



Community Notes

Trash-can replacement underway

Crews from WCA have begun replacing trash cans in DeLand.

WCA, which is contracted with the city to provide waste services, will replace trash cans as they are left out on the resident's designated trash collection day. Each resident will be given a new can that will be the same color as the cans currently in circulation. The switch over is expected to take about four weeks to complete.

Commercial trash cans will also be replaced.

Each trash can will include a sticker that gives instructions on where to place the garbage can on the curb, information on days that trash is not collected and what items should not be placed in the garbage, such as paint, tires and propane cylinders, among other things.

Recycling bins will not be replaced at this time.

For more information, call (386) 626-7190.

Cultural Council to meet Jan. 26

The Cultural Council of Volusia County will meet at 9 a.m. Friday, Jan. 26, at the Little Theatre of New Smyrna Beach, 726 E. Third Ave., New Smyrna Beach.

Members will review the arts license plate fund, updates to the 2018-19 Community Cultural Grant Program guidelines and application, the 2018 board meeting calendar, and a proposed art enhancement for the State Road 44 roundabout in DeLand.

For more information, contact Historic Preservation Officer Julie Adams Scofield at jscofield@volusia.org or (386) 736-5953, ext. 12008.

DeLand library hosts e-book workshop

Learn how to download dig- See NOTES, page A5

Personal Finance A8

PLAN STRONGER

Learn how to choose a lawyer



Entertainment B1

INTO THE STRANGE



M.C. Escher exhibit opens in DeLand

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DeLand poised to fight possible auto mall plan

By Gina McKee gmckee@hometownnewsol.com

If the City of Lake Helen chooses to grant I-4 Automall LLC's annexation request, DeLand City Commissioners intend to step in, which could include a legal appeal.

The property in the annexation application is about 52 acres in the unincorporated area at the interchange of Interstate 4 and Orange Camp Road. It also is the site of the proposed I-4 Automall and several other potential future developments.

Although DeLand officials said they have had talks with the property owners concerning the city's willingness to provide utility services, they felt blindsided Friday, Jan. 12, when they learned of the annexation application.

"We learned (Jan. 12) that the property owner

withdrew its application from the County of Volusia back at the end of November and then submitted the application for annexation — and at this point a land use amendment and perhaps even a rezoning — to the City of Lake Helen," said Darren Elkind, DeLand city attorney. "Nobody picked up the phone, and in all honesty, if (the property owners) didn't have lawyers in DeLand who care about the relationship, we might not have known if we had not seen the article in the paper or the advertisement."

At a special meeting Jan. 19 — one week after they were initially made aware of the annexation application -- DeLand City Commissioners unanimously voted to send a letter to Lake Helen's City Commissioners.

The two-page letter requested Lake Helen post-

pone the Jan. 22 Planning and Development Commission Meeting where members were set to review and revise the city's Comprehensive Plan. The letter also asked Lake Helen to postpone the Jan. 25 City Commission meeting where commissioners would hear the first of two readings required for action on both the amended Comprehensive Plan as well as the annex-

See PLAN, page A8

Walmart Neighborhood Market opens

By Gina McKee gmckee@hometownnewsol.com

Shoppers stood in line in a parking lot filled with vendors, residents, store employees and local leadership as DeLand's new Walmart Neighborhood Market officially opened for business.

"We started with one shovel several months ago, one pile of dirt, and today we're giving you a 46,000-square-foot facility that's unprecedented ... it's one of the best I've ever seen in my 22-year career with Walmart," Manager Jose Oliveres said during the store's ribbon-cutting ceremony Wednesday, Jan. 17. "As the fifth Neighborhood Market

in Volusia County, it is our commitment to bring you the lowest price and the most convenient shopping in order to save you money so that you can live better."

At 955 S. Woodland Blvd., the new market, which created nearly 100 new jobs in DeLand and supplements the city's Walmart Supercenter, is much more convenient for DeLand resident Laurie Valentin, who was the first in line at 6 a.m. on opening day.

"The location is so much better for us," Ms. Valentin said. "It takes me half the time to get here to get what I need. It's eight miles to (get to the Supercenter), and sometimes I need to make a

See WALMART, page A2

Tasting DeLand



Bruce D. Henderson/staff photographer

People eat samples of food from area restaurants on Saturday, Jan. 20, at tables set up on the plaza across from the Historic Volusia County Courthouse on West Indiana Avenue at the Taste of DeLand, presented by Mainstreet DeLand.

Festival goers can see more seacows

By Lori Carter For Hometown News

The 33rd annual Manatee Festival will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan. 27-28 at Valentine Park, 1151 W. French Ave., Orange City.

Jeff Allebach, who has been part of the event since 1995, said the festival has something for everyone. Vendors include arts and crafts, food and environmental displays.

Mr. Allebach said Aqua Ventures is bringing a semi-trailer to explain the water cycle in the state of Florida, and how we get our drinking water.

"That's one of things that sets the Manatee Festival apart is our environmental



Hometown News file photo

Lana Slawkawski, then 7, left, and Elsa Johnson, then 10, both of Deltona, look out from an inflatable water wheel in a pool during last year's Manatee Festival at Valentine Park in Orange City.

display and information area," he said. "As we all tease, the Manatee Festival was green before green was cool."

Admission includes a shuttle ride over to Blue Springs State Park. Mr. Allebach said there will be four

shuttles going back and forth all day on both days.

"The manatees are there," he said. "There will be plenty.

Started 20 years ago, there would be 50 or 60 in Blue Spring, and now they're talking about 400 visiting in

one day.

"They don't like the cold. The river is in the 50s," Mr. Allebach said. "They move into the spring to stay warm."

At Valentine Park, activi-

See FESTIVAL, page A2

Historic building gets new lease on life

By Lori Carter For Hometown News

Workers are putting the final touches on Brigham Hall in Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp, which has been in existence since 1894 and was designated a Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places in 1991.

Brigham Hall was built around 1897 by Hubbard and Sarah Brigham for their family and friends who came to visit. Later, the couple donated the building on Stevens Street to the camp. There were six rooms on the bottom floor, six rooms on the second floor and six spaces on the top floor.

Rick Smith, project manager, said last year the board of trustees voted to restore the building. He said an architect-

See HISTORIC, page A2

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Walmart

From page A1

quick trip. This is better for us.”

In addition to new jobs, a focus on fresh produce and convenience, Walmart is a community partner and sponsor, Mr. Oliveres said. To prove it, the store awarded more than \$13,000 in grant checks on opening day, including funds to the City of DeLand to help the homeless and \$2000 for the DeLand High School Jr. ROTC.

“This \$8,000 will move us much closer to our goal of providing a day center in conjunction with the Neighborhood Center,” DeLand Mayor Bob Apgar said. “I think what’s important to recognize is that Walmart is making

contributions to our community, for our community, for the people.”

As soon as Mr Oliveres and Mayor Apgar cut the ceremonial ribbon, a score of early-morning shoppers flooded the building, ready to take advantage of the new location’s offerings served up by familiar faces in every department, including the store’s new pharmacist.

“Our pharmacy manager, David Barnard, is a longtime DeLand resident and has been working as a pharmacist in the area for nearly 30 years,” Mr. Oliveres said. “He’s a familiar face and another example of how we’re bringing a personal touch to serving you.”

Shoppers will have new advantages beyond just a con-

venient location and familiar faces, Mr. Oliveres added.

The new location features a drive-thru pharmacy, free pickup for online groceries orders, fresh produce, grab-and-go prepared meals, money services, and much more.

The celebration hasn’t ended with the ribbon cutting, which served as the kick-off for additional community celebrations planned by the new store, according to information in a press release.

DeLand residents also were invited to a community celebration Jan. 20-21 with music, activities for children and food samples.

Walmart also has Neighborhood Markets in DeBary, Deltona, Holly Hill and Port Orange.



Photo by Gina McKee

Walmart Neighborhood Market in DeLand celebrated its grand opening on Wednesday, Jan. 20, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. From left are Support Manager Shawn Kendall, Marketing Manager Darrell Arnold, DeLand City Manager Michael Pleus, DeLand Mayor Bob Apgar, Store Manager Jose Oliveres and Personnel Coordinator Korbin Kearn.

Pierson Lion honored for 50 years

For Hometown News
newsdy@hometownnewsol.com

The cost of a gallon of gas was 34 cents, a new car cost \$2,822, Apollo 8 orbited the moon and Robert Stone joined the Pierson’s Lions Club, all in 1968.

Although not an international event, 50 years of service to the club and the Pierson community was enthusiastically celebrated Jan. 15.

His 50 years have meant a lot to Mr. Stone. “I am proud of all the people I have been able to help and bring joy to,” he said in a news release from the club.

During his 50-year tenure, Mr. Stone has been a catalyst



Photo courtesy of Pierson Lions Club

Lions Club District Gov. Tito Navarro presented a 50-year pin to Robert Stone of the Pierson’s Lion Club on Jan. 15.

for keeping events going, such as the Old Timers Day, Duval Home visits and food and drinks for the Duval residents at special events, and the Pierson Rodeo, some of which he has been doing for more than 35 years.

He is club treasurer and serves on many committees, including the Rodeo committee.

The Pierson Lions Club was chartered Jan. 17, 1950, and recently celebrated its 68th anniversary. Club members perform many service activi-

ties in the community, including Old Timers Day in April and Christmas for the residents of the Duval Home in DeLand.

As part of the celebration, District Gov. Tito Navarro present Lion Bob with his 50 Year Chevron pin.

Pierson’s Lions Club meetings are on the first and third Mondays of each month at the clubhouse at 143 W. First Ave. Prospective members and visitors are welcome. For more information, call (386) 749-2203.

Historic

From page A1

tural engineer came in and recommended jacking the building up.

“He advised us how to build pillars and brace up the undercarriage,” said Mr. Smith, a member of the Camp for 21 years. “The building was leveled off and when the braces were put in place, we put in a cedar board between the brace and the ceiling of the porch. When the jacks were dropped, it (the building) didn’t move.”

Today, there are three apartment units and three small offices used by healers and or mediums, who are certified through the Camp, he said. The third floor is not used.

Mr. Smith, who volunteers his time, said he and two other workers continue to replace the rotten wood on the front porch. He said they are using as much of the original wood as possible by scraping off old paint.

“I just love doing it. I like to see things being kept instead of torn down,” he said. “Actually, they pay me one whole dollar a month for workman’s comp. I do get paid.”

A couple of the most interesting finds under the home included a 1930s Illinois license plate, a 1919 sports section from a newspaper and pieces of the original lattice work from the porch.

“When we are done, all the doors and window trim above



Photo by Lori Carter

Rick Smith, bottom, and Jeff Biddle work on restoration of the Brigham House in the Cassadaga Historic District.

will be dark green,” he said. “The rest of it will be white.”

Mr. Smith said when the architectural engineer first came out, it was thought the building would only stand

another 10 years. “It’s structurally wise,” he said. “It’s a better building now. I’m hoping for another 120 years.”

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Festival

From page A1

ties include a rock wall climb, bungee jump, U.S. Army obstacle course, face painting

and entertainment, including Disconnected K-9s Frisbee (show), Karegan Wodz (solo artist) and Caerbanog (local band) on Saturday and Jeff Howell Band on Sunday.

Admission is \$8 for adults,

\$2 for children 4 to 10 years old, three and under free. There’s a \$10 charge for each dog.

For more information, visit themanateefestival.com.

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Our area has a long association with the demon rum.

From the very first rum distillery in North America at the Three Chimneys Historical Site in Ormond Beach to Bill McCoy, the nation's most famous prohibition rum runner in Holly Hill, rum has always been a part of the folk lore of Volusia County. Now there is a new distillery that produces that warming elixir at 998 N. Beach St. in Holly Hill.

Just before the holidays, I took part in a tour of the facility with the members of the board of directors of the Ormond Beach Historical Society. We were greeted by one of the owners, Master Distiller Jeremy Craig.

