

MARTIN COUNTY Hometown News

A NIGHT WITH NEIL

Neil Sedaka — singer, songwriter, composer, pianist, and author — returns to Sunrise Theatre tonight
Page B2



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Friday, Jan. 3, 2014

Need to know

Birth, death certificate price increases

Beginning Jan. 2 the price for birth certificates increased from \$15 per copy to \$17 per copy. Death certificates will be \$15, up from \$14 per copy.

Birth and death certificates are available by visiting the Florida Department of Health in Martin County, 3441 S.E. Willoughby Blvd., Stuart or 16401 S.W. Farm Rd., Indiantown. Call (772) 221-4000 or (772) 597-3687 for service hours.

Birth certificates are available for all births in the State of Florida from 1930 to present. Any birth certificates prior to 1930 may be requested from the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Jacksonville. Death certificates are available for all deaths in the State of Florida from 2009 to present.

For more information, log on to: www.MartinCountyHealth.com and click on the birth/death certificates tab.

Seasonal grouper closure started Jan. 1 in Atlantic waters

Several species of grouper closed to recreational and commercial harvest Jan. 1 in Florida state waters of the Atlantic. This seasonal closure includes gag, black, red, yellowmouth, yellowfin and tiger grouper; scamp; red hind; rock hind; coney; and graysby. State waters in the Atlantic are from shore out to three nautical miles.

The harvest of these species of grouper in

See **KNOW, A2**

COMPUTERS A7

A WARNING



Be careful to not click on tricky ads

FINANCE A6

GOODBYE TO 2013



Florida's Chief Financial Officer Jeff Atwater talks about fighting fraud and arson

WEEKEND WEATHER



Friday: Mostly cloudy; high: 68; low: 52; high tide: 9:42 a.m.; low tide: 3:39 p.m.
Saturday: Partly cloudy; high: 68; low: 57; high tide: 10:32 a.m.; low tide: 4:33 p.m.
Sunday: Partly cloudy, chance of storms; high: 75; low: 57; high tide: 11:22 a.m.; low tide: 5:29 p.m.

Weather courtesy of www.weather.com

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Looking ahead to 2014

By Alisha McDarris
For Hometown News

MARTIN COUNTY — There were many ups and downs in Martin County and the Treasure Coast in 2013, but elected officials got much accomplished and are working hard to make 2014 the best that it can be.

From county commission meetings where the public voiced their opinions on the Seven50 Plan to school board meetings where board members debated whether to keep the Martin County High School pool open to the public to Congressman Patrick Murphy advocating for our waterways in D.C., elected officials strove to make Martin County a

great place to live in 2013.

They'll continue to do so in 2014. Martin County Schools experienced a number of peaks and valleys in 2013, but Superintendent Laurie Gaylord is looking forward to accomplishing much in the coming year.

On the downside, there were teacher protests and long, drawn out negotiations regarding salaries and a lack of funds in the budget to contend with which Laurie said will continue to be a challenge for 2014.

On the upside, Martin County Schools' graduation rates are up and they were recently rewarded another "A" grade by the Florida Department of Education.

"That's difficult to achieve year after year," Ms. Gaylord said.

It's thanks to a fabulous educational team that continually strives for excellence together, she said.

"Student achievement is always a high priority," Ms. Gaylord said.

She has big plans for the next school year, too. Laurie hopes to boost parent involvement and connect local businesses with career programs at local high schools to

offer apprenticeships.

There is also a new director of Exceptional Student Education as of

See **AHEAD, A5**

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Enjoying a Taste of Jensen



The 16th annual Taste of Jensen, a sold out event, was held in downtown Jensen Beach on Tuesday, Dec. 17. Tony Roma's received the People's Choice Award, Best Presentation and Best Featured Entree. The People's Choice Awards for dessert went to Conchy Joe's.

Above left: Mandy Ritter of Jensen Beach, General Manager Nick Darley, and server Amy Kiester, both of Port St. Lucie, offer patrons some of the flavors found on Conchy Joe's menu, including their famous Conch Chowder.

Above right: David and Sally Webster sample some of the Dolphin Bar's gourmet foods.

Left: Ryan Growthorp of Rio, and Broke Bower and Katie Trudel of Port St. Lucie serve samples from the dessert table at Jan's Place.

Sevin Bullwinkle/staff photographer

Stuart author helps children who are struggling

By Alisha McDarris
For Hometown News

STUART — Stuart author Debra Alessandra loves children and is reaching out to those struggling to understand the path of recovery their family members are on with her first book, "12 Steps, 12 Stories: Spiritual Messages of Recovery for Children and the Child in You."

After spending years seeing children in schools and counseling centers struggle to grasp the complexities of addiction in their families and learning that 28 million children live in a home with at least one



Debra Alessandra

parent who suffers from addiction, Ms. Alessandra decided to write a book.

The teacher of 27 years who retired from Spectrum Junior/Senior High

School in Stuart in 2001 has also been a prevention specialist and drug and alcohol counselor, but in all her years of working with children she never came across any books on the topic of recovery for children.

It was when she started noticing indications of familial drug and alcohol abuse in her students that she decided it was time to pen one herself.

"As a lifelong educator I am compelled to share knowledge with children," Ms. Alessandra said.

"I thought I could write a book to help them

See **AUTHOR, A2**

Scholarships offered to survivors of domestic violence

By Alisha McDarris
For Hometown News

STUART — The Woman's Club of Stuart has been serving the community for 100 years and this year they're focusing on survivors of domestic abuse.

Every year the General Federation of Woman's Clubs in Washington D.C. decides on a signature project for the clubs across the nation to promote. This year it is domestic violence awareness and prevention and they are offering \$2,500 scholarships to victims.

The Success for Survivors scholarships are designed to assist intimate partner abuse survivors with advancing their

education and becoming independent.

The GFWC website states, "according to studies, a higher education can help survivors obtain careers and provide a brighter future," and as leaders in the fight against domestic abuse, that's precisely what they aim to accomplish.

"Domestic violence is really something that needs to be brought to the forefront," said Francine Banasiak of the Woman's Club of Stuart. "I'm very proud our club is joining with the General Federation in offering this."

It's part of the Woman's Club mission to build a stronger See **SURVIVORS, A2**

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Survivors

From page A1

community by supporting women in the community. Ms. Banasiak knows that an education can help liberate survivors from abusive situations but the number of scholarships available to those wanting to go back to school long after high school graduation is slim.

"I think it's a great thing," Ms. Banasiak said. "I'm so

glad they chose this project." Candidates must be enrolled or planning to enroll at an accredited post-secondary or vocational institution and must be recommended by a licensed or accredited domestic violence agency, counselor, or social worker.

Type and duration of domestic abuse is not relevant and names and personal information will not be disclosed. The GFWC will select winners in May and

award the scholarships in July of 2014.

"They'll hopefully choose at least one (recipient) from our area," Ms. Banasiak said.

The application can be found online at www.GFWC.org/Scholarship or www.woman-sclubofstuart.com and be sent to the Woman's Club of Stuart or the GFWC whose address is on the application. The deadline to apply is Jan. 31.

Author

From page A1

understand."

The book contains 12 stories that correlate with the 12 steps in recovery programs. Each features a different character and a different message to help children comprehend the steps their parents are taking to heal.

"My stories are to address the uncomfortable silence surrounding the disease and to begin a conversation about recovery," Ms. Alessandra said.

She said children are often forgotten about when adults in their lives are

going through recovery, but they have questions and concerns, too, which she aims to address in her book.

"Most people assume kids will be OK and they don't need to talk about it, but they're insightful," Ms. Alessandra said.

It's perfect for families to read through together and there are even discussion questions at the end of each story to help break down barriers of communication. Readers can even download a workbook to accompany the stories after they purchase the book.

It's a great way for parents, grandparents and children from ages 6-10 to work through what's happening

together.

"I think families in recovery together have more success," Ms. Alessandra said.

Adults going through 12 step programs will enjoy it, too, and it's also useful for counseling centers and clergy. Ms. Alessandra is even considering making a facilitators guide so teachers and counselors can organize a program with complete materials.

The book is available for purchase on the author's website

www.12steps12stories.com — and a Kindle version is expected to be available soon. The Blake Library in Stuart said it will also carry a copy.

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Know

From page A1

Atlantic state waters will remain closed through April 30, reopening May 1. The harvest closure was established to ensure the long-term sustainability of Atlantic grouper species.

A similar closure will also occur in federal waters of the Atlantic. Tiger grouper is not included in the federal closure.

Go to MyFWC.com/Fishing and select "Saltwater"

then "Recreational Regulations" and "Groupers."

Snook harvest seasonal closure in Atlantic began Dec. 15

The recreational harvest season for snook closed Dec. 15 in Atlantic state and federal waters, including Lake Okechobee and the Kissimmee River, and will remain closed through Jan. 31, 2014, reopening to harvest Feb. 1. Snook can continue to be caught and

released during the closed season.

Gulf state and federal waters, including Monroe County and Everglades National Park closed Dec. 1 and will reopen to harvest March 1, 2014.

This and other regular season closures are designed to help protect the species during vulnerable times such as cold weather.

Visit MyFWC.com/Fishing and click on "Saltwater Fishing" and "Recreational Regulations" for more information on snook.

