

# Hometown News

SEBASTIAN RIVER AREA

GARDEN NOOK

Learning about Society Garlic and how a member of the lily family smells less than flowery.  
Page B2



INSIDE

Vol. 10, No. 23 Your Local News and Information Source • www.HometownNewsOL.com Friday, March 1, 2013

## Up & coming

### Hospital to host job fair

Indian River Medical Center is hosting an on-site job fair between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. See **COMING, A2**

## Seeing the world through his painter's eyes

By Jessica Tuggle  
jtuggle@hometownnewsol.com

SEBASTIAN — "I don't consider myself an artist yet." With completed paintings hanging in many of the rooms in his house, including one with a blue ribbon pinned by it, it's hard to believe Peter Montalbano of Sebastian isn't an artist with

excellent skills and detail. Mr. Montalbano is a self-taught painter with a background in architecture and interior design. Although he has been sketching for many years and often created design renderings for work, painting is a medium he has explored seriously only in the past couple of years. He often goes to art events in town and in Vero Beach, but it

was at the prodding of his family that he entered a juried art show at Darby Fine Arts in Vero Beach last December. Much to his surprise, he won first place for best painting. His entry, "December Night," evokes the cold and dark evenings up north in New Jersey,

where he was raised.

See **PAINTER, A2**

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## Fellsmere set to be national elephant center



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer

John Lehnhardt, executive director of The National Elephant Center, spoke to a crowd of about 50 people Wednesday, Feb. 20 during the open house celebrating the completion of phase one.

By Jessica Tuggle  
jtuggle@hometownnewsol.com

FELLSMERE — The 225-acre property of the National Elephant Center is quiet except for some last-minute construction checks, but standing in the gigantic galvanized metal barn, it's easy to imagine the sound of trumpeting elephants wafting through the air.

Last week, local government officials, the media, business owners and some members of the public were invited to tour a completed portion of the National Elephant Center in Fellsmere and were told elephants could amble onto the property

"I'm a very happy man today. Elephants need a future and we're looking forward to a wonderful future here."

**John Lehnhardt**  
Executive director of the National Elephant Center

as soon as this summer.

The \$2.5 million project, only the first phase of the center, includes a large barn with paddocks, an animal keeper work center, and more than 20 acres of four interconnected pastures with watering holes, mud wallows, dust bathing areas and shade.

Up to nine elephants could be housed with the space currently available, center staff said.

More than 70 Association of Zoos and Aquariums-accredited zoos have banded together to create the National Elephant Center to provide a new model for elephant care and management. The organization's goal is to improve the elephant population's long-term viability and welfare, a press release said.

Both Asian and African elephants will eventually be housed at the elephant

center, said John Lehnhardt, executive director of the center.

Just last year, Fellsmere City Councilman Fernando Herrera came out to the property approximately three miles north and west of downtown Fellsmere and all he could see were orange trees and other native plants.

With the strongly fenced pastures now outlined, and the 13,000 square-foot barn standing as tall

as 30 feet at the top, Councilman Herrera is quite impressed with the project's progress.

"I think it's awesome," he said. "This is the perfect place for the animals. They are not going to bother anyone and it's a nice place for them with the weather." Councilman Herrera said.

"I don't get tired of looking at this barn, I'm really impressed," Councilman Herrera said.

Jeff Bolling, the chief operating officer of the elephant center, oversaw the construction of phase one, carried out by MH Williams Construction

See **ELEPHANT, A3**

### ENTERTAINMENT B1

#### LES MISERABLES



'Les Misérables' is a five-star show now playing at Riverside Theatre.

### BUSINESS BRIEF B4

#### FAIRS AND FESTIVALS



Set out this weekend for some fun in the Florida sun.

### WEEKEND WEATHER



Friday: Clear; high: 72; low: 45; high tide: 10:39 a.m.; low tide: 4:39 p.m.  
Saturday: Mostly cloudy; high: 64; low: 45; high tide: 11:24 a.m.; low tide: 5:29 p.m.

Sunday: Clear; high: 63; low: 41; high tide: 12:16 p.m.; low tide: 6:27 p.m.  
Weather courtesy of www.weather.com

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## Local businesses collaborate to boost tourism

For Hometown News  
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Recently, a group of enthusiastic marketing professionals from local businesses took Indian River County on the road and made a big splash at The Villages Travel Expo with more than 8,500 attendees.

Representing more than

25 local businesses, members of the Indian River County Chamber of Commerce Tourism Division's Group Travel Marketing Committee set up shop at the central Florida expo, held annually for one day in mid-January, to promote the many exciting attractions that make the community a unique vacation destination.

Representing Indian

River County were Amy Selby, Springhill Suites; Jon Moses, Riverside Theatre; Cynthia Johnson, Capt. Hiram's; and Director of Tourism Allison McNeal with the Indian River County Chamber of Commerce.

The Villages is an ideal market that is rife with potential visitors who are active and affluent with healthy budgets for travel.

Located an hour north of Orlando, the retirement community has a population of 90,000 with 89 percent taking at least two Florida vacations a year, 57 percent visiting natural attractions, 83 percent preferring mid-week travel and spending \$198 million a year on restaurant dining.

"We are very excited about the warm welcome

that we received from residents, as well as group travel planners," said Amy Selby, marketing director at Springhill Suites and chair of the Group Travel Committee. "The potential for bringing group tourism business to Indian River County is impressive. We captured over 4,000 email addresses from residents

See **TOURISM, A2**

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# Painter

From page A1

"I tried to give the feeling that you are walking up the road toward the house in this one," Mr. Montalbano said.

The colors in Mr. Montalbano's paintings are not very bright and do not scream for attention. Rather, they are substantial in their visual impact, but muted in an overall feel.

"I don't do a lot of typical

Florida landscape with the bright greens, the palm trees and the birds. My work is a little more subdued," he said.

He takes his cues from his favorite painter, Andrew Wyeth, and has gone to the Vero Beach Museum of Art to see some of Mr. Wyeth's paintings on display.

The majority of the time Mr. Montalbano paints with acrylic paints on watercolor paper, but he modifies the acrylics by "washing" them out with

some water, instead of using the paint straight from the tube.

"I don't know the rules, so I don't really follow them. All I need is some paint, a brush and a piece of paper and that's the way I like it," he said. "Painting is just relaxing. I can just go into the studio and close the door and paint or sketch, and sometimes it turns into a real painting, and sometimes it doesn't."

His attention to detail and skills at correctly composing a scene in perspective is certainly evident in his paintings, but they are also evident in another passion of his, building model boats.

Mr. Montalbano has had a fascination with boats

and ships for many years and has built more than six different ships to scale using only a set of plans.

The boats can take anywhere from six months to a year to complete, but that is because he never works on them exclusively.

"With the boats, you do have to walk away from them sometimes, just like the paintings," Mr. Montalbano said.

A painting can go several weeks just sitting on his worktable, unsigned, while he waits for inspiration to strike so he can know exactly what the painting is missing.

"The other day I finally finished a painting, and all it needed was a few little birds," he said.



Artist and painter Peter Montalbano stands in front of a work in progress called 'Porch Light.'

Cliff Partlow/staff photographer

## CORRECTION

In the Feb. 22 story titled, "Dance brings children together," we incorrectly identified the student with Teacher Tinamarie Ioffredo. We regret the error.

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## Coming

From page A1

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## Tourism

From page A1

and have already booked one multi-day group tour with several others in the works."

