

Hometown News

SEBASTIAN RIVER AREA

FOR THE SWEET TOOTH

Decadent dessert ideas for the New Year
Page B4



INSIDE

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BEST OF THE BLOTTER
JAY MEISEL

Some criminal cases are unusual, humorous or just outright odd. And there's no shortage of them on the Treasure Coast. This column highlights cases that often leave observers shaking their heads.

Have it her way

At a fast-food restaurant that advertises, "Have it your way," an employee wanted to have it her way to work and get extra money to spend.

The Fort Pierce woman was arrested after a customer reported someone used his debit card to make purchases.

The customer told authorities he paid for his food order at the restaurant, but failed to notice the employee did not return his debit card.

The customer reported he paid \$19.10 for his food order. Apparently, not long after that, he got a call from a bank saying someone had attempted to use his debit card to make a \$900 purchase at a store.

The employee who used the debit card later said she bought cigarettes, beer, Red Bull, barbecue food and then attempted to buy a \$900 necklace for her boyfriend.

If the woman ends up serving time in jail or prison, she probably won't get a choice of extra pickles or mayonnaise on her hamburger.

What you get for thinking the wrong way

A bondsman and Indian River County authorities spent more than three hours looking for a Fellsmere man

See **BLOTTER, A5**

COMMUNITY B1

A HELPING HAND



Couple supports plans for a program to help the homeless

GOLF B6

TOP GOLF STORIES



Top seven stories in golf in 2011

WEEKEND WEATHER



Friday: Partly cloudy; high: 73; low: 65; high tide: 1:19 p.m.; low tide: 7:37 p.m.
Saturday: Partly cloudy; high: 75; low: 61; high tide: 2:03 p.m.; low tide: 8:29 p.m.

Sunday: Isolated thunderstorms; high: 74; low: 60; high tide: 2:52 p.m.; low tide: 9:24 p.m.

Weather courtesy of www.weather.com

INDEX

Business	A7	Out & About	B1
Classified	B7	Police Report	A5
Crossword	B5	Rants & Raves	A6
Golf	B6	Star Scopes	B1
Obituaries	B6	Viewpoint	A6

Some impact fees to be refunded soon

By Jessica Tuggle
jtuggle@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Refunding unused traffic impact fees, the topic of many a long discussion in the Indian River County Commission chambers this year, may soon find its way to the pockets of some county residents.

The commissioners voted during the Dec. 30

meeting 4-1 to refund some of the money in a traffic impact fee fund to current residents in the barrier island area.

About \$132,000 is what is left of unspent traffic impact fees collected on the barrier island area before 1999, along with some interest. The total fund amount is more than \$1 million, but it was unclear exactly how much

See **FEES, A5**

Looking back at 2011 headlines

By Jessica Tuggle
jtuggle@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — As new calendars are replaced by old ones with empty squares, reflection of the past year is inevitable.

In no particular order, here are some of the top stories *Hometown News* reported in 2011.

O'Malley name returns to sports in

Vero Beach

On Nov. 10, Minor League Baseball officials and managers at Vero Beach Sports

See **HEADLINES, A3**

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Piper seeks changes to contract

By Jessica Tuggle
jtuggle@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — An incentive package granted to Piper Aircraft by state and local governments may be renegotiated, said company officials.

Piper Aircraft sent a document to the state asking for forgiveness for incentive funds already spent and to renegotiate the remaining funds available and state officials have been open to renegotiations, said Jackie Carlon, company spokeswoman.

"We're reviewing their response and preparing a response to their response," she said.

The state is willing to renegotiate the terms of the financial incentive package and extend it to 2015, Ms. Carlon said.

In the original agreement certain employment levels

See **PIPER, A2**

Marathon baseball fundraiser to help Vero Beach family



Nick Masiello, 14, kneeling, catches for Zach Roberts, 13, as they practice for a marathon baseball tournament for Vero Beach resident, Brian Simpson, who was killed when he arrived home while a man and a juvenile were burglarizing his house.

Cliff Partlow
staff photographer

Proceeds to go to family of man killed in robbery homicide

By Jessica Tuggle
jtuggle@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH/TREASURE COAST — Swinging a bat and catching a ball will be more than just fun and games next month during a marathon baseball fundraiser in Vero Beach.

Beneficiaries of the

fundraiser are the family of the late Brian Simpson — a Vero Beach resident shot and murdered in his home in November when he walked in on two men burglarizing his home — his widow Kristen, and two children, Samantha, 15, and Scott, 14.

Scott and his family were

well-known in baseball circles in the area. Scott has played for the Gifford Middle School baseball team, the Vero Beach Junior Baseball League and the Treasure Coast Hurricanes travel baseball team, so it seemed fitting to help and support the family in a sport that Mr. Simpson loved and shared

with his family, said Larry Lawson, coach of the Treasure Coast Hurricanes 14- and under travel team.

Baseball players between 13 and 17 are invited to come out and play three innings of baseball to support a fellow baseball family

See **FUNDRAISER, A2**

Be the wind in their sails

Youth sailing foundation hosts open house, fundraiser

By Jessica Tuggle
jtuggle@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Aspiring sailors can learn nautical terms, boat building and sailing skills in Vero Beach with the nonprofit organization, Youth Sailing Foundation.

The foundation's annual open house is scheduled for Jan. 15 at the Vero Beach city marina storage complex, just south of the Vero Beach Yacht Club. Within the complex, volunteers and students work together to build sailing dinghies.

Visitors can talk with program volunteers, stu-

dent sailors, view small sailboats and more in the group's shop and storage area at the city marina.

The workshop will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and pizza will be served, said Chris Pope, one of the event organizers.

The nonprofit will sell T-shirts to raise funds for the sailing program, but financial donations of any size are always welcome.

The boats students build and learn to sail are 8-foot "Optimist" wooden sailing dinghies from pre-cut kits that cost about \$1,600, Mrs. Pope said.

A majority of the boats

current students practice their sailing skills on were purchased with donated funds and allowed students who couldn't afford to purchase their own kit to still learn how to sail, she said.

"We hold our open house on Martin Luther King Jr. Day because children are out of school and we hope that they can come," Mrs. Pope said.

Sailing instruction is available to any child in Indian River County between the ages of 7 and 15. Usually past that age, the teens become too large for the sailing dinghies the foundation currently uses,

she said.

All children have to pass a swimming test, as well.

Students and volunteers who are building boats meet at the marina from 9 a.m. to noon nearly every Saturday.

The sailors meet nearly every Saturday from noon until 3 p.m. to practice their skills, and if the weather is bad, they receive classroom instruction, Mrs. Pope said.

Because of the holidays, the next time the students will meet will be Jan. 7.

The students end up

See **SAILS, A5**

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Fundraiser

From page A1

that is hurting emotionally and financially right now, and do it in an area rich in baseball history such as Vero Beach, Mr. Lawson said.

The marathon baseball fundraiser will take place at 9 a.m. on Jan. 15 at Bob Summers Field on 3451 Indian River Drive East, Vero Beach.

Players can pre-register for the fundraising event now and pay \$15. Same-day registration will be available on a limited basis at \$5 per inning as available, a press release said.

The idea for the fundraiser came from a teammate, Jordan Mazzerella. The Vero Beach community has jumped onboard to help out, Mr. Lawson said.

"This is an unbelievable community effort. I'm impressed and touched at the overwhelming support for the Simpson family. It really tells you something about the good out there," he said.

In addition to the player fee, funds raised at concessions and during raffles throughout the day will support the cause.

Special guests are scheduled to visit the field during the event, including Jarrod Saltalamacchia, starting catcher for the Boston Red Sox and former pitcher for the Los Angeles Dodgers, Ron Perranowski, and will be available to sign autographs, Mr. Lawson said.

"Brian was a great dad, and loved and supported his son in every possible way. They are a great family and we wanted to do something for them," he said.

"All proceeds raised for this will go to the Simpson family, every dime," Mr. Lawson said.

Friends of the Simpson family will also hold a 5k race on Jan. 14 at South Beach Park. Pre-registration is available at Runners Depot at 46 21st St., Vero Beach.

For more information, contact Mr. Lawson at (772) 633-3955 or visit www.treasurecoasthurricanes.com.

Crime

From page A1

framing hammer to bludgeon his parents to death on July 16.

When police arrived at the home after the murders, Tyler initially told them his parents were out of town, police said.

But officers found his parents dead on the floor of the master bedroom, covered in a variety of items. The hammer was lying between the bodies, police said.

A juvenile told authorities Tyler told him he was going to kill his parents and then later confessing to killing them.

Prisoners escape from Indian River County jail

Indian River County authorities scrambled after two prisoners — one convicted of murder and the



Rondell Reed



Leviticus Taylor

other awaiting trial on a charge of murder — escaped from the Indian River County jail.

Rondell H. Reed, 52, and Leviticus Uriah Taylor, 25, escaped Oct. 23 by getting through a vent and a locked door and making their way over several raiser-wire topped fences.

The investigation as to how they accomplished that continued weeks later.

Mr. Taylor's respite from incarceration didn't occur long, as the next day a Martin County detective spotted a man fitting his description walking down U.S. 1 in Stuart.

Mr. Taylor is believed to have gone to a theater and watched a movie during his brief period of freedom.

He was convicted of murdering Nester Perez of Vero Beach during a 2009 burglary.

Meanwhile, authorities in Warren County, Ohio, arrested Mr. Reed after a brief chase on Interstate-75.

During his escape, Mr. Reed hid in a vacant house in Sebastian, stole a car and then stole another vehicle in Macon, Ga.

He was arrested earlier in the year and charged in connection with the murder of James Malone, who owned Jim's Automotive in Sebastian.

Since his escape, Mr. Reed pled guilty to a charge of first-degree murder and has been sent to a state prison.

Sheriff decides not to seek re-election

Martin County Sheriff Robert Crowder, who has held his position for 20 years and worked in law enforcement for nearly half a century, announced he will not seek re-election.

In the wake of the announcement, two Martin County residents announced their decisions to seek election in 2012.

One is State Rep. William Snyder, who once served as a major in the Martin County Sheriff's Office.

The other is John Pietruszewski, a major with the Martin County Sheriff's Office, who has worked there for 28 years.

Elsewhere on the Treasure Coast, St. Lucie County Sheriff Ken Mascara announced his candidacy for re-election. So far no one has announced they will oppose him.

Decapitated body found in Indian River County

A decapitated body, later identified as that of Douglas Frasier Jr. 21, of Vero Beach, was discovered in the backyard of a foreclosed house west of Vero Beach.

At the time of his murder,

Mr. Frasier was on probation after being convicted of burglary and theft.

As of press time, Indian River County authorities had made no arrests in connection with the murder.

Authorities said the death was a homicide, but have released few details beyond that. There has been speculation that animals were responsible for the body being decapitated.

Man murders two women, then commits suicide

Apparently some type of argument resulted in a Fort Pierce man shooting his wife and her mother before killing himself at their residence at 511 Quincy Ave.

The bodies of Robin Carrier, 49, and her daughter, Stephanie Carrier, 22, were found in the kitchen of the residence.

Police discovered the body of Christopher Covington inside the garage.

A 3-year-old daughter of Mr. Covington and Ms. Carrier was found unharmed.