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Hometown News
2013 READERS' CHOICE

Beware of the 'Phony Monroney'

Earl Stewart is the owner and general manager of Earl Stewart Toyota in North Palm Beach. The dealership is located at 1215 N. Federal Highway in Lake Park. Contact him at www.earlstewarttoyota.com, call (561) 358-1474, fax (561) 658-0746 or email earl@estoyota.com.



ON CARS
EARL STEWART

song was first recorded by Larry Williams during my high school years, 1956-1958. You will appreciate this lame attempt at humor only if you are about my age, 73.

The Monroney label is the window sticker that is mandated by federal law to be affixed to every new vehicle sold in the United States up until the time the new owner takes delivery. The name, Monroney, derives from Senator Michael Monroney's law passed by Congress in 1958. Prior to the proposal of this bill, there was often a large discrepancy between the showroom price and the actual price of a new vehicle. The fact was that existing price tags did not tell the full story. Most customer-quoted prices were for "stripped-down" models and did not include additions for preparation charges, freight charges, federal, state, and local taxes, or optional factory-installed equipment requested by the purchaser. These hidden charges were used by some dealers to increase the selling price while giving the new vehicle buyer an inflated idea of their trade-in allowance. This price confusion led to a slump in auto sales during the early 1950s. Senator Monroney's bill was designed to prevent the abuse of the new vehicle list prices, but would not, however, prevent dealers and buyers from bargaining over vehicle prices.

Well, as you might expect, car dealers have

figured out a way to evade this very good law. An alarmingly large number of dealers use a label that is designed to look almost identical to the official Monroney label. It has the same coloring, fonts, type size and layout. This "phony Monroney" is affixed right next to the genuine article. Unless you really look close and read all of the fine print, you will have no idea that you are looking at a counterfeit Monroney label. This phony Monroney includes extra charges to artificially inflate the manufacturer's suggested list price, MSRP.

One of the most egregious of these charges is an addition of pure markup just for profit which has a variety of names. Some of these are "Market Adjustment," "Additional Dealer Markup," "Adjusted Market Value," "ADM," "Market Adjustment Addendum," and "Market Value Adjustment."

This is simply an amount that the dealer adds to the manufacturer's suggested retail price. It is virtually always used in high-demand, low supply cars. I have seen these labels with charges as much as \$10,000 added to the MSRP. Additions of \$1,500 to \$3,995 are common. Dealers also use the counterfeit labels to price dealer-installed accessories, which are OK, as long as the accessories are not marked up higher than the manufacturer marks them up.

When customers confuse the phony Monroney with the real one, this distorts their point of reference for comparing prices between different dealerships. One manufacturer's Monroney labels are consistent. A 2014 Honda Accord with the same

factory accessories will have the same MSRP at every Honda dealership you visit. But if dealers fool you into thinking their label is part of the Monroney, you are not comparing "apples and apples." This can adversely affect a good buying decision in a number of ways. Some buyers focus mainly on how big a trade-in allowance they can get for their old car. If one dealer has the same car marked up \$3,000 more than another dealer, he can offer you \$3,000 more for your trade and still make the same profit as the other dealer. Some buyers focus on how big a discount they get from "sticker." It's easy to give a higher discount if you have artificially inflated the MSRP by thousands of dollars.

My advice to you is carefully inspect the sticker on the new car you are contemplating buying. Read it completely and especially the fine print. If there is a second label on the car, it is possible that it is fair. This would be for purposes of adding an item, installed by the dealer like floor mats or stripes, priced the same as the manufacturer charges. If that second label includes a markup over MSRP for no reason other than profit for the dealer, make sure that you adjust for that number in your comparisons for discounts and trade-in allowance. Some dealers also add a second markup to these labels and that is the infamous "dealer fee" also sometimes called "doc fee" and "dealer prep". Some dealers do not put this on the phony Monroney but print it on their buyer's orders and program it into their computers.

This blog post originally ran five years ago. It's important that I run it again today because violation of this Federal law, especially its intent, which is to inform car buyers of the official retail price suggested by the car manufacturer, is rampant by most car dealers.

The U.S. Senator who drafted this law, Mike Monroney, said this about his law, "The dealer who is honest about the so-called 'list price' cannot compete with the one who 'picks' several hundred dollars extra into it so he can pretend to give you more on the trade-in." Senator Monroney said this in 1958 and the only thing that has changed is that dishonest dealers are now charging several thousand dollars extra. As I write this, the national average price of a gallon of gas is over \$4 and climbing. Car dealers are marking up fuel efficient cars, especially hybrids by thousands of dollars. They add their dealer window sticker, identical in style to the Monroney label right next to it so that it's virtually indistinguishable. Then, to add insult to injury, they remove the both labels before delivery which is illegal.

"Phony Monroney" should not be confused with "Boney Maroney" (I got a gal named Boney Maroney. She's as skinny as a stick of macaroni). That

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Chiropractor uses non-conventional techniques to eliminate pain

By Alisha McDarris
For Hometown News

MARTIN COUNTY — Dr. Michael Hennings has a mission: to eliminate pain and bring smiles back to his patients' faces in as little time as possible using much more than conventional chiropractic techniques.

Dr. Hennings is one of a

select few chiropractors in the nation who are board certified neurologists and he specializes in treating nerve-related problems at his practice which opened in July.

Dr. Hennings grew up in Palm City and received his doctorate in 2010, then went on to practice as an associate with other doc-

tors as he worked toward his post-doctorate in neurology.

"That training makes me that much more capable to treat the problems people come in with," Dr. Hennings said.

Dr. Hennings concentrates on making people feel better, faster by using advanced diagnostic testing to pinpoint issues.

"My area of expertise is between where conservative care stops and surgery begins," Dr. Hennings said.

Nerve-related complications is an area not often covered by traditional chiropractic care and he



Michael Hennings

wants to fill the gap in with treatment.

Dr. Hennings treats headaches, vertigo, numbness in the hands and feet,

sciatica, even disc herniation, which many patients don't realize is treatable. He also offers massage and physical and spinal decompression therapies as part of his regimen.

He uses many advanced testing procedures which assess the health of nerves and muscles to identify underlying causes of pain and discomfort, procedures that offer vital information to remedy problems quicker than trial and error.

"We're able to make people feel better, faster than with a traditional chiropractor," Dr. Hennings

said. "We make people feel better when others can't."

That's what motivates Dr. Hennings and he invites anyone with back or neck pain, headaches, pinched nerves or any other discomfort to come in for a free consultation and initial exam and x-rays.

He'll use his wealth of wisdom and training to devise solutions which get patients back to feeling themselves.

Hennings Chiropractic Neurology is located at 3662 S.W. 36th Ave., Suite 2, Palm City and can be reached at (772) 220-5880.

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Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Youth coloring competition begins

Competition celebrates agriculture opportunities in the classroom

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

TREASURE COAST — The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services encourages students in kindergarten through fifth grade to participate in the annual Florida Agriculture Youth Coloring Competition, sponsored by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc., and the

Florida State Fair. This year's coloring page features students showcasing their agricultural projects at the Florida State Fair and emphasizes the importance of agricultural education in our schools and communities. The coloring page comes from the 2014 Agriculture Literacy Day book entitled "Florida Farms at School" and promotes student involvement in the industry.

The coloring contest is divided into three categories; kindergarten and first grade, second and third grade, and fourth and fifth grade. An overall winner will be selected in each category and will receive a family pack of tickets to the Florida State Fair. All three category winners, along with other participants' coloring pages, will be on display in the Youth Art Center at the State Fair.

To print the coloring page and find details regarding eligibility requirements and guidelines, visit www.faitc.org. Selected pages will be displayed at the 2014 Florida State Fair. The deadline for entry is Jan. 24. For more information about the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, visit www.FreshFromFlorida.com.

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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.

Arrests listed were made Dec 20-27.

Stuart Police Department

- Steven Michael Castillo, 24, of 211 S.W. North Wakefield Circle, Port St. Lucie, was charged with possession of controlled substance, with possession of cannabis under 20 grams, and with possession/use of drug paraphernalia.
- Kevin Micheal Duplantis, 23, of 1061 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart, was charged with two counts of possession of controlled substance and with violation of probation/community control.

Martin County Sheriff's Office

- Anthony Bargmon, 48, of 3950 Tiger Bay Road, Daytona Beach, was charged with scheme to defraud and

obtain property, with 16 counts of fraudulent use of identification information of 10 or more others without their consent, with 27 counts of grand theft, with five counts of fraudulent use/possession of personal identification of another person without their consent, and with two counts of racketeering violation.

- Gregory Theodore DiGuardia, 29, of 3644 S.W. Sunset Trace Circle, Palm City, was charged with possession, sale, manufacture or delivery of controlled substance — schedule II or III or IV.
- Alicia Felipe, 22, of 5378 S.E. Driftwood Ave., Stuart, was charged with aggravated battery.
- Antonio Fernandez-Mesa, 26, of 735 Franklin Road, West Palm Beach, was charged with felony violation of probation.
- Felipe Garcia, no age or address listed, was charged with child abuse without causing great bodily harm, and with battery.
- Steven Wayne Hungerford, 28, of 3533 San Miguel Street S.W., Port St. Lucie, was charged with criminal

use of personal identification information of another, and with battery — touch or strike.

