



Dentist, daughters die in plane crash

For Hometown News
newsfp@hometownnewsol.com

ST. LUCIE COUNTY — Local dentist Michael Huber and his daughters, Tess, 20, and Abigail, 17, lost their lives in a plane crash on Dec. 8.

According to Melissa Bujeda, public information officer with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, the 1978 Cessna model 310R aircraft was headed to the Jacksonville Executive Airport when it missed an approach and crashed at the edge of a large retention pond in a subdivision in Jacksonville.

They reported to the tower that they couldn't see the runway, Ms. Bujeda said in a video on the Sheriff's Office website. "They were told to fly around. At that time the tower got an alert that it was low altitude and then we started getting calls around 6:20 p.m. that a plane had crashed."

Mr. Huber, a popular Fort Pierce dentist and his two daughters, Tess, a sophomore at University of North Florida, and Abigail, a senior at Lincoln Park Academy, lived in Port St. Lucie.

As of press time, the FAA and National Transportation Safety Board are investigating the crash.

Cameras to be installed on county school buses

By Jessica Creagan
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INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Indian River County school district-owned buses will soon have a new safety feature installed — video cameras.

During the Dec. 2 meeting, district school board members voted unanimously to approve more than \$110,000 on 62 camera systems for regularly used school buses owned

by the district.

Video cameras on school buses are not required, but are seen as an excellent safety feature for students and drivers, said Bill Fritz, assistant superintendent of human resources and risk management.

Some of the newest buses in the district's fleet already have working cameras, while some older buses have video systems that date back to the "VHS era" and aren't used consistently, while other buses

have no recording equipment at all, Mr. Fritz said.

Should a question arise about behavior on a bus, whether by a student or a driver, or if an emergency should occur, district officials would have the ability, with the new four-camera system, to verify what happened, he said.

The district will purchase the
See CAMERAS, A2



Honoring the veterans of Pearl Harbor



Pearl Harbor Survivor Jim Rodgers, left, swaps war stories with Ralph Braunstein after Saturday's ceremony at Riverview Park Veterans Memorial during the 72nd anniversary of Pearl Harbor. See more photos, page A4.

Cliff Partlow
staff photographer

ENTERTAINMENT B1

ENJOY THE PLAY

Free production recalls wartime peace during 1914 holiday



BUSINESS A7

NEW OFFICE MANAGER



Realty office has addition to the team

WEEKEND WEATHER



Friday: Overcast, chance of rain; high: 75; low: 64; high tide: 5:18 a.m.; low tide: 11:15 a.m.

Saturday: Partly cloudy, chance of rain; high: 81; low: 70; high tide: 6:08 a.m.; low tide: 12:03 p.m.

Sunday: Overcast; high: 77; low: 59; high tide: 6:53 a.m.; low tide: 12:47 p.m.

Weather courtesy of www.weather.com

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Toys, coats, change still needed in charity campaigns

By Jessica Creagan
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INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Last weekend, hundreds of unwrapped toys were donated to the Salvation Army during the Walmart's Fill the Truck toy drive in both Vero Beach and Sebastian, but that's not the only place to support the nonprofit this holiday season.

There are still two days

left to drop off toys at Salvation Army locations or in marked bins at local Walmart locations, said John Corapi, director of development for the Salvation Army of Indian River County.

Toy donations will be accepted through Dec. 15 and the collected items will be distributed among local children by the Salvation Army. Donations of coats can also be made at the

collection bins, a press release said.

Last year, the Fill the Truck drive happened during the course of one week-end, but the program was extended to three weeks, the release said.

Last year, nearly 150,000 toys and coats were donated nationwide through the Fill the Truck program.

Ring bells at locations around the county also indicate the Red Kettle

Campaign is in full swing.

"Our goal for the Red Kettle Campaign is \$120,000," Mr. Corapi said.

"Due to Thanksgiving coming late this year, we are five days short being able to ring the bell. That makes our goal that much tougher to reach, so we need heavy community support for donations and as many volunteer bell ringers as possible," he said.

There are 15 locations for bell ringers, and shifts are usually two hours long, beginning at 10 a.m. and concluding at 8 p.m. in most areas.

The Red Kettle Campaign is historically the nonprofit's largest annual fundraiser and sustains the organization's various programs throughout the rest of the year.

See CAMPAIGNS, A3

Archaeology dig to begin in January

By Jessica Creagan
jcreagan@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — An agreement between Mercyhurst University and the Old Vero Ice Age Site committee last week cements the start date of an archaeological dig in Vero Beach next year.

Beginning in January, the Mercyhurst Archaeology Institute of Mercyhurst University in Erie, Penn., will excavate an area in the main drainage canal in Vero Beach known as the "Old Vero Man" site in hopes of discovering artifacts from early inhabitants of Indian River County that would point to

their way of life.

The dig is expected to last through May and any items found will be analyzed by scientists and archaeologists from the institute in a lab, and thereafter would be returned to Vero Beach, said Randy Old, spokesman for the Old Vero Ice Age Sites committee.

The site is about 10-feet away from where fossils and evidence of saber tooth cats, mastodons and other fossils were discovered in 1915, as well as human remains that have come to be known as "Vero Man," Mr. Old said.

See DIG, A3



File photo
Gary Pierce, Old Vero Ice Age Sites Committee contractor and board member, helps map out an area in June that will be excavated on the Old Vero Man site in January.

H.A.L.O.
No-Kill Rescue



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Business makes donation to local nonprofit

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — In celebration of its third anniversary, Postal Connections donated 100 percent of its net profits from business on Sept. 28 and 30 to the Vero Beach Christian Business Association as a way to thank the community for its support.

This is the third year that the shipping and packing store donated their profits as part of their anniversary celebration.

"The community has warmly embraced me and my business since we moved to Vero Beach, and this is a way that I can say 'thank you' and give back," said Marc Richard, owner.

A check for \$550 was presented to VBCBA Treasurer Dixie Powell recently, and those funds will be distributed to local Christian charities during the nonprofit's annual Celebration of Giving luncheon on Dec. 19.

When the corporate office for Postal Connections found out about the endeavor, they committed to donate an additional \$100, according to Mr. Richard.

Postal Connections is located in the Publix plaza at 1275 U.S. 1, Vero Beach.



Photo courtesy of Maureen Nicolace

Chris and Marc Richard, owners of Postal Connections, present Dixie Powell, Treasurer of the Vero Beach Christian Business Association, with a \$550 check from "VBCBA Days" in recognition of the company's 3rd anniversary in business. After hearing about the Vero Beach location's donation, the Corporate offices of Postal Connections also donated \$100.

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Tips for a safe, secure online shopping experience

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

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

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

The total financial loss attributed to identity theft in 2013 is estimated to be \$21 billion, according to the Department of Justice and Javelin Strategy and Research. Consumers need

Cameras

From page A1

mobile surveillance systems from Alabama-based Angel-Trax. Included in the purchase price are data storage backups, which is useful if the memory cards within the cameras become unusable, Mr. Fritz said.

Only the buses used regularly will be retro-fitted with the camera systems, although the spares are used frequently. Staff said the buses that are kept as spares will soon be phased out due to age and it would not be cost-effective to outfit them with on board cameras.

For more information about Indian River School Board meetings or school district news, visit www.indianriverschools.org.

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No better gift than the gift of reading

By Jessica Creagan
jcreagan@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Hundreds of families with kindergartners will be reading a new version of the classic “Three Little Pigs” tale before bedtime, thanks to a donation from a local business through The Education Foundation of Indian River County.

MidFlorida Credit Union partnered with the non-profit education organization to donate 1,000 books to Indian River County school-children in kindergarten last week, and each classroom held a special story time to introduce the gift, said Education Foundation representatives.

Lyndee Dutrow, bank manager of the Sebastian MidFlorida Credit Union branch, read “The Three Little Pigs and the Somewhat Bad Wolf” by Mark Teague to six kindergarten classes at Fellsmere Elementary on Dec. 4, during the bank’s Gift of Reading week.

“I really enjoy reading to the children,” Ms. Dutrow said.

During the first reading of the day, more than two dozen students sat quietly on a rug as the pages began to turn and while Ms. Dutrow read each line of text. Then, a curious thing happened.

“While they were looking at the pictures, the children kept noticing things that I had never seen, and I’ve read the book more than seven times,” Ms. Dutrow said with a laugh.

This year is the eighth year of the Gift of Reading program and the credit union will distribute up to 14,000 books in seven counties, a press release said.

At Fellsmere Elementary alone, the credit union donated 110 books.

Nine other elementary schools in the district also received visits from Mid-Florida Credit Union repre-



Above: Lyndee Dutrow of Mid Florida Credit Union was the guest reader for the Gift of Reading at Fellsmere Elementary School Wednesday, Dec. 4. **Left:** Manuel Perez finds extra characters in the pages of ‘Three Little Pigs’ during the Wednesday’s Gift of Reading.

Cliff Partlow
staff photographer

sentatives and a stack of books for each kindergartner.

Patricia Shaw, Fellsmere Elementary School reading coach, said having an organization come to read and donate books to every single child is quite rare.

“It is very special,” Ms. Shaw said.

The school is trying to build partnerships with businesses and other organizations and having

volunteer readers is one of the ways an organization can become involved.

“We’ve had an officer from the police department come and read several times,” Ms. Shaw said.

Reading is crucial to a child’s academic success and therefore something the school works hard to develop in students, she said.

Reading is a skill that must continually be devel-

oped in young students and having a new book to take home during the Christmas break is a good incentive for a family to have some quality reading time outside of a school assignment.

“This was the perfect time for it,” Ms. Shaw said.

For more information about The Education Foundation of Indian River County, visit www.edfoundationirc.org.

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Campaign

From page A1

The programs include a mobile feeding program to shut-ins and disabled homebound individuals, an emergency food pantry, crisis financial assistance for things such as utility bills, rent payments or prescription medication costs, and regional and national disaster services.

For more information, call The Salvation Army of Indian River County at (772) 978-0265 Ext. 106 or visit www.facebook.com/pages/The-Salvation-Army-of-Indian-River-Co-FL/129278380444416?ref=hl



Salvation Army bell ringer Elaine Bessey, left, watches as Heather Nagel, a physician at Sebastian River Medical Center, donates to the Red Kettle in 2010.

File photo

Dig

From page A1

“The excavation site is actually below the surface, about five feet,” he said.

