PORT ST. LUCIE ST. LUCIE WEST TRADITION
Hometown News
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WHAT A CATCH!

Have you found great fish in Treasure Coast waters? See one that didn't get away and see how your own prize could be in the paper soon.

CATCH 15

MEET TUCKER

Would you like to meet a friendly pup who's ready for a forever family? Visit the Humane Society

LOOKING FOR A HOME 7

GOING ON A TRIP?

'Touring with the Townies' features reader-submitted photos from travels. Let's see how many places we can go!

TOWNIES 14

WAY TO GO!

Meet this week's Star Student, a senior at St. Lucie West Centennial High School

STUDENT 4

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PLANNING A TRIP?

'Touring with the Townies' features reader-submitted photos from travels. Let's see how many places we can go!

Send in your picture or questions to newsfp@hometownnewsol.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

See community events on page 2

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Rams defeat Panthers

The Westwood High School Panthers and John Carroll Catholic High School Rams Varsity Baseball teams faced each other in a non-conference show-down. The Rams beat the Panthers 18-1. Here, pitching for the John Carroll Rams, is Brian Jacobus.

Photo courtesy of MaryAnn Ketcham

Beautification programs win with cleanups, volunteers

By Gaylon Parker
gparker@hometownnewsol.com

ST LUCIE COUNTY – How do people beautify their communities? With the Great American Cleanup, of course.

It is that time of year again, and communities across the Treasure Coast are joining in the efforts. On Saturday, April 28 the event will be in Port St. Lucie, and registration begins at 7:30 a.m. with the cleanup running from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteers will meet at the Port St. Lucie Public Works Department, 450 S.W. Thornhill Drive, and enjoy a free breakfast, with the first 500 people receiving a complimentary T-shirt. After that, they will board buses that will take them to several locations throughout the city that are most in need of cleanup.

"What we're looking for is to decrease the litter as much as possible, and not only are the people picking up the litter but they are learning and passing along that information on to others and it's just a continuation of how we can improve our community," said Anna Marie Colonnese, the Special Projects Coordinator for Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful. "When people get out there and volunteer, they can be the eyes and ears to continue to watch out for what's going on and in turn the benefits keep adding up."

Afterward, the buses will take the volunteers back to the public works complex for a free lunch

See BEAUTIFICATION, page 4

City seeks ownership of 'jobs corridor'

By Gaylon Parker
gparker@hometownnewsol.com

TRADITION – A long-range goal to provide quality jobs could soon come true for the City of Port St. Lucie through the acquisition of the so-called "Tradition jobs corridor." City Manager Russell Blackburn said the area has the potential for becoming a major hub for the creation of jobs and opening of companies due to its proximity to Interstate 95 and previously installed water and sewer systems and infrastructure.

"There's nothing like this property anywhere else in the city because most of our lots are small and the jobs corridor can have flexible plots sizes," Mr. Blackburn said. "So, in order to develop this area and fulfill this dream infrastructure was acquired and the southern grove special assessment was established to provide the infrastructure."

The area is known as "Southern Grove," and is located near Becker Road, and was annexed into the city in 2004. Core Development was the developer at the time, and one major area of the spot was focused on as the "jobs corridor" originally targeting research facilities such as the now defunct Vaccine Gene Therapy Institute.

The concept was that Core would pay the debt service on a loan to install that infrastructure, such as an exit on I-95 and a north-south major road known as Village Parkway. In 2010, Core was struggling during the recession, Mr. Blackburn said, and the lender took over the Core assets in Southern Grove. Some land was developed and others were sold off, mostly in residential areas north of Tradition Parkway, which has been very successful.

The properties for the jobs corridor are in Southern Grove and Western Grove, and if nobody else is going to pay the special assessments on the property then the city would. That key element was approved by the city council in 2007, and the special assessments have been paid by the owner since then.

The 1,247-acre parcel of land is owned

See CORRIDOR, page 12

Community calendar

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

• **Coffee with CoHorts – Volunteer Orientation:** 10 a.m., Heathcote Botanical Gardens, 210 Savannah Road, Fort Pierce. Learn how volunteers sustain Heathcote to help maintain collections, growing plants, Garden Gift Shop/Admissions & special events. Everyone makes a difference! *To RSVP, call 772) 464-4672.*

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

• **'Wacky Weeders:'** 8:30 a.m. to noon, Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, 2410 S.E. Westmoreland Blvd., Port St. Lucie. The Gardens need your help! All volunteers are welcome, there are jobs everyone can do, regardless of age or ability. Bring gloves, clippers and any personal gardening tools you prefer. Lunch is served; core and school students can earn double volunteer hours. *For more information, call (772) 337-1959.*

• **Earth Day Festival:** "Live Green and Prosper," the 14th annual event, will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Oxbow Eco-Center, 5400 N.E. St. James Drive, Port St. Lucie. Free. Join your friends and neighbors in a celebration of all that wildlife and wild lands offer us – beauty, inspiration, vital resources, and a sense of belonging to a community. Learn more about stewardship of our natural resources, conservation, organizations and businesses committed to sustainability, and have fun celebrating the Earth. *For more information, call (772) 785-5833 or visit* www.oxboweco.com.

• **'Kids Space – Sky Show for Young Astronomers:'** 11 a.m., Hallstrom Planetarium, IRSC main campus, 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. Learn about the stars, constellations, moon, planets, and the exploration of outer space. All children must be accompanied by an adult. *For more information, contact the IRSC box office at (772) 462-4750 or visit* www.irsc.edu.

• **Fireflies & Bioluminescence Night Hike - Part 2:** 7-9 p.m., Steven J. Fousek (Teague/ Paleo Hammock) Preserve, 8551 Carlton Road, Port St. Lucie. Fireflies have enchanted humans since the beginning of time, and this is the season to enjoy their flashes of light in the twilight hours of the early evening. Experience nature's own twinkling lights in the air and on the ground. Free, public is welcome; however, reservations are required as space is limited. *For more information or to register, call (772) 462-2526, email* slchikes@stlucieco.org *or visit* www.slchikes.org.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

• **Earth Day Clean-up & Family Hike:** 3-5 p.m., Queen's Island Preserve, beachside, 4653 State Road A1A, Fort Pierce. Be a part of the action this Earth Day! We want your help and in return, we'll help you open your eyes to a whole new world of the creatures that live in this preserve. After our adventure, we'll head over to the beach to pick up trash that has washed ashore. All are welcome but this hike is most appropriate for families

See CALENDAR, page 4

Community notes

St. Lucie UF/IFAS Extension offers healthy business workshop April 24 – May 29

UF/IFAS and St. Lucie County Extension staff will begin offering a six-week series focused on Horticulture Skills and Entrepreneurship every Tuesday, starting April 24 through May 29, from 6-8:30 p.m. at Indian River State College's Blackburn Center, 3002 Avenue D, Fort Pierce.

Extension agents will cover:

· How to grow vegetables – selection, planting, irrigation, pest control and harvesting;

· How to start a business – planning, record keeping, time management, marketing and funding;

· How to put it together and benefit financially from your horticulture skills.

Take some time to learn about food, and better yet, learn a skill that can turn into a new career.

The cost of this six-week workshop is $35 per person. To register call the Extension staff at (772) 462-1660.

Lakewood Park Library's gardening lecture helps ID plant pests and diseases

Let the Master Gardener Lecture at the Lakewood Park Branch Library, 7605 Santa Barbara Drive, Fort Pierce, help you diagnose plant pests and diseases on Tuesday, April 24 at 1 p.m.

Bring in your affected plants/leaves or photographic evidence and certified Master Gardener Lynda Salsbury will help you identify the problem.

This event is free and open to everyone. For more information about library programs contact the staff at (772) 462-6870; shroyerc@stlucieco.org or visit www.stlucieco.gov/library.

County offers second chance financial educational assistance at IRSC

If you have been denied financial aid, St. Lucie County's Community Services Department's Second Chance program may be able to help.

This program is available to St. Lucie County residents who are in need of 10 classes or less to either graduate or to reinstate their financial aid.

Applicants must meet Florida residency requirements as established by Indian River State College. Income eligibility is based on household size. All applicants must have applied and been denied financial aid.

Registration for summer classes is now open. Summer A classes start Wednesday, May 9 and end Wednesday, June 20. Summer B classes start Wednesday, June 27 and end Wednesday, Aug. 8. All inquiries for assistance must be made two weeks prior to the start of the semester and assistance is based on available funding.

St. Lucie County residents interested in receiving assistance to complete their secondary education at Indian River State College should contact the Community Services staff at (772) 462-1777 to set up a pre-screening interview or visit the website www.stlucieco.gov/departments-services/a-z/community-services/second-chance-education-assistance for more information or to complete a questionnaire.

See NOTES, page 3

Habitat for Humanity hosts 'Tiny Home' auction

By Gaylon Parker
gparker@hometownnewsol.com

ST LUCIE COUNTY – Better a "Tiny Home" than no home at all.

That is part of the sentiment of St. Lucie County Habitat for Humanity's recent combination with Indian River State College, the Treasure Coast Builders Association and CareerSource Treasure Coast to build a so-called "Tiny Home," which will be auctioned off on Saturday, April 28 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the PSL ReStore site, 10185 S. Federal Hwy. in Port St. Lucie.

"It's the very first 'YouthBuild' program to come to the Treasure Coast, and the purpose of it is to provide at-risk youths with skills, education and a wage and our role in that is to teach them construction skills," said Melissa Winstead, who serves as development director for SLC Habitat for Humanity. "We have 16 to 20 kids on a daily basis out at the college in the construction lab building this tiny home and how cool is that?"

The home is 188 square feet, is on a trailer and is livable and follows the same rules of the road as a recreation vehicle. It would be particularly useful for camping, fishing and SLCHFH envisions building two or three per year to be auctioned as a fundraising tool as part of the "Home is the Key" effort in April.

"The exciting part is that we're in a time – after the hurricanes – that our resources for construction are very low, so being able to provide these at-risk kids, most of whom have dropped out of high school, a way to get back into the workforce to learn some skills," Ms. Winstead said. "It's a really great thing for our local economy and this program – and all the players involved – are hoping that aspect takes off and we can do more vocational training on the Treasure Coast."

The event will feature children's activities, food trucks, raffles and vendors and the auction will be open to the community. It also focuses on the fact that there is a need for affordable housing in the community, organizers said, and 46 percent of St. Lucie County residents are living near or below the poverty line and in homes that are too expensive.

People also can participate in the program by donating by purchasing a key for $1, $5, or $20 online at www.stluciehabitat.org or at one of the ReStore locations.

"The kids are doing fabulously, and the homes have resold for anywhere between $40,000 and $60,000 and the company that we bought the floor plans from – Cornerstone Tiny Homes out of Longwood, Fla. – do custom homes and we thought this would be really fun," Ms. Winstead said. "The winner of the auction can choose the cabinets and counters and paint color so we're going to customize it for them."

For more information, please visit http://www.stluciehabitat.org/ or call 772-464-1117.

The "Tiny Home," here under construction, which will be auctioned off on Saturday, April 28 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the PSL ReStore site, 10185 S. Federal Hwy. in Port St. Lucie.

Photo courtesy of Habitat for Humanity

Notes

From page 2

St. Lucie County Offers GED Assistance

St. Lucie County's Community Services Department wants to help residents, who dropped out of high school, obtain their General Equivalency Diploma (GED).

GED assistance is available on through Indian River State College and to St. Lucie County residents who qualify. Income eligibility is based on household size.

Registration for summer classes is now open. Summer A classes start Wednesday, May 9 and ends Wednesday, June 20. Summer B classes starts Wednesday, June 27 ending Wednesday, Aug. 8. All inquiries for assistance must be made two weeks prior to the start of the semester and assistance is based on available funding.