The chamber's Tourism Division plans to add the 4,000 email addresses to its database of more than 20,000 travelers who receive an e-newsletter once a month, which includes highlights of upcoming events, suggestions for travel adventures and "hot deals" from area attractions, restaurants and accommodations.

Additionally, the chamber is working with tourism partners to schedule several familiarization tours with group travel planners that represent hundreds of social groups that are interested in Florida vacation destinations.

In addition to group travel, the chamber collaborates with local tourism partners to promote Indian River County as an ideal vacation destination among other niche markets based on specific traveler interests, including destination weddings, small-market meetings, cultural arts, heritage and eco-tourism. As the largest industry within the county, tourism has a tremendous impact on the local economy. Per the latest figures of the 2010 data from the U.S. Travel Association, travelers spent \$363.2 million. That accounted for \$93.2 million in payroll generated and \$11.25 million in local tax receipts in Indian River County. From fiscal year 2011 compared to 2012, Indian River County bed tax increased by 11.5 percent or \$166,398 in bed tax revenues.

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Board certified in family medicine, Dr. Marie R. Prinsen joined the medical staff of Indian River Medical Center in 2011.

Dr. Prinsen received her medical degree from and completed her family medicine residency at the University of Montreal Faculty of Medicine in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Prior to joining Indian River Medical Center, Dr. Prinsen was affiliated with Hospital Maisonneuve-Rosemont in Montreal, Quebec, Canada; Northwest Medical Center in Thief River Falls, MN; Valley Regional Hospital in Claremont, NH; Catholic Medical Center in Manchester, NH; and New London Hospital in New London, NH. Most recently she served as preceptor for the On Doctoring Program for first and second year medical students at Dartmouth Medical School in Hanover, NH.

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This aerial photograph shows The National Elephant Center at the completion of phase one. The photo is looking northeast. The C-54 Canal can be seen in the upper left corner.

Photo courtesy of The National Elephant Center

## Elephant

From page A1

Group of Melbourne.

In order to build a facility strong enough to hold the largest land mammals in the world, construction crews dug a deep trench and laid down 8-foot wide concrete footers to form a secure foundation. Vertical poles were then bolted to the footers, secured with more concrete, topped with layers of dirt 3-foot deep, and connected to other metal beams in the roof, Mr. Bolling said.

"It's a proven method of containing elephants," he said.

The barn has manual doors for the keepers to operate and keep elephants separate from each other if needed.

"Everything here is so big, even the nuts and bolts are more than twice the normal size," said Beth Mitchell, executive director of the Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Lehnhardt said he was incredibly excited to be able to show off the project progress because it

has been just an idea for so long, but now its reality.

"I'm a very happy man today," he said with a grin. "Elephants need a future, and we're looking forward to a wonderful future here."

Up to this point, the great majority of the funding for the project has come from the zoos and several generous donors, but moving forward fundraising will have to be a big focus in order for expansion to occur, center staff said.

The elephant center is not a sanctuary like Save The Chimps in Fort Pierce, but rather it is a support center, said Keith Winsten, board chairman for the center.

The center will not be open to the public, but will offer training for both elephants and elephant keepers, and occasionally be open to education programs to raise awareness about elephants and the work at the center.

For more information about the National Elephant Center, visit [www.nationalelephant-center.org](http://www.nationalelephant-center.org).



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer

Fernando Herrera, left, Fellsmere City Council member and Mayor Pro Tem and Beth Mitchell, Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce president, were the first to walk through the giant doors at the National Elephant Center open house Wednesday, Feb. 20.

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# Much ado for children and adults at art museum



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer Marie Morrow works in mixed media, gourds to be exact. All of her gourds are functional works of art.

The Vero Beach Museum of Art held its annual Free Community Celebration Saturday. The event included Art in Bloom, a three-day event, which mixed floral arrangements together with art. Faculty artists gave demonstrations and presentations during the Museum Art School Open House, there were free tours of the museum's galleries and lots of hands-on activities for both children and adults.



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer Alvene Carpenter, left and Jayne Kenyon admire 'Art in Bloom' arrangement at the museum Saturday.

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Four-year-old Maple San, of Montreal, shows her sculpture mask made at the Vero Beach Museum of Art Saturday. Maple and her mom Cori are visiting the John Smith family of Vero Beach.

Cliff Partlow staff photographer

Cliff Partlow/staff photographer

Six-year-old Alex Sun shows off his three-dimensional doll made Saturday at the Vero Beach Museum of Art.

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# Police report

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

Arrests listed were made from Feb. 13 to Feb. 19, 2013

## Sebastian Police Department

- Joseph Jessy Stabile, 18, of 9300 Fellsmere Road, Sebastian, was charged with two counts of burglary and two counts of grand theft.
- David L. Auman, 66, of 1444 Tradewinds Way, Sebastian, was charged with domestic battery and battery.

## Fellsmere Police Department

- Patrick Michael Sullivan, 42, of 134 S. Broadway St., Fellsmere, was charged with refusing to aid law enforcement.

## Indian River County Sheriff's Office

- Jason Thomas Cambron, 34, of 2400 84th Terrace, Vero Beach, was charged with giving false information to a pawn broker, deal-

ing in stolen property and petty theft.

- Thomas Lee Durden, 55, of 1041 10th Court S.W., Vero Beach, was charged with sale and possession of cocaine.
- Yasmine Lennette Jefferson, 26, of 1655 29th St. North, Apt. 910, Fort Pierce, was charged with grand theft.
- Jimmy Wayne Reed, 22, of 4681 28th Court, Vero Beach, was charged with possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, fleeing and eluding, possession of a firearm, ammunition or electric device by a convicted felon, driving while license suspended with knowledge and resisting arrest without violence.
- Thomas Solomon, 66, of 1049 10th Court S.W., Vero Beach, was charged with possession of cocaine.
- Charles Henry Wiggins, 65, of 1037 10th Court S.W., Vero Beach, was charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.
- Dorothy Ann King, 25, of 955 16th Place, Apt. C1, Vero Beach, was charged with communications fraud.
- Matthew Duane McCue, 20, of 852 Laurel Circle, Sebastian, was charged with organized fraud and lewd and lascivious exhibition.
- Jimmy Ray Strickland,

43, of 8085 North U.S. 1, Lot 103, Vero Beach, was charged with felony petty theft.

- Chandal Kathleen Eleanor Sullivan, 18, of 144 S. Myrtle St., Fellsmere, was charged with refusing to aid a law enforcement officer.
- Willis Renaud Walker, 30, of 4520 38th Court, Vero Beach, was charged with possession of methamphetamine with intent to sell and possession of marijuana.
- Tara Combs Caron, 49, of 18748 Greenboro St., Spring Hill, was charged with failure to appear in court and violation of probation.
- Meagan Jeanene Hatch, 21, of 1805 Point West Way, Vero Beach, was charged with trafficking in oxycodone.
- Stacey Jerome Jones, 21, of 4282 36th Court, Vero Beach, was charged with four counts of introduction of contraband into a detention facility and possession of marijuana.
- Terrance Leon Jones, 18, of 4361 33rd Ave., Vero Beach, was charged with fleeing and eluding and not having a Florida driver license.
- Sivohan Marie

McMuller, 29, of 3950 Lincoln Drive, Vero Beach, was charged with felony petty theft.

