

# The Voice of Experience VETERAN VOICE

35 cents

VOL. 1/ISSUE 17

FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2013

## Group honored for vet work

By Nicole Rodriguez  
Staff writer  
nrodriguez@yourvoiceweekly.com

ST. LUCIE WEST — Thanks to the tireless efforts of one local group, 43 World War II veterans were able to visit the national memorial in Washington, D.C., which was constructed in their honor.

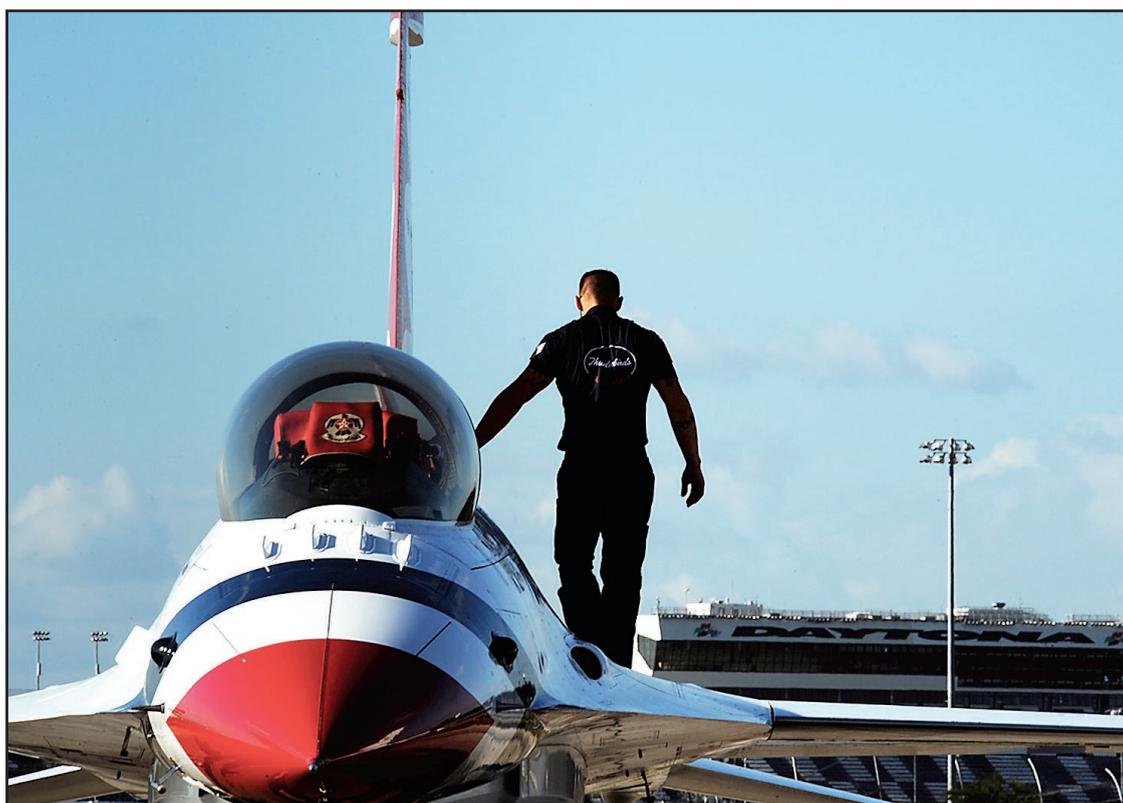
The Fourth Degree Knights of Our Lady of Fatima Assembly, which is part of the nationally organized Knights of Columbus, raised approximately \$42,000 last year to send area veterans on the September trip, member Tony Frasca of the PGA Village said.

Frasca, a 4th degree Knight of St. Bernadette Catholic Church's Council Knights of Columbus, said the group teamed up with the St. Lucie County Fire District, the New York Mets and the city of Port St. Lucie to fundraise.

Frasca said most of the veterans were in their 80s and 90s. The money was given to Honor Flight, which flew the heroes up during a day trip, Frasca said.

According to [honorflight.org](http://honorflight.org), the latest statistics show WWII veterans are dying at a rate of approximately 800 per day. The organization, which has hubs across the country, aims to transport veterans free of charge to see

See HONOR page 2



Staff Sgt. Stanley Weaver, a Thunderbird crew chief, inspects his aircraft during post-flight inspections at Daytona Beach on Oct. 13, 2012.

Photo courtesy of U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Larry E. Reid Jr.

## KSC, VAC partner to offer Ultimate Aviation Combo package featuring the USAF Thunderbirds

Package includes admission to the 36th Annual TiCo Warbird AirShow March 22-24, and Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex

### For Veteran Voice

CAPE CANAVERAL — Valiant Air Command and Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex have partnered to offer a special ticket package in celebration of the 36th Annual TiCo Warbird AirShow, March 22-24.

The Ultimate Aviation Combo package includes a one-day admission to the TiCo Warbird AirShow and a one-day admission to Kennedy Space Center Visitor

Complex valid March 22-24.