Employee accused of murdering attorney

After an attorney in St. Lucie County accused one employee of stealing from him, authorities say she and her boyfriend, who was also an employee of the attorney, conspired to murder him.

Thomas J. Barnard, the boyfriend, was arrested earlier this year and accused of murdering Ashley Ronald Pollow, the attorney, on Nov. 28, 2010 and then pouring sulfuric acid on his body.

An informant told police that Mr. Barnard confessed to the murder after they talked about a book written by O.J. Simpson. In the book, "If I Did It," Mr. Simpson talked hypothetically about the murders of Nicole Brown Simpson, his then wife and Ronald Goldman, her friend. He was acquitted of those murders.

In an odd twist involving Mr. Pollow, it was disclosed after his murder, that law enforcement officers had saved Mr. Pollow from possibly being murdered.

A man who was charged with killing his mother in Port St. Lucie went to Mr. Pollow's residence and threatened to kill him, accusing him of trying to steal his girlfriend, authorities said.

Lawmen, who tracked the man to Mr. Pollow's residence, then arrested him.

Police arrest gang members

Fort Pierce Police arrested members of the 13th Street gang last February, saying they were linked to murders,

drug sales and robberies.

Police said the investigation indicated members of the gang were responsible for several unsolved homicides during the past 15 years.

The five arrested members of the gang were identified to police as being enforcers.

Three arrested in connection with murder

St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office investigators arrested three young men in connection with the murder of another in Lakewood Park.

Investigators believe the shooting followed a fight that resulted from a car running over a bottle.

The three suspects are believed to have been leaving the residence when their vehicle ran over the bottle. They apparently thought someone had thrown something at the vehicle.

Later, the suspects are believed to have returned to the residence and started firing shots into the residence.

Daniel White, a resident of the house, was shot and subsequently died.

Charged with first-degree murder in connection with his death were Samuel Eugene Cleare, Greg Anthony Ferraro and Joshua Troy-David Giovengo.

Two men charged with murder in death of Vero Beach man

Until earlier this month, there hadn't been a murder on the beach side of Vero Beach in 15 years.

But that changed when police say two men entered the residence of Brian Simpson, 41, to burglarize it.

The burglary turned into murder when Mr. Simpson arrived home and then was fatally shot.

Henry Jones Jr. 23, and Darius Robinson, 16, were charged with first-degree murder in connection with the murder of Mr. Simpson.

The two were nabbed days after the murder when they are believed to have returned to retrieve the murder weapon, which was stashed on the island.

Some reported the men were behaving suspiciously, which led to police arresting them on a charge of loitering and prowling.

Man shot after responding to companionship ad

In one of the more unusual crime stories that made news during 2011, a Martin County man was shot after he responded in Stuart to an ad for companionship.

Jason Diodato and his wife, Sarah, placed the ad.

Initially, Mr. Diodato told authorities he shot the man after he attacked his wife and Mr. Diodato. But authorities later arrested Mr. Diodato, accusing him of shooting the man after he wanted the money back that he had paid to have companionship with Ms. Diodato.

Ms. Diodato was subsequently charged with two counts of engaging in prostitution.

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Piper

From page A1

were required for the company to remain qualified for the money, employment levels that Piper is currently falling short of, she said.

The state is willing to renegotiate the employment numbers in the package to reflect the economic times, she said.

The company received \$10.7 million in 2008, \$6.7 million from the state and \$4 million from the local government. Those funds were invested in aircraft research and development and capital improvements.

The state has not requested that those funds be returned, Ms. Carlon

said.

The economy downturn hit the aviation industry quite hard and business numbers have been down, but with the investment of their parent company, Piper officials are confident of the future, despite a large setback with the suspension of the light-jet program in October.

This fall, the official owners of Piper Aircraft took over direct ownership of the aviation company, said Ms. Carlon.

Piper was purchased in spring 2009 from American Capital by an independent sovereign wealth fund managed by Imprimis, a corporate finance and investment management firm. The fund belonged to

the ministry of finance of the government of Brunei.

In October, Imprimis stepped aside from their "middle man" position and Piper is now directly reporting to and communicating with the government of Brunei, Ms. Carlon said.

Brunei is committed to investing in the products put forth by Piper with a long-term relationship mentality, she said.

The cancellation of the Piper Altaire program has nothing to do with the movement to direct communication with the government of Brunei, Ms. Carlon said.

For more information about Piper Aircraft, visit www.piper.com.



File photo

Earlier this year, Piper announced the suspension of the Piper Jet program.

Headlines

From page A1

Village, formerly Dodger-town, issued a press release announcing their intent to add former Los Angeles Dodger president Peter O'Malley, his sister, Terry Seidler and former Dodger pitchers Chan Ho Park and Hideo Nomo to their partnership with Indian River County at Vero Beach Sports Village.

The proposed plan has all five participants with equal ownership. Mr. O'Malley will be the chair-

man and CEO and Mr. O'Conner will be president and COO.

The change is expected to be approved in early 2012 and will add both name recognition and financial backing to the sports complex.

Sebastian working waterfront opens

Late summer saw the opening of Fisherman's Landing, one of the phases of Sebastian's working waterfront program, which included a fish market and eatery.

The eatery closed down after the state found it out

of compliance with guidelines given to secure grant money for the project.

Other phases of the project, such as the construction of the fish house, clam hatchery and ice house, are expected to begin early in 2012.

Legendary Vero Beach High School coach dies

Billy Livings, head football coach of Vero Beach High School from 1980-2005 died after suffering a stroke and undergoing surgery on Oct.13 at age 76.

He was remembered as a father figure by many for-

mer players and fellow coaches, and his legacy for leading teams to winning seasons.

Vero Beach referendum to sell/lease municipal power plant passes, city continues negotiations with FP&L

A referendum asking city voters if the Vero Beach City Council should be given the authority to lease the land underneath the city power plant passed with nearly 66 percent of the vote during the November election.

See HEADLINES, A4

After months of negotiations, Indian River County Commissioners voted to pay maintenance fees to Fellsmere and Vero Beach.

Graphic by Cliff Partlow



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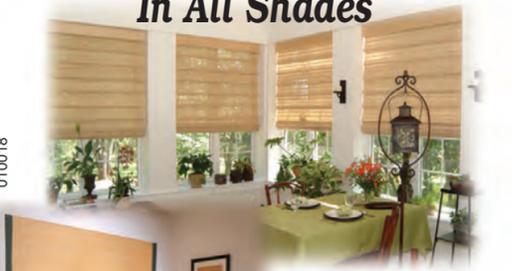


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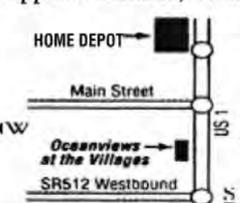
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File photo
 The city of Fellsmere celebrated its 100th birthday in April. Fellsmere historian Clarence 'Korky' Korker left, and Johnny Perez talked about the actual return of the 1916 Fairbanks Morse diesel generator that ran Fellsmere's lights in the evening and the ice house during the day. Mr. Perez owns the generator, which he found in Belle Glade. The 25hp generator weighs just short of 5 tons.



File photo
 Coach Billy Livings' family stood on the 50-yard-line to be honored by friends, players and the Vero Beach High School staff before the Friday, Oct. 21, game in the Citrus Bowl.

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File photo
 Tom Vilsack, U.S. Agriculture secretary, answers questions during a press conference after touring the INEOS BioEnergy facility in Vero Beach in August.

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Headlines
 From page A3

Because the city is currently in exclusive negotiations with a letter of intent agreement to sell the utility to Florida Power and Light, many electric ratepayers, both inside and outside city limits, see the referendum as a clear call to move forward with selling the system.

Vero Beach City Council members have been told by their transactional attorney, John Igoe, negotiations are progressing and even suggested a potential closing date of Dec. 31, 2013.

Fellsmere celebrates 100 years and rededicates schoolhouse

The rededication of the Old Fellsmere school was a key feature in the day-long celebration of Fellsmere's 100th anniversary on April 2. It drew former members of the community back to commemorate the day.

The building cost \$40,000 to build in 1915 and has cost more than \$3 million to restore, according to city council members.

Six direct descendants of city founder E. Nelson Fell, and two of their wives, came from all across the globe to participate in the day's events, received keys to the city and participated in the anniversary parade.

Fran Adams named Indian River County Superintendent of Schools

Fran Adams, former assistant superintendent of curriculum, was appointed by the Indian River County School Board to follow outgoing Superintendent Harry La Cava and took the title of superintendent officially in June.

Ms. Adams has been a part of the district for 28 years, in one capacity or another, including as principal of both Sebastian River and Vero Beach high schools and Citrus Elementary.

County to pay for fire hydrant maintenance

After losing their case in appellate court, Indian River County Commissioners approved paying the city of Fellsmere about \$65,000 in fire hydrant maintenance fees for hydrants and about \$283,900 to the city of Vero Beach for the same service.

In the future, commissioners said they would like the county attorney to discuss the possibility of allowing county utility workers to maintain the hydrants, because it can

See **HEADLINES, A7**

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.

Sebastian Police Department

•Lewis Edwards, 38, 220 Oak St., Fellsmere, was arrested Dec. 15 and charged with being a fugitive from North Carolina and driving while license suspended.
 •Marvin J. Cunningham, 31, 781 Jordan Ave., Sebastian, was arrested Dec. 15 and charged with violation of probation. He was on probation for possession of oxycodone without a prescription.
 •Remus Taylor, 22, 4315 25th Ave., Vero Beach, was arrested Dec. 17 and charged with being a habitual traffic offender.
 •Jeffrey William Harris, 45, 1837 Treasure Point, Stuart, was arrested Dec. 21 and

charged with being a habitual traffic offender.

Indian River County Sheriff's Office

•Nicholas Jonathan Thames, 25, 380 38th Square Southwest, Vero Beach, was arrested Dec. 16 and charged with driving under the influence and violation of probation. He was on probation for possession of more than 20 grams of marijuana.
 •Jarvis D. Bell, 37, 950 Landsdowne Drive, Sebastian, was arrested Dec. 15 and charged with possession of cocaine and possession of oxycodone without a prescription.
 •Devante Tramond Whitehead, 19, 4585 56th Ave., Vero Beach, was arrested Dec. 15 and charged with possession of oxycodone without a prescription and failure to appear in court on a charge of aggravated battery with a deadly weapon.

