

VETERAN VOICE

The Voice of Experience

35 cents

Vol. 1 / Issue 2

Friday, November 16, 2012

Workforce Solutions place 248 vets in jobs

More than doubles original goal

For Veteran Voice

PORT ST. LUCIE — On Aug. 3, Workforce Solutions Veterans Services Team began a mission to place 100 veterans in employment in 100 days and as of today they have more than doubled their goal placing 248 veterans in jobs with five days to go.

“We are proud to have more than doubled our goal,” said Jordan Kahle, local veterans employment representative for Workforce Solutions.

“Our community has responded and is hiring our military veterans at an average rate of two per day.”

The effort to place 100 veterans in employment in 100 days which began on Aug. 3 and continued through Nov. 11, Veterans Day, has highlighted the benefits of hiring a military veteran and given them a better chance when interviewing with local employers. Workforce Solutions’ Veterans Services Team has been working hard because the region, Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee and St. Lucie counties, has more than 5,100 unemployed veterans.

“We would prefer to hire veterans when possible,” owner of Fort Pierce-based Phoenix Metal Products Inc. Bill Wilcox said. “Veterans are team players ... with proven skills ... (and) the mission of the organization first.”

You can see a list of employ-

See JOBS page 8

Giving the colors



Mitch Kloorfain/chief photographer
Jacquie Thurlow-Lippisch, Sewall’s Point mayor, presents an American flag to Martin County High School principal Al Fabrizio during Veterans Day ceremonies held Friday, Nov. 9 at the high school. The flag was given to Mrs. Thurlow-Lippisch by fellow class of ’82 classmate Rob Galvez, where it was flown in Iraq. Mr. Galvez is overseas serving his country with Naval special warfare.

Hearing Aid Ads Confusing You?

A Client's True Story of Superior, Compassionate Service and Care

St. Lucie County

It was a hot night in July, 1995 when the world went completely dark for Rachel Guild. A passenger in a vehicle involved in a rollover crash on I-95, Rachel's mom was told her daughter would likely only survive for hours, and Rachel was still in a coma when her best friend (another passenger in the car that fateful evening) was buried. Seventeen years later, Rachel Guild is a testament to persistence, miracles, and caring professionals. Though completely blind as a result of the accident, Rachel lets absolutely nothing stand in her way, and she finds beauty in the way the world can be experienced through her remaining senses. As a matter of fact, that's how Rachel became acquainted with Joe Mutter of Mutter's Hearing in St. Lucie West.

You Too Can Experience the Mutter Difference

One of the lesser injuries Rachel suffered as a result of the crash which claimed her best friend, Sarah, and her eyesight was some hearing loss due to scar tissue in her left ear. When some close friends told her about Joe and Mutter's Hearing, Rachel and her mom set up a free clinical hearing evaluation with Joe, a Florida Licensed Hearing Aid Specialist and retired law enforcement officer with the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office. Joe was ranked Top Cop in the State of Florida by the Florida Fraternal Order of Police and highly honored for his accomplishments and Commitment to the community through volunteerism. Mutter performed several tests on Rachel to determine the level of her hearing loss and then broke the news. "He didn't think I needed hearing aids," Rachel said. "He said I had a mild hearing loss and it may not be great enough to warrant the considerable expense that I would incur with hearing aids. Even though he could have easily made a big profit, that's

not the way he is. I explain to Joe that if I am ever going to regain total independence, I need to be able to hear everything with great clarity." For Rachel, the way that Mutter compassionately listened to her concerns, asked her questions about her needs, lifestyle, and was hesitant to make a sale simply for the sake of making a sale were the deciding factors in doing business with him. "I had consulted with other hearing aid dealers and I was very disappointed that their only concern was how I would be making payment," Rachel says. "Joe was the opposite; he wasn't just trying to make a sale he actually cared about me and my special needs!"

evaluations and he utilizes state-of-the-art technology. He even includes a hearing loss simulator to replicate for family members what their voices sound like to someone with a hearing loss because, of course, a hearing loss is invisible and affects every member of the family. "What I deal with is a very precious commodity – "my clients' trust and their hearing," says Mutter. "I care about my clients, not their pocketbook."