"The Ultimate Aviation Combo package provides the public with an opportunity to share their pride for two of mankind's greatest achievements in aviation — precision wartime flying and aerial maneuvers at the TiCo Warbird AirShow and a journey through more than 50 years of America's greatest space adventures at Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex," said Bill Moore, chief operating officer

of Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex.

Showcasing the pride and precision of America's Warbirds, the 36th Annual TiCo Warbird AirShow is a celebration of America's fighter jets from the past and present. Highlights of this year's show include an air performance by the United States Air Force's Thunderbirds — a first-ever appearance at the show — and a B-17 Flying Fortress; a great bomber made famous throughout the WWII European Theater. In addition to the exciting air performance-

See KSC page 3



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# Independent Budget now out for inspection

By Patrick McCallister  
For Veteran Voice

It's among the most important annual publications for veterans, the *Independent Budget*. Earlier this month, the latest edition was released. It's the 27<sup>th</sup> year.

The annual report and recommendations to Congress is co-authored by the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS and Veterans of Foreign Wars. Another 54 organizations — such as the American Psychiatric Association, Easter Seals, and Air Force Association — added their support to recommendations in the *Independent Budget* this year.

"We can possibly have a bit more influence than usual, because we're the only game in town," Carl Blake, national legislative director of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, said.

It's 2013-2014 budget talk time in Washington, D.C. Thing is, no one's talking about 2014.

"This is a rare year where the administration is yet to release its own budget," Blake said. "No one's talking about the next fiscal year, because they're still talking about this fiscal year. You have all the sequestration talk going on."

Previously, Congress passed and

See BUDGET page 5

## HONOR from page 1

memorials dedicated to salute their service.

"It's very important to get them to Washington, D.C.," Frasca said. "Most will pass away before seeing it."

Frasca said he is forever grateful for the sacrifice many men made during WWII. He said the group, which has more than 225 members, aims to give back to veterans. They meet once a month at St. Bernadette's in St. Lucie West.

"Patriotism is the motto of the 4th degree and it is a self-less labor of love," Frasca said.

For their remarkable fund-raising efforts, the group received an International Service Program Award from the Knights of Columbus in November at the annual Supreme Convention. A month before, the group was awarded the State Province Award from the national organization, Frasca said, who added the group plans to help veterans again this year.

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal organization founded in 1882 and headquartered in New Haven, Conn. The organization provides service to those in need. There are more than 14,000 councils and 1.8 million members worldwide.

**"It's very important to get them to Washington, D.C. Most will pass away before seeing it."**

**Tony Frasca  
4th degree Knight of  
St. Bernadette  
Catholic Church's  
Council Knights of Columbus**

"The State and International Service Program Awards competitions annually recognize the best programs conducted by local councils in the areas of church, community, council, family, culture of life and youth activities," the Knights of Columbus website states.

The parish's priest said the group's work is extraordinary.

"They are a wonderful example of what it is to be a good steward," the Rev. Victor Ulto said. "It's a way to say, 'thank you' and empower them to see the national monument. It's so wonderful."

For more information on Honor Flight, visit [honorflight.org](http://honorflight.org)

For more information on the Knights of Columbus, visit [kofc.org](http://kofc.org)

For more information on St. Bernadette's, visit [stbernadettescatholicchurch.org](http://stbernadettescatholicchurch.org)

**KSC from page 1**

es, guests can enjoy more than 70 vintage aircrafts on display, exhibits, musical entertainment and specialty vendors.

“Valiant Air Command is excited to partner for the first time with Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex to provide an extraordinary weekend of flight adventures,” said Col. Terry Yon, public relations officer of Valiant Air Command.

The TiCo Warbird AirShow is being held at the Space Coast Regional Airport, located on 355 Golden Knights Blvd. in Titusville. For more information on the airshow, visit [www.vacwarbirds.org](http://www.vacwarbirds.org).

Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex features many attractions and year-round interactive programs, including an opportunity to meet a real astronaut. The standard bus tour, included with admission, explores the history of the Apollo moon and space shuttle programs with panoramic views of Kennedy Space Center, the VAB’s exterior and a stop at the Apollo/Saturn V Center, where visitors see an authentic 363-foot Saturn V moon rocket.

Coming to Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex in spring 2013 is the opening of the new Angry Birds™ Space Encounter attraction. This one-of-a-kind experience brings Rovio Entertainment’s globally successful Angry Birds franchise to life in a unique multi-faceted adventure featuring Danger Zone, Eggsteroids Sling-shot and Red Planet Lazer Challenge.

The Ultimate Aviation Combo package is available at [www.KennedySpaceCenter.com](http://www.KennedySpaceCenter.com) or by calling (877) 313-2610. Combo tickets can also be purchased in person at the Valiant Air Command Museum. The ticket package is \$50 plus tax for adults and \$40 plus tax for children ages 3-11.

Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex opens daily at 9 a.m. Closing times vary by season. Admission includes the Kennedy Space Center Tour, featuring an

actual Saturn V moon rocket, Shuttle Launch Experience, two 3D IMAX space films, Astronaut Encounter, Exploration Space: Explorers Wanted and all exhibits. Admission also includes the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame, located six miles west of the Visitor Complex, which features a historic spacecraft and the world’s largest collection of personal astronaut memorabilia.

It is open daily at noon and closing times vary by season. Admission is \$50 plus tax for adults and \$40 plus tax for children ages 3-11. The Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex Commander’s Club Annual Pass is \$63 plus tax for adults and \$53 plus tax for children ages 3-11. For more information, call (877) 313-2610 or visit [www.KennedySpaceCenter.com](http://www.KennedySpaceCenter.com).

The Valiant Air Command was started by a group of 12 individuals in 1977. It was formed to perpetuate the history and culture of military aviation, to encourage the gathering of men and women in camaraderie, research and warbird restoration, to serve as an educational tool for young and old alike and to assure that the memory of all those who gave their lives in service to their country shall not perish. The Valiant Air Command is a tax-exempt, 501(c)3, not-for-profit, educational museum that currently has 10 acres of property at the Space Coast Regional Airport in Titusville.

The museum displays, maintains and restores all types of aircraft that were indigenous to the world’s military Air Forces from WWI to the present. The facilities consist of three exhibit hangars and two separate museum areas with some 35-40 vintage warbirds on display at any time. The cost of the museum is \$18 for adults and \$5 for children up to age 12.

Special rates for tour groups and for special events such as birthdays, meeting, wedding, parties, etc., are available.

For more information, go to [www.vacwarbirds.org](http://www.vacwarbirds.org). Come in take a tour — and become a part of history!

# VA affirms commitment to innovation

**From the Department of Veterans Affairs**

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs is launching the VA Center for Innovation (VACI), affirming its commitment to innovation and building on the success of the VA Innovation Initiative (VAI2).

“Ideas are the heart of innovation and VACI provides a dynamic ecosystem that lowers the barrier of entry for innovation within VA,” said Eric K. Shinseki, secretary of Veterans Affairs.

“The new Innovation Fellows Program, Entrepreneur-in-Residence Program, and Partnerships Program will bring proven innovators from government and the private sector into VA to focus on high-opportunity areas.”  
Launched in 2010, VAI2

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Surviving Spouse (Death Pension):

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Pension with Housebound: \$851/month  
Pension with A&A: \$1,113/month

# Wrapping up the toys



Above and left, last of the public awards of the 2012 Indian River County Toys for Tots campaign. Sebastian resident Pete Sayles, former sergeant, 5th Marines; assistant coordinator Toys for Tots 2012; Jr. Vice Commandant Marine Corps League Detachment 058 and 1st vice president, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1038 (both of Indian River County), presents a store Commander's Award certificate and a Manager's Award plaque to Randy Strouse, manager Publix Store 1035 at Shops of Sebastian (SR 510/512) for the store's outstanding support of 2012 campaign.

Photo courtesy of Pete Sayles



# Gene Anderson: Just do it

By Joyce Wilden  
For Veteran Voice

The Nike slogan fits Gene Anderson, born in the south Georgia farming community of Glennville during the Great Depression.

Cute little Gloria was a playmate, destined to become a life-long companion. School life in the small town centered on a long building with

classrooms astride a single hallway, down which students progressed with each passing year. In grade 10, Gloria joined the class and romance blossomed. Depression lessons bred practicality, and Gene worked at odd jobs as well as at the local Ford dealership, saving up for his first car — a 1937 Ford V-60.

North Georgia College

See ANDERSON page 9

## VETERAN VOICE

The Voice of Experience

Veteran Voice is a newspaper for veterans, active military, their families and their friends.

We are published weekly by Veteran Voice, LLC.  
1919 SW South Macedo Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34984  
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**BUDGET from page 2**

the president signed the Budget Control Act of 2011. The Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction, often called the super committee, formed to work out a deal for Congress to raise the federal government's debt ceiling to avoid sovereign default on previously-appropriated spending.

The committee hatched the idea of giving Congress and President Barack Obama a frightening prospect if they couldn't agree on budget cuts and revenue increases — sequestration, automatic across-the-board spending cuts over 10 years accompanied by expiring tax reductions. Many believed the prospect of a fiscal cliff that could send the nation into recession would force Congress and the president to work toward more agreeable solutions.

While some compromises have happened, the Congress and White House are still locked in budget battles that will end in sequestration if not resolved. In the meantime, the capital and nation are at a 2014 budget standstill. The Department of Veterans Affairs is insulated from sequestration, but will need appropriations to fully operate into the next fiscal year, which begins on Oct. 1.

The VA's budget is split between

mandatory and discretionary spending. For example, retirement pensions are a mandatory spending, whereas veterans' health care is discretionary spending. The *Independent Budget* focuses on discretionary spending. Congress appropriated about \$64 billion for discretionary spending at the VA this fiscal year, close to \$2.7 billion more than for 2012.