Jeremy is a nice guy, and oh so knowledgeable. He explained to us their facility, Copper Bottom Craft Distillery, makes designer, small-batch spirits that include rum, both light and dark, and a very smooth vodka.

We all know that sugar cane is the basis for rum, but I was surprised to learn their vodka is distilled from sugar as well.



LAND LINES
DAN SMITH

Jeremy told us they use as much Florida-grown sugar as possible, but have to add a portion from the islands.

The Copper Bottom work area is small, but impressive, with several large stainless vats, and all the pipes and tubing that support a working distillery. Jeremy told us that a 500-gallon vat of mash only yields around 15 gallons of product.

At one point, he asked our group if anyone had any guesses as to the origins of the distillery's name. There is a wise guy in every crowd, and one of the guests asked if it may have been a nickname for an old girlfriend. Jeremy told me it was not, and that the name was a historical one.

It seems that in the 1800s, the better wooden sailing ships had hulls covered in copper. That metal was pliable

and easy to work with and prevented barnacles and other marine organisms from fouling the bottom of the ships. They were, therefore, the best ships afloat. Later, the term copper bottom would be applied to the better sailors. A captain wanted to have a crew of copper-bottom seamen, meaning they were trustworthy and reliable.

Next, we were led into the bar for samples of the Copper Bottom product. The tour was very interesting, but the sampling was easily the group's favorite part of the trip. Jeremy poured shots for all who wanted to taste the rum or vodka and even mixed them with fruit juice for the less hardy among us. The rum was smooth and clean, and several from the OBHS bought bottles to give as Christmas gifts.

While I am not a big drinker these days, I do like an occasional dark rum, but it had sold out. Vowing to wait until the next batch, I enjoyed the white rum and vodka and found both to be exceptional.

Folks, in this era of craft beers springing up all around

us, it is remarkable to have a rum and vodka distillery right in Holly Hill. The place sits just a block north of Mason Avenue on Beach Street and most appropriately is practically in view of Bill McCoy's house, which still stands at the intersection of Beach and LPGA Boulevard.

Jeremy is a gracious host, and, if you call him at (386) 267-5104, he will be happy to arrange a tour for your group. Their product is for sale at the facility and several area liquor outlets. Look for the Copper Bottom label with the ancient three-masted sailing ship on the label. If there is someone in your family who enjoys imbibing, you can't do better than a gift from the Copper Bottom Craft Distillery.

Dan Smith is on the board of directors for the Ormond Beach Historical Society and The Motor Racing Heritage Association and is the author of two books, "The World's Greatest Beach" and "I Swear the Snook Drowned." Email questions and comments to fishwdan@att.net or call (386) 441-7793.

RANTS & RAVES Have something you need to get off your chest or want to praise?
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Volusia Teacher of the Year named

For Hometown News
newsdy@hometownnewsol.com

Nicole Grebosz, technology special area teacher from Citrus Grove Elementary School, is Volusia County Schools' Teacher of the Year for 2019.

Ms. Grebosz received the award before an audience of more than 900 friends of public education at the Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort Jan. 12. The announcement was made at a celebration presented by Halifax Health and co-hosted by FUTURES Foundation and Volusia County Schools.

Ms. Grebosz earned her bachelor's and master's degrees

from Stetson University and began her career with Volusia County Schools in 2006 at her alma mater, Pine Ridge High. She served as an English/Language Arts teacher, as well as the sports science/emergency medical services academy teacher, until 2008. She then became a career and technical education teacher at Pine Ridge, but also taught a web design class part-



Ms. Grebosz

time for a few months at Florida Virtual School. In 2015, she moved to Citrus Grove as a technology special area teacher.

As a technology teacher, a new offering at the elementary level, Ms. Grebosz teaches 900 students in grades K-5 and serves as a mentor to teachers who are new to teaching technology as a special area. When her fifth grade students graduate, she measures her success by their ability to navigate technology tools and their confidence in their abilities. That success is supported by the 40 percent pass rate of the fifth grade students who participated in the iC3 Spark digi-

tal tools certificate, which is an assessment designed for middle schoolers.

In her award application, Ms. Grebosz stated, "When someone feels valued and cared for, his/her desire to achieve soars."

Described as versatile, flexible and someone who makes the community a better place to live and work, Ms. Grebosz succeeds Jason Kester, culinary arts teacher from Mainland High School, who was Volusia County's 2018 Teacher of the Year.

Four other teachers received special recognition as finalists:

• Christopher Gibbs, second grade teacher, Turie T. Small

Halifax Health Welcomes GARY DECESARE, MD

Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgeon



Gary DeCesare, MD, graduated with honors from University of Florida as well as University of South Florida School of Medicine. He completed his surgical training at Georgetown University in Washington, DC and went on to do his plastic and reconstructive surgery training at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

At UCLA, he learned from the best cosmetic surgeons in Beverly Hills, as well as leaders in the field of reconstructive surgery. He also discovered

his appreciation and talent for the extreme surgical precision required in hand surgery, therefore completing a prestigious Hand Surgery Fellowship at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital.

Dr. DeCesare is passionate about what he does and how his work positively affects his patients. He firmly believes in treating each of his patients as he would treat his own loved-one or family member.

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Police Report

Editor's note: This is a list of arrests, not convictions, and all arrestees are presumed innocent unless or until proven guilty in a court of law.

DeLand Police Department

•Edy B. Baltazar Pascual, 22, of DeLand, was arrested Jan. 13 and charged with fleeing/attempting to elude law enforcement with lights/sirens running and driving under the influence. Bail was set at \$3,000.
•Cynthia Lou Romines, 31, of DeLand, was arrested Jan.

16 and charged with possession of cocaine. Bail was set at \$1,500.

Volusia County Sheriff's Office

•Jessica A. Schmieder, 27, of DeLand, was arrested Jan. 12 and charged with possession of paraphernalia and cocaine. Bail was set at \$2,500.
•Claudio Ortiz Paulino, 47, of DeLeon Springs, was arrested Jan. 12 and charged with strangulation and battery. Bail was not set.
•Christopher D. Ledoux, 35,

of DeLand, was arrested Jan. 14 and charged with driving with a canceled license, unregistered motor vehicle, possession of methamphetamine with intent to sell and grand theft. Bail was set at \$9,000.

•Ryan E. Simpson, 28, of DeLand, was arrested Jan. 15 and charged with dealing in stolen property. Bail was set at \$10,000.

•Gaston C. Payne, 60, of DeLeon Springs, was arrested Jan. 16 and charged with possession of paraphernalia and a scheduled II substance. Bail was not set.

•Stanley Eugene Patterson, 55, of DeLand, was arrested

Jan. 17 and charged with resisting an officer without violence, possession of burglary tools and burglary of an occupied conveyance. Bail was set at \$2,000.

•Ashley L. Griffin, 28, of DeLand was arrested Jan. 17 and charged with public assistance fraud. Bail was not set.

•Carlos E. Carbajal, 30, of DeLand, was arrested Jan. 18 and charged with possession of paraphernalia, a scheduled IV substance, cocaine, hashish and cannabis with intent to sell. Bail was set at \$35,500.

Body-worn cameras deployed for police

For Hometown News
newsdy@hometownnewsol.com

All DeLand Police officers are now wearing body cameras to document responses to incidents as well as all contact with citizens.

Over the past several weeks, every uniformed officer, motor officer and uniformed street supervisor was outfitted with a body-worn camera. A total of 59 Axon Body 2 cameras were acquired by the department.

"This new technology is important for a number of reasons," said Police Chief Jason Umberger in a news release.

"The footage captured can be used as evidence in criminal proceedings. It can be used by police supervisors and police trainers as a training tool to reinforce best practices for safe citizen encounters. The footage also provides my office of professional responsibility critical information to conduct impartial and transparent employee conduct investigations.

"Finally, body-worn camera technology is a tool that provides our agency with a gauge to monitor our commitment to practice the tenants of procedural justice, which includes

treating people with dignity and respect, giving individuals a voice during encounters, being neutral and transparent in our decision making and conveying trustworthy motives."

The department's policy requires that every citizen encounter be video and audio taped though extraordinary circumstances may arise that require an officer to act quickly to protect a citizen or themselves.

Before Chief Umberger arrived, the police department chose Viewu Inc. to provide its body-worn camera technology.

However, many of the cameras ended up needing maintenance and archiving all of the data recorded became a challenge for staff.

A review was conducted by Chief Umberger and staff before the police department selected the Axon Body 2 camera for its officers and the company's software will be used to manage the footage obtained by officers.

"I am confident these body worn cameras will meet the standard of excellence that we strive for here at the police department," Chief Umberger added.

Notes

From page A1

ital books during a free workshop at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, at the DeLand Regional Library, 130 E. Howry Ave.

Staff will explain how to borrow and download new and popular books in digital formats that can be read anytime on a smartphone, tablet or e-reader. The Volusia County Public Library system offers e-books from multiple

sources, such as Axis360, OverDrive and Hoopla at volusialibrary.org.

For more information, call (386) 822-6430, ext. 20762.

Folk singers to perform at DeLand library

Folk singers Bill and Eli Peras will present "Artifacts of Florida through Songs and Stories" at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, at the DeLand Regional Library, 130 E. Howry Ave.

This live musical performance will share bits about history, people, culture and the environment through original songs.

The free program, which is sponsored by the Friends of the DeLand Library, is part of the Volusia County Public Library's NEA Big Read, a six-week celebration of "True Grit," a 1968 novel by Charles Portis.

For more information, call (386) 822-6430, ext. 20762.

Learn association rules

A Homeowners Association Board Member Certification Course will meet from 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Jan. 31, at Halifax River Yacht Club, 331 S. Beach St., Daytona Beach.

Presenters will be from Wright & Casey P.A. and Southern States Management Group.

Coffee and continental breakfast provided by Mitchell

See NOTES, page A6



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Wanted



Unknown Suspect

Volusia County sheriff's detectives are investigating an early-morning armed robbery at a gas station in DeBary.

The robbery was reported shortly before 4 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 18, at the Kangaroo station at 312 Dirksen Drive. The on-duty clerk told deputies a male suspect came into the store, displayed a knife and demanded money. She wasn't injured. The suspect left with cash and some merchandise.

The suspect was described as a thin black male between the ages of 17-20, about 5 feet 5 inches and wearing a

white towel around his head. Video of the robbery is available at volusiaSheriff.org or on the Sheriff's Office Facebook page, facebook.com/volusiaSheriff.

Detectives are actively investigating this case. Anyone with information is asked to call the Sheriff's Office at (386) 668-3830 or contact Crime Stoppers of Northeast Florida at (888-) TIPS, or submit a tip by downloading the "P3TIPS" smartphone app. Crime Stoppers tipsters will remain anonymous and may be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$5,000.

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VIEWPOINT

FRIDAY, JAN. 26, 2018 • HOMETOWN NEWS • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSVOLUSIA.COM

Rants & Raves

Got something to say?

Call the Hometown Rants & Raves line at

(386) 322-5902

or e-mail newsdy@hometownnewsol.com.

Please limit your submissions to 250 words, so that we can include more entries.

Readers are asked to refrain from making slanderous or libelous statements.

Thanks for cold-weather relief

People of West Volusia County are extremely generous to needs of the homeless.

Sending out a huge thank you to all of the generous people in Volusia County that donated items for the cold night shelter in DeLand at Saint Peter Catholic Church, Don Bosco Center, during the many cold nights in January. Your response was timely, and copious. We were overwhelmed by your actions. The homeless thank you and are very appreciative.

The shelter could not open without these supplies and the dedicated volunteers that staff the shelter. Our city manager, Michael Pleus, played a key role in supporting the shelter and arranged for DeLand Police Department officers to make an appearance from time to time at the shelter to ensure safety for all. I am proud of DeLand and St. Peter Church for stepping up when needed. Thank you, thank you to all.