The sediment closer to the surface is more likely to have been disturbed, so to find items preserved for years, the crew will need to dig deep.

“About five feet down or so, that’s where you can find some things that are valuable, valuable in knowledge of what is in there. You can learn about the weather, animals and people,” Mr. Old said.

“It’s a knowledge hunt, not a treasure hunt,” he said. James Adovasio, the archaeology institute’s director, along with institute research archaeologist C. Andrew Hemmings, will direct the project in Vero Beach.

“We searched for the very best archaeologist that had experience with excavations similar to ours in Vero Beach and we have the very best in Dr. Adovasio,” Mr. Old said.

“It is a compliment to the city and the site; it’s a big

deal to us. This site is at least the most important site east of the Mississippi, if not the U.S., for this time frame,” Mr. Old said.

The Old Vero Man site is steeped in controversy, largely centered on whether the human remains in Vero were of a more recent age than the extinct animal bones due to mixing of geological layers. The Vero site remains in the literature on early American inhabitants, but its status is unresolved, a press release said.

Some scientists measure the remains discovered in 1915 as being 13,000 years old.

“From the beginning, Vero was one of the more infamous archaeological sites in North America because it was seen as such a threat to the then perceived wisdom that no humans had lived here during the last Ice Age,” said Director Adovasio in a press release.

The Vero Beach site, as well as others around the country, was dismissed because the field methods of excavation weren’t perceived as rigorous by some experts, he said.

“But, because of the phe-

nominal preservation of Ice Age plant and animal materials at that site, this new excavation will serve to illuminate a time frame in the American Southeast that no other site can, with or without human associations,” Director Adovasio continued.

“Whatever information is in there, we are going to get it,” he said.

A number of Mercyhurst archaeology students will participate in the dig, as will other Mercyhurst staff and a graduate student from the University of West Florida.

The Old Vero Ice Age Sites committee has been working to raise funds for the project in the community for several years and will contribute more than \$250,000 to the project, while the archaeology institute and parent university will contribute more than \$100,000 in funds, as well as provide the excavation labor and laboratory research, Mr. Old said.

For more information about the project or the Old Vero Ice Age Sites committee, call (772) 766-6884 or visit www.oviasc.org.

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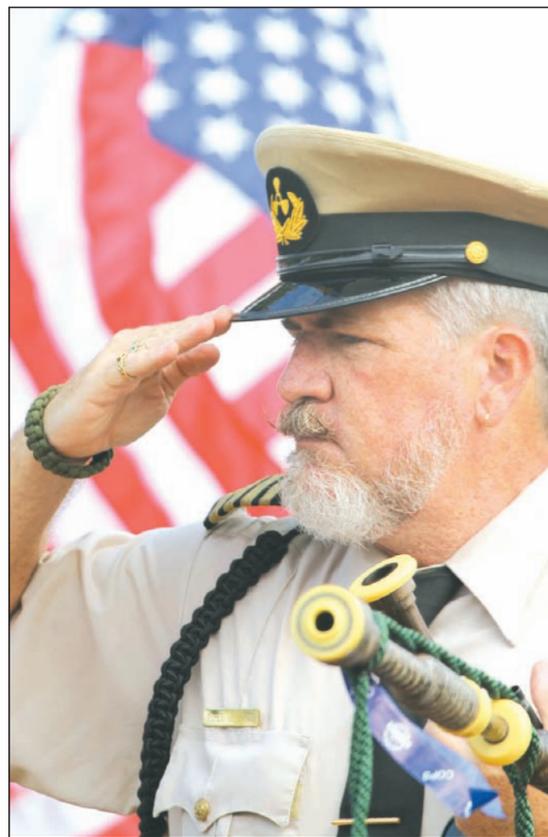
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Remembering that fateful day

Over 100 veterans, family and friends gathered at the Riverview Park Veterans Memorial to remember Dec. 7, 1941 and the day Pearl Harbor was attacked by the Empire of Japan. Jim Rodgers, a Pearl Harbor survivor spoke during Saturday's 72nd anniversary. President Roosevelt's speech, a 21-gun salute, wreath laying and the singing of God Bless America rounded out the ceremony.



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer
Camille Willis, VFW president, foreground with Kathy Westerfield, American Legion chaplain and Lynn Mills, VFW chaplain lay the ceremonial wreath.



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer
Bagpiper Michael Hyde, Indian River County Special Deputy and former Merchant Marine, salutes as the Sebastian Area Veterans Honor Guard posts the colors.

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Bryan Throm, left and Brian Beckett, members of the Sea Scouts of America Ship 501, lead the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cliff Partlow staff photographer

Grant a wish for current, former foster children

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

TREASURE COAST — The Florida Department of Children and Families, Florida Community-Based Care organizations and the Florida State Foster/Adoptive Parent Association have partnered with One Simple Wish to grant wishes for Florida's current and former foster children.

"One Simple Wish is a wonderful program that allows donors to grant small wishes that have a big impact on the lives of our foster children," said Esther Jacobo, DCF Interim Secretary. "By having the ability to see who their donation is helping, donors know they are making a tangible difference."

One Simple Wish matches individuals who want to give with current and former foster children in need of simple wishes. Wishes start at \$10 and have a maximum gift amount of \$500. Wishes can be granted all year-round.

"One Simple Wish is proud to support Florida's foster children by empowering people all across the country to brighten their lives through our wish granting program. Granting their wishes not only creates positive memories and a sense of normalcy but also proves how much love, support and hope is out there for all children," Danielle Gletow, executive director of One Simple Wish said.

"Florida's foster children

often arrive in the community-based care system with little to nothing and organizations such as One Simple Wish support their hopes and dreams by providing them with a wish granted," said Kurt Kelly, CEO of Florida Coalition for Children. "This campaign is a reminder of the wonderful partnerships we have here in Florida and how coming together as a community we can better the lives Florida's abused, abandoned and neglected children."

Since the Southwest Florida Foster and Adoptive Parent Association signed up in March 2013, more than 150 wishes have been granted for its children.

"The fact that One Simple Wish provides gifts for

foster children that are donated by people from around the country shows our children that there is hope and that they are never alone. We thank Danielle for acting on her vision and making One Simple Wish possible for our children," Trudy Petkovich, president of the Florida State Foster/Adoptive Parent Association said.

To grant a wish, visit www.onesimplewish.org to view current needs. Wishes are searchable by location, organization, child age, price range and type of gift. Florida children have already received numerous gifts through One Simple Wish, including more than 20 wishes granted so far this month.

Tips for boaters watching parades from the water

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

TREASURE COAST — Each year, hundreds of towns on the water across the U.S. hold festive holiday boat parades in the month of December. Many local boaters participate, festooning their vessels with lights and joining the parade, while others line the route with their boats in order to enjoy the best view of the show. These seasonal events can cause crowded and disorienting conditions on the water, however. The non-profit

Sea Tow Foundation offers the following tips to boaters who are thinking of taking their vessels out to watch a holiday boat parade, in order to ensure they will be safe for everyone.

1. Designate a Sober Skipper to stay at the helm all evening and be responsible for returning the boat and its passengers safely to shore after the parade is over.

2. Watch your weight. Don't overload the boat with passengers. The number of seats available on board is not always the best indicator of capacity.

Look for the boat's capacity plate on the transom or by the helm, or look up the passenger capacity in the boat's manual.

3. Don't forget your life jacket. Make sure everyone onboard the boat is wearing warm clothes topped by either a traditional or an inflatable life jacket that fits. Navigating at night in a crowd of other vessels can be just as dangerous as boating in stormy weather or in fog.

4. Things look different at night. Remember that at night, visual navigation markers you rely on during the day may be

invisible. Chart your route to the on-water parade-viewing zone in advance, and use GPS-enabled electronics to help you find it, if necessary.

5. Relax and enjoy the show. Don't be in a rush to get home; let some of the boat traffic clear out before you raise anchor after the parade is over.

6. Listen Up! Obey U.S. Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary designated zones and follow their orders - they are only out there to protect you.

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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 Nov. 27 to Dec. 3, 2013

Sebastian Police Department

- June Elizabeth Newman, 50, 1256 Schumann Drive, Sebastian, was charged with aggravated battery on a person older than 65.

- Michael Daniel Kelly, 33, 811 Foster Ave., Sebastian, was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, grand theft of an automobile and a misdemeanor charge of domestic violence battery.

Vero Beach Police Department

- Tony Samuel Nettles, 19, 1015 Commerce Ave., Vero Beach, was charged with violation of probation and grand theft of an automobile. He was on probation for dealing in stolen property.

- Kathy Doreen Bryant, 58, 1775 Highland Ave., Apt. A, Vero Beach, was charged with burglary.

- Kurush Sefton Safikhani, 29, 2360 80th Court, Vero Beach, was charged with possession of a controlled substance, Roxycodone, and

misdemeanor charges of possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Indian River County Sheriff's Office

- Paul Michael Deschryver, 43, 8415 103rd Ave., Vero Beach, was charged with two counts of violation of probation. He was on probation for felony petit theft and third-degree grand theft.

- Erica Lee Desjardins, 23, 1601 Worley Ave., Merritt Island, was charged with introduction of contraband into a detention facility, possession of hydrocodone and a misdemeanor charge of second-degree petit theft.

- Jessica Lyn Mathis, 35, 9375 106th Ave., Vero Beach, was charged with possession of hydrocodone and diazepam and a misdemeanor charge of drug paraphernalia.

- Joshua Casimir Roach, 22, 1455 90th Ave., Apt. 96, Vero Beach, was charged with two counts of violation of probation. He was on probation for third-degree grand theft.

- Howard Randall Starnes, 22, 2016 Seventh Court S.W., Vero Beach, was charged with violation of probation and a misdemeanor charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. He was on probation for dealing in stolen property and giving false information to a pawnbro-

ker.

- Sean Patrick Thompson, 37, 3455 Third Place, Vero Beach, was charged with grand theft, dealing in stolen property and scheming to defraud.

- Sylvester Kelly Mitchell, 19, 1817 21st Ave., Vero Beach, was charged with violation of probation. He was on probation for sale or delivery of cannabis and resisting arrest without violence.

- April Michelle Riggins, 40, 313 21st Road Southwest, Vero Beach, was charged with violation of probation. She was on probation for third-degree grand theft and issuing a worthless check.