St. Lucie County residents interested in receiving assistance to GED at Indian River State College should contact the Community Services staff at 772-462-1777 to set up a pre-screening interview or visit: Second Chance Education Assistance webpage for more information or to complete a questionnaire.

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A star student

Tatyana Williams, a senior at St. Lucie West Centennial High School, plays on two varsity teams (soccer and flag), and a four-year starting varsity flag player. Tatyana is an ideal student athlete. She strives to be her best on the field and in the classroom. Tatyana is an honor roll student maintaining a 3.4 GPA. During practice and games, she's always asking what she can do differently to bring her game to the next level. She's a role model to younger teammates and will be hard to replace when she graduates this year.

Beautification

From page 1

and raffles. The effort has grown over the years, and in 2017 more than 300 volunteers participated in Port St. Lucie's largest, collective cleanup of the year. More than 1,400 pounds of litter was collected at Cleanup Day.

"We hope to have even more this year, and not only that but with the cleanup day event that we have it helps people find out more about what we do and what we are," Ms. Colonnese said. "We usually sign up and least a couple of the 'Adopt-a-Street' groups and they get supplies and do cleanups on a mile of road on a monthly basis."

Wal-Mart will supply the breakfast and lunch will be provided by WastePro and Oxbow Eco Center will be on hand to promote their programs. There also will be free snow-cones, a face-painter for children and raffles and prizes during the afternoon.

And last weekend, Fort Pierce residents and visitors spent the morning of April 14 beautifying the city by volunteering at their own Great American Cleanup, and received a free T-shirt, safety supplies and a goody bag. They met at PAL Park in Fort Pierce and then were assigned to a team to tackle various improvement projects. The 2018 project locations included Glidden Park/Garden Club, South Causeway Park, Community Garden, Edgartown/Downtown and Citywide Graffiti Abatement.

The cleanup also involved a little bit of fun and concluded with a free volunteer BBQ and Festival at PAL Park. Volunteers enjoyed a free grilled lunch and refreshing drinks provided by the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority. The community festival also featured a bounce house, jumbo slide, activities, raffle prizes and demonstrations.

Students can earn community service hours for scholarships and graduation by participating in the Great American Cleanup., and this is a great event to get families, businesses, civic organizations, sports teams, schools, churches or other organizations involved, organizers said.

For more information, visit http://cityoffortpierce.com/383/Great-American-Cleanup.

Calendar

From page 2

with children ages 5 & older; minors must be accompanied by an adult. Free, public is welcome; however, reservations are required as space is limited. *For more information or to register, call (772) 462-2526, email* slchikes@stlucieco.org *or visit* www.slchikes.org.

• **Treasure Island Half Distance and International Triathlon:** Brand new race will be held in Jensen Beach Park, 4191 N.E. Ocean Blvd., Jensen Beach. Options include a half distance triathlon, an international triathlon, a half distance aquabike, and half distance duathlon. *For more information or to register, visit* www.floridahalftriathlon.com.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

• **Master Gardener lecture:** 1 p.m., Lakewood Park Branch Library, 7605 Santa Barbara Drive, Fort Pierce. Certified Master Gardener Lynda Salsbury, subject TBA. Free, public is welcome. *For more information, contact library staff at (772) 462-6870 or* shroyerc@stlucieco.org, *or visit* www.stlucieco.gov/library.

• **Society of American Magicians, Local Assembly 172, meeting:** Fourth Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m., St. Lucie Lanes, 6759 US 1, Port St. Lucie. Members include hobbyists, amateurs, part time and professional magicians who all love and enjoy the art of magic. Public is welcome to learn and enjoy the age-old art of magic. Free. *For more information, call Dean Devitt at (772) 332-8412 or Matt Musgrave at (772) 519-6048.*

• **Weekly Storytime Jam:** Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., Zora Neale Hurston Branch Library, 3008 Avenue D, Fort Pierce. Designed for ages 2-5, this interactive program will have your young ones clapping, dancing, singing and listening to stories each

See CALENDAR, page 7

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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.

Fort Pierce Police Department

Kayla Todd, 26, 10055 Grace Ave., Fellsmere, possession of a controlled substance without a prescription.

Samantha Lindsay, 36, 904 N. 23rd St., Fort Pierce, arrested on an active St. Lucie County felony warrant.

Shahram Salimi, 54, 1902 S.W. Granello Terr., Port St. Lucie, possession of cocaine and possession of a controlled substance without a prescription.

Dameon Hamilton, 41, homeless, Fort Pierce, destroying, tampering with or fabricating physical evidence.

Savon Montgomery, 24, 1212 Texas Court, Fort Pierce, arrested on two active St. Lucie County felony warrants.

Kejuan Nedd, 28, 1908 Easter Ave., Fort Pierce, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without the intent to kill and cruelty to a child – aggravated child abuse.

L.V. Thomas, 49, 113 N. 20th St., Fort Pierce, domestic battery by strangulation.

Lewis Adams, 30, 1021 Grand Club Place, Fort Pierce, driving with a suspended license as a habitual offender.

Emmanuel Serrano, 35, 938 S.E. Breakwater Ave., Port St. Lucie, possession of a forged driver's license or identification card and arrested on an active felony warrant for failure to appear.

Demarcus Bryant, 23, 4623 39th Ave., Vero Beach, arrested on an active, out-of-county (Indian River) felony warrant for third-degree grand theft.

Port St. Lucie Police Department

Craig Friedman, 56, 260 Egret Landing, Port St. Lucie, possession of a controlled substance without a prescription.

St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office

Jennifer Perguson, 40, 575 Tarpon Drive, Barefoot Bay, arrested on an active, out-of-county (Indian River) warrant possession of cocaine and an order to revoke bond for possession of cocaine.

William Fillsaime, 31, 701-1A S. 29th St., Fort Pierce, battery by a person detained in a prison or jail facility.

James Gutierrez, 51, 608 Cedar Place, Fort Pierce, arrested on an active St. Lucie County felony warrant for a violation of probation for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Carol Huysse, 65, 3382 S.W. Vendome St., Port St. Lucie, arrested on an outstanding St. Lucie County felony warrant for felony retail theft in concert with others.

Nicole Patterson, 46, 210 N. 21st St., Fort Pierce, arrested on a St. Lucie County felony warrant.

Wesley Bridges, 26, 7745 Pine Lakes Blvd., Port St. Lucie, aggravated assault causing bodily harm or disability.

James Bailey-Curry, 40, 2169 42nd Court S.W., Vero Beach, arrested on a violation of probation for grand theft and driving with a suspended license.

Jesus Roldan, 27, 1922 S.E. Hillmoor Drive 118, Port St. Lucie, possession of marijuana of more than 20 grams.

Stephen Waitt, 51, 1351 S.E. Buckingham Terr., Port St. Lucie, driving with a suspended license as a habitual offender.

Nicholas Stewart, 28, 40 S.E. Solaz Ave., Port St. Lucie, domestic battery by strangulation.

Nicole Teto, 39, 3612 Pleasant Acres Road, Port St. Lucie, larceny – grand theft of more than $5,000 but less than $10,000 and fraud – illegal use of more than two but less than six credit cards to obtain goods or money of $100 or more.

Maurio Davis, 31, 1212-71 E. 1st St., Jacksonville, arrested on an outstanding St. Lucie County felony warrant on a violation of probation for child abuse as an intentional act.

Mark Wrightnour, 47, 264 S.W. Todd Ave., Port St. Lucie, damage to property – criminal mischief of more than $200 but less than $1,000 as a subsequent offense.

Bobby Jamison, 62, 513 S.E. Church St., Stuart, driving under the influence with an unlawful blood/alcohol content of .15 or high with a person less than 18 years-of-age in the vehicle as a first offense.

Barry Berger, 35, 409 Silverstream Cir., Fort Pierce, aggravated battery where the offender should have known the victim was pregnant.

Tyrek Gardner, 18, 2901 Langston Drive, Fort Pierce, robbery with a firearm.

Yvette Lugo, 26, 610 Woodgate Lane, Sunrise, arrested on a current felony warrant.

Xiomera Figueroa, 20, 2002 S.W. Aquarius Lane, Port St. Lucie, arrested on an active St. Lucie County felony warrant on an order to revoke pretrial release.

Kyle Beasley, 24, 106 S.W. Airview Ave., Port St. Lucie, arrested as an out-of-state (Texas) on felony warrants for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, robbery and tampering with or fabricating physical evidence with the intent to impair.

Shronda Handy, 42, 5429 N.W. Fox Squirrel Lane, Port St. Lucie, arrested on an outstanding St. Lucie County felony warrant on a violation of probation for possession of cocaine.

Celestine Burgess, 55, 1303 N. 16th St., Fort Pierce, arrested on a felony warrant for grand theft of a motor vehicle.

Tiffany Chastain, 35, 712 S. 9th St., Fort Pierce, arrested on a St. Lucie County felony warrant for fraud – dealing in stolen property.

Dejon Wells, 26, 4109 Matanzas Ave., Fort Pierce, arrested on a felony violation of pretrial release.

Dave Wilson, 29, 602 S.W. Carter Ave., Port St. Lucie, driving with a suspended license as a habitual offender.

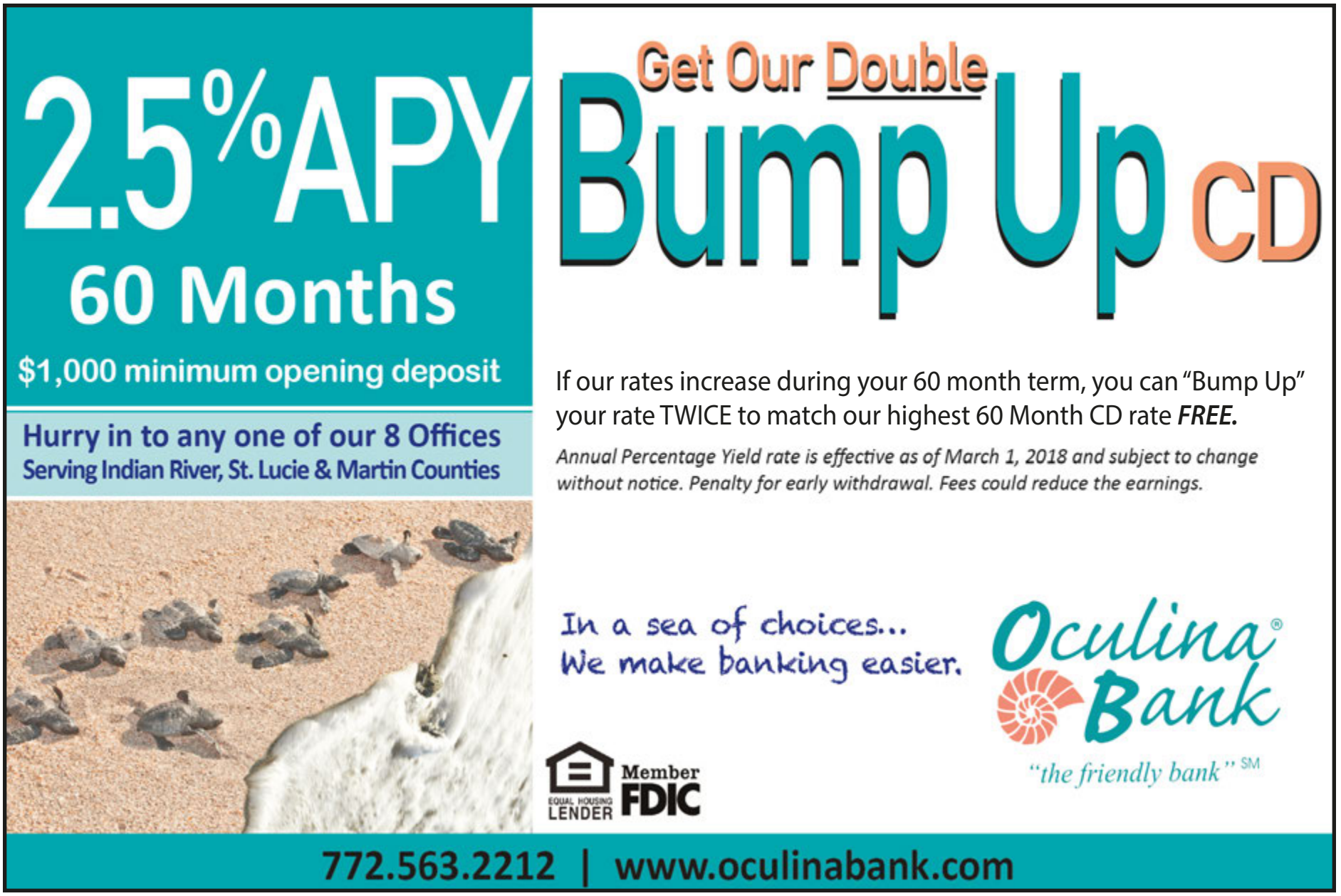
Kimberly Williams, 24, 625 N.E. 123rd St., North Miami, arrested on an out-of-county (Dade) felony warrant for third-degree grand theft.