In response to: 'Stop lazy Publix shoppers'

That would hold true to every Publix in the area, because I am a frequent shopper.

I feel they don't want to offend any of their customers, but they need to get someone there to stop them from parking in front of the stores in the fire lane.

Make them clean it up

My thoughts about the recent destruction of a school by these young boys.

I feel that, under close supervision, the parents and these offenders should clean up the mess they made. No forgiveness. They made the mess, make them all suffer.

There are consequences to our actions and the sooner they learn that, the better off we all may be.

In response to: 'Need more beach for pets'

It is bad enough dog owners do not pick up their dogs' crap on the streets of Ormond-by-the-Sea, and you want to take them to the beach so everybody that lays on the sand has to lay beside dog crap.

There's a lot of people sneaking dogs on the beach as it is. The county should be patrolling Ormond-by-the-Sea and start giving tickets to people that know they are not supposed to bring pets to the beach. I am sure the county will make a lot of money with these tickets.

Dumb traffic lights

There is nothing smart about the traffic lights here, especially for emergency vehicles.

Up north each light has a receiver and each emergency vehicle a transmitter. This setup gives approaching emergency vehicles a green light so they don't have to make full stops at every intersection, which is what happens here. This delays the emergency vehicle, putting lives at risk, including the drivers. I wish the state would use their heads and implement this much needed system.

In response to: 'Still needs a turn lane'

The City of New Smyrna Beach responds: Regarding the rant Jan 19 on how U.S. 1 and Canal Street needs a right-turn lane,

Spirited logo unveiled



Bruce D. Henderson/staff photographer

The Rev. Thomas Connery, pastor of St. Peter Catholic Church, speaks after the unveiling of the St. Peter Catholic School's new Patriots team logo on Saturday, Jan. 6, in the center of new Holy Family Life Center gymnasium in DeLand.

and why would a parking lot have been built there instead.

A quick call to the City of New Smyrna Beach or Florida Department of Transportation would have explained to the writer of the rant, the public parking lot was constructed outside the FDOT right-of-way to facilitate the addition of the turn-lane, and that FDOT is bidding out the work in October 2018.

As for the parking lot not being used by the public; it will be overflowing the next month with major special events on Canal Street.

Please, honey, don't

I have just got word the Tropical Blossom Honey Store at 100 N. Ridgewood Ave. in Edgewater is closing.

This can't happen. I just wanted to report it because maybe there is someone who can help the store. Please help.

In response to: 'Stop lazy Publix shoppers'

I completely agree with the rant about lazy drivers parking in the fire lane at Publix Supermarket on Third Avenue in New Smyrna Beach.

They don't just drop off their passengers, they park in the fire lane until the passenger is done shopping. It's not just on Fridays and weekends. It's every day, all day.

They need new signs and a \$500 fine for parking in that fire lane area. With enforcement from the fire department, police department and Publix employees, with some hefty parking violation tickets, we could pave our streets with gold in no time. It would fund a lot of projects around here. It needs to happen.

Follow zoning

When do my out-of-town neighbors supersede my property rights?

I follow zoning restrictions and live in a beachside single-family home in New Smyrna Beach. I have at least three illegal short-term, 30-day rental homes on my street. They take away the character and charm of a well-established residential neighborhood.

The nearby hotels and beach condos are available just east of A1A, but these greedy out-of-town owners break the law and rent their second or third homes as investments. They do not get business licenses nor do they respect our zoning. Our city has plenty of areas where short-term rentals are allowed.

Our code enforcement department can not keep up with all of the illegal short-term rentals. These owners and Realtors hide their greed behind "property rights" and have no problem

breaking the law, because they do not agree with it.

Long-term residents suffer with more garbage on the streets, more noise and transient neighbors they will never know. Zoning laws protect the character of the neighborhood and should be adhered to. Again I ask, when do other property owner rights supersede my own property rights?

Demise of New Smyrna Beach

I'd like to call this the demise of my beautiful little town of New Smyrna Beach.

We took three perfectly good auto dealerships, abandoned the buildings on U.S. 1 and move them to State Road 44. We cut all the trees down.

Now, we are going to have another convenience store and another gas station out there, and we have a big old gas station across from Walmart out there. So, I guess we are going to have a gas station for every man, woman and child in New Smyrna Beach.

Instead of building affordable housing for people, city leaders decided to put gas station alley out there, convenience stores and more auto dealerships. They left the buildings abandoned on U.S. 1. There is nothing over there. Now, what's next? Come on, people, let's start thinking.

Thanks, Ennis

I would like to give a rave to an employee of Publix on State Road 44 in New Smyrna Beach. His name is Ennis, a nice young man.

A couple of weeks ago, I left my purse while weighing myself. He turned my purse in and everything was there. Shopping is really a pleasure and it is nice there are such good young people in the world. Thank you.

A dollar don't do nothing

Cost-of-living raise. Wow, what a shock. I found out today I have a cost-of-living raise. It's \$1.

We seniors are American citizens. We worked all our lives for this money. They took it out of our checks every week. We helped to build this country to make it what it is.

Now, we get a \$1 raise when this country is going and helping other countries. They help people coming into the United States. What is becoming of this country? What will \$1 get me? You can't even buy a decent loaf of bread for \$1. Senior citizens are the forgotten Americans.

Notes

From page A5

Noel Insurance Agency.

Attendance open to all area condominium association board members and association managers.

Seating is limited. For a reservation, call Wright & Casey at (386) 428-3311.

Apply for deputy sheriff sponsorship program

The Volusia County Sheriff's Office wants to attract quality deputy sheriffs, and

even has a program designed to pay all costs associated with attending the Basic Law Enforcement Academy at Daytona State College for eligible candidates.

The Deputy Sheriff Sponsorship Program assists economically challenged residents who want to pursue a law enforcement career with the Sheriff's Office. The program also offers selected candidates a full-time job at the Sheriff's Office as a Special Worker, earning \$10 an hour for 40 hours a week while enrolled in the academy. Once candidates receive their law enforcement certification, they will be

appointed as reserve deputies at the VCSO, receiving benefits and pay equal to the reserve deputy classification.

To apply or learn about requirements, visit volusia.org and click on Career Opportunities. Applications must be received by Feb. 5.

Tree sale Feb. 3

The Volusia Soil and Water Conservation District will host its 33rd annual tree sale from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 3, at the Volusia County Fairgrounds, 3150 E. New York Ave., DeLand.

To pre-order visit <https://volusiaswcd.org/tree-sale-pre-order-form/>.

For information, email vsxcd101@outlook.com.

County plans Explore Volusia programs

Learn about Volusia County's conservation lands and land management practices during free Explore Volusia programs in January.

Reservations are required; call (386) 736-5927.

Upcoming events include:
•Blue Spring paddle: 9 to 11
See NOTES, page A7

DEADLINES

The deadline for submissions to Hometown News in Volusia County is 5 p.m. Thursday for the next week's issue, except for Rants & Raves, which is 5 p.m. Friday. Deadlines are adjusted for holidays. For more information, call (386) 322-5924.

Hometown News

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CIRCULATION AUDIT BY



DELAND

Property appraiser will fight blight

For Hometown News
newsdy@hometownnewsol.com

Volusia County Property Appraiser Larry Bartlett announced plans Jan. 18 to fight blight by placing code enforcement liens on property tax bills.

The initiative was prompted by citizen complaints about blighted areas and requests from city officials to recoup housing code enforcement costs.

Mr. Bartlett worked with

members of the Beachside Redevelopment Committee in creating the plan.

"I plan to meet with our cities to answer questions and develop language that is used by all the cities when submitting their list of code enforcement liens to be placed on the tax bills," Mr. Bartlett told the Volusia County Council Jan. 18. "My hope is this will help our beachside become the glittering jewel it deserves to be."

Mr. Bartlett's plan is expected to improve collection rates

and reimburse cities and the county for expenses they incurred in nuisance abatement efforts and housing code enforcement actions (repairing or demolishing homes that fall substantially below code requirements and have been ignored by their owners).

Collection of the liens will be used to reimburse the out-of-pocket costs the cities and county have paid to bring blighted properties up to code. Daily fines will not be included on the tax bills.

The program is designed to encourage property owners to bring properties into compliance with all code violations. It targets absentee landlords and uncaring property owners who have resisted the cities' and county's efforts to cure the blight they cause.

"The plan does not target our elderly and low-income residents who barely get by — good citizens who may not be able to pay to have their lawns mowed," Mr. Bartlett said.

Employment up sharply in Volusia

After a couple of months of head-scratching, dismal employment reports, the state labor agency got some more hard data and its December report for Volusia County more accurately portrays the booming economy we're experiencing.

Unemployment in Volusia County dropped to 3.8 percent in December from a revised 4 percent in November and 5.1 percent in December 2016. The number of jobless workers dropped below 10,000 out of a workforce of 249,870.

Non-agricultural employment in the Volusia/Flagler area (the state lumps the two counties together in the Deltona-Daytona-Palm Coast metropolitan statistical area), rose 6,400 jobs or 3.2 percent. The biggest growth was in business and professional services (up 1,800 jobs from last year), construction (up 1,700 jobs) and hospitality (up 1,100 jobs). If you're a regular reader of this column, you may remember in most of 2017 I was reporting hospitality job growth was weak, but eventually it would change. Well, a few new hotels and restaurants later, it finally got



VOLUSIA BUSINESS
CECIL G. BRUMLEY

the growth spurt I was expecting.

So, what can we expect going further into 2018? Well, this week we saw the opening to three big new restaurants, and I saw permits issued for a lot more houses in Daytona Beach, DeLand, New Smyrna Beach and Port Orange. Something that has been reported some, but I'm not sure if the reality of it has hit, B. Braun is nearing completion of construction of a big expansion and opening a huge distribution center. Also, Boston Whaler has started construction on an even bigger expansion than expected.

In other words, 2018 is looking great for anyone looking for a job, but not so great for employers trying to hold down labor expenses. If the labor growth continues at this level, or goes even higher, wages should see solid growth this year.

You know you're someplace unusual when they tear down churches to get prime highway frontage for retail. Work is starting on demolition of the church building at 1250 Beville Road in Daytona Beach to build an O'Reilly Auto Parts and two other stores.

The developer is seeking changes in land use on the north side of Country Club Crossings, the new Publix-anchored shopping center on South Woodland Boulevard in DeLand. With the land-use change, the Crossings could get an 85-room hotel, mini-storage and a grocery store. Yes, that would be a second grocery store.

The number of big commercial real estate deals continues to lag so far, but with everything else that will change. The only one to report this week was California investors, under the name Kai

Wah AC LLC, bought the KFC property at 1408 N. Woodland Blvd. in DeLand for \$1.288 million.

On a final note, here's some more stuff. Plans were submitted to the St. Johns River Water Management District for the Reserve at Lake Waterford, a 45-lot subdivision along Old Mission Road between New Smyrna Beach and Edgewater. A new ice cream shop, Ice & Crepe, is going in at 105 E. Plymouth Ave. in DeLand. The former Julian's restaurant building at 88 S. Atlantic Ave. in Ormond Beach could be demolished to make way for a gift shop. You know, you just don't see too many building permits issued for a wind tunnel. Yet, one was issued Jan. 19 to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach.

Managing Editor Cecil G. Brumley has been tracking business and the economy in Volusia County for more than 21 years. Contact him at cbrumley@hometownnewsol.com (no hyphen) or follow him on Twitter @cecilbrumley.

Notes

From page A6

a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31. During this leisurely paddling trip near Blue Spring State Park, participants will explore the area while learning about local wildlife, the area's history, water quality, and the importance of Florida's springs as manatee ref-

uges. Bring a kayak, canoe or stand-up paddleboard along with a life preserver and whistle. Meet at the end of West French Avenue, Orange City, about one mile past the Blue Spring State Park entrance.