The *Independent Budget* recommends increasing discretionary spending to about \$68.4 billion in the 2014 fiscal year. Joe Violante, national legislative director of the DAV, said some of that recommended increase is for reducing a longstanding problem at the VA.

"The most important thing for the average veteran is our recommendations for improving the claims process," he said. "That directly impacts veterans out there. The most important part is the paperless claims process. Having VA input all the papers into a searchable electronic database. It would speed the process up."

The *Independent Budget* recommends about \$3.4 billion for needed technologies to create a paperless claims process. In recent years the VA has about 900,000 pending benefit claims at any given time. Additionally, in recent years, about 600,000 claims have been awaiting deci-

**"The most important thing for the average veteran is our recommendations for improving the claims process. That directly impacts veterans out there. The most important part is the paperless claims process. Having VA input all the papers into a searchable electronic database. It would speed the process up."**

**Joe Violante**  
National legislative director  
DAV

sions for 125 or more days.

Ray Kelley, national legislative director for the VFW, said that over the last 26 years members of Congress and their staffs, along with veterans' advocates, have increasingly turned to the *Independent Budget* to understand and explain issues at the VA.

"It is a single place you can go and find an answer on anything from Agent Orange and Korea to annual cost-of-living adjustments," he said. "It will talk about anything anyone has questions about and in a voice anyone can understand. Most of the issues are broken down very specifically and have a few paragraphs or pages of explanation."

The *Independent Budget* is online at [independentbudget.org](http://independentbudget.org).



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More tips to follow in coming weeks.

- Larry Laoretti

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# Indian River Colony Club sponsors U.S. Army Field Band

## For Veteran Voice

The internationally acclaimed United States Army Field Band of Washington, D.C., will continue its long history of presenting free public performances when it appears at the King Center for the Performing Arts, 3865 N. Wickham Road, on April 15 at 7:30. The Field Band's concert in Melbourne is sponsored by Indian River Colony Club.

As the premier touring musical representative for the United States Army, the Field Band travels thousands of miles each year throughout the nation and abroad, keeping the will of the American people behind the members of the armed forces and supporting diplomatic ef-

forts around the world. Since its formation in 1946, the Field Band has appeared in all 50 states and in more than 30 countries on four continents.

Along with the Soldiers' Chorus, which was founded in 1957, this 65-member Concert Band presents a powerful and diverse program of marches, overtures, popular music, patriotic selections, and instrumental and vocal solos. A music critic for the *Boston Globe* called a Field Band performance "a cause to stand up and cheer."

Past performance highlights include World War II 50th anniversary commemorations in the United States and Europe,

See BAND page 11

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Photo courtesy U.S. Army Field Concert Band and Soldier's Chorus

Concert Band and Soldiers' Chorus at Mechanics Hall, Worcester, Mass.

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# Time to go Hogg Wild!

## For Veteran Voice

Don't miss the annual HOGG WILD event Sunday, March 3, featuring cold beer and live music at Archie's Seabreeze in Fort Pierce.

This year's event benefits U.S. military veterans through the Stand Down House, a nonprofit organization that provides assistance to homeless and at-risk veterans.

### North Poker Run

1. Sign up for North Run at Earl's Hideaway; out at 10 a.m.
  2. Rossie Malloy's
  3. Shadow Pub
  4. Little Jim Bridge
  5. Archie's
- Everyone back by 3 p.m., no later!

### South Poker Run

1. Sign up for South Run at Treasure Coast Harley Davidson, out at 10 a.m.
  2. Shea's Pub
  3. Neely's
  4. American Legion Post 40
  5. Archie's
- Everyone back by 3 p.m., no later!

First bike out at 10 a.m. • Last bike out by 1 p.m.  
Everyone back at Archie's by 3 p.m.  
\$10 per hand for Poker Run to benefit U.S. military vets  
The Stand Down House  
Cold beer — 50/50 —giveaways  
Live music by Big Dick & The Extenders and D.J. Pink, starting

See HOGG page 9

## INNOVATION from page 3

established a portfolio of more than 120 innovation projects that help VA identify, test, and evaluate promising solutions that enhance the accessibility and quality of care and services delivered to Veterans. As a permanent part of the department, VACI, which will be the new name for VAI2, will continue to tap talent from government, industry, and the entrepreneurial community.

Also, VACI will add several new programs that expand VA's capacity to embrace innovative ideas and address VA's most critical challenges.

VACI has launched a new web site, released its first annual report, and announced 13 new awards from its industry innovation competition. These awards respond to needs identified by VA senior leadership and are focused on teleaudiology, prosthetic socket redesign, Blue Button, and automating the sterilization process for reusable medical instruments.

With the integration of VAI2 into the Center for Innovation, VA is taking a leadership role in making innovation a core competency and an ongoing practice in the second-largest federal

agency.