Kenshavious Freeman, 30, 346 N.E. Prima Vista Blvd., Port St. Lucie, battery on a firefighter, law enforcement officer or EMT.

Beverly Reilly, 219 S.E. Camino St., Port St. Lucie, possession of cocaine and possession of a controlled substance without a prescription.

Jean Jean, 24, 337 S.W. Donna Terr., Port St. Lucie, arrested on an active St. Lucie County felony warrant on an order revoking pretrial release for possession of cocaine, possession of cocaine with the intent to sell, manufacture or deliver and unlawful use of a two-way com-

See CRIME, page 7



Rants & Raves

Got something to say?

Email the Hometown Rants & Raves at

newsfp@hometownnewsol.com

The Rants and Raves section provides a chance for readers to share their thoughts with other readers. The opinions included are not those of Hometown News or its employees.

Please limit your submissions to 250 words, so that we can include more entries. Readers are asked to refrain from making slanderous or libelous statements.

Interesting time at resort

There seems to be quite a few resorts, especially in Orlando, of course we also have a few in Vero Beach. After staying at one last week, I have to say they are interesting. Did you know that it's preferable to put the bathroom light switches outside the bathroom in the master bedroom? Just in case you need to use the facilities in the middle of the night, you also get to wake your spouse so she knows where you are at all times.

Usually the hard water will cause the shower-head to point in various directions, unfortunately none of them downward in your direction. They also make sure you know about their amenities when you turn on the TV. All their sets start on their channel, which has a volume setting twice the level of what the other channels need to use. I learned to turn the volume down to five before I shut off the set when I was done watching sports, it needs to be at twenty five to actually hear the announcers, otherwise if my spouse turned it on in the morning she would be blasted out of bed, not a pretty sight, I've learned from past experience. I just want to share these couple tips if you plan on staying at a local resort in the near future. Gotta Love Florida

Can you help me?

HELP: Can anyone tell me how to stop the incessant phone calls from robo calls? My phone rings all day long. Calls from all over the country. I get at least 10 a day. It's driving me crazy. Sometimes I don't pick up and sometimes I just answer turn on then off. It just don't stop. Is there any way to stop these. I can't even block these numbers because its always a different number and from all over the country. I am on the No Call registry, but that doesn't seem to do any good.

How do you stop all these mailings looking for money?

I received 49 last month. They fill up the wastebasket very quick. Now, I am getting some from people I have never heard of. My husband also gets the same mailings, so add that up. We do give to several of these, but at my choosing, not theirs. Again, they fill up the garbage can very quickly. Any ideas how to stop this? Thank you for your papers. They are very good.

Are we having fun yet?

We could have super slip and slides, with fun rides, run by solar picnic pavilions, along the way. And, we would raise the river level by 1-inch per mile, per day - just enough to reverse net flows and help change the waters in the problem areas, enabling more life. Our tax money is there and the multi-splendored benefits are possible at low cost. The science is self-evident.

We rely on the Postal Service

There are still some of us elders out there who do not have access to email, don't know how to use email even if we had it.

So, our main sources of communication, as well as the ability, and hopefully we will have it, the Postal Service.

Thank you, and keep that in mind that there are some people who are young and elders, like myself, who do not know how to do an email thing.

Turn signals

Of course, everyone who has driven has noticed the 50-60 percent of the inconsiderate drivers in who are too lazy and uncaring to use turn signals. If I was in law enforcement, I'd give everyone I saw not use a turn signal a ticket. However, that's all an officer would do all day. I'd come in on my days off and work eight-to-10 hours a day unpaid; and everyone I saw not using their turn signals would get a ticket.

I saw a bumper sticker the other day, and just have to share this

"If you are not outraged.... you are not paying attention."

I.E.: budget proposal, Medicaid, food stamps, medically disabled on disability, EPA, health care, discriminatory practices and so much more.

Where is the moral compass, humanitarianism and bridge-building?

I am very saddened by family and friends who voted for this. I cannot relate.

Mail the empty envelopes back

To the person seeking suggestions on how to stop receiving excessive mailings for money. Open the mail, and mail the return envelope (empty) that's inside back to the organization requesting the money. They will eventually get tired of paying postage both ways for nothing.

We need to slow down

My wife and I just returned from a month-long trip to Europe. Traveling across Western Europe - England, Portugal, Spain, France, Italy - we saw drivers who were not only courteous, but knew the rules of the road and obeyed them and traffic laws.

Almost without exception, I cannot drive on a 55-mph road without being passed by car after car doing at least 70-mph, or better. My wife was almost killed nine years ago by an aggressive driver whose speed was estimated to have been 100-110 mph before he rear-ended and totaled her car. He weaved in behind her but couldn't pass because of a dump truck in the other lane. People, slow down obey speed limits and other traffic laws before you injure or kill someone.

As a side note, our county and city commissioners seem to want to raise taxes to boost income. I have an idea: ENFORCE TRAFFIC LAWS, and the fines will be more than adequate for all the pet projects.

Celebrating pride

A large crowd of supporters attended the 14th Annual Treasure Coast PrideFest at Fort Pierce's River Walk Center. The fundraising event, hosted by the nonprofit Pride of the Treasure Coast Inc. fosters acceptance in an informative yet entertaining atmosphere. Here, Kaylee Flick of Fort Pierce enjoying the day's events.

Photo courtesy of MaryAnn Ketcham

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Looking for a home

Tucker

I am a 1.5 year old fun loving boy who has lots of playful energy and is looking for an active young family to play with and love me forever. I know sit, I have big beautiful eyes that can charm anyone especially for a treat, and I am housebroken. I would be a very good boy. Please visit Tucker, and all his adoptable friends, at our Fort Pierce shelter located at 100 Savannah Rd. For more information, please visit our website www.hsslc.org or call 772-461-0687.

Calendar

From page 4

week. *For more information, call (772) 462-2154 or visit* http://library.stlucieco.gov *or email* rovitoa@stlucieco.org.

• **Celebrate Recovery:** 7-9:30 p.m., Fairlawn Baptist Church, 3003 Rhode Island Ave., Fort Pierce. A free, Christ-centered recovery program offered every Tuesday evening. *For more information, call (772) 461-0814.*

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

• **Golf tournament:** LifeBuilders of the Treasure Coast presents its sixth annual Golf Tournament at 1 p.m., Legacy Golf and Tennis Club, 9000 Clubhouse Drive in Port St Lucie. Registration opens at noon and the shotgun start is at 1 p.m. The cost is $125 per golfer and $500 per foursome. There will be on course beverages and snacks, ditty bags, awards cookout. *There are a limited number of slots still available, reserve yours today at* www.LifeBuildersTC.com/golf-2018.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

• **Fitness Hike:** 7-10 a.m., Indrio Savannahs Preserve, 5275 Tozour Road, Fort Pierce. Marsh and grid trails provide scenic views of upland and wetland habitats during this 3-mile hike through this unique preserve. This hike is an opportunity to view bird life such as the Florida Scrub-jay and breath-taking seasonal wildflowers while taking a brisk walk. Free, public is welcome; however, reservations are required as space is limited. *For more information or to register, call (772) 462-2526, email* slchikes@stlucieco.org *or visit* www.slchikes.org.

• **Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful Annual Cleanup Day:** Volunteers will register for the event at the Public Works Department, enjoy a free breakfast, and then be transported by bus to several locations throughout the city that are most in need of cleanup. After the cleanup, buses will bring volunteers back for free lunch, raffles and family-friendly fun. Registration is at 7:30 a.m.; cleanup from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Meet at the Public Works Department, 450 S.W. Thornhill Drive, Port St. Lucie. *For more information, visit* www.cityofpsl.com/government/departments/public-works/keep-port-st-lucie-beautiful/

• **Plants in the Park:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Glidden Park, 911 Parkway Drive (Georgia

See CALENDAR, page 11

Crime

From page 5

munications device to facilitate a felony.

Jospeh Noel, 23, 5620 Spanish River Road, Fort Pierce, arrested on an out-of-county (Broward) felony warrant on a violation of probation for possession of counterfeit license plate.

Henry Obert, 42, 3382 S.W. Vendome St., Port St. Lucie, arrested on an active St. Lucie County felony warrant for felony retail theft in concert with others.

Harold Powell, 47, 3265-35 S. US Hwy. 1, Fort Pierce, cruelty toward a child – abuse without great bodily harm.

Florida Highway Patrol

Craig Robinson, 28, 2902 Zora Neale Drive, Fort Pierce, driving with a suspended license as a habitual offender.

City requests Becker Road changes

Council divided over concentration of office zoning and limitation of roadway to four lanes

By Donald Rodrigue
For Hometown News

PORT ST. LUCIE -- The City Council voted 4-1 April 9 to ask the State of Florida to review and approve an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan changing much of the single-family residential zoning along Becker Road to a new Office designation in order to manage future growth along the corridor.

Council members originally tried to tackle the transmittal hearing Feb. 26 but postponed the discussion so the city planning staff could hold a March meeting for additional public comment. During that meeting, Mayor Gregory Oravec asked Planning Director Patti Tobin to provide a historical overview of the roadway in question since many long-time residents had questioned him about an original plan developed by the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council more than 10 years prior. During the rescheduled hearing, Mayor Oravec quoted from the TCRPC plan, explaining that the city council of the time found it too cost prohibitive and shelved the majority of it.

"They have some dos and don'ts," he said. "No six-laning of Becker, they want the traffic calming and landscaped medians, wide sidewalks, street lighting, bicycle paths and bike racks, covered bus stops for children and all the different land uses."

The latest plan drafted by Ms. Tobin and her staff recommends changing the future land use of nearly 200 acres along the four-mile corridor between I-95 and the Florida Turnpike primarily to a new Office designation. In addition to the Office zoning, approximately 20 acres would be changed to limited commercial, 59 acres to medium density residential, seven acres to mixed-use and nearly 10 acres left in open space. Mayor Oravec balked at the plan's proposal to potentially send office buildings four blocks inward from Becker Road.

"That is way more intense that I was hoping for, and I'm not going to be able to support this plan and carry it forward," he said. "I feel like tactically we just put some land uses in there, and I don't think that we had a strategy that really shared the vision of what this is going to look like. I don't think that we thought about creating 83 acres of additional office space that intrudes into single family."

