



Need to know

Class of 2004 to celebrate 10-year reunion

Martin County High School Class of 2004 will be hosting their 10-year reunion on May 10, 2014 at Chillin the Most Restaurant, on Hutchinson Island.

The event will also feature a beach-day BBQ on Sunday May 11 at Jensen Beach pavilions with Chillin's food-truck smoker.

The Saturday night party will feature a full buffet, live entertainment and outdoor games. The night will be filled with throw-back music, high school videos, and yearbooks.

Chillin the Most has partnered with the Hutchinson Island Marriott to offer discounted room rates, as well as free trolley services between the two locations on Saturday and Sunday.

Tickets are \$50, if purchased before Dec. 31, or \$60 up to the event. Tickets include admission to the evening bash, buffet dinner, two-drink tickets, lunch at the beach, raffles and prizes.

A portion of ticket sales will be allocated towards a new scholarship created for Martin County High School seniors.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, please visit: www.mchs04.wordpress.com. On Facebook, join the Martin County High School Class of 2004 group.

See **KNOW, A6**

GIVING THANKS A2

TIPS OR GIFTS?



Remembering those who provide services makes a big difference

GARDEN NOOK A8

OH, CHRISTMAS TREE



Picking up a freshly cut fir or spruce? Be sure to check the water level often to cut down on holiday fire risks

WEEKEND WEATHER



Friday: Partly cloudy; high: 81; low: 64; high tide: 10:51 a.m.; low tide: 4:50 p.m.
Saturday: Partly cloudy, chance of rain; high: 79; low: 66; high tide: 11:45 a.m.; low tide: 5:49 p.m.
Sunday: Partly cloudy; high: 81; low: 68; high tide: 12:10 a.m.; low tide: 6:14 a.m.
Weather courtesy of www.weather.com

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Teacher negotiations at an impasse

By Alisha McDarris
For Hometown News

MARTIN COUNTY — The Martin County School District and the Martin County Education Association have reached an impasse in negotiations but hope to resolve their differences as quickly as possible for the good of the teachers.

Since Sept. 18, the groups have engaged in six sessions to negotiate salary issues, contract language and new state statutes and what it will mean for teachers'

pay. Included in the discussions are the 3.35 million dollars Governor Scott allotted to Martin County teachers and how those funds will be distributed.

Also being discussed is the change in Florida state law from an experience-based salary schedule to performance based pay for educators.

Kim Sabol, the district's staff attorney and chief negotiator, thinks that new law is part of what's causing the delay in reaching a solution, partially because it requires teachers to relinquish

their job security.

"It's a big paradigm shift from what teachers are used to so there's been some resistance," Ms. Sabol said.

According to Ms. Sabol, teachers can choose to be grandfathered into the old law and keep their current contracts, but they won't be eligible for the pay increases that come with the new performance based

contracts that are renewed
See **TEACHER, A10**

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They were up to the challenge



The fourth annual Beach 2 Bar 5k, a race from Stuart Beach to Carson's Tavern in Stuart, benefits the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. It was held Saturday, Nov. 30, with 439 participants. For more information about Cystic Fibrosis, visit www.cff.org

Dante Garzia, 14, of Palm City, Jackson Pierce, 15, Nicholas Parrinelli, 19, Alexander Madden, 15, of Sewall's Point, and Danielle Filippini of Tampa lead the pack at the start of the race.
Sevin Bullwinkle staff photographer



Sevin Bullwinkle/staff photographer
Dante Garzia, 14, of Palm City, Ben Madden, 15, of Sewall's Point, Clark Martell, 14, and Tim Loveland, 17, both of Stuart, take a moment before the race.



Sevin Bullwinkle/staff photographer
Frank Sepera of Stuart celebrates his 4th place finish in the men's 70-74 age group with a time of 53:27.

Library Foundation celebrates new members

By Alisha McDarris
For Hometown News

MARTIN COUNTY — The Library Foundation of Martin County inducted three new members last month to help fulfill their mission of acquiring and administering funds to enrich library services and facilities.

Christine DelVecchio, a private client adviser at U.S. Trust, Bank of America; Wesley R. Harvin II, Esq. of the law firm Harvin & Harvin; and Charles Cleaver, vice president and CFO at Martin Health Systems were all welcomed to the board at the foundation's annual meeting.

The local libraries are supported by local taxes, but those funds don't supply everything the libraries need, so the Foundation fills in the gaps with various fundraising projects.

Over the last 20 years the non-profit has raised more than nine million dollars for the libraries in

Martin County, a number Suzanne Horstman, executive director of the Library Foundation of Martin County, believes is a testament to how much the community loves their libraries.

The group organizes events like BookMania!, gives out the annual Kiplinger Literacy Award, and identifies sources of philanthropy in the community so the libraries in Martin County can receive upgrades and enhancements like new computers and capital improvements.

"We call it a public-private partnership," said Ms. Horstman.

These ambassadors to the library system each have a special interest in the programs and services offered by the library and all are passionate about what the library does.

"I want to do my best to support the already successful programs and plans," Mr. Harvin said. He is excited about participating in the tutoring programs at some of the



Photo courtesy of The Library Foundation
From left: Wesley R. Harvin II, Christine DelVecchio and Charles Cleaver are the newest members inducted into The Library Foundation of Martin County

branches, math and science in particular.

Ms. DelVecchio is looking forward to focusing on inviting par-

ents and children to become more involved at the library, a mission

See **LIBRARY, A2**

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Tipping, gifts during the holidays made simple

By Anna-Marie Menhenott
news@hometownnewsol.com

TREASURE COAST — Making sure that everyone in your life is smiling during the holidays can be a source of stress. Besides buying presents for the little ones and baking pies for parties at work, making sure that those who provide year-round services are taken care of during the holidays is usually top on the to-do list. Those who make life easier, such as mail and newspaper

carriers, pool and lawn maintenance workers, hair stylists, your child's teacher and housekeepers, should be given a special token of thanks. Knowing how much or what to give can be overwhelming.

Here is a list from www.realsimple.com of ideal ways to show appreciation to those who do so much.

Give a tip to...

Building superintendent:

\$20 to \$100, depending on how responsive and helpful your super has been.

Doorman: \$20 to \$100. If there are multiple doormen, \$15 or more for each is fine; if you have only one, then the higher end of that range is more appropriate, especially if he is friendly and does a lot for you. The average holiday tip is \$50.

Elevator operator/other building staff: \$20 to \$50. Check with your building association to see if there is a holiday tip pool that is shared by all of the building's employees.

Landscaper/gardener: \$20 to \$50. If he or she comes frequently, give up to a week's pay.

Pool cleaners: For a regular crew, the price of one cleaning, to divide among themselves. If a different employee shows up each visit, holiday tipping is unnecessary.

Newspaper carrier: \$10 to \$30, or the equivalent of one month of the subscription price. Sometimes you can include a tip when you pay your bill. Remember that adults usually do this job these days.

Handyman: \$15 to \$40, depending on how much work you've had him do.

Trash/recycling collectors:

\$10 to \$30 each for private service; for public service, check your local municipality for regulations as some areas may not allow tipping.

Buy a gift for your...

Assistant: In addition to any end-of-the-year bonus, give a gift or gift card worth at least \$50, depending on your position in the company and the assistant's length of service. Avoid perfume, clothing, or anything that could be perceived as too personal.

Boss: While not necessary, a simple gift is a nice gesture. Talk to coworkers to see if they'd like to chip in to buy a gift card or a restaurant gift certificate.

Teacher/tutor: Don't spend more than \$25. Assuming the school allows gifts, give something such as a bookstore or restaurant gift certificate, a picture frame, a coffee shop gift card, or a homemade gift from your child, accompanied by a hand-written thank-you note. Gifts aren't as common at middle schools and high schools where each child has five or more teachers.

Home health employees/private nurse: A

See **SIMPLE, A5**

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Library

From page A1

she feels personally invested in with two kids of her own.

Mr. Cleaver plans to use his financial experience to help Martin County Libraries in any way he can, including continuing to advance library technologies.

"They will assist in making our library system even better," Ms. Horstman said.

"We have some really great libraries and we just want to get people there and involved," Ms. DelVecchio said.

They were recommended to the position by current board members who

noticed that they stood out as leaders among the community.

Ms. Horstman said she and Priscilla Baldwin, president of the Library Foundation of Martin County, are thrilled with the appointments and can't wait to see what they do in their three-year terms.

"We hope they bring fresh ideas and new vision to the Library Foundation," Ms. Horstman said.

Literacy and STEM programs will be a focus in the coming months as Christine, Wesley and Charles get settled in to make the Martin County Library System the best it can be, because as the Foundation website states, "Libraries are more than books."



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Business

Shaving room offers old-world experience

By Alisha McDarris
For Hometown News

STUART — Towels heating in the steamer, individual booths for trims and shaves, black and white photos on the walls: Maxx's Shaving Room in Stuart is providing more than barbershop services, they are providing a stylish old-world experience.

Joanna Bereda has always known she was meant for barbering from the time her father owned a barbershop in Canada. For 65 years he ran the business that Ms. Bereda eventually took over. After moving to Florida and working at another barbershop for seven years, she thought it was about time she opened up her own so she could conduct business on her terms.

So on Oct. 30 Ms. Bereda celebrated the opening of Maxx's Shaving Room, named for her son who has been shaving his head for years.

But with a 27-year background in the trade she wanted to offer more than a simple shave and haircut. She wanted to offer a relax-

ing experience in an upscale setting for the most discerning gentlemen.

"I wanted to create a place a man could call his own," Ms. Bereda said.

Maxx's Shaving Room is just that: a gentleman's barbershop that offers haircuts and traditional hot shaves, massages, manicures and pedicures, color, waxing, even shoe shining. She knows men are often uncomfortable with those services because they're typically only offered in places frequented by women, but they are no less deserving.

"More and more men want to be taken care of and catered to," Ms. Bereda said, and she wants Maxx's to be the place that happens.

She specializes in slow, relaxing, comforting hot shaves, a tradition she considers beautiful.

"I modernized the barbering but kept the old traits of it," Ms. Bereda said.

She loves what she does, interacting with her clients and making them feel great — complete, even — and is thrilled to offer her services



Photo courtesy of Alisha McDarris
Joanna Bereda is the owner of Maxx's Shaving Room in Stuart.

to a small town like Stuart that she has come to love.

Maxx's Shaving room is a one-stop shop for men with an inclination for comfort

and tradition.

Gift certificates for the holidays can be found at 607 Colorado Ave., Stuart or by calling (772) 221-3321.

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Financial resolutions for the New Year

About 45 percent of Americans usually make New Year's resolutions, according to a survey from the University of Scranton. But the same survey shows that only 8 percent of us actually keep our resolutions. Perhaps this low success rate isn't such a tragedy when our resolutions involve things like losing a little weight or learning a foreign language. But when we make financial resolutions — resolutions that, if achieved, could significantly help us in our pursuit of our important long-term

FINANCIAL

JAMIE
CHAPOGAS



goals — it's clearly worthwhile to make every effort to follow through.