- Amber Nicole Tevis, 23, 1041 Rhonda Drive, Jeffersonville, Ind., was charged with violation of probation. She was on probation for possession and sale or delivery of oxycodone.

- Shoulonda R. Jones, 30, 4230 20th Ave., Vero Beach, was charged with child abuse.

- Favio D. Paguada, 31, 602 Ninth Ave., Vero Beach, was charged with child abuse, three counts of false imprisonment, hindering communication to 911 and misdemeanor charges of domestic violence battery and resisting arrest without violence.

- Rodrigo Ramos, 18, 223 Broadway St., Fellsmere, was charged with grand theft and resisting a merchant.

- Joshua Clint Walker, 32, 510 61st Ave., Vero Beach, was charged with violation of probation. He was on probation for robbery.

- Kristen Ann Durbin, 29, 8435 Salem Ave., Sebastian, was charged with two counts of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, theft and misdemeanor charges of first-degree petit theft and two counts of possession of drug paraphernalia.

- Henry Phillip Edwards, 49, 4526 34th Court, Vero Beach, was charged with possession of cocaine and misdemeanor charges of resisting arrest without violence, possession of drug paraphernalia and trespass.

- Vito Mancini Reascos, 32, 761 18th Place Southwest, Vero Beach, was charged with theft and burglary of an occupied dwelling.

- Katina Nicole Kauffman, 36, 7755 129th St., Sebastian, was charged with two counts of armed burglary of a dwelling, structure or conveyance, two counts of grand theft of a firearm, two counts of third-degree grand theft and two counts of giving false information to a pawn broker.

- Jessica Lyn Mathis, 35, 9375 106th Ave., Vero Beach, was charged with possession of hydrocodone and diazepam and a misdemeanor charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

- Michael Joseph Morgan,

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31, 2745 53rd Ave., Vero Beach, was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

- Rachael Marie Smith, 30, 6335 61st Court, Vero Beach, was charged with felony petit theft.

- Jimmy Vinas, 30, 18211 Northwest 42nd Court, Miami Gardens, was charged with grand theft and two counts of burglary.

- Kristina Marie Cleveland, 31, 80 Joy Haven Drive, Sebastian, was charged with violation of probation. She was on probation for possession of clonazepam and posses-

sion of drug paraphernalia.

- Nikolas Allen Gillespie, 23, 1571 Pentax Ave., Titusville, was charged with felony petit theft.

- Yasmine Lennette Jefferson, 27, 1655 29th St. North, Apt. 910, Fort Pierce, was charged with failure to appear in court on a third-degree grand theft charge.

- Stephanie Ann Pierce, 24, 935 24th St. Southwest, Vero Beach, was charged with third-degree grand theft, dealing in stolen property and giving false information to a secondary metals recycler.

Clubs and 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.gfwctreasurecoastwomen.org.

- Exchange Club of Indian River meets Wednesdays from noon-1 p.m. at Culinary Capers, 737 22nd Street, 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, email bluewateropen@gmail.com, or visit www.exchangeclubofindianriver.org and www.bluewateropen.org.

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 Saturday 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 email dneast_ggo@bell-south.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 Bare-

foot 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.sebastianrotaryclub.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

See CLUBS, A7

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- 3

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VIEWPOINT

FRIDAY, DEC. 13, 2013 • HOMETOWN NEWS • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSOL.COM

Check your internet connection speed when facing issues

Many people are surprised (shocked even) when they replace their ancient computer with a brand spanking new machine with 10-times the horsepower than their old one, but somehow their new computer still crawls at a snail's pace when connected to the internet.

I often get calls from frustrated people who tell me stories like "I just got a new machine but my home page takes forever to load" or "every time I try to watch a video online, it freezes, goes for a bit then stops again over and over! I can't stand it!" The frustration is usually mixed with confusion because they figure that, since it's a new machine with gobs of ram and all sorts of processor power, it should be much faster than their old machine.

Now as a rule this is usually true – their new machine is actually much faster than their old machine and if you set the two of them up side by side you'll see the new one start up much faster, open programs much faster and visibly outperform the old machine with every test you throw at it. That is until you start doing things that depend upon a fast internet connection.

If you are trying to do things like watching a YouTube video or waiting for a page like the Yahoo portal to load and if the internet connection is not what it should be, things grind to a halt and start working at the same pace as the old machine.

When people start off by telling me that watching videos over the internet is frustrating because it pauses and "skips," I usually tell them about the old work around of starting the video and then immediately hitting the "pause" button for a while. (I still use this technique just to make sure, especially if it's a long video – I'll start the video then pause it and go get a cup of coffee or something. Then when I come back I'll hit play and



COMPUTE THIS
SEAN MCCARTHY

it usually plays without a hitch). What we're doing by starting it and pausing for a while is giving the data stream a good head start before releasing the play head in the hopes that the point of the video that we are watching doesn't catch up with the data stream that's downloading.

If the internet connection is slow and we hit play and don't hit the pause button, the video will sometimes play faster than the computer can download the data that makes up the video and the whole thing stops while it downloads a bit more.

This process is called "buffering" and has more to do with the speed of the internet connection than it does with the speed of the computer. Pause the video and give the data stream plenty of time to buffer and when you hit the play button again the play head won't have a chance of catching the data stream and it should play smoothly.

With YouTube videos you can even see it in action – start a video and hit pause, then watch and you'll see a thin red line start to grow from the left to the right even though the video isn't playing. That line is an indication of how much of the data stream is downloaded and the trick is to make sure it's far enough ahead. Catch up to the line and the video will pause and try to buffer on its own but usually the automatic buffering doesn't give the data stream enough of a head start and the process repeats itself over and over.

Ok, so we know that even a brand new computer will come to a screeching halt if it's trying to do something over a slow internet connection, but how does one go about testing that? One way to check is to fire up

See **COMPUTE, A8**

Lighting up the holidays



Four-year-old Jaly Rossnell shows off her holiday lights at the Holidays with your City Rec Department's Holiday Rec Run 3296-Go. See more photos, page A7.

Cliff Partlow
staff photographer

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.

Stop paying people to not work

Should we be paying people not to work? Politicians avoid that question, but under current law, the unemployed can get up to 99 weeks of benefits capped at \$564 per week. This sounds very much like permanent pay from the government.

Recipients do not have to get up every morning to go to work. They do not have to pay for transportation to and from work. They do not have to purchase appropriate work clothing and they do not have to pay for lunch. Do we want to provide permanent compensation? And, if the answer is yes, can this nation afford it?

Just not worth it

There's not enough money in the world to make me sit behind a desk and deal with today's youth. They are disrespectful hooligans who do not care about themselves, their peers, parents or the teachers that try to teach them.

Maybe the school system should bring back corporal punishment. If teachers could swat these wise-cracking kids, then maybe they would be able to gain a little respect.

In the wake of tragedy

It amazes me how the community comes together after a tragedy, but soon thereafter, the police presence rescinds and the thugs find their ways back onto the streets.

Don't the police understand that they have to maintain a presence in afflicted areas? Don't parents realize what their children are doing out at night?

Parents turn an ignorant eye to their kids, leaving them to either get killed on the street or spend their lives in prison. These parents know their kids are up to no good, but don't do a thing. However, when the truth comes to light, they want to scream and fuss. The screaming and fussing should have been aimed at those kids years ago.

I feel sorry for those who are hurting, but the violence hurts us all. We, as a community, must continue to work together to rid our streets, schools and neighborhoods of these no-good thugs.

To all dog owners

I am a dog owner. I like all dogs, well not the ankle biting yippy ones, but I don't like owners who do not clean up after their pets. If the sight or presence of dog feces doesn't bother you, great, keep your dog at home and enjoy it. If you choose to venture off your property, clean it up!

Unfit mothers should not be driving

Some people are not made to be mothers. I was driving side-by-side with this woman who had a baby in a car seat, the wrong way in the back of the car. She was on a cell phone, driving with her legs, and drinking a coke. She had no regard for anybody on the road. I could not believe my eyes. Where are the police?

This person could get into a car accident. What has happened to parents? Don't they have any brains?
I pity that poor child.

Medical technicians need more training

This is in response to the rant about medical technicians.

I wholeheartedly agree with you but you have given

them top quality title.

Mostly, they are aides who receive a mere 40 hours of training and are allowed to administer medication, take blood pressure, draw blood, and perform all kinds of medical and nursing procedures that only qualified nurses should perform.

This can only happen in Florida because they dare not do these things in other states. No wonder there are always outbreaks of infections and other diseases that even the physicians have a hard time diagnosing.

You see, these aides and assistants, whichever you want to call them, use stethoscopes around their necks as a status symbol. I'm sure they do not even know which end goes on the patient's chest. This is what nursing has come to. What a disaster.

Clean up after your dog

I quote from a page of a page-a-day calendar if only to show that I'm not the only one who feels this way: "Dog poop is the curse of our age, the symbol of all that is wrong with our modern society, the carelessness, the selfishness, the lack of individual responsibility."

I'm not too crazy about dog urine, either. Even those who pick up seem to have no qualms about the urine. It's my yard. I work in it, not being able to afford yard maintenance, and thinking a dog might have been there makes me uncomfortable. Why can't dogs use their own yard?

Tired of messy neighbors

I have a problem with the outrageous behavior of my neighbor. I went to the county zoning committee. They told me it was illegal to rent a room in the county in a residential neighborhood, yet there were 15 rooms for rent in the paper today. What do I have to do? It is constant party time at my neighbor's house and the yard is a mess.

More on computers

It is my choice not to own a computer. It is also my choice not to be a patron of a business that gives an e-mail address as its only form of contact.

Too many flaws in Medicaid system

This is regarding Medicaid. My wife and I just got on Medicaid. We are taking care of our three grandchildren. I am in a program called "medically needy," which means I have to have medical bills that exceed \$750 a month for me to be eligible. I am not currently working, and because I am sick, I am unable to get a Medicaid number because my bills are not yet more than \$750 a month, but the bills I have can't be taken care of because they don't meet the criteria. My wife makes \$1,400 a month and our expenses are more than \$1,600. I don't know where to turn.

What happened to pet registration law?

Whatever happened to the county requirement that dogs and cats and breeders must be registered for a fee? There seems to be no verification of registration at all. Puppy mills are flourishing. Dogs and cats are being euthanized. Responsible pet owners have complied and the creeps who breed animals haven't. Why won't the county follow up on these regulations?