- Angela Christine Kellett, 31, of 3126 S.E. Garden Street, Stuart, was charged with aggravated assault with deadly weapon without intent to kill, and with criminal mischief — damage under \$1,000, subsequent offense.
- Terell Devon McGill, 30, of 495 N.E. 195th Street, Miami, was charged with possession of controlled substance without valid prescription.
- Marie Carmen Rudnicki, 51, of 7678 S.E. Bay Cedar Circle, Hobe Sound, was charged with felony violation of probation.
- William Stuart Tress, 65, of 6 S.E. Erie Terrace, Stuart, was charged with failure to register address as sexual offender.
- Danielle Marie Helm, 22, of 5515 176th Street, Lynwood, Wash., was charged with felony violation of probation.
- Christopher Joseph Prianti, 24, of 246 Clayton Ave., Stuart, was charged with felony violation of proba-

tion.

- Dalton William Sloan, 21, of 10230 S.E. Federal Highway #10, Hobe Sound, was charged with criminal mischief - damage \$200-1,000, subsequent offense.
- David Lee Stewart, 53, of 13728 S.E. Flora Ave., Hobe Sound, was charged with aggravated battery.
- Antron Shawn Thornton, 28, of 14761 S.W. 175th Court, Indiantown, was charged with sale/manufacture/delivery of methamphetamine within 1,000 feet of place of worship or convenience business, with felony violation of probation, and with possession of cannabis under 20 grams.
- Eric Andrew Wojcieszak, 23, of 12075 S. Indian River Drive, Jensen Beach, was charged with felony violation of probation.
- Lynn Lee Archambeault, 49, of 1878 S.E. Harrison Street, Stuart, was charged with acquire/obtain possession of a controlled substance by misrepresentation, fraud, forgery, deception or subterfuge.
- Robert James Baehren, 61, of 1559 S.W. College Street, Stuart, was charged

Crime Doesn't Pay, But We Do.

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1-800-273-TIPS

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with tampering with or fabricating physical evidence, and with DUI alcohol or drugs, first offense.

- David E. Finnegan, 44, of 2059 S.E. Hillmoor Drive Apt. 110, Port St. Lucie, was charged with failure to stop at scene of accident involving death/personal injury, and with driving while license suspended/cancelled/revoked.
- Guy Thomas Diekman, 49, of 155 S.W. Kanner Highway, Stuart, was charged with assault/battery on law enforcement officer/firefighter/EMT, with resisting arrest without violence, and with battery - touch or strike.
- Steven Needham Harrington, 38, unknown

address, was charged with felony battery - domestic battery by strangulation.

- Brian Lee Lusk, 55, of 166 Catrock Lane, Jupiter, was charged with flee/attempt to elude a law enforcement officer, and with driving under the influence.
- Ashlee Lynn Benes, 26, of 7721 N.W. 12th Street, Pembroke Pines, was charged with felony violation of probation.
- Bettie Shamekia Ford, 25, of 5770 S.E. Colee Ave., Stuart, was charged with grand theft.
- Craig John Pegrant, 50, of 6164 S.E. Riverboat Drive, Stuart, was charged with felony violation of probation.

Ahead

From page A1

December and Laurie looks forward to seeing that program grow.

The impasse hearing about teacher salaries is slated for January and she hopes the district can find a solution, but at the end of the day, day in and day out, every decision she makes is for the good of the students.

"We remember why we're here and that's for the students," Ms. Gaylord said.

Congressman Patrick Murphy has been fighting for local issues in a quarrelsome climate in Washington D.C.

Despite the partisan bick-

ering that he disapproves of, he was able to lead two bipartisan groups in changing the tone in Congress.

"I ran for office on a pledge to be bipartisan, to reach across the aisle and work with both Democrats and Republicans to get things done for our district," said Congressman Murphy.

He introduced the SAVE Acts to cut \$230 billion in wasteful government spending, remains committed to finding common sense solutions to get the fiscal house in order, and strives to protect the health of the local environment.

"I've been working to find real solutions to improve the health of the St. Lucie River and Indian River Lagoon,"

Congressman Murphy said.

He hopes congress will address the final passage of the Water Resource Reform and Development Act bill in the New Year so that several new Everglades projects that will improve the health of Florida's waterways can move forward.

He's also pushing for full funding on the second phase of the C-44 Indian River Lagoon project and fighting to restore benefits to veterans, all while advocating for responsible government spending.

Ms. Gaylord and Congressman Murphy agreed that the past year had its pitfalls, but they're looking forward to a bright new year of possibilities.

Library collecting old Legos

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

ST. LUCIE COUNTY – Tired of stepping on old, unused Legos? Then donate them to the St. Lucie County Library System. The library will be collecting old Legos during the entire month of January for an upcoming program series.

If you have been meaning to do something about those old Legos that are sitting in the back of a closet, under a bed or in your garage, bring them

to the St. Lucie County Library branch nearest you. They will be sanitized and used to pilot the Legos@the Library program.

What's the connection between Legos and books, you ask? Promoting play contributes to early literacy development by increasing attention span, memory, creativity, and language and vocabulary skills. It also lays the foundation for logical mathematical thinking, scientific reasoning and problem solving—things children

will carry with them throughout their school years, says "Play = Learning," a recent study by Dorothy Singer, a senior research scientist at Yale University's Department of Psychology and Child Study Center.

Donations of all Lego shapes, sizes, colors and themes are gratefully accepted, except the large Duplo blocks.

To find the nearest St. Lucie County Branch Library visit: <http://library.stlucieco.gov>



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VIEWPOINT

FRIDAY, JAN. 3, 2014 • HOMETOWN NEWS • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSOL.COM

Looking back at 2013, planning for the future

Dear Fellow Floridian, as another year comes to a close, I am once again very proud of the successes my team at the Department of Financial Services has made possible. With their help, we have made great strides to protect Floridians from fraud as well as the damaging impacts of fire and arson. We have also helped Florida consumers make smart financial decisions and helped return millions in unclaimed property to its rightful owners, among many other accomplishments.

Our dedicated fraud investigators work tirelessly day in and day out to keep your hard earned money where it belongs; in your pocket. While their work never ends, 2013 brought significant success in the fight against fraudsters. Fraud related arrests totaled more than 1,600 this year.

While serving as your state fire marshal, my respect for the service and commitment of our state's firefighters has only increased each day. Whether working to investigate and prosecute arson-related crimes, train prospective students or educate the community about fire prevention, our team remains steadfast in their commitment to protect Florida's citizens and their property against the damaging impacts of fire and arson. This year, our team responded to more than 3,200 fires and arrested nearly 300 people for committing arson.

Our consumer services helpline has professionals ready to help any and all Floridians with their insurance-related needs. Whether you need an explanation of a current policy, have questions about the upcoming changes to the health insurance industry or



FLORIDA'S CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
JEFF ATWATER

need an advocate to help settle an insurance dispute, our team is ready and willing to assist. This year, our helpline assisted with nearly 20,000 requests and helped recover nearly \$27 million for Floridians.

In addition to the millions recovered through our consumer services helpline, our department has also helped return more than \$212 million to Floridians in 2013 through our unclaimed property program. When our team is able to reunite families with loved ones' treasured heirlooms, inheritance funds, or even a little cash one simply forgot existed, it is very rewarding for our entire team. While the unclaimed property or money remains yours to reclaim at any time, the unclaimed property fund works to support our public school system year-round. I am proud our team is not only able to return what's rightfully yours, but is also working to protect the education of our next generation while doing so.

Our team has worked hard to serve the people of Florida, and I assure you that 2014 won't be any different. I'm as committed as I have ever been to putting more fraudsters behind bars and further promoting fiscal accountability and transparency around the state.

For more information on the programs I've mentioned, visit www.myfloridacfo.com.

Jeff Atwater is the chief financial officer of the state of Florida.

And the winner is...



Gabriella Zaccheo, Executive Director of Project L.I.F.T Bob Zaccheo, and Dmitry and Greta Mishevichof, the donors of the Harley Davidson motorcycle, at the drawing of the winning ticket. Gabriella drew Jade Smith's winning ticket in Stuart on Tuesday, Dec. 24. The Resource Development committee sold out all tickets and raised \$20,000 dollars to benefit the 'Life Initiatives For Teens' (Project L.I.F.T.).

Photo courtesy of Matt Churchey

A report from the chamber president

For the third consecutive year, Governor Rick Scott is working to make Florida more competitive through targeted tax and fee reductions.

The governor's latest tax savings proposal eliminates a 2009 increase in motorist fees that were approved when Charlie Crist was governor.

As a part of Governor Scott's "It's Your Money" \$500 million tax relief effort, Governor Scott recently called on state legislators to reduce auto registration fees by \$401 million next year.

Florida's 18 million registered vehicles, which include vehicles operated by businesses, will see a savings. This includes:

- 13 million cars and trucks – many of which are used by small businesses, and
- 2.6 million fleet vehicles.

CHAMBER PRESIDENT
JOE CATRAMBONE



Most motorists would receive a \$25 fee reduction.