So, what sorts of financial resolutions might you consider? Here are a few possibilities:

- Boost your contributions to your retirement plans. Each year, try to put in a little more to your IRA and your 401(k) or other

employer-sponsored retirement plans. These tax-advantaged accounts are good options for your retirement savings strategy.

- Reduce your debts. It's not always easy to reduce your debts, but make it a goal to finish 2014 with a smaller debt load than you had going into the new year. The lower your monthly debt payments, the more money you'll have to invest for retirement, college for your children (or grandchildren) and other important objectives.
- Build your emergency fund. Work on building an

"emergency fund" containing six to 12 months' worth of living expenses, with the money held in a liquid account that offers a high degree of preservation of principal. Without such a fund, you might be forced to dip into your long-term investments to pay for emergencies, such as a new furnace, a major car repair, and so on. You might not be able to finish creating your emergency fund in one year, but contribute as much as you can afford.

- Plan for your protection
- See **CHAPOGAS, A9**

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Men take a stand against domestic violence

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

For any person — male or female — walking a mile in 4-inch stiletto heels would be considered a feat (pun intended.) But that didn't stop hundreds of men throughout the Treasure Coast who stepped up to "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" during the 2013 events coordinated by SafeSpace in Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties.

During the events, men are challenged to walk one mile in women's red high-heeled shoes. Most men quickly realize that it's not easy walking in these shoes, but it's a light-hearted way to get the community talking about something that's otherwise difficult to talk about: domestic violence.

One walk was held in each of the three Treasure Coast counties during the month of October to coincide with National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. SafeSpace, the only non-profit organization serving victims of domestic violence in the region, has been coordinating the "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" events since 2010 in an effort to increase awareness and take steps towards ending domestic violence.

What started with a handful of brave men has grown to nearly 400 law enforcement officials, community leaders, businessmen, fathers and sons who helped raise a total of \$51,000 to provide victims of domestic violence with emergency shelter, education and support.

"It was remarkable to see how many people across the Treasure Coast came together



Photo courtesy of SafeSpace

Jon Belding, Chief Joe Ferrara, Chief Ted Gonzales, Battalion Chief Scott Legg participate in the Martin County Walk A Mile in her Shoes event.

this year to raise awareness that domestic violence happens right in our own backyards," said Jill Borowicz, CEO of SafeSpace "We touched so many people through this event and without a doubt have saved lives in the process. Each \$500 raised provides one week of safety for a family of three in the SafeSpace shelter."

The 2013 events exceeded fundraising goals and also achieved record participation thanks in part to the enormous support from community leaders in all three counties. Local law enforcement and public safety officers switched out their boots for heels, while elected officials showed their constituents that domestic violence will not be tolerated in their communities.

Another key to the success of the Walk A Mile events:

dedicated co-chairs who not only helped coordinate logistics and recruit participants, but also could be seen about town donning red high heels to generate buzz and promote the walks.

"As first responders, police officers know all too well that domestic violence does not discriminate. This is one way that the community can come together and take a stand against this crime that affects one in four women," said Chief Deputy L. E. "Bud" Spencer co-chair of the Indian River County "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" event.

Plans are underway to encourage more men across the Treasure Coast to step up for the 2014 "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" events.

For more information about SafeSpace, visit www.safespacefl.org or www.facebook.com/SafeSpaceFL



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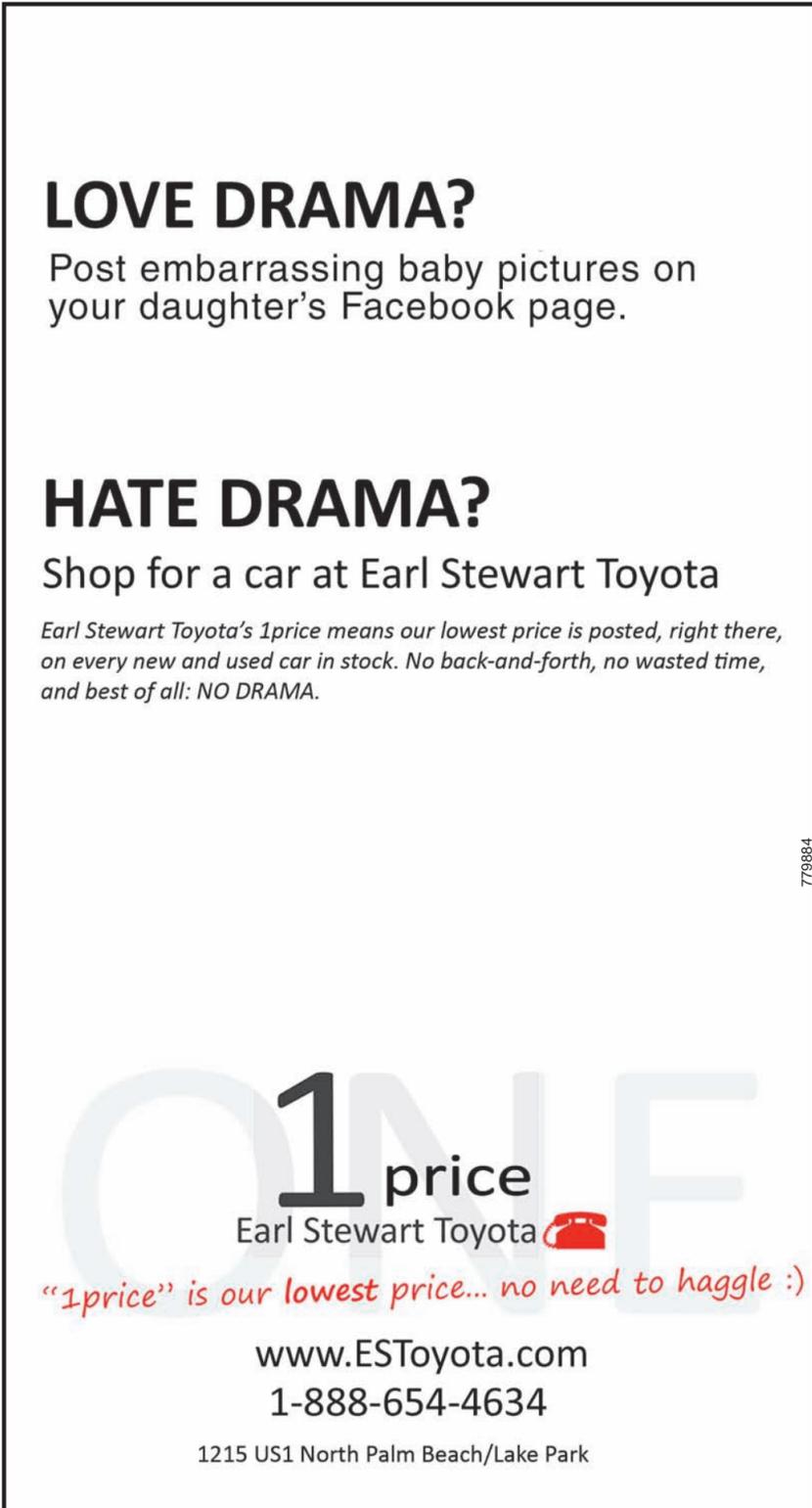
*This publication was made possible by the Rape Crisis Program Trust Fund, Administered by the State of Florida, Department of Health (DOH) and the Florida Council Against Sexual Violence (FCASV). The contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of DOH or FCASV.



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— Ellen and Peggy
Margaret's daughters

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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 Nov. 22-29

Stuart Police Department

- David Denord Fitzgerald, 29, of 901 S.E. Bahama Ave., Stuart, was charged with felony violation of probation.

Martin County Sheriff's Office

- Christine Barbara Hadad, 37, of 2265 Arch Street, Jensen Beach, was charged with felony failure to appear and misdemeanor failure to appear.
- Kimberly Keller, 44, of 1305 N.W. Pine Lake Drive, Stuart, was charged with battery on person 65 years of age or older.
- Louis Ernest Lozeau, 45, of 2600 S.W. Bear Paw Trail,

Palm City, was charged with tampering with witness to hinder/delay/prevent communication with law enforcement officer or judge relating to the commission of offense or violation of probation, and with battery - touch or strike.

- Quinton Jamal Mitchell, 31, of 1 John Maxwell Drive, Freeport, Bahamas, was charged with trafficking in cannabis - 25 pounds or 300 plants or more.
- Andrew Jerome Roberts, 54, of 807 N.W. Ninth Street, Hallandale, was charged with uttering false instrument and with theft.
- Derrick Jerome Sanders, 42, of 406 S.E. Lake Street, Stuart, was charged with felony failure to appear.
- Jahwah Khimani Smith, 18, of 11024 S.W. 157th Terrace, Miami, was charged with battery on detention facility staff or juvenile probation officer.
- Douglas Michael Williams, 28, of 4931 S.E. Flounder Ave., Stuart, was charged with felony violation of probation.
- Bryon Michael Albright,

29, of 2400 S.E. Alhambra Ave., Stuart, was charged with delivery of methamphetamine and with possession of controlled substance.

- Michael Wayne Bennett, 33, of 5234 S.E. Fairlane Ave., Stuart, was charged with two counts of felony violation of probation.
- Gabriel Galarza, 18, of 11500 S.W. Kanner Highway #30, Indiantown, was charged with dealing in stolen property and with providing false verification of ownership to secondhand dealer - value under \$300.
- Shellie Renee Griffin, 44, of 735 Central Ave., Stuart, was charged with failure to stop or remain at the scene of crash involving injury.
- Reed Ashton Hair, 24, of 4720 Highway 710, Okeechobee, was charged with burglary and with grand theft.
- Shawn Paul Mitchell, 42, of 132 N.E. 15th Terrace, Stuart, was charged with two counts of possession of controlled substance and with unlawful use of two-way communication device to

facilitate felony.

- Elaine Marie Russo, 33, of 2296 S.E. Alhambra Ave., Stuart, was charged with sale/delivery of buprenorphine within 1,000 feet of convenience business, and with felony violation of probation.
- James Allen Slone, 31, of 11090 S.E. Federal Highway Lot 93, Hobe Sound, was charged with burglary of unoccupied dwelling - unarmed, no assault/battery, and with theft.
- James Cameron Thompson, 51, of 9910 Lower Rocky River Road, Concord, N.C., was charged with felony violation of probation.
- Joshua Michael McNamee, 20, of 2367 S.W. Danforth Circle, Palm City, was charged with grand theft.
- Harry William Mitchell, 50, of 5277 S.E. Driftwood, Port Salerno, was charged with two counts of possession of controlled substance.
- Oliverio Noe Ramirez, 30, of 16058 S.W. Warfield Blvd., Okeechobee, was charged with abuse, aggravated abuse and neglect of a child, and

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with battery.