At least one member of the public, Diana Morrison, concurred with the mayor.

"I'm concerned about empty buildings, and I don't want to see a lot of development in this area where right now it's a quaint neighborhood and have it turned into a lot of empty office buildings or retail or anything of that nature," she said. "I don't want buildings built just for the sake of building and then not have them occupied."

Ms. Tobin, however, defended the wider office zoning of the latest plan, saying the city needed to learn its lesson from the tight strip mall development along Port St. Lucie Boulevard.

"I can tell you that 125 feet of depth is very difficult to develop in -- we're dealing with that now between Airoso and U.S. 1," she said. "Having two or three lots on Port St. Lucie Boulevard is not a very workable project, and I think you can see the dynamics of that with the parking lot of the animal hospital just east of here. I think we've learned from our experiences in implementing these conversion areas over the last 30 to 35 years that having these small sites isn't beneficial."

Councilwoman Jolien Carballo admitted she'd never before seen the 10-year-old TCRPC plan but liked many of the suggestions it put forth, such as plazas, roundabouts and urban development similar to Tradition. Vice-Mayor Martin, who along with Ms. Tobin had helped organize the neighborhood meetings, expressed frustration that the conversation had suddenly become focused on ideas that the city had no money to implement.

Councilman John Carvelli -- who cast the lone dissenting vote -- worried that city planners had not taken into account the potential traffic impact the nearby jobs corridor could have on Becker Road since it connects two major north-south highways.

"You go to St. Lucie West Boulevard where I live, and the road is just getting eaten up and beaten up by that heavy traffic flow and it makes it hard for people to get in and out of those plazas," he said.

Councilman Carvelli then asked Ms. Tobin and her staff if they could tweak the plan to include additional right of way along Becker for potential future expansion to six lanes, a request that further exasperated the vice-mayor.

"We said we don't want it that way, the residents don't want that and planning doesn't want that," Ms. Martin emphasized. "We lowered the intensity -- that was the whole part of this -- and how can you plan for a road in 10 or 15 years from now when Becker Road is going to be the last to be developed? So for you to see you want to address a road when it doesn't even have any development and when we don't really know 100 percent what it's going to look like

See BECKER, page 12

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ON CARS
EARL STEWART

I receive phone calls, texts, and emails from car buyers who have usually "already bought a car". The "horse is out of the barn" and they want me to give them advice on how to get it back. Most of these car buyers went car shopping and bought their car alone. Most of the complaints involve verbal promises by the sales person, not committed to writing. Bringing at least one other person when you're car shopping doesn't negate the importance of getting all promises in writing, but substantially lowers the chances of a car salesman trying to pull a fast one. The salesman and his manager know that, in court, two people's word trumps that of one.

A woman wrote me a letter in response to one of my columns. Her husband had recently passed away and this was the first car she had bought on her own. The dealer did not have the model car with the accessories she wanted and was unable to locate one at another dealership. She did not want to decide without seeing the actual car she wanted to buy but the salesman and manger talked her into signing a buyer's order, assuring her that she was under no obligation to buy. They also included two accessories that she did not want because they said that "the manufacturer required it". I've heard of distributors ordering cars with certain accessories from the manufacturer which essentially makes them "standard", but never "$250 floor mats" which was one of the accessories she mentioned. I get a lot of emails, phone calls, and letters from people who made a bad deal in their car purchase and want to know how they can get out of it. This is one of the less egregious, but I chose it because it was a simpler and shorter example.

There is strength in numbers when shopping and negotiating to buy a car. In fact, this applies to any serious decision in life. You might be the sharpest, shrewdest negotiator on the block, but your odds of striking a better deal and not get taken advantage of are enhanced when you have others on your side. Personally, I make a habit of always having at least one partner when I am engaged in a serious, adversarial decision-making process. When meeting with those on the other side, I make it a point to arrive with at least as many people as they have present. One reason is the psychological factor. When you are in an office by yourself with two or three others, it can be intimidating. Another reason is that you always have people on your side to corroborate what was said. If a salesman or a sales manager makes a verbal promise that can be corroborated by a friend or two, it is far less likely to be broken. It will also hold up in court, if it must come to that. Of course, the better solution is to see that all promises are committed to writing.

Buying a car, especially a new car, is more often than not, an emotional decision. Having a friend or two with you can help you make more of an analytical, logical decision. Another point of view is always useful when making an important decision. Also, having one or two friends with you slows down the process to a level more easily absorbed and understood by you. A friend will often think of a question you should have asked but forgot.

Ideally you should bring someone with you who is skilled in negotiation and experienced in buying cars. However, if you don't know someone like that, somebody is better than nobody.

Please understand that asking a friends, family member, or associates to join you in the purchasing of a car is not a sign of weakness; on the contrary, it's a sign of intelligence and a sign of understanding how to stack the deck in your favor in a negotiation.

By the way, most car dealers are unhappy when prospective customers bring in advisors and friends. Naturally they feel that way because they recognize their chances of making a fast, very profitable sale are diminished.

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The faces of pride

Adam Barta, Billboard top 20 recording artist and viral video superstar, hosted the Treasure Coast Pride Fest

A large crowd of supporters attended the 14th Annual Treasure Coast PrideFest at Fort Pierce's River Walk Center. The fundraising event, hosted by the nonprofit Pride of the Treasure Coast Inc. fosters acceptance in an informative yet entertaining atmosphere.

Above: Edgar Rivas of Stuart helps Miss Space Coast Pride 2017 Azhiatz Li with her crown

Right: Casandra Guerra of Fort Pierce hangs out by the bandstand to hear the music

Photos courtesy of MaryAnn Ketcham

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‘Baby Otter’ swim program prevents drownings

By Gaylon Parker
gparker@hometownnewsol.com

TREASURE COAST – A program started by a pair of Florida women is helping to prevent drownings. The Baby Otter Swim School is a state-wide teaching plan that helps children as young as 8-months-old learn how to save themselves in the event they fall into a pool or body of water and is designed to make Florida a “no-drowning-state,” according to creators Marlene Bloom and Mindy York.

They said the tragedy is that drowning deaths in Florida are far too common in the Sunshine State, which holds the moniker as “Drowning Capitol” of the U.S. Their take on the subject is that the drowning deaths are usually a completely preventable occurrence.

While they may have a long way to go, Ms. Bloom, 71, and Ms. York, 62, earlier this month signed on vacation destination giant, Club Med in Port St. Lucie, to help further their mission. Best of all, Club Med has opened its Sandpiper Bay Resort to local area residents, who can now have their youngest of children learn to swim in just five, 30-minute private lessons.

It is designed to ensure that even the youngest of children are safe in the water, and the Baby Otter Swim School is now celebrating 40 years in business and may possibly be the world’s fastest learn-to-swim and water survival program.

Also, new franchises are popping up every day, and on the website are instructions on how nearly anybody can join in the effort and help save lives. Licensing and training take only a few weeks and then people can earn money while teaching young children to save themselves. Ms. York added one story that involved a young boy who ended up in a pool while attending a backyard gathering with his parents. The child had previously gone through the program and fell into the water – unbeknownst to anybody there – and eventually came inside the house soaking wet, and the parents quickly realized that he had made his way out of the pool due to the training he received from Baby Otter.

In the pursuit of establishing Florida as a “Zero-Drowning State,” Club Med has started using Baby Otter-licensed instructors and its proprietary “Turn, Kick, Reach system” at its lone Florida property — Sandpiper Bay resort in Port St. Lucie.

Marlene Bloom and Mindy York

Ms. Bloom is an elementary school teacher who founded the company 40 years ago after being unable to find someone to teach her 18-month daughter because she was “too young,” while Ms. York, joined Ms. Bloom 10 years later after finding her own 18-month old daughter at the bottom of her backyard pool and performing CPR to save her life. Thirty years later, Ms. York’s daughter is one of the company’s top instructors.

“I called the Red Cross and the YMCA, and she wasn’t 3 years old yet, so they said there were no programs for her,” Ms. Bloom said. “So I spent the summer experimenting with my friends’ children, and came up with this five-day Turn, Kick Reach program, which saves lives now instead of taking months for a child to learn how to swim.”

“I realized that Marlene was really onto something, and as an educator she realized that lesson plans that work in a classroom would work as well in the pool,” Ms. York said. “So, what sets us apart from others is that we are program-based and not lesson-plan based … children can learn to swim to the steps, to the wall and if they fall into the water they can turn around and get out.”

The company ambassador is baseball Hall of Fame outfielder Andre ‘The Hawk’ Dawson, 62, who is now a Miami resident who utilized Ms. Bloom and Ms. York’s program to learn how to swim at the age of 49.

For more information, visit https://babyotterswimschool.com/.

Calendar

From page 7

and 10th Street), Fort Pierce. This Multi-Club Plant Sale is sponsored by the Garden Club of Fort Pierce and features locally grown plants: violets, orchids, tropicals, landscape bromeliads, and more from non-profit societies and information booths staffed by a dozen horticultural and environmental groups. Admission and parking are free. *For information or directions, call Janie Zezeck at (772) 801-6056.*

• **SLC Safety Festival:** Fourth annual festival will be held rain or shine from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., First Data Field, 525 N.W. Peacock Blvd., Port St. Lucie. The event will feature all things safety related: home, driver, water, bike, pedestrian, pet, ID, school, hurricane safety and more. There will also be a Kids Zone including free bounce houses. Displays and demonstrations by local first responders will include a SWAT Team demonstration, a burn unit-fire demonstration, jaws-of-life demonstration, a kids zone, arts/crafts, food/drink, vendors and more. Free admission and free parking. A portion of the proceeds of the event will benefit The Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County, We Leap (Domestic Violence Awareness) and local veterans. *For more information, visit* http://

See CALENDAR, page 12

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Corridor

From page 1

by Tradition Land Company, and Mr. Blackburn calls the area a win-win for the city's future economic expansion. City Electric has set up shop in the area in the coming months, and Torrey Pines, Tradition Medical Center and Keiser University all call the area home. If the city is able to acquire the land and become the developer, it could mean quicker approval of potential sites and could create more than 20,000 jobs over time.

The company has reached its development limits and were trying to recoup as much of their money as possible, and that land will soon be sold pertaining to the remaining residential properties and the commercial properties as well.

"They have come to the city and said they are going to exit the city, and sold lands to a premier residential company called Mattamy Homes, but that left the commercial properties – the industrial, light industrial, the research properties – they could not sell those, and one of the reasons was that those properties have a special assessment on them that are pledged to repay the special assessment-debt," Mr. Blackburn said. "The commercial properties sell fairly slowly, and they're saying they don't want to stay in an absorb what we're being told is 1,247 acres, and they've notified us that they are offering the city the 1,247 acres of land, but that if we don't accept it they will stop paying taxes on it, and let it go for tax certificate sales and tax sales."

So, instead of letting that happen, the city has a chance to create jobs and become the developer. That would help the city avoid the potential legal wrangling that has plagued City Center and start working on bringing in companies to the spot where new businesses can locate and ties up the assessment payments that other potential property owners might be making in the event the land is sold.

"We have to pay the debt service on the binds for the infrastructure … that exit off of I-95, and those are all things the public has benefited from, but the debt service is probably 85 percent of the total tax bill," Mr. Blackburn said. "That total tax bill would be about $5.1M per year, and $4.1M of that is the debt service and that would have to paid in any circumstance."

So what is at issue, with a pending vote by the Port St. Lucie City Council in late May, is whether the city will assume ownership on the properties and get to work encouraging companies to move to town. Also, the total tax bill decreases every time a piece of property is sold along the way.