Participants should bring water and insect repellent. They should wear comfortable clothes and hiking or walking shoes.

Business News

Area chamber hosts monthly events

The DeLand Area Chamber of Commerce and the DeLand/Orange City Business Alliance have several regularly scheduled events.

The business discussion group Fuel meets at 7:30 a.m. each Monday at Boston Coffee, 109 E. New York Ave., DeLand.

Let's Do Lunch networking meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Tuesday at The Cloister's of DeLand, 400 E Howry, DeLand.

For more information, call (386) 490-4527 or visit DeLandChamber.org. westvolusiaregionalchamber.org or call (386) 490-4606.

team jersey or colors. Let's Party & Catering was established Jan. 5, 2003.

For information, email contact@delandchamber.org.

Chamber hosts anniversary celebration

The DeLand Area Chamber of Commerce will host a 15-year anniversary celebration for Let's Party & Catering at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, at The Abbey Bar, 117 N. Woodland Blvd.

The theme for the event is tailgating, wear your favorite

Women's group meets Jan. 26

The West Volusia Regional Chamber of Commerce will present a Women in Leadership Leaning on Wisdom (WILLOW) luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26, at DeBary Golf & Country Club, 300 Plantation Club Drive, DeBary.

The fee is \$19 per person. For more information, visit westvolusiaregionalchamber.org or call (386) 490-4606.

AM Connection set

The West Volusia Regional Chamber of Commerce will present an AM Connection at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, at Gateway Center for the Arts, 880 N. C.R. Beall Blvd., DeBary.

The speaker will be Rae Marie Majica with Rae Marie Gallery.

See BUSINESS, page A8

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Photo courtesy of the FUTURES Foundation

FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools has received a \$12,000 Hurricane Irma Relief Grant from the United Way of Volusia-Flagler Counties. In writing the grant, FUTURES worked closely with the Volusia County School District's Facilities Services, Grants and Technology Departments to identify technology equipment damaged by Hurricane Irma. The grant's funding is from the Lilly Foundation and other corporate partners designed to provide relief and recovery after Hurricane Irma. From left to right, Volusia County School Board Chairman Linda Cuthbert, Volusia County Schools Chief Academic Officer Teresa Marcks, FUTURES President Paula Gregory and FUTURES President-Elect Susan Mendez.

United Way's Women United awards \$30,000

For Hometown News newsdy@hometownnewsol.com

The United Way Volusia-Flagler Counties' Women United Volusia recently hosted an 'Evening of Thanks' and awarded more than \$30,000 in grants to 18 non-profit agencies for programs to help women and children in Volusia County.

They also contributed nearly \$8,000 to the United Way's community fund, from the proceeds of the Power of the Purse, an annual event the ladies host to raise money

for the Volusia community. "It was truly incredible to hear the organizations how the grants we distributed to 18 agencies will impact our community" said Jessica Sznajstajler, president of Women United Volusia, in a news release. "I am proud and honored to serve with all the ladies on the Women United Board."

"The event was a huge success and a great way for the Women United group to celebrate the impact they are having on the local community," added Courtney Edgcomb,

UWVFC's vice president of community impact.

Women United is an affinity group of United Way with the focus to build stronger communities by supporting women and children's organizations. They do this by raising their voices, rolling up their sleeves, and leaving their fingerprints on a legacy of change that benefits everyone.

For more information or details on upcoming events, visit unitedwayvc.org.

Hurricane rain offset by dry days

For Hometown News newsdy@hometownnewsol.com

While 12-month rainfall totals are still above average throughout the St. Johns River Water Management District's 18-county service area, December rainfall was below average, especially through the southeastern corridor from southern Lake County through Orlando to Daytona.

A full report outlining hydrological conditions was presented at the district's January Governing Board meeting Tuesday.

"Florida is known for this type of volatility when it comes to rainfall, which makes water conservation that much more important," said District Executive Director Dr. Ann Shortelle. "We'd like to encourage homeowners to skip every other week of irrigation during this season when lawns go dormant and need less water. Collectively, homeowners in north and east-central Florida could help save more than 1 billion gallons of water."

The counties with the highest rainfall for the month included Nassau with 2.74

inches, Duval with 2.64 inches and Alachua with 2.07 inches.

When looking at annual rainfall totals, 12-month rainfall totals are nearly 7 inches above average across the district.

Upper Floridan aquifer conditions at the end of December were in the high range except in the north, and portions of central Florida, which were in the normal range.

More information about the district's hydrological conditions can be found online at sjrwmd.com.

Need a lawyer? Here are some tips

Disclaimer: No, no, I'm not a lawyer, and I don't play one on TV (sorry, I know... it's an old joke).

But I did have an interview with Daytona Beach attorney Paul Rice for PlanStrongerTV and, you guessed it, we talked about how to find and choose a good attorney. The financial and legal ramifications of choosing a bad lawyer can be enormous because, once a judgment is made on a case, it's very hard to get a "do-over." You can't go back and "fix it" with another attorney. That's why this topic is so important.

How Do You Find a Lawyer? Ask around! Question your friends, family, co-workers and members of your church. Ask financial advisers. We often work with attorneys on mutual clients. Compile a list of names from the responses you receive.

Next: Web-based Research. Use an Internet search engine to look up the recommendations you've accumulated. Read reviews, but remain skeptical. It is not unheard of for some firms to pay their employees' friends for favorable reviews. Be cautious, and, just like everything posted on the Internet, take what you read with a grain of salt.



PLAN STRONGER DAVID D. HOLLAND

Be Careful of the Word "Free." Though the best things in life are free, consultations with a seasoned lawyer usually aren't. Paul Rice warns that if a lawyer is giving away his time, the demand for his services might be low. In many cases, top attorneys charge a consultation fee.

What's Important? Consider education and credentials. Does the lawyer specialize in one area? Is he/she board certified in the specific discipline you need (example: Board Certified in Divorce and Family Law)? How long has the attorney been in practice?

What Comes Next? By now, you should have narrowed your list down to 2-3 top picks. It's time for interviews! As mentioned above, this may be an out-of-pocket expense, but consider it an investment.

When you arrive at the law firm, what is your impression? Is the office clean, orderly, and professional? Is the receptionist or assistant courteous and pleasant, or stressed and irritated? When the phone

rings, how are the callers treated? When you sit down with the attorney, make sure you "like, trust and believe" in him/her. Do you have good "chemistry"? You will be working together as a team, so you need to be able to get along and communicate well. Once you have conducted two or three interviews, you will probably know which person to choose.

Coincidentally, several of the tips Paul shared on interviewing an attorney can also be applied to choosing a financial adviser. In either case, you want to find a good "fit" for your personality, situation, needs and goals. Please ask questions and be picky! Good luck!

David D. Holland, a Certified Financial Planner practitioner, hosts a weekly TV show Mondays on WDSC Channel 15 at 7 p.m. He has also authored two books in his Confessions of a Financial Planner series. Mr. Holland offers investment advice through Holland Advisory Services Inc., a registered investment adviser in Ormond Beach. He can be contacted at (386) 671-7526. Email financialquestions@planstronger.com.

Business

From page A7

Free for members, the cost is \$10 for non-members.

For a reservation or more information, visit westvolusia-regionalchamber.org or call (386) 490-4606.

Hiring events for Speedweeks

Americrown Service Corp. will host a hiring event for Speed Weeks 2018 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, at 525 Fantress Blvd., Daytona Beach.

Americrown is a subsidiary of International Speedway Corp. and the caterer and concessions operator for Daytona International Speedway.

Positions available include supervisors, cooks, bartenders, servers, suite attendants and runners.

SMA healthcare adds addictionologist

In the face of the opioid crisis, Stewart-Marchman-Act Behavioral Healthcare has hired Dr. James L. Fenley as SMA's Director of Addiction Services.

Dr. Fenley will provide lead-

ership for SMA's addiction programming with a focus on the development of several new opioid addiction treatment initiatives

Dr. Fenley, author of "Finding a Purpose in the Pain," has more than 33 years of experience in addiction medicine. A graduate of Vanderbilt University and the University of Tennessee Medical School, Dr. Fenley is Board Certified in Addiction Medicine.

He has served more than 10 years as chairman of the Southeastern Conference on Addictive Diseases and the Cape Cod Symposium on Addictive Disorders, as well as other national addiction conference planning committees.

SMA is based in Daytona Beach and has 11 facilities across Volusia County.

Learn search engine optimization

SCORE will host a free workshop on "Local SEO & What it Means to the Success of Your Website and Business,

Session III" from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 1, at the University of Central Florida, Building 150, Room 100, 1200 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach.

Registration is required. For more information, visit score87.org or call (386) 255-6889.

Bealls supports breast cancer campaign

Throughout October, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Bealls Stores partnered with the American Cancer Society for the "Making Strides against Breast Cancer" campaign for the fourth straight year.

Bealls recently presented the ACS with a check for \$10,355 to support the fight against breast cancer.

"We offered our guests and associates the opportunity to donate to the vital research and tools made possible through the American Cancer Society," said Dan Love, Bealls president. "Bealls Stores employees and guests are passionate about supporting the American Cancer Society, and this give back is one more way that we can help fight cancer through treatment, education and research."

Plan

From page A1

ation application.

DeLand City Commissioners also voted to send Mr. Elkind to the Lake Helen meeting, laying the groundwork for an appeal if the property is eventually annexed into Lake Helen without at least entering into joint planning discussions.

"I just need to go preserve the record in case you ultimately decide to appeal," Mr. Elkind told DeLand commissioners during the special

meeting. "This is in our utilities service area, we were ready, willing and able to provide utilities, and we have the existing infrastructure to provide utilities. The City of Lake Helen knows that."

As of Monday, Jan. 21, Lake Helen city officials said the meetings would continue as scheduled, and indicated they would not change the location "to a larger venue" to accommodate "hundreds of DeLand residents" as suggested by the DeLand commissioners' letter.

"Trust me, this is a very difficult process to work through," DeLand Mayor Robert Apgar

said, adding that any number of variables may come into play before Lake Helen's vote. "I think at this point we have to keep our options open."

The property meets the legal requirements for voluntary annexation, as it is contiguous and touches the city into which it would be annexed; it does not create any enclaves through annexation; and it is not, nor does it create, a long, narrow stretch of land.

DeLand, on the other hand, has grounds to appeal such an annexation in circuit court, Mr. Elkind said.

"A key component to a challenge of an annexation order is that not just anybody can show up and challenge it... just because a city may not like it, doesn't mean they can challenge it," he said. "In this case, we have standing to challenge (based on the fact that we were ready willing and able to provide the utilities and services)."

A challenge is mute until when, and if, the annexation order is granted by the state. Before that can happen, it first must be adopted by the City of Lake Helen, following two readings at public meetings spaced some weeks apart.

Lake Helen officials could not be reached for comment, with all phone calls going straight to voice mail.

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Out & about

Friday, Jan. 26

• **Ormond Beach Performing Arts Center:** The Fabulous Hubcaps will perform at 7 p.m. at 399 N. U.S. 1. Tickets are \$25 for reserved seating, \$30 at the door. Box Office hours are noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. For tickets, call (386) 676-3375 or visit ormondbeach.org/pac.

• **IMAGES:** A Festival of the Arts: This event will be from 1-5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 27, and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28, at 214 S Riverside Drive, New Smyrna Beach.

A free public festival presented by Atlantic Center for the Arts, IMAGES is considered one of the top outdoor art shows in the Southeast U.S. The festivities include art, live music, a student art exhibit featuring the work of 100 of our talented youth in Southeast Volusia, and a creative education tent with five hands-on art projects that serves more than 750 children, in partnership with art educators from local schools. For more information, call (386) 423-4733 or visit imagesartfestival.org.

• **Cinematique:** "Freak Show" will be shown this week at 242 S. Beach St., Daytona Beach. Tickets are \$9 general or \$7 members. For more information, call (386) 252-3118.