Living next to a dump

I have a neighbor who has four unregistered cars on his property that he fills with junk. For me, it's like living next to a dump. Why won't code enforcement do something about it? I have complained, yet nothing has happened. How can the city expect more businesses to come to the area when it looks like a dump?

Expectations are down

Low expectations by public-school teachers result in poor performance by our students. Compared to other countries, the U.S. ranks 21st out of 30 in science and 25th in mathematics.

Worse yet, 1.2 million students each year fail to graduate. We should shake up K-12 education so that every American child is prepared for higher education or a productive career.

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CIRCULATION AUDIT BY



SEBASTIAN

Business

Realtor welcomes new office manager

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Orchid Island Realty announced that Chrissie Cummings has joined their team as the new office manager.

Ms. Cummings brings more than 10 years experience in the real estate industry and is highly motivated, with remarkable organizational skills, and is very detail oriented. She will work closely with Orchid Island's Realty's Sales team and be in charge of the day-to-day operations, including client relations to generate a greater experience for cur-



Chrissie Cummings

rent and future clients.

Born in the United Kingdom, Ms. Cummings moved with her husband, a U.S. Citizen working for the U.S.

Department of Defense, to Maryland before moving to Florida. She has lived in Vero Beach for the past nine years and loves the community.

"I was blessed with the opportunity to join Orchid Island Realty located in a beautiful community and surrounded by wonderful members and staff," said Ms. Cummings.

"We are thrilled to have Chrissie onboard, and I'm confident her enthusiastic personality, along with her professional experience, will be a great asset to the Orchid Island Sales Team," said Bob Niederpruem, pres-

ident/broker of Orchid Island Realty.

Orchid Island Realty has been exclusively selling Orchid Island Golf & Beach Club properties for close to twenty years. Orchid Island Golf & Beach Club is a private, gated residential community of gracious waterfront and golf course homes, featuring miles of unspoiled beaches, an award-winning Arnold Palmer golf course and an intimate Beach Club perfectly suited for leisurely gatherings, club activities and exceptional dining.

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Shopping plaza to host open house

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH — The shops in 3 Avenues Shopping Center is hosting an open house on Dec. 19, from 7 to 9 p.m.

Soma, Chico's, White

House/Black Market, Elle 7 Twenty and Cottonways will be participating in the event.

Elle 7 Twenty will have complimentary mini-makeovers, five minute massages, hand and foot treatments, hair color coun-

seling and design. They will also they will have complimentary Hors d'oeuvres, drinks and a raffle.

Chico's will offer 30 percent off purchases for passport members, special deals for the event, a heart charm key chain valued at \$29 with

all \$125 purchases, and Norman Love "Chicolate" bars from 4-9 p.m.

Other stores will offer specials during the open house event.

3 Avenues Shopping Center is located at 2089 Indian River Blvd., Vero Beach.

Clubs

From page A5

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, taught by instructors Jerry Morrison and Michele Holm at 7 p.m. 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: chikung meets at 11 a.m.; cribbage and pinochle meets at 12:30 p.m.; Friday: TOPS meeting at 8 a.m.; Weight Watchers meets at 9 a.m.; sing-alongs 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 website 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 May Jaya. Vegetarian meal fol-

lows 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

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Shopping

From page A2

to be on high alert this holiday season, and any time they choose to make purchases online, to avoid falling victim to identity theft and to protect their sensitive financial information.

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

• **Make sure your computer and browser are secure.** Set your firewall, anti-virus and anti-spyware software to automatically update and scan your computer.

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

know.

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

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

• **Look for secure sites with an "s" in the URL (https://) and a closed-padlock icon on the Web page when making purchases.** These websites are secure.

• **Always double-**

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

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

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

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The inaugural run is a hit



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer
John Sammartano, JAS Fitness and race director, right, gets the runners fired up before the race.

The City of Vero Beach held its Holidays with your City Rec Department Friday evening with the Holiday Rec Run 3296-Go, the first-ever two-mile night run and Holiday Rec Party on and around the Royal Palm Pointe Fountain. Live music, food, fun and a visit from Santa Claus helped make the evening complete.



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer
Two-year-old Blake DeWitt of Sebastian, is held by his dad Jonas as he gets a high-five from 'The Perfessor' during Friday's festivities.



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer
Vince McCann AmVets past commander, grills up some burgers for Friday's crowd.

Toys for gift exchange being collected

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY —

Think about the toy you really, really wanted for Christmas. What about the toy that you played with daily, took everywhere you went, even slept with? Contribute to great childhood memories by donating a new toy or game to the Gifford Youth Activity Center.

The toy collection for the annual Gifford Youth

Activity Center Christmas Exchange is now in progress. Each year the Activity Center collects toys for children ages 6 to 18. For many GYAC children these toys are the only Christmas gifts they will receive. You can help by bringing unwrapped new toys or your tax deductible donation to Gifford Youth Activity Center before Dec. 19. The Center is located at 4875 43rd Avenue in Vero Beach. Donations can be

dropped-off on weekdays between 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Gifts will be wrapped and sorted according to age by staff and volunteers. Presents will be distributed to the children at the GYAC Christmas event.

If your neighborhood or service club would like to have toys picked up, please call GYAC at (772) 794 1005 to arrange it.

The Gifford Youth Activity Center is a United Way Agency and 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization offering a comprehensive after-school program to students K-12. Teachers provide structured daily homework assistance, tutoring, educational enrichment and encouragement. In the later afternoon, students enjoy cultural and recreational activities.

For more information call (772) 794-1005, Ext. 234.

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Four-year-old Ainsley Sumberg twinkles with her holiday lights.

Cliff Partlow staff photographer

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Compute

From page A6

your web browser and go to www.speedtest.net and click the "begin test" button. This will run a series of tests and give you a good idea of just what your download and upload speeds are measured in

"Mega Bits Per Second" (MBPS).

One rule of thumb is you want to see at least two MBPS to be able to watch internet video streaming without it buffering and the speedtest.net website will tell you just what kind of download speeds you're getting. Get anything lower than two MBPS and it's

time to call your internet provider and complain, after all a brand new computer deserves a lightning fast connection don't you think?

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

Dining & Entertainment

Sebastian

SECTION B • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSOL.COM • FRIDAY, DEC. 13, 2013

Classified

INSIDE

Center to host holiday activities

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Nature-based learning is the theme of the season at the Environmental Learning Center, beckoning one and all to visit the campus on Wabasso Road north of Vero Beach. A wide variety of activities, both on land and on the water, are planned for the upcoming holiday and vacation season.

"Treks and Tracks" nature walks will be led by expert naturalists each Saturday, from 9:30 - 11 a.m. Bring the younger children to the Imagination Station for a half-hour story time by a naturalist assistant. Check the website www.discoverELC.org for dates and times.

In the Discovery Station, aquariums and exhibits await you. The touch tank will be open mornings from 10 a.m. - noon and afternoons from 2 - 4 p.m.

These activities mentioned above are included in the price of admission - \$5 for adults and children over 12, free for ELC members and free on the first Saturday of the month.

Stroll the beach on Thursday, Jan. 2, from 9 - 10:30 a.m., and explore with our naturalist things you may have never noticed before. And learn ways to keep the beaches clean and safe. Beachwear is required, as are reservations. Cost: \$10 per family, with a \$2 discount for members.

On the water, there will be a stepped-up schedule of excursions to the Pelican Island Refuge aboard the ELC's "floating classroom" pontoon boat. The on-board naturalist will point out the species encountered and discuss the ecology of the Lagoon, and how its health can be restored with personal actions. Brown and white pelicans, egrets, ibis, kingfishers, and herons are often on the island or nearby. Migrating birds gather on the mangrove islands, and manatees and dolphins may be seen throughout the trip. Trips will be from 10 a.m. - noon, and 1 - 3 p.m. Check the website www.discoverELC.org for dates and

See CENTER, B3

A different Christmas play

Free production recalls wartime peace during 1914 holiday

By Jessica Creagan
jcreagan@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH — In a war zone, finding peace isn't easy, but 100 years ago, enemy forces did lay down their weapons to celebrate Christmas with more harmony than strife.

With bullets, bombs and plum pudding, "Christmas 1914" imagines what it might have been like in Great Britain during that season of World War I in a special walk-through drama production at King's Baptist Church in Vero Beach.

"We will recreate that amazing night through the eyes of one troubled British soldier who had long been looking for peace in his own mind," church staff said in a press release.

"It is a story of love, sorrow and the reminder of the hope that the birth of Jesus has brought to an otherwise dreary world."

The free production will take place nightly beginning Dec. 12 through Dec. 15, and again Dec. 19 through Dec. 22, beginning at 6 p.m.

"It is a fictional account based on true events," said Joe Hill, event spokesman.

The production was brainchild of the Rev. Frank Ellis, senior pastor of King's Baptist Church, and several others worked with him to refine the story and program.

There are close to 200 people working together to bring the production to life, from building sets, creating costumes, to actors and lighting technicians, Mr. Hill said.

Many of his congregation members have stepped up to participate in the drama, from children playing newsboys in the streets of London, to senior citizens playing wounded soldiers and congregants in a church scene.

In addition to building sets and creating scenes, members made costumes for the period piece, or helped alter the dozens of purchased tuxedos, dresses and military uniforms the many actors wear during the course of the production.

Instead of a play where people come to one building and sit in their seats while the actors and scenes change in front of them, visitors will move from one scene to another, with the action taking place both indoors and outside, Mr. Hill said.

"We are using our whole campus for this," he said.

The scenes follow the story of Alfred Williamson and his life pre- and post-war. Circumstances in his

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December 19 - 22

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Photo courtesy of King's Baptist Church

Christmas 1914 will be on stage at King's Baptist Church in Vero Beach.

life bring him to a crossroads more than once, allowing the audience to see a relatable man wrestling with decisions that shape his life forever.

The production lasts approximately one hour. As guests arrive, they are assigned to a group of no more than 25 people with

which they will experience the production. A docent will guide them through the presentation and each group will be sent in approximately seven minutes apart. The first show of each night will begin at 6 p.m. and the last one at 9 p.m., the Rev. Ellis said.

See PLAY, B2

Out & about

FRIDAY, DEC. 13

• **16th annual Craft Fair at Sebastian River Medical Center:** 7 a.m. through 1:30 p.m. in the hospital's dining room. All sales are cash only. A raffle will be available (need not be present to win). Proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit a local needy family for the holiday season.