"It seems more prudent, and a better business decision, that if you're going to have to pay the debt service anyway to not let the jobs corridor get caught in a morass of legal issues and financial issues," Mr. Blackburn said. "This lets the momentum that's happening in the Southern Grove area continues and it lets new businesses buy property from the city to grow their business and grow jobs in our community."

For more information, visit www.cityofpsl.com or call 772-871-5225.

Calendar

From page 11

slcsafetyfest.com/

- **Family Reading Festival:** Ninth annual event will be held in combination with the Safety Fest. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., First Data Field (Mets Stadium), 525 N.W. Peacock Blvd., Port St. Lucie. Free St. Lucie Mets game ticket to the first 300 children and free goodie bags provided by the Children's Services Council. Meet awesome authors in Author Alley, play literacy games and win prizes, read to a V.I.P., make a puppet and put on a show, read comics, try slam poetry, browse books from the Scholastic Book Fair or visit the Book Exchange. Free vision screenings offered through the Lions Club. *For more information visit* http://slcsafetyfest.com/reading-festival/
- **Democratic Women's Club of St Lucie County:** Monthly meeting is the fourth Saturday each month, 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the community room located in the main building of the Garber Buick GMC dealership, 5255 U.S. 1, Fort Pierce. Park in the rear parking lot. *For more information, email* dwcstlucie@gmail.com.

Becker

From page 8

until it's time to look at redesigning the road just does not make sense to me."

Mayor Oravec then attempted to mediate the dispute.

"It's okay to have different opinions," he said. "If Councilman Carvelli wants to abdicate this as a six-lane road, then we should create zoned right-of-way that other places have, that's completely legitimate. We've got to respect the diversity of opinions so we can get to the best possible place."

Vice-Mayor Martin then offered an olive branch to the mayor in hopes of winning his support for the amendment.

"I have no problem modifying it even further to maybe take out some of the Office," she said. "But we all said -- and mayor you also said -- that single-family homes don't belong on major arterials. So what do we put in place of Office? If we're going to go back to residential, that's exactly what we said that we don't want to see."

"I'd like to see more multi-family," he replied. "I was hoping it would be much more multi-family in nature."

Ms. Tobin emphasized, however, that most residents expressed a preference for office buildings over multi-family housing.

"You and I know Mayor as planners that [multi-family] is the next transitional use, but that use goes on 24 hours as opposed to most offices, which are generally eight to five," she explained. "If we had not received that input from both those meetings, I think we would have made major changes, but I think the vice mayor can attest to the concern with the multi-family in this and other areas of the city."

Mayor Oravec ultimately cast his hat into the ring as well.

"You know I never have my mind made up when I come here because how could you without taking testimony from the public and also listening to the debate from the Council," he said. "So I find the vice mayor's request for camaraderie and teamwork to be compelling so I'm going to vote in support of it tonight."

Ms. Tobin emphasized the state would have 30 days to return any suggested amendment revisions to the city, and then the Council would have 180 days to pass the final version in order to utilize a $40,000 state grant for crafting the associated land development regulations.

SafetyFest 2018 heads to First Data Field April 28

By Gaylon Parker
gparker@hometownnewsol.com

PORT ST LUCIE – The fourth-annual Safety Fest, which is one of the biggest annual events of its kind, will be held at First Data Field on April 28, starting at 9 a.m. The event will feature live demonstrations by our First Responders, Touch-a-Truck, free kids zone, static displays and much more.

Among the lineup of events will be: 10 a.m. -- Jaws of Life; 10:30 a.m. – Port St. Lucie PD K9; 11 a.m. – SWAT Team/SWAT Medic; 12 p – HazMat; 12:30 p.m. – SWAT; 1 p.m. – Police Motorcycle, and 1:30 p.m. -- Environmental Resources. The event is scheduled to end at about 2 p.m.

"In addition, attendees will be able to meet our First Responders, learn about what they are doing to keep our community safe and interact with area leaders including many of the WPBF 25 on-air personalities," according to a press release. "Kids of all ages will be able to get photos on fire trucks, bulldozers, brush trucks, police cruisers, motorcycles, a helicopter and more. A variety of bounce houses, face painting and a clown will fill the kids zone and it is all free.

See SAFETY, page 14

Horoscopes

ARIES - March 21/April 20
Aries, soon you will be able to clarify your thinking and articulate your needs to others. Until then, you need to wait for an opportunity to share your point of view.

TAURUS - April 21/May 21
Taurus, if you have been struggling with a challenging situation, you'll get some much-needed support this week. Use the break to treat yourself to something special.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21
Some epic action may be on tap for you this week, Gemini. You may have to slow things down if everything is moving too quickly. A lively group of people will join you.

CANCER - June 22/July 22
Cancer, a surge of energy may have you working overtime to complete a task. Just come up for a breather once in a while. Such respites can prove rejuvenating.

LEO - July 23/Aug. 23
Distant lands may be calling you, Leo. So be sure your passport is in order and set up those discount fare alerts to your email. It's time to get away for some R&R.

See SCOPES, page 17

Out & about

THROUGH FRIDAY, APRIL 20

• **Juried photography competition:** "Through the Eye of the Camera" will be at the A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery, from March 16 through April 20. The Backus Museum is located at 500 N. Indian River Drive in Fort Pierce. *For more information, call (772) 465-0630 or visit* www.backusmuseum.com/services.html.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

• **Annual St. Lucie County High School Art Show opening:** 5-8 p.m., during Art Walk, at The Galleria of Pierce Harbor, 100 S. Second Street, Fort Pierce. The exhibit will be on display through May 4. The show is open to all St. Lucie County high school art students; each teacher chooses a limited number of entries to submit. Typically all students receive one of three designations — emerging artist, award of merit, or award of excellence. Awards will be given for Best of Show, as well as first, second and third places in sculpture, ceramics, drawing, photography, digital, painting and mixed media. The show and opening is free and open to the public. *Sponsors would be greatly appreciated; look for the GoFundMe campaign for the St. Lucie Co High School Art Show, or email* alison.graham-divan@stlucieschools.org *or* karla.giametta@stlucieschools.org.

• **Food Truck Invasion:** This event is hosted at Tradition Square on the first and third Friday of the month from 5-9:30 p.m. Catch us as we invade Tradition in Port St Lucie. We'll have the food trucks parked at Tradition Square. This is a huge outdoor picnic where food trucks of different origins, cuisine and menus prepare food that is cooked to order. A great deal of fusion

See OUT, page 14

Touring with the Townies

Gene (shown) and Mary Stacer, from Vero Beach, took their copy of Hometown News on a cruise in Central America, Harvest Caye, Belize, on Norwegian Jade, March 12-23, 2018, to Panama Canal, Honduras, Costa Rica, and Mexico. Bon Voyage!

Are you a fan of the Hometown News? Well, we are inviting you to take us along on your next adventure.

Each week, we will feature a different reader-submitted photo that showcases one (or more) of our Treasure Coast residents reading the Hometown News in a unique or exotic place. Whether you take a trip to the Grand Canyon or a cruise to the Bahamas, bring your Hometown News with you and have someone snap a picture.

Email your photo (at least 1 MB in size) to *news@hometownnewsol.com* and include your first and last name, the city you live in and the location/date of where the photo was taken. Type 'TOURING WITH THE TOWNIES' in the subject line.

Out

From page 13

cuisine, comfort foods and sweet treats to choose from. Be sure to bring your folding chairs or blankets to picnic on the lawn at Tradition Town Hall.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20 — SATURDAY, APRIL 21

• **'The Planets:'** Hallstrom Planetarium, IRSC main campus, 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. In a recorded narration, Kate Mulgrew (Captain Janeway of 'Star Trek: Voyager') takes us on a grand tour of the solar system. Explore the surfaces of Mars, the perils of the asteroid belt, the cold rings of stormy gas planets and the features of other solar systems. Show times are Friday at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Saturday at 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Tickets are $5. *Contact*

See OUT, page 15

Safety

From page 13

There will be Mets tickets, mini beach balls and other giveaways during the day."

"In Port St. Lucie, we're proud to be the safest large city in Florida. It's something worth celebrating, and, in addition to having a good time for a great reason, the Safety Festival allows you, our citizens, to come out and meet the brave men and women who keep us safe and for all of us to learn and talk about how we might become an even safer community in the years to come," said Port St. Lucie Mayor Greg Oravec.

Participating agencies include the St. Lucie County Fire District, St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office, Port St. Lucie Police Department, Air Methods, St. Lucie Public Schools, St. Lucie County Public Safety, Emergency Management, Environmental Resources, Safer St. Lucie, Fish and Wildlife, Florida Division of Forestry, Florida Highway Patrol, Florida Department of Health, Coast Guard Auxiliary, American Red Cross, Martin Health, City of Port St. Lucie, St. Lucie County, Blood One, Southern Eagle Distributing, Peter W. Busch Family Foundation, Toyota Center of Stuart, SL Reading Coalition and more.

"It's highly popular; we expect somewhere around 15,000-plus people this year, and we bring really big crowds out there to see the first-responders do their live demonstrations, the touch-a-trucks and various displays and free information," said Douglass Farrell, the event's organizer. "We will have a kids' zone and lots of vendors. People get to meet the sheriff and fire chief and the police chief, and they are all on site."

It comes at a perfect time of year, with summer just around the corner, and the event is designed to keep children active and safe during the school break. There will be a swimming pool on site that will be the site of drown-proofing demonstrations, for example. County lifeguards also will be on hand for water-safety discussions, along with the marine unit from the SLCSO and the Fish & Wildlife Commission.

The SLC Safety Festival is free to attend with free parking. For more information, please call Lisa at 772-337-0049 or visit www.slcsafetyfest.com.

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Kevin Breau, from Mashpee, Mass., caught this 19-inch Snook on South Hutchinson Island in Jensen Beach, in front of Island Beach Resort.

Help us celebrate one of the Treasure Coast's most popular pastimes by submitting a photo of your most recent catch – straight from local waters.

Email a photo of you with your fish that is at least 1 MB or 300 dpi in size to news@hometownnewsol.com.

Write "CATCH OF THE WEEK " in the subject line, and in the body of the email, please include the following information:

- Your name
- City you live in
- Age (if 18 or younger)
- Type of fish
- Approximate size of fish
- Area you caught the fish
- Phone number in case we have questions (will not be printed)

Out

From page 14

the IRSC box office at (772) 462-4750 or email boxoffice@irsc.edu.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

• **Earth Day Festival:** "Live Green and Prosper," the 14th annual event, will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Oxbow Eco-Center, 5400 N.E. St. James Drive, Port St. Lucie. Free. Join your friends and neighbors in a celebration of all that wildlife and wild lands offer us – beauty, inspiration, vital resources, and a sense of belonging to a community. Learn more about stewardship of our natural resources, conservation, organizations and businesses committed to sustainability, and have fun celebrating the Earth. *For more information, call (772) 785-5833 or visit* www.oxboweco.com.