"By knitting together innovative talent and 21st century solutions into a vital ecosystem, we ensure that VA meets the evolving needs of current and future Veterans with energy and imagination," said director of VACI Jonah Czerwinski.

For more information about VACI, see our new website, [www.innovation.va.gov](http://www.innovation.va.gov).

## VACI's 13 new awards from the industry competition include:

- RemotEAR, by Otovation of King of Prussia, Pa., to improve the availability of audiology services for Veterans by providing a solution for assessing all audiology services through rehabilitation;
- Technical Feasibility of Smartphone Based Teleaudiology, by Phonak of Warrenville, Ill., to enable remote programming of hearing aids through a smartphone;
- Remote Audiometry in VA CBOCs, by Audiology, Inc., of Arden Hills, Minn., to develop an automated audiometer that

See INNOVATION page 9



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KODO  
THURS, MARCH 7 AT 7PM



The above artists are just a few that will or have performed at the Sunrise Theatre during the 2012/13 Season.

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**INNOVATION from page 8**

can be used by audiology support personnel in VA facilities without an audiology clinic;

- Cochlear Implant Programming, by Cochlear Americas of Centennial, Colo., for the remote programming of cochlear implants. The concept has been useful for other implant technologies but will be innovative for cochlear implants;

- Quasi-Passive Prosthetic Socket Technology, by Massachusetts Institute of Technology of Cambridge, Mass., to improve socket fit by means of a permanent socket that allows for adjustments to stiffness and reduction of movement within the socket using continuous electronic sensors and laminate technology;

- Pro-Active Dynamic Accommodating Prosthetic Socket, by

Infoscitex of Waltham, Mass., to create a prosthetic socket that conforms to volume changes over the course of a day, as well as those caused by the gait cycle, with a system of sensors that automatically detect changes in pressure and allows the bladders to rapidly change in response to movement;

- SOCAT: Socket Optimized for Comfort with Advanced Technology, by Florida State University of Tallahassee, Fla., to develop a new prosthetic socket that better manages changes in volume and pressure while providing active cooling and temperature control;

- Synergetic Improvements for Transfemoral Prosthetic Sockets, by the Ohio Willow Wood Company of Mt. Sterling, Ohio, to create an improved transfemoral suspension and socket system made

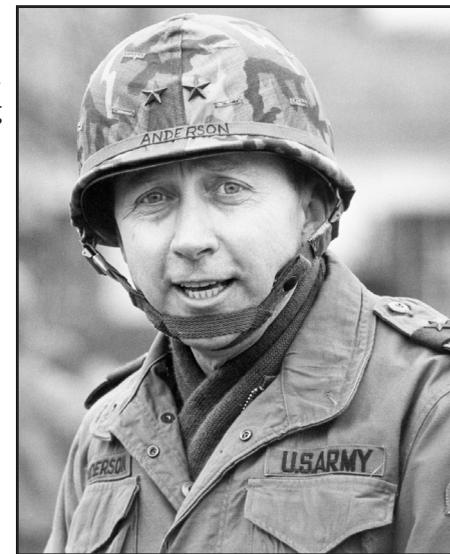
**See INNOVATION page 11**

**ANDERSON from page 4**

meant majoring in business administration and ROTC training for Gene. Gloria joined him at North Georgia College and the pair married during college. At his 1953 graduation, Gene received his commission and immediately reported to Fort Benning. More training awaited the young officer: Airborne School, Armor Officer Advanced Course, Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

Assigned as a student to Syracuse University, Gene added an MBA degree.

Gene's assignments were many during a 33-year Army career, ultimately achieving Major General of the 3rd Armored Division. In Vietnam, Gene served as the advisor to the Vietnamese 3rd Division Armored Cavalry Regiment. He lived with the Vietnamese, sleeping in a hammock and eating rice and fish — all part of Army life. He and Gloria spent five tours and nearly 15 years in Germany, where his 25th wedding anniversary found him commanding an Armored Brigade, supervising tank gunnery. He headed for home and a special dinner with Gloria, but an upside down tank — with live ammunition —



Gen. Anderson

changed those plans. The episode ended satisfactorily and left Gene and Gloria with one more story to chuckle about.

After retirement, the two returned to Georgia and their aging parents. Once decided on sunny Florida, they bought their Indian River Colony Club home in typical no-nonsense style, just three hours after arriving! Gene has served on the Board of Directors for nine of their 14 years at IRCC, his clear leadership a factor in maintaining the Southeast's finest retirement destination. The pair have two sons and seven grandchildren spread between the U.S. and Germany.

**HOGG from page 8**

at 1 p.m.

**Contests**

Wet T-shirt; Who Came The Farthest; Best Paint Job; Tattoo

Contest hosted by South Florida Tattoo.