Stop Chasing Deals That Don't Exist

Mutter's Hearing Center is conveniently located at 1420 SW St. Lucie West Boulevard, just west of the Wells Fargo bank, in St. Lucie West. The office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with evening and weekend appointments available, as well as home visits can be arranged by appointment. Mutter's Hearing Center will guide you through your insurance options and assist you with financing your hearing aids if necessary. The initial consultations and clinical evaluations are absolutely free. Call Mutter's Hearing Center today at (772) 871-1222 to arrange a your free hearing consultation. Mutter's Hearing Center has been voted the Readers Choice #1 Hearing Center in St. Lucie West since 2004 and is the ONLY full time hearing center in St. Lucie West.

Deal With the Owner- He Can Make it Right

Being blind is difficult, but for Rachel Guild, losing her hearing would be so much worse. "I think it would be a very lonely world," she says. "Being deaf makes you feel so isolated; everyone has a conversation going, but when they try to talk to you, you cannot understand them. It's hard for people who haven't been there to realize, but being able to participate in the conversation when your loved ones and friends are talking is a way to keep from being isolated and alone. I am so grateful to Joe and Mutter's Hearing Center for helping me rejoin the conversation and regain my independence".



Joe Mutter, H.A.S. and Client Rachel Guild Share a Moment at His St. Lucie Office

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Service with integrity is something Joe Mutter believes in ardently. He encourages spouses and family members to accompany their loved one for free clinical hearing

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At Mutter's Hearing Center, Inc. Hearing Specialist Joe Mutter Fits and Dispenses American-made Starkey hearing aids to Clients in the Port St. Lucie area.

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Annual Muster at UDT-SEAL Museum



Mitch Kloorfain/chief photographer
The tactical demonstration is the much anticipated finale of the annual NAVY UDT/SEAL Museum Muster in Fort Pierce Saturday, Nov. 10. A team of Navy SEALs gave a demonstration simulating a capture starting with being dropped into the hot zone by helicopter and securing the area and capturing a hostage.

Mitch Kloorfain/chief photographer
Congressman Allen West salutes Medal of Honor recipient U.S. Navy Lt. Tom Norris following his role as the featured guest speaker at the annual NAVY UDT/SEAL Muster in Fort Pierce Saturday, Nov. 10. Lt. Norris served in Vietnam from 1969-1972 and was recognized by President Gerald Ford with the medal for his leadership role in rescuing two downed pilots in enemy territory in 1972.

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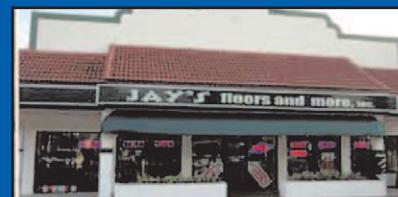
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Photo courtesy of Treasure Coast Hospice

Hospice employees salute the piano performance of 90-year-old veteran Richard Schaefer, who spent his Veterans Day entertaining workers and patients.



Photo courtesy of Treasure Coast Hospice

Richard Schaeffer, 90, plays regularly for area nursing homes and local churches, but after his wife of 65 years, Maggie, died on hospice care, he felt the need to give back. Last month he got in touch with Treasure Coast Hospice nurse, Dottie Powell, about donating his time and talents.

Veteran tickles the ivories for TC Hospice

For Veteran Voice

STUART – Richard Schaeffer’s fingers danced over the piano keys, charming the audience with familiar show tunes before an all-staff meeting. Schaeffer, 90, has been playing piano since he was 6 years old, but after 16 eye surgeries he struggles to see the keys in front of him. Instead he plays by feeling.

“Good thing my memory is good or I wouldn’t be playing at all,” Schaeffer said.

Schaeffer plays regularly for area nursing homes and local churches, but after his wife of 65 years, Maggie, died on hospice care, he felt the need to give back. Last month he got in touch with Treasure Coast Hospice nurse, Dottie Powell, about donating his time and talents.