•Juan Jose Perez, 31, no address given, was arrested Dec. 15 and charged with child abuse.
 •Delmon L. Stephens, 28, 17920 Halton Park Drive, Charlotte, N.C., was arrested Dec. 15 and charged with five counts of uttering a forged instrument and criminal use of personal identification.
 •Leshannon Jerome Shelly, 26, 4120 N. Cypress Green Lane, Gifford, was arrested Dec. 15 and charged with murder and attempted murder.
 •Steven George Sydow, 53, 1934 Westminster Circle, Unit 1, Vero Beach, was arrested Dec. 17 and charged with grand theft.
 •Michael A. Sessions, 52, no address given, was arrested Dec. 17 and charged with battery on a law enforcement officer and disorderly intoxication.
 •Dean Brandon Diciccio, 27, 776 62nd Ave., Vero Beach, was arrested Dec. 17 and charged with violation of pro-

bation. He was on probation for aggravated battery on a pregnant woman.
 •Curtis Benton Whatley, 48, 2675 11th Court, Vero Beach, was arrested Dec. 16 and charged with violation of probation. He was on probation for workman's compensation fraud, third-degree grand theft and perjury.
 •David Medley, 17, 1560 Par Court, Vero Beach, was arrested Dec. 20 and charged with dealing in stolen property.
 •Alison Jo Rowe, 37, 1820 Woodland Circle, Vero Beach, was arrested Dec. 20 and charged with grand theft.
 •Brittany Danielle Brown, 21, 5534 Place Lake Drive, Fort Pierce, was arrested Dec. 20 and charged with grand theft.
 •Leroy Ford, 62, 4265 32nd Ave, Vero Beach, was arrested Dec. 20 and charge with violation of probation. He was on probation for a felony charge not specified in the report.

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•Jeffrey M. Broughton, 23, 3976 47th Place, Vero Beach, was arrested Dec. 20 and charged with burglary, dealing in stolen property and grand theft.
 •Savannah Nicole Massey, 20, 2705 45th St., Vero Beach, was arrested Dec. 20 and charged with violation of probation. She was on probation for burglary of a dwelling and third-degree grand theft.
 •Robert B. Gunter, 30, 1047 10th Lane, Vero Beach, was arrested Dec. 20 and charged with improper exhibition of a weapon.

Florida Highway Patrol

•Steven Joseph Stewart, 36, 62 Sunrise Square, Unit 107, Fellsmere, was arrested Dec. 15 and charged with assault by a prisoner.

Sails

From page A1

learning a lot more than just a new watersport or a wood-crafting skill, Mrs. Pope said.
 "The kids grow so much and learn so much. For many of them, the first time they are in the boat by themselves, it's the first time in their life they have to make decisions for themselves. It matures them, teaches them to be self-reliant and independent. It's amazing to see the confidence in them grow," she said.

Competitive regattas are held in various places on the Space and Treasure Coasts, which is a great incentive to get the students to practice their best and learn all they can, Mrs. Pope said.

Currently, the Youth Sailing Foundation is looking



Photo courtesy of Charlie Pope Cavanaugh and Callahan (inside boat) Corrie work together on an unfinished sailing dinghy at the 2010 Youth Sailing Foundation open house.

for larger boats for larger and older students to transition into, and are hoping to find some in the next few months, so the students can continue following

their passion in sailing, she said.

For more information, call Mrs. Pope at (772) 567-9000 or visit www.yfsirc.org.

Blotter

From page A1

who had his bond revoked and warrants from Brevard County.

They had been told he was last seen going into a bedroom. Eventually, authorities found a hidden floor panel that led to a crawl space.

The man was in the corner of the crawl space with insulation on him to conceal his location.

When discovered, he said, "I would have come out, but I didn't think you would find me down there. I didn't think you would look for me for a stupid out-of-county warrant."

He thought wrong on both counts.

And he may end up in a space that is almost as cramped as the crawl space.

Fees

From page A1

more of the money was interest that would also be returned.

A traffic impact fee is a fee imposed by local governments to offset the costs of new development and its impact on the road system.

Commissioner Bob Solari dissented on the vote because he believes all of the money should be refunded.

County staff wanted to use the whole amount to improve the Highway A1A and 17th Street intersection, but a county ordinance states the impact fee money must be spent within six years of being collected, or be returned to the property owners who paid it out.

If unused after six years, the county then allows homeowners — or those currently living on the property the impact fee paid for — to apply for a refund, for up to one year. If no

one applies, the money reverts back to the county's possession.

Earlier this year, it was brought to the commissioners' attention that the process to get the refunds is confusing and difficult for average homeowners to understand, and the notification process of telling the homeowners the refund is available, isn't clear either. Therefore, several members of the community said the money should still be paid to homeowners, since they weren't aware they could get their money back.

After much discussion, the commissioners voted to pay out the money owed to current property owners in the area, who paid impact fees most recently, or the people who are currently living on the property, and work backward until the money runs out.

For more information about upcoming county government meetings, visit www.ircgov.com.

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Transferring old 'stuff' to new computer

Happy holidays everybody! 2011 has been a quick year. I can hardly believe 2012 is just a couple days away.

If there's one thing I can count on this time of year, it's the inevitable calls I get from people who've been fortunate enough to get a new machine for Christmas, Hanukkah or whatever holiday they celebrate and are puzzled as to how to get all of their "stuff" off of the old machine and onto the new one.

Most people are flabbergasted when they see just how much data has accumulated on their old machine over the years (especially if the machine is six or seven years old.)

These files and such tend to grow, and since we usually only access things one file at a time, it's hard to see the big picture and understand just how much data there actually is.

So what do we do? What's the best method to use for this type of project?

Well, my favorite way of accomplishing the task requires a bit of hardware called an external USB hard drive. And one of the benefits of this method is that once all of the data is moved and the new machine is up and running, the external drive can then be used as a backup drive and the computer set up to back up all the data to it every night, a task that anyone who values their data should have set up anyway.

Now when I mention an external USB drive, please understand I'm not talking about one of these little 8-gigabyte thumb drives that are small enough to hang on your key chain, but an actual external hard drive, with hundreds of gigabytes of storage space. A 250-gigabyte external is about the smallest available these days but you can also find terabyte-sized drives (1,000 gigabytes) for under \$100. Two hundred fifty gigabytes is the smallest that I'd recommend for this job.

OK, so now you have your old machine, your new



COMPUTE THIS
SEAN MCCARTHY

machine and an external hard drive. What's next?

Well, plug the external drive into the old computer and create a new folder on the external drive. Call the folder "from old" or some other name that you'll be able to recognize and work with and then you are going to want to copy "everything" from the C: drive of the old computer to the "from old" folder on the external drive. I recommend (and use myself) a program called "ycopy" available for free from www.download.com (just search for "ycopy" on the download.com page and it will come right up).

I recommend ycopy because when it runs into a file that it can't copy (which it will), it makes a note of it and keeps going. The Windows file copy system, on the other hand, will stop leaving you trying to figure out what made it and what didn't.

Usually the copy process can take several hours, but that's OK, you want to get everything it can so you don't have to keep going back to the old machine looking for forgotten files. If all goes well the "from old" folder on the external drive you should now have a full snapshot of all your data from the old machine.

(You can also use this time to set up your new machine if you haven't already.)

Once the copy process is finished, shut down the old machine and unplug the external drive. Plug the external drive into the new machine and it should show up as a drive in the new computer.

The next step is to copy the "from old" folder from the external drive to the desktop of the new machine. Again, the process may take a couple of hours, but the result is you'll have a folder on your desktop

A few pampered puppies



Photo courtesy of Humane Society

Ilka Daniel, Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County director of animal protective services, feeds one of six puppies left behind at the shelter on Tuesday. The little pup is resting on a stuffed animal that is currently serving as the pups' surrogate mother. The three boys and three girls were about 4-days old. They will be ready for adoption in about eight weeks. For more information call (772) 388-3331.

Rants & raves

Got something to say?

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

or e-mail news@hometownnewsol.com.

Callers are asked to refrain from making slanderous statements. Statements of fact will be checked for accuracy.

President Obama has decided to stop searching for illegal immigrants. It was a leak that let this information be disclosed to the public.

For years he has dragged his feet concerning illegals but this is the last straw.

Halting enforcement of existing statutes flies in the face of the safety and security of law-abiding Americans.

Unhappy holidays

Polls show that 95 percent of Americans celebrate Christmas and 84 percent describe themselves as Christians. We were disappointed, to enter a store and be greeted with "happy holidays."

That may be politically correct but we will not be returning to that store.

Where are the jobs?

Even though President Obama promised millions of new jobs when he promoted his multi-million stimulus program, very little was actually accomplished.

It cost us a huge amount but we wound up with an astronomical debt.

Former New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson had it right when he said, "My next door neighbor's two dogs have created more shovel-ready jobs than this current administration."

Keep the creeps in jail

Police have nabbed a man for stalking. That's not such hot news, but what is astounding is that a background check reveals he had been arrested for stalking other women.

He had been arrested four times in less than a month.

This creep is being held for identity theft, harassment and related offenses. We expect judges to be fair but strict. Wouldn't it be nice if they would keep repeat offenders in jail?

Is it the teachers?

This nation is struggling with a public education system in decline and a new study by the American Enterprise Institute gives some reasons for our lack of success. There is a significant pay gap between overpaid teachers and lower paid, private-sector workers. It may be hard to believe but the SAT scores of college students majoring in education are far below the average of all other college students.

Does this mean teachers are dumber than the others? And, if so, why are teachers getting the highest salaries?

Re-think the FCAT

For too many years, the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test has ruled what is taught and when it is taught. Teachers and students are under the gun to do all in their power to do well on the FCAT. Parents have witnessed their children living in fear of the coming test day. Florida taxpayers have invested millions to establish this extensive testing program, which is in constant change.

Now the state board of education has unanimously approved a tougher scoring system for the FCAT. Bottom line: more students will fail!

The idea of each state setting up its own testing program is WRONG! If, however, students are to be evaluated by tests, using a national testing program would be a better choice.

Florida students should be compared to students throughout the nation. Using a national testing program would save millions that are being spent every year to develop the FCAT. The money saved could be used to improve learning in the classroom.

Florida students will be seeking jobs throughout the United States and therefore, need to see their performance as it compares with students throughout the country.

I feel the FCAT is being used as a political tool to hurt public education.

What happens in Washington...

It's amazing what happens in Washington. When politicians want to grab credit, they shout from the roof tops. When they want to keep things from us, there is a deathly quiet.

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Anna-Marie Menhenott News Clerk
Amanda Tucker Office Manager/Community Relations

Phone (772) 465-5656
Fax (772) 465-5301
Classified (800) 823-0466
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Letters to the editor, 1102 South U.S. 1, Fort Pierce, FL 34950.

Letters must include a phone number and home address for verification. Letters sent without phone numbers and addresses will be published in the Rants & Raves section.

BUSINESS

College to offer insurance courses

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

TREASURE COAST — Indian River State College will offer several pre-licensing courses in the insurance and real estate fields.

Property and casualty for pre-licensing is designed for individuals who are interested in obtaining a Florida property and casualty sales

license. Topics include: auto, fire, liability, workmen's compensation and more.

The class will be offered on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings from Jan. 18 through April 30.

The role of life and health insurance in meeting economic security needs, and types of annuities are explored in life, health and

variable annuities, which will be offered as weekend course on the weekends of Feb. 10, 17 and 24. The course registration number is 165325.

A course in real estate, principles, practices and law, focuses on the theoretical, practical and legal aspects of real estate for pre-licensing for sales associates. It will be held on

Thursday evenings from Jan. 12 to April 26.

All three courses are held at the IRSC main campus in Fort Pierce.

Registration may be completed online at www.irsc.edu at any time and at the nearest IRSC campus beginning Jan. 3.

For more information, call (866) 792-4722 beginning Jan. 3.

Nonprofit selected to receive sneakers

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — The Education Foundation of Indian River County has been selected as an official partner of Payless Gives, an annual giving program from Payless Shoe-Source.