- Crystal Marie Mitchell, 31, of 5826 U.S. 1, Vero Beach, was charged with four counts of abandonment of animals and four counts of cruelty to animals.
- Stephen Zackary Wolfgang Reddy, 24, of 14395 80th Ave., Sebastian, was charged with battery of an emergency medical care provider, failing to register a vehicle and resisting arrest without violence.
- Levi Wallace, 23, of 5541 Third Court S.W., Plantation, was charged with three counts of criminal use of personal identification information.
- Adam Tyler Young, 41, of 3566 Marthas Lane, Vero Beach, was charged with grand theft.
- Kaitlyn Ashley Hunt, 18, of 231 Stony Point Drive, Sebastian, was charged with two counts of lewd or lascivious battery on a child.
- Ted Jeffrey Rodgers, 43, of 2105 74th Ave. S.W., Vero Beach, was charged with failure of a sex offender to notify the Department of Highway Safety and Motor

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Vehicles of address or name change.

- Jamaal Kendale Williams, 30, of 634 24th Place Southwest, Vero Beach, was charged with possession of cocaine, grand theft of an automobile and driving while license suspended with knowledge.
- Richard John Roberts, 53, of 419 Easy St., Sebastian, was charged with 26 counts of grand theft, forgery of bank checks and uttering a forged instrument.
- Jemel Monte Bennefield, 24, of 4280 48th Place, Vero Beach, was charged with possession of cocaine with intent to sell and violation of probation.
- Robert Michael Chesser, 30, of 11390 S. Indian River Drive, Sebastian, was charged with two counts of

battery on a law enforcement officer, resisting arrest without violence, criminal mischief and disorderly intoxication.

- Sam Alfonso Jenkins, 24, of 64 Sunrise Square, Apt. 208, Fellsmere, was charged with two counts of child abuse and a misdemeanor charge of battery.
- Luis Gabriel Martin, 26, of 5202 Fort Pierce Blvd., Fort Pierce, was charged with giving false information to a pawn broker and dealing in stolen property.
- Michael Vincent Novakowski, 25, of 6216 Sixth Place, Vero Beach, was charged with grand theft.
- Darrell Patrick Williams, 32, of 4726 29th Ave., Apt. B, Vero Beach, was charged with possession of cocaine and drug paraphernalia.

**If you have information about a crime, call Treasure Coast Crimestoppers at (800) 273-TIPS.**

# Suspects in Vero Beach armed robbery arrested in Georgia

By Jessica Tuggle  
jtuggle@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Georgia police have arrested suspects who may have been involved with an armed robbery at an electronics store in Vero Beach last week.

A press release from the

Indian River County Sheriff's Office said four suspects are in custody in Camden County, Ga., after the Brevard County Sheriff's Office put out a "be on the lookout" request for a vehicle used in an armed robbery in Titusville.

Indian River County Sheriff's deputies are

investigating whether the suspects some of the same ones that robbed the GameStop store at 6310 20th St., Vero Beach, at 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 19.

The vehicle stopped, a white Dodge Durango, fits the description of a vehicle seen on surveillance video from a store near

GameStop, said Sgt. Thomas Raulen, public information officer for the local sheriff's office.

According to police reports, two armed suspects, one with a rifle or shotgun and the other with a handgun, tied up a male GameStop employee and left him in the back office.

One suspect removed the video surveillance device and attempted to destroy it, a press release said.

Two customers entered the store while the robbery was in progress, but did not realize a robbery was occurring.

The report goes on to state that one of the sus-

pects was carrying a large box and indicated to the customers an employee would be able to help them shortly.

The employee, whose name was not released at press time, was able to free himself and suffered no injuries, but was shaken from the experience.

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# VIEWPOINT

FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2013 • HOMETOWN NEWS • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSOL.COM

## Decluttering your desktop

One of the questions that I am asked frequently has to do with all of the icons on the typical Windows desktop. "Aren't they slowing things down? I never use most of them, so can't we get rid of them?"

I usually answer by explaining that most of the icons on the average desktop are not slowing the computer down at all, but are actually more like "speed dial" buttons on a phone.

Most desktop icons are just shortcuts to programs buried deeper in the system, and are on the desktop so you don't have to navigate through all sorts of menus to launch a program.

If you look closely at the icons on your desktop, you may notice that some icons have a little arrow in a little white box at the lower left corner of the icon. The arrow itself is kind of curvy and will point to the top right corner of the icon. You may also notice that other icons (like the My Computer icon, the My Documents icon, the Recycle Bin Etc.) do not have the little arrow. There is a big difference between the two types of icons.

The icons with the little arrows are actually just shortcuts and not the actual program or file. Shortcuts are really, really tiny and don't slow the computer down at all!

"But what about the icons that don't have the little arrow? Are they safe to get rid of?" That question is a little harder to answer.

You see, any icon on your computer that does not have the little shortcut indicator is either a user file or a system file and messing with it can cause problems. Icons on your desktop that are not shortcuts are either files that have been saved on the desktop or system files that have been set there by the operating system, and care should be taken when manipulating them.

Another point that I want to make is that people have different ideas as to what the phrase "get rid of" means.

When someone asks me to get rid of all of the unused icons on their desktop, what they are invariably asking me to do is to delete them. Now if you have been reading my column for any length of time, then you know how I feel about deleting things from your computer – it's not



**COMPUTE THIS**  
SEAN MCCARTHY

something I do casually.

In fact, I have a saying: "If I were King, I'd have the delete button stricken from the keyboard."

My idea of cleaning a Windows desktop by "getting rid of" a bunch of stuff is not to delete everything but leans more in line with the phrase "out of sight, out of mind."

People will watch with a puzzled look on their face as I create yet another icon on their desktop (a new folder), name it something like "Desktop Clutter" and then drag all of the unused icons into the new folder. Then, once the desktop is down to just the icons that actually get used, I drag the Desktop Clutter folder and drop it into the My Documents folder.

Then I usually spend the next ten minutes of so explaining why I went through all that trouble rather than just deleting everything. My explanation really boils down to habit. One of the worst habits people get into with their machines is the habit of deleting stuff every time they tidy up. SEVEN worse is the habit some people have of emptying the recycle bin every time they delete something. That's just a disaster waiting to happen.

My philosophy is "out of sight, out of mind." Tidying up my system by sweeping a bunch of unused shortcuts, and actual files for that matter, into a folder and then moving the folder out of sight ensures that if I accidentally do "get rid of something" that I need, I can recover it easily enough by digging into the folder where I moved it.

Does this mean that I am completely against deleting everything? No, of course not. Some things are indeed trash and I have no problem deleting them. I just have a real problem with the habit of deleting things with barely a second thought. I've seen too many people delete their way into too many problems.

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

## More than just guns at show



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer

Dennis Kravitz, of South Atlantic Coast Sales, offered a wide range of knives, some with alligator leg and jawbones, at the Vero Beach Gun Show Saturday at the Indian River County Fairgrounds.



### Got something to say?

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

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

### Worry about other drivers

Instead of worrying about "the dummy on the motorcycle," maybe people should be more concerned with the "dummies in the automobiles." A biker friend of mine sat at a stop light and a woman in a minivan with two preschool age kids smashed into the back of him, fracturing vertebrae in his back. She admitted to the police she was instant messaging on her smart phone. Maybe it's time to ban the use of cell phones while driving. The vast majority of motorcycle fatalities are caused not by "dummies on their motorcycles" being reckless, but by idiots in cars not paying attention.