When he was extended an invitation to play at the all-staff meeting to celebrate National Hospice month, Schaeffer gladly accepted.

The piano show was not only a delight to all of the staff, but also a surprise to the care teams who served Schaeffer and his wife. Ironically, Schaeffer, also received hospice care briefly, but is now thriving.

During a message about Veterans Day to the staff, Dr. Louis Benson, CEO, announced that Schaeffer was not only a former patient, but also a veteran. The staff saluted Schaeffer for his service to our country and then veteran Toni Pereira, admissions coordinator, pinned an Honored Veteran/ American Flag pin to his lapel and awarded him a certification of appreciation for his service.

Schaeffer was pleasantly surprised and appreciative, “Thank

See HOSPICE page 11

West presents a Challenge (coin)



Photo courtesy of Joe Mutter

Sean Mutter attended the Navy Seal Museum and Veteran's Day muster celebration on Sunday, Nov. 10, where Congressman Allan West presented him with his own personal Challenge Coin. The Challenge coin is carried by ranking officers in all branches of the armed services. This coin is considered a precious commodity to officers and must be presented when 'challenged' by other ranking officers. The tradition of the challenge coin goes back generations of our armed service men and women.



Photo courtesy of Joe Mutter

Navy Seal jumping with American Flag during the National Navy UDT-SEAT Museum's annual Muster Sunday, Nov. 10. This year's muster honored the 50th anniversary of the Navy SEALs.

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The Voice of Experience

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Young volunteer



Staff photo by Tammy Raits
Thirteen-year-old Preston Ferro of St. Lucie West, who attends Oak Hammock K-8 School, mans a 1943 M-8 armored scout vehicle on display during the Stuart Air Show Sunday at Witham Field in Stuart. Preston said he wants to join the Air Force when he gets older so he can fly jets.

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Jetson gives back



Melvin Freeman, retired from the U.S. Army, serves up barbecue to former U.S. Marine Dan Depagnier of Fort Pierce during the annual Veterans Day Celebration at Jetson TV & Appliance in Fort Pierce Monday, Nov. 12.

Mitch Kloorfain/chief photographer

VAC Warbird Fly-In/drive-in breakfast coming up

For Veteran Voice

The Valiant Air Command War bird museum in Titusville, located at the Space Coast Regional Airport TIX, will hold our next Fly-In pancake breakfast for area pilots and passengers on Saturday, Dec. 8 from 8:30-11 a.m. We are also inviting all those that wish to drive in and participate.

This is a great opportunity for pilots and public to enjoy the camaraderie of each other, in the unique surroundings of the Valiant Air Command's vintage war bird environment. Museum admission is free for our fly-in guests and for those that want to drive in, your breakfast is free with your admission. Breakfast is catered by Chef Larry and is only \$8. So fly in or drive in have breakfast, take a tour and become a part of history.

Please call with the number of your party, so that we can ensure the proper meals. Call us at (321) 268-1941 or email vacwarbirds@bellsouth.net. Pass the word to pilots and friends.

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JOBS from page 1

ers who have hired our military veterans on Workforce Solutions' site, www.yourworkforcesolutions.com/veterans. As the "100 Heroes in 100 Days" campaign ends, Workforce Solutions is challenging the community to continue to step up and place more dedicated military veterans in jobs.

Workforce Solutions reminds potential employers about the benefits of hiring a veteran.

Veterans are known to have an accelerated learning curve, possess good leadership qualities, have a strong sense of integrity, pride in their work and are great team members.

Another benefit available to employers is up to \$9,600 in tax credits for hiring a veter-

The effort to place 100 veterans in employment in 100 days which began on Aug. 3 and continued through Nov. 11, Veterans Day, has highlighted the benefits of hiring a military veteran and given them a better chance when interviewing with local employers. Workforce Solutions' Veterans Services Team has been working hard because the region, Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee and St. Lucie counties, has more than 5,100 unemployed veterans.