- Amber Elaine Bainbridge, 22, of 986 S.W. Del Rio Blvd., Port St. Lucie, was charged with possession of controlled substance.
- Jamie Allan Chapman, 23, of 14330 Nell Drive, Orlando, was charged with felony violation of probation and with driving under the influence.
- Kristen Kirk Davis, 43, of 3385 S.E. Evergreen Ave., Palm Beach Gardens, was charged with felony violation of probation.
- Leroy Edwards, 57, of 6080 Lincoln Road, Kingston, Jamaica, was charged with sale/manufacture/delivery/tr afficking in drugs.

Florida Highway Patrol

- Henry Manuel Rosario, 29, of 521 S.W. Columbus Drive, Port St. Lucie, was charged with fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer and with driving while license suspended - second offense.

Courthouse

- Michael William Shellenberger, 25, of 1669 N.E. Seneca Ave., Stuart, was charged with possession of controlled substance without valid prescription.

College introduces new degree

For Hometown News NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

TREASURE COAST — With Indian River State College's introduction of a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education, Treasure Coast residents can now complete all the courses they need to become an elementary school teacher within easy driving distance. Registration is now underway, with classes beginning Jan. 8. "Busy Treasure Coast residents juggling work and family responsibilities can now achieve their dream of becoming an elementary school teacher without leaving the area to complete their education," said Dr. Ian Neuhard, director

of IRSC Baccalaureate Programs.

"IRSC combines this convenience with many opportunities to develop teaching skills right in local schools."

The IRSC program was launched in response to the strong demand for elementary school teachers in the region. Based on labor market data and a survey of local schools, between 100 to 200 job openings are projected annually in the four counties served by IRSC. Stressing the need for more teachers, the School Districts of St. Lucie, Martin, Indian River and Okeechobee counties submitted letters to the Florida Department of Education indicating their

support of a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education at IRSC.

The program offers students the opportunity to participate in multiple practicums in local schools, culminating in student teaching. In addition, an innovative Teach-Live simulator engages them in interaction with different types of students and behaviors. Upon graduation, students receive a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education with endorsements in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and Reading, which increases their value to school districts.

For more information, visit www.irsc.edu or call (866) 792-4772.

Simple

From page A2

modest gift that shows your appreciation. Cash is not a good option. Be sure to check with the agency first, as some prohibit gifts.

Nursing home employees: Check company policy. Cash is not appropriate, but something that can be shared among the staff, like chocolate, cookies, or flowers, is a great idea.

Letter carrier/package courier: While nothing is expected, if you have a friendly relationship with the person, then a small gift or gift card in the \$20 range is a nice gesture. Anything more valuable than that is prohibited by the United States Postal Service. FedEx allows tips or a gift worth up to \$75. UPS does not have an official policy.

Nanny/au pair: A tip equal to one or two week's pay, plus

a personal gift from your child(ren), such as a framed crayon or marker portrait showing the child's appreciation. Avoid kid-oriented gifts; an attractive handbag might score major points.

Day-care staff: \$25 to \$70 each for those who have direct contact with your child(ren), plus a small, personal gift from your offspring. If only one person takes care of your kids, shoot for the higher end of that range. A gift certificate is fine, but take the time to include a hand-written card.

Give a tip or gift to...

Babysitter: Cash or a gift equal to one or two night's pay. A personal gift from your child(ren) is always appreciated as well.

Cleaning lady: Up to one week's pay and/or a gift.

Dog walker: One week's pay

and/or a gift. While tips are the norm, a down vest for winter walks, a massage, and other spa treatments are all thoughtful gift options.

Pet groomer: A tip or gift in the ballpark of the price of one session.

Hair stylist/manicurist/barber: The cost of one visit, or a gift of equivalent worth. If you deal with more than one person at a given establishment, give cash so they can split it among themselves.

Personal trainer/yoga instructor/massage therapist: Up to one session's fee or a modest gift, depending on how often you see him/her and whether he/she comes to your home. Avoid giving chocolate, cookies, or other unhealthy foods.

Personal caregiver: Up to a week's salary or a modest gift.

Most important, though, is that all holiday tips or gifts be accompanied by a handwritten "Happy Holidays" note.

Loud & Clear and FREE

Florida residents with a hearing loss are eligible to receive a free amplified phone from the non-profit Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc. Cordless and corded phones for persons with mild to severe hearing loss are available at 23 distribution centers statewide. Limit one per customer.



Contact your area center for details.

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772-334-2233 (v)
772-334-2299 (tty)
www.ftri.org/jensen



Current FTRI clients: If your phone isn't working properly or your hearing has changed, or should you no longer need your phone or are moving out of Florida, call FTRI at 888-554-1151 for assistance.

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VIEWPOINT

FRIDAY, DEC. 6, 2013 • HOMETOWN NEWS • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSOL.COM

The truth about passwords

Strong password requirements (like using upper and lower cases, at least one number and maybe a special character) cause a lot of frustration for computer users. There is however, a way to manage your passwords without sacrificing security for convenience and the best part is the solution is available for free.

Let's start at the beginning – the computer's login screen.

Whether you are running Windows, Mac, Linux or any of the other operating systems out there, when the system boots up it will look for a password. Now sure, I know what some of you are thinking, "I don't have to enter a password when my machine boots up so you must be wrong." Well, that isn't entirely true, it's just that most machines will give the user the ability to either auto log on or not require a password at all at boot up. This is one of those instances where people will sacrifice security for convenience. People don't want to be bothered entering their password every time so the system gets set up without it. Sure it's convenient but the problem is now anyone who sits in front of your machine and turns it on will be able to get in and have access to all your stuff. Many people choose to go this route thinking that "hey, I'm the only one that uses this machine so I don't need it asking for a password every time" but if we are talking about a laptop (which is portable) that can be a disaster waiting to happen if it ever gets lost or stolen. If it's a desktop machine, it still won't protect you if there is a break in or some other unauthorized user gains access to your machine (either physically or gets in through the internet). The fact of the matter is that if your machine is connected to the network then there should be a password in place to protect your files.

The next area where people sacrifice security is in password strength. Weak passwords are passwords that may be easy to remember but they are often short words that can be cracked in a matter of minutes by any of the available password cracking utilities that are out there. Passwords like "god," "monkey," or any other word found in the dictionary may be short and easy to remember but they are also the first



COMPUTE THIS
SEAN MCCARTHY

things that these password cracking utilities will try. That's why many sites (and programs) will insist on including upper and lower cases, some numbers and even a special character or two. "MonKey!387" is a lot harder for someone to crack than just the word "monkey." Sure, it may be a little more inconvenient but using a weak password will just give you a false sense of security.

The next shortcut people take is in using one password for everything. The reasoning people use for this one is "well, I can't remember a different password for everything so I just use the same one everywhere I go and never have a problem." I will be the first to admit, using the same password for the windows login, email, etc., is convenient but a problem can arise if your password does get cracked – it's common practice for hackers to try that same username and password pair everywhere. Again, there are tools out there that will allow someone to enter a username and password and the program then goes and tries them on hundreds of sites (like AOL and Facebook) and then provides the hacker a list of all the sites where the password works. Using the same password everywhere is one of the ways hackers are able to take over all of the services that you use. It may be a bit inconvenient but using a different password for every site is a lot safer than using one password everywhere.

Earlier in this column I mentioned that there is a free solution out there that solves these issues. Open up your browser and pull up www.Keepass.com. Keepass is a free (open source) program that will allow you to store and manage all of your passwords in one place so you don't have to rely on post it notes all over your desk. Use Keepass to create unique "strong" passwords for all of your sites and you won't need to sacrifice security for convenience.

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

Celebrating the city's centennial



Photo courtesy of the Martin County School District

At the Nov. 19 Martin County School Board meeting, the Board proclaimed the year 2014 as the Centennial Commemoration for the City of Stuart. Troy McDonald, vice mayor, was present for the proclamation. From left: Maura Barry-Sorenson; Michael Busha, chairman; Marsha Powers; Mr. McDonald; Rebecca Negron; Laurie Gaylord, Superintendent; and Michael DiTerlizzi, vice chairman.



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.

In response to the 'Snowbirds' rant

No, not all snowbirds are alike. However, as someone who works in the restaurant business one thing I would like to tell the snowbirds is that we in the south don't possess the "entitlement" mentality. When you go out to eat, don't treat food servers as your servants. They are hard-working people who at times have to wear a fake smile because of your attitude. Put your entitlement attitude in a box and send it back to your northern address. When you go out to a restaurant along the water and want to sit outside, there are elements food servers have no control over like Mother Nature, and others who are sitting outside. Yes, we value your business here, just not the entitlement mentality that you possess. That and you're here for a short period of time. I write this because I hear food servers talking about the rudeness of the snowbirds all the time. Perhaps if the shoe was on the other foot snowbirds would rethink about their demands. Oh, and we are not union down here either. Unions are nothing more than socialized workforce who can't think for themselves.

More on snowbirds

Does Hawaii have a large sign at each airport saying - Go home, snow birds? There are 50 United States and this is a free country. What a sorry person that must be, denying anyone the right to visit his Florida. Spend six months up in the ice and snow, and maybe you will understand the need for warmth and freedom to drive without risking your life.

And more on snowbirds

My Rant is for the person writing 'Go home, snow birds.' I get the impression this person may be jealous that they don't have a second home. I know a lot of snow birds and they are quite nice, actually people, just like we are. They are not as fortunate as us to live in such a beautiful climate all year long. And whether you like to admit it or not they do help the economy, that's what happens when you live in an area where tourists like to come, visit, and yes, some do stay awhile. How would you feel if you went north every summer and were treated like you are treating them? Lighten up, you don't own Florida.

Regarding 'Pets in Public'

To the person who wrote the "Pets in Public Places" rant I say, really, with all that is going on in this country, you're worried about a few people who have pets in public place. I say, "You Need a Life." Years ago I went to Germany for two weeks. I was surprised at how many dogs were in the cafe's. They believe they were better than children. I might dispute that, but for many, their dogs are their children. My dog goes with me most places, if it wasn't for my dog,

I may not be here. I hit a low in my life and I knew no one would love him like I would. So, I changed my life.

Most dogs will stay by their master and don't bother a sole. Yes, there are always a few. I have traveled to many states and there are many places that are pet friendly. My words for you are, "stay home," because people are working on making the Treasure Coast, pet friendly.

More on pets

I have concerns regarding the article, "Pets in Public Places."

The author claims he loves and has had dogs and cats. If that is true, how can he feel disgusted with dogs being allowed at an outside cafe and in a dog stroller? To be disgusted by the presence of a dog while eating makes me wonder where he kept his dog or cat while he ate. Chained outside? Dogs need and want to be socialized.