### Rants are disheartening

It's sad to read the Rants & Raves columns, especially many about President Obama. First, it's a waste of precious time and energy to be consumed by so much anger about things you can do nothing about and second, because often much of the subject matter ranted about is misunderstood or just plain wrong.

Let's address Obama's daughters attending a private school. Jimmy Carter was the last president (1977-81) to have a child in public school. Apparently, it was an unhappy time for Amy as she wasn't allowed to go out for recess because of safety concerns and had trouble making friends because of all the Secret Service around her. Yes, Secret Service protection is required by federal law for the family of the President.

Children of Presidents Theodore Roosevelt, Richard Nixon, Bill Clinton and V.P. Gore all graduated from Sidwell Friends, the Obama girls' school. It is a highly selective Quaker private school popular with Washington D.C.'s prominent and moneyed families. From all we see, hear and read, President Obama adores his daughters and is deeply concerned for all children. That is why he is spending so much time addressing gun control issues, even though it is not politically expedient to do so.

### Not really a rant

This isn't really a rant or a rave. It's just a notion that we, as human beings, show more kindness to others. Take time to remember that you never know what somebody is going through at home. They may have struggles they are trying to hide, so if they look like they need a smile or a kind word, give them one. It might make their day. My mom did that. She made everyone smile and I miss her so much. I wish I would have taken the chance to tell her how much I loved her, how sorry I was for my mistakes and how much I respect and love her. You never know how long you have with someone. Take time to make someone smile today, you never know how much it will mean.

### No money for you

My university sent me a request today for a contribution as a part of their annual fund drive. I will not be sending them anything this year because in the same mail, I received a report on college professors, which indicates that more than half of these people, who are supposed to be unbiased and are supposed to encourage different opinions, have negative attitudes toward those of us who are evangelical Christians and use the Bible as our guide in life.

### Sick of the school system

I have lived in this county for 25 years. I attended public school and so do my two children. I cannot seem to understand how the school system manages to function the way it is today.

When I call the high school, no one can be bothered to return my calls. It took me physically standing in the office

and threatening to take my child out of school for me to even get anyone's attention when my child was the victim of a crime.

Now she has been given detention for something I know she did not do and I have spent my entire day trying to get anyone at the school to call me back.

I thought that is what my property taxes paid for. I have asked the school board to move her bus stop to a safer location. I almost got hit by a speeding car at her bus stop this morning.

I have emailed the sheriff's department, my county commissioner's office and have even spoken to the transportation department. Every person I talk to tells me it is not their problem.

The last time I checked, my child was entitled to an education and safe transportation to and from school. Perhaps I need to reread the constitution.

### Humane Society comes through

Not too long ago, my beloved Labrador retriever died. She was my best friend for 12 years. I am a senior citizen, don't drive and am on a fixed income. I was very worried that I wouldn't be able to afford to take care of her once she passed away.

I called the Humane Society and they assured me that they would take care of both of us once she died. The morning that she passed away, I called them and lo and behold, they came and took her. They cremated her and never charged me a penny. They knew how distraught I was, and they came the day after she died and gave me a great poem explaining how hard it was to lose a pet.

A few weeks after that, they came and took me to the pound and let me pick out another dog free of charge. I know this might not be something they can offer to everybody, but they really made such a difference to me.

I'm no longer sitting here lonely, missing my dog. I have a great new dog that keeps my busy and shows me so much love. I just want to say thank you so much to the Humane Society. You've made such a difference in this senior's life.

### Neighbors should be more considerate

Maybe someone can tell me what happened to the loud noise law we supposedly have.

I can't sleep or watch a TV program these days, because my neighbor is playing the music so loud that the walls and floors shake and things fall down.

Then when I call 911 to have the police come to quiet them down, they don't show up at all. The police are so lazy. It took me calling three times before they finally showed up.

I just got home from work; it's 1 a.m. There was nowhere to park because of the party going on downstairs. It didn't stop until 2:30 a.m. They are bad neighbors.

### Shut up during the show

We recently attended a buffet and show at a local church. The food was good, but once the entertainment started, some people continued to be loud. We are not sure if these people are outsiders or members of the church, but it was rude and a disappointment at a church function.

### Fix the welfare system

I would like to know, as some others here in the Sunshine State of Florida, what is going with the offices here?

Why are so many illegal immigrants able to get food stamps, have Social Security cards and get free stuff from this state? Why are we are taking care of people who sneak into the United States and we can't even take care of the people who were born here and work their whole life here?

Then we have people who are on welfare who don't need to be on it at all. Are the people who work these jobs really checking the paperwork or just once in a while? If the immigrants want to stay, let them go through the right channels.

The Social Security office should have a special card for immigrants to use, with pictures on them that they can't take off or change with someone. The same thing goes for the food-stamp office. The office heads should get off their bottoms and do something about it. The offices should link together by computers, too.

Why does the Social Security office issue new cards and numbers when someone loses theirs? They should look up the person on the file database before issuing a new card, and then issue a new one with the same number.

There are some people with two or more Social Security cards. Then they head to food-stamp office to get help with these new cards.

There are so many Americans who need help in this area and can't get it because of this problem. The system we have is broken down, so let's fix it now.

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# Business

## Medical center to hold job fair March 2

For Hometown News  
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Indian River Medical Center is hosting an on-site job fair on March 2, between 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in their Medical Class-

rooms A and B, located on the first floor of the hospital.

Current job openings, including allied health, administrative, clerical, clinical and support services positions, are posted on the hospital's website at

www.irmc.cc.

Those interested should bring resumes and be prepared to be interviewed by hospital managers. Attendees will be registered for door prizes and fun giveaways.

IRMC is located off 37th

Street in Vero Beach. It is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a drug-free and tobacco-free workplace.

For more information, call (772) 567-4311, press 3, Ext. 1125.

## Harvest Food receives donation



Photo courtesy of Nicolace Marketing

Bob Gibb, president of John's Island Real Estate, presents Austin Hunt, founder of Harvest Food & Outreach Center, with a check. Also pictured are John Everhart of Harvest and Robyn Flick of JIRE.

For Hometown News  
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — It isn't a surprise that even in the height of their busiest season, Bob Gibb and his team of professionals at John's Island Real Estate Company proudly support the transformative efforts of Harvest Food & Outreach Center.

John's Island Real Estate Company has a long history of selfless giving and recently presented Harvest with a donation in the name of each John's Island resident.

"You are doing great work at Harvest," said Mr. Gibb. "We want you to know that we are grateful for the work you do for the families in need in our community."

Harvest has an invaluable

relationship with the John's Island community, according to Austin Hunt, Founder of Harvest.

"We are optimistic about being able to positively affect the lives of these families," said Mr. Hunt. "We cannot continue to do what we do for our clients without partners like John's Island Real Estate Company, and we thank them for

their generosity."

With two facilities in Indian River County, Harvest serves more than 2,000 families each week providing hunger relief, crisis counseling, job readiness and life skills education programs.

For more information, call (772) 770-2665 or visit [www.harvestfood-outreach.org](http://www.harvestfood-outreach.org).

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All prizes will be awarded. You need not be present or tour the house to win. Winners will be notified by telephone the night of the drawing, Thursday, March 28, 2013 or by certified mail. Ceremony begins at 5:30 p.m.