The EF-IRC is among 800 charitable agencies representing 50 states in the U.S., across Canada and Puerto Rico and in 10 Latin American countries to be part of the program.

The EF-IRC will distribute sneakers through the Sneaker Exchange program that serves county public schools.

The Education Foundation operates completely separate from the local school district and is funded almost entirely through private donations and grants. The foundation works closely with the local school district to prioritize program and funding needs.

This unique structure allows the foundation to

direct funding into classrooms, thus avoiding restrictions that often come with other funding sources.

"In its third year, the goal of the Payless Gives Shoes 4 Kids program remains the same: to provide footwear, a basic necessity, to children who might otherwise go without," said LuAnn Via, CEO of Payless.

"The success of the program over the past three years, and the number of children and families we have been able to assist, continues to drive our efforts. Unemployment is still very high, affecting many families that struggle to provide their children with basic essentials," she said.

"This is especially challenging during the holidays, and with the Education Foundation of Indian River County's help, we hope to make a bigger impact than ever this year."

For more information, visit www.edfoundationirc.org email: director@edfoundationirc.org or call (772) 564-0034.

Headlines

From page A4

be done at a much lower rate, possibly \$74 per hydrant, compared to \$225 in Fellsmere or \$150 in Vero Beach.

Piper light-jet program grounded indefinitely

Piper Aircraft administration said the aviation industry and market was not ready to sustain the company's light-jet program, Piper Altaire, and let go nearly 200 employees dedicated to the jet project.

Piper officials said the research and plans for the light jet have been carefully preserved and should the markets turn around, the program may one day be back online.

A state and local financial incentive package given to Piper with benchmarks related to employment levels is under review for possible renegotiation.

National elephant center to build in Fellsmere

Despite objections from local animal advocates, Fellsmere is to be the home of the National Elephant Center, a habitat for elephants and a training facility for veterinarians and elephant keepers, husbandry research and elephant conservation.

Site plan permits have been approved by the city for the 225-acre site, which

is currently citrus groves and farmland zoned for agriculture use.

The facility had previously planned construction in St. Lucie County, but backed away from the plan when certain restrictions on elephant training tools were included in the site permissions.

Waste-to-ethanol plant breaks ground

The trash-to-fuel plant in Indian River County broke ground in February and is estimated to create about 175 construction jobs over the next two years and about 50 full-time jobs long-term.

The Indian River BioEnergy Center is designed to produce 8 million gallons of advanced bioethanol per year from renewable biomass including yard, wood and vegetative wastes, and generate clean renewable power for export to the local market, according to a press release.

As a result of the company moving to the county and information about their progress being documented in trade magazines, other renewable energy, or "green," companies have taken notice and have expressed initial interest in bringing some of their product to Indian River County, officials said.

The plant is expected to be up and running by June 2012.

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Habitat opens new building

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Indian River Habitat for Humanity hosted approximately 200 guests at its new office and training center Nov. 17.

Friends, volunteers, donors, city and county officials, homeowners and staff joined to celebrate the award-winning affiliate's 20th anniversary and new facility grand opening.

Guests gathered under a tent in the lawn area for greetings and hors d'oeuvres, then participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony, followed by building tours,

refreshments and reception.

In addition to providing office, storage and meeting space for staff, volunteers, committees and boards to carry out their tasks with greater efficiency, the 8,100-square-foot OTC also provides space for training classes for Habitat homebuyers and homeowners, as well as space for use by other area nonprofits.

The OTC project has in no way reduced the number of families served by Habitat, both through new construction and the renovation/refurbishing and neighborhood revitalization initiative programs.



Indian River Habitat for Humanity is an ecumenical, Christian ministry, which builds simple, decent homes with qualified families in need in

Indian River County. Anyone interesting in touring the new building is welcome to visit. Some room sponsorships are still available, as well.

For more information, call (772) 562-9860, Ext. 212.

Bill and Joan Elliott and Pete and Kim Clements at Indian River Humanity's office and training center grand opening.

Photo courtesy of Sam Baita



Photo courtesy of Homeless Family Center

Kaleidoscope's girls' night out check presentation to the Homeless Family Center. From left: Jim Weller, Kaleidoscope co-owner; Diana Bunten, Lila Bussey, D. Lorne Coyle, Homeless Family Center executive director; Brenda Weller, Kaleidoscope co-owner; Jack and Barbara Tierney, Tony Fitzgerald, Christy Kane and Tara Pitts.

Nonprofit event a success

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Kaleidoscope's girls' night out to benefit the Homeless Family Center was a huge success.

Close to 200 guests attended the event on Dec. 8, which raised \$1,125, plus a van load of boxed food items, linens, paper products and cleaning supplies.

In addition to shopping, the event featured refreshments, door prizes, a raffle and silent auction, and an assortment of vendors.

Tony Fitzgerald donated the jewelry auction pieces, and Rose Merriam and

Brenda Weller donated raffle prizes.

Vendors include Designs by Dotti (Dotti Leggett), Diana's Crystal Creations (Diana Bunten), Tupperware (Sue Skirvin), Miche Bags (Terry Palos), Silpada (Beth Hutchinson), Beads of Balance (Andrea Ern), Mary Kay (Christina Lofthus), Senegence International (Pamela Bennett), Thirty-One Gifts (Andrea Carlsen), Art by Anita (Anita Moser), Peggy's Purses (Peggy Suchorski), The Pampered Chef (Sarah Davis), The Beaded Artistry of Donna Lee (Lee McMillen), Scentsy (Tracy Bresson), Ruth Bennett, Blanche Scalora and

Beth Elway.

The Homeless Family Center, located at 720 4th St. in Vero Beach, is a nonprofit organization committed to changing lives one family at a time.

The center, which provides emergency and transitional shelters for homeless families from Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, and Okeechobee counties, is a partner agency of United Way, Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council and Indian River County Children's Services Advisory Committee.

For more information, call (772) 567-5537 or visit www.HomelessFamilyCenter.com.

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Compute

From page A6

that has everything that was on your old machine's C: drive (and the original "from old" folder will still be on the external drive as a backup).

Now you can browse the "from old" folder on your desktop and find your pictures, music, documents etc., and then (at a leisurely pace) move your data to the appropriate folders on the new machine.

Unfortunately, there is one "gotcha" that I need to mention. This only works for your data. Programs (such as Photoshop of Office) themselves need to be installed on the new machine using the original installation disks. And that's another project altogether.

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

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Classified INSIDE

SECTION B • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSOL.COM • FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2011

Out & about

THROUGH DEC. 31

• **Argenio Chiropractic**, 9414 U.S. 1, Sebastian, is offering free exams and x-rays for a \$29 donation to the Vero Beach Christian Business Association. Monies received will be donated to local nonprofits, and individuals may designate the donation to the charity of their choice based on the organizations receiving funds from VBCBA. Patients will receive a health history and consultation, orthopedic and neurological exam, initial x-rays if necessary, and a report of findings. *To schedule an appointment, call (772) 228-8131.*

THROUGH MONDAY, JAN. 2

• **The Skate Factory** will hold skate camps during the holiday break from school at 485 27th Ave. Southwest, Vero Beach. They will be open from 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. for the camp Dec. 21-23; Dec. 26-30 and Jan. 2. The camp will include skating, lunch, snacks and tokens for \$22 per day. *For more information, call (772) 794-3373.*

• **The Heritage Center and the Indian River Citrus Museum** will be closed for the holidays. The building, museum and office will reopen on Jan. 3 at 10 a.m. The Heritage Center is located at 2140 14th Ave., in downtown Vero Beach.

THURSDAY, JAN. 5

• **"Sailing All Seas"** is the title of the first film of the season to be shown by the Friends of the North Indian River County Library from 3-4 p.m. Circumnavigating the globe was not commonplace in the 1930s, especially in a 32-foot ketch. That's what Dwight Long did at age 21, setting off from Seattle and sailing to Tahiti, the Suez Canal, London and back to America. He filmed his six-year voyage almost entirely on early color film, adding his own narration at a later date. Admission is free and open to the public. The North Indian River County Library is located at 1001 Sebastian Blvd. *For more information, call the North Indian River County Library at (772) 589-1355 or visit www.sebastianlibrary.com.*

FRIDAY, JAN. 6

• **Space Coast Symphony Orchestra concert series**, "New Year's with the Three Tenors," Trinity Episcopal Church, Vero Beach, 7 p.m.

See **OUT, B3**

Edu-tainment on local waters

Learning center offers boat tours on lagoon, river

By Jessica Tuggle
jtuggle@hometownnewsol.com

WABASSO — Vacation time at home during the Christmas break doesn't have to be devoid of learning or fun with the Indian River Lagoon and St. Sebastian River right in your backyard.

The Environmental Learning Center in Wabasso is offering several educational and entertaining boat tours of those two bodies of water in upcoming weeks.

The lagoon and its tributaries have one of the most diverse environments in North America. Visitors on the water can see many bird species, native and invasive vegetation, as well as other water creatures such as dolphins, turtles, alligators and manatees.

Two pontoon boat excursions are offered with a tour guide; one toward the Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge, and the other down the jungle-esque St. Sebastian River. Environmental Learning

Center naturalist Sarah Rhodes-Ondi said the pontoon cruises are very laid-back and relaxing and include a hands-on element that smaller children seem to enjoy.

"We pull out and talk about our bio-facts, bird skulls and bones; when we pull out the bones, the kids get very excited," Ms. Rhodes-Ondi said.

On the Pelican Island excursion, visitors will be able to see about 15 species of animals, including several bird species

and even dolphins, she said.

"We're seeing a lot of dolphins at this time of the year, even baby dolphins, and who doesn't want to see a baby dolphin?" Ms. Rhodes-Ondi said.

"And we also see the white pelicans, we call them our very large snowbirds, herons, egrets and roseate spoonbills if we're lucky," she said.

Tour guides will also talk about the health of the lagoon and the vegetation

See **LOCAL, B5**



STAR SCOPES

James Tucker
Week of 12-30-2011

Aries-March 21-April 19
Aries is a natural-born leader. This results in much positive gain if you keep everyone on the team moving forward toward a common goal. It can lead to unneeded stress if you think you have to make all the final decisions. Make it a top priority to teach, set goals and motivate to action this year. Now everyone wins.

Taurus-April 20-May 20
The key to happiness is a lighter touch. When things don't go as planned, remain calm and of good cheer. Keep this attitude throughout the year. Look at the bigger picture and know that good plans result in

See **SCOPES, B2**

Center, theater to present movie classics

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Gifford Youth Activity Center, in association with The Majestic 11 Theater, presents a special, one-time

showing of four of the best movie classics of all time beginning in January through April to benefit to the center.

All show times are on Wednesday's at 4:30 p.m. and the line-up for the

2012 season includes: "Breakfast at Tiffany's" with Audrey Hepburn, Jan. 18; "The Bridge on the River Kwai," Feb. 15; "West Side Story" 50th anniversary, March 14 and "Gone With the Wind,"

April 18.