• **Concert:** Contemporary Christian artist Richard Perry will perform in Riverview Park, 600 U.S. 1, Sebastian, from 6-11 p.m. Family-friendly. For more information, visit www.tatemusicgroup.com/epk/?id=20012.

• **Concert,** Trinity Episcopal Church, Vero Beach, time to be announced. Presented by the Vero Beach Choral Society. Cost: \$5 for students, \$10 for active military, \$20 for adults. Season tickets available. Website: [\[obeachchoralsociety.org\]\(http://obeachchoralsociety.org\).](http://www.ver-</p>
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THROUGH SUNDAY, DEC. 22

• **'Christmas 1914':** Interactive walk-through experience of what happened on Christmas in 1914, while the world was at war. Walk-through experiences start every 7 minutes and last an hour. Free event, open to the public. Will be open daily from Dec. 12-22, from 6-9 p.m., at Kings Baptist Church, 3235 58th Ave., Vero Beach. For more information, visit www.christmas1914.com.

FRIDAY, DEC. 13 - SATURDAY, DEC. 21

• **Riverside Children's Theatre presents "The Nutcracker: In Swingtime,"** Annie Morton Theatre, Riverside Children's Theatre,

Vero Beach, times vary. This jazzy offering is a fresh interpretation of the holiday classic set to a swinging score by Duke Ellington. Cost: \$12-\$18 for adults, \$6-\$9 for students. Website: www.riversidetheatre.com.

THROUGH SATURDAY, DEC. 14

• **Theater,** The Charter Dome, Indian River Charter High School, Vero Beach, times vary. The Indian River Charter High School presents Timberlake Wertenbaker's "Our Country's Good," on select dates. Cost: \$10 per person. Website: www.irchstage.com.

SATURDAY, DEC. 14 - SUNDAY, DEC. 15

• **Nautical Flea and Craft**

Festival: Hosted by the Vero Beach Rotary Club in Riverside Park at the Oaks in Vero Beach. Free admission to browse. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. For more information, visit www.verorotarynauticalmarket.com

SATURDAY, DEC. 14

• **Sixth annual Rudolph Run/Walk 5K:** Race to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, including pancake breakfast and raffles. Race day registration starts at 6:30 a.m., race starts at 7:30 a.m. Race is east on the 17th Street bridge to South Beach Park. Register at Runner's Depot or online at active.com/running/vero-beach-fl/12-14-13—irs-rudolph-run-2013. For more

See OUT, B2



Week of 12-13-2013

ARIES - March 21/April 20

Aries, some difficulty awaits you, but you are strong and fully capable of handling what's coming your way. Maintain your composure and stick it out a little longer.

TAURUS - April 21/May 21

Taurus, this is your week to shine and let everyone at work know just how talented and devoted you are to the team. Enjoy the fanfare while you can get it.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21

Distractions are lurking, Gemini, but you will still manage to get things done. Somehow you find the focus needed to muddle through all the work.

CANCER - June 22/July 22

Trust someone close to you with a few of your secrets, Cancer. Holding them in may only cause you grief in the long run. Don't worry, your confidante will be supportive.

LEO - July 23/Aug. 23

Leo, an investment opportunity has piqued your interest. Until you sign over the funds, be sure to research everything thoroughly and call in some expert advice.

VIRGO - Aug. 24/Sept. 22

Virgo, you have a lot on your plate, but you can handle it on your own. If things are to get done, you will get them accomplished of your own accord, even if it takes longer.

LIBRA - Sept. 23/Oct. 23

Some added confidence is all you need to get back on the right track, Libra. Things are bound to work out in your favor, especially when you put your mind to something.

SCORPIO - Oct. 24/Nov. 22

Scorpio, just when skepticism seems to be taking over, you will discover once in a while there are a few surprises with happy endings. Enjoy your good luck.

See SCOPES, B2

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DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

Nutcracker Ballet gracing Sunrise Theatre's stage

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

FORT PIERCE — The Nutcracker presented by the State Ballet Theatre of Russia brings the world's most beloved ballet to glorious life on the Historic Sunrise Theatre stage on Thursday, Dec. 26 at 7 p.m.

This company of 60 distinguished, world-class dancers has showcased the unparalleled art of Russian ballet to countries throughout the world. Generations of children and "children at heart" have treasured this perennial favorite, the charming

tale of holiday adventure that follow a little girl's journey through a fantasy world of fairies, princes, toy soldiers and an army of mice. Now, thrill to the same authentic Russian production that is performed by Moscow's famous Bolshoi Ballet.

The Nutcracker features amazing magical toys, falling snow, growing Christmas trees and phenomenal performances by State Ballet Theatre of Russia dancers. Filled with Tchaikovsky's beloved music, including Waltz of the Flowers, Dance of the

Sugar Plum Fairy and Waltz of the Snowflakes, the entire family will love this magical experience filled with spectacular sets, beautiful costumes and enchanting choreography. Celebrate ballet and the beauty of the holidays by experiencing The Nut-

cracker!
For tickets to The Nutcracker, priced at \$55/45, \$20 12 years & under call the Box Office at 772-461-4775 or visit us online at www.SunriseTheatre.com. The Sunrise Theatre is located at 117 South Second Street, Fort Pierce.



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Play

From page B1

"In eight nights we plan on doing 200 performances of this one hour production," he said. Reservations are available online for groups or individuals that want to walk

through the experience at a time certain but there are also plenty of time slots for walk-in guests, Mr. Hill said. Visitors are advised that the production does contain loud noises and flashes, and the emotional content may be better suited to guests in their teens and older. The varying surfaces of the

paths to the outdoor scenes are not conducive to walkers or wheelchairs, Mr. Hill said. King's Baptist Church is located at 3235 58th Ave., Vero Beach. For reservations or more information about the production, call the King's Baptist church office at (772) 567-5850 or visit www.christmas1914.com.

Out

From page B1

information, email lls.verobeach@gmail.com.
Holiday luncheon: Democratic Women's Club of Indian River County will hold their holiday luncheon at the Osceola Bistro, 2045 13th Ave., Vero Beach. Activities begin with registration at 11:30 a.m. and include installation of officers. Event is open to the public; reservations are required. Contact [Lanie Frame at DemLunch@aol.com](mailto:LanieFrame@aol.com).
Cookie Walk: Eleventh annual event, 10 a.m. to noon, Living Lord Lutheran Church, 2725 58th Ave., Vero Beach. Many varieties of homemade cookies to consider as gifts or holiday party fare. For more information, call (772) 770-0523.
Walk for Rescues and

Poker Stroll: 2 p.m., Riverview Park, Sebastian. Seventh annual event to benefit H.A.L.O. animal rescue in Sebastian. Features on-the-go poker tournament, police k-9 demonstrations, photos with Santa, lure coursing, beverage checkpoints, and complimentary dinner at H.A.L.O. with shuttle for easy return to your vehicle at the start point. Registration is \$25. Enter the optional "poker stroll" for an additional \$25 and collect playing cards at each of the five checkpoints; player with the best poker hand wins the 50/50 prize pool. For more information, visit www.halorescuefl.org.
Toys for Tots dinner and dance, Sebastian Elks Lodge, Sebastian, 5 p.m. Bring unwrapped toys for needy children and meet Toys for Tots representatives at the ElDOEs annual Christmas dinner and dance toy drive. Cost: To

be announced. Contact phone number: (772) 589-1516.
Art ball and auction, The Heritage Center, Vero Beach, 6 p.m. Presented by the Cultural Council of Indian River County. Cost: To be announced. Website: www.cultural-council.org.
Turtle Tours program, Vero Beach Museum of Art, Vero Beach, 11 a.m. Young visitors can explore an exhibition then create their own mini masterpieces. Featured exhibition includes paintings from the museum's permanent collection. Cost: Free for members, \$5 for each non-member child. Registration is required. Website: www.verobeachmuseum.org.
The Met: Live in HD, The Majestic 11 Theatre, Vero Beach, 12:55 p.m. "Verdi's Falstaff" Cost: \$20 for students, \$25 for adults. Season pass available. Website: www.verobeachopera.org.
Star party, Sebastian Inlet State Park, Sebastian, 6 p.m. The Indian River Astronomy Society will host a stargazing party at the day use area 0.5 miles south of the bridge, weather and clouds permitting. Telescopes will be provided, or bring your own. Park entry fees apply. Website: <http://www.floridastateparks.org/sebastianinlet/events.cfm>.
Night sounds at Sebastian Inlet concert series, Coconut Point, Sebastian Inlet State Park, Sebastian, 7 p.m. Featuring Highway 1, playing trop-rock, music inspired by a relaxing and exotic island style way of life. Cost: Park entry fees apply. Website: <http://www.floridastateparks.org/sebastianinlet/events.cfm>.
WinterGreen NightLights, The Environmental Learning Center, Wabasso, 4 p.m. An after-hours winter celebration loaded with activities, including paddling a canoe by twinkling holiday lights. Cost: \$5 per person, free for Environmental Learning

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See OUT, B3

Scopes

From page B1

SAGITTARIUS - Nov. 23/Dec. 21

Sagittarius, though unusual, your behavior might seem perfectly reasonable to you. But unless you share your thoughts with others, they may wonder what is going on.

CAPRICORN - Dec. 22/Jan. 20

Remember that words said in the heat of the moment will not soon be forgotten, Capricorn. Don't forget to employ some tact when discussing serious matters with loved ones.

AQUARIUS - Jan. 21/Feb. 18

Aquarius, this week you will have to be very convincing if you want plans to go your way. Brush up on your approach and give thought to exactly what it is you want to say.

PISCES - Feb. 19/March 20

Take a few days to let your mind wander, Pisces. You will probably find being a free spirit to be a refreshing break from the norm.

Out

From page B2

Center members and children 12 and younger. *Website:* www.discoverelc.com.