Looking ahead at Florida's economic future, it is clear Florida is making significant strides. Unemployment figures are down, our population is growing, nearly 500 people a day are moving into our state, education reform seems to be working and Florida's business climate is improving.

We agree with the Florida Chamber believing in a simple, fair and globally competitive tax structure. Further, we believe that Florida can and should do better by establishing a

smarter tax structure that will help put money back into the hands of taxpayers.

We offer congratulations to Governor Scott for working to relieve Florida's families and job creators through targeted tax reforms.

We believe for Florida to be more competitive, Florida should continue its efforts to secure the future through additional tax reform opportunities, including:

- Phasing out taxes on commercial property leases,
- Lowering Florida's communications services tax, and
- Closing the Internet sales tax loophole.

Did you know 34 of the top 50 jobs this year were in STEM-related, science, technology, engineering and math? Looking toward the future they will far exceed non-STEM jobs.

Currently, only one third of bachelor's degrees earned in the U.S. are STEM field, compared to 53 percent in China and 63 percent in Japan. Incidentally, there are a growing number of our STEM degrees awarded to foreign students that often return home, taking their talents and skills with them.

Here are a few engineering jobs and their projected 2020 growth rates:

- Petroleum engineers – 17 percent
- Civil engineers – 19 percent
- Environmental engineers – 22 percent
- Biomedical engineers – 62 percent

Joe Catrambone is the president and Chief Executive Officer of the Stuart and Martin County Chamber of Commerce. For more information, visit www.stuartmartinchamber.org.



Got something to say?

Call the Hometown Rants & Raves line at
(772) 465-5504

or e-mail newsfp@hometownnewsol.com.
Callers are asked to refrain from making slanderous statements. Statements of fact will be checked for accuracy.

A factual error

In a recent rant by the person who deposits a weekly complaint about people on welfare I noticed a gross factual error. "...has anyone noticed the police blotter? It's a half-page of young adults being arrested for dealing drugs," he or she writes.

I turned back a page to check the blotter (Dec. 19, 2013), and out of some 86 reports from the Port St. Lucie Police Department, the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office, the Florida Highway Patrol and the Fish and Wildlife Commission I counted five arrests of persons under 21 years of age. Two of the five involved possession of marijuana with intent to sell; one of the five involved "obtaining or attempting to obtain a controlled substance by fraud." The other two arrests were not drug related.

Three out of 86 does not amount to half a page, and even if we extend "young adults" to include those up to age 25, only two more drug busts can be added to the list. Drug arrests are far more common among those from 30 to 55 years of age. The evidence is in the police blotter, but our weekly ranters isn't concerned with facts. He blames all our problems on unwed mothers and socialism. While we do have social welfare programs, we do not have socialism. We do have a vociferous and ignorant minority who are easily swayed by the fascists in our society who accumulate power and wealth at the expense of the common good.

Economy improving?

I read that the economy is improving and that gas prices have dropped to \$3.26 per gallon. In 2003 the average price was \$1.60, I can't think of anything else that has doubled in price since 2003. Home prices and the economy may be improving in Miami and other areas, not so much here. Maybe 2016 will bring about an administration that believes in America and works to bring back America back to the powerhouse we once were. If we make the mistake again of voting for a person without experience or proven leadership ability, America as we know it may be lost.

No tip for mail carrier

I know it is against the law to put anything in the mail box in front of a home or wherever, that does not have a postage stamp on it.

How come the postal carrier in my area is allowed to put his or her Christmas card in my mail box? And, I believe the

reason it was put in there was to hope that I would put a card in the box for them with a monetary tip in it.

My tip is: I can't do that as I can't put anything in a mail box without a stamp on it.

A rave

Kudos to those families and churches that have put the nativity scene in their yards as a witness of their faith in Jesus Christ. He is the real reason why we celebrate Christmas. Shame on the churches that seem to be hiding their faith with darkened lawns. Jesus commanded us to go out and tell the world the great news of God's saving grace. Christmas is such a wonderful opportunity to share. We hope this is not a sign that the devil is winning in our churches, turning them into social societies rather than lighthouses to the community. Many even call themselves Christian churches in their name- if they are too ashamed of Jesus Christ, maybe they should change their church name.

Envy and jealousy

In leftist circles, it's fashionable to criticize the wealthy. It's called class envy. It's really jealousy. But high-net-worth people are generally quite generous. Their philanthropy has risen to a meteoric \$45 billion, the largest annual percentage increase since the National Philanthropic Trust began tracking the data. It is available on the website - www.nptrust.org.

Entitlement society

Our entitlement society has become surreal. Rather than encouraging Americans to be hard-working, independent, productive citizens, we hand them food, clothing, housing and free education in the form of counseling, training programs, childcare and transportation funding. Add on unemployment comp and the Earned Income Tax Credit and we have the perfect formula for total dependency on government largess.

Christmas is over... now what?

Now that the holidays are over and everyone got their feel good by helping some less fortunate kid get a free meal and a toy, now what?

People, you didn't fix anything, you just put a cheap band aid on others peoples mistakes. In this town you can see the devastation of poverty and they keep producing so that they can get more money out of an already cash strapped government. The welfare system is just like our immigration policy; completely broken. It needs to be scrapped. The democrats want all this so they can keep their great benefits while the rest of the country suffers at the expense of people who are just parasites. I see young gals coming into the stores yelling at their toddler kids, and I might add very disrespectfully. These people shouldn't have had the kids to begin with. Heck most of them never even got to high school. So, how are they supposed to help with the kids they produce to get somewhere in life. And when holidays come around they're the first ones in line for free stuff. Why don't they have job skills? They either were trying to trap a guy into child support or just to get into the public safety net called welfare. And their parents should be ashamed of all this too. Poverty should be a sign of, "I want better in life." Our government is screwed up enough, we don't need to add insult to injury with more welfare.

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CIRCULATION AUDIT BY



MARTIN

Auto center serves area with professionalism, pride

By Alisha McDarris
For Hometown News

STUART — Unique Auto Salon in Stuart is in business to serve the community and they strive to do so with professionalism and pride.

Whether they are hand washing a new car or rebuilding the motor in an old one, the skilled staff at Unique Auto Salon located within Amalie Motor Oil Quick Lube and Repair has you covered.

The full auto mechanic center and detail shop cleans vehicles inside and out, performs minor body work, and tends to brakes, exhaust, transmissions, and so much more. They also offer batteries and tires for sale and free local pick-ups and deliveries.

Owner Fernando Mejia and operator Richard Paterniti boast 40 years of shared experience and have been serving Treasure Coast residents for 20 years in various locations, the newest being in Stuart.

They moved into that loca-

tion two years ago.

It's the home of the "\$19.95 out the door conventional oil change" and they specialize in Teflon-acrylic paint sealers and repairing foreign automobiles, but for Richard, it's not just about the work they do, but how they do it.

"We do our work with professionalism and we make sure the job's done right," Mr. Paterniti said. "We take a lot of pride in our work."

They do it by ensuring that the shop is always fully staffed and ready to meet customers' needs and by using their experience to properly diagnose vehicle problems.

Whereas some businesses are just in it for the money, Mr. Paterniti said Unique Auto Salon wants to be more than that.

"We like to give back to the community," Mr. Paterniti said. "We are a business that believes in giving back."

They've done so in the past by offering 400 free oil



Photo courtesy of Alisha McDarris

Fernando Mejia and Richard Paterniti stand outside Unique Auto Salon in Stuart.

changes to Martin County football players and donating to local churches. They also offer payment plans to assist customers with paying for costly car repairs, all in the name of satisfying customers

and helping their neighbors. Unique Auto Salon is located at 5200 S.E. Federal Hwy in Stuart at Amalie Motor Oil Quick Lube and Repair. They can be reached by calling (772) 283-3997.

Be careful where you click

I wrote in an earlier column how important it is to learn to recognize and ignore internet ads, but I will admit, sometimes it can be hard to tell the difference between an ad and the link (or button) you're supposed to click next.

What happened to a recent caller is all too common – she's an intelligent computer user who was following a set of steps that were to the point and accurate, but still ended up with many unwanted programs and ads. How did her machine get so worked over if she was being careful and watching her step?

When I was cleaning her machine I had a chance to look at and go over the steps she was following. There was an address to go to first to register and then download the program. The download link on the website linked to "download.com," a popular software site that many



COMPUTE THIS
SEAN MCCARTHY

publishers use to distribute their software. And here is where things get tricky.

The link did indeed bring us to the correct download page but not without confusion. There was a banner ad along the top with the same background and colors as the legitimate portion of the page with a big green "Start Download" button and another similar button off to the side. I moved my eyes down an inch or so and saw the legitimate "Download Now" button (also in green).

How is the casual user supposed to be able to tell which of the three buttons is the real one? A closer examination revealed the counterfeit buttons were a part of an

ad for a registry cleaner of some sort. Clicking either of the 2 "Start Download" buttons would result in it installing not the program she was trying to install but some sort of system optimization program along with who knows what else. No wonder so many people are getting their systems hijacked!

Luckily there is an answer to this dilemma. Yes it is still a very good idea to learn to recognize ads but there is a tool out there that can cut down on the number of ads you are subjected to. Fire up your web browser and go to www.adblockplus.org and take a look at AdBlock Plus. It's free (an open source project) and blocks most (but unfortunately not all) internet ads including the ones found on download.com or speedtest.net.