Tickets are \$10 per person or \$30 per person for all four movies in the series. Those who purchase a ticket(s) can regis-

See **MOVIE, B2**

Pirates beat Sharks in tough loss

By Brittany Llorente
bllorente@hometownnewsol.com

SEBASTIAN — The Sebastian River High School Sharks suffered a hard loss of 52-62 against the Palm Bay High School Pirates last Tuesday.

The teams were evenly matched, going head to head, even from the beginning of the game.

Sebastian's early points came from five 3-point shots by Daniel McDonald, Shelvick Henry and Norris Rogers.

The first quarter showed spark from both teams, each finding the net after battling through the other team's defense.

That's where the spark fizzled, though. Palm Bay surged ahead of Sebastian to lead the team in points and steals.

"We came out in the second half extremely well," said Palm Bay Coach Joe Duffy. "We needed to keep the inside plays well and we made some mistakes in the first quarter, but in the second half we worked inside."

Palm Bay knew how to rebound and easily read the offense, which relied

heavily on 3-point shots, telling the Palm Bay defense to guard the outside of the court.

Sebastian had to rely more on inside shots, which produced fewer points mainly due to inaccuracy.

The speed of Palm Bay, moving the ball at the net, was faster than Sebastian could keep up with, using a zone defense, instead of man-to-man, which left open Palm Bay players who were ready to shoot.

Sebastian's play after the half was slow, killing the clock in trying to break past the Palm Bay defense that would read the play and steal.

The fouls Sebastian made, added to Palm Bay's total as they made five of six free throws. These fouls happened after two 3-point shots by McDonald, closing the point margin again.

"I felt good after the 10-point lead," said Pirates' Derylton Hiss. "I feel like we had it at that point. We had to calm down and when we did that we focused. We came out playing well."

After numerous turnovers by Sebastian, the

See **PIRATES, B5**



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer

Sebastian's Shelvick Henry (No. 23) gets off a shot over the out-stretched arm of Palm Bay's Derylton Hill (No. 32) during last Wednesday's game in Sebastian. Palm Bay won 62-52.

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Movie

From page B1

ter for a chance to win the themed gift basket that will be raffled at each show.

"We plan to make this an annual event for GYAC," said Barry Rear-don, GYAC board member and retired Warner Brothers executive.

"We are encouraging movie-goers to "dress the part" if they wish for their favorite picture or for all of the movies and have fun with the themes," said Freddie Woolfork, GYAC director of public relations.

Every ticket purchased will help Gifford Youth Activity Center continue

to enhance the education and well-being of children and adults throughout the community.

The center offers a unique, comprehensive after-school program to students in grades K-12. Daily at GYAC, in classrooms by grade, certified teachers provide structured, daily homework assistance, tutoring, educational enrichment. It encourages personal growth and development to students followed, in the late afternoon, by cultural and recreational activities.

For more information, visit www.gyac.net or call (772) 794-1005. For more information on the best motion picture series, visit www.MajesticVero.com.

Donor provides charter gift for camp



From left: Sonya Morrison, executive director; Walter and Lalita Janke and Pat Geyer, Camp Haven project manager.

Photo courtesy of The Source

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH — Walter and Lalita Janke of Vero Beach presented a \$25,000 donation to The Source as a charter donation to initiate the Camp Haven Project.

A giant presentation check was handed to Pat Geyer, Camp Haven's project manager.

The purpose of the Camp Haven Project is to offer a safe, legal place to sleep, while providing case-management support and life-skills education for county residents who intend to

rise out of homelessness.

Although The Source has been working in the county for more than 16 years, offering a wide range of services to the needy and indigent, the organization has never been able to provide housing other than emergency cold night shelter for those in need.

The Camp Haven Project will bring much needed change to that limitation.

"For more than a year the leadership team of The Source has been working with committees comprised of a cross section of community leaders to

build a formal plan to create Camp Haven," said Sonya Morrison, executive director of The Source.

"Walter and Lalita's generous donation has made it possible to take the next important steps that will allow for the acquisition and development of a site. Camp Haven is becoming a reality."

On Jan. 26, the next major step in developing the project will take place. The first fundraising event will take place in the Holy Cross Parish Hall.

The event will feature an internationally known

speaker.

The Source is a Christian outreach and resource center for homeless individuals and families at-risk. The doors are open six days a week to provide people in need with nourishment for the body and soul. The ministry offers daily hot meals, an emergency food pantry, clothing, showers, counseling, support groups and a host of other services.

It is located at 1015 Commerce Ave., in Vero Beach.

For more information, call (772) 564-0202 or visit www.BuildCampHaven.org

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Scopes

From page B1

great results. Stay cool through each task. Finish what you start. Stay balanced and all will be well.

Gemini-May 21-June 21
Life goes on one way or the other. True happiness comes from the choices we make each day. What appears to be, isn't always what truly is. Let things work out in their own way rather than trying

to rush them. Why? Because there could be great things ahead lost because of impatience. Life should be easy.

Cancer-June 22-July 22
You are on a timely roll of good luck and cheer. You have done so much good for others. Others want to give back to you. Let them and receive it all with open arms. You are always responsible. You help others heal. You are always there as needed. Friends want to surprise you. Let them have their way and rejoice.

Leo-July 23-Aug. 22
People around you respect you more than you realize. They may not always tell you in words, but you can tell by their actions. It says that you are growing when others respect your ideas. You see it when they ask for your opinions. These are good signs of abundance and much more is coming in the New Year.

Virgo-Aug. 23-Sept. 22
You choose peace and harmony with a deep sense of purpose and appreciation for life in all its forms. This attracts other things that add more good to this simple plan. Refuse to let the world pull you away from this ideal. Your high standards demand that you live this way. Why? Because no

one has a larger heart.

Libra-Sept. 23-Oct. 22
You measure the quality of your life by the happiness and joy you bring to others. You were born to be of service. You are at your best when you are able to help someone else find the answer to their challenge. We all gain strength from your light and presence. It keeps your blood and spiritual family bonds so strong.

Scorpio-Oct. 23-Nov. 21
Stay calm when others around you are under fire and losing it. Take a step back, slow down the pace a little, regroup and move forward again. You never give up on your dreams. This is what makes you so great. You are more than a survivor. You are a highly creative spirit. Stretch your limits and you will win in 2012.

Sagittarius-Nov. 22-Dec. 21
One of your life's purposes is to help others find their true life's purpose. This makes you the happiest. You are the Archer. You set high goals and shoot for the stars. The most beautiful thing is you usually hit your target. Following your true life's vision is the most important thing you do. Now your life is justified.

Capricorn-Dec. 22-Jan. 19
This is your time of the year

leading the zodiac family. This universal boost gives booster rockets to propel you on and up to your dreams. Stay focused, clarify your goals. Write them down and affirm them out loud each day. This is the formula of champions. You are a champion. Great happiness is on the way.

Aquarius-Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Joy of achievement is the fuel for the fire in your soul. Nothing thrills you more than seeing an inspired plan work and bring joy to yourself and those around you. When you have the vision, your large heart is set in motion and great achievement happens. You were born to do great things and you do.

Pisces-Feb. 19-March 20
Two-thousand eleven was a good year, though challenging. You are still swimming. Two-thousand twelve will be even better. Enjoy your victories but begin to plan for the coming year. Set priorities on the most important passions and dreams. Ask spirit to show you signs that they have a blessing and are growing. There's no stopping you now.

To read the Spirit Guide column, visit myhometownnews.net and click on counseling and advice.

— James Tucker

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Youth organization to host fundraiser

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Youth Guidance will host a fundraiser, the heli-drop ball bash and barbecue, on Feb. 11 from 4:30- 10 p.m. at Vero Beach Sports Village, 3901 26th St., Vero Beach. There will be \$10,000 in prizes given away.

The excitement begins with a kickball game between city and county officials, followed by the dramatic dropping of 750 numbered golf balls from a helicopter on the field. The golf ball closest to the target wins \$5,000. Second closest wins \$2,500, third wins \$1,000 and \$500 each for the fourth, fifth and sixth closest winners.

The fun continues with Bono's BBQ and live music from Crooked Creek.

General admission is \$25. Admission for one, plus one golf ball is \$100 and admission for two, plus two balls is \$150.

Individuals must buy a ball (\$100 each/\$150 for two) for a chance to win the

big cash prizes.

Youth Guidance needs to sell 750 golf balls to reach its goal of netting \$30,000.

Community members can help by becoming chopper champs. Each chopper champ will be given 10 golf ball tickets to sell. Those interested can call (772) 770-5040 to let them know they want to sell tickets and Youth Guidance will mail them 10 tickets. If individuals are unable to sell all the tickets they can return them to Youth Guidance by Jan. 15.

When supporters sell all 10 golf ball tickets they will receive complimentary general admission for two to the event, a \$50 value.

The primary purpose of Youth Guidance is to match each of its' nearly 700 at-risk, K-12 grade children with a volunteer mentor 21 or older and keep youth engaged in positive educational, cultural and recreational year-round activities.

For more information, visit www.ircyouth.com or call (772)770-5040.

Holiday weather just perfect



Chris Wolack of Sebastian gets some air on his skim board at Wabasso Beach recently. Even at the end of December, the water temperature is still nice.

Cliff Partlow
staff photographer

Out

From page B1

The orchestra will play waltzes, polkas, mazurkas and marches, and three tenor vocalists will join the orchestra to perform arias from popular operas. Visit www.spacecoast-symphony.org.

• **Library coffee house**, North Indian River County Library, Sebastian, 7 p.m. Featuring Atlantic Bluegrass. Cost: free. Visit www.sebastianlibrary.com.

SUNDAY, JAN. 8

- **Art in the Park**, Humiston Park, Vero Beach, 10 a.m. Outdoor fine art and craft show by the Vero Beach Art Club. Cost: free. Visit www.vero-beachartclub.org.
- **Spaghetti dinner** at Vero Beach Italian American Club, 1600 25th St., Vero Beach. Spaghetti and meatballs, salad bar, bread, coffee and dessert for \$8. Dinner will be served from 3-6 p.m. For more information, call (772) 778-1522 or visit iacavb.com

THURSDAY, JAN. 12

- **Antiques show and sale preview party**, Vero Beach Museum of Art, Vero Beach, 6 p.m. Cost: \$75 per person, reservations only. Website: www.vero-beachmuseum.org.

ONGOING EVENTS

- **Vero Beach Elks Lodge sends cookies to soldiers:** Homemade or store-bought cookies may be dropped off at 10 a.m. on the third Thursday of every month. Money donations for shipping costs are also appreciated. Bring cookies to Vero Beach Elks Lodge 1774, 1350 26th St., Vero Beach.
- **Friday Farmer's Market** in downtown Vero Beach. For more information, call (772) 581-2746.
- **Men's singles tennis pyramid:** Play runs from 6-8 p.m. every Thursday at the Riverside Racquet Complex, 350 Dahlia Lane, Vero Beach. This is an adult league for ages 18 and older; men's levels of 3.5/4.0. The fees are \$2 per week for members and \$5 per week for non-members (plus \$1 light fee per hour when applicable). Participants must check inside the pro shop with the attendant on duty and pay before going to the courts. Players must register weekly by sending an e-mail to Brian Orzel, singles pyramid coordinator at orzelp@gmail.com by noon on Thursdays. A maximum of

14 players will be accepted for these pyramid or ladder format sets against three different opponents. For more information contact Gaby Dwyer, tennis supervisor, at (772) 231-4787 or contact Brian Orzel at (772) 538-0465.