THROUGH SUNDAY, DEC. 15

• **Prism concert:** Sebastian River High School Performing Arts Center, Sebastian. The largest fundraising event of the year for the Sebastian River High School music department. The concerts will showcase the concert and jazz bands, the flag and dance line and the choral program. Concerts start at 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday; there are also concerts at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Adult tickets are \$15-25, depending on seating; tickets for students ages 5-18 are \$5. *For ticket information, call Lynn at (772) 564-4387.*

SUNDAY, DEC. 15

• **Backyard Chickens permaculture class:** 9 a.m. to noon, Sustainable Kashi, 11155 Roseland Road, Sebastian. Class is \$30; fee includes lunch. Learn how to raise your own chickens for eggs, fewer mosquitoes and other pests, and fertilizer for plants. *For more information, email info@sustainablekashi.com.*

• **Traditional Christmas Concert:** Third annual event at the Polish American Social Club, 7500 U.S. 1, Vero Beach. Four course dinner (salad, soup, meat or fish entree, and dessert) begins at 5 p.m. Concert follows at 7 p.m., featuring the Indian River County Charter High School choral group and jazz band. Tickets are \$20 per person and must be purchased by Dec. 2. Proceeds will be donated to veterans and needy families of Indian River County. *For more information, call (772) 913-1196 or (772) 388-3525, or email IRC AFL1@aol.com.*

• **Movie Under the Stars:** 6:15 p.m., Sustainable Kashi, 11155 Roseland Road, Sebastian. Bring lawn chairs for a cozy seat and something to keep warm. Organic dinner with vegetarian meal options will be available for less than \$5. Entry fee is \$5 and two non-perishable food items (to be donated to Feed Everyone, a project of The River Fund – visit www.riverfund.org/florida). Follow event signs upon arrival.

• **Outdoor Flea and Crafts Market:** Monthly event on the third Sunday, hosted by the Sebastian Elks Lodge, 731 S. Fleming Street and County Road 512. Vendors will be able to set up their wares at 8 a.m. and the 'doors' will open to the public at 9 a.m. and close at 1 p.m. There will be a continental breakfast, light lunch, and beverages available for purchase throughout the event. Proceeds from this event go to support Elks charities. *All interested vendors should contact Jim Quinn at (772) 581-9518 for*

reservations and information.

• **Edden Family Impact concert:** 2 p.m., Main Library, 1600 21st Street, Vero Beach. Family-friendly pre-holiday concert with singing, dancing, acting, comedy skits, instrumentals. Enjoy entertainment, fresh tea and good company. Feel free to bring cookies or brownies to share. Donations appreciated. *For more information, call (772) 770-5060, Ext. 4121.*

• **Theatre-Go-Round presents "From Sea to Shining Sea,"** 14th Avenue Steakhouse, Vero Beach, 12:30 p.m. A matinee dinner theater production including a patriotic parade of American songs. Cost: \$45. *Website:* www.theatregorounddinnertheatre.com.

• **Holiday drama,** The Vero Beach High School Performing Arts Center, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Featuring the Aerial Antics Youth Circus. Cost: To be announced. *Website:* www.covb.org.

• **222nd Bill of Rights Birthday Bash and Panel Discussion on U.S. Supreme Court:** Emerson Center, 1590 27th Street, Vero Beach. *For more information, contact T.A. Wyner at (772) 465-5658 or email lawyer@aceweb.com.*

• **Concert,** Trinity Episcopal Church, Vero Beach, time to be announced. Presented by the Vero Beach Choral Society. Cost: \$5 for students, \$10 for active military, \$20 for adults. Season tickets available. *Website:* www.verobeach-choralsociety.org.

MONDAY, DEC. 16

• **Rescue Animal Adoption Event:** From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Dec. 16, H.A.L.O. will have furry friends in need of homes at PNC Bank, 590 Beachland Blvd., Vero Beach.

• **The Trouble with Christmas:** 6:30 p.m., Emerson Center, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1590 27th Ave., Vero Beach. Tom Flynn, author and executive director of the Council for Secular Humanism, will discuss where holiday traditions came from, from the Christ Child to Santa Claus, the Yule Log to the Tannenbaum. Free.

THROUGH DEC. 17

• **Dasie Bakers benefit:** Annual holiday bake sale, offering fresh homemade red velvet cake, carrot cake, rum cake, pound cake and lemon cake, prepared by Dasie Bakers, made to order. Fundraiser for programs at the Dasie Hope Center (8445 64th Ave., Wabasso). *For more information or to order, call (772) 589-3535 or visit www.dasiehope.org.*

TUESDAY, DEC. 17

• **Widows and Widowers brunch meeting:** 10:30 a.m., Eagle's Nest at the Sebastian Golf Course. Group meets for lively discussions and good food on the third Tuesday each month. No dues, no program, each diner pays their own breakfast or lunch tab.

islands, and seine netting. What better way to wind up the holidays! The fee of \$310 (\$300 for members) includes kayak rental, gear, tent, meals, snacks & drinks.

Saturday, Jan. 4 is free admission day at the Center. But think about becoming a member of the ELC. Membership gives you year-round free admission, discounts on all ecology adventures and purchases in the Nature Nook gift shop.

Of course, the Nature Nook gift shop will also be open during the ELC's regular hours. While you're visiting the 64-acre island campus, remember to stop in to find great gifts for the upcoming holidays.

The ELC is a nonprofit nature center located north of Vero Beach off County Road 510 at the western end of the Wabasso Bridge. Its campus includes aquariums, touch tank, exhibits, native plant gardens, picnic facilities and visitor center. ELC membership benefits can be found at www.DiscoverELC.org. Admission to the ELC is \$5 per person, children 12 and under are free, and ELC members receive free admission year-round. The first Saturday of every month is free to all.

Golfing for the greater good



"Just in time for the holidays" was the theme of the second annual Indian River School District Superintendent's Golf Tournament to benefit Treasure Coast Food Bank. It took place at Sandridge Golf Club in Vero Beach on Nov. 9, and proceeds from the tournament provided holiday meals for more than 20 local families. The first place team, from left: Colton Albrecht, Kevin Albrecht, John Earman, and David Black, will keep the traveling trophy until next year's tournament, slated for Nov. 8, 2014.

Photo courtesy of School District of Indian River County

Short optional walking tour follows at noon. *RSVP by Dec. 15 at (772) 589-1673 or email swabby1@att.net.*

• **Craft club meeting,** North Indian River County, Sebastian, 1 p.m. A holiday party hosted by the Craft Club of Sebastian. Cost: Not available. *Website:* www.sebastiancraftclub.com.

• **The Met: Live in HD Encore,** The Majestic 11 Theatre, Vero Beach, 6 p.m. "Verdi's Falstaff" Cost: \$15 for students, \$20 for adults. Season pass available. *Website:* www.verobeach-opera.org

• **The Story Your Blood Tells:** Free workshop. 6-7 p.m., Alternative Medicine Family Care Center, 3408 Aviation Blvd., Vero Beach. Have you been confused by lab results and wanted to know what they mean for your current and future health? Bring a copy of the blood work results. For more information, visit www.AMFCC.info.

THURSDAY, DEC. 19

• **Social dance,** The Heritage

Center, Vero Beach, 7 p.m. USA Dance hosts an open dance night with an introductory dance lesson at the beginning. Cost: \$8 for USA Dance members, \$10 for non-members. *Website:* www.vero-dance.org.

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

• **Sunrise Theatre presents, "A Christmas Carol,"** Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 7 p.m. Cost: \$15-\$25 for students, \$30 or \$35 for adults. *Website:* www.sunrisetheatre.com.

SATURDAY, DEC. 21 – SUNDAY, DEC. 22

• **Concert,** First Baptist Church of Vero Beach, Vero Beach, 7 p.m. Community choirs, the Treasure Coast Chorale, the Atlantic Classical Orchestra and soloists join together for a presentation of "Handel's Messiah." Cost: Free. *Website:* www.treasure-coastchorale.org.

See OUT, B4

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Center

From page B1

times. Reservations are required, and the price is \$25 per adult and \$10 per child, with a \$2 discount for members. Your ticket will also give you free admission to the rest of the ELC campus. Minimum age for children is 4 years old.

Canoe excursions, led by knowledgeable guides, will leave the ELC dock at 8 am on both Saturdays, Dec. 28 and Jan. 4, for a two-and-a-half hour paddle through canoe "trails" in the Indian River Lagoon. The cost, which includes canoe rental and necessary gear, is \$15 per adult and \$7 per child, with a \$3 discount for members and their children. And a kayaking adventure will take place from 9 a.m. - noon on Friday, Jan. 3, along the St. Sebastian River. \$30 for adults and \$25 for children (with a member discount of \$2 includes kayak rental and needed gear.

A special Winter Break Campout for teens age 12 to 17 will take place right after the new year, from Thursday, Jan. 2 to Saturday, Jan. 4. The Education Director will lead the group in kayaking. Two nights of camping, exploring the lagoon's

Marital

Edited by Linda and Charles Preston

ACROSS

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- 5 Rascal
- 10 Diving gear
- 15 Torme or Gibson
- 18 Alley Oop's abode
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- 20 Finnish baths
- 21 Pizarro's gold
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- 39 Henry Fonda played this role?
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- 56 Undertake at risk
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- 62 Stravinsky's "Le ___ du printemps"
- 63 "By the ___ of my thumbs...": Shak.
- 66 Gem State capital
- 67 Crosby and Kelly made the guest list?
- 69 Sticky stuff
- 70 Exhort
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- 72 ___ deucey, backgammon game
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- 85 The happy recipient

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11/24/13

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A golfing trip down memory lane

Lately I have been traveling down memory lane. I spent many of my teenage years and then some in Palm Bay.

I remember the excitement I felt when a new course would open. My father, a few of his golf buddies, along with my friends would play the municipal courses around the area. My family belonged to Port Malabar Country Club and I spent a lot of time roaming those fairways.

One thing I remember well was the feeling of anticipation as we watched Palm Gardens Golf Course being built on Minton Road in West Melbourne. We couldn't wait to try a new course.

Palm Gardens GC opened in 1979, the same year I started senior high at Palm Bay High School. It was nothing like what we were



**GOLF
JAMES
STAMMER**

used to playing. The course took no tee times. It was "first come, first served" all day, every day. There was no driving range, but there were practice or warm-up nets and a putting green.

One thing I remember about the course, that is true to this day, is that it is family owned and operated. It's easy to feel right at home when you're here.

The course, designed by Edward C. Ryder, consists of only nine holes, and plays to a par of 30. There are two sets of tees, one playing to 1,596 yards, the other 1,411. The layout is great for seniors, beginners and juniors, as well as better

players who wish to work on their accuracy and course management. The many lakes, narrow fairways and pesky bunkers offer plenty of challenge to golfers of every skill.

