurses (RN)

- Emergency Department, Med/Surg
- Charge Nurses
- Cardiac-Pulmonary Rehabilitation
- Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist
- Rapid Response
- Discharge
- Labor & Delivery

• Medical Technologists

- CT/MRI
- Radiology

• Surgical Scrub Techs

• Nursing Assistants

• Medical Assistants

• Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (CVIS)

• Paramedics

• Pharmacists

• EMTs

• DI Cardio PACS Specialist

• Surgical First Assistant

• Sterile Processing & Transport Technician

For additional information regarding open positions within Parrish Healthcare, please visit parrishhealthcare.com/careers.

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



3500 Carole Ave., Port St. John

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.

Tabletop Game Night: Wednesdays, 5:00-7:00 p.m. The library provides a variety of board games and card games for all ages. Simply visit the Youth Services Desk to borrow a game, then settle in and play at the library. Bring your family, invite your friends, or meet new people while enjoying an evening of fun, friendly games. No registration required; just drop in and play!

Kids' Dice & Dragons: Sundays, 1:00 & 1:30 p.m. A staff-led, tabletop role-playing adventure where players create characters, roll dice and collaboratively tell a fantasy story for children ages 8-12. Space is limited; kids will be split into parties of 5 for 30-minute sessions. Adult supervision required at all times.

Family Movie Night: Mondays, 4:00-6:00 p.m. Have fun watching G or PG-rated movies. All ages welcome. Adult supervision required. Adults are also welcome to stay and enjoy some popcorn and a fun, family oriented movie. Wear something comfortable!

- 8/10 Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (1937)
- 8/17 101 Dalmatians (1961)
- 8/24 Lady and the Tramp (1955)
- 8/31 Spider-Man Across the Spider-Verse (2023)

Sensory Playtime: Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. A sensory-friendly play event for ages 3 and up, featuring hands-on activity bins with kinetic sand, rice, beans, and more. Adult supervision required.

Read Your Way to K:

Little Laptime: Mondays, 9:30-10:00 a.m. Short stories and nursery rhymes for babies ages 1 and under. Adult supervision required.

Little Movers & Groovers: Thursdays and Fridays, 9:30-10:00 a.m. A fun movement program for toddlers five and under. Adult supervision required.

Toddler Story Time: Thursdays & Fridays, 10:30-11:00 a.m. For children ages 3-5. Adult supervision required.

Playdate: Thursdays & Fridays, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. For babies and toddlers five and under. Adult supervision required.

Spanish Bilingual Story Time: Monday, August 17, 10:00-10:30 a.m. Join us for a fun and educational event! Children will learn basic Spanish vocabulary, sing songs, make a craft, and listen to stories in English and Spanish. This event is for ages 3-5, Adult supervision is required.

TEENS

Teen Dice & Dragons: August 9 & 23, 3:00 - 4:45 p.m. A staff-led, beginner-friendly tabletop role-playing adventure where players create characters, roll dice and collaboratively tell a fantasy story. This event is for ages 13-17. Adult supervision required.

ADULTS

Adult Dice and Dragons: Sundays, August 16 and 30, 3 - 4:45 p.m. Role playing adventures with characters and dice.

Yarn Group: Fridays in August, 1 - 3-30 p.m. Yarn Group of PSJ Library is a group of adults who enjoy knitting and crocheting. They are happy to help you learn. All levels are welcome. They meet every Friday and donate projects.

Port Readers Book Club: Wednesday, August 19 at 6:30 p.m. At this meeting, we will discuss *The Buffalo Hunter* by Stephen Graham Jones.

Community Support Advocate will be at the PSJ Public Library Mondays, August 17 and 31, 1:30 - 5 p.m. The community support advocate assists with housing, SNAP, social security, healthcare and insurance, and senior resources. Appointments and walk-ins are accepted. See the Reference desk for details.

Port Saint John Dependent Special District Board meets Wednesday, August 12, 6 p.m. This is a public meeting. Board members are appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. The PSJ Board serves as the recommending body for the Planning and Zoning Board/Local Planning Agency and the Board of County Commissioners for requests within the Dependent Special District Area of Port St. John. Visit the Brevard County website for available Port St. John Dependent Special District Board minutes.

FAMILY EVENTS

Garden Program: August 8, 11 a.m. Planting carrots and taking home some seedlings as we learn about Florida gardening from month to month. This is a family event ages 6 and up adult supervision required.

Cards with a Purpose: Tuesday, August 11, 10 -11 a.m. Make a custom personal card as well as a card for charity to brighten someone's day. This group meets the second Tuesday of each month. All ages welcome with adult supervision.

*The weekly digital edition
of HAPPENINGS is
sponsored by
Parrish Healthcare*