Archie's Seabreeze is located at 401 S. Ocean Drive, Fort Pierce, FL 34949

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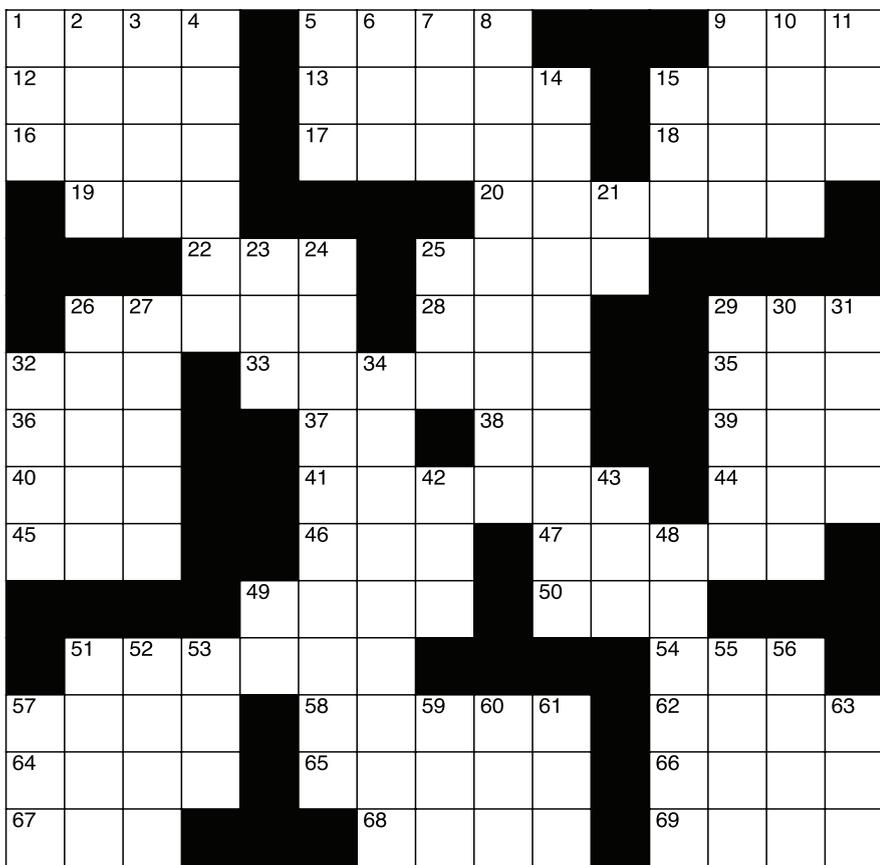
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**CROSSWORD**



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 11. Forbidden (var. sp.)
- 5. Strike a heavy blow
- 9. Guy (slang)
- 12. Tel \_\_, Israel
- 13. The superior of an abbey
- 15. Swiss river
- 16. South American nation
- 17. Span. town Aranda de \_\_\_\_
- 18. Yellow's complement
- 19. Sun in Spanish
- 20. Sharp slaps
- 22. Cash dispensing machine
- 25. Persistently annoying person
- 26. Japanese rolls
- 28. The woman
- 29. Fiddler crabs
- 32. Buddy
- 33. Majuscule
- 35. Lake in Oklahoma
- 36. Airborne (abbr.)
- 37. Physician's moniker (abbr.)
- 38. Lincoln's state
- 39. Doctors' group
- 40. By way of
- 41. Coated with tobacco residue
- 44. Collect information
- 45. Smallest whole number
- 46. Honey (abbr.)
- 47. Luggage containers
- 49. Nine banded armadillo
- 50. Malaysian isthmus
- 51. Very heavy hammer
- 54. Cry made by sheep
- 57. Gorse genus
- 58. Chilean pianist Claudio
- 62. Table supports
- 64. Insect feeler
- 65. Pointed fork part
- 66. Periods of time
- 67. Harvard's league
- 68. Affirmative! (slang)
- 69. An open skin infection

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Draw beer
- 2. Bird class
- 3. Ballpoint pen
- 4. Soft palate extensions
- 5. Not good
- 6. \_\_ Dhabi, Arabian capital
- 7. One point E of due S
- 8. Old fashioned upholstery fabric
- 9. Stop short
- 10. Large extinct European wild ox
- 11. Important pollinator
- 14. Magnum P.I. star
- 15. Basic
- 21. Indicates position
- 23. 4th day (abbr.)
- 24. Underground phrase
- 25. 23rd Greek letter
- 26. Live polio vaccine developer
- 27. Forearm bones
- 29. An edict of the Russian tsar
- 30. Tent places
- 31. Not home
- 32. Peafowl genus
- 34. Bog berry
- 42. A shag rug made in Sweden
- 43. \_\_ Constitution Hall
- 48. Soft black furs
- 49. Atomic #46
- 51. Defense to the Queen's gambit
- 52. Dutch painter Peter 1618-1680
- 53. UK rock band
- 55. About aviation
- 56. Used as a culture medium
- 57. Int'l. news organization
- 59. Fish eggs
- 60. Tennis star Ivanovic
- 61. Exclamation: yuck!
- 63. Point midway between S and SE

2282

**SUDOKU**

	2				1			3
		6						2
1		5		4				9
	7							6
			1	9				
		8						2
4	9							7
5		1	9					
		3		5				

# Mayor, Team PSL to raise funds for Honor Flight at Mets game Saturday

**For Veteran Voice**

Baseball fans at Saturday's Mets game in Tradition Field will have a chance to show appreciation for America's World War II veterans by buying food and drinks from a special concession stand to benefit Honor Flight Southeast.