With Internet Explorer, click the "Install for Internet Explorer" button and then the "Run" option that appears at

the bottom of the page. Follow the steps clicking "Install" and "Enable" when prompted. The steps are similar for Firefox and Chrome and there are no counterfeit ads here. Once installed Adblock Plus will be represented as a little red stop sign icon to the right of your browsers status bar or address bar. From that little stop sign icon you can pause Adblock and see just how many ads the program blocks on whatever page you're looking at.

If you've already had a download hijacked and now you have all sorts of toolbars and things installed, don't panic! Go to your computer's control panel and to the add/remove programs app. You should be able to sort the programs by date and you can remove them one by one.

Sean McCarthy can be reached at (888) 752-9049 or help@ComputeThisOnline.com (no hyphens).

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Please Call **772-283-4000** to reserve a seat for you and a guest.

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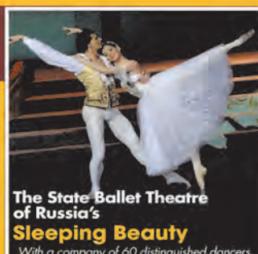
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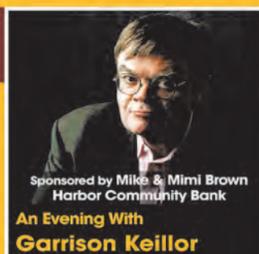
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January 15, 7PM

Out & about

FRIDAY, JAN. 3

- **One Day Fun Day Camp:** Last date for this. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Children's Museum of the Treasure Coast, 1707 N.E. Indian River Drive, Jensen Beach. Not sure what to do with the children during their winter holidays? Drop them off at the museum for their Fun One Day camps. Holiday themes, camp activities and museum exploration time. Full day and half day camp options available. Registration required. Call the museum at (772) 225-7575 for more information.
- **Movie Night:** 6-9:30 p.m., Children's Museum of the Treasure Coast, 1707 N.E. Indian River Drive, Jensen Beach. Parents can drop kids off at the museum for a night of pizza, drinks, popcorn, a movie, and time to explore the museum. \$10 for members; \$12 for non-members. Space is limited, so register early to secure a spot. Call the museum at (772) 225-7575 to register.
- **Focus on Foreign Film Series:** 2 p.m., Peter & Julie Cummings Library, 2551 S.W. Matheson Ave., Palm City. For more information, call (772) 221-1403 or visit www.library.martin.fl.us.

THROUGH JAN. 31

- **'Bird's Eye View' photography contest:** Hosted by Audubon of Martin County. Open to photographers of all ages and skill levels, with categories including birds, wilderness landscapes, flora & fauna, cell phone photography, and student entries. Entry fees are \$10 per entry for Audubon Chapter members and students; \$15 per entry for all others. Entries may be submitted through Jan. 31 at www.birdhero.com.

SATURDAY, JAN. 4

- **Elisabeth Lahti Concert Series:** 2 p.m., Cummings Library, 2551 S.W. Matheson Ave., Palm City. Jazz ensemble Jonathan Cummings and Friends will present a tribute to legendary jazz singer Mel See **OUT, B2**

Theatre hosting interactive comedy

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

MARTIN COUNTY — Gale Baker's popular "Doo-Wop Daze" will "rock & roll" into the Barn Jan. 10. Since its premiere at the West End Theater in Anaheim in 2004, this interactive comedy celebration of pony tails and peg-legged pants has spread across the country like wildfire. The show is rife with comedy, nostalgia, and contests with prizes.

Look for some new faces and songs, too. Calling the show a theater family affair, Ms. Baker said she pulled talent from Barn hits "Ballroom," which she directed, and "Pin Curls," which she wrote.

Writing partner Mercury Max, who

wowed the audience with his saxophone solos in "1940's Radio Hour" at the Barn last spring will join the cast. Mr. Max is an international recording artist, whose relaxation music is popular worldwide. Cutting his teeth on rock & roll, Mr. Max played multiple instruments while touring with stars Little Richard, Chuck Berry, The Shirelles, Chubby Checker, The Coasters, and Bo Diddley.

Along with Mr. Max, Barn favorites from "Ballroom," Arlette Eulo, Dante Marelli, David Pierce, Jeanette Mazzella, Jojo Lovaglia, Slade Walter; "Children's Hour" leading man Jack Brenner; and "Pin Curls" Tori Hadel join the production.

"Hadel is such a welcome addition," said Ms. Baker. "She was terrif-

ic in 'Pin Curls,' and I was thrilled when I found out she could also sing."

An award-winning playwright and director, Ms. Baker moved to Stuart in 2011 and found her extended family in the local theater community.

"I was thrilled to find so many talented people here who dedicate their time to bringing live theater to the community," she said.

"Doo-Wop Daze" will be performed one night only at the Barn Theatre, 2400 S.E. Ocean Blvd., Stuart, Friday, Jan. 10. Tickets are \$15. The box office is open between noon and 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Call (772) 287-4884 or order online at www.barn-theatre.com.



Week of 1-3-2014

ARIES - March 21/April 20

Aries, though you are eager to plow through your to-do list, certain plans may have to be postponed due to circumstances beyond your control. Go with the flow.

TAURUS - April 21/May 21

Taurus, uncover the source of a disagreement with a friend and try to come to a resolution before the disagreement escalates. Handling things promptly will pay off.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21

Gemini, attention to detail this week will prevent delays down the road. Keep this mind when tending to personal as well as professional matters.

CANCER - June 22/July 22

You may find your mind wandering this week, Cancer. You cannot seem to focus on the tasks at hand, but work hard to limit distractions and get your work done.

LEO - July 23/Aug. 23

Leo, respect a loved one's decision to keep a certain matter private. There's not much you can do other than offer your support and respect.

VIRGO - Aug. 24/Sept. 22

Virgo, carefully schedule your time this week. You cannot afford to get behind in work or miss any important appointments. Stay focused and leave some time free for the unexpected.

LIBRA - Sept. 23/Oct. 23

Libra, you are drawn to creative endeavors these days and have less patience for

See **SCOPES, B3**

Kicking for glory



Sevin Bullwinkle/staff photographer Pat Murray of Stuart kicks for his team, Red Balls and Vodka.



Sevin Bullwinkle/staff photographer Dave Talbot pitches for his team, Liquor Balls. The Treasure Coast Kickball Championship game between teams 'We Got The Runs' and 'Red Balls and Vodka' was held at Langford Park in Jensen Beach on Thursday, Dec. 19. With a score of 5-3, Red Balls and Vodka remained the undefeated champions for their fifth season of Jensen Beach Kickball.

Pianist to take stage at Lyric

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

MARTIN COUNTY — Enjoy the music of noted American pianist and composer George Gershwin and the music of one of the leading composers of the Romantic era, Edvard Grieg, as the Academy Orchestra presents internationally acclaimed pianist Francesco Attesti performing Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue and

Grieg's Piano Concerto in A Minor.

The orchestra, under the direction of conductor Thomas Servinsky and accompanying Attesti on piano will perform on Sunday, Jan. 5 at 7 p.m. at The Lyric Theatre in downtown Stuart.

The Academy Orchestra will perform with Attesti in these two most famous music compositions from two different eras of music. Attesti is considered one of the

leading interpreters of the Romantic and early 20th Century repertoire as noted by the two selectors to be performed. He is recognized as a child prodigy, playing piano since the age of 6, under the direction of his mother who was a music teacher, and presenting his first concert at age 11.

During his career, the pianist has performed in the Philharmonic Hall of St. Petersburg, the Moscow Tchaikovsky

Conservatory and the Mozarteum of Salzburg. He won several national and international piano competitions. He has performed with the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra in Prague.

The concert is Attesti's second appearance with the Academy Orchestra in local performances. The Academy Orchestra consists of advanced students of the Treasure

See **PIANIST, B3**

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Theatre presents an evening with Neil Sedaka

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

FORT PIERCE — Neil Sedaka, one of the greatest musicians of all time returns to the Sunrise Theatre stage on Friday, Jan. 3 at 8 p.m.

Singer, songwriter, composer, pianist, and author are just a few of the titles that can be used to describe Mr. Sedaka.

With a career spanning six decades, a rare feat in the entertainment world, Mr. Sedaka never ceases to

amaze. His unique blend of immense talent, showmanship and musicality are rarely seen. His impressive career ranges from being one of the first teen pop sensations of the 50s, a relevant songwriter for himself and other artists in the 60s,

a superstar in the 70s, remaining a constant force in writing and performing presently.

This is all thanks to the countless songs he has writ-



Sedaka

ten, performed, and produced that continued to inspire artists and audiences around the world.

Mr. Sedaka is well known for such songs as: The Diary, Oh! Carol, Stairway to Heaven, Calendar Girl, Little Devil, Happy Birthday Sweet Sixteen, Next Door To An Angel, and Breaking Up Is Hard To Do, songs that have become a part of peo-

ple's lives and can instantly take listeners back to special moments. He is also known for Bad Blood and the quintessential Laughter in the Rain, both reaching No. 1 on the music charts.

Tickets for the event are priced at \$69 and \$59 at the box office. For more information, call (772) 461-4775 or visit www.SunriseTheatre.com.