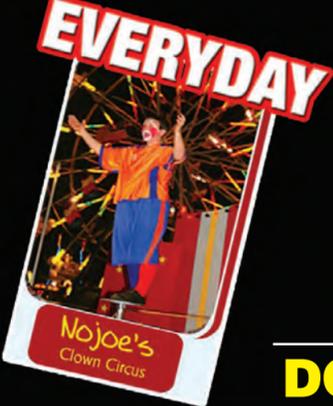
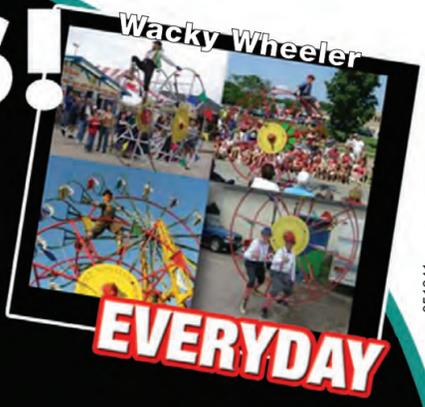
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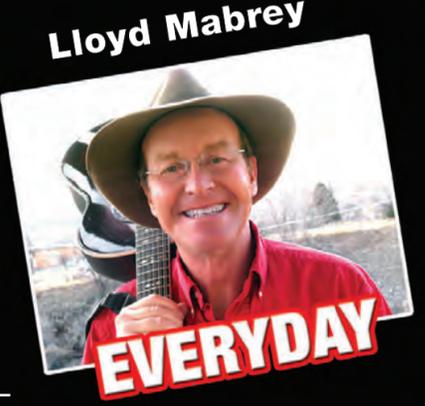
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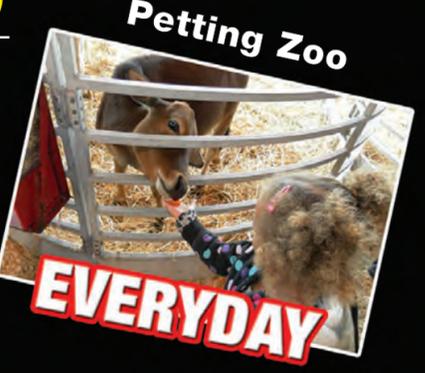


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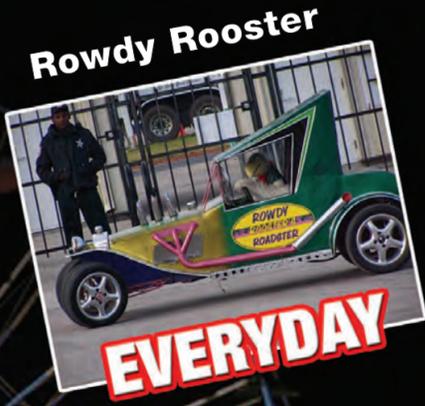
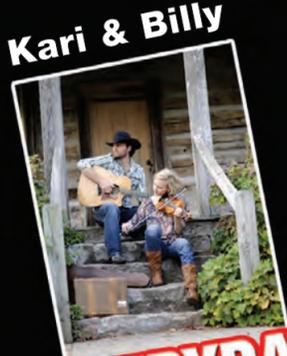
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# Dining & Entertainment

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## Classified INSIDE

SECTION B • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSOL.COM • FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2013

### Find any of these in your backyard lately?



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer Bruce Dangerfield, Vero Beach animal control officer, removes a female opossum from her crate to show the audience her offspring living in the mammal's pouch.

Ilka Daniel, director of the Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County director of Animal Protective Services and Bruce Dangerfield, Vero Beach Police Department animal control officer, gave a well-informed presentation on urban wildlife Thursday evening. The dozen or so critters included a variety of snakes, raccoons and birds that live in the area.



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer Adi Threlkeld, of Vero Beach, shows she's not at all afraid of the pine snake wrapped around her neck.



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer Ilka Daniel, director of Protective Services, holds a rat snake as audience members feel its skin.



Week of 3-1-2013

**ARIES** - March 21-April 20

Sorting through feelings may not come easy to you, Aries. At some point it becomes necessary to voice your opinions and you may need to show a vulnerable side.

**TAURUS** - April 21-May 21

Taurus, a few complications could arise this week and how you react to them will be telling of how the rest of the month may proceed. Think about this before you act.

**GEMINI** - May 22-June 21

Gemini, this week is likely to be a wash because there is something that came up that has the potential to dominate all of your time for the next several days.

**CANCER** - June 22-July 22

Cancer, though you may be anxious to help a friend out, you need to seriously consider whether you have the time to spare at this point in time. Putting yourself first is priority.

**LEO** - July 23-Aug. 23

Leo, someone is going to open up to you emotionally and you may get caught off guard by the level of intimacy. This could turn out to be the start of a long-lasting friendship.

**VIRGO** - Aug. 24-Sept. 22

Virgo, let a particular situation cool down instead of adding extra fuel to the fire. Step away from a heated discussion if you feel like things may get out of control.

**LIBRA** - Sept. 23-Oct. 23

Libra, your heart may beat a little faster this week because of the excitement involved in meeting someone that has been on your mind. Be patient.

**SCORPIO** - Oct. 24-Nov. 22

Scorpio, continue to discuss a financial situation with your significant other. Even if the discussion grows tiresome, talking it out is the best way to resolve the issue.

**SAGITTARIUS** -

See SCOPES, B4

## 'Les Mis' features five-star performances

### 'Les Mis' tickets selling quickly

By Jessica Tuggle  
jtuggle@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH — Riverside Theatre's production of "Les Miserables" is the opposite of miserable, it's incredible.

Last weekend, the opening weekend saw hundreds of patrons gathering in the elegant theater to witness the most highly anticipated show of the season, "Les Miserables," which some have called the most popular musical in the world.

The dramatic musical

follows the life story of Jean Valjean, a convict that turns his life around after he is shown mercy in an unexpected place.

The protagonist is played by David Michael Felty, a native Pennsylvanian, knows the part of Jean Valjean backward and forward, and his experience in that role shows.

From the opening number to the finale, Mr. Felty's presence onstage was more than seen, it was felt. His interpretation of Jean Valjean exuded inner turmoil, passion, devotion, fear and humility when appropriate.

His robust and vigorous

voice resonated in the theater in musical numbers such as "Confrontation," and is beautifully contrasted by the poignant and pleading prayer song, "Bring Him Home."

During the approximately four-minute performance of the song, Mr. Felty held the audience captive and breathless. His quiet voice and heartfelt delivery was jaw-dropping and achingly beautiful. In addition to thunderous applause, many sniffles were heard at the conclusion of the solo.

Thomas Alan Johnson, plays Javert, the counter-

part to Jean Valjean and law enforcement officer who makes it his life's goal to bring Jean Valjean to justice.

His experience with the character has also been quite extensive, including playing opposite with Colm Wilkinson, the original Jean Valjean.

His final scene in the musical "Soliloquy," was the most visually impactful and impressive of his numbers, holding out a note seemingly forever.

Another supporting character, Becky Gulsvig as Eponine, also had a stand-out moment, in her solo, "On My Own." Without going over the top, she

acted out her role as a lovelorn young girl knowing her love was unattainable. Her voice painted the emotions an even deeper color and she was awarded with a hearty applause as well.

From beginning to end, the musical struck a chord with the audience, those who were already familiar with the music and story, as well as those who were not.