In closing, life is too short. It's really not productive to be so mean spirited. How does the author feel about young children in public places? Let's just live and let live as we all have so much to be thankful for so let's not dwell on the little stuff.

A response to pets in public places

In response to pets in public: I do not have a dog; however I would rather see a dog in a restaurant, or in public instead of the increasingly more frequent disgusting humans that have no respect for others. In our rapidly more informal society, people dress in revealing clothing with grotesque bodies. They wear T-shirts with lewd sayings and suggestions. Many look like they go out after just rolling out of bed, they don't even bother to comb their hair or change their clothing, or bother to don clothing than matches or is free of stains or dirt. Many people don't even feel the need to have their trousers cover their buttocks. As far as the purported odors from the dogs, some folks should not subject other humans to their gross habits and foul smelling hair and bodies. Have you looked at humans lately, supposedly representing the height of evolution?

Welfare and the holidays

Well, the holidays are upon us and it's sad to say all the single mothers out there with a couple of kids, who are struggling to keep a roof over their head and food on the table at the cost of tax payers, (brought to you by big government), and welfare. Once again the public is being asked to provide holiday dinners and toys for those less fortunate. Well people, open your eyes during the course of the years you will see some of these women driving pretty nice vehicles and wearing tattoos, which is stuff most working people can't afford. They will subject themselves to living in hostile areas, and so forth but they'll get lavish things for themselves that they wouldn't normally have if they didn't have a subsidized income or cheating their kids out of a lot. They just keep the ball rolling at the expense of others for their own selfish purpose. So my question to the mothers who self-indulge, do you know what kind of problems you bring into the community with ill-fated thoughts of having multiple kids just to get a welfare check. And welfare people who dropped out school and who never even made it to high school, who wants others to pick up your tab in life... there's a lot of programs out there that are free. Welfare was never meant to be a career choice. Get that lazy mind moving because someday the welfare system may not be there. It's a shame Fort Pierce is such a nice city but has huge cultural differences. To those who are just plain lazy: welfare should be made into a charity, only contribute to it if you want. I bet the women wouldn't be so quick to produce newborns that they can't afford to pay for in the first place. very sad.

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CIRCULATION AUDIT BY



Know

From page A1

Neighborhood Advisory Committee requesting applications for committee

The Jensen Beach Neighborhood Advisory Committee is accepting

applications through Dec. 11, for Jensen Beach NAC Sign Review Committee Members.

The role of this Committee is to review and approve signage that meets the criteria of the sign regulations within the Jensen Beach CRA Boundaries.

Applications must be filed with Martin County Community Development Department on a timely manner via fax (772) 419-6942, e-

mail njohnson@martin.fl.us or traditional mail at Martin County Administrative Center, 2401 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart, FL 34996.

Applications and other relevant information will be available for the public at the Martin County Administrative Center, 2401 S.E. Monterey Road in Stuart; and also online at www.martincountycra.com.

For more information, call (772) 463-3253.

When a car dealer 'rips you off,' who should be held responsible?

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



I receive a lot of emails, calls, and letters every week from victims of car dealers who were taken advantage of in buying, leasing, and servicing their cars. They mostly call to ask what they can do to get all or some of their money back. These "victims" fall into different categories:

- (1) The elderly, often widows.
- (2) The very young, usually buying their first car.
- (3) Those who don't speak or understand English well.
- (4) The uneducated.
- (5) People with bad credit.
- (6) Everybody else

(1) The elderly, especially widows, are the most victimized. The reasons for this are that Florida, especially South Florida, is a "retirement" state. Baby boomers and pre-baby boomers make up a disproportionately large percentage of Florida's population. Not only that, but life expectancies have soared in recent years... 81 for a woman and 76 for a man. Men usually predecease their wives. Women's role in the American culture is a great deal different than in the 1930s and 1940s. More often than not, the husband was not only the breadwinner, but the decision maker in the household. Widows of that era are often buying their first car today. Men and women in their 70s, 80s, and 90s (Yes, I have a lot of customers in their nineties) aren't as sharp as they once were. I'm 73 and I'll be the first to admit this. In my opinion, men and women of my age, and older, are more trusting. We can't forget the terrible disease, Alzheimer's. Unless a court declares a person incompetent, a person with Alzheimer's can legally buy a car in Florida and it happens all too often. This is one of the most despicable acts that some car dealers commit.

(2) What chance does a teenager or kid in his 20s have when negotiating with a car salesman and his manager to buy a car? Usually it's the parents who call me to tell me how their son or daughter was taken advantage of. I don't tell them this, but what I'm thinking is "Why did didn't they accompany them to the car dealership to advise them?"

(3) South Florida is not only a retirement area, but it's a haven for immigrants from Cuba, Haiti, and South and Central America. Many of these are first genera-

tions Americans who have a difficult time with English or can't speak, read, or write English at all. These people are easy prey for unscrupulous car dealers. Can you imagine how difficult it would be for you to get a fair price on a car you were buying in a foreign country where you were did not speak or understand the language?

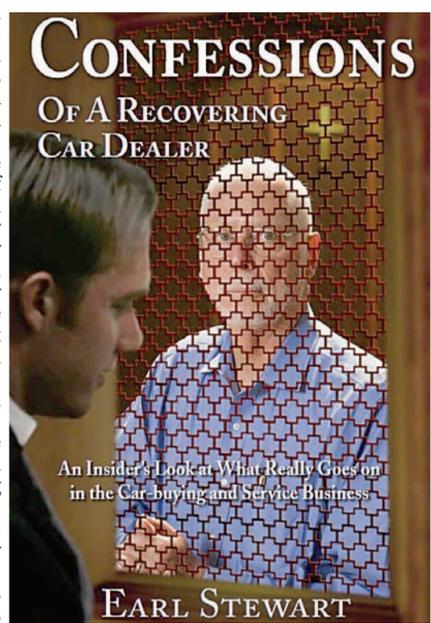
(4) Let's face it; there are too many Americans who never had the benefit of a proper education. We have too many high school dropouts and too many high school graduates who still can't read or write as well as they must to function in our society. Lack of a good education is one of America's most serious problems and we're seeing other countries like China, Japan, Germany and India pass us by in educating their children. It's almost criminal how the uneducated are exploited by car dealers' advertising and sales tactics. How many car dealers' TV advertisements have you seen that you laugh at, knowing that they are totally untrue, "bait and switch" to lure you into the dealership. You wonder who would believe that kind of nonsense. The reason that car dealers keep running those ads is because they work.

(5) There are always people with bad credit who have to buy a car, especially in today's economy. In Florida, without an effective mass transit system, a car is virtually a necessity to get to your job or find a job, not to mention the doctor, school, or the pharmacy. People with bad credit are at the mercy of the car dealer. The main thing on these peoples' minds is not how good a price or a car can I buy or how low an interest rate, but can they be financed? Knowing this, car dealers will charge whatever price and interest rate the lender will let them get away with. People with bad credit almost always pay dealers a higher profit than those with good credit.

(6) The title to this article asks the question, "Who should be held responsible for car dealers ripping off customers?" For categories (1) through (5), the answer is our regulators and our lawmakers. But for the last category, "Everybody else," it's themselves. Of course, it goes without saying that the car dealers

who do this are responsible too. But who doesn't know that most car dealers do business this way? Who doesn't know that car dealers perennially rank last on the annual Gallup "Honesty and Ethics in Professions" poll? I recently received an email from a woman who fell in none of the first five categories above. She was terribly victimized by a very unethical car dealer from whom she bought two used cars on the same night. Her email asked me for advice on what she should do. Of course the "horse was out of the barn" and this makes things more difficult. This woman did not ask for or receive a Car-Fax report on either used car. Nor did she take either car to her mechanic for approval. She clearly didn't investigate the dealer for reputation. She didn't check any sources like *Consumer Reports* for recommended used cars. She did not shop and compare prices for similar cars and the list of "did not's" goes on. If you don't do your due diligence when you buy a car you are equally culpable with the car dealer who took advantage of you.

At this point, I will shamelessly plug my book, "Confessions of a Recovering Car Dealer." I say "shamelessly" because 100 percent of the proceeds from my book go to charity. You can buy this book at Amazon.com. It will tell you everything you need to know about how not to be ripped off by a car dealer. Or, you can read my blog articles on this at www.EarlOnCars.com.



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Things to remember about Christmas tree care

It's getting to the time when many of us will be decorating our trees for the holidays. A great alternative to an artificial tree and/or a live tree is a Norfolk Island pine. They are available at most retailers and come in several sizes. Some even come already decorated and ready to go.

The Norfolk Island pine does require a well-lit area of your home if you are going to keep it indoors for an extended period of time. These trees have distinctly flat branches and short soft needles. These trees thrive in humid environments which makes them right at home in Florida. The soil conditions for this tree

should be on the moist side. A sure sign the tree is not getting enough moisture is when you start to see a lot of dead lower branches. The Norfolk pine does not regenerate its lost limbs or needles so it is important to stay on a steady watering schedule. If the tree is over watered, you will begin to see areas of

bright yellow needles that fall off easily. To avoid this condition, be sure the plant is not standing in water. If you purchase a tree with foil wrap on it, be sure to slit the foil so water can drain from the pot. It is not recommended that the trees be pruned as the plant can lose its symmetrical shape.

If you are one of the many Americans who are buying a live tree this year, here are a few tips to help you with the process. Since live trees in our area are trucked very long distances to their destination, picking out the freshest looking tree is extremely important. Make sure your tree is green with minimal brown branches. Check the needles of the tree and be sure that they are flexible and do not fall off when you brush the branches. Another good check is to bounce the tree lightly on the cut end to see how aggressively the leaves fall off the branches. Avoid trees that shed leaves aggressively with this procedure. Another point to consider is the location the tree will be placed. Be sure to get accurate measurements of the area so you can get a tree that is tailored to its location.

You have finally picked out your prize tree so now what's next? The most important task is to get your tree in its stand and located where it will spend the remainder of the season. If it has not been done at the place of purchase, cut off about an inch from the bottom the tree before mounting in the stand. This will greatly aid the



GARDEN NOOK
JOE ZELENAK

tree in absorbing water. Once the tree is mounted, be sure to add water immediately. The sooner all this is done the better. Now it's time to decorate your new tree with all the goodies you have been collecting the past couple of weeks. Use caution when using lights especially if you use the larger C-7 type lights. As long as the tree remains moist and the needles pliable, the tree will not be a huge fire hazard. As the tree ages and you get near the end of the season, more caution is advised since the tree structure will become drier in nature.

Now that all the work is done, the time has come to sit back with your favorite beverage and enjoy your masterpiece!

Joe Zelenak has more than 30 years experience in gardening and landscape. Send e-mails to hometowngarden@gmail.com or visit his Web site www.hometowngarden.com.