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Out

From page B1

Tormé. Free tickets are required and available for pickup only at the Cummings Library. For more information, call (772) 221-1403 or visit www.library.martin.fl.us.

• **New Year Celebration:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Children's Museum of the Treasure Coast, 1707 N.E. Indian River Drive, Jensen Beach. Ring in

the New Year with a countdown and ball drop, followed by family fun. Call the museum at (772) 225-7575 for more information.

SUNDAYS IN JANUARY

• **Sunday Morning Beach Walks:** 8:30-10 a.m., Jan. 5, 12, 19, and 26. Take a guided walk on the Stuart beachfront with Florida Oceanographic's education staff and volunteers to learn about beach dynamics, biology and oceanography. Stuart Beach, 889 N.E. Ocean Blvd., Stuart. To RSVP, call (772) 225-0505 or visit FloridaOcean.org.

SUNDAY, JAN. 5

• **Academy Orchestra presents Francesco Attesti** at the Lyric Theatre, 59 S.W. Flagler Ave., Stuart. 7 p.m. Tickets are \$30. For more information, call the box office at (772) 286-7827.

• **Brian Stokes Mitchell: Simply Broadway!** The Broadway, television and film star will present a special 90-minute concert at 8 p.m. at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre to showcase his newest album and benefit the Maltz Theatre and The Actors Fund. Tickets begin at \$50. For more information, call the box office at (561) 575-2223 or visit www.jupitertheatre.org.

TUESDAY, JAN. 7

• **McCoo & Davis** at the Lyric Theatre, 59 S.W. Flagler Ave., Stuart. Shows at 6 p.m., 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$48. For more information, call the box office at (772) 286-7827.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8

• **'Dance Your Pants Off'** at the Lyric Theatre, 59 S.W. Flagler Ave., Stuart. 7 p.m. Show features intricate ballroom dancing and music from several decades. Tickets are \$40. For more information, call the box office at (772) 286-7827.

• **Palm City Art Associates meeting:** 1 p.m., Cummings Library, 2551 S.W. Matheson Ave., Palm City. Artistic presentation for January will be Alice Laputka, "The Why and How of Abstract Painting," pastels. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday each month. Public is always welcome. Donations support the organization's scholarship fund for college-bound high school art students. For more information, email pcaanewsletter@gmail.com.

THURSDAY, JAN. 9

• **'An Excellent Business Plan'** 6-7:30 p.m., Room 2, Morgate Library, 5851 S.E. Community Drive, Stuart. Free workshop offering information on turning your business idea into a plan on paper, outlining every critical aspect of its operation. Call (888) 283-1177 or visit www.treasure-coast.score.org.

• **Wine & Design at Woman's Club of Stuart:** 5:30 p.m., 729 S.E. Ocean Ave., Stuart. Be guided step by step through some DIY crafts. All supplies provided; just show up with your choice of beverage and \$25. RSVP by emailing kim@winendesign.com.

THURSDAY, JAN. 9

- SUNDAY, JAN. 12

• **The 25th Annual Putnam**
See OUT, B3

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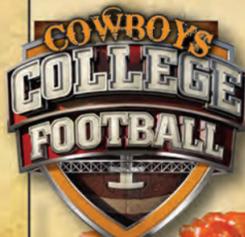
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Obituaries

Virginia Kenyon

Virginia Kenyon, 72, of Stuart, died Dec. 18, 2013. Arrangements by All County Funeral Home & Crematory.

Lucille Crane

Lucille Crane, 97, of Stuart, died Dec. 22, 2013. Arrangements by All County Funeral Home & Crematory.

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Library offers chance to earn season pass to waterpark

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

MARTIN COUNTY — The Martin County Library System and Martin County Parks & Recreation are teaming up to provide children ages 5-11 with the chance to earn a season pass to Sailfish Splash Waterpark for the 2014 season.

From now until March 31, children will fill out a lazy river game board by

attending library events, checking out or reading a book, discovering some of the Library's online resources, and other library experiences each month. Each child that completes the game board will be rewarded with a season pass to the waterpark.

Lazy river game boards are available for pick up at any Martin County Library System location. Participants must complete the

library activities during all three months (January 2014 to March 2014) in order to qualify for their pass. All completed game boards must be returned to any Martin County Library System location by March 31, 2014.

To learn more about the Martin County Library System, pick up a Library Connection at any Martin County library location, call (772) 221-1403, or visit www.library.martin.fl.us.

Pianist

From page B1

Coast Youth Symphony and area adult professional musicians.

Gershwin composed the famous Rhapsody in Blue in 1924 for solo piano and jazz band. The piece was commissioned by bandleader Paul Whiteman and premiered in the concert, An Experiment in Modern Music.

Grieg's only concerto – Piano Concerto in A minor – was composed in 1868 and was the composer's most popular work of his career. The concerto has three move-

ments and is performed by flutes, oboes, clarinets, bassoons, horns, trumpets, trombones, tuba, timpani and various string instruments, all instruments to be presented by the Academy Orchestra with Attesti on piano.

Grieg's concerto is popular with current classical music listeners as it has been used in movies, TV shows, and even in a Nike commercial in 2004. Parts of the composition have been used in How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, Beauty and the Beast, Lolita, TV's Twin Peaks show and in The X Files.

Tickets are \$30 per person and can be purchased at the Lyric Box Office or online at LyricBoxOffice@LyricTheatre.com or by calling the Box Office at (772) 286-7827.

For more information, contact the Treasure Coast Youth Symphony via email at: tcys@treasurecoastyouthsymphony.org.

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Scopes

From page B1

tasks that are not nearly as fun. Find a healthy balance between the two.

SCORPIO - Oct. 24/Nov. 22

Scorpio, expect to serve as a mediator for your loved ones

this week. The issue that arises is relatively small, but your calm demeanor and cool head will be needed.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov. 23/Dec. 21

Sagittarius, you may be floundering a little in the romance department this week. Stick to what your intuition is telling you, and

you will come out just fine.

CAPRICORN - Dec. 22/Jan. 20

Capricorn, you are focused on your work, but distractions beyond your control figure to prove frustrating. Try to remain as patient as possible, and everything will work itself out.

AQUARIUS - Jan. 21/Feb. 18

Aquarius, take a breather and stop to give some careful thought to your recent experiences and your expectations going forward. You will benefit from this reflection in the long run.

PISCES - Feb. 19/March 20

Pisces, expect valuable insight on your future to arrive in the next few days. It won't be difficult to set plans in motion.

Out

From page B2

County Spelling Bee: Curtain Call presents the jubilant musical about a group of quirky overachievers in the spelling challenge of a lifetime. Performances start at 8 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, in the Jensen Beach Performing Arts Center on the campus of Jensen Beach High School, 2875 N.W. Goldenrod Road, Jensen Beach. Adult tickets are \$25; student tickets are \$15. For tickets or more information, call (866) 811-4111 or visit www.curtaincallfl.com.

FRIDAY, JAN. 10 – SUNDAY, JAN. 12

• **Stuart Boat Show:** 40th annual boat show and sale, with a vast array of boats on display on the land and in the

water, plus engines, electronics and accessories from major marine manufacturers worldwide. Admission is \$10, and children under age 10 are admitted for free. For more information, visit www.all-sportsproductions.net.

FRIDAY, JAN. 10

• **Opening Night Master Works**, with the Atlantic Classical Orchestra: Lyric Theatre, 59 S.W. Flagler Ave., Stuart. Two performances. Matinee begins at 4 p.m. (with pre-concert lecture at 3:10 p.m.). Twilight performance begins at 8 p.m. (with pre-concert lecture at 7:10 p.m.). For tickets, call the ACO office at (772) 460-0850 or visit atlanticclassicalorchestra.com.

SATURDAY, JAN. 11

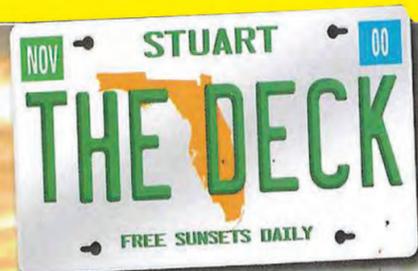
• **'Coastal Hammock Walk'** guided hike: 9-11 a.m., Ocean Bay, 7600 S. Ocean Drive,

Jensen Beach. Walk with a Florida Master Naturalist to learn about this rare coastal hammock with tropical species adapted for life on a barrier island. Free, but space is limited, so registration is required. Meant for ages 13 and older; minors must be accompanied by an adult. Proper footwear and water required. No pets. Register online at signupgenius.com. Contact Wren Underwood at (772) 971-5611.

• **Journey Stories Music Series:** 'The Barefoot Movement,' an Americana/folk quartet from Tennessee, will perform at 3 p.m., at Robert Morgade Library, 5851 S.E. Community Drive, Stuart. No ticket or reservations required. For more information, call (772) 221-1403 or visit www.library.martin.fl.us.

• **Treasure Coast Classical Guitar Society concert:** 3 p.m., Blake Library, 2351 S.E. See **OUT, B4**

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Providing a brighter holiday for 116 families



Photo courtesy of Zachary Pecci

Youth Counselor Kathleen Lanon, Kathy Martin and executive secretary Lucille Bosheart portion the fresh green beans to go with turkey dinners.



