

# Hometown News

SEBASTIAN RIVER AREA

LET'S WELCOME 2014



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Friday, Dec. 27, 2013

## Need to know

### Skate in the New Year

Want to celebrate New Year's Eve but not sure what to do with the kids? Plus the kids want to have fun, too! The Skate Factory will be hosting their annual All Night Skate on New Year's Eve beginning at 7 p.m. and ending at 6 a.m. on New Year's Day. Ideal for ages 10 years old and over, the cost is just \$20 per person and includes party favors, balloon drop and \$1,000 in cash and prizes. An on-duty police officer and adult supervision is also provided, so everyone stays safe, and Mom and Dad don't have to worry about their children while they themselves celebrate.

New this year is a noon Year's Eve Skate designed for kids under 10 years old. This special skate party will be held December 31st from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The \$7 entry fee includes skate rental, hats, horns and balloon drop with prizes. "Midnight" will be celebrated at 3 p.m.

Advance tickets are not required for either New Year's party. The Skate Factory is located at 485 27th Avenue SW in Vero Beach. For more information call 772-794-3373 or visit [www.skatefactory.us](http://www.skatefactory.us).

### Snook season closes

The recreational har-

See KNOW, A2

COMPUTE THIS A6

### AD TRAPS



Be careful of advertising traps that can pop up on free sites

GARDEN NOOK B3

### PLANT TERMS



Learning some terms that will help you make good plant choices

WEEKEND WEATHER



Friday: Mostly cloudy; high: 72; low: 54; high tide: 3:19 a.m.; low tide: 9:16 a.m.  
Saturday: Partly cloudy, chance of storms; high: 70; low: 48; high tide: 4:22 a.m.; low tide: 10:17 a.m.  
Sunday: Mostly cloudy; high: 72; low: 54; high tide: 5:22 a.m.; low tide: 11:14 a.m.  
Weather courtesy of [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com)

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## Storm water master plan in the works

### Man-made lakes, paved roads could help avoid local flooding

By Jessica Creagan  
[jcreagan@hometownnewsol.com](mailto:jcreagan@hometownnewsol.com)

FELLSMERE — The future for oldest part of the city is looking a little less damp.

During the Dec. 12 Fellsmere City Council meeting, Mark Mathes, city community development director, presented several ideas to help improve drainage and decrease flooding issues in the areas of the

city that were created prior to modern drainage regulations.

The presentation was a glimpse at the early stages of the city's storm water master plan and the results of a study showing areas in the city's current drainage that could use improvement.

Prior to this year, the city hasn't had a storm water master plan, Mr. Mathes said.

Currently, ditches and canals are

the primary system for containing and moving water, but there is plenty that can be done to update and improve the storm water system, he said.

Two man-made lakes to the north and the south of the city could be one of those improvements, one of which would be on a 40-acre parcel

the city already owns. The second lake is envisioned on a privately owned 5-acre property, but See WATER, A2

086190



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## Auto tax 'rollback' could come in 2014

By Jessica Creagan

[jcreagan@hometownnewsol.com](mailto:jcreagan@hometownnewsol.com)

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Gov. Rick Scott announced a plan to roll back motor vehicle taxes and fees to pre-2009 levels, and local legislators are throwing their support his way.

The governor's "It's Your Money Tax Cut Agenda" includes a proposal to give taxpayers some relief by dropping car registration costs from about \$71 to \$46 next September.

Sen. Joe Negron, R-Stuart, whose district covers some of Indian River County, has been vocal supporter and sponsor of the proposed legislation.

"I was proud to stand with Governor Scott today as he announced his plan to put more money back into Floridians' pocketbooks," Sen. Negron said in a press release on Dec. 12.

"Reducing auto tag fees is a smart way to continue to move Florida forward," he said.

Indian River County Tax Collector Carole Jean Jordan said the amount of roll back could go through some changes as it moves through the state legislature, but she expects some changes to the fees will make it to the floor for a vote in the upcoming legislative session.

"Senator Negron has made this a part of his agenda and I think he's been able to work with the governor on this," Mrs. Jordan said.

Car tag registration and other automobile-related fees increased dramatically in 2009, so much so that

prior to the implementation of the fees, staff from the tax collector's office were calling people who had to renew and letting them know they could renew for two years at the old price and save money, Mrs. Jordan said.