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Santa Claus is here



Stuart residents Areal Edens, 2, with her 5 year old brother Bobby, sharing their Christmas wish list with Santa.

Sevin Bullwinkle staff photographer

The sixth annual Festival of Trees concluded with a pancake breakfast and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Court House Cultural Center in downtown Stuart on Saturday, Nov. 23.



Sevin Bullwinkle staff photographer Louisa Kypreos, 3, sits on Joan DeSantos' lap, taking a moment to evaluate Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Court House Cultural Center in downtown Stuart on Saturday, Nov. 23.

Chapogas

From page A3

needs. If you don't already have the proper amounts of life and disability insurance in place, put it on your "To Do" list for 2014. Also, if you haven't taken steps to protect yourself from the considerable costs of long-term care, such as an extended nursing home stay, consult with your financial professional, who can suggest the appropriate protection or investment vehicles. You may never need such care, but that's a chance you may not want to take — and the longer you wait, the more expensive your protection options may become.

• Don't overreact to market volatility. Too many people head to the investment "sidelines" during market down-

turns. But if you're not invested, then you miss any potential market gains — and the biggest gains are often realized at the early stages of the rally.

• Focus on the long term. You can probably check your investment balance online, which means you can do it every day, or even several times a day — but should you? If you're following a strategy that's appropriate for your needs, goals, risk tolerance and time horizon, you're already

doing what you should be doing in the long run. So there's no need to stress yourself over the short-term movements that show up in your investment statements.

Do whatever you can to turn these New Year's resolutions into realities. Your efforts could pay off well beyond 2014.

For more information or a free, no-obligation portfolio review, call Edward Jones Investment Representative Jamie Chapogas, (772) 463-7189.

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Tips for safe, secure online shopping experiences

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

With the holidays quickly approaching, the Independent Community Bankers of America and Marine Bank & Trust Company offer consumers tips to consider if they are planning to make any of their holiday purchases online.

"Even though the holiday season can be quite busy, it's never too busy to ensure that your personal information is safe when shopping online," said Bill Penney, President and CEO of Marine Bank.

The total financial loss attributed to identity theft in 2013 is estimated to be \$21 billion, according to the Department of Justice and Javelin Strategy and Research. Consumers need to be on high alert this holiday season, and any time they choose to make purchases online, to avoid falling victim to identity theft and to protect their sensitive financial information.

With that in mind, ICBA and Marine Bank offer the following tips:

- Make sure your computer and browser are secure. Set your firewall,

anti-virus and anti-spyware software to automatically update and scan your computer.

- Don't create passwords that include easily accessible personal information, such as mother's maiden name or date of birth. Instead, use something unique that only you know.

- Don't give personal information over the phone, through the mail or on the Internet unless you know whom you're dealing with and preferably only if you've initiated the contact. Never give out Social Security or driver's license numbers. If you must share personal information, confirm that you are dealing with a legitimate organization.

- If you receive an email asking for personal information, do not hit the reply button or click on any link in the email. Instead, go directly to the sender's site by typing in its website address.

- Look for secure sites with an "s" in the URL (<https://>) and a closed-

padlock icon on the Web page when making purchases. These websites are secure.

- Always double-check the URL to be sure you are shopping with the company you intended to shop with. A simple typo can help identity thieves.

"The most important thing is our customers' safety and financial security," said Mr. Penney. "If any customer has questions about the security of their financial information, our team at Marine Bank is more than happy to answer any problems or concerns. We want personal information to be safe and protected at all times."

Marine Bank & Trust Company is Vero Beach's only remaining locally owned community bank. They have two locations, one on the barrier island at 571 Beachland Blvd., and one on the mainland at 1450 U.S. 1. They may be reached directly at (772) 231-6611 or (772) 778-6713.



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Teacher

From page A1

annually.

"That's where the divide is," Ms. Sabol said. Teachers want to keep their job security but want a raise, too.

"We want everyone to be treated fairly and the contracts we have to be honored," said Pam Kessler, third grade teacher at Bessey Creek Elementary and president of the teacher's union.

She said that she agrees that teachers should be evaluated, but fairly and by knowledgeable individuals but they shouldn't be forced to give up job security to claim deserved raises.

Ms. Kessler said the new state law and the evaluation system it is based on is unfair and that they are trying to fight for each teacher's share of the funds allocated by Govern-

nor Scott no matter what contract they have.

Teachers would also like to see a more even salary schedule in the current step program that dictates how much and how often teachers receive raises.

The MCSD and MCEA have each brought suggestions to the table, both parties labeling the other's propositions unacceptable or too costly. When the MCEA's final offer was rejected, they declared an impasse on Nov. 25 and filed with Public Employees Relations Commission this week to help resolve the stalemate.

They can, however, agree on one thing: that settling quickly will benefit everyone.

"I think we have a lot of goals in common," Ms. Sabol said. "Our main goal is to get teachers their money as soon as possible."

"It shouldn't have taken this long," Ms. Kessler said.

The next step involves either selecting a costly magistrate to make a recommendation that the parties can either accept or reject or conduct a hearing with the school board whose decision would be binding.

Ms. Kessler hopes they can go directly to the school board to plead their case face to face, but Ms. Sabol hopes to forgo those possibilities that can take months to resolve by continuing negotiations to reach a solution that everyone can be happy with.

Neither can say exactly when an agreement might be reached.



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Wedding planner earns prestigious designation

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

PALM CITY — Christine Terezakis, a Palm City-based Wedding Planner, has earned the designation of Master Bridal Consultant by the Association of Bridal Consultants.

The award was presented at the annual international ABC Business of Brides Conference, hosted this year in Palm Beach. The Master designation is the highest level

of achievement awarded by the association, placing Ms. Terezakis in the ranks as one of only 76 active Masters in the world to hold this prestigious title.

The ABC, with more than 4,000 members spanning from the United States to nine other countries around the globe, bestows the Master designation to



Terezakis

those who exemplify the highest level of talent, professionalism, leadership, and experience in the wedding industry.

As owner of Dreamday Weddings & Events, Ms. Terezakis is the premier wedding and event planner-designer of Florida's Treasure Coast.

Last year, she was named one of the first 'Event Design Trendsetters' of the year by Wedding Planner Magazine. Her weddings and articles have been featured in local and national publications. Believing strongly

in giving back, Ms. Terezakis presents wedding and entertaining seminars and workshops to brides, non-profit organizations, and the area's high school students.

This year, she launched an ongoing charitable campaign within her company called Dreamday Cares in which, for every wedding that Dreamday produces, a monetary donation is made to the charity of the bride and groom's choice.

For more information, visit www.Dreamdayweddingsandevents.com

Volunteers present Santa's chocolate festival

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

MARTIN COUNTY — Volunteers at the Humane Society of the Treasure Coast's two thrift stores in Stuart are promising pure chocolate and pure fun at Santa's Chocolate Festival.

This first-time event will take place on Sat., Dec. 7, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at both thrift stores: Thrift Store Central, 2585 SE Federal Highway, Stuart and Thrift Store North, 1099 NW 21st Street, Stuart.

All holiday inventory will be on sale and will include one-of-a-kind gifts. The festival also will feature

professional pet and people photos with Santa sponsored by JC Penny Portrait Studios. No appointment is needed. A donation of \$10 is requested and pictures will be available to take home the same day. In addition, there will be pet adoptions at both locations and a "More Than a Coffee Break" station, which will feature coffee, tea or a soft drink to go along with homemade tasty treats.

Store Manager Terry Arnett said the home baked goods should satisfy those with a sweet tooth.

For more information, call (772) 286-6909.

Sip, shop while helping shelter animals

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

SEWALL'S POINT — Guests can enjoy wine and light snacks while helping shelter animals at the Humane Society of the Treasure Coast's Sip & Shop event on Thurs., Dec. 12, from 4-6 p.m. at J. McLaughlin in Harbour Bay Plaza, 3738 SE Ocean Blvd., in Sewall's Point.

"Supporters can shop for timeless,

colorful clothing and holiday gifts and all for a great cause," said Jayme Uteschill, community events manager.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Humane Society of the Treasure Coast.

Since 1955, the Humane Society of the Treasure Coast, located at 4100 SW Leighton Farm Ave. in Palm City, has been the leading advocate for animal welfare in the Martin County

area. A 501(c)3 private, nonprofit organization, the Humane Society relies on donations, wills and bequests to support its programs and services.

Follow the HSTC on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/humanesocietyTC> and Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/hstc1>.

For more information on the Sip & Shop event, call Shelley Trevisol at (772) 286-7930.

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VOLUME 36 - ISSUE 12

www.stuartmartinchamber.org

December 6, 2013

CHAMBER EVENTS

December 2013

Networking Breakfasts

Tuesday, December 10th
7:45 AM
Hosted & Sponsored by
Palm City Nursing & Rehab Center
2505 S.W. Martin Highway
Palm City

Tuesday, December 17th
7:45 AM
Hosted by
Fish House Art Center
Sponsored by
Port Salerno Commercial Fishing Dock Authority
4745 S.E. DeSoto Avenue
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Holiday Networking Luncheon

Wednesday, December 11th
11:45 AM
Hosted by
Willoughby Golf Club
Sponsored by
HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital
3001 S.E. Doubleton Drive
Stuart
Reservations are required

Holiday Business After Hours

Wednesday, December 18th
5:30 - 7:30 PM
Sponsored & Hosted by
Sandhill Cove Retirement Center
1500 S.W. Capri Street
Palm City

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Chamber Kicks off Holiday Season with 18th Annual Holiday Trade Show!

The beginning of the holidays began, as over 300 chamber members, vendors and friends enjoyed the beautiful Kane Center as its backdrop, on the evening of November 13th. The night was spent marveling at art work, tasting locally made choco-

lates, chatting over cheer, buying specialty clothing, dining on assorted gourmet foods provided by eight different chefs and picking up early shopping ideas from over 40 unique vendors.

The 18th Annual Holiday Trade Show was made possible by our

major sponsors:

Bluewater Editions; Villar Plastic Surgery; Forward Electric & Air Conditioning; Silver Platter Catering; the Kane Center; Scripps/TC Palm; Your Voice and the Stuart/ Martin County Chamber of Commerce.

Shop local and buy from a chamber member was the theme of the evening, as our valued members were able to feature their wares and remind folks that their gift needs can be met, right here in Martin County. Happy Holidays to all and to all a good night!



Holiday Trade Show sponsor Vicki Carson and her daughter Gina Golino, Forward Electric & Air Conditioning, visited with Chamber members and guests during the special event which took place on November 13th at the Kane Center.



Dr. Luis Villar, Villar Plastic Surgery (center), co-sponsor of the Chamber's Holiday Trade Show Business After Hours was lucky enough to win a beautiful painting donated by fellow sponsor Jason Leonard, Blue Water Graphics.