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Workforce Solutions is a private, non-profit, Florida corporation with a Board of Directors consisting of private business, economic development and education representatives, community and state agencies, and elected officials. Members of the Board

represent the diversity of businesses, organizations and trades that operate in the Research Coast Region, including Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie counties. Chartered by the state of Florida to create and manage a workforce development service delivery system responsive to the needs of businesses and jobseekers, Workforce Solutions offers award-winning complimentary programs and partnerships recognized locally, statewide, and nationally.

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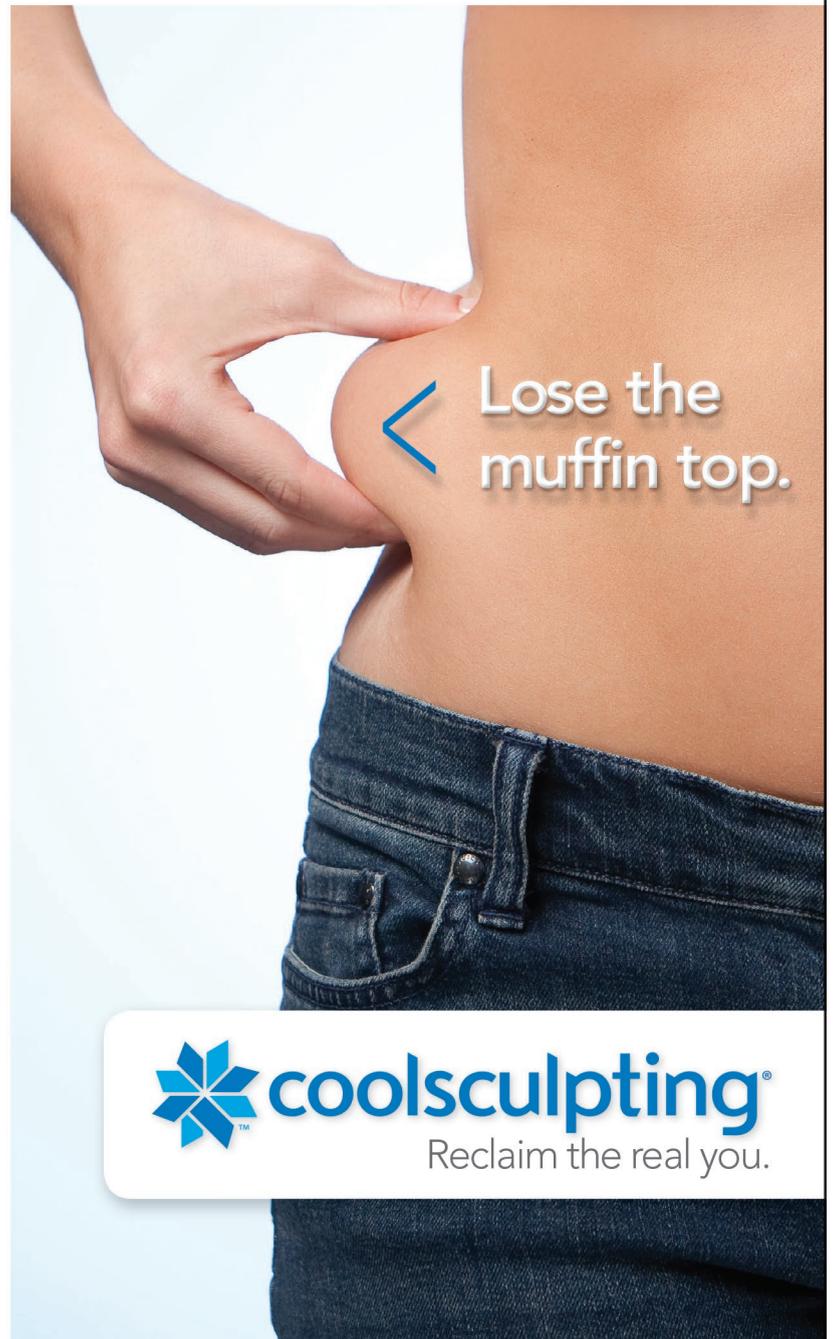
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Brothers, sisters in arms



Staff photo by Tammy Raits

Veterans from all over the Treasure Coast gathered Thursday, Nov. 8 at Indian River State College to the Veterans Summit, where Rep. Gayle Harrell, R-Dist. 83, announced that 'most likely' by the fall semester of 2013, the state Board of Education will have rules in place for all colleges, universities and communities colleges in the state to offer applicable college credit and certification for veterans 'commensurate with the coursework and training they received while they served our country.' Mrs. Harrell's husband, U.S. Army veteran Dr. James Harrell, is seated in the front row, third from left.