• **The Stage at Thank You Five:** "An Act of God" by David Javerbaum will be performed select days through Jan. 28 at 4606 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Unit 2N, Port Orange. "An Act of God" contains strong language and adult humor that may not be appropriate for children. Tickets are \$16. For more information, call (386) 295-5699 or thankyoufive.org.

• **One Daytona:** A selection of premiere artists, ranging from blues and country to classic rock and indie reggae, perform live in Victory Circle, directly across from Daytona International Speedway.

Humans in Disguise, a creative and musically diverse band with strong melodic pop hooks, along with a touch of rock, blues and soul, will perform from 6-9 p.m. For more information, visit onedaytona.com.

Saturday, Jan. 27

• **All-County Band Music Showcase:** Volusia County Schools will host its 45th annual showcase at 7 p.m. at DeLand High School, 800 N. Hill Ave.

The concert is free and open to the public.

This year's showcase will feature performances by more than 200 middle and high school band students. The middle school band will be conducted by Dr. John Lychner, Professor of Music Education at

See OUT, page B3



Photo courtesy of Stetson University

"A Better Nectar" by Jessica Rath will be on display from Jan. 26 through March 3. Here, a viewer listens into a single cell in the human-scaled bumblebee nest emanating a score of foraging bees.

Stetson exhibits 'A Better Nectar'

For Hometown News
newsdy@hometownnewsol.com

Stetson University is a-buzz in anticipation of a new exhibit arriving in January that will immerse visitors in the life of bees.

"A Better Nectar" by Jessica Rath is an immersive experience using sculpture, light, sound, photographs and watercolor to explore the bumblebee's journey.

The exhibit is co-hosted by the Homer and Dolly Hand Art Center and the

Gillespie Museum, and co-sponsored by the University's Artists and Lecture Series.

The exhibit will be on display in both museums from Jan. 26 through March 3, the first time Stetson has presented an exhibit in both museums.

A multisensory installation based on Ms. Rath's extensive research into communication between flowering plants and their pollinators, "A Better Nectar," reveals to guests what life would be like

as a bee.

Ms. Rath creates an immersive experience using human-size sculptural forms, light and sound to explore how bumblebees learn and remember multisensory floral symbols to find a better nectar.

There will be an opening reception at 6 p.m., Friday, Jan. 26, at the Homer and Dolly Hand Art Center.

The Hand Art Center is on the Stetson University campus at 139 E. Michigan

See STETSON, page B2

Magical world of Escher coming to DeLand

For Hometown News
newsdy@hometownnewsol.com

Maurits Cornelis Escher wanted to capture infinity and cast it onto paper.

To that end, the Dutch graphic artist created lithographs, woodcuts and mezzotints of interlocking reptiles, strange creatures and birds in flight that metamorphosed in and out of each other. He depicted twisted dragons, and ants crawling eternally on a Mobius strip. He created "impossible constructions" that depicted buildings, staircases and spheres that seem geometrically precise yet, upon close inspection, are as surreal as anything by Dali, Bosch or Kafka.

"It can apparently happen that someone . . . can feel ripen in oneself a conscious wish to use his imaginary images to approach infinity as purely and as closely as possible," Mr. Escher wrote in his essay "Approaches to

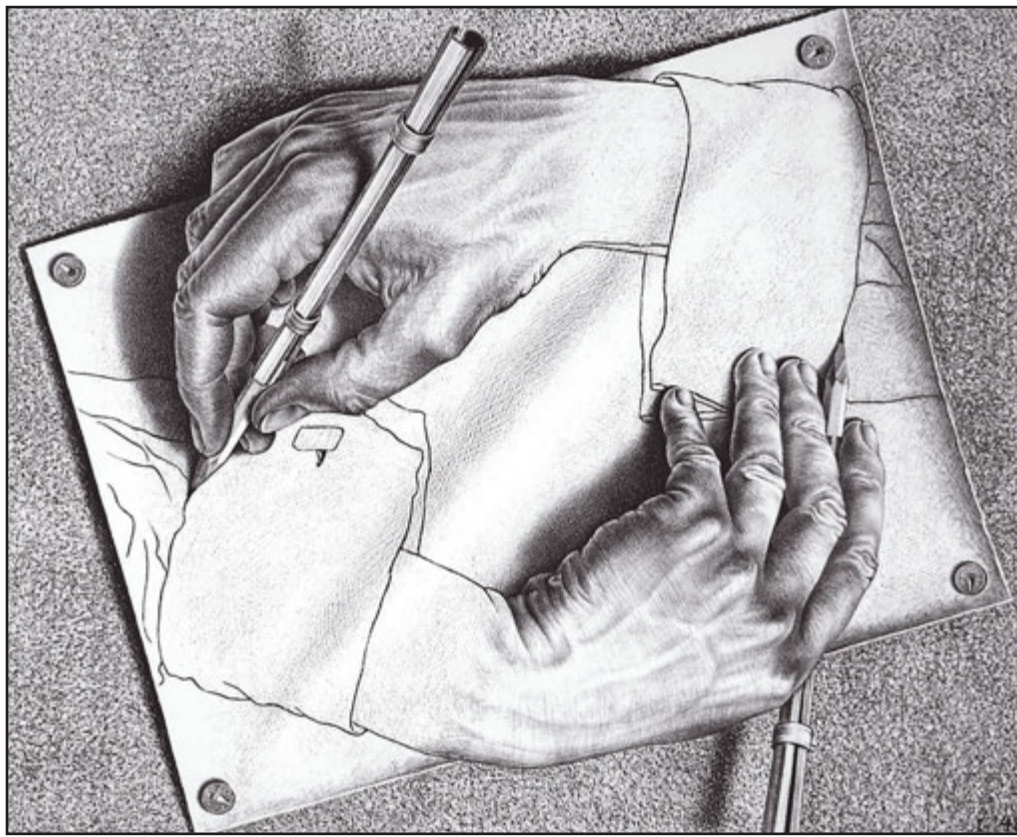


Photo courtesy of the Museum of Art - DeLand

"The Magical World of M. C. Escher" will be on exhibit Jan. 27 through March 25, at the Museum of Art-DeLand, 100 N. Woodland Blvd., Shown is Mr. Escher's "Drawing Hands," 1948 Lithograph.

See MAGICAL, page B2

Horoscopes



ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

It can be difficult to focus with so many things running through your mind, Aries. Give it your best shot, especially at work where it counts the most.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Focus on fun experiences that will pop up this week, Taurus. They will brighten your mood and make you more inclined to interact with the people you love.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21

Gemini, someone you haven't seen in a while makes an appearance in your life. You don't know if you should be excited or just a tad cautious about what to expect.

CANCER - June 22/July 22

Someone at work or home cannot get an accurate read on how you are feeling, Cancer. This may lead to some communication issues. Be as open as possible to avoid confusion.

LEO - July 23/Aug 23

Leo, you are called on to be a leader this week, so make sure you do your homework on pertinent issues. This way you can make decisions with confidence.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, even when you think you know best, you may want to let others voice their opinions. You never know the value of another's perspective until you hear it.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Surround yourself with your closest friends and family members, Libra. These are support pillars you can lean on in tough times and the people to laugh alongside when things are good.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

The next few days provide opportunities to relax and have fun, Scorpio. With no pressing matters on the calendar, you can relinquish some responsibilities.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, getting your point across may seem like your primary goal, but you can let things simmer for a little bit. Others have things that they want to share as well.

See SCOPES, page B2

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IMAGE: Gopher Tortoise by Leslie M. Peebles, relief print 24"x 20"

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Defying gravity



Bruce D. Henderson/staff photographer

Pro freestyle jetskier Bryan Doberstein of Mooresville, N.C., hangs upside-down in midair for a split second on Friday, Jan. 12, as he does a flip during the annual Flatwater Friday gathering at Lake Dias in West Volusia during the Daytona Freeride presented by Pro Watercross of Daytona Beach.

The Club Scene

- Bank & Blues Club:** Joel DaSilva Band will perform at 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27. Doors open at 8 p.m. at 701 Main St., Daytona Beach. For more information, call (386) 252-9877.
- Black Sheep Pub and Eating House:** Happy Hour is 3-7 p.m. and 9 p.m.-close daily. Weekly specials include \$4 "CuervoRitas" Mondays; Locals Night with happy hour all night and Pub Trivia at 7 p.m., gift card prizes, Wednesdays; Ladies Night with live music, drink specials and \$4 three-olive martinis, Thursdays. Live music is every weekend at 890 S. Atlantic Ave. in Ormond Beach. For more information, call (386) 673-5933 or visit theblacksheep.com.
- Café Da Vinci:** Jazz in the Courtyard (inside if raining) with The DaVinci Jazz Experiment, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30. An open mike night starts at 7 p.m. each Wednesday at 112 W. Georgia Ave., DeLand. For more information, call (386) 736-0008 or visit cafedavincideland.com.
- Down the Hatch:** Silver Creek will perform 6:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26. Randy Bisop will perform 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27, at 4894 Front St., Ponce Inlet. For more information, call (386) 761-4831 or visit downthehatchseafood.com.
- Frappes Italian Grille:** "Happiest Hour" is in the bar nightly from 5-6:30 p.m. First Tuesday of the month is wine tasting, two whites, two reds and an appetizer for \$25. Frappes is at 123 W. Granada Blvd. in Ormond Beach. For reservations, call (386) 615-4888.
- Grille at Riverview:** Upcoming performers are Mark Venneri, 6:30-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26; The Beu Sisters, 6:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27; 5 Island Steele, 12:30-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28; and Christie Beu, 5:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, at 101 Flagler Ave., New Smyrna Beach. Dinner reservations required. For more information, call (386) 428-1865.
- Lagerheads Bar & Grill:** Upcoming performers are Gary "Not Quite" Wright, Friday, Jan. 26; Robert Keele, Saturday, Jan. 27; Don Hill, Sunday, Jan. 28; Ed Wolford, Monday, Jan. 29, and Tuesday, Jan. 30; Reuben Morgan, Wednesday, Jan. 31 and Don Hill, Thursday, Feb. 1. Weather permitting, live music is at 2986 Ocean Shore Blvd., Ormond-by-the-Sea. For more information, call (386) 265-1977.
- Main Street Station:** The Band 4 Play will perform Friday, Jan. 26. Redgate hits the stage Saturday, Jan. 27. Eddie O'Keefe will perform Sunday, Jan. 28. Bike Night will be from 7-10 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31. Crashrocket will perform at 316 Main St., Daytona Beach. For more information, call (386) 214-1389 or visit mainstreetlive.com.
- Mr. Dunderbak's:** Sponsors a monthly beer tasting. Cost is \$12 per person. Seating is limited to the first 70 prepaid reservations. If interested, call (386) 258-1600 to reserve a spot at 1700 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach.
- Mulligan's Family Sports Grille:** Karaoke with Just George will be 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Friday. Buddy Craig Live will be at 9 p.m. Saturday. Live Team Trivia 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 22. Free to play and win prizes. Eddie Uzzle will perform rock oldies at 6-10 p.m. Tuesday. Open mike hosted by String Shine at 6 p.m. Wednesday. Karaoke with Just George is 9 p.m. Thursday at 3830 S. Nova, Port Orange. For more information, call (386) 788-3268.
- Norwood's Restaurant and Wine Shop:** Free wine tastings are from 5-7 p.m. each Friday on the deck and Saturday in the shop with complimentary cheeses at 400 Second Ave., New Smyrna Beach. For more information, call (386) 428-4621.
- Ocean Deck:** Morning Buzz plays at 9:30 p.m. Mondays. Orange Avenue plays at 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays. Caribbean Posse performs from 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Thursday through Sunday. Robert Keele plays acoustic guitar from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesdays. Tom Redmond performs classic rock from 5-8 p.m. Fridays. Karaoke with Stormin' Norman is from 4-8 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday, at 127 S. Ocean Ave., Daytona Beach. For more information, call (386) 253-5224 or visit oceandeck.com.
- Sinatra's Laldila Ristorante:** Pianists play from 6-9 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday. Karaoke is 9 p.m. to close Saturday at 355 Cassadaga Road, Lake Helen. For information, call (386) 218-3806.
- Sunny's Wine & Liquor:** A free wine and liquor tasting is hosted from 4-7 p.m. each Friday and Saturday at 350 S. Spring Garden Ave., DeLand. For more information, call (386) 738-7533 or visit delandliquorstore.com.