After the finale, patrons exclaimed at the quality of the stage scenes, the actors and the incredible orchestra, which was expanded

See THEATRE, B4

## Out & about

### THROUGH MARCH 10

• **Riverside Theatre** presents "Les Miserables," Stark Stage, Riverside Theatre, Vero Beach, times vary. The musical brings to life the tragic story of Jean Valjean, a convict whose entire life is changed due to a single act of kindness. Cost: \$36-\$70. Website: www.riversidetheatre.com.

• **Film studies course**, Vero Beach Museum of Art, Vero Beach, Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. or 7 p.m. "Trends in International Cinema." Supper club tickets available for 7 p.m. classes. Cost: \$60, \$50 for museum members. Dinner tickets separate. Website: www.verobeachmuseum.org.

Botanical Garden, Vero Beach, times vary. The garden presents "Fabel Reimagined," a collection of 200 glass sculptures by world-famous flamework glass artist Hans Godo Frabel. Cost: garden admission fees apply. Website: www.mckee.org.

Library, Sebastian, 7 p.m. Concert by HairPeace. Cost: free, donations accepted for coffee and cookies. Website: www.sebastianlibrary.com.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 1 - SATURDAY, MARCH 2

• **Riverside Theatre** presents "The Comedy Zone," Waxlax Stage, Riverside Theatre, Vero Beach, 7:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m. Comedians to be announced. Cost: \$15. Website: www.riversidetheatre.com.

• **Russian National Orchestra concert**, Community Church, Vero Beach, 7:30 p.m. Presented by the Indian River Symphonic Association. Guest piano soloist, Barry Douglas. Cost: \$50. Season tickets available. Website: www.irsavero.org.

### THROUGH MARCH 30

See OUT, B4

### THROUGH MARCH 12

### THROUGH APRIL 30

• **Art exhibition**, McKee

### FRIDAY, MARCH 1

• **Library coffee house**, North Indian River County

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# Society Garlic and dealing with aphids

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I hope everybody has been enjoying the wonderful weather we have been experiencing the past few days. It is just a reminder that spring is not far off. Why not start the season out right with a unique plant called Society Garlic?

Many of us use garlic as a supplement along with our daily vitamin, but not many of us think of planting garlic in our gardens — society garlic, that is.

Society garlic is not really garlic at all. Its only similarity to real garlic is that it is a member of the lily (Alliaceae) family. Society garlic can create a splash of purple color that can accent any garden or landscape. It looks best when it is planted in groups, but it can also be used as a border around larger trees and shrubs. One of the most distinc-



**GARDEN NOOK**  
 JOE ZELENAK

tive aspects of the plant is the smell. They smell just like garlic cloves. Although they are fragrant almost any time of day, the fragrance is strongest at night.

Society garlic is easy to grow, and will grow well in well-drained, light sandy soil. They will tolerate full sun to partial shade; however, they will require regular watering during the hot summer months. Dividing them as they multiply can easily propagate the plants.

I have read from some sources that the plants are edible, but I probably would not recommend that practice. It is best to use

them as an ornamental plant. I have also been told that they deter moles but I have no actual proof of that. If anybody experiments with that, please let me know if you had positive results with the experiment.

One other added bonus is that the plant is a perennial and blooms from spring to mid-summer.

If you grow hibiscus, one of the most annoying, and destructive pests are little critters called aphids. Aphids are small soft-bodied insects that congregate mainly on tender new growth and also right around the bloom of the plant.

These creatures feed in large colonies and can multiply quite rapidly. Aphids can often cause the leaves of ornamentals to curl up and the insects can hide in these curls, thus escaping the effects of

insecticides. Aphids do their damage by sucking life-sustaining juices from the plant, making it weak and vulnerable to disease.

Since hibiscus are somewhat tender, you cannot use Malathion as an insecticide of choice, as it will cause your plant to drop leaves. The best remedy and protection is to use a systemic insecticide such as Orthene or OrtheneX. OrtheneX does double duty as it takes care of the pests and also helps with some diseases.

You can also use a rose and flower insect spray, but be sure aphids are listed as one of the insects it kills.

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

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This stop on United for Families' Gala Travel Series is made possible by the contributions of Seacoast National Bank and Behavior Basics, Secrets of Modern Parenting.

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## Help for students available

For Hometown News  
 NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

SEBASTIAN — DAV Chapter No. 155 Sebastian River Area has a Scholarship fund which honors members of the armed forces by providing scholarship support for the continuing education of U.S. Military Veterans, their children or grandchildren.

The \$500, David A. Stimus scholarship, is funded by the Disabled American Veterans, Sebastian Area Chapter No. 155.

Scholarship eligibility information and application forms are available at the Barefoot Bay Veterans Service Office at buildings D and E, and at the guidance counselor's office of Sebastian River High School. Application forms must be submitted to the guidance counselor's office no later than April 15.

The Scholarship Fund was established in the name of David A. Stimus, past Commander of DAV Chapter No. 155.

Any contributions to the fund would be greatly appreciated as we work to assist veterans and their children.

For more information, call (772) 228-3254.

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Book your getaway today! [GaylordPalms.com](http://GaylordPalms.com)  
 or call (407) 586-6789

Coming Soon: Family Fun Night with Shrek & Friends - April 13 and May 4, 2013

Restrictions apply. See website for details. Shrek, Puss In Boots, Madagascar, Kung Fu Panda and all related characters and properties © 2013 DreamWorks Animation LLC.

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# Dreams of golfing with President Obama in Florida

I was in the midst of a very deep sleep, the kind that leads to the best of dreams.

Suddenly, I was awakened by the sound of my phone ringing. I answered, and on the other end was a voice I thought I recognized.

"Good morning," said the voice on the other end. "Are you up for a round of golf today?"

I'm never one to turn down a round of golf, so I instantly shook off the cobwebs, sat up, checked the clock and replied, "When and where?"

I was told to get dressed, and that a car would be waiting in front of my house in 20 minutes sharp and then the line went dead. It usually takes me twice that time to stop hitting the snooze bar, but that morning I bolted from bed, grabbed a quick shower, threw on my best golf wear and grabbed my sticks.

As I opened the door, there in front of my house was a sinister looking black SUV with two gentlemen standing beside it. Even at this ungodly early hour they wore dark sunglasses, black suits and ties, and not a hint of a smile.

"Good morning guys," I said as the larger of the two took my clubs and opened the back door to the SUV. As I climbed in, his partner and driver, strangely began talking to the cuff links on his right sleeve.

"Bogey man is loaded and heading to tee," he said.

I started to complain about my new nickname but thought better of it. These two clearly had not had any coffee yet.

With flashing blue lights we headed out of my neighborhood, raced down a blocked-off road and



down U.S. 1. I swear we ran at least three red lights and hit 100 mph. Whatever this vehicle is, I have got to get me one!

Over the bridge and into Palm City we went. As we rolled through the gates at Floridian National Golf Club and up to the clubhouse, there waiting for me were two men. One I immediately recognized, but the other I had no clue who he could be.

We came to an abrupt stop, my door was opened and as I stepped out, I was asked how the ride was.

"I really need one of these," I said to the gentleman whom I didn't recognize.

It was then that the man I did know stepped up, "I think I may need that back in Washington," he said putting out his hand.

"President Barack Obama."

I shook his hand and introduced myself. He said he knew who I was and went on to explain why I was there.