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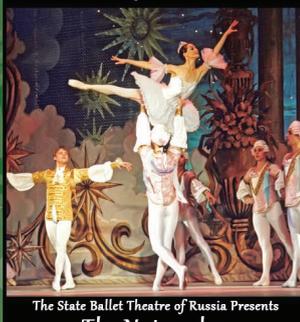
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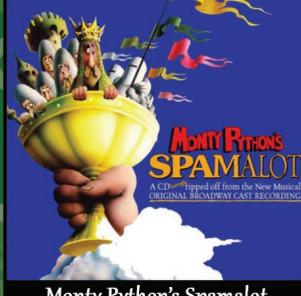
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Chance to have a ride in WWII Normandy Invasion veteran C-47 TiCo Belle

For Veteran Voice

The Valiant Air Command is proud to announce that one of its most venerable war birds is now flying in our local area the C-47 TiCo Belle, From the Normandy invasion to Cherbourg, to Arnhem, to Bastogne, to the Berlin Airlift and much more, this aircraft was there over 65 years ago.

Now, you can experience all this history as a special and unique present for yourself, or someone you love. Call or email vacwarbirds@bellsouth.net for additional information, or to get on our reserve list and we will notify you of the flight schedule.

Don't miss this exciting oppor-

tunity, when the Tico Belle flies, with you aboard; complete with Normandy invasion identification stripes. You will be able to look out and truly imagine what it must have been like on that fateful June 6, 1944. A day when the freedom of a world hung in the balance as she made her way in the pre-dawn darkness towards the beaches of Normandy; part of the largest aerial invasion armada the world has ever seen.

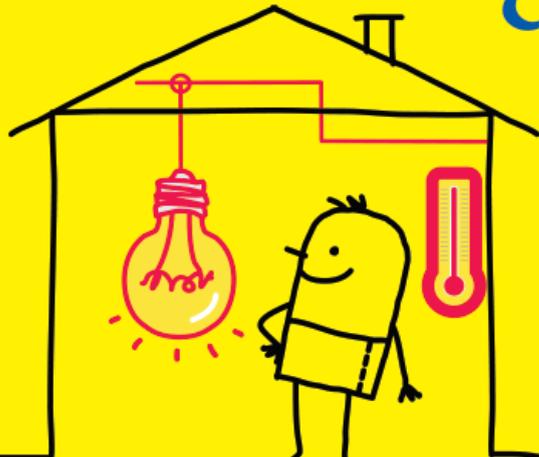
The Valiant Air Command Museum is located at the Space Coast Regional Airport at 6600 Tico Road in Titusville. Our website is www.vacwarbirds.org and our phone number is (321) 268-1941.

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Valiant Air Command supports Toys for Tots with free admission to museum

For Veteran Voice

The Valiant Air Command War bird museum in Titusville is again supporting the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program as a drop-off point. On Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 1-2, if you bring in a new toy recommend value of at least \$5; unwrapped, you will be admitted FREE to the museum. This offer is good for a single entry per toy.

Lloyd Morris, commander of the Valiant Air Command, said, "This is a great deal for the public

you not only get to support the Toys for Tots program, but you also get free admission to this unique and very special Brevard County attraction."

With the recent additions to our collection, there is something for the whole family to see; so come in, take a tour ... and become a part of history. The museum is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week.

For more information contact: (321) 268-1941 or visit our website at www.vacwarbirds.org.

HOSPICE from page 4

you," he said. "I didn't know I was going to get all this."

This pinning ceremony is held for all hospice patients who are indicated as military veterans. Patients are pinned by veteran volunteers or an employee who served. The ceremony is brief, but poignant for both the veteran and their family.