• **Women's Fashion Show:** The 28th annual Port St. Lucie Business Women Fashion Show will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Harbour Ridge Yacht & Country Club, 12600 N.W. Harbour Ridge Blvd., Palm City. The fundraiser supports Community Action Grants & Award and IRSC scholarships. Tickets are $55 per person. *Contact Angela Hayle at (772) 985-5256 or* secretary@PSLBW.com, *or visit* www.PSLBW.com

• **'From Classical to Contemporary:'** 2 p.m., McAlpin Fine Arts Center, IRSC main campus, 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. Under the direction of Dr. John Southall, the IRSC Wind Ensemble presents a repertoire of music from classical to contemporary, including selections from classical wind, band, Broadway and the movies. Tickets are $15. *Contact the IRSC box office at (772) 462-4750 or email* boxoffice@irsc.edu.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

• **Ladybug Launch:** 12-2 p.m., Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, 2410 S.E. Westmoreland Blvd., Port St. Lucie. Meant for children ages 5-12 and their families. Have fun releasing ladybugs into the gardens and learn more about hem. PSL Rocks will be on-hand for an afternoon of rock painting as well. *Registration is appreciated; call (772) 337-1959.*

• **Charity Poker Run on the Water:** New event will be held from 12-4 p.m., Fort Pierce Yacht Club, 700 N. Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce. Event will benefit a summer internship in marine research at FAU Harbor Branch Oceanographic

See OUT, page 18

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After hibernating all winter, it's time to check your equipment

GOLF
JAMES STAMMER

Many year-round Florida golfers take the winter off. Between crowded tee sheets and higher prices, many choose to let their games hibernate. By now, some of you are dusting off your clubs in anticipation of that first round since late last year. If you plan to play your best golf this spring and summer, it's important that your equipment is up to the task.

You need to take a good look at your clubs. Examine the heads, grips and shafts. Most importantly, make sure that they are as ready to play as you.

Start with your grips. Grips are probably the most overlooked part of a club. Since the grip is the only place that you actually contact the club, your grips must be in good shape for you to maintain control and hit good shots.

If your grips are simply dirty, wash them. It's a good idea to wash your grips every couple of weeks in soap and water. Between the dirt and oil on your hands, and the dirt and dust that settle into your golf bag, you'd be surprised how much crud you need to remove.

Have you ever watched the pro caddies as they hand a club to or take a club from their player? They almost always wipe the grip off with a towel. Players want a dry and clean grip for every shot. Many have their grip s replaced every month or so on Tour. Of course, they get all this done by the club or grip companies that they have contracts with, but it does give you an idea how important your grips truly are.

If your grips are hard or show wear in spots from where you hold the club, then it's time for replacements. When you replace your grips, take a look at your hand size in relationship to the grip size. Properly sized grips are an easy change to make and one that will make you a more consistent player.

Larger grips take your wrists out of your swing and may help you if you're hitting an ugly hook. Smaller grips will help to promote a release and may help get rid of a push or fade. Think about making sure that all of your grips, except for your putter, are the same. This is one way to allow your hands to have the same feel with every club in the bag.

The shafts are next. Check for rust. Surface rust can be removed with WD-40 or a No. 2 pencil. If the rust returns, it's time to replace the shaft before it fails. A more serious shaft problem would be a dent, ding or bend in a steel shaft. These make the shaft weak and inconsistent, and it should be replaced to avoid having it fail during a swing.

With graphite shafts check to make sure that the shafts aren't wearing where they touch the top of your golf bag. Over time, many graphite shafts will have a worn patch from rubbing against the bag. A good solution to this is using covers that protect that area or a bag designed to protect graphite shafts.

How do the club-heads look? Clean out the grooves with a brush and some soap and water. The buildup of dirt in the grooves prevents the club from imparting the proper spin on the ball. A ball with little or no spin acts like a knuckle ball in the air and doesn't penetrate the wind or fly very far.

I am surprised at some of the clubs that I see when I play. I've seen wedges with so much dirt in the grooves that it's no wonder they cannot stop a shot or put spin on the ball.

Lastly, check the loft and lie. Clubs can get out of alignment through normal play. A properly lofted set will not have any distance gaps.

A club that sits too flat will cause the toe to dig in, opening the clubface giving you a slice or fade. A club that sits too upright will allow the heel to dig in, closing the clubface, producing a hook.

If you're not sure how to check all of these items yourself, call your local shop. Most shops charge a small fee to adjust your clubs, and many will check them for free when replacing your grips.

This weekend take some time to check your clubs and get them ready for the season. Who knows, maybe your swing isn't what needs to be fixed.

James Stammer has been an avid golfer and golf enthusiast for nearly 40 years. He hosts the Thursday Night Golf Show on WSTU 1450-AM. Contact him at stammer-

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Serve hot food hot and cold food cold

CHEF COSTA'S COOKING CORNER
COSTA MAGOULAS

Being a chef can be like the character from the TV series Monk, who had outstanding powers of observation he called a blessing and a curse.

Being a chef, I have been trained in the culinary arts, which I take seriously. That has been a blessing for me.

Hot food should be served hot and cold food served cold is an important part of that training and that is where the curse comes in. My family does not understand that simple action.

People everywhere that love to cook will tell you they get their satisfaction from cooking and watching others enjoy their labors. Unfortunately, in creating a great hot meal and then serving it cold, there is no satisfaction. That is the curse for a chef … a great meal gone bad.

My wife came from a large family and hot food probably wasn't high on the list at dinner, because just trying to get everyone fed was the goal. Serving food at the proper temperature for a chef is a rule that cannot be broken. It goes against all of my training and drives me totally bonkers.

Let me give you a few examples. It's time to eat and I announce dinner is ready, then everyone disappears. People are going to the bathroom, going out to get the mail, answering the phone. It's dinner time!

So now I announce dinner 5 minutes early to give everyone a chance to prepare to eat. When I make salad, which is usually every day, I keep it in the refrigerator just prior to eating and not letting it sit on the table for 10 minutes. I also keep the salad dressing refrigerated as well. I have the oven on low to keep food warm, and I place the serving plate in the oven also on very low just prior to eating. Hot food – hot plate, it's not that hard.

Here are a few tips when serving pancakes or French toast. Heat the syrup or honey in the microwave for a few seconds.

Next time you make steak or chops and want steak sauce, heat it up in the microwave for a few seconds.

If you have a ceiling fan in the dining area, turn it off. It will cool off food quicker. Serve hot food hot, cold food cold and this will make everyone happy, especially me.

SWEET POTATO SOUP

Serves 4-6 (serve hot)

Ingredients
1-1/2 pounds baked sweet potatoes, peeled or (3-3/4 cups canned sweet potatoes)
2 tablespoons butter
1 cup red onions, chopped
2 cups celery, chopped
2 teaspoons ground ginger
5 cups chicken stock
1 cup half and half cream
1 teaspoon white ground pepper
1 tablespoon honey

Directions

Heat the butter in a six-quart pot and cook over medium heat. Add the onions and celery to the pot and cook until onions and celery are tender. Add chicken stock, half and half, sweet potatoes, honey, white pepper, ground ginger and cook over low heat for 2 to 4 minutes until hot.

Place soup in a blender or use an immersion blender and mix until smooth. Serve hot.

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

Scopes

From page 13

VIRGO - Aug. 24/Sept. 22
Virgo, be careful what you wish for, as you may just get everything you desire. It's uncertain how things may turn out, so be ready to make changes as needed.

LIBRA - Sept. 23/Oct. 23
Is love in the air, Libra? If you are feeling more amorous than usual, you may be ready for a new relationship or ready to add some spice to your current one.

SCORPIO - Oct. 24/Nov. 22
Health, wisdom and wealth could be in your sights, Scorpio. Why not throw in being well-liked as well? This is your time to soar. Enjoy the ride while it lasts.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov. 23/Dec. 21
Devote more time to self-care right now, Sagittarius. You may need some time to yourself to recharge. When you are done, you can once again be a person of action.

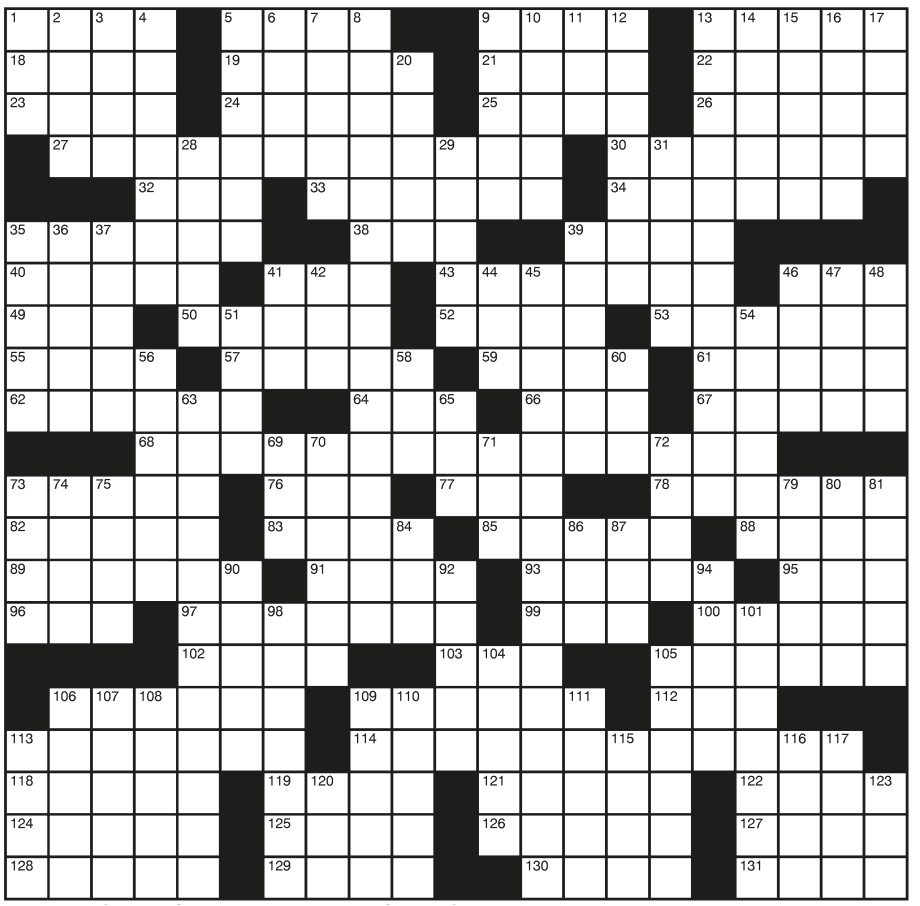
CAPRICORN - Dec. 22/Jan. 20
Capricorn, you may be feeling a little wild this week or ready to just hang around in your pajamas and relax. Either way works as long as you're happy doing it.

AQUARIUS - Jan. 21/Feb. 18
Your powers of persuasion are dialed up, Aquarius. You can convince others of just about anything you want them to do right now. Use this skill wisely.

PISCES - Feb. 19/March 20
Pisces, a love of fine things could find you in financial peril if you are not careful with spending. Set limits on how much you treat yourself.