Chamber President/CEO Joe Catrambone (right), with Chairman John O'Brien, Gulfstream Aluminum & Shutter Corp., joyfully accepts a beautiful painting of the Chamber building by artist Judy Bates at the Chamber's Holiday Trade Show Business After Hours held at the Kane Center on November 13th.



Chamber Chairman John O'Brien, Gulfstream Aluminum & Shutter Corp. (left) and President/CEO Joe Catrambone thank Joyce Page and Chamber director Janice Norman, Century 21 IRP Realty/Norman Page Team for sponsoring the November Networking Luncheon held at Bonefish Grill.



Congressman Patrick Murphy (center) poses with the Council of Chambers representatives at the November Networking Breakfast hosted by Martin Downs Golf Club. Shown from left are Stuart/Martin County Chairman John O'Brien, Gulfstream Aluminum & Shutter Corp.; Janet Otten, Hobe Sound Chamber; Murphy; Palm City Executive Director Carolyn Davi; Jensen Beach Executive Director Ron Rose and Stuart/Martin County President/CEO Joe Catrambone.



Special thanks to all of the Stuart/Martin County Chamber members for participating in the annual Operation Thank You, and to Seacoast National Bank for continuing to sponsor the event. The goal was to deliver the Chamber's new Welcome Guide & Business Directory, along with a goody bag, to over 1,000 members in a week. Any members who have not received their copy are encouraged to stop by the Chamber office to pick one up.



Chamber Vice-Chairman/Chair Elect Pete Lashenka, shows off his loyalty to his employer, Seacoast National Bank, sponsor of Operation Thank You by displaying his Seacoast-blue socks at the Breakfast held on November 5th.



The Florida Arts & Dance Company graciously hosted more than fifty Chamber members at their new facility at 938 S.E. Central Parkway, Stuart for the November 19th Networking Breakfast. Members were treated to a Nutcracker Suite performance by student Shelby Trembly. FADC board members, students and instructors are (from left) are James Stedham, Costco Wholesale Club; Pam and Shelby Trembly; Joanne Gallagher; Mina Hamilton and Beverly Mauermann.



Tykes & Teens and the Arts Council welcomed more than 70 Chamber members to the November 21st Networking Breakfast at the Courthouse Cultural Center to admire all of the beautiful trees and wreaths presented as part of the Festival of Trees fundraising event. Shown from left are Nancy Turrell, Executive Director of the Arts Council; Paula Hundt, Tykes & Teens; Clint Starling, Arts Council; Jeffrey Shearer, Executive Director of Tykes & Teens and Chamber Chairman John O'Brien, Gulfstream Aluminum & Shutter Corp.

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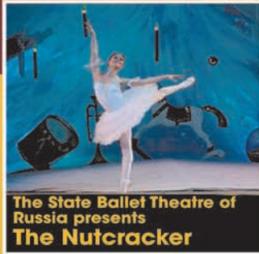
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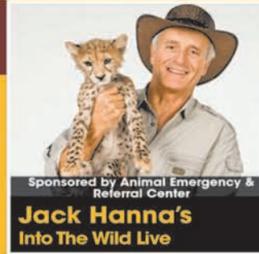
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December 26, 7PM



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December 29, 3PM



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Humana
An Evening With
Neil Sedaka
January 3, 8PM

Out & about

FRIDAY, DEC. 6

• **Stuart Christmas parade:** Starts at 7 p.m. This year's theme is "Christmas Past, Present & Future: Celebrating 100 Years on the St. Lucie." Presented by Stuart Main Street. Schools, churches, civic clubs and businesses design and build the spectacular lighted floats that make up the parade, along with marching bands, twirling groups and Santa. For more information, call (772) 286-2848.

• **Santa Claus Open golf tournament:** Hosted by Hobe Sound Golf Club, all proceeds go to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of Palm Beach and Martin Counties. Enjoy a challenging afternoon of golf followed by dinner and prizes. Players are requested to bring an unwrapped toy for a child participating in our programs. Shotgun start is at 12:30 p.m. Sponsorship opportunities available; contact Brisa Romero at (561) 727-3450. For more information on the tournament, visit SantaOpen.com.

• **Groucho's Comedy Club:** Featuring actor/comedian/writer Phil Tag, at the Hunter's Grill, 5687 S.E. Crooked Oak Ave., Hobe Sound. Dinner & show for \$35 (including tax). Doors open at 6 p.m., dinner's at 6:30 p.m. Show begins at 8 p.m. Limited seating, full menu available. For more information, call (772) 221-0990 or visit grouchoscomedy.com.

• **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.

• **Sunrise Theatre presents, "Sounds of the Season,"** Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 7 p.m. Cost: Free. Website: www.sunrisetheatre.com.

FRIDAY, DEC. 6
— SUNDAY, DEC. 8

• **Treasure Coast Commu-**
See OUT, B2

Play brings in Treasure Coast talent

By Alisha McDarris
For Hometown News

JUPITER — Talented professionals from faraway lands like New York won't be the only ones thrilling audiences in Jupiter next weekend. Local actresses will also grace the stage for Maltz Jupiter Theatre's production of "Annie."

The beloved musical about a redheaded orphan girl named Annie is brimming with familiar tunes like "Tomorrow" and "You're Never Fully Dressed Without a Smile," but at its core it is about family and finding love in an unlikely place.

"It's a perfect holiday show," said Andrew Kato, producing artistic director at the theatre.

But audiences can expect some surprises if they arrive with visions of the popular movie musical dancing in their heads.

Like many of Maltz Jupiter Theatre's productions, the show has been reinvented to offer a brand new experience while maintaining the honest and identifiable characters people have come to love.

"It's a beautifully rendered honest and re-imagined production," Mr. Kato

See TALENT, B2



Photo courtesy of Linnea Brown

The cast of Annie will take the stage at the Maltz Theatre in Jupiter Dec. 3- 22

Traditional show includes unexpected twist

By Alisha McDarris
For Hometown News

MARTIN COUNTY — For an unexpected twist on the traditional Christmas program, the Barn Theatre in Stuart is the place to be.

Their holiday show, "Christmas Angels and Honky-Tonk Cowboys," will be a festive production to remember with its mix of songs that will have audiences stomping their feet and reveling in the spirit of the season.

The first act is full of country-western theme music like "Grandma got run over by a reindeer" and the appropriate "Come see what's happenin' at the

barn." The second act will introduce more traditional tunes like "Mary did you know" and "Silent Night."

"It's going to be a more fun type Christmas show," said director Jim Docter who started planning the original revue six months ago.

He wanted to offer audiences a holiday show that combined the sacred music that people love with fun, playful tunes that put smiles on their faces.

After seeing holiday program after holiday program last year, some of which were a little bland with all traditional music to some that offered none of the familiar tunes and left him

wanting more, he wanted to create a show that was different and fun, but heartwarming, too.

"I wanted to do a show that appealed to a lot of people," Mr. Docter said.

According to Mr. Docter and his cast, it will be a show the likes of which audiences have never seen.

"It's almost like you're at a big Christmas party," said Jack Brenner, a tenor in the show.

"It's light and yet meaningful," said Susan Ledbetter who is performing at the Barn Theatre for the first time.

Mr. Brenner and Ms. Ledbetter round out the cast that includes all ages of

singers and dancers with a wide range of talents and they're all having a blast.

"The fun on stage will be contagious," Mr. Brenner said.

And with the dancing, candles and props to thrill audiences, it offers more than the sounds of the season, but something festive upon which to gaze, too.

The family event plays for one weekend only, Dec. 13-15. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children and can be purchased online at www.barn-theatre.com or by calling the box office at (772) 287-4884.

"I can honestly say everyone will enjoy this show," Mr. Docter said.

Comedian to entertain crowd on Dec. 7

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

FORT PIERCE — Sinbad, the greatest funny man of all time, will have you laughing in the aisles of the Historic Sunrise Theatre on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 8 p.m. Actor and comedian Sinbad arrived on the comedy scene with a "hit'em in the face" style of comedy for over two decades. The basis of his humor comes from everyone he meets, everything he has seen, and everything he has done. Ranked by Comedy Central as one of the top 100

stand up comedians of all time, Sinbad has built a loyal following by taking audiences' painful trials or embarrassing tribulations of day-to-day life, throwing them back in their faces, and causing uproar of comedic hysteria.

Sinbad is internationally known for his starring appearances in hit movies

like Jingle All the Way, Houseguest, and Necessary Roughness. He starred in the television sitcom A Different World, as well as his own series, The Sinbad Show. Sinbad has drawn legions of fans from his HBO highly-rated comedy specials; Brain Damaged, Afros & Bellbottoms, Son of a Preacher Man, and Nuthin But The Funk.

His annual HBO music concert series Sinbad's 70s Soul Music Festival received the prestigious NAACP Image Award consecutively for two years as the "Most Outstanding Variety

Series/Special." Sinbad appeared on the FX Television series "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" and his long awaited stand-up special aired on Comedy Central this past February. Most recently, Sinbad was seen in the third season of NBC's Celebrity Apprentice.

Take a break from Christmas shopping and enjoy some laughs with Sinbad on Dec. 7.

For tickets to An Evening with Sinbad, priced at \$39/35, call the Box Office at (772) 461-4775 or visit www.SunriseTheatre.com.



Sinbad



Week of 12-6-2013

ARIES - March 21/April 20
Handle some unfinished business and establish clear priorities. Otherwise, you may turn what could be a productive week into something frustrating.

TAURUS - April 21/May 21
When you wear your heart on your sleeve for everyone to see, you cannot be shy about expressing your emotions. Friends may be skeptical of you though.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21
Don't be shy about sharing unique plans with your loved ones. The support of friends and family members will only restore your confidence in this new direction.

CANCER - June 22/July 22
Expect your ideas to take shape over the next couple of days. Concrete plans will materialize as you begin to pull thoughts from your imagination. The results will be unique.

LEO - July 23/Aug. 23
You probably are not interested in inching along this week. Though it's good to attack a project with gusto, don't rush so much that you make mistakes.

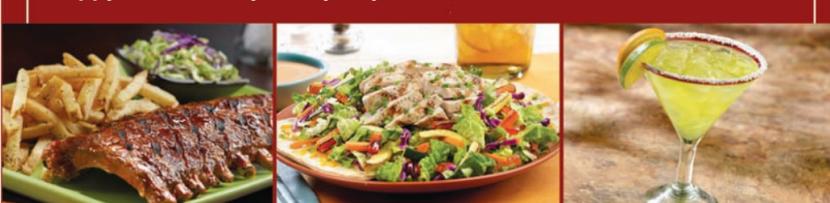
VRGO - Aug. 24/Sept. 22
You are quite comfortable sharing your thoughts now that you have gotten some things worked out. It's now much easier to talk about future possibilities.

LIBRA - Sept. 23/Oct. 23
Decoding all of the mixed signals coming your way won't be easy. The only thing you can do for the moment is to take each signal one at a time.