If you are a veteran and are interested in participating in our Veterans Visiting Veterans program call Ann Marie St. James

(772) 403-1762.

Treasure Coast Hospice is a nonprofit community organization of caring professionals and dedicated volunteers whose mission is to provide compassionate, comprehensive, high quality care for patients and those who share their lives in St. Lucie, Martin and Okeechobee counties. Services are available to anyone regardless of their ability to pay, including respite care, counseling and bereavement services.

To get information published in *Veteran Voice*, please send to veteranvoice@yourvoiceweekly.com.

Deadline is seven days prior to publication date.

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Survivors, dependents can get VA assistance

Information from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Summary of Benefits

Dependents' Educational Assistance provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of certain veterans. The program offers up to 45 months of education benefits. These benefits may be used for degree and certificate programs, apprenticeship, and on-the-job training. If you are a spouse, you may take a correspondence course. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may be approved under certain circumstances.

For more information, see the Survivors & Dependents Assistance Pamphlet

Current payment rates

Eligibility

You must be the son, daughter, or spouse of:

- A veteran who died or is permanently and totally disabled as the result of a service-connected disability. The disability must arise out of active service in the Armed Forces.

- A veteran who died from any cause while such permanent and total service-connected disability was in existence.

- A servicemember missing in action or captured in line of duty by a hostile force.

- A servicemember forcibly detained or interned in line of duty by a foreign government or power.

- A servicemember who is hospitalized or receiving outpatient treatment for a service connected permanent and total disability and is likely to be discharged for that disability. This change is effective December 23, 2006.

Period of Eligibility

If you are a son or daughter and wish to receive benefits for attending school or job training, you must be between the ages of 18 and 26. In certain instances, it is possible to begin before age 18 and to continue after age 26. Marriage is not a bar to this benefit. If you are in the Armed Forces, you may not receive this benefit while on active duty. To pursue training after military service, your discharge must not be under dishonorable conditions. VA can extend your period of eligibility by the number of months and days equal to the time spent on active duty. This extension cannot generally go beyond your 31st birthday, there are some exceptions.

If you are a spouse, benefits end 10 years from the date VA finds you eligible or from the date of death of the veteran. If the VA rated the veteran permanently and totally disabled with an effective date of 3 years from discharge a spouse will remain eligible for 20 years from the effective date of the rating. This change is effective October 10, 2008 and no benefits may be paid for any training taken prior to that date.

For surviving spouses (spouses of service members who died on active duty) benefits end 20 years

from the date of death.

How to Apply

You should make sure that your selected program is approved for VA training. If you are not clear on this point, VA will inform you and the school or company about the requirements.

Obtain and complete VA Form 22-5490, Application for Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance. Send it to the VA regional office with jurisdiction over the State where you will train. If you are a son or daughter, under legal age, a parent or guardian must sign the application.

If you have started training, take your application to your school or employer. Ask them to complete VA Form 22-1999, Enrollment Certification, and send both forms to VA.

Section 301 of Public Law 109-461 adds a new category to the definition of "eligible person" for DEA benefits. The new category includes the spouse or child of a person who:

VA determines has a service-connected permanent and total disability; and at the time of VA's determination is a member of the Armed Forces who is hospi-

See DEA page 14

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Vintage meets modern

Spectators of the 2012 Stuart Air Show were treated to a Legacy Flight demonstration matching today's aircraft, an F-18 with predecessor aircraft from WWII, Korea and Vietnam eras. The annual air show has been a staple to the Treasure Coast community on Veteran's Day Weekend.

Mitch Kloorfain
chief photographer



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One hot bus



Staff photo by Tammy Raits

A jet-engine propelled school bus was one of many sights onlookers were treated to at the 2012 Stuart Air Show at Witham Field in Stuart. The bus won the race against a MXW Aerobatic Aircraft, whose pilot, Rob Holland of MX Aircraft Ultimate Air Shows, attempted to give bus driver Paul Stendel handicapped points by flying his craft upside down for two-thirds of the race.