Photo courtesy of Zachary Pecci

Professional Standards Assistant Heather Soltenberg helps get meals ready for delivery. The Third Annual Turkey Dinner Giveaway took place at the Stuart Police Department in Stuart on Dec. 20. An anonymous benefactor donated the food, asking the Stuart Police Department to help find people in need, providing a holiday meal to 116 families. The Salvation Army, Warfield Elementary, J.D. Parker, Indiantown and the 10th street Recreation Center assisted in compiling a list.

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Out

From page B3
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information on the concert
series, call (772) 221-1403.

- **Hope for the Future Gala:** 6-11 p.m., Willoughby Golf Club, Stuart. House of Hope is celebrating the past and looking to the future with its first-ever gala fundraiser, to mark the agency's 30th anniversary. Guests are encouraged to come dressed in the attire of their favorite era as they "travel through time" during the evening's festivities. Dinner, prize drawings and the creation of a time capsule are among the highlights. The band Private Stock will perform for guests' dancing and entertainment pleasure. Reservations will be \$250 per person. Sponsorships are sought. Visit www.hohmartin.org/gala.html

the Lyric Theatre, 59 S.W. Flagler Ave., Stuart. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$38. For more information, call the box office at (772) 286-7827.

**SATURDAY, JAN. 11
- SUNDAY, JAN. 12**

- **Jensen Beach Fine Art & Craft Show:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Downtown Jensen Beach. Jensen Beach Chamber of Commerce event. For more details, call (772) 334-3444 or visit www.jensenbeach.biz.

SUNDAY, JAN. 12

- **Kane Cabaret:** 2 p.m., Kane Center, 900 S.E. Salerno Road, Stuart. Theme is 'Just for Laughs - stand-up comedy' by Phil Tag. Tickets are available in October, and are \$20 for the public. For more information, call (772) 223-7800 or visit www.kanecenter.org.
- **Children's Program of Opera Arias:** 7 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 623 E. Ocean Blvd., Stuart. Featuring Amber Rose-Romero, Brian McNiff, PBAU Ballet, and

Eileen Hebron, director. For more information, call (772) 287-3244 or visit www.StMarys-Stuart.org.

- **Jensen Beach Art League Art Show:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., second Sunday of each month, November through April, in Indian RiverSide Park, 1707 N.E. Indian River Drive, Jensen Beach. For more information, call (772) 692-1191.

MONDAY, JAN. 13

- **'Behind the Baton':** with Stewart Robertson, artistic director and conductor of the Atlantic Classical Orchestra, for the Fielden Institute for Lifelong Learning. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Indian River State College Chastain Campus, 2400 S.E. Salerno Road, Stuart. For ticket information, call the ACO office at (772) 460-0850 or visit www.atlanticclassicalorchestra.com.

- **Coastal Lecture Series:** 6:30 p.m., Blake Library, Armstrong Wing, 2351 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart. See **OUT, B5**

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- 42 "___, vidi, vici"
- 43 Downier
- 45 Bible land
- 48 Steve McGarrett line
- 52 Charge for services
- 54 Gunwale pin
- 55 "Waste Land" author
- 56 Winged
- 57 The entire amount
- 58 Hauls
- 59 Doubly
- 60 Love: It.
- 61 Fraudulent scheme
- 62 Switch positions
- 63 Barber service
- 64 Become unfit for use
- 65 Davis or Midler
- 66 Use a needle
- 67 Ed McMahon line
- 69 Goose genus
- 70 Shy and modest
- 72 NY Canal
- 73 Dash
- 74 One: Ger.
- 75 Bergen's Mortimer
- 77 Hair dressings
- 81 Church composition
- 83 Narrative
- 84 USMA freshman
- 86 Hollywood's Lupino
- 87 Idi

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Answers located in Classified Section

DOWN

- 1 Level of command
- 2 Singer Jim or son A.J.
- 3 Audience sound
- 4 Elect

- 88 Facing the glacier: Geol.
- 89 French bread shape
- 90 Short, projecting part
- 91 Posed
- 92 Not fresh
- 93 Tennis term
- 94 Vanzetti's partner
- 95 Rabbet joint
- 97 David Brinkley line
- 100 Sagacious
- 101 Bruise remedy
- 102 Rowed
- 103 War god
- 104 Sycophants
- 105 Small nail

- 5 1775 rider
- 6 Puts forth
- 7 Courtyards
- 8 Animal appendage
- 9 Massachusetts cape
- 10 Leaf apertures
- 11 Not level
- 12 Indian garments
- 13 Former governor of IN ___ Bayh
- 14 German article
- 15 Stored fodder
- 18 Sgt. Friday line
- 19 Declaim
- 20 Despised
- 21 Age of new moon Jan. 1st
- 23 Lambs' moms
- 27 Military acronym
- 30 TV show players
- 31 Jeans material
- 32 Bridge position
- 34 Metric volume unit
- 35 Belief

- 36 "Moll Flanders" author
- 38 Labors
- 39 Kind of tea
- 40 ___ Carlo
- 42 "Other ___ Other Rooms": Capote
- 43 Snappish
- 44 Tell
- 45 Preminger and Bismarck
- 46 Called
- 47 Jackie Gleason line
- 48 ___ of the dog!
- 49 Miss Oyl
- 50 Singer Vic
- 51 Bitter purgative
- 53 Lewis' Gantry
- 59 Not here
- 60 Plant louse
- 61 Cathartic drug
- 63 Sidetrack
- 64 Word of regret
- 65 Hydrometer scale
- 68 Gibes

- 71 Bearing
- 73 Dressing gown
- 75 Aircraft type: abbr.
- 76 Bouquet
- 77 Genesis man
- 78 Got rid of. sl.
- 79 Drew forth
- 80 Wooden shoe
- 81 Church service
- 82 NE city
- 83 Ear bones
- 84 Swoop down suddenly
- 85 Anc. Greek satirist
- 88 Aver
- 89 Use a rheostat
- 90 Pelvic bones
- 92 Aspersion
- 93 Knots and Corleone
- 94 Luminary
- 96 School organization
- 98 Bauxite, for one
- 99 Elf

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Tips for a lush, green lawn

For a homeowner, one of the greatest thrills is to have a lush, green lawn all year long. Unfortunately during the winter months in Florida, this can be a real challenge. In our area there are two types of lawns that the majority of Floridians share: St. Augustine and Bahia. Most people have the Floratam variety of St. Augustine grass.



GARDEN NOOK
JOE ZELENAK

Before I get into winter lawn maintenance, I would like to talk a little about Floratam grass. The Floratam variety of St. Augustine grass was introduced to Florida in 1973 and is used almost exclusively to other grasses. Floratam grass has many advantages to other types of lawns. It is very adaptable and can thrive in a wide range of soils and environmental conditions. It does well in Florida's intense sunlight. This type of lawn is also relatively chinch bug resistant. This is a good point since many of the insecticides that were effective for chinch bug control such as Dursban and Diazinon have been removed from the market. Floratam is also a fast grower that can fill in empty areas of your lawn fairly quickly. The thickness of the lawn also helps to control weeds.

Bahia grass, on the other hand, offers some disadvantages over its rival. During the growing season it produces large seed heads and over time, the lawn can thin out which will allow weeds and other wild grasses to take over. It also needs a large amount of iron or the grass will yellow during the spring and fall. It also has a very course texture.

Now let's talk about keeping it green. During the winter months, all lawns can have times when they thin out or just do not grow as rapidly as they do during the remaining times of the year. This can cause bare spots and browning. This can be especially problematic after a freeze or heavy frost. One way to ensure your lawn stays green looking and limits the intrusion of weeds is to overseed with rye grass. When you overseed your lawn with rye grass, you help keep that green look all winter long. When the warmer weather arrives, the rye grass will die out and your lawn will again

fill in very nicely for the remainder of the growing season. As the ryegrass dies off, it acts as a natural fertilizer as it decomposes in the soil. If you have a Bahia lawn, you may have to overseed with Bahia grass seed in the spring. If you have a Floratam lawn, you can fill in patches with grass plugs. Remember, Floratam is not available in seed form. Proper watering and fertilizer is also essential to a healthy lawn. Always keep your lawn evenly moist. Under watering as well as over-watering can both cause problems such as drying out or fungus, for example.

A regular fertilizer program is essential for a lush green lawn. You should apply a good quality slow release lawn food about once every 3 months. February is an excellent time to apply a good quality weed and feed. A weed and feed product has the advantage of both feeding your lawn and getting rid of annoying weeds. Care should be exercised when choosing weed control products because you can only use certain herbicides on certain lawns. If you have a Floratam lawn, be sure you choose a product that contains Atrazine. This is a safe herbicide for use in St. Augustine variety grasses. If you have Bahia grass, choose a product with 2,4D or an

equivalent. Use of the wrong herbicide can have very undesirable effects. Always apply your fertilizer according to the package directions and always use a spreader. Never try to apply lawn food by hand.

With a little care and some work, you too can have a green lawn year-round!

Contact Joe Zelenak at hometowngarden@gmail.com or visit www.hometowngarden.com.