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Magical

From page A1

Infinity," published not long before his death in 1972. "The Magical World of M.C. Escher," on exhibit Jan. 26 through March 25 at the Museum of Art-DeLand, includes more than 150 of the artist's works. The exhibit features not only the Dutchman's self-described "more or less fantastic pictures" but also his realistic graphic works inspired by trips into the Italian countryside when he lived in Rome from 1923 to 1935. Born in the Netherlands in 1898, Mr. Escher attended the Haarlem School of Architecture and Decorative Arts from 1919 to 1922, where he quickly abandoned his intention to pursue architecture in order to

study graphic arts under Samuel Jessurun de Mesquita. Mr. Escher's artistic path was forever altered when he visited Granada in Spain in 1922, where he was astonished by the intricate architecture of the 14th-century Moorish palace, Alhambra. "Escher always wanted to be a graphic artist, he never wanted to be a painter," said George Bolge, MOAD CEO. "He was always fascinated with the line and how that can describe an object, whereas painters in a sense form the line between volumes of color." Indeed, in his essay "Approaches to Infinity," Mr. Escher writes: "No one can draw a line that is not a boundary line. Every line splits a singularity into a plurality. Every closed contour, no matter what its shape, whether a per-

fect circle or an irregular random form, evokes in addition the notions of 'inside' and 'outside' and the suggestion of 'near' and 'far away,' of 'object' and 'background.'" MOAD is at 100 N. Woodland Blvd., DeLand. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 1-4 p.m. Sunday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday (special extended hours for the Escher exhibit). An opening night reception will be 5-7 p.m. Friday Jan. 26. Admission is \$20 for non-members, free for members. Reservations appreciated. Regular gallery admission is \$10, free for museum members and children 12 and younger. For more information, call (386) 734-4371 or moartdeland.org.

Scopes

From page B1

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20</p> <p>Capricorn, romantic notions are popping into your head</p> | <p>AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18</p> <p>Aquarius, you can be the voice of reason if family life has gotten a bit chaotic. You may</p> | <p>late, and they may only be spurred on by the Valentine's Day magic. A relationship gets to the next level.</p> <p>PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20</p> <p>Pisces, whether you are attached or not, feelings of love are blooming inside of you. Romance may pervade your daily interactions.</p> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Stetson

From page A1

Ave., DeLand. It is free and open to the public. Hand Art Center is open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday. The Gillespie Museum is at 234 E. Michigan Ave., DeLand. For more information about Stetson's Science Café series, email kcole@stetson.edu or visit stetson.edu/gillespie.

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Don't get fooled by the 'use-by date'

What in the world is a use-by date?

Well I know what it is, but I decided to ask my wife and daughter what they thought it was. This is what they decided. When food reaches the use-by date it should immediately be thrown out or it will make you sick.

No, No, No, not true! As a chef and food professional, I have been dealing for a long time with food processing plants and distributors. Just so you know, the use-by date placed on food is a suggested date stamped on food by the food manufacturer. It is not a throw-out or discard date. If that was necessary, or mandated by law, they would say "Throw-out Date."

Manufacturers use the date to let consumers know the freshness of products and the best time to consume it at peak freshness and taste. After that date, food will lose its peak flavor. There is no federal law requiring use-by or sell-by dates for food, or for manufacturers to date food.

Grocery stores will usually pull all food a few days prior to use-by or sell-by date because of negative customer reaction to expired dates. This accounts for 133 billion tons of food waste a year, or 10 percent of grocery store food. This has also given rise to specialty stores selling "expired" food.

Many grocery stores are looking at discontinuing the stamping on food use-by or sell-by dates. The federal government is considering standardizing labels on food, using a "best if used by" and one for safety, "Expires On." That still leaves us with questions about when is it time to throw out food.

Let's start with leftover foods wrapped and stored in the refrigerator at 41 degrees or lower. After seven days, it



CHEF COSTA'S COOKING CORNER
COSTA MAGOULAS

has to go.

Canned food almost indefinitely: Always check to see if cans are dented. A small hairline crack may occur in the seam, letting bacteria into food. If a can is slightly swollen, it means bacteria is growing in it. Throw it out immediately.

Milk and yogurt a week or two after the expiration date may still be fine. Your senses will be the best judge. When in doubt, throw it out.

Fresh eggs do not have a use-by date. They have a packed date, and four weeks after packed date is considered a safe zone.

Deli meats should be used within three days, no longer than a week.

Fresh greens will store best in a sealed plastic bag, but, even at best, in six to seven days, they may turn wet. Check the use-by date before you buy to give you an idea of how long you can store.

Ground beef is best eaten right away. To store, freeze in plastic freezer bag. Use within 24 hours after thawing.

Fresh berries can be stored longer in the refrigerator if wrapped in a paper towel, helping to keep the berries dry.

Hard cheese may get surface mold, which can be shaved off. The internal cheese will still be good. Soft cheeses, such as brie, get surface mold and have tentacles of mold inside. So they should be discarded.

Make sure you have a good refrigerator thermometer and you keep food at 41 degrees or lower. Make sure there is room for the air to flow

properly. Everyone knows when food is bad from smell and appearance, so don't let the dates scare you. But when in doubt, throw it out.

How about a great bacon recipe

MAPLE SYRUP BACON

Yield: 4 to 6 servings

Ingredients

1 pound cut bacon
6-8 tablespoons sugar in the raw
6 tablespoons maple flavored syrup

Directions

Heat the oven to 350 to 375 degrees F. Line a half sheet pan with parchment paper. Arrange the bacon in a single layer on a metal cooling rack, and set it in the prepared sheet pan. Bake until the bacon is lightly brown. (About 10 to 20 minutes. Ovens will vary in temperature.) Check often.

Remove the bacon from the oven and brush with syrup, then sprinkle with the raw sugar, coat well. Return to the oven and bake until the bacon is crisp, about 5-10 minutes. (Don't overcook, which is easy to do because of sugar)

Cool on a rack for 10 minutes before serving.

*Parchment paper is just for easy clean up. Sugar and syrup will bake hard on pan.

*Option: Grind pecans fine and add to sugar for praline taste. Brush with syrup. Mix sugar and ground pecans together and pat down mixture on bacon to cover, and finish baking.

Costa Magoulas is dean of the Mori Hosseini College of Hospitality and Culinary Management at Daytona State College. Contact him at (386) 506-3578 or magoulc@daytonastate.edu.

Making art at the museum



Bruce D. Henderson/staff photographer

Alyssa Null, 8, foreground, and Brady Primo, 9, both of DeLand, work on their drawings on Saturday, Jan. 20, during the monthly Family Day at the Museum of Art-DeLand.

Art Notes

Reception for spring exhibits at Hand center

Stetson University Homer & Dolly Hand Art Center will host a free opening reception for its spring exhibits from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26, at 139 E. Michigan Ave., DeLand.

Exhibits include: A Better Nectar, by artist Jessica Rath and Matt Roberts: Faculty Focus Exhibit, both will be on display from Jan. 26 to March 3.

(Un)canonical Bluemner: A Student's Perspective, Works from the Vera Bluemner Kouba Collection will be on display from Jan. 26 to May 3.

Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Wednesday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday. Admission is free.

For more information, call (386) 822-7270 or visit <https://www2.stetson.edu/hand-art-center/>.

West Volusia Artists meet at Sanborn

The West Volusia Artists Inc. meet to draw, paint and socialize 9 a.m. to noon on the first and third Fridays of each month from September to June at the Wayne Sanborn Activity Center, 815 S. Alabama Ave., DeLand.

Artists of all media and levels are welcome.

For more information call (386) 738-5515 or visit SanbornCenter.com.

Out

From page B1

Stetson University. The high school band will be conducted by Dr. Scott Lubaroff, Director of Bands at the University of Central Florida. The concert will present a wide variety of musical selections in both style and genre.

For more information, contact Dr. Monty R. Musgrave, Performing Arts Specialist, at (386) 734-7190, extension 20682.

• **Walk:** AVA Happy Wanderers will host a 5K, 10K walk at 8:30 a.m. at 2100 West French Ave., Orange City. The cost is \$3. For more information, call (386) 256-2160, (386) 214-3890 or visit happywanderersfl.org.

• **Dog Parade:** The Krewe of Amalee presents Mardi Gras on Main Street Dog Parade & Festival at 11 a.m. on Woodland Boulevard DeLand. The

theme is Hollywood Hounds. For more information, visit dogparadedeland.com.

• **Faculty Recital:** Stetson University Professors Lynn Musco, clarinet, and Sean Kennard, piano, collaborate in a concert featuring music of Graham Fitkin, Gerald Finzi, Theresa Martin, Robert Muczynski, and Charles-Marie Widor at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27, at Lee Chapel in Elizabeth Hall, 421 N. Woodland Blvd., DeLand. Free and open to the public. For more information, call (386) 822-8950.

Sunday, Jan. 28

• **One Daytona:** Ashley Young, a native of Ormond Beach, will perform her coastal vibe renditions from noon-2 p.m. in Victory Circle, across from Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, New Smyrna Beach-based

band The Intracoastals will perform from 2:30 to 5 p.m. For more information, visit onedaytona.com.

• **Daytona Beach Symphony Society:** Helsingborg Symphony Orchestra will perform at 3 p.m. at Peabody Auditorium, 600 Auditorium Blvd., Daytona Beach.

Maestro Stefan Solyom will conduct the evening of music with one of Sweden's most legendary orchestras, the Helsingborg, featuring a rising young star, Armenian pianist, Nareh Arghamanyan.

Single tickets range from \$39 to \$69, and Season Subscriptions are available from \$220 to \$386. For more information, call (386) 253-2901 or visit dbss.org.

Monday, Jan. 29

• **Cinematique:** DeLand's retired Doctor of Natural See OUT, page B6

Religion Briefs

Church hosts Lifetree Cafe

First Christian Church will sponsor Lifetree Cafe, with the topic "Friends for Life, 10 Buddies, 38 years, 1 Weekend a Year" at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 29, at First Christian Church Library, 1401 W. New York Ave., DeLand.

Additional meetings will be 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, at Activity Room, Grand Villa, 350 E. International Speedway Blvd., DeLand and at 2:30

p.m. Thursday, Feb. 1, at the Artisan Inn, 215 S. Woodland Blvd., DeLand. A food and beverage menu will be available. Jerry Drooker is the host.

For more information, call (386) 734-0677.

CROP Walk committee meeting Feb. 1

The West Volusia CROP Walk Committee is meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 1, at First Christian Church (Disci-

ples of Christ), 1401 W. New York Avenue, DeLand.

The CROP Walk is at 1:45 p.m. Sunday, March 11. Registration will be at First United Methodist Church, 115 E. Howry Ave., DeLand. The 5K walk begins at 2 p.m.

Twenty-five percent of the funds from the walk come back to feed the homeless of West Volusia in the Interfaith Kitchen.

For more information, call (386) 734-6078 or (386) 624-5792.

Celebrate Valentine's a Week Early!



a 1940's musical revue



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Offices in: Daytona Beach, DeLand, Deltona, Flagler

Early Learning Coalition of Flagler & Volusia

School News

Annual EMS/Military Expo

University High School in Orange City will host the 12th annual EMS/Military Expo, highlighting nearly 50 federal, state and local agencies at 8 a.m. Friday, Jan. 26.