Mayor JoAnn Faiella and Team Port St. Lucie volunteers will work the Terrace Concession Stand behind third base, selling hot dogs, hamburgers, beer, soda, nachos and other ball park favorites. Proceeds will be given to Honor Flight Southeast, which is organizing flights to Washington, D.C. in April and May, and

will provide seats for U.S. military veterans from Port St. Lucie who served in World War II.

Last year more than 80 veterans from Port St. Lucie completed a similar trip to the nation's capital, gathering at 4 a.m. in City Hall and boarding busses to the airport in West Palm Beach. The non-profit Honor Flight network arranges the trips to allow the veterans to see the World War II Memorial and to visit other national sites of significance to veterans. There is no cost charged to any veteran for the service.

**See METS page 11**

SHE SAID YES!

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**INNOVATION from page 9**

from polymer materials that draw heat away from the limb for enhanced performance and comfort;

- Comprehensive National Kidney Disease Registry, by University of Michigan of Ann Arbor, Mich., to create a national database of VA patients suffering from kidney disease, enabling individual and longitudinal tracking of patients and outcomes;

- VA Mobile Blue Button, by Agilex Technologies of Chantilly, Va., to allow patients to view and share their VA health data using their mobile devices. In addition, the application will enable secure messaging between VA providers and Veterans via mobile devices to meet their needs;

- Blue Button Authentication

Field Test Proposal, by Northrop Grumman of McLean, Va., to enable Veterans to authenticate online for greater flexibility in accessing their medical records and VA services;

- Blue Button Extensions Medical Imaging, by Ray Group International of Washington, D.C., to give Veterans the ability to view and download their own medical images (such as X-rays, MRIs, and scanned medical records) via Blue Button for personal storage and to directly transmit them to their non-VA physicians;

- Automated Integrated Perioperative Process, by GE Global Research of Niskayuna, N.Y., to help VA develop a fully automated process for sterilizing reusable medical instruments in order to prevent potentially life-threatening diseases for Veterans.

**METS from page 10**

“The Honor Flight we set up last year was such an outrageous success, we are motivated to do it all over again,” Faiella said. “We want to make sure no World War II vet misses the chance to go,

and we are very thankful to the Mets organization for allowing us to sell food and raise money at their game. They are truly a generous partner in our community.”

The Tradition Field address is 525 N.W. Peacock Boulevard in St. Lucie West. The game starts at 1:10 p.m.

**BAND from page 6**

Presidential Inaugural Parades, the rededication of the Statue of Liberty, nationally televised broadcasts on Memorial Day and the Fourth of July, and the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City.

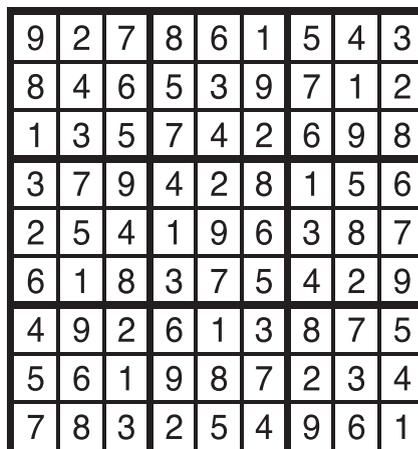
Joint concerts with many of the nation’s leading orchestras, including the Boston Pops, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and Cincinnati Pops, have received rave reviews.

The Field Band’s members, selected by highly competitive audition, represent some of the finest musical talent in Amer-

ica. More than five decades as the military’s most traveled musicians have earned them the title, “The Musical Ambassadors of the Army.”

For additional information about the Field Band’s performance in Melbourne, please contact Indian River Colony Club The concert is free, and you may request up to four tickets. Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Indian River Colony Club 1936 Freedom Drive Melbourne, FL 32940

For more information, call (321) 255-6000.



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2253

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT AND OUR OBJECTIVE

Veteran Voice is a weekly publication designed to provide information to and about veterans to veterans and to the broader community. Veterans are an integral part of their Florida communities, which currently have individual organizations of their own, such as the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Vietnam Veterans of America and many other groups with a narrow focus, but no convenient way to connect to a wider population of veterans and to the community in general within a limited geographic area, their community.

The mission of Veteran Voice is to publish a weekly source of information that will provide, in one place, a listing of resources available to veterans, articles about changes in policies or organizations affecting veterans and events of interest to veterans as well as articles about veterans of interest to the general public.