If you're looking for a quick game after work or to start the weekend before the rest of the family gets out of bed, this is your course. You can walk it very easily and without having to carry more than a half-dozen clubs.

Palm Gardens starts off with its most intriguing hole. The first is a par-4 that makes a 90 degree dogleg right that starts about 200-yards off the tee. Hit your drive much farther than that and you will find yourself in trees or water. Anything too short and you'll find your short approach blocked by trees.

The second hole is a 135-yard par-3 with a very

narrow, yet deep green. Missing right or left means you will likely find sand.

The third is a 300-yard par-4 that requires a well-placed fairway wood or hybrid off the tee. A large bunker guards the front of the large green.

Measuring about 175-yards from the back tees, the fourth hole is the second longest par-3 on the course. It is also the only hole without a bunker and boasts the largest green.

At the par-3 fifth, you will likely hit another different club from the tee. While Palm Gardens GC is short and tight, every hole is a different length and makes you hit different clubs at nearly every tee. It's a great design trait, which often isn't found on much longer, much more expensive tracks.

From the back tees, the sixth hole can play as long

as 200 yards. Bunkers guard this green on both sides. Between the tee and the green trees pinch in at the sides, making the hole feel narrower than it is

You can practically throw your ball from the tee onto the seventh green which is completely surrounded by four bunkers.

The eighth hole has water from the tee all the way to the green and guarding the left side. If you play too safely to the right you bring more sand and trees into play.

If every great course has a risk-reward finishing hole, then put Palm Gardens on that list. The ninth is a par-4 that can be played in many ways. From the tee you can thread a wedge or short iron onto the fairway protected by water on both sides. Or, you can pull out a big stick and try to reach the green 225-yards away. Right of the

green is out-of-bounds, left is the clubhouse. Anything else not on the green is likely wet or covered in sand. It's a hole that can win or lose you your match.

Palm gardens GC is quite fun and a quick stroll if you only have a couple of hours to play.

Rates are great as well. To walk and play nine holes is less than \$12. There are also single (\$600) and family (\$780) memberships that give you unlimited greens fees for an entire year.

For additional information, give the pro shop a call at (321) 723-3182 or visit the website at www.palmgardensgolfcourse.com.

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.

Local nonprofit needs aid with land purchase

Land to build a no-kill animal sanctuary

By Chris Fish
cfish@hometownnewsol.com

BREVARD — One local nonprofit organization is asking for financial aid from the Brevard community to assist in the purchase of several acres of undeveloped land.

Friends for Animals Sanctuary, a local organization with a mission to rescue abandoned, abused or injured domestic animals, is trying to obtain 20 acres of land in Palm Bay for the development of a no-kill animal sanctuary.

The organization is asking for help from several donors by donating as much as \$180,000 for the purchase.

Kathy Bean, public relations specialist for Friends for Animals Sanctuary, said

the no-kill sanctuary will provide a safe and open area for a variety of animals, such as cats, dogs and horses.

"The euthanasia rate is approximately 75 percent for cats, dogs, rabbits, kittens and puppies (brought into shelters) and, in October alone this year, 860 animals were brought into the shelters," she said. "We need to stop the current cycle of 'disposable animals' and create future generations of caring and responsible pet

owners."

Ms. Bean said the organization plans to build a "campus-style" sanctuary, with climate controlled suites. There will also be long, grassy runs for dogs, and the cat facility will have platforms on the walls for the felines to climb and a screened outside area for basking in the sun.

Ms. Bean said funding for the land is needed as soon as possible, so the organization can begin construction

of the sanctuary.

"Upon acceptance of our offer, we will need the cash upon closing" she said about the land deal. "Non-developed property cannot be mortgaged, so the money will be needed immediately."

According to statistics provided by the Brevard County Animal Services and Enforcement, the euthanasia rates for 2012/2013 is 4,100 animals.

"We are progressing at

bringing down the kill rates," Ms. Bean said. "Even one unnecessary death is a tragedy."

The nonprofit is also asking for volunteers to help with construction and clearing areas of the land to build the sanctuary and many other services.

To donate for the development of the no-kill sanctuary, visit www.friends4animalsanctuary.org.

All donations are tax deductible.

Out

From page B3

SATURDAY, DEC. 21 – MONDAY, DEC. 23

• **Holidays at McKee**, McKee Botanical Garden, Vero Beach, 6 p.m. A wonderland of twinkling lights, festive decorations, holiday music, an appearance from Santa and a model train display. Cost: Garden admission fees apply. Website: www.mckeegarden.org.

THROUGH SUNDAY, DEC. 22

• **Riverside Children's Theatre presents "A Christmas Carol,"** Annie Morton Theatre, Riverside Children's Theatre, Vero Beach, times vary. The beloved tale is retold with a new, original score that is sure to become a new tradition. Cost: \$10-\$16 for adults, \$5-\$8 for students. Website: www.riversidetheatre.com.

SUNDAY, DEC. 22

• **Theatre-Go-Round presents "Those Fabulous 50s,"** The Quilted Giraffe Restaurant, Vero Beach, 4:30 p.m. A musical dinner theatre production highlighting a decade of solid gold hits. Cost: \$55. Website: www.theatregorounddinnertheatre.com.

TUESDAY, DEC. 24

• **Christmas Eve candlelight service**, Christ the King Lutheran Church, Sebastian, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Free. Contact phone number: (440) 212-0329.

THURSDAY, DEC. 26

• **Sunrise Theatre presents "The Nutcracker,"** Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 7 p.m. Extend the Christmas season with the Nureyev State Ballet's production of "The Nutcracker." Cost: \$20 for children 12 and younger, \$45 or \$55 for adults. Website: www.sunrisetheatre.com.

THURSDAY, DEC. 26 – FRIDAY, DEC. 27

• **Riverside Children's Theatre: RCT On The Go presents "Goldilocks and the Three Bears,"** Annie Morton Theatre, Riverside Children's Theatre, Vero Beach, 1:30 p.m. The familiar tale comes to life on the Vero Beach stage. Cost: \$6. Website: www.riversidetheatre.com.

FRIDAY, DEC. 27 – SATURDAY, DEC. 28

• **Riverside Theatre presents "The Comedy Zone,"** Waxlax Stage, Riverside Theatre, Vero Beach, 7:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m. Featuring Patrick Garrity and Gid Pool. Cost: \$15 for show only, \$25 for show and food voucher. Website: www.riversidetheatre.com.

SATURDAY, DEC. 28 – MONDAY, DEC. 30

• **Nights of Lights**, McKee Botanical Garden, Vero Beach, 6 p.m. Stroll along candlelit pathways through a sea of sparkling lights and view the holiday train display. Cost: Garden admission fees apply. Website: www.mckeegarden.org.

SUNDAY, DEC. 29

• **"Jack Hanna-Into the Wild,"** Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 3 p.m. An unscripted and action-packed show discovering amazing animals and cultures. Cost: \$25 for students, \$30 or \$35 for adults. Website: www.sunrisetheatre.com.

THROUGH DEC. 31

• **"Purr-fect show:"** Cat related artwork by Flametree residents and other area day artists will be the focus of this show. Show continues through Dec. 31 during regular hours, Wednesday through Saturday, from noon to 5 p.m. A portion of the sales from the show benefits "The Cats Meow Rescue and Adoption Center," 126 43rd Avenue, founded by Barbara Eakins,

run by a handful of dedicated volunteers and currently funded by Barbara, individual donations and a few local businesses. For more information, call (772) 202-2810 or visit www.flametreeclay.com.

TUESDAY, DEC. 31

• **New Year's Eve celebration**, Sebastian Elks Lodge, 731 Fleming Street, Sebastian. Theme is "It's Midnight Somewhere." Cocktails start at 6 p.m., followed by prime rib dinner at 7:30 p.m. Little Debbi will provide music through the evening for dancing and listening. Hats, noisemakers and champagne will be provided to ring in the New Year at 10 p.m., followed by pastries and coffee afterward. Tickets are \$30 per person in the Elks Lounge through Dec. 29. Proceeds of this event will go to Elks charities, such as the Children's Therapy Services, the Youth Camp in Umatilla, local scholarships, more. Call (772) 589-1516 for more information.

• **Theatre-Go-Round presents "Milestones and Memories,"** 14th Avenue Steakhouse, Vero Beach, 4:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. A dinner theater production encompassing 50 years of musical hits from the 1940s through the 1980s. Cost: To be announced. Website: www.theatregorounddinnertheatre.com.

THROUGH FRIDAY, JAN. 3

• **"Our Beautiful Waters" exhibit:** An invitational exhibit to benefit the Environmental Learning Center, hosted at Gallery 14, 1911 14th Ave., Vero Beach. Reception will be held Friday, Dec. 6, from 5-8 p.m. The Last Call reception will be held Friday, Jan. 3, from 5-8 p.m. For more information, visit www.gallery14verobeach.com.

ONGOING EVENTS

• **SAFER Indian River County:** Meets every first Wednesday, 8:30 a.m., in the

United Way Community Room, 1836 14th Ave., Vero Beach. An organization dedicated to making certain that Indian River County disaster relief is organized and maximally effective. All interested community groups, government agencies, businesses, faith based organizations and individuals are welcome. Contact Lisa Paziomek at (772) 562-2549 or visit www.saferinc.us.

• **Master Gardeners Plant Clinics:** Have a plant question or need a soil pH test? Plant clinics are held at two locations each week. In Vero Beach, Master Gardener volunteers will be available from 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, at the IRC UFL/IFAS Extension Office, 1028 20th Place, Vero Beach. In Sebastian, Master Gardener volunteers are available Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to noon, at the North IRC Library, 1001 C.R. 512, Sebastian. Open to all ages, with no fee. Call (772) 770-5030 in advance. Visit <http://indian.ifas.ufl.edu>.

• **Support group:** Catholic Charities' Prison Ministry sponsors a support group for adult family members of persons incarcerated in prisons and jails. Meets from 10-11 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month at Saint John of the Cross Parish Hall, 2355 82nd Ave., Vero Beach. All discussions are kept confidential.

• **Vero Beach Elks Lodge sends cookies to soldiers:** Homemade or store-bought cookies may be dropped off at 10 a.m. on the second Thursday of November and December (the group plans to go back to meeting on the third Thursday of every month after). Money donations for shipping costs are also appreciated. Bring cookies to Vero Beach Elks Lodge 1774, 1350 26th St. Vero Beach.