Out

From page B4

Featuring Mark Perry, executive director, Florida Oceanographic Society, celebrating 50 years of environmental stewardship. For more information, call (772) 225-0505 or visit FloridaOcean.org.

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plot summary, main characters and favorite part of the book. January's author is Robert Parker. For more information, call (772) 221-1403.

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A hidden Treasure Coast gem and a chance to golf in Ireland

One of our area's older courses isn't well-known except by the locals. Pine Lakes Golf Club is a bit hidden, sitting just south of the Treasure Coast Mall, and just west of U.S. 1 in north Stuart. Once you find the course, you will see

why it's a favorite of many locals. Pine Lakes has three sets of tees, playing to 4,766 from the back; 4,449 from the middle and 3,912 from the forward set. Each nine plays to a par of 33, with six par 4s and three par 3s on each side.

What the course lacks in length it more than makes up for in narrowness. If you have a club that you can hit straight all day, make certain that it's in your golf bag before heading here. One club you may leave behind in its place is your sand wedge. There are no bunkers on the course at all.

Water only comes into play on a half-dozen holes, but there are a lot of trees and small greens. There are also several sharp doglegs forcing you to either gamble or hit your shots to a specific portion of a narrow fairway.

One thing I really like about Pine Lakes is that you can walk this course with ease. The course sits on about 75 acres of land. This means that tees and greens are quite close to one another. Here one can easily walk 18 holes in under three hours.

The best hole on the



GOLF
JAMES
STAMMER

course may be the par-4 third. From the back tees, this hole plays over 370-yards long. There is water down the left side the entire length of the hole. The farther you play to the right, the more you bring trees into play as well as the water on your second shot. On the back nine, the 15th will get your attention. From the tee box on this 380-yard par 4, there are plenty of distractions. You have water, trees, the 14th green and more trees. You approach shot has to hit one of the smallest greens on the course and avoid a pair of deep ditches.

Pine Lakes Golf Club may not have all the fancy amenities that some golfers simply must have. What it does have is character, wrapped up in a box of fun and grill and pub with great sandwiches and drinks that are as cold as your ex's

heart.

To experience the course, call the club at (772) 692-0346 or visit www.pinelakes-golfclub.com

Win Irish golf with true heroes

If Santa left you with nothing but a lump of coal, here is your chance to put something much better in your stocking.

The Salute Military Golf Association and the Folds of Honor Foundation have teamed with NFL Hall of Fame members Jerry Rice and Chris Doleman to offer a fantastic prize to the lucky winner of the Freedom Golf Tour Ireland raffle.

The Freedom Golf Program gives seriously injured veterans not only the opportunity to experience golf on some of the world's most inspiring courses, but to reach inside themselves to discover their potential through golf clinics, positive interaction and ambassadorship with a business professional during the

course of their trip.

Purchase your raffle ticket now to support this wonderful cause and for a chance to join these heroes along with Rice and Doleman on the once-in-a-lifetime trip. The winner and a guest will enjoy round-trip air transportation, a week of accommodations, meals, a distillery tour and tasting and six rounds of golf. The courses you will play are Dooks GC, Waterville, Tralee GC, Old Head, Ballyhunion Old Course, and Lahinch GC.

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132 Special Notices

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145 Wanted

LADY BUYS Costume Jewelry. Any or all! 772-344-7250

WANTED Japanese Motorcycles Kawasaki, 1967-1980, Z1-900, KZ900, KZ1000, ZIR, KZ1000MKII, W1-650, H1-500, H2-750, S1-250, S2-350, S3-400, Suzuki GS400, GT380, CB750 (69-70), CASH PAID. 800-772-1142 310-721-0726 usa@classicrunners.com

201 Garage Sales

\$16 GARAGE SALE SPECIAL
Invite your neighbors to your garage sale
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MERCHANDISE MART

230 BARGAINS UNDER \$200
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EXERCISE MACHINE Elliptical, new. Orig. \$400, asking \$200 Firm 772-343-9702 P.S.L.

FUTON, FULL SZ, White metal frame, exc cond, \$100 Car Cover, Honda, Blue, \$50 772-337-3175

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RECORDS, 50, 33 1/3, Big bands, Broadway shows, Large Collection \$1/ea 772-335-1936 PSL

STOVE, CERAMIC top, black, Bosch, w/ convection and regular oven, \$100, 772-237-2181

TV, PHILLIP Magnovox, 27" \$25, TV, Samsung 10" \$15, 772-871-6044

TV, RCA, not a flat screen, w/ remote \$40, Laptop, good cond, \$50 772-204-4788 P.S.L.

WINE CART black coaster w/ white granite top new in box. \$200 772-486-3910 Stuart

270 Medical Equipment & Supplies

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275 Misc. Items

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145 Wanted

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WANTS TO PURCHASE

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275 Misc. Items

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246 Consignment/Thrift Shop

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MORE MERCHANDISE TO FOLLOW

5020 Notice to Creditors
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
IN RE: ESTATE OF LYNN EDWARDS a/k/a LYNN MARY EDWARDS, Deceased. File No.: 13-797-CP
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Lynn Edwards a/k/a Lynn Mary Edwards, deceased, whose date of death was July 5th, 2013, is pending in the Circuit Court for Martin County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 100 E. Ocean Blvd., Stuart, FL 34994. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED, NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is December 27th, 2013.
Personal Representative: Bonnie Lynn Smith, 4525 SE Beaver Lane, Stuart, FL 34997
Attorney for Personal Representative: Anthony Dale George, Jr., P.A., 759 S. Federal Highway, Suite 204, Stuart, FL 34994 Florida Bar No. 0085504 Telephone: (772) 286-2200 Pubs: Dec. 27, & Jan. 3, 2013

EMPLOYMENT

427 Miscellaneous Employment

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Please include cover letter telling us why we absolutely must hire you.

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We offer a weekly guarantee and gas allowances, plus commission. Experienced representatives earn \$50,000+.
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We offer a weekly guarantee and gas allowances, plus commission. Experienced representatives earn \$50,000+.
Benefits include health, dental and a 401k plan

Hometown News
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427 Miscellaneous Employment

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Immediate Openings
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HS Diploma/GED, Valid FL Drivers Lic./CL Record & Level II BKG/Drug Screen required.
Apply: 2001 S. Kanner Hwy., Stuart, FL 9 am - 4 pm M-F EOE/DFWP

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305 Pets - Domestic

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FOR SALE

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0703 Auctions RS PUBLIC AUCTION - Tallahassee- 6 Residential Properties! More details online. Properties include land & home or mobile home. Sale: 1/22/14, 10:00am 1412 Westheaven Drive. Sharon Sullivan 954-740-2421 www.irsauctions.gov

730 Manufactured Homes for Sale PORT ST. LUCIE Spanish Lakes Village 55+ 2/2 w/carport, sunroom & shed, new floors, all appl. \$6,500 OBO 772-267-7436

735 Out of Area for Sale BRADFORD COUNTY, FL - Keystone Heights Golf Community, 1.87 acres, 336' road frontage, could be separated. Reduced! \$34,000 772-971-1251

710 Houses for Sale WE CAN HELP YOU SELL YOUR PROPERTY!! 4 WEEKS OF ADVERTISING 6 LINES OF TEXT! (BUY 1 WEEK, GET 3 WEEKS FREE!) FROM \$49 ONLY Choose 2 newspapers from our 15 Local Community Papers! (Each add'l paper only \$10) Hometown News 1-800-823-0466 We've got you covered!

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750 Commercial Property ATTENTION VISIT OUR ONLINE SITE www.HometownNewsOL.com Photos with your ad, High Definition Slide Shows and more 800-823-0466

804 Seasonal Rentals PORT ST. LUCIE- Mature person, nicely furnished room, clean, quiet, kitchen priv. \$125/ wk incl utilities, + Sec., Ref Req. 772-626-1238

804 Seasonal Rentals VERO BEACH, 1bd/1ba Cozy, Furn. Between Miracle Mile & Country Club, Patio, Kitchenette. Mature single, \$800/mo incl. all 772-770-1746

805 Apartments/Condos for Rent OCEAN VIEW JENSEN BEACH Island Dunes 2bd/2bath condo on ocean, Seasonal or annual. Call 561-328-6345

805 Apartments/Condos for Rent STUART 1, 2 & 3 bdrm apartments located just minutes from Downtown Stuart, beaches & shopping. 24hr laundry rm, pool w/sundeck, free Wi-Fi, pet friendly. Starting at \$620/mo. Call 772-219-2442

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Crossword Solution

Crossword Solution

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0962 Boats/Watercraft

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935 Motorcycles/Scooters

ELECTRIC BIKE by Jetson, 2013. Silver. Looks like Vespa scooter. Only 4 mi. on odometer. Asking \$1600 (Paid \$2100) Must sell due to health. 706-970-9822. Bike local in Stuart. See photo online at: www.HometownNewsOL.com, Ad# 47429 Additional photos available by emailing: hreiner@windstream.net 940 RV/Travel Trailers/Campers 36' Country Coach '00 Allure 1 lg tipout, 2 full pull out bays, 330 cummings, 76k mi, back up cam, well maint, \$50,000/obo. 772-545-7763 GREAT NEWS AND CLASSIFIED ADS! HOMETOWN NEWS 800-823-0466

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