SCORPIO - Oct. 24/Nov. 22
You are not in the mood to play games, so you will want to push your romantic relationship to the next level. You will have no problem leading the way.

See SCOPES, B6

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The cast of Annie will take the stage at the Maltz Theatre in Jupiter Dec. 3-22

Photo courtesy of Linnea Brown



Talent

From page B1

said. "It has all the makings of a memorable night at the theatre," including a dog that, according to Mary Elizabeth Rich, a cast member from Port St. Lucie, will melt your heart.

Ms. Rich has performed professionally all over the country and Europe for 20 years, but loves the Maltz Jupiter Theatre since settling down in the area a few years ago.

"It's like my second home,"

Ms. Rich said. She is also teaching at the theatre's Conservatory of Performing Arts.

There are a few younger actresses from the area strutting their stuff on stage, too, including Sophia Liano, 9 of Stuart; Chloe Larabee, 12 of Vero Beach; and Solana Rudnitsky, 11 of Stuart.

All three were thrilled to be selected from hundreds of children at the theatre's First Step to Stardom auditions where they sang and danced their way to a place on stage.

"I was jumping around the room," Chloe said when she heard the news that she got a

part. She is understudy for the Character "Kate," an orphan.

"Annie is one of those productions that every little girl wants to be a part of," Mr. Kato said.

It's certainly true for Solana who has auditioned multiple times for a shot at a role and is the understudy for the character "July."

"I'm so privileged to be one of the few who got into the show," Solana said.

"I'm really excited. It's been a blast," said Sophia who is playing "Tessie."

None of the girls are

novices when it comes to stage acting, but all of them dream of Broadway and, according to Mr. Kato, this opportunity to work side by side with professionals is a big step in the right direction.

"Annie" will be a treat for all ages, a fun, heartfelt production perfectly suited for this time of year.

"This will be a musical that people will talk about for years to come," Mr. Kato said.

The musical runs from Dec. 3-22 and tickets can be purchased by calling (561) 575-2223 or visiting www.jupitertheatre.org.

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Out

From page B1

nity Singers concert: Three performances: at 7 p.m., Dec. 6, and at 3 p.m. on both Dec. 7 and Dec. 8, at North Stuart

Baptist Church, 1950 N. Federal Highway, Stuart. Theme is 'Home for the Holidays.' Adult tickets are \$10 for Dec. 6, and \$15 for Dec. 7 and Dec. 8. Tickets are available through the church two weeks prior to a concert or

online at tccsingers.org.
 • **'Winter Wonderland'** 4-8 p.m. nightly, Dec. 6-8, at Memorial Park in Stuart. New event, planned to feature a synthetic 'ice' rink, light displays, holiday decorations, and live vocal performances. For more information, call (772) 286-2848 or visit facebook.com/downtownstuartflorida
 • **Singing Christmas Tree:**

17th annual event from Hobe Sound Ministries, Hobe Sound Bible College/Church, 11295 Gomez Ave., Hobe Sound. Features live instrumentation and singing from 75 singers in a Christmas tree arrangement with thousands of lights, a 25-piece orchestra, a children's choir and a drama cast of 50. Free admission. Tree presenta-

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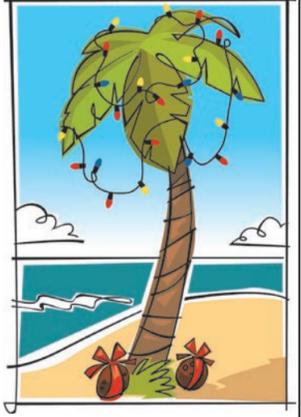
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Out

From page B2

tion is at 7 p.m. each night, Dec. 6-8. Call (772) 546-5696 or visit www.hobesoundings-ingtree.com.

FRIDAY, DEC. 6 – SATURDAY, DEC. 7

• **'Star of Wonder' Planetarium show:** A family-friendly popular holiday tradition at the Hallstrom Planetarium at the main campus of Indian River State College in Fort Pierce. The show recreates the skies as they appeared 2,000 years ago, from constellations to the locations of planets at the time. The show will be presented on Friday at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and on Saturday at 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$3. Call the box office at (800) 220-9915, or visit www.irsc.edu.

SATURDAY, DEC. 7

• **Hobe Sound Christmas Parade:** Annual parade starts at 1 p.m.; route is along Bridge

Road and Dixie Highway. Free event, filled with fun and holiday cheer. Floats and decorated vehicles created by local businesses, schools and organizations, along with music by local school bands and a DJ. Children can meet Ronald McDonald, Smoky the Bear, clowns and, of course, Santa and Mrs. Claus. In addition, there will be an art stroll from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. along Dixie Highway. For more information, call the chamber at (772) 546-4724 or visit www.hobesound.org.

• **Martin County Christmas boat parade:** 7 p.m., along Roosevelt Bridge in Stuart. Staging begins at 6 p.m.; parade launches at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (772) 221-8198.

• **Rudolph's Reindeer Dash 5K:** Junior League of Martin County's fifth annual race starts at 7 a.m. in Sewall's Point Town Commons Park. USATF certified, chip-timed race. Includes 100 yard "tot trot" for ages 7 and under. Advance registration is \$30; day-of registration is \$35. Tot

See **OUT, B4**

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Despite the rain and wind, the fish are still biting

We've had another week of wind and rain, not a lot of rain, but rain nonetheless. I'm not sure if I'm ready for winter, but the fish are. Off shore it is sailfish season, with cooler temperatures and a mix of water condition... yes, defiantly winter. The wind kept most anglers inside, but there were a few who just had to go, and catch fish they did. Most started at 70-feet, that was the area where the

waves were not as close and one could see what was going on. South of the St. Lucie inlet, not quite to the tower, was the favored area. Sails were plenty and the dolphin bite was excellent, mix in a few small kings and one can see enough was enough. Seas were sporty, but the conditions were perfect if you are a sailfish fan. Throw in a hand full of nice dolphin, and fishing has been good for the anglers.



FISHING
HENRY
CAIMATTO

Now if the seas would slow down, an old man like me might give it a try. There were few days in the week for the surf fans to get a line wet. Four-ounce and cut baits top the list. Blue fish and Spanish mac's made up most of the

catch with some legal pompano for the long casters. Time was not an issue; we just had to wait for the wind to slow. Overcast skies all week gave anglers that option. Not many pompano this week because not many anglers are quite ready for this winter fishing, but the Pompano are definitely with us. River fishing was excellent all week with lots of big trout reported. From Little Mud south to the Sail

Fish Flats, east or west side it has been a perfect week for reds and trout. Shrimp was the favored bait this week with most fish being over the slot. You might need your rain gear, but the fish are already wet. Had a few pompano reported, but not many anglers were out there to catch them. These fish were caught from the bridges, but it was the flounder that stole the show. Three to six pounds were

the treat, so if you did not get a pompano, who cares? I sure like the flounder. There was plenty of activity at the bridges with a long catch list of all of the above plus blues, mac's and drum, but the flounder stole the show. Trust you all had a great Thanksgiving. I will catch up with you next week, if we do not get washed away. *Henry Caimatto is the owner of the Snook Nook Bait and Tackle shop in Jensen Beach.*

Out

From page B3

trot registration is \$5. Register at Fleet Feet in Stuart or online at active.com/running/stuart-fl/junior-league-of-martin-countys-5th-annual-rudolphs-reindeer-dash-5k-2013.

Hosted at St. Luke's Episcopal Church on the corner of Cove Road and A1A in Stuart. Shopping occasion for young people ages 4-14 to be helped by one of Santa's elves while choosing gifts for family and friends. Prices for gifts range from 25 cents to \$5. Each child brings their list of people to buy for, then tour the parish

hall to choose gifts. All gifts are then wrapped to be ready to take home. Proceeds go to outreach programs in the community. For more information, call (772) 286-5455.

Center, 16450 S.E. Federal Highway, Hobe Sound. Program is \$35, which includes park entry, class instruction, photo shoot, photo critique, light breakfast and refreshments. Space is limited. Register at https://jldlandscapes.eventbrite.com. For more information, call the Kimbell Center at (561) 745-

551 or email libby.reinert@dep.state.fl.us.

both days, Tropical Ranch Botanical Gardens, 1905 S.W. Ranch Trail in the Tropical Farms area of Stuart, off Kanner Highway. The county's only botanical gardens, with 13 themed gardens, will be open for tours and free admission, plus lots of sun and shade plants available for purchase. All plants, including bamboo, will be discounted up to 20 percent this weekend. Plant experts will be available for advice. Call (772) 283-5565 or visit www.trbg.us.

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SUNDAY, DEC. 8

- **Christmas in the Caribbean:** Treasure Coast Parrot Head Club's annual benefit for the Salvation Army of Martin County's Angel Tree Christmas Assistance Program. Held at Pirate's Cove Resort and Marina, 4307 S.E. Bayview Street in Port Salerno, from noon to 5 p.m. Featuring Troprock artist 'Sunny Jim'. Free admission, asking only that guests bring an unwrapped, new toy, or nonperishable food items to donate. (Toys for older children preferred.) A buffet will be provided by Pirates Cove, for \$14 at the door. For more information, call (772) 337-6499 or visit treasurecoast-parrotheadclub.com.
- **Holiday Open House:** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Stuart Heritage Museum, 161 S.W. Flagler Ave., Stuart. Guests are welcome to view the new exhibits and displays celebrating Stuart's centennial year. For more information, visit www.celebratestuart.org.
- **Inside Track Raffle & Dinner:** Equestrian custom-designed jewelry by Diamonds by Terry and dinner at Diamonds Tea Room & Bistro. 6 p.m. \$125 per person, tickets are limited. For more information, contact (772) 287-6676, or email info@martinarts.org
- **Christmas Plant Sale Extravaganza:** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 7 – SUNDAY, DEC. 8

- **Holiday Breakfast and Silent Auction:** 8 a.m. to noon, Hidden Oaks Middle School, 2801 S.W. Martin Highway, Palm City. Feast on pancakes, eggs, sausage, doughnuts, coffee and juice while enjoying live music from talented local musicians. Bid on gifts for the family from movie tickets to theme park admissions, restaurant certificates and more. Breakfast is \$3 for children ages 3-10, \$5 for adults. All proceeds support the HOMS bands and Color Guard. Call (772) 631-7094.
- **Community Carol Sing:** 4-5 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 623 E. Ocean Blvd., Stuart. 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, See **OUT, B5**

Literary Edited by Linda and Charles Preston

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Gift ideas for the golfer in your life

You've finally finished the last of the Thanksgiving leftovers. The rest of the family has done all of the late night, early morning shopping with the crowds and you've managed to avoid all of the craziness. Now you realize that you have a week less this year to get your shopping done and you have no idea what to get the golfers on your list. Have no fear... Santa James is here.