Flexible

Edited by Linda and Charles Preston



Answers Located in the Classified Section

ACROSS

1 Fraud
5 Kingpin
9 Des. manual
13 Urgency
18 Hindu melody pattern
19 Supports
21 Novel's main character
22 ___ ease: jittery
23 Dance ___
24 Headpiece for the prom?
25 On ___: equal
26 Furry marsupial
27 Instigate recall
30 Electra's brother
32 Gold in Granada
33 Clerical scarfs
34 Type of bug?
35 Defensive tree barrier
38 Heel
39 Insipid
40 Billiards stroke
41 Sturdy wood
43 Needle-shaped
46 Jet malady
49 Scrap
50 Croatian tourist spot
52 Greenish blue
53 Dismay
55 Booty
57 Wood strips
59 Bell sound
61 Textile fiber
62 Provoke
64 Dawn goddess
66 Atlas rd.
67 Incensed
68 Accept an offer eagerly
73 Surprise win
76 Russian govt. unit
77 Alouetta's friend
78 Trojan hero
82 Signified
83 Porgy
85 Appropriate
88 ___ -a-whirl
89 Compartments
91 Elevator name
93 Thrusting weapons
95 Ram's mate
96 Fort ___
97 Descriptive cognomen
99 Mehitabel, for one
100 ___ the hole
102 Rattles
103 ___ loss
105 Beautifies
106 Spurious
109 Repulsive
112 Greek letter
113 Message bearers
114 Relax requirements
118 Work a slide fastener
119 Bearing
121 Swimmer Nyad
122 Sleep like ___
124 Take care of
125 Mine access
126 Wise lawgiver
127 Room, in Spain
128 Ruhr city
129 Signifies assent
130 Cozy place
131 "SNL's" Samberg

DOWN

1 Madrid Mrs.
2 Pilgrimage to Mecca
3 Exchange premium
4 Insect larvae
5 Anticlimax
6 Drama award
7 Wrinkles
8 Exaggerate
9 Portion
10 Diarist Samuel
11 Notable time
12 Flower petals
13 Raise the ante
14 East Flanders city
15 List of candidates
16 Former German coin
17 Greek letters
20 Pacific island group
28 Essays
29 ___ the hills
31 Steer catcher
35 Soap plant
36 Sacha ___ Cohen
37 Noted merchant
39 Inhalation
41 ___ carte
42 Pose
44 Upper limit
45 Act prudently
46 Tibetan monk
47 Descended
48 Jane Lynch TV series
51 ___ bargain
54 Primary relative
56 Flair
58 Barfly
60 Grazing area
63 Have a head start
65 ___ Na Na
69 Ltr. addition
70 Broad neckties
71 Rhea's relative
72 Scruff
73 Shield boss
74 Type of review
75 Chalcedony
79 Sea duck
80 Bitter crystal
81 British guns
84 Key lime product
86 ___ tree: stumped
87 Soak flax
90 Designer Kate
92 Wood coloring
94 Hindu holy man
98 ___ Triathlon
101 ___ cucumber
104 Producer Mike and others
105 Unmitigated
106 Stamp sheets
107 Shapes' partner
108 Cream of the crop
109 El ___: Sudan city
110 Impressions
111 Fracking rock
113 Ruminate
115 Son of Seth
116 Spirit
117 Auctioneer's word
120 Altar response
123 Author Talese

Celebrate Earth Day 2018

GARDEN NOOK
JOE ZELENAK

With all of the things that have been evolving with our earth, Earth Day is becoming more and more of an important event in our society. Earth day is a day we can look around and see all the wonders that nature has bestowed on us. It is also a great time to think about how we can protect and beautify our environment. This task can be as simple as planting a single tree to beautify our yard or possibly planting a colorful garden for all to enjoy on your property or even to donate your time to a local garden club to help beautify an area of your city or town. With the growing needs of our fragile environment, now more then ever, 2013 will be an important year to do everything we can to both beautify and balance our environment.

The idea of Earth Day was initiated in 1962 as a way to get people aware of what is going on in our environment. It started with President Kennedy in 1963 when he took a five-day conservation tour of our nation. The first official Earth Day was on April 22, 1970. Since then, Earth Day has blossomed into a national celebration where people initiate ideas that can help make our environment more eye appealing and a better place to live.

With all the hype on how we are depleting our cypress forests by the use of cypress mulch, there are many other natural alternatives we can use that are both functional and also will save our natural resources. One thing we can use that we all have plenty of is natural grass clippings. That's right; grass clippings can make an excellent mulching material that you can use on almost all your plants and flowers. You do need to be sure, however, that your turf has not been recently treated with any herbicides. The herbicides may damage some of your tender plants. Place the clippings around your plants in layers. Make each of your layers thin and do not make it too thick, as the mulch will produce a smell. Apply the next thin layer after the initial layer has been allowed to dry out. As the clippings decompose, they will produce a fertilizing effect on your plants. The clippings tend to add nutrients back to the soil as they decay and work their way into the dirt. Remember, every time you buy a bag of mulch, trees had to be cut down to produce it!

Another great natural mulching material is pine needles. This material is not suitable for all plants, but is great for the majority of plants we use in this part of Florida. You can use pine clippings on any plants that are acid loving. This list can include ixoria, hibiscus, bottlebrush, azalea, gardenia, junipers, and banana trees along with many other plants that require a high acid content in the soil. Not only do many of these natural remedies save resources, they also save you money. Doing large areas of your yard with commercial products can cost a fortune. With the money you save on mulching materials, you will be able to purchase lots more colorful flowers!

Many of your favorite plants that you have in your yard can be easily propagated into new plants without the need to keep buying new plants. Roses are a great example of this. In the spring, you can choose cuttings that are healthy and green and they will make good candidates for cuttings. Using a sharp knife cut off the soft tip of the cane and then cut it into 4- to 5-inch pieces. Each piece should have at least two nodes and some leaves. Strip off the bottom leaves to expose a node, and then plant the cutting in moist soil and keep it in bright shade and high humidity. You can use containers covered with plastic bags, or set them in the ground in the shade and cover them with plastic jugs. Either method should work fine. Take several cuttings to be sure you have success with at least several. You are now on your way to propagating your own Rose garden!

Remember, earth day is April 22, 2018.

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

Out

From page 15

Institute. Open to motorized and paddle entries. Co-sponsors desired, and those interested in co-sponsoring the event should go to the website to donate or contact Fort Pierce Yacht Club chair Diane Korbey at (772) 678-1623. *Register online at* www.fortpierceyachtclub.com.

• **'Salute to Choral Masterworks:'** 2 p.m., McAlpin Fine Arts Center, IRSC main campus, 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. Choir concert exploring the outstanding legacy of Western European art music. General admission tickets are $15. *Contact the IRSC box office at (772) 462-4750 or email* boxoffice@irsc.edu.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

• **Tuesday Night Jazz Jam:** Presented by the Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society from 7-10 p.m. at the Black Box at Sunrise Theatre, 117 S. Second Street, Fort Pierce. Sit-in participation welcome. *Call (772) 460-5299 or visit* www.jazzsociety.org.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

• **Weekly Latin Dance:** Every Wednesday night, 8-11 p.m., Midtown Grill & Bar, Fort Pierce. Salsa, Merengue, Bachata. $5. *For more information, (703) 402-3645.*

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

• **Dance:** 7-9:30 p.m. every Thursday, Polish American Club, 343 Prima Vista Blvd., Port St. Lucie. $8 per person. BYOB and soda. *For reservations, call Cindy, (508) 287-3370.*

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

• **'Home is the Key - Tiny Home Project:'** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Lucie Habitat for Humanity Port St. Lucie ReStore, 10185 S. U.S. 1, Port St. Lucie. April is Habitat for Humanity's month to shine a light on the need for affordable housing in our community and engage people to learn more about Habitat's work, get involved, and donate to our mission. Take tiny home tours, enjoy food trucks, children's crafts, face painting, raffles, and a live auction of the tiny home. Proceeds from the winning bid will go toward building affordable housing in our community. *For more information, contact Melissa Winstead at (772) 464-1117 or* Melissa@stluciehabitat.org, *or visit* www.stluciehabitat.org/home-is-the-key--tiny-home-project/

• **SLC Safety Festival:** Fourth annual festival will be held rain or shine from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., First Data Field, 525 N.W. Peacock Blvd., Port St. Lucie. The event will feature all things safety related: home, driver, water, bike, pedestrian, pet, ID, school, hurricane safety and more. There will also be a Kids Zone including free bounce houses. Displays and demonstrations by local first responders will include a SWAT Team demonstration, a burn unit-fire demonstration, jaws-of-life demonstration, a kids zone, arts/crafts, food/drink, vendors and more. Free admission and free parking. A portion of the proceeds of the event will benefit The Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County, We Leap (Domestic Violence Awareness) and local veterans. *For more information, visit* http://slcsafetyfest.com/

• **Family Reading Festival:** Ninth annual event will be held in combination with the Safety Fest. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., First Data Field (Mets Stadium), 525 N.W. Peacock Blvd., Port St. Lucie. Free St. Lucie Mets game ticket to the first 300 children and free goodie bags provided by the Children's Services Council. Meet awesome authors in Author Alley, play literacy games and win prizes, read to a V.I.P., make a puppet and put on a show, read comics, try slam poetry, browse books from the Scholastic Book Fair or visit the Book Exchange. Free vision screenings offered through the Lions Club. *For more information visit* http://slcsafetyfest.com/reading-festival/

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LEGAL NOTICES

5010 Notice of Action

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION
TO: Natalie S. Martin
St. Lucie County
Case No.: CD201801356/D 1620050
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 5708, Tallahassee, Florida 32314-5708. 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: 4/13/18, 4/20/18, 4/27/18 & 5/4/18

5020 Notice to Creditors

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
IN RE: ESTATE OF MARGARET . STARKEY, Deceased. File No.: 2018CP000374
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Margaret E. Starkey, deceased, whose date of death was February 14, 2018, is pending in the Circuit Court for St. Lucie County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is P.O. Box 700, Fort Pierce, Florida 34954. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is April 13, 2018.
Personal Representative: Patricia Smith n/k/a Patricia Flaherty, 425 NW Canterbury Court, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34982Attorney for Personal Representative: Joshua K. Crawford, Florida Bar Number: 0104959, Kulas Law Group, 2100 SE Hillmoor Drive, Suite 105, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34952, Telephone: 772-398-0720, Fax: 772-398-9331, E-Mail: information@kulaslaw.com, Secondary E-Mail: peggy@kulaslaw.com
Pubs: 4/13/18 & 4/20/18

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
IN RE: ESTATE OF JOYCE A. MADRID, Deceased. FILE NO.: 562018CP000344
XXX-HC
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Joyce A. Madrid, deceased, whose date of death was February 25, 2018, is pending in the Circuit Court for St. Lucie County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is P.O. Box 700, Ft. Pierce, Florida 34954. The names and addresses of the personal representatives and the personal representatives' attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of the first publication of this notice is April 13, 2018.
Personal Representatives: Edward L. Madrid, 597 SE Sweet Avenue, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34983 & Steven E. Madrid, 21416 Dolphin Avenue, Panama City, Florida 32413
Attorney for Personal Representatives: Brad Avakina, Attorney, Florida Bar Number: 99692, The Grantham Law Firm, 1860 Forest Hill Blvd., Suite 105, West Palm Beach, FL 33406-6086, Telephone: 561-246-3866, Fax: 561-966-3860, E-Mail: brad@kirkgrantham.com, Secondary: E-Mail: jane@kirkgrantham.com
Pubs: 4/13/18 & 4/20/18

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. LUCIE COUNTY STATE OF FLORIDA, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
IN RE: ESTATE OF THOMAS J. KUKTA, SR., Deceased. File No. 562018CP000303FM
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Thomas J. Kukta, Sr., deceased, whose date of death was January 15, 2018, is pending in the Circuit Court for St. Lucie County, Florida, Probate Division, the address is P.O. Box 700, Fort Pierce, FL 34950. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN THE FLORIDA STATUTES WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of the first publication of this notice is April 13, 2018.
Personal Representative: Roseann Gavlin, 447 N. Laurel Drive, Margate, FL 33063
Attorney for Personal Representative: Charles E. Ray, Florida Bar No. 0301981, 887 E. Prima Vista Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34952, Email: crayjl@comcast.net Telephone: 772-336-3745
Pubs: 4/13/18 & 4/20/18

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. LUCIE COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
IN RE: ESTATE OF VERA PICOS, Deceased. File No. 2018CP000364
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Vera Picos, deceased, whose date of death was February 21, 2018, is pending in the Circuit Court for St. Lucie County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is P.O. Box 700, Fort Pierce, Florida 34954. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative´s attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent´s estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent´s estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT´S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is April 13, 2018.
Personal Representative: Debra Jean Labigang, 3724 St. Francis Road, Fort Pierce, Florida 34982
Attorney for Personal Representative: Roger N. Messer, Esq., Florida Bar No. 0230571, Messer & Messer Law Offices, 1555 NW St. Lucie West Blvd., NW, Suite 202, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, Telephone: 772-879-3000 Fax: 772-879-3098 Email: Roger@messer.comcastbiz.net Pubs: 4/13/18 & 4/20/18