• **Sunset Saturday night concerts:** The Oceanside Business Association of Vero Beach's Sunset Saturday night concerts moves to Humiston Park and Ocean Drive April 9 through November. The Idol Gossip swing/Big Band will perform from 6:30-9:30 p.m. It's free, bring your friends and family. For more information, visit www.VeroBeachOBA.com.

• **Sunset at the plaza** sponsored by Mulligan's Beach House will have arts, crafts, live music, kids eat free and more every Thursday from 5-8 p.m. at the Vero Beach Mulligan's, 1025 Beachland Blvd., Vero Beach.

ART GALLERIES

- **Artists Guild Gallery**, 1974 14th Ave., Vero Beach. Call (772) 299-1234 or visit www.artistsguildgalleryvero-beach.com.
- **The Gallery at Windsor**, 10680 Belvedere Square, Vero Beach. By appointment only. (772) 388-4071.
- **Gallery 14**, 1911 14th Ave., Vero Beach. (772) 562-5525.
- **The Laughing Dog Gallery**, 2910 Cardinal Drive, Vero Beach. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday. (772) 234-6711.
- **Tiger Lily Art Studios and Gallery**, 1903 14th Ave., Vero Beach. (772) 778-3443.

BARS AND CLUBS

- **Bodega Blue**, 2115 14th

Ave., Vero Beach. Call (772) 569-4400.

• **Capt. Hiram's Resort**, 1580 U.S. 1, Sebastian. For a look at the full entertainment lineup, visit www.hiram.com. (772) 589-4345

• **Duke's Lounge**, every Friday night, alternative night club. 4700 N. A-1-A, Vero Beach. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Call (772) 231-1600.

• **Earl's Hideaway Lounge and Tiki Bar**, 1405 Indian River Drive, Sebastian. Live Delta Blues music Tuesday nights by Ernie Southern. (772) 589-5700, (772) 388-2597 or www.earlshideaway.com.

• **Kelley's Irish Pub**, 484 21st St., B, Vero Beach, Friday night sing-along in the piano bar. (772) 567-3838

• **Kilted Mermaid**, 1937 Old Dixie Highway, Vero Beach. Open Tuesday-Saturday, 5 p.m.-1 a.m. Wednesday, open mic jam session; Thursday, trivia with Jason; Friday, live music; Saturday, live music. Call (772) 569-5533.

• **Long Branch Saloon**, 2199 Seventh Ave., Vero Beach. (772) 569-4075

• **Marsh Landing**, 44 N. Broadway St., Fellsmere: Folk/acoustic duo HairPeace every Saturday, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Call for other entertainment schedules. (772) 571-8622.

• **Morrissey's Irish Pub**, live music every Saturday night from 8 p.m.-midnight. 740 S. Fleming St., Sebastian. (772) 589-1238.

• **Riverside Cafe**, 1 Beachland Blvd., Vero Beach, Live entertainment. (772) 234-5550

To have your upcoming event listed here, send an email to newsfp@hometownnewsol.com.

Community calendar

ONGOING EVENTS

• **Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge:** For information, call the refuge at (772) 562-3909, Ext. 275, or visit fws.gov/pelicanisland/events

• **Italian-American War Veterans, Post No.3 and Women's Auxiliary**, located at 2500 15th Ave., Vero Beach, holds business meetings at 7 p.m., on the second Wednesday of each month. Social meetings are held at 6 p.m., on the fourth Wednesday of the month. New members welcome. For information, call (772) 231-5673 or (772) 770-2558.

• **The Vero Beach Railroad Station** in downtown Vero Beach was originally built in 1903. It is on the National Register of Historic Places, and is open Tuesday from 10 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., and Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Visitors can tour the exhibit center and get a glimpse of local history from prehistoric times through World War II. There is a model train display that offers panoramic views of historical sites in Indian River County. The railroad station is located at 2336 14th Ave., Vero Beach. For more information, call (772) 778-3435.

• **Indian River County Historical Society** preserves the artifacts, sites and structures related to Indian River County heritage and offers maps and directions to sites of historic interest throughout the county. The society is housed in a 1903 Vero Beach Train Station, located at 2336 14th Ave., Vero Beach, and is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. For more information, call (772) 778-3435.

• **The Heritage Bluegrass Band** performs every Tuesday night, from 7:30-10 p.m. There is no admission charge and donations are appreciated. Light refreshments are available. The Heritage Center is located at 2140 14th Ave., Vero Beach.

• **Vero Beach Museum of Art** features exhibitions of international, national and state importance are shown throughout the year in four galleries. The museum also houses a gift shop store and is the largest teaching museum school in Florida. It is located at 3001 Riverside Park Drive, Vero Beach. For more information, call (772)

See **CALENDAR, B4**

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Spectacular desserts to take you through the New Year

Hello smart shoppers, what happens to the years? They seem to fly by. No matter how early I start writing to get in all I want for the holidays I never start early enough. I guess I have to jump in right after Labor Day.

Who could have imagined 2012? When I was a teenager I believed by now we would be flying around in space ships and here we are still driving in cars. It's New Years Eve, too late for appropriate recipes. The lectures on eating right, getting in shape, etc., etc. will have to wait. I'm going to devote this column and the next to delectable desserts you will be making for special occasions and then get back on track to all the other stuff.

Real New York cheesecake is only the beginning. Some recipes require candied fruits; buy them now, they are never available during the year. Happy New Year!

NEW YORK CHEESECAKE

This cheesecake will be by far the best you've ever tasted. It is the true, heavy, rich, New York cheesecake that dreams are made of. Many recipes were tried until I finally learned that the secret to a spectacular cheesecake is not only in the ingredients but in the method of

baking. This makes a large cake, you will need a 9- or 10-inch spring form pan.

Graham cracker crust

Prepare graham cracker crust according to the directions on the box, adding 1/4 cup finely chopped almonds if you like. Press into bottom of spring form pan and bake at 375-degree for 10 minutes.

Let cool. While crust is baking, prepare filling.

- 2-1/2 pounds cream cheese (five 8-ounce packages), softened
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1 teaspoon each of grated lemon and orange rind
- 1/4-teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1-3/4 cups sugar
- 5 large eggs
- 2 egg yolks
- 1/4-cup heavy cream

Combine first 4 ingredients, beat with an electric mixer at second speed. Add sugar gradually. Add eggs and egg yolks one at a time, beating lightly after each addition. (If the speed is too high when adding the eggs, too much air gets into the batter and produces a cake of inferior consistency). Stir in cream.

ROMANCING THE STOVE

with the Grammy Guru ARLENE BORG



Pour into prepared pan. Bake at 450 degrees for 10 minutes. (During baking place a pan of water on the bottom rack to prevent cake from cracking).

Reduce heat to 300 degrees; continue baking 1 to 1-1/2 hours until almost set in center.

Turn oven off and leave cake in for 1 hour longer. Open oven door and leave cake in 10 minutes longer. Let cool, chill, remove sides of pan and top with any glaze or fruit of your choice or serve plain with a side or two of different fruit toppings.

ITALIAN CASSATA CAKE (NIB)

This recipe is from my cousin, Ermalina. The cake is purchased from the supermarket bakery or a bakery store. It is a high cake.

- 1 sponge cake
- 1 container (2 pounds) ricotta cheese
- 1 cup confectioner's sugar
- 3 squares semi-sweet chocolate, chopped fine

- 5 tablespoons chopped pistachio nuts
- 1 cup candied fruit
- 3/4-tablespoon orange liquor
- 1/3-cup raspberry jam

Beat ricotta in a large bowl until smooth. Add sugar, chocolate, nuts and candied fruit (save best pieces to decorate top of cake).

Cut cake into 3 or 4 thin layers. Moisten top of each layer with liquor then spread a little jam over top and top with some ricotta mixture. Continue stacking layers, leaving top of cake plain. Chill until set, (at least 2 hours). Cover top with leftover ricotta mixture or dust with confectioner's sugar. Decorated with reserved fruit.

BANANAS FOSTER (NIB) Regular and low fat, serves 3 to 4

When my son, Bill, took a cooking course from a world famous chef he made us this decadent dessert. Now with healthy butter substitutes such as Smart Balance you can enjoy this treat without the saturated fat.

- 4 tablespoons (1/4-cup) butter or Smart Balance

- 4 tablespoons (1/4-cup) light brown sugar, firmly packed
- 1/4-teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4-cup banana liqueur*
- 2 bananas peeled and cut in half crosswise and then lengthwise
- 1/2-cup slivered almonds (optional)

Melt butter in skillet, add brown sugar and cook stirring constantly until sugar melts and color turns a light brown. If you choose to add the almonds, toast them in the butter-sugar mixture until they are golden.

Add the cinnamon and liqueur and cook for about 2 minutes. Add the bananas, basting and warming them in the syrup, turning once. Cool slightly and serve over vanilla ice cream.

* If alcohol is not an option, substitute 1/2 tsp. vanilla. This was originally a flambé and the alcohol was added at the end and flamed. I don't do flames too well so I skip that step.

When a recipe is not in my cookbook it will have NIB (not in book) next to the title. For an autographed cookbook visit the Vero Beach Book Center or www.romancingthestove.net

Clubs & classes

CLUBS

•**The GFWC Treasure Coast Women** meet the first Monday of each month at the Community Center, 2266 14th Ave., at 7 p.m. Women over 18 are welcome. This is a community service volunteer organization and that promotes fellowship among women. For more information, visit www.gfwctreasurecoast-women.org.

•**Exchange Club of Indian River** meets Wednesdays from noon-1 p.m. at Culinary Capers, 737 22nd St., Vero Beach. This civic club is a group of men and women working together to make

the community a better place to live. For more information, call (772) 532-4398, e-mail bluewateropen@gmail.com, or visit www.exchange-clubofindianriver.org and www.bluewateropen.org.

•**The Sebastian Fishin' Chic's** meet the last Thursday of the month, at the Sebastian Entertainment Center. For more information, call Michelle Barkley, at (772) 473-9462, Kristen Beck, at (772) 794-9900, or Karen Herndon, at (772) 633-2043.

•**The Mental Health Association in Indian River County bipolar support group** will meet at the Mental Health Association

offices at 777 37th St., Suite D-105, Vero Beach, on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Family members and loved ones are also welcome to attend. For more information, call (772) 569-9788.

•**Treasure Coast Archeological Society for Treasure Hunting and Metal Detecting** meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the North County Indian River Library on County Road 512 in Sebastian. Anyone interested is welcome. For more information, call (321) 388-9047.

•**Humanists at Barefoot Bay** meets the second Satur-

day of every month at the South Mainland Library, 7921 Ron Beatty Blvd., Micco, at 2 p.m. All compassionate and critical thinkers are invited.

For more information, call (772) 664-0170, or e-mail downeast_ggo@bellsouth.net.

•**TOPS 641:** Take Off Pounds Sensibly, Chapter No. 641 meets every Thursday at the Roseland Fire Department, located on 129th Court, off Roseland Road in Sebastian. Weigh-in is from 7:45 to 8:30 a.m. and the meeting starts at 8:30 a.m. For information call (772)-589-8445.