Over the weekend, he was in town for a little rest, relaxation and golf. He was staying at the Floridian with a few friends as well as the other gentleman, Jim Crane, who was the owner of the club.

The president had gotten a few lessons to ready him to take on Tiger Woods the following day and needed a practice round to test his game.

The White House thought, "Who better to be a sacrificial lamb than the local golf

writer and radio host?"

I joined the president and Mr. Crane for a wonderful breakfast as we watched the sun rise over the St. Lucie River. After having our fill of eggs, crispy bacon, home fries, fresh squeezed orange juice, and the most wonderful cup of coffee, we were ready to go.

As we warmed up, the President kept talking to himself, remembering the swing tips he'd been given. Being a tad nervous, I hit my first warm-up shots fat. The President laughed and started to give me a tip, but thought better of it and kept it to himself.

In typical Washington D.C. fashion, our round would be played using "Electoral College" match play rules. In other words, winning the harder holes would be worth more than winning the easier holes.

Since there can be no ties in elections, there had to be a winner on every hole. If we tied the hole, the guys in the black suits would vote on who played the hole best and that is who would win the hole.

Confused? So was I, but somehow it made perfect sense to everyone else.

The first few holes went uneventfully, with us trading wins. At the turn, I had a slim lead. My advantage was short-lived as a dramatic and unexpected eagle at the tough 13th hole turned the match in the President's favor.

As we reached the 16th

hole, the President was clinging to a narrow lead, thanks in part to help from the secret service. I couldn't see them, but they were hiding all over the place, and any time the President would hit a stray shot into the trees, it would come bounding back to the fairway a moment later.

I won the 17th with a great birdie, and our match was tied. We then both hit two wonderful shots on the

18th. My birdie putt slipped just past the hole and the President lined up a slippery six-footer for the win. At that moment, I leaned over, picked up his ball and conceded the hole and match.

It's important for a president to have confidence. The win would mean more to him and our country than to me.

A firm handshake later and we were off for cigars

and drinks. Just as we walked off the green, my phone rang. Actually it was my alarm. I awoke with a start and shook my head. Darn, it was just one of those deep-sleep dreams.

*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.*

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## United Way funds meals for seniors

For Hometown News  
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — United Way of Indian River County will provide \$5,000 to keep seniors experiencing a health crisis from needing a hospital stay or nursing home placement.

The Senior Resource Association provides Emergency Meals on Wheels to seniors needing assistance. National statistics show that when Medicare beneficiaries are discharged after a hospital stay, 20 percent are readmitted within 30 days. However, SRA has found that of 581 Meals on Wheels clients served, those provided with a hot meal and a visit during the first 30 days after discharge were readmitted at a rate of only 7 percent.

SRA is not currently funded at a level to support this recognized need, and United Way has stepped up to help fill the gap.

"These are the kind of results we can support wholeheartedly," said Michael Kint, United Way CEO. "Keeping patients out

of the hospital, especially those on Medicare, strengthens the community at large in several ways as well as improving quality of life for the individuals themselves."

Other benefits realized by the Emergency Meals on Wheels program include ensured nutritional intake, additional needs identified through the daily visit, and deferred nursing home placement.

"If a hot meal and a visit each day can help a person recuperate and keep them from relapsing, that's a small effort for a great reward," said Gerry Thistle, United Way board chair.

United Way of Indian River County is encouraging people in the community to LIVE UNITED by donating to the annual campaign, which concludes March 5, helping spread the word about programs and services that help people in need, and volunteering their time and talent to a local cause.

For more information, call (772) 567-8900 or visit [www.unitedwayirc.org](http://www.unitedwayirc.org).

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# It's time for fairs and festivals

I hope you have time to read this, as this weekend is going to keep you busy traveling from place to place.

From the air show to the seafood festival, there is enough going on in our area to make me tired just thinking about it.

But if you can pencil in a 'must do' or two, please take an hour or so to visit the March Craft Show taking place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at Sebastian Riverview Park. This event is

**ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR**  
DAWN KREBS



put on by the Craft Club of Sebastian, and I think you'll really enjoy all the talent that is available right here in Sebastian.

There will be more than 100 vendors from all over the coast in attendance, and it is free to get in and free to park.

While looking over the variety of handcrafted items, remember that the craft club is a nonprofit group, and any money they make here will go back into the community when they donate to local charities.

Speaking of charities, if you want to be a part of a good cause, head down to Capt. Hiram's restaurant in Sebastian at noon on Saturday.

That's where teams of people have gathered as part of the St. Baldrick's event.

This fundraiser began back in 1999, when a group of friends got together to raise money for children with cancer by shaving their own heads in support. The idea took off, and now the event can be found nationwide.

So far, 21 teams have raised almost \$45,000 dollars. They are so close to their goal of collectively raising \$50,000, so head on out there and be a part of the fun for a great cause.

See you around!

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## Theatre

From page B1

for this performance.

Oscar Sales, marketing director for Riverside Theatre, said the performance run was originally scheduled to go through March 10, but has already been extended to March 17, and could even be extended a week further if the audience response demands it.

This musical should be one everyone is exposed to at least once. It will never be any closer than your own hometown, so the bottom line is: see this musical.

For tickets or more information, call (772) 231-6990 or visit [www.riversidetheatre.com](http://www.riversidetheatre.com).



Becky Gulsvig and Bruce Landry share a tender moment onstage as street girl Eponine and young student Marius in Riverside Theatre's highly-anticipated production of the popular Broadway show, "Les Misérables." Due to demand, the theater has scheduled an extra week of performances, allowing the show to continue through March 17.

Photo courtesy of Riverside Theatre

## Scopes

From page B1

Nov. 23-Dec. 21

Sagittarius, you have an uncanny way of turning something that would normally be disastrous into enjoyable chaos. Think about a side career in party planning.

CAPRICORN - Dec. 22-Jan. 20

Capricorn, big changes are in store for your family and there are nerves to accom-

pany these changes. Set aside a day this week where you can have peace, quiet and time to reflect.

AQUARIUS - Jan. 21-Feb. 18

Aquarius, your words are being heard but their meaning is simply not sinking in. Try rephrasing or approach the situation from another direction.

PISCES - Feb. 19-March 20

Pisces, your social schedule is jam-packed and you wouldn't have it any other way. There may be a pocket of time for more fun.

## Out

From page B1

• **Artist in residence**, McKee Botanical Garden, Vero Beach, times vary. See McKee Garden through the eyes and paintbrush of local artist, Rick Kelly. Cost: garden admission fees apply. *Website:* [www.mckee-garden.org](http://www.mckee-garden.org).

**SATURDAY, MARCH 2**

• **Craft show**, Riverview Park, Sebastian, 9 a.m. Hosted by the Craft Club of Sebastian. Rain date: March 3. Cost: free. *Website:* [www.sebastiancraftclub.com](http://www.sebastiancraftclub.com).

• **The Met: Live in HD**, The

Majestic 11 Theatre, Vero Beach, 12:55 p.m. Wagner's "Parsifal." Cost: \$275 for a season ticket. *Website:* [www.verobeachopera.org](http://www.verobeachopera.org).

• **Sunset Saturday night concert series**, Humiston Park, Vero Beach, 5 p.m. Enjoy live music and entertainment Oceanside. Cost: free. *Website:* [www.verobeachoba.com](http://www.verobeachoba.com).