A total of 3,400 students are expected to attend, including University High juniors and seniors, along with students from other area high schools, DeLand, Deltona, Mainland, New Smyrna Beach, Pine Ridge and Spruce Creek.

As part of the expo, students can test the U.S. Navy's mobile virtual reality experience. Students will go through a series of exercises, starting with a briefing, before using an Oculus Rift headset and other gear to lead various missions, including a high-speed water extraction of a Navy SEAL team pinned down under enemy fire.

The program will include Florida Hospital Flight One Helicopter, Flagler County Fire Flight Helicopter, Orlando Air Care, U.S. Coast Guard HH-60 (Clearwater), U.S. Coast Guard Dolphin MH-65 (Jacksonville), U.S. Navy HSM-70 (Mayport), Volusia County Sheriff's Office Air One, Vietnam Pilots Association Cobra Gunship, ShandsCare and Seminole County Sheriff helicopter.

The community may attend the Military Branches vs. Uni-

versity softball game at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 27, at the University High softball field.

It will follow the STEM Boot Camp 5K, which begins at 8 a.m. Saturday.

For more information, contact Perry Revlett, program director for the Volusia County EMS/Military Expo, at (386) 968-0013.

Volusia hosts 51st Science and Engineering Fair

Volusia County Schools will host the 51st Tomoka Regional Science and Engineering Fair Saturday, Jan. 27, at Bethune-Cookman University's Michael and Libby Johnson Center for Civic Engagement, 740 W. International Speedway Blvd, Daytona Beach.

The fair features student science and engineering research projects from Volusia's middle schools, high schools, charter schools and private schools. There will be a public viewing from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the President's Banquet Room and the awards ceremony will begin at 4 p.m. at the Bethune-Cookman University Chapel, 640 Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Blvd. Admission is free.

For more information, contact Jeremy Blim, Secondary Science Curriculum Specialist, (386) 734-7190, extension 20553.

DSC leadership positions filled

Daytona State College kicked off 2018 by filling positions within its administrative ranks, announced during the college's opening semester talks. Spring classes began Jan. 16.

Louis Mercer was named director of campus safety, replacing William Tillard, who is retiring this month after serving 20 years with the college. A former Daytona Beach police officer, Mr. Mercer joined DSC in 1999 as director and chair of the college's School of Emergency Services. He holds an associate of arts degree from DSC as well as a bachelor's of arts and master's of public administration from the University of Central Florida.

Replacing Mr. Mercer at the helm of the School of Emergency Services is Sheila Ellison, who has served nearly 30 years with the college as a professor and assistant chair of DSC's Law Enforcement and Corrections programs. A former law enforcement officer, Ms. Ellison earned her associate and bachelor's degrees from Fairmont State College in West Virginia.

Dr. Andrea Gibson has been named executive director of institutional research, a position she had as interim since April. She joined DSC in 2006 as an associate professor in the

School of Mathematics, and later also took on the roles of Honors College chair and Online Studies chair. She holds a Ph.D. in operations research from the Florida Institute of Technology, a master's degree in applied statistics from Bowling Green University and a bachelor's degree in mathematics from John Carroll University.

Cheryl Kohen replaces Dr. Gibson as Director of the Division of Online Studies. Since joining the college in 2010, she served as DSC's emerging technologies librarian and as interim head of online studies since April. She earned bachelor's degrees in English and philosophy as well as a master's in library and information science from Simmons College in Boston.

Two other positions were filled in late fall: Dr. Erik A. D'Aquino is DSC's new vice president of enrollment management. Judith Wilson was named DSC's men's and women's cross-country teams, which kick off their inaugural seasons next fall.

Humanities speaker series at Stetson

Stetson University will host the Florida Humanities Speaker Series at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, at Marshall & Vera Lea Rinker Welcome Center, 529 N. Woodland Blvd., DeLand. The speaker will be Peggy

Student of the Month



Photo courtesy of Dewitt Taylor High School

The Hometown News Student of the Month for December is Abigail Link, a senior at Dewitt Taylor High School in Pierson, an exemplary citizen and model student. She is on track to earn an associate of arts degree from Daytona State College while concurrently earning her high school diploma. Abigail also volunteers at her school and is an asset to her community.

Macdonald, Ph.D., executive director, Matheson History Museum and author of "Marjorie Harris Carr: Defender of Florida's Environment." The book won Honorable Mention

in Foreword Reviews' 2014 INDIEFAB Book of the Year Award contest in Women's Studies.

The event is free and open to the public.

Health News

Hospital honors nurse with DAISY Award

Florida Hospital DeLand recognized registered nurse Tracy Jordan with the DAISY award.

The DAISY Award is an international program that rewards and celebrates extraordinary clinical skill and compassionate care provided by nurses.

Prior to becoming a registered nurse, Ms. Jordan ran three group homes for mentally and physically challenged adults and children. She graduated from Mercyhurst University in



Ms. Jordan

Erie, Pa., with a nursing degree in 2012. In April 2017, she joined Florida Hospital DeLand in the emergency department.

Ms. Jordan received a \$200 gift card, a vase of daisies, an award pin, a tote bag, and a hand-carved stone sculpture of the "Healer's Touch" by artists of the Shona Tribe in Zimbabwe.

Her team received cinnamon rolls and a DAISY banner

to display.

To nominate a nurse for a DAISY Award, visit florida-hospital.com/deland/daisy.

TOPS meets at Sanborn

Taking Off Pounds Sensibly is a non-profit support group for people trying to lose weight.

The group meets from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays at the Sanborn Center, 815 S. Alabama Ave., DeLand.

For more information, call (386) 873-4041.

Low-cost mental health services available

The House Next Door Counseling Center offers mental health services in West Volusia County.

For as little as \$2 a session, you can receive individual, family, marriage, play or trauma therapy.

To qualify, participants will need two proofs of residency in West Volusia County, two proofs of identification, proof

of income and proof of Affordable Care Act application.

The Deltona Counseling Center is at 840 Deltona Blvd., Suite K.

For more information, call (386) 860-1776.

Free HIV screenings

Rising Against All Odds will provide free, private and confidential HIV screenings.

For more information, call (386) 202-4209 or visit risingagainstallodds.com.

Free health screening

The Hispanic Health Initiative will host a free health screening for West Volusia residents.

The screenings will include blood pressure, glucose, cholesterol and body mass index from noon-6 p.m. each Wednesday at 70 Spring Vista Drive, Unit 2, DeBary, and 1-6 p.m. Fridays, Feb. 9 and 16, at 111 Fountain Drive, Pierson.

For an appointment, call (386) 320-0110 or (386) 320-

-0633.

Opiate problem worsening

Narconon reminds families the opiate problem is continuing to get worse and is now considered a "syndemic."

More than ever communities need to educate parents and their children about the dangers of opiates.

To learn more about the nation's crisis, visit narconon-suncoast.org/blog/opioid-crisis-now-considered-a-syndemic.html.

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous, a free 12-step recovery program for food obsession, overeating and bulimia, has six meetings in Volusia County, Monday through Saturday.

For more information, call (386) 775-7275 or visit foodaddicts.org.

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This project is sponsored in part by the Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture and the State of Florida.

January's cold snap and the damage done

Before it was warm enough to get back to fishing, I was out in my kayak west of High Bridge.



FISHING WITH DAN
DAN SMITH

I had to sit in my truck for a spell waiting out a rain, but that gave me time to watch the water birds as they reaped the bounty of the fish that had succumbed to the weather. More pelicans than usual, along with gulls, heron, egrets and even about 25 sand hill cranes had descended on the area. I knew before I got into the boat what I would find. As I launched The Green Peanut, I counted about a dozen dead catfish that had washed up on the shore. Paddling through the mangroves I passed a couple dead juvenile snook that were in the 18- to 20-inch range.

Aside from the dead fish, the thing that struck me was how much improved the water quality had become. Before the windy weather, I was in the same spot, only to find the water a dirty brown. Now the tannic acid-stained water had receded and had been replaced by a nice semi-green looking flow.

Beginning just after the New Year, I had sat in the house and watched the strong north wind whip the palm trees, hoping it would aid the

Halifax River in dumping the polluted water out into the Atlantic Ocean. One thing I believe few realize is the High Bridge estuary is more influenced by Matanzas Inlet than Ponce Inlet. (Later in the same day I would discover the water in the river south of that area had not cleaned itself.)

The rain had only slowed, forcing me to go to the poncho for protection and warmth. Still, as I began to flip the jig about, I had hits right away. Hits, but no takers. After a half hour or so of missing the small trout that were only nibbling at my lure, I pulled the chartreuse shrimp tail off the hook and bit off about a half inch. I like the four inch tails, but at times the fish are only hitting short.

Just that little bite helped my luck immediately and I began to land small trout of about 13 inches. Folks, if you are foolish enough to sit out in the rain on a cool day, anything that bites is welcomed.

Soon the outgoing tide pushed the kayak into some brush where I could concentrate on my cast and, sure enough, I landed two keeper sea trout on consecutive throws. Foolishly thinking my luck had changed, I almost forgot the terrible conditions. After casting for another two hours without anything of consequence, I realized the first two keepers had been a fluke.

During that time I had seen a dead snook floating by that was perhaps 28 inches long and noticed three more smaller ones lying on the bottom. It's a shame to lose any of our valuable snook fishery to the weather, but I don't think it was severe enough to do major damage. That morning I did catch two more keepers before giving up amid another downpour.

Back at the house, I cleaned my catch and went down to the fishing pier at the Bicentennial Park to drop the carcasses into the brine. There I counted 47 dead catfish, five finger mullet, a 24-inch snook and around 20 mojarras minnows, all victims of the recent low temperatures.

It was there I noticed the water in the main river had not cleaned up nearly as well

Catch of the Week



Photo courtesy of Mike Jenkins

Mike Jenkins of Edgewater caught a 7-pound large-mouth bass in one of the ponds at Hacienda Del Rio in Edgewater. If you'd like to show off your Catch of the Week, send a .jpg format photo with your name, hometown and where you caught the fish to newsdy@hometownnewsol.com.

as the swamp up at High Bridge. It did improve somewhat, so that's a help. Hopefully, the water quality in the Mosquito Lagoon has reaped the same benefit. Now

I am left to hope the freezing weather for 2018 will leave with January.

Dan Smith has fished the waters of Volusia County for

more than 40 years. Email questions and comments to fishwdan@att.net. His book, "I Swear the Snook Drowned," is available for purchase for \$10.95 at (386) 441-7793.

Sports Briefs

Fundraising walk Feb. 3

The ME STRONG 5K walk and fun run will be at 8 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 3, on East Indiana Avenue in DeLand.

ME STRONG is a charitable organization built on the foundation of uniting community members in supporting Central Floridians battling cancer.

The fee for the 5K walk and run is \$35 and \$20 for 18 and younger. Packet pick up will be between 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Friday Feb. 2, at Sportsanity at 143 N. Woodland Blvd., DeLand.

For more information, visit mestrong.net/deland-5k.

Endurance Challenge set for Jan. 26

BMW Endurance Challenge will be Friday, Jan. 26, at Daytona International Speedway, 1801 W. International Speedway Blvd.

Celebrate the start of Rolex 24 at DAYTONA weekend with the season-opening race for the IMSA Continental Tire SportsCar Challenge.

For more information, visit daytonainternationalspeedway.com or call 1-800-PIT-SHOP.

Rolex 24 set for Jan. 27-28

The Rolex 24 at Daytona will be Saturday, Jan. 27, and Sunday, Jan. 28, at Daytona International Speedway, 1801 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach.

Since 1962, racing legends that span the motorsports universe have come to compete in Daytona's endurance sports car classic.

Celebrate the start of the IMSA WeatherTech Sports Car Championship season with North America's most prestigious sports car race.