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
PROBATE DIVISION
IN RE: ESTATE OF FRANCES R. ELKINS, deceased. File No: 56-2018-CP-00409
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Frances R. Elkins, Deceased, whose date of death was March 1, 2018, is pending in the Circuit Court for St. Lucie County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 201 S. Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce, FL 34950. The name and address of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative´s attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent´s estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this Court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE TO THEM.
All other creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent´s estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED SO WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT´S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this Notice is April 13, 2018.
Personal Representative: Irving Cowan, 20155 NE 38th Court Unit 2801, Aventura, FL 33180-3270
Attorney for Personal Representative: Robert J. Gorman, Esquire, Fla. Bar No. 224286, 1209 Delaware Avenue, Fort Pierce, FL 34950 772-465-5311/ Fax: 772-465-5722
Pubs: 4/13/18 & 4/20/18

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION IN RE: ESTATE OF FRANCES LICAUSI, Deceased. File No. 562018CP000356
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(Summary Administration)
TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE: You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of Frances Licausi, deceased, by the Circuit Court for St. Lucie County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 201 South Indian River Dr., Fort Pierce, FL 34950; that the decedent's date of death was February 9, 2018; that the total value of the estate is $0.00 - exempt homestead property only and that the name and address of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are: Joseph Licausi, 1253 Andalusia Avenue, Coral Gables, FL 33134.
ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT: All creditors of the estate of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent other than those for whom provision for full payment was made in the Order of Summary Administration must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of first publication of this Notice is April 20, 2018. Person Giving Notice: Joseph Licausi, 1253 Andalusia Avenue, Coral Gables, FL 33134
Attorney for Person Giving Notice: Patricia A. Baldwin, E-Mail Address: pabaldwin@pabaldwin law.com, Florida Bar No. 0072494, Patricia A. Baldwin, P.A., 8000 S. Federal Highway, Suite 300, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34952, Telephone: (772) 336-1661 Pubs: 4/20/18 & 4/27/18

5060 Notice of Sale

MY TOWING gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicle/vessel on 5/4/2018, 10:00 am at 1786 SW Biltmore St. Port St. Lucie, FL 34984, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. MY TOWING reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.
2000 BMW
WBABM3343YJN85401
Pub: 4/20/18

Notice is hereby given that the contents of the rental units herein will be offered for sale at public auction per the Florida Self Storage Act (Statutes/Sections 83.901-83.809) on May 6th, at 10:15am, or thereafter. The sale will occur on premises at Ekonomy Self Storage 2732 SW Buckhart Street, Port Saint Lucie, Florida 34953.
Unit # Name
A121 Brian Giratoudis
C433 Jeffrey O'Brien
Ekonomy Self Storage Inc, reserves the right to reject all bids. Purchases must be made at the time of sale by "CASH ONLY" All contents of the unit must be removed immediately, or the purchaser must rent the storage unit containing the items. Sale is subject to cancellation at any time. The property list contained herein will be sold to satisfy liens imposed by Ekonomy Self Storage Inc.

5060 Notice of Sale

Pubs: 4/20/18 & 4/27/18

NOTICE OF SALE
Public sale notice is hereby given that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below under the Florida Self Storage Facility Act. Florida Statue Section(s) 83.801 83.908. The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding starting at 11:30 AM, Saturday, May 5, 2018 at Commerce Park Self Storage, 2171 NW Reserve Park Trace, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986. The following all consists of miscellaneous goods:
Unit # Name
025 Peggy Lee Black
044 Melissa Cottrell
Pubs: 4/20/18 & 4/27/18

Public notice is hereby given that Kauffs of Ft. Pierce, Inc. will hold public auction at 10:00 AM on 5/8/2018 at: Kauffs of Ft. Pierce, Inc. 8920 Glades Cut Off Rd Port St Lucie, FL 34986-2701 Pursuant to the laws of the state the following vehicles will be sold to the highest bidder.
01 AUDI ID# TRUTC28N811002192
07 AUDI ID# WAUDH48H77K021323
98 FORD ID# 1FAFP6630WK257916
05 INFINTI ID# JNKCV51F35M304775
00 INTERNATIONAL ID# 1HTSCABM2YH294670
00 LEXUS ID# JT6GF10U5Y0078363
15 MAZDA ID# JM1GJ1W59F1217537
02 MITSUBISHI ID# JA3AJ26EX2U014207
MONSTER MOTO ID# A6M12AAACHLB13741
02 NISSAN ID# 1N4BL11D12C137401
02 NISSAN ID# 5N1ED28T72C506863
04 NISSAN ID# 1N4AL11D14C197614
06 PONTIAC ID# 1G2ZH158764149564
01 SAAB ID# YS3ED48E413040561
01 TOYOTA ID# JTEGF21A510028292
YAMAHA ID# NO ID
05 YAMAHA ID# KYACBU9C25A001810
Terms of the sale are cash and no checks are accepted. Seller reserves the right to final bid. All sales are final. No refunds will be made. Said auto will sold "as-is" with no guarantee.
Pub: 4/20/2018

Public sale notice is hereby given that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below under the Florida Self Storage Facility Act. Florida Statute Section(s) 83.801 83.908. The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding starting at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, April 28, 2018, at St. James Self Storage, 600 N.W. Airoso Blvd, Port St. Lucie, FL 34983. The following all consists of miscellaneous goods:
Unit # Name
D309 Douglas Ketcham
C206 John Darlson
All purchases are sold as is. All purchases must be paid in cash and removed from the premises by end of the business day.
Pubs: 4/13/18 & 4/20/18

5060 Notice of Sale

NOTICE OF SALE
In accordance with the provisions of State Law, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner and/or manager's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at Life Storage location(s) listed below. And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the below stated location(s) to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on Wednesday, May 9, 2018 @ 12:15 PM 10725 S. Federal Hwy. Port St. Lucie, FL 34952. 772-337-5445,
Name Contents

Sandy Diaz - Hsld gds/Furn/Boxes

George M Kuruc Jr - Hsld gds/Furn/Boxes

Robert Miller - Hsld gds/Furn/Boxes

Benjamen Rolli - Hsld gds/Furn/Boxes/TV/Stereo Equip/Tools/Applnces/Acctng rcrds/Sales Sampls

Debra Duncan - Hsld gds/Furn/Boxes

Affordable Plum Solutions Of The Tre - Overstock from plumbing business

Pub Datess: 4/20/18 & 4/27/18

5060 Notice of Sale

NOTICE OF SALE
In accordance with the provisions of State law, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner and/or manager's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at the Life Storage location(s) listed below.
And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the below stated location(s) to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on: Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 9:30 am at 420 NW Peacock Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34986Name Inventory
James Kelly Hall - Hsld gds/Furn.
Rebecca L. Carmody - Hsld gds/Furn, boxes
Kathryn M. Gilmore - Hsld gds/Furn, boxes
Jeanette Pierce - Hsld gds/Furn, office furn/mach/equip
Richard Robinson Jr - Hsld gds/Furn, boxes
Yendryc Veloz - Hsld gds/Furn, boxes
Daniel Gore - Hsld gds/Furn, boxes, TV/stereo equip, tools, applnces
Roger Butterfield - Hsld gds/Furn, boxes
Martin Suarez - Hsld gds/Furn, boxesPubs: 4/13/18 & 4/20/18

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TRANSPORTATION

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'07 CHEVY UPLANDER Auto, A/C, 7 Passenger, 104k Mi's, Mint Condition $2,975
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2006 DODGE MAGNUM 4dr, Auto, C/D, Chrome Wheels, Black/Gray $2,975
772-672-4404 DLR

940 RV/Travel Trailers/Campers

915 Automobiles

2011 FORD FOCUS 4dr, 5 speed, silver/grey, Cold A/C, CD Player $2,675
772-672-4404 DLR

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Running or not
Free pickup!
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950 Trucks/Vans

1994 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS 1 Owner, 60k Original Miles, Auto, Cold A/C, Loaded, Alloy Wheels $2,575
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2000 BUICK PARK AVE 4dr, Auto, Cold A/C, Full Power, Runs Great! $1,275
772-672-4404 DLR

2003 HONDA ODYSSEY EX Auto, A/C, PW, PL, Tilt, CC, 126k, $1,975
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DODGE TOWN & COUNTRY HANDICAP VAN 2015. 10 lowered floor, wheelchair ramp & tie down. 321-735-9432

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2. Each ad runs for 2 weeks
3. No more than 2 ads per month (1 per week).
4. All **FREE** ads must be submitted by mail, fax or email. Please include your name and address with your ad.

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

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Fax to: **1-888-232-8513**

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Sat &Sun 1-3 B&B Realty Spanish Lakes One
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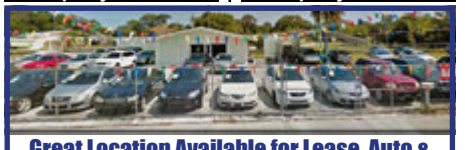

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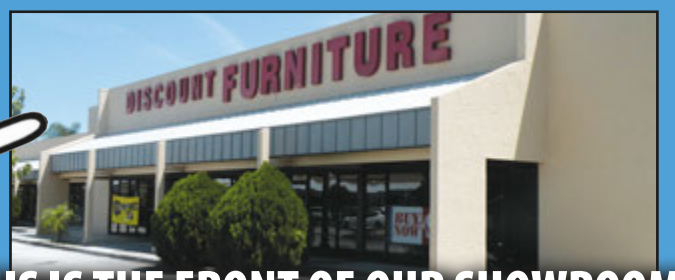

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LIFT RECLINER
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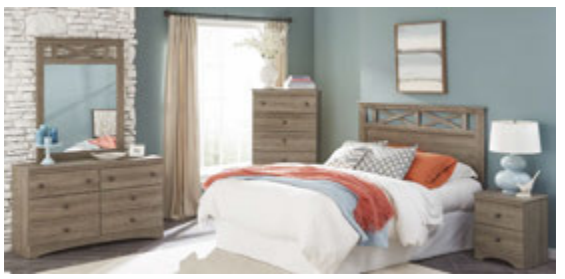
DISCOUNT PRICE $399



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DRESSER, MIRROR, HEADBOARD, AND NIGHTSTAND
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YOUR CHOICE OF COLOR
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COMPARE TO $599
DISCOUNT PRICE $369
TWIN/TWIN STORAGE
STAIR STEPPER BUNKBED
COMPARE TO $999
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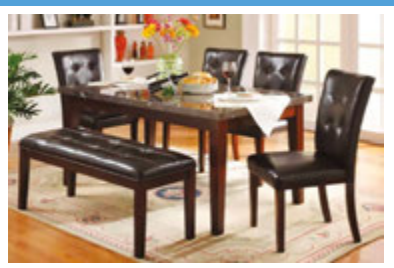

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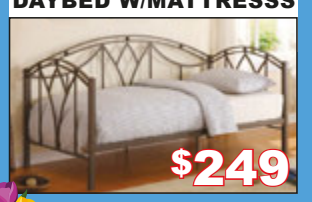

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TWIN	FROM $69 EA. PC.	$ 89 EA. PC.
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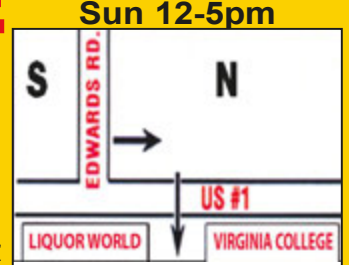

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