• **Wood carving class:** 1-4 p.m. every Monday, taught by Joe Miller, at Crafts & Stuffs, 658 21st Street, Vero Beach. For more information, call (772) 562-0540.

• **Farmer's market and mercado:** Fresh produce,

baked goods, farm animals and more will be on the grounds of the Old Fellsmere School on the second and fourth Saturday of each month, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Vendor booths must be registered in advance. A 10-foot by 10-foot vendor space is \$15, a mercado space is \$20, and a ready-to-eat vendor booth is \$25. There is an initial application fee of \$15 for a business permit valid at the market. The applications are available online at the Fellsmere Farmer's Market and Mercado Facebook group page. For more information, call (772) 413-1784.

• **Free quit smoking now classes:** The Quit Smoking Now Program is free of charge and provides free nicotine replacement therapy (patches, gum, or lozenges) while supplies last to those who are eligible. Class is available in the area. For more information or to register, call (877) 819-2357 or visit <http://www.eahectobacco.com/>

• **Sunrise Yoga classes:** 6-7:30 a.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, offered by the North County Aquatic Center, 9450 County Road 512, Sebastian. Fee is \$8 per class. The class is tailored to the abilities of the students. Every skill has an easy, intermediate, and advanced pose. All levels are welcome. For more information, call the North County Aquatic Center at (772) 581-7665.

• **Craft Club of Sebastian:** Artists and crafters from Brevard, Indian River, Martin and St. Lucie counties are welcome. Meets September through April on the third Thursday of each month from 2-3 p.m. at the North Indian River County Library on County Road 512 in Sebastian. For more information, visit www.sebastiancraftclub.com/

• **New ongoing class:** Started Sept. 12, Crafts & Stuff in the Miracle Mile Plaza by the VNA Thrift Shop. Local artist Marie Morrow, a teacher from the Vero Beach Museum of Art, will teach the class, "Learning to Paint without the Fear of Drawing." The class will teach a grid system that allows artists to transfer drawings from small formats to huge canvases and walls, as well as colors and color wheels. No previous art experience is required. This is an ongoing workshop; people may sign up for one class or several. Class space is limited. Intermediate and advanced students are welcome to participate in an open studio environment with feedback and technical support. Register in person at

Crafts & Stuff. Call Anna Ross-Cook at (772) 562-0540.

• **Republican Women Aware (RWA)** meets the second Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Vero Beach Country Club, 800 30th Ave., Vero Beach, for a luncheon meeting. The public is invited. Reservations are required by calling Eve Rosen at (772) 581-7439 or emailing EveRosen@bellsouth.net.

• **Third Thursday dances:** 7-10 p.m. on the third Thursday each month, all year, at Vero's Heritage Center, 2140 14th Ave. Sponsored by USA Dance. General fee is \$10 per person. Singles, couples, all levels of dance ability welcome, with dressy/casual attire. Different popular ballroom dance style and theme each month. Group class with a professional instructor starts at 7 p.m.; social dancing follows. For more information, visit www.verodance.org.

• **Barefoot Bay Drifters Grief Support Group:** VITAS Innovative Care offers a free grief support group in Barefoot Bay. Public is welcome. The group meets on first and third Wednesdays each month, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at Joe's Club South, 7951 Ron Beatty Blvd., Micco. For more information, call the VITAS Barefoot Bay office at (772) 664-1557.

• **PFLAG of Vero Beach, Inc.** meets the second Monday and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Meetings are held at Unity Church, 950 43rd Ave. Vero Beach. For more information, call (772) 778-9835.

• **Sebastian Area Historical Museum** is dedicated to preserving and display the history of the Sebastian area with exhibits and artifacts from the Ais Indians, Pelican Island, Clothing, Family Life, Quilts, Fishing, Agriculture, and Early Transportation. The museum is located at 1235 Main Street, City Hall Complex, Sebastian, and is open Tuesday thru Thursday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays, during the summer, from 1 p.m. to 4. Admission is free and the reference library is open by appointment. Call (772) 581-1380.

• **Friends After Diagnosis breast cancer support group:** Two groups meet at Indian River Medical Center, 1000 36th Street, Vero Beach. One meets on the third Saturday of each month, from 10-11 a.m., in the executive dining room off the cafeteria. The other meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month, from 2-3:30 p.m. in the Cancer

See **OUT, B5**

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The test of a bass fisherman

Cold fronts!! There are a couple times during the course of the year when a bass fisherman is put to the test, and now is one of those times.

Cold fronts usually create problems. They bring with them cold Canadian air, a change in barometric pressure, and a change in water temperature. All of



FISHING TALES
JOE KUBIK

these elements cause changes with bass fishing. Remember to keep a P.M.A.: positive mental

attitude. The bass can still be caught. It will take more concentration and probably a lot of looking to find them. There are several ways to do this. The presentation should be slower, with a smaller lure, and not the usual throw and crank cast, but a change in cranking, a stop and go type, something different,

but slower.

Your crank baits and spinner baits should bring on some bites. Use the stop and go method and experiment to see how they want it. If you have no luck with the stop and go, go back to your usual cranking style and don't be afraid to use jerk bait. Just remember, go slow.

When you think you're hung up in the Hydrilla, just rip it out. That creates a lot of strikes, so stay alert.

A couple of other baits you might want to try are the Chug Bug and a Zara Spook. Again fish them slow with a lot of wait between cranks on the Chug Bug and the Spook. Walking the dog should be fished slowly

also. Again, experiment. Don't forget to keep your eyes peeled looking for baitfish.

Have fun, stay safe and go catch a big'un.

Joe Kubik is a tournament fisherman and former Charter Captain. Joe can be reached at j.kubik@comcast.net

Estate jewelry show, sale taking place

For Hometown News
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH — Just in time for holiday gift giving and for only one day on Dec. 14, the John Michael Matthews Fine Jewelry showroom, will be decked out with elegant and timeless jewelry from estates worldwide including celebrity pieces.

The collection features rare items that would make uncommon gifts including classic art-deco diamond and platinum pieces, sophisticated designs with rubies, emeralds and sapphires, glowing pearl necklaces, and substantial gold bracelets.

John Michael Matthews Fine Jewelry is a full-service jewelry store specializing in the finest diamonds direct from Antwerp with a wide jewelry selection that includes timeless classics in gold and platinum, with diamonds, sapphires, rubies, emeralds and pearls, along with the latest trends by American and International Jewelry Designers and an extensive estate jewelry collection. Services



Committee members, from left: Linda Teetz, John Michael Matthews, Raquel Tilton and Carole Casey.

include appraisals by a graduate gemologist and expert jewelry repairs by in-house goldsmiths. For more information visit

www.JohnMatthewsJewelry.com.

Customers are welcome to stop in from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., to browse or call (772)

234-1512 for an appointment. John Michael Matthews Fine Jewelry showroom, at 645 Beachland Blvd., in Vero Beach.

Photo courtesy of Jamie Jackson

Out

From page B4

Center. Anyone who is a survivor, caretaker, friend or family member who has been touched by breast cancer is welcome to attend. For more information, contact Lin Reading at (772) 978-9392 or email linreading@bellsouth.net.

• Spark of Divine Learning and Healing Center holds monthly meetings, workshops and classes including yoga, a drum circle, tarot reading and more. For more information, costs and a schedule, call (772) 257-6499 or visit www.meetup.com/spark-of-divine-spirit-unity-reiki-unconditional-love/events/calendar.

• Garden walk with country care roses, week-ends from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., 14070 109th St., Fellsmere. For more information, call (772) 559-5036.

• 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 email 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 cruises: Oceanside Business Association of Vero Beach's sunset Saturday cruises on the second Saturday of the month located on the corner of Ocean Drive and Dahlia Lane. 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.

• Indian River Civic Association and the Florida Irish-American Society are conducting a food drive to benefit a local Veteran's Group Home. Every Wednesday at noon the Irish Club, located at 1314 20th Street in Vero Beach, invites the public for a home-made lunch and dessert while listening to the big band sound of a local senior musical group. All ages are invited, and the cost is \$7, no reservation required. Please bring a non-perishable food item. Every month the IRCA distributes this food, along with fresh meat to the veterans. For more information, call (772) 913-1196 or (772) 569-1460.

• Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge: 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.

• 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.

• 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-

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From page B5

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. 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. A canopy of live oaks, orchids, wild coffee bushes, mangrove wetlands and wildlife are part of the experience. There is a bird watching observation platform and tower and the "awesome pine," the largest slash pine tree in the world. 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.*
• St. Sebastian River preserve: Hiking, jogging, walking and nature study are permitted throughout the preserve, except in areas posted as closed or restricted. Access point is off County Road 512, just west of Sebastian Middle School. The preserve is open for daily use only, except for overnight camping by permit. Horseback riding is allowed on Wednesday. *Contact the preserve office to make camping reservations and obtain a permit at (321) 953-5004.*
• Environmental viewing area gives a close-up view of manatees and other wildlife during the winter months. Limited parking is available; see signage. It is west of the Vero Beach Municipal Power Plant on Indian River Boulevard, near the 17th Street Bridge, in Vero Beach.

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) 231-0707*

BARS AND CLUBS

- **Capt. Hiram's Resort**, 1580 U.S. 1, Sebastian. *For a look at the full entertainment lineup, visit www.hirams.com. (772) 589-4345*
- **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.**
- **J.J. Manning's Irish Pub**, Wednesday night, wine and bingo night at 7 p.m.; Thursday, pub quiz night at 7 p.m. 740 S. Fleming St., Sebastian. (772) 589-1238. www.jjmanningirishpub.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: Bluegrass jam every Thursday night from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Call for other entertainment schedules. (772) 571-8622.
- **Riverside Cafe**, 1 Beachland Blvd., Vero Beach, Live entertainment. (772) 234-5550.
- **Tropical Inn Resort LGBT Brevard's Premier Gay & Lesbian Resort.** Friday's female impersonator show; \$15 includes two drinks. Seating starts at 8 p.m. Show starts at 9 p.m. Call for reservations. Saturday's Tiki Bar Poolside 2-10 p.m. Live performances and DJ JAM Masters. Sunday's, tiki bar poolside noon-10 p.m. T-dance, 4-8 p.m. Live performances and DJ JAM Master. The resort is located at 4700 Dixie Highway N.E. Palm Bay. *For more information, call (321) 951-0350.*
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