"And we were able to save people money, but then, two years later, they were faced with the big fees," she said.

In 2009, the cost of registering a motor vehicle in Florida increased by an average of 54 percent, a press release from the governor's office said.

Combined with increases in driver license fees and various service charges, the increases translated to state revenues of more than \$1 billion, which were directed primarily to general revenue, the release said.

"This has never been government's money, it's your money, and I look forward to working with the Florida legislature to return it back to you," Gov. Scott said in a press release.

By reducing the rates, Gov. Scott hopes to put money back in the pockets of Floridians so they can invest in their own futures, something that State Rep. Debbie Mayfield, R-Vero Beach favors.

"I support the proposal because it will provide some relief to Floridians and roll back a temporary measure that was needed during the peak of the great recession," Rep. Mayfield said in an email.

"Now that our budget outlook has improved we should return this money to the taxpayer," she said.

## Knocking em' down



Left: Taylor Wickham, 9, reacts to knocking down five pins.

Below:

From left, Tatiana Wallace, Faith Bohannon, 11 and Taylor Wickham, 9, made short work of their pizza slices.

See more photos

page A7.

Cliff Partlow  
staff photographer



## Taking a moment to look back on the year

### Revisit headlines from 2013

By Jessica Creagan

[jcreagan@hometownnewsol.com](mailto:jcreagan@hometownnewsol.com)

based moniker, the baseball fields and sports complex on which major league baseball legends played and lived during spring training, have a familiar name.

"Historic Dodgertown — Vero Beach, Florida" is the official name of the state-of-the-art sports complex formerly used by the Brooklyn, then Los Angeles Dodgers for 60 years of spring training.

The 79-acre property and sports complex is leased until 2019 to an organization captained by Peter O'Malley, former Los Angeles Dodgers presi-

dent.

Mr. O'Malley worked for several years to gain legal permissions to use the iconic name "Dodgertown" at the Vero Beach facility.

Elephants arrive in Fellsmere

In May, a family of four African elephants, two adult females and two juvenile males, moved into the National Elephant Center in Fellsmere.

More than 70 Association of Zoos and Aquariums-accredited zoos have banded together to create the National Elephant Center to provide a new

model for elephant care and management. The organization's goal is to improve the elephant population's long-term viability and welfare.

The center will not be open to the public, but will offer training for both elephants and elephant keepers, and occasionally be open to education programs to raise awareness about elephants and the work at the center, bringing attention to Fellsmere to a new audience for a different, and very large, reason.

Adult-teen sex case garners national attention

A sex case involving an 18-year-old and a 14-year-old in Sebastian caught the attention of national news.

The family of Kaitlyn Hunt, then 18, launched a campaign in early 2013 to get the state to drop the charges against Ms. Hunt, saying the reason the 14-year-old girl's family was pressing charges was because they didn't approve of a same-sex relationship.

The courts did not agree. The first round of plea deals was not accept-

See TOP, A3

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# Assistance-dog training facility coming next year

**By Jessica Creagan**  
jcreagan@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH — The Dogs For Life assistance dog training program will have a place to call home next year, thanks to a \$350,000 fundraising capital goal that was reached this winter after several years of campaigning.

The nonprofit organization dedicated to improving quality of life for people and dogs through training mobility and hearing assistance dogs and service dogs for veterans will celebrate their fundraising feat with a ground breaking

ceremony on the property at 11a.m. on Jan. 11.

The nonprofit owns about 4 acres of land at the corner of 16th Avenue and 12th Street, and the facility will be constructed on that site, which also has a membership-only off-leash dog park.

"We're a very small organization compared to the area we live in and we just couldn't pull it off by ourselves, but we had an anonymous \$100,000 matching grant that really helped us," said Shelly Ferger, CEO and founder of Dogs For Life.

Since 2002, nearly 100 dogs

have received training as mobility or hearing assistance dogs through the Dogs For Life training program, Ms. Ferger said.

Hearing dogs are trained to alert their companion of a door knock, a ringing telephone or even smoke alarms.

Mobility assistance dogs are taught to help their companions by retrieving fallen objects, acting as a guide, or help with anything that could be daunting to a person with physical challenges.

Since there hasn't been a building on the property, the dog training has been taking place outdoors, when the weather permits, or in the dog's home, Ms. Ferger said.