GOLF JAMES STAMMER



David Poole who believes that golfers want something more than a bland, boring ink dot to mark their ball. Golfdotz is a small sticker that comes in a large variety of designs. These highly-detailed designs simply rub onto the ball and stay stuck through most all playing conditions. Cost is \$6 for 18 dotz.

If that old driver is looking a bit worn, or you really want to show support for your favorite college, Club Crown (www.clubcrown.com) has the perfect product.

Club Crown is a professionally installed high-tech film that will change the look of any driver, wood or hybrid. The film is removable should you wish to change it after a while, yet it holds up to normal play. The look is quite stunning.

You can choose from animal prints, camouflage, argyles, carbon fiber, flags, flames, plaids, stripes, and more. They even have many college and U.S. Military logos as well. Cost is around \$40.

Sometimes a fun round of golf with your usual bunch can turn boring. I discovered

a great card game that brings a lot of fun and competitiveness to your round.

Iquest (www.iquest.com) adds a fun twist to your round. The deck contains 14 Club Cards, which determine which clubs you will get to play that particular hole with, and four Strategy Cards, which are used to either help you or hinder an opponent. You can iQuest on any number of holes you choose.

Imagine having to putt with a 3-wood, or play a par-5 using only your 9-iron. Better yet, use the "Steal a Club" Strategy Card to take your opponent's sand wedge from him forcing him to use a 7-iron from that green-side bunker. Cost is under \$20.

Olympia Sports (available through amazon.com and Sears) has several indoor putting games. The company's 9 Hole Putting Game features nine cups with flags that you can set up inside your home. You can then use your sofa, chairs, even the dog's dish to create hazards between the hole and where you start. Cost is \$36.

The best way to lower your score is to make more putts. The best putting product that I have tried comes from Boomerang (www.boomergolf.com). The Boomerang teaches you to hit both lag and aggressive putts.

The way the 'game' works is you hit the first putt trying to stop it in the cup at the top of the sloping Boomerang. Your next putt needs to be more aggressive to knock the first ball out of the shallow cup and return both balls down the slope to your feet. It's much harder than it looks!

The 10-inch mats that lead up to the Boomerang is available in nine different speeds, allowing you to almost exactly duplicate the speed of your greens at home. The entire "putting pack" is less than \$90 and includes a DVD with lessons and drills to improve your putting performance. Additional mats are available as well so you can hone your putting skill on multiple speed greens.

I've found that the key to buying gifts for golfers is to make them fun and to have them fit the golfer's personality. Stay away from the coal.

Contact James Stammer at stammeregolf@yahoo.com.

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Out

From page B4

November through April, in Indian RiverSide Park, 1707 N.E. Indian River Drive, Jensen Beach. Call (772) 692-1191.

MONDAY, DEC. 9

• **Blues Alliance of the Treasure Coast holiday party:** 6 p.m., B. Merry Gastro Pub, 23 S.W. Osceola Street, Stuart. All are welcome. Jam starts at 7 p.m., with Kenny Clarke and Jeff LoForte. Food provided, along with a cash bar. Tickets are \$20; proceeds go to the scholarship fund. For directions,

call (772) 324-8289. For reservations, call Blues Alliance Hotline: (772) 467-1851.

• **Christmas by American Big Band** at the Lyric Theatre, 59 S.W. Flagler Ave., Stuart. Shows at 6 p.m., 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$45. Call the box office at (772) 286-7827.

TUESDAY, DEC. 10

• **'I Love a Mystery' book discussion group:** 2-3:30 p.m. at the Cummings Library, 2551 S.W. Matheson Ave., Palm City. Participants are asked to read any title by the author and come prepared to discuss their choice including plot summary, main characters and favorite

part of the book. December focuses on Phillip Margolin. Call (772) 221-1403 or visit www.library.martin.fl.us.

• **'Treasuring the Classics':** 5:30 p.m., Sailfish Point Country Club, 2201 S.E. Sailfish Point Blvd., Stuart. Featuring internationally acclaimed pianist Daniel Grimwood and the Atlantic Classical Orchestra Chamber Musicians. Followed by hors d'oeuvres and wine reception. Call the ACO office at (772) 460-0850 or visit www.atlanticclassicalorchestra.com.

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Jason has been working with us for a year now as our massage therapist. Our massage special for new uninsured patients is a one hour massage for \$39. Jason has also just finished getting his certification in Posture from Posture Zone (not affiliated with the Florida Board of Licensed Massage Therapists) and will be open for new posture training appointments.

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077449

Local team heading to World Series

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

PORT ST. LUCIE —Baseball is a huge sport not only in Florida but especially in Port St. Lucie. While Little League Baseball only lasts a few months of the year, there is whole other world of Travel Baseball that never ends. Travel Baseball teams are made of the best of the best in a particular area that compete with teams all of the country. Team Easton is a travel baseball team for

nine- year olds based out of Sportsman's Park in Port St. Lucie.

Team Easton was started about a year ago by local baseball player Tony Germano.

"Most people don't even know there is home grown Travel Baseball that never ends. Travel Baseball teams are made of the best of the best in a particular area that compete with teams all of the country. Team Easton is a travel baseball team for

team and even more unbelievable that they are only 9 years old and from Port St. Lucie."

Many travel baseball teams pull players from other cities across the state and even from other states to make up a great team. Team Easton is made up of local players who have demonstrated outstanding skills that can take them a long way.

"We take pride in knowing we don't have to bring kids in from other towns across the state or fly kids in from different states as many teams do to compete at various tournaments," said Mr. Germano. "My coaching staff and I take a lot of pride



Top row, from left: Coaches: Jesse Staples, Jason Howald, Manny Beltran, Frank Baez and Tony Germano. Middle row from left: Hunter Gagnon, Aiden McGucken, Zach Staples, Brian O'Shea, Wes Cimperman and Isiah Baez. Front row, from left: Tyler Howald, Jaden Tavera, Drew Barnikmat, Merlot Beltran and Sebastian Germano. Photo courtesy of Tony Germano

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in working with these kids and their talents developing them into phenomenal baseball players".

Travel baseball is a huge commitment for the players and parents. It is expensive to enter tournaments, rent fields for practice, equipment, umpires along with the many unseen expenses associated with travel baseball.

When they are not practicing or playing, they spend our time in front of grocery stores trying to help raise money for our team.

"It would be nice to have some businesses or some generous sponsors to help as other teams but we are

glad that our kids learn to take pride in knowing how much money and dedication it takes to be on a travel team," Mr. Germano said.

Team Easton won second place in the state Championship in Kissimmee and last week, won the Daytona Beach Bash 9U Championship in which teams from all over the state were invited to compete.

The team will now be going to the ESPN Winter World Series Dec. 27 through Jan. 1 to compete with teams from all over the country.

To help support Team Easton, contact Tony Germano at (772) 216-5970.

Scopes

From page B1

SAGITTARIUS - Nov. 23/Dec. 21
Opportunities to address your physical well-being present themselves this week. Make the most of these opportunities to make a significant change.

CAPRICORN - Dec. 22/Jan. 20
You will ride a creative wave for the next several days. Inspiration will strike when you least expect it. You should have some time for play.

AQUARIUS - Jan. 21/Feb. 18
Expect some support from family members and close friends. Receive their generosity as warmly as you can, even if you're feeling a bit smothered.

PISCES - Feb. 19/March 20
It can be easy to get swept away by other people's agendas when you attempt to help. Do your best to pitch in.

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REFRIGERATOR, White Whirlpool, side by side, ice in door, good cond. \$200, 772-873-8056 PSL

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260 Furniture & Household Items

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LOVE SEAT, brown leather, good condition, \$50, 772-579-1946 PSL

MATTRESSES, (2), twin extra long, exc. cond. \$150, 772-800-7155

PHONE DECANTER, 1897 Jim Beam, collectible, \$85, 772-334-1424

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LEGAL NOTICES

5020 Notice to Creditors
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARTIN COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA
 PROBATE DIVISION
 IN RE: ESTATE OF ELSIE ADELINE WATERMAN a/k/a ELSIE A. WATERMAN, Deceased. File No. 13-831CP

NOTICE OF CREDITORS
 TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:
 The administration of the estate of Elsie Adeline Waterman, deceased, File Number: 13-831CP, 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, including unmaturred, contingent, or unliquidated claims, on whom a copy of this notice is served must file their claims with his court WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. The date of first publication of this Notice is December 6, 2013. Personal Representative: Frederick G. Sunheim, Jr. Attorney for Personal Representative: Oughterson, Sundheim & Associates, P.A. 612 SE Central Parkway, Stuart, Florida 34994. Telephone: (772) 287-0660. Florida Bar No.: 158670. Pubs: Dec. 6, & Dec. 13, 2013

LEGAL NOTICES

5010 Notice of Action
 NOTICE OF SUSPENSION
 TO: Sheresa J. Preston
 Martin County
 Case No: 201303588
 A Notice of Suspension to suspend your license and eligibility for licensure has been filed against you. You have the right to request a hearing pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, by mailing a request for same to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Licensing, Post Office Box 3168, Tallahassee, Florida 32315-3168. If a request for hearing is not received by 21 days from the date of the last publication, the right to hearing in this matter will be waived and the Department will dispose of this cause in accordance with law. Pubs: 11/15/13, 11/22/13, 11/29/13 & 12/6/13

LEGAL NOTICES

5060 Notice of Sale
 NOTICE OF Disposition of personal items: Notice is hereby given that McNamara Enterprises/Bridge Road Self Storage, in accordance with Florida Statutes Self Storage Facility Act, Sections 83-801 through 83-809, will dispose of the contents of the following storage units on December 21, 2013. Disposal will take place on that date at the Martin County Landfill: Units H023, H070 & H074 Jackie Carpenter. Contents - household goods & supplies. Pubs: Dec. 6, & Dec. 13, 2013

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427 Miscellaneous Employment

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 ARC of Martin County is seeking **Direct Care Professionals & Drivers - P/T Hours** who demonstrates the educational standards, ethics, & competencies recognized in the health care service industry to provide support and care to individuals w/developmental & intellectual disabilities. The positions require a HS diploma/GED, Valid FL Drivers Lic., Clean Driving record & Level II BKG Screening/Drug Screening. Apply: Online www.arcmc.org or 2001 S. Kanner Hwy., Stuart, FL 9 am - 4 pm M-F EOE/DFWP

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*REDUCE YOUR Cable Bill!! Get a 4-Room All Digital Satellite system installed for FREE and programming starting at \$19.99/mo.

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CANADA DRUG Center is your choice for safe & affordable medications.

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DIRECTV - OVER 140 channels only \$29.99 a month. Triple savings!

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FLORIDA Waterfront Condo Liquidation Sale! Sat Nov 23rd Brand new 2BR/2BA 1,690sqf luxury condo only \$149,900

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630 Misc. Financial

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