•**TOPS 470:** Take Off Pounds Sensibly, Micco Chapter No. 470 meets every Friday at 10:30 a.m. at the South Mainland Library, 7921 Ron Beatty Blvd., Micco, next to Barefoot Bay. New members are always welcome. For more information, call (772) 388-3984.

•**Rotary Club of Sebastian** meets at 12:15 p.m. every Thursday at Sebastian River Medical Center, 13695 U.S. 1, Sebastian. For more information, call (772) 360-5837 or visit www.sebastian-rotaryclub.org.

•**Quilting bee:** Join the ladies of Christ the King Lutheran Church for quilting the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at 9:30 a.m. Christ the King is located at 1301 Sebastian Blvd., Sebastian. For more information, call (772) 589-7117.

•**Personal Computer Users Club** meets at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month at the North County Library, 1001 County Road 512, Sebastian. For more information, call (772) 388-5248.

•**COPE Support Group:** The Indian River County Council on Aging with the Visiting Nurse Association offers a support group to help caregivers cope with the day-to-day care of a loved one. The group meets the third Thursday of every month from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Presbyterian Church, 1405 Louisiana Ave., Sebastian. For more information, call (772) 569-0760.

•**Democratic Club of Barefoot Bay:** Meets the fourth Thursday of each

month at 7 p.m. in Building D-E at the Golf Course in Barefoot Bay. For more information, call (772) 664-3895.

•**Asthmatics** meets on Mondays at 4:30 p.m., in the South mainland community center, 3700 Allen Ave., Micco. Cost is \$5 per class.

•**Chess Club** meets the first and third Monday each month from 4 to 6 p.m. at the North Indian River County Library, 1001 Sebastian Blvd., Sebastian. Open to all ages.

•**American Cancer Society, North Indian River, board of directors meeting** is held on the third Thursday of the month at noon at Seacoast National Bank, U. S. 1, Sebastian.

•**Man-to-Man North Indian River, prostate cancer support group,** meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Sebastian River Medical Center dining room, 13695 U.S. 1, Sebastian

CLASSES

•**The Sebastian Community Center,** located at 1805 N. Central Ave. in Sebastian will have the following dance lessons:

Swing dance lessons will be held at on the second Saturday of each month, at 9:30 a.m. Christ the King is located at 1301 Sebastian Blvd., Sebastian. For all levels of dancers. Open dance follows the lesson at 8 p.m. Admission is \$10, and includes entry to the dance that follows. Snacks will be provided and water is available for purchase.

Swing dance lessons for beginners will be held every Wednesday night, taught by instructors Jerry Morrison and Michele Holm at 7:30 p.m. Intermediate class at 8:30 p.m. No partners necessary. The class is \$10 per class or \$16 for both. The Sebastian Community Center is located at 1805 N. Central Ave., Sebastian.

For more information call (772) 532-2800.

•**Yoga classes** will be offered at the North Indian River County Library on the third Wednesday of each month from 4-5 p.m., with instructor Babaji Spina from

the Kashi School of Yoga. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call (772) 589-1355.

•**Sebastian Senior Center:**

The Sebastian Senior Center is located at 815 Davis St., Sebastian. Live music Tuesday through Friday from 9-11 a.m. Refreshments will be served. Classes of interest:

Mondays: nutrition bingo meets at 10 a.m.; Mahjong classes meet at 12:30 p.m.; art class meets at 1 p.m.; Weight Watchers meets at 5 p.m.; Tuesday: mindful breathing meets at 1 p.m.; lectures on wellness meets at 1 p.m.; Wednesday: chi-kung meets at 11 a.m.; cribbage and pinocle meets at 12:30 p.m.; Friday: TOPS meeting at 8 a.m.; Weight Watchers meets at 9 a.m.; sing-a-longs with Bill and Jane at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call (772) 469-2062.

•**Kashi Ashram** is located at 11155 Roseland Road, Sebastian. For more information, (772) 589-1403, (800) 226-1008, or visit the Web site www.kashi.org.

•**Kali Natha yoga:** Based on yoga's ancient roots, this type of yoga is for everyone. Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 6 p.m., Thursdays at 8:30 a.m., Fridays at 8 a.m., Saturdays at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., and Sundays at 9 a.m.

•**Kirtan (devotional chanting):** Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Donations accepted.

•**Meditation:** Wednesdays at 7 p.m. with Swami Moksha Ram.

•**Interfaith service:** Saturdays at 6 p.m. with Ma Jaya. Vegetarian meal follows at 8 p.m.

•**Pilates classes, body sculpting, basic and beyond:** Held every Wednesday from 9 to 10 a.m. All ages and levels welcome. The class fee is \$5. Classes are held at the Brevard South Mainland Library, 79411 Ron Beatty Blvd., Micco. For more information call (772) 228-3040.

•**Taekwondo:** Mondays and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Jaya Sports Center, 11101 Roseland Road.

— For Hometown News

Forever Young
A monthly publication celebrating the active lifestyle of Florida's boomers

Is 60 the new 40? PAGE 6

Boot camp: Get fit like a soldier PAGE 27

Calendar: Summer fun in the sun PAGE 4

The time of their lives

Baby Boomers — raised on rock 'n' roll and rebellion — are growing old, but not like their parents did PAGE 7

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Boomers (born from 1946 to 1964) are the fastest growing demographic in Florida!

Calendar

From page B3

231-0707

•**Guided kayak tours:** Visitors paddle along the Indian River Lagoon and enjoy nature at its tropical best. Experience the thrill of close encounters with dolphins, manatees and exotic birds. The guide is a master naturalist and U.S. Coast Guard captain. Cost is

\$47 each for a 2-1/2 hour tour. Reservations are required. Space is limited to 12 participants. For more information call (772) 234-3436.

•**Indian River Citrus Museum** tells the story and preserves the artifacts, photographs and memorabilia of the pioneers who established the most distinguished citrus fruit in the world. Open Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m., in the Heritage Center,

2140 14th Ave., Vero Beach. For more information call (772) 770-2263.

•**McKee Botanical Garden** is an 18-acre botanical garden listed on the National Register of Historic Places and endorsed by the Garden Conservancy. This Florida hammock offers a diverse botanical collection, as well as several restored architectural treasures, the hall of giants and Spanish kitchen.

See CALENDAR, B6

In search of the perfect wave



A surfer walks south from Wabasso Beach near Disney's Vero Beach Resort looking for the perfect wave last Friday.

Cliff Partlow
staff photographer

Community notes

Exercise classes offered

•Qi gong at Riverview Park in Sebastian, next to the long dock, Fridays 6:15 p.m. and Sunday 7 a.m.
•Walking qi gong at Wabasso Beach, where State Roast 510 meets the ocean. Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m.
•Qi gong for mind, body and spirit at Kashi Studio on Roseland Road. Saturdays at 8 a.m., and Tuesday at 10 a.m.
All classes cost \$7. For more information, call (722) 581-2629 or e-mail namaste52bellsouth.net.

Tips on disaster planning

The Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County has published a new brochure on disaster planning for pet owners. The brochure covers topics including pet identification, determining if you and your pets live in a surge zone, pet supplies needed if someone must evacuate with their animals and how to create a pet first aid kit. The free brochure can be obtained by visiting the Humane Society at 6230 77th St., Vero Beach, by calling the shelter at (772) 388-3331, Ext. 18

Try a water class at aquatic center

The North County Aquatics Center is offering Aquanautics, a water fitness class, designed to strengthen and firm muscles, improve cardio and respiratory function and increase flexibility. Other benefits include better balance and coordination. Participants benefit from the water with less strain on the bones and joints. Exercise movements are choreographed to music. The classes are offered Tuesday and Thursday, from 10-11 a.m.

Fee is \$4 per class or a punch card for eight classes for \$28
For more information, call (772) 581-7665.

Medical center offers outpatient nutrition counseling

Do you have diabetes, hypertension or high cholesterol? Are you interested in losing weight or just interested in improving your overall health? Outpatient nutrition counseling is a one-on-one service provided by licensed, registered dietitian located in the diagnostic center at Sebastian River Medical Center.
To make an appointment, call (772) 589-5000.

League meetings scheduled

The La Leche League is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to help mothers breastfeed through mother-to-mother support. The La Leche League of the Treasure Coast meets in different locations from Palm City to Sebastian. Mothers with their nursing babies, and mothers-to-be, are welcome.
For directions to meetings, or more information, call Sophy at (772) 233-1883.

Group posts presentations to Internet

The Indian River County Extension Service now offers presentations on the Internet, created and narrated by agents on agriculture, environmental horticulture, pond maintenance, irrigation, 4-H and storm water pollution. The list of available presentations will continue to grow.
Visit the website <http://indian.ifas.ufl.edu> for updates.

— For Hometown News

Organization exceeds adoption goals

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

TREASURE COAST — The adoption services program of Children's Home Society, Treasure Coast Division, surpassed its goal of 98 finalizations with 138 adoptions finalized in fiscal year 2011. Results included 58 adoptions to forever families in St. Lucie County, 25 in Indian River County, 24 in Martin County and 31 in Okeechobee County. This marks the fourth consecutive year that

adoption services have exceeded their annual goals. Recruitment activities included the Heart Gallery of Okeechobee and the Treasure Coast, a traveling photo exhibit of local children waiting to be adopted. "All of the adoptions finalized this year were for children in foster care, with nearly half of those over the age of 4," said Jan Swink-Huffert, executive director of Children's Home Society, Treasure Coast Division. "Matching the right child with the right forever family

is always a joyous occasion." In addition to finding forever families for children through special needs, private newborn and international adoption services, Children's Home Society also provides post-adoption therapeutic and support services to families. The Children's Home Society of Florida is the sixth largest of more than 1,200 private organizations currently accredited and/or in process of accreditation in North America. The Treasure Coast Divi-

sion, which is one of 15 divisions in Florida, served 11,607 children and their families in fiscal year 2011 (July 1, 2010-June 30) in Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee and St. Lucie counties. CHS programs are developed to break the cycle of child abuse and provide children and young adults with the opportunity to be safe, healthy and prepared for life.
For more information, visit www.chsfl.org or call (772) 344-4020.

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Local

From page B1

all around it, including the three types of mangroves on the spoil islands and the sea grasses on the floor of the lagoon. Visitors choosing the St. Sebastian River tour may see manatees, alligators, ospreys, eagles and of course, mullet, whose random leaps out of the water are always exciting to watch. "Gators are a common sighting during this time because they are usually up on the banks sunning themselves, and we have some very large ones that are really impressive," Ms. Rhodes-Ondi said. Tickets for the pontoon boat excursion toward Peli-

can Island is \$22 for adults and \$10 for children. The excursion to the St. Sebastian River is \$26 for adults and \$14 for children. Environmental Learning Center members and their children can get \$2 discounts on the excursion. Canoe and kayak excursions on the lagoon are also available for those who want to be a little more active on their tours, Ms. Rhodes-Ondi said. The canoe trips explore off-the-beaten-path canoe trails, where water birds and mangrove tree crabs are plentiful. Manatees and dolphins sometimes come close to the canoes for an up-close and personal visit. The fee for the excursion, including canoe rental and gear, is \$15 for adults and \$7

for children. Members and their children receive \$3 discounts. The kayaking trips are offered for both experienced and beginning paddlers, and instruction for beginners is available. Cost for a trip around Wabasso Island is \$20 per person, \$15 for members. To explore Pelican Island and the surrounding waters, the cost is \$30 for adults and \$25 for children. Members and their children receive \$2 discounts.
For a schedule of upcoming boat tours and other events at the Environmental Learning Center, call (772) 589-5050, or visit www.discoverelc.org.