For more information, visit daytonainternationalspeedway.com or call 1-800-PIT-SHOP.

Daytona 5K at DIS

The 14th annual Daytona 5K and Fun Walk will be Saturday, Jan. 27, at Daytona International Speedway, 1801 W. International Speedway Blvd. Daytona Beach.

Registration begins at gate 55 at 5:30 a.m. The 5K run starts at 7 p.m. The fun walk begins at 7:05 a.m. Kid's run begins at 7:30 a.m. Post race

party and awards ceremony begin at 8:10 a.m.

The cost of the 5K is \$32 until Jan. 26 and \$40 on race day. The fun walk is \$25 until Jan. 26 and \$30 on face day. Kids fun is free.

For more information, visit <https://runsignup.com>.

Daytona Beach 100 Volleyball Jan. 27-28

The Daytona Beach 100 Volleyball tournaments are spiking their way into the Ocean Center Jan. 27-28.

The Daytona Beach 100 is one of the few volleyball tournaments in the United States that features both junior boys' and girls' teams. This will be the eighth year the event has been in Daytona Beach.

The two-day tournament is expected to have more than 4,000 players in more than 300 teams from the East Coast, Canada and Puerto Rico competing for titles in eight age divisions.

All matches are open to the public. Tickets are \$12 per day or \$22 for a two-day pass. Children 10 and younger are free.

For more information, visit jvctournaments.com/DaytonaBeach100.

Play with Purpose

Upward Sports will host Play with Purpose, basketball and cheerleading, for boys and girls in first to eighth grades.

Games and practices will be at Warner Christian Academy Campus, 1730 S. Ridgewood Ave., South Daytona.

Deadline to register is Feb. 1. To register online, visit registration.upward.org/UPW65828. For information, email upwardsportsdaytona@gmail.com or call (386) 767-5470.

Famed racer named hall induction chairman

Mario Andretti, one of only two drivers to win both the Daytona 500 and the Indianapolis 500, has been named Honorary Chairman for the 30th annual Motorsports Hall of Fame of America Induction Ceremony March 13 at the Shores Resort & Spa in Daytona Beach.

Mr. Andretti, a 1990 MSFHA inductee, shares the Daytona-Indianapolis honor with A.J. Foyt. He is the only driver to win those two marquee events and the Formula

One world championship (1978).

This year's inductees are the late Indianapolis Motor Speedway founder Carl Fisher, former champion car owner Pat Patrick, Daytona 500 champion Jeff Gordon, drag racing car builder John Buttera, record-setting pilot and world-famous billionaire Howard Hughes, motorcycle great Fred Merkel, and sports car legend Bob Tullius.

The induction ceremony will be preceded March 12 by the annual "Heroes of Horsepower" Reception and Dinner at the MSHFA Museum in the Daytona International Speedway Ticket and Tours facility.

Tickets for all 30th annual MSFHA induction activities can be purchased by calling (386) 681-6843 or visiting mshf.com.

Register for half-marathon

Registration is underway for the Daytona Beach Half Marathon and 5K, which will be Feb. 4, at Daytona International Speedway, 1801 W. International Speedway.

The half marathon will begin at 7:30 a.m. The 5K will start at 10:30 a.m.

Registration for the half

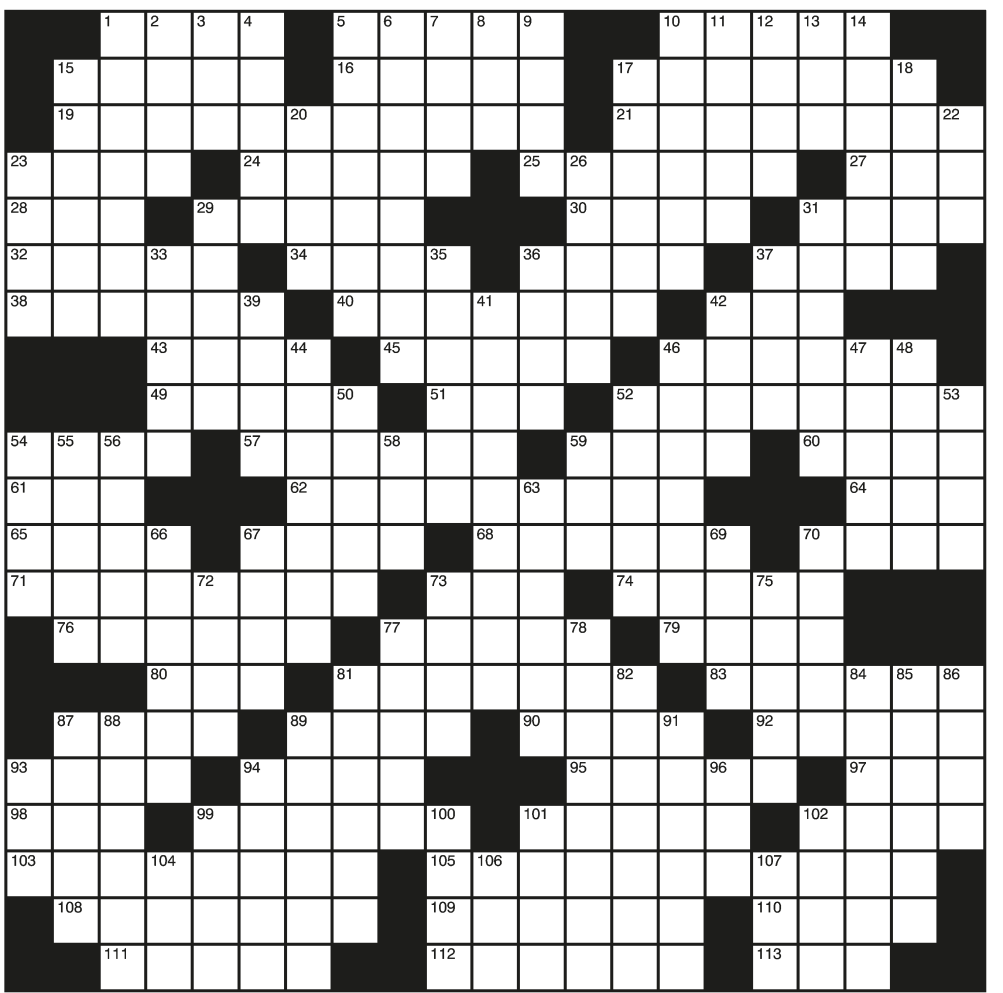
marathon is \$85 until Jan. 31 and \$95 from Feb. 1 to race day. Half marathon relay (per team member) is \$75 until Jan. 31 and \$85 from Feb. 1 to race day. The 3.1 mile lap the track (5K) is \$35 until Jan. 31 and \$40 from Feb. 1 until race day. Speedway Challenge (both events) is \$145 until Jan. 31 and \$160 from Feb. 1 until race day. For more information, email raceinfo@daytonabeachhalf.com.

Green Light

Edited by Linda and Charles Preston

ACROSS

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Out

From page B3

Medicine Andrea Levinson turned her anger from the unnecessary death of her mother from chemotherapy, not cancer, into an award-winning dark (chocolate) comedy independent film, "Death, Taxes ... and Chocolate!"

Before the show Ms. Levinson will discuss the illustrated "Life Beyond the Fear of Death," written by the late Glenn Kollela and published by Ms. Levinson. The book discussion begins at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 and can be reserved by calling (252) 638-3311. The film has no nudity or violence but covers mature subject matter.

Tuesday, Jan. 30

Live Comedy: Live Interactive Improv Comedy presented by Random Acts of Insanity is at 8 p.m. at the Cinematique Theater, 242 S. Beach St., Daytona Beach. Tickets are \$5. All ages welcome.

call (386) 252-3118.

Stetson Faculty Recital: Kathy Thomas, French horn, and guest artist Dr. Ben Lieser will play a duet by Otto Nicolai. The Sovereign Brass Quintet, with fellow Stetson professor Tom Macklin, will perform a selection of new and old from the brass repertoire at 7:30 p.m. at Lee Chapel in Elizabeth Hall, 421 N. Woodland Blvd., DeLand. Free and open to the public.

Upcoming Events

Concert: Great Pianists at Stetson series will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2, at Lee Chapel in Elizabeth Hall, 421 N. Woodland Blvd., DeLand.

To open Stetson's annual Piano Scholars weekend, Sean Kennard presents a recital featuring the rarely heard Busoni transcription of J.S. Bach's Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C Major, Liszt's sublime Benediction of God in Solitude, Copland's starkly powerful Variations, and Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition.

Free and open to the public. For more information, call (386) 822-8950.

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Stetson Piano Scholars in Recital: This event will be Saturday, Feb. 3, at Lee Chapel in Elizabeth Hall, 421 N. Woodland Blvd., DeLand. Come hear Stetson's scholarship piano students performing a wide range of masterworks and favorites in the final event of 2018's Piano Scholars festival.

Free and open to the public. For more information, call (386) 822-8950.

Ongoing Events

American Legion Post 127: Every first and third Saturday bingo is played at 1 p.m. with free hot dogs and coffee. Public hall rental is available at 109 Cassadaga Road, Lake Helen.

Artisan Alley Farmer's Market: The market is from 6-9 p.m. each Friday in Downtown DeLand and offers local, organic produce, plants, orchids and homemade breads.

Celebrate Recovery at TLC: A 12-step program that meets at 7

p.m. every Friday in The Lighthouse Church Cafe, 1525 S. State Road 15-A, DeLand. Childcare is provided.

DeBary Hall Historic Site: Tours of the 1871 hunting lodge are available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

DeLand Farmer's Market: 7 a.m. to noon each Wednesday at the Volusia County Fairgrounds, 3050 E. New York Ave., DeLand.

DeLand Flea Market: 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, at 535 Fair St.

Gateway Farmers Market: Every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Gateway Center for the Arts, 880 N. U.S. 17/92, DeBary.

Lake Helen Market in the Park: 8 a.m. to noon each Saturday at Blake Park, 437 N. Lakeview Drive.

Meditation: Offered at 9 a.m., each Wednesday at the Bamboo Arts Center, 4490 Cave Lake Road, DeLeon Springs.

experience is not a hindrance and probably a benefit. Admission is free. For more information, call (386) 277-2069 or visit mentalillnessmyths.com.

Orange City Farmers Market: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Friday at Dickinson Park, corner of U.S. 17/92 and East Graves Avenue, Orange City.

Sandcastle Storytellers: The group meets from 6-8 p.m. Saturdays at the Boston Gourmet Coffee Shop, 109 E. New York Ave., DeLand. The public may attend.

Sons of Italy Deltona: Bingo is at 6 p.m. each Tuesday. Every Wednesday is dinner from 4:30-8 p.m. with dancing. Donation is \$5 for pasta. Non-members are welcome. Take out is available at 1270 Doyle Road.

VFW Post 8093: Bingo is at 5 p.m. Sundays. Pinochle is at 6:30 p.m. and corn hole at 7 p.m. Mondays. Tuesday there is free pool all day until 7 p.m.; then the pool league plays. Bunco is at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. Karaoke is at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Dinner is served from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday. The dice game Left Center Right is played at 7 p.m. each Thurs-

day. There is an all-you-can-eat fish fry Friday from 5-7 p.m. Friday and Saturday entertainment is at 7:30 p.m. Drinks and pizza are served at the Canteen. The post is at 351 S. Charles Richard Beall Blvd., DeBary. For more information, visit vfwpost8093.com or call (386) 668-8640.

West Volusia Historical Society Complex: The complex consists of The Henry A. DeLand House Museum and gift shop, the Robert M. Conrad Education and Research Center and the Lue Gim Gong Memorial Garden. Guided tours and gift shop are available. Hours are noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday. The last tour is at 3 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children under 11 and free for children under six.

To include an event on the Hometown News Calendar, send an email to newsdy@hometownnewsol.com or fax (386) 322-5901. For more information, call (386) 322-5924.

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