"With the building, we will be able to train year round, and we will be able to train dogs before they go into homes," she said.

Kathi Schumann donated a substantial gift to help Dogs For Life with operations and start-up costs of the assistance dog training and administrative Center, a press release said.

Mrs. Schumann has also joined the nonprofit's board of directors to offer critical help

in expanding the veteran dog training program, the release said.

One of the newest Dogs For Life training programs is equipping dogs for veterans with both physical challenges and post-traumatic stress disorder.

"It's estimated that 80,000 veterans will retire to Florida in the next two years. These are young men and women and they aren't wanting medication, wheelchairs and crutches, they want dogs," Ms. Ferger said.

Dogs trained to assist veterans perform tasks such as creating a barrier between their companion and other people if the veteran becomes nervous, looking both ways before entering a room and protecting their companion from behind, according to the Dogs For Life website.

"I receive calls from all over the country wanting to know if we have pre-trained dogs, and with this facility, we can hopefully expand our dog training program so we have dogs ready to go when they are needed," Ms. Ferger said.

The nonprofit is fully accredited by Assistance Dogs



Vero Beach resident Harry Taylor watches as Dixie, his 10-month-old Dalmatian hound mix, tries to climb a tree to get to a squirrel in the Dogs For Life Off-leash Park in March.

File photo

International, a coalition of not-for-profit organizations that train and place assistance dogs.

The Dogs For Life off-leash dog park is located at 1230

16th Ave., Vero Beach.

For more information about training programs by Dogs For Life or to make a donation, call Ms. Ferger at (772) 567-8969 or visit www.dogsforlifevb.org.

## Water

From page A1

the company that owns it

has indicated they could work with the city to put a small lake on it, Mr. Mathes said.

Not only would the lakes

hold water diverted from ditches, but it would also serve as a wetlands area and a recreational spot for the public.

Paving roads and improving alleyways or right-of-ways in the back portions of properties platted for utility use are two other solutions for rerouting rain water and decreasing flooding opportunities.

"Paving our dirt roads would reduce particles in the water and improve drainage for relief from heavy rain events," Mr. Mathes said in an interview.

Many city alleyways are undeveloped, but the ditches there would be widened and improved for recreational use, he said.

"These east-west roads, really just paper rights-of-way, are an overgrown, ugly part of the city with no value," Mr. Mathes said.

However, the city will definitely be looking at grants to see if help for funding these projects can be found, he said.

and help with drainage, he said.

Long, heavy rainfalls in a concentrated area could still result in some flooding, but having an improved storm water system will decrease the effect of the heavy rains, Mr. Mathes said.

The capital projects for the storm water master plan will definitely be costly, and nothing is budgeted for or fully planned out as of yet. The projects will have to be tackled with a big picture mentality, not a short-term quick fix.

The storm water funds are minimal as the city's storm water utility is still in its infancy, so it may be some time before these projects have a start date, Mr. Mathes said.

For more information about upcoming city meetings or to view agendas, visit www.cityoffellsmere.org.

## Know

From page A1

closed through Jan. 31, 2014, reopening to harvest Feb. 1. Snook can continue to be caught and released during the closed season.

Gulf state and federal waters, including Monroe County and Everglades

See KNOW, A4

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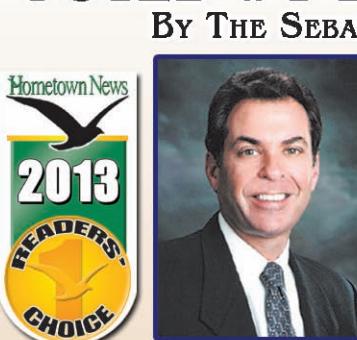
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**Top**

From page A1

ed by Ms. Hunt, and she was charged with two felonies of lewd and lascivious battery on a child between 12 and 16.

As the investigation continued, evidence was presented that Ms. Hunt violated a court-issued no-contact order with the 14-year-old and she was taken back to jail and was held without bond.

In October, Ms. Hunt accepted a plea deal from that included jail time until Dec. 20, probation, community control, community service and her charges were downgraded to two counts of battery, two counts of interference with child custody and contributing to the dependency of a child.

With compliance to the terms in the plea agreement, Ms. Hunt will not have any felony convictions, will not have to register as a sex offender and will have the opportunity to petition the court to seal or expunge this case.