Pirates

From page B1

team rallied at the end, but couldn't catch up to Palm Bay and Hiss, who scored 26 points in the game. "Not a lot of good game out of this game," said Sebastian head coach Kelly O'Brien. "We need to work on leadership and we need to come out hard and improve. "They can't give up and I won't let them give up." Coach O'Brien declined to have his players comment. Sebastian will play away at Vero Beach High School Jan. 4.

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18					19				20				21			
	22					23				24				25			
	26					27				28			29	30			
	31					32				33			34				
35	36	37				38				39			40			41	42
43					44	45	46	47				48			49		50
51		52	53					54				55				56	
57						58				59	60			61			
62						63				64			65	66		67	68
69						70	71						72			73	
74	75	76				77				78			79			80	81
82						83	84			85	86		87	88		89	90
91						92				93	94			95			
96						97				98			99				100
101	102					103				104			105		106	107	
108						109				110			111		112		
113	114	115				116				117			118			119	120
121						122				123	124			125		126	
127						128				129				130			
131						132				133				134			

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ACROSS

1 Emanations
6 Shoot the breeze
9 Halley's discovery
14 Flower holders
18 Keen
19 Latvian capital
20 Affected
21 Christmas time
22 Sweet stuff
23 "Sleepy Time Gal" writer
24 Thick-headed
25 Poi root
26 French cuffs need?
29 Light-headed?
31 "a Kick Out of You"
32 Carte or mode
33 Of the stars
35 Collector
38 Paradise
40 Obstruct
43 Spoil
44 Platform
47 Antiquity, old style
48 SASE, typically
49 Tennis shot
51 Molly Ringwald flick
55 Go fast
57 Mideast mount
58 Orderly
59 Contretemps
61 Sandbank
62 A votre ____!
64 Hwy.
66 Regrets
68 Sicilian volcano
69 Death Valley problem
74 Soliloquy start
77 Suit to ____
78 Fernandez of baseball
79 Sleigh driver
82 Lendi and 113
84 Actor-director Alan
86 Extra effort
89 Nary a soul
91 "In ____ of the Night"
93 Fast as can be
96 Japanese coin
97 Mrs. Lennon
98 Boxcar traveler
99 Cork's country
100 Film director Spike
101 Repairs the lawn
103 Air attack
105 Veer off
108 Landi, of '30s films
110 Basic curriculum letters
112 Snicker follower

DOWN

1 Exec. aide
2 Slangy refusal
3 "A ____ to Live"
4 One of the Musketeers
5 Small shoots
6 Lerner and Loewe musical
7 Capital of Guam
8 Bracelet
9 Muslim magistrate
10 ____-shut case
11 Luxury furs
12 Squiggle shape
13 On ____ ready to happen
14 Not revealed
15 Horse of a different color
16 Smart loner
17 ____ gin fizz
19 Pull in the reins
27 Run-down
28 Burdened
30 Knights' weapons
34 Show place
35 Elec. units
36 Roger, of the diamond
37 Sport enclosure
39 Benevolent order
41 T. S.
42 Italian native

Answers located in Classified Section

45 Common chemical ending
46 Skirmished
50 "Dracula" Lugosi
52 Leather workers
53 Yugoslav marshal
54 "Leave ____ Beaver"
55 Bond costar Adams
56 In ____ aware
60 Manufacture
63 Greek letter
65 45 rpm records
67 Family member, for short
70 ____ for words
71 Farmer's milieu
72 Plains Indian abode, of old
73 Zola novel
74 Makes lace
75 Shade of yellow
76 Designer Geoffrey
80 Cotton fabric
81 Heche and Hathaway
83 Bar seats
85 Greenish blue
87 Slope "board"
88 Poverty
90 ____-out: manages
92 Artist's need
94 Eskimo boat
95 Paris river
98 Breed of cattle
102 Grabbed
104 Looks for oil
106 Male or female
107 Start again
109 Roman garb
111 Farm enclosures
113 Yoga necessities
114 Set upon
115 Roundup gear
117 Poetic nights
118 Talon
119 Press
120 "____ and Hayes": 1983 movie
121 Understood
124 Cedar Rapids college

Seven stories that stood out in golf for columnist this year

It's hard to believe the year is almost over. I hope that all of you found 2011 to be a better year than 2010. I also wish that 2012 brings you health and happiness.

As I look back on 2011, I remember a year filled with highs and lows in our sport. I present to you my top seven stories in golf for 2011:

No. 7: Can we please get a muzzle for caddies?

Between Steve Williams and Jo LaCava, there were more stories written about caddies than half the players on tour.

The very public split of Williams and Tiger Woods became a hot story this summer. Williams joined with Adam Scott, and the



duo quickly won. Tiger's struggles continued, and the media coverage became a little "National Enquirer"-like.

No. 6: In this game, we always talk about bouncing back. No one had a bigger bounce-back in 2011 than Rory McIlroy.

After a Masters debacle that made Greg Norman wince, McIlroy thrashed the field and Congressional in the next major. McIlroy won by eight and broke the scoring record by four shots.

No. 5: There is a young woman for the world to take note of. Her name is Lexi Thompson. At 16, she put on a clinic at the Navistar Classic and became the youngest LPGA winner ever.

She went on to add a win at the Dubai Ladies Masters to become the second-youngest winner on the ladies European tour and will play as a member of the LPGA Tour in 2012.

No. 4: If you were a betting person and took Darren Clarke to win the Open Championship, you may have made enough to retire. Clarke was a very long 200-1 shot with bookmakers to hoist the Claret Jug. In fact, he was 28-1 to be low Irishman and there were only four in the field!

For those of us who like to take life and golf a little less seriously than most, Clarke's win was fantastic. I know I had a few cigars and a stout or two in celebration.

No. 3: There appears to be a new dominant world No. 1, and her name is Yani Tseng. She rolled through the 2011 ladies' schedule, picking up a dozen wins, including a pair of major titles.

Tseng led in nearly every statistical category and finished atop the money list. In her homeland of Taiwan, her appearance led to record attendance.

No. 2: If any group needed to get the proverbial monkey off its back, it was the European Solheim Cup Team.

For the first time in eight years, Europe hosted the trophy. Doing so with a boisterous home crowd in front of Killeen Castle made it all the more special.

On my list, the event was the best one of the year. Sunday's last 60 minutes or so provided golf fans with the ultimate cliffhanger. Matches went back and forth with the highlight being Suzann Pettersen finishing with three straight birdies to defeat Michelle Wie to help secure the cup.

No. 1: On May 7, our sport lost an icon. At the young age of 54, Seve Ballesteros passed away.

Seve was to the European tour what Arnold Palmer was to the U.S. tour so many years ago.

You will be hard-pressed to find anyone who loved this game more than Seve. His artistry and genius were untouched by any of his peers. He showed us that while you can't hit every shot perfectly, you shouldn't give up, and if you use your imagination, you can find a way to post a great score.

Most of all, Seve was one of the most genuine of gentlemen I have ever met. Our sport was blessed to have him, and something less with his loss.

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 stammegolf@yahoo.com.

Gifts for needy children



Photo courtesy of Sebastian Elks Lodge No. 2714

The EL-DOEs of the Sebastian Elks Lodge No. 2714 held their 'Toys For Tots' dinner dance on Dec. 10. Three members of the Toys For Tots Marine Corp League attended to accept the many gifts to be distributed to needy children. From left: Toni Falk, president of the EL-DOEs; Peter Sayles, Mike Bodnar and Ernie Miller.

Adults can get help with GED classes

For Hometown News NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Adult Education offers GED preparation classes and the GED test. The classes are set up so that students can work at their own pace. GED classes are available at the Adult Education School in Vero, Sebastian River High School and other locations. The cost is \$30 per term (\$90 per year).

A new ESOL/citizenship program will be offered at Thompson Lifelong Learning Center. ESOL will be held on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9 a.m.-noon and again from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Citizenship classes will be on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Other ESOL classes are held at Vero Beach High School's

Freshman Learning Center. The cost is \$30 per term (\$90 per year).

GED students or recent GED graduates of the Adult and Community Education School, can work with a career specialist on an individual basis to help realize interests, skills and potential for different types of career training, higher education or employment opportunities.

Consult a full course schedule for times, dates and course fees. The course schedule is available at the office, at area libraries and on the web at www.indian-riverschools.org. Gift certificates are available. Adult Education, a division of the Indian River County School District, is at 1426 19th St., Vero Beach.

For more information, call (772) 564-4970.

Obituaries

Pauline Jewel Phillips Hummon

Pauline Jewel Phillips Hummon, 86, died Dec. 17, 2011. She was born in Ardmore, Okla., and lived in Sebastian for five years.

She was a homemaker. She is survived by a daughter, Sue (Bruce); a son, Gary (Jean); three grandsons, Kenneth (Jessica), Terry and Ryan; two great-granddaughters, Karissa and Kalena and a great grandson, Kameron.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Keith. Arrangements by Strunk Funeral Home and Crematory.

Calendar

From page B4

Self-guided tours are available Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday from noon-5 p.m. It is closed Mondays and major holidays. Admission is \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for children. It is located at 350 U.S. 1, Vero Beach. It also has a gift shop, library and café. For more information, call (772) 794-0601, or www.mckeeegarden.org.

•McLarty Treasure Museum features treasures discovered from ancient Spanish ships wrecked in 1715, off of Indian River County's coast. Open seven days a week from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is \$1 for ages 6 and older. Located at 13180 A1A, Vero Beach, north of County Road 510. For more information, call (772) 589-2147.

•Environmental Learning Center: An

elevated boardwalk creates a trail through a mangrove forest, butterfly garden, native plant garden, wet labs and more. Also there are canoe tours, workshops and other activities. It's open daily, with one-hour tours offered throughout the week. There is no admission charge. Visitors can also see the Florida cracker-style home of poet Laura Riding Jackson on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. The center is located at 255 Live Oak Drive, Vero Beach, south of the Wabasso Bridge. For more information call (772) 589-5050, or visit www.elcweb.org.

•ORCA: Enjoy the Oslo Riverfront Conservation Area, 350 acres along the Indian River Lagoon in southern Indian River County. The trail system takes you through a variety of distinct natural communities. Park is open daily from dawn to dusk, with weekly and monthly guided nature walks. There is no admission charge. For more information, call (772) 778-7200, Ext. 173.

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MELBOURNE - 5500sf.

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805 Apartments/Condos for Rent

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805 Apartments/Condos for Rent

805 Apartments/Condos for Rent

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805 Apartments/Condos for Rent

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Crossword Solution

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Crossword Solution

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A	U	R	A	S	G	A	B	C	O	M	E	T	U	R	N	S				
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S	P	E	D	K	E	A	N	S	S	W			R	E	N	E	W			

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