• **Flea market**, St. Sebastian Catholic Church, Sebastian, 8 a.m. Antiques, collectibles, crafts, plants, household goods and more. Cost: free. Call (772) 581-8665 for more information.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 2 - SUNDAY, MARCH 3**

• **Grant Seafood Festival**, Grant, 9 a.m. Live entertainment, exhibits, arts and crafts and plenty of seafood. Proceeds go toward community projects. Cost: free. *Website:* [www.grantseafoodfestival.com](http://www.grantseafoodfestival.com)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 3**

• **EcoFest Extravaganza**, Environmental Learning Center, Wabasso, time to be announced. The 17th annual festival celebrating the local environment. Cost: not available. *Website:* [www.discoverelc.org](http://www.discoverelc.org).

**MONDAY, MARCH 4**

• **International lecture series**, Vero Beach Museum of Art, Vero Beach, 4 p.m., 6 p.m. "Old Masters: Aging and Creativity," featuring Jeffrey Brown, senior correspondent,

See **OUT**, B5

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# Obituaries

## Patricia A. Smith

Funeral Home and Crematory.

Arrangements by Strunk Funeral Home Sebastian.

Patricia A. Smith, 81, of Barefoot Bay, died Feb. 11, 2013.

She was born in Norwich, N.Y., and moved to Indian River County in 1972.

She was survived by a son, David; a grandson, Adam (Stacey); two sisters, Mary (Lawrence) and Sharon (Roger); two brothers, Richard (Jacquie) and Daniel (Sharon); a brother-in-law, Paul (Bernice) and several nieces and nephews.

Arrangements by Strunk

## Richard P. (Dick) Winckel

Richard P. (Dick) Winckel, 88, of Sebastian, died Feb. 11, 2013.

He was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., and moved to Sebastian in 1990.

He served in the U.S. Navy.

He was survived by his wife, Carol; a son, Richard (Pam) and a granddaughter, Katie.

## Terri Lynn Hamrick

Terri Lynn Hamrick, 42, of Vero Beach, died Feb. 15, 2013.

She was born in Toledo, Ohio.

She was survived by three sons, Eric, Justin and Christopher; her companion, Carl; two sisters, Jennifer and Kim; her parents, Terry and Maria and a granddaughter, Sophia.

Arrangements by Strunk Funeral Home.

# Seniors receive gift baskets



Photo courtesy of By The River

Gerry Staublein, Nancy Joy and Yvonne Barette stand next to By The River residents, Shirley Fisher and Rosa and Olindo Longa.

For Hometown News NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

ROSELAND — By the River residents were delighted to receive Valentine's Day gift baskets of toiletries, candy, pen, notes and even Sudoku books from the Jasmine Circle of the Garden Club of Indian River County this week.

Volunteers from the Jasmine Club delivered 32 gift baskets and flowers, under the support of Susan Toth Currier, president.

The gifts of blooming pansies and Johnny jump-ups for each resident were refreshing. Some chose to plant their own. Others planted them outside to

give more color to the patio and screened-in porch areas. The Jasmine Circle has been doing this for BTR residents for several years.

"The flowers were colorful and the gift baskets a joy," said Sita Gange Harrison, public relations director at By the River. "Clubs and groups who donate to our residents have no idea how much this brightens their lives. Thank you to the Jasmine Circle for their continued commitment to our seniors."

The Jasmine Circle gave the gift baskets to BTR residents, as well as seniors from the area who attended the special luncheon.

BTR is the site in Sebastian for the Senior Resource Association Congregate Meal Program, which serves approximately 20 seniors from Northern Indian River County each weekday in addition to BTR residents.

By the River, founded by interfaith spiritual teacher Ma Jaya, is the Treasure Coast's nonprofit, independent living community for low-income seniors. They are currently accepting applications for residency. There are several suites available.

For tours or to find out if a senior over the age of 62 or family member qualifies, call (778) 388-5858 or visit www.BytheRiver.org.

# Gridiron offers second chance to local talent



Photo courtesy of Treasure Coast Bengals

Members of the Treasure Coast Bengals, in orange, take the field against an opponent last season.

By Anna-Marie Menhenott News@hometownnewsol.com

TREASURE COAST — For most players, when the last football game of the high school season is over, it's time to hang up their cleats.

For some, leaving school to get a job to support a family instead of pursuing the dream of hitting the college football field becomes a harsh reality.

For others, life on the streets takes what was once within grasp and turns it into a faded memory.

However, for nearly 50 local men, the dream of playing football after high school has become a reality.

The Treasure Coast Bengals have given a second, third and sometimes fourth chance to a hard-working group of athletes who sacrifice themselves each week in the hopes of catching the eye of a college scout.

"We've got a great bunch of guys who really work hard," said John Chandler, Bengals head coach. "I've got ex-gang members who normally wouldn't associ-

ate with each other playing on the same team. They've got a common goal; to get better. They want to win football games, so they put their personal differences aside when they walk onto the field."

The Bengals are part of the South Florida Football League, and last season finished with an 8-4 record.

Key players to watch out for are Donald Brown, quarterback, who was an outstanding player at Fort Pierce Westwood High School. He brings leadership and tenacity to a loaded offense. Running back Tyrone Smith of Fort Pierce, last year's Elite MVP, brings a forceful running game to the Bengals.

Linebacker Mike White from Vero Beach and safeties Derrick Taylor and Travis Cass from Indian River County anchor a strong defense.

The Bengals don't turn anybody away from joining the team.

"It takes dedication and hard work. If they can handle the work, then they can play," Coach Chandler said. "We offer a chance to players that they might not get anywhere else. They are

encouraged to finish their diploma, take college entrance exams and give back to the community. We had one player who got a scholarship to play at the University of South Florida. Hard work pays off."

The team also participates in food drives and toy drives for the needy. This month, they will participate in the second annual Diamonds, Inc., "Walk Against Violence" starting at 11 a.m. on March 9 along Avenue D in Fort Pierce.

"Many of these players have made their share of mistakes. This is a chance for them to redeem themselves and make a difference in the community."

The team plays 10 regular season games. There will be an all-star game May 25 and a championship game May 26, both taking place at Lawnwood Stadium in Fort Pierce. All home games take place at Lawnwood Stadium on March 9, 16 and 30 and April 6 and 20. Games start at 7 p.m. and there is a \$5 entrance fee.

For more information, visit www.treasurecoast-bengals.com.

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**Out**  
 From page B5  
 available. Website: www.verobeachtheatreguild.com.  
 • Riverside Theatre presents "Side By Side By Sondheim," Waxlax Stage, Riverside Theatre, Vero Beach, times vary. A tribute to composer-lyricist Stephen Sondheim. Cost: \$40. Website: www.riversidetheatre.com.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 10**  
 • Under the Oaks, Riverside Park, Vero Beach, hours vary. The annual fine arts and crafts festival produced by the Vero Beach Art Club, now in its 62nd year in Vero Beach, has been rated in the top 200 art shows nationwide. Cost: free. Website: www.verobeachartclub.org.

County Fairgrounds, Vero Beach, times vary. Event includes rides, games, exhibits, food and great family fun. Cost: admission prices vary. Website: www.firefightersfair.org.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 10**  
 • Concert, The Emerson Center, Vero Beach, 2:30 p.m. The Space Coast Symphony will present "From the Flat Screen to the Silver Screen." Cost: \$20, \$25. Website: www.spacecoastsymphony.org  
 To have your upcoming event listed here, email newsfp@hometownnewsol.com

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