DEA from page 12

talized or receiving outpatient medical care, services, or treatment; and is likely to be discharged or released from service for this service-connected disability.

Persons eligible under this new provision may be eligible for DEA benefits effective December 23, 2006, the effective date of the law.

DEA provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of veterans who are permanently and totally disabled due to a service-related condition, or who died while on active duty or as a result of a service related condition. The program offers up to 45 months of education benefits. These benefits may be used for degree and certificate programs, apprenticeship, and on-the-job training. If you are a spouse, you may take a correspondence course. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may be approved under certain circumstances.

Special Restorative Training is available to persons eligible for DEA benefits. The Department of Veterans Affairs may prescribe special restorative training where needed to overcome or lessen the effects of a physical or mental disability for the purpose of enabling an eligible person to pursue a program of education, special vocational program or other appropriate goal. Medical care and treatment or psychiatric treatments are not included.

Special Vocational Training is also available to persons eligible for DEA benefits. This type of program may be approved for an eligible person who is not in need of Special Restorative Training, but who requires such a program because of a mental or physical handicap.

Beginning August 1, 2011, break (or interval pay) will no longer be payable under DEA except during periods your school is closed as a result of an Executive Order of the President or an emergency (such as a natural disaster or strike). For example, if your Fall term ends on December 15th and your Spring term begins January 10th, your January housing allowance will cover 15 days in December and your February housing allowance will cover 21 days in January.

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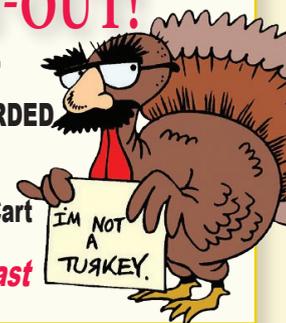
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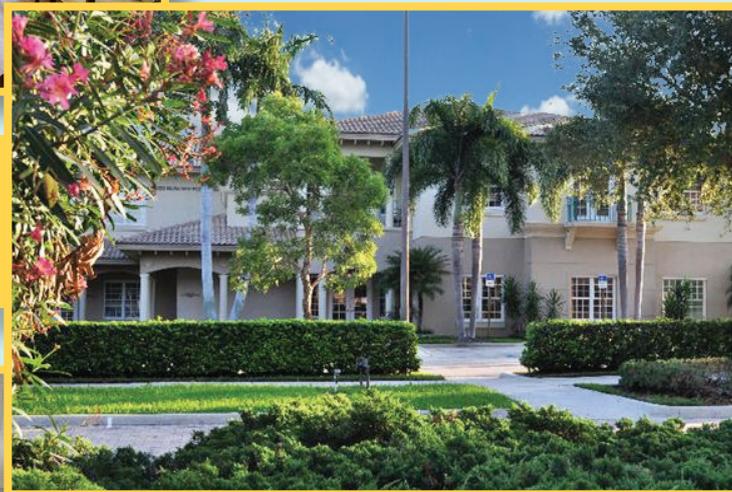
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Your Oral Health Tip Of the Week

IMPLANTS FOR ALL. More than 100 million Americans are missing at least 11 of their teeth. If you are suffering from tooth loss, there is a way for you to have a beautiful mouth full of teeth in just hours. Today, our Stuart cosmetic dentist Dr. Michael Sohl shares information about All-on-Four dentures and how they can benefit patients across the age spectrum. One of the main benefits to All-on-Four implants is that they are a viable option to almost all patients, regardless of age, and stages of tooth decay, gum disease, and/or tooth loss. It can be especially appealing to patients suffering from edentulism, or the complete loss of natural teeth. The All-on-Four implant comprises a bridge that is attached to four titanium implants that are placed in the jawbone. The implants are placed in such a way that the angle allows the full bridge to be safely and securely supported by only those four implants. This implant technology doesn't require the bone grafts that traditional dental implants sometimes require. Bone grafts can be expensive and take up to a year to completely heal. The All-on-Four implants can usually be placed in one visit. A patient can walk into the office with no natural teeth and walk out with a beautiful and fully-functioning smile.

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