Veteran Voice LLC is organized as a partnership of experienced newspaper executives with an interest in veterans and in the communities of Florida veterans and friends. VV is a start-up intended to address a perceived lack of information readily available to veterans on programs and policies affecting them and objective reporting of veteran affairs to the public.

To our knowledge, and based on comments from leaders of local veterans organizations, there was no media or website currently meeting this need until the launch of VeteranVoice.

We hope you agree, and will support this publication with your subscription. Without subscriptions there will be a limited number of people we can help, without which this mission will not be realized. As part of our commitment to supporting local veteran communities, we will donate 10 percent of our profits each quarter to qualified veteran charities recommended by you, our readers and subscribers. Please let us know what you think by emailing [editor@veteranvoiceweekly.com](mailto:editor@veteranvoiceweekly.com) or mailing your comments to us at **1919 S.W. South Macedo Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34984.**

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS ...

### County Veterans Service Officers

St. Lucie County, Donna Carlsen  
Phone: (772) 337-5670  
Fax: (772) 337-5678  
[veterans@stlucieco.org](mailto:veterans@stlucieco.org)

**Dorothy J. Conrad Building**  
(formerly the Walton Road Annex Bldg.)  
1664 S.E. Walton Road, Suite 205  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34952  
By appointment  
Mon., Tues, Thurs, Fri \* 8:30 am-4:30 pm  
Wed \* 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

**St. Lucie County Community Services Bldg.**  
(Corner of Avenue D and 7th Street)  
437 N. Seventh St., Fort Pierce, FL 34950  
Walk-ins  
Mon. and Fri. \* 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Brevard Veteran's Services Office**  
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way,  
Bldg. B, Suite 102, Viera, FL 32940  
Office: (321) 633-2012  
Fax: (321) 637-5432  
Mon., Tues. and Thurs., 8 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Wed. and Fri, 8 a.m.-noon  
Manager: Glenn McGuffie

**Indian River County**  
Joel Herman  
Vero Beach  
2525 St. Lucie Ave.,  
Vero Beach, FL 32960  
Ph: (772) 226-1499  
Fax: (772) 770-5038

**Sebastian Square**  
11602 U.S. 1, Sebastian, FL 32958  
Ph: (772) 589-6597 Fax: (772) 581-4988

**Martin County**  
Tony Reese, Veterans Service Office Supervisor  
Nick Ciotti, Veterans Service Officer  
(772) 288-5448

**Veterans Services Office**  
Martin County Community Services  
435 S.E. Flagler Ave., Stuart, FL 34994  
Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

**VA Life Insurance Ctr., Phil., PA -**  
1-800-669-8477

**VA Regional Office -** 1-800-827-1000

**VA Medical Ctr, W. Palm Beach -**  
1-800-972-8262

**Pharmacy, VA Medical Center -**  
1-800-317-8387

**Military Retired Pay Activities,**  
Cleveland, OH - (Army, Marine Corps,  
Navy, Air Force ONLY)  
1-800-321-1080

**Military Retired Pay Activities,**  
Topeka, KS - (Coast Guard ONLY)  
1-800-772-8724

**Survivor Benefits (SBP),**  
Denver, CO - 1-800-435-3396

**Stuart VA Clinic -** (772) 288-0304  
Okeechobee County

**Veterans Services office**  
(863) 763-6441, Ext 5.  
Fax: (863) 763-0118.

**Orlando VA Medical Center**  
5201 Raymond St., Orlando, FL 32803  
(407) 629-1599 or (800) 922-7521

**Telephone Care**  
(407) 599-1404  
8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon. - Fri. (800) 645-6895  
8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mon - Fri (321) 637-3625

**Viera patients**  
8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mon. - Fri. (877) 741-3400  
Weekends, holidays, evenings and nights

**West Palm Beach Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center**  
7305 North Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL 33410  
(561) 422-8262 or (800) 972-8262

**Telephone Care**  
(561) 422-6838 (866) 383-9036  
Open 24 hours - 7 days

**Viera VA Outpatient Clinic**  
2900 Veterans Way, Viera, FL 32940  
Phone: (321) 637-3788  
1 (877) 878-8387  
Mon. - Fri. - 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**St Lucie County PTSD Clinical Team (PCT)** Outpatient Program  
126 S.W. Chamber Court,  
Port St Lucie, FL 34986  
Phone: (772) 878-7876

**Fort Pierce Community Based Outpatient Clinic**  
727 North U.S. 1, Fort Pierce, FL 34950  
Phone: (772) 595-5150  
Fax: (772) 595-6560

**St Lucie Community Based Outpatient Clinic**  
128 S.W. Chamber Court,  
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986  
Phone: (772) 344-9288

**Stuart Community Based Outpatient Clinic**  
3501 S E Willoughby Boulevard,  
Stuart, FL 34997  
Phone: (772) 288-0304  
Fax: (772) 288-1371

**Vero Beach Community Based Outpatient Clinic**  
372 17th St., Vero Beach, FL 32960  
Phone: (772) 299-4623  
Fax: (772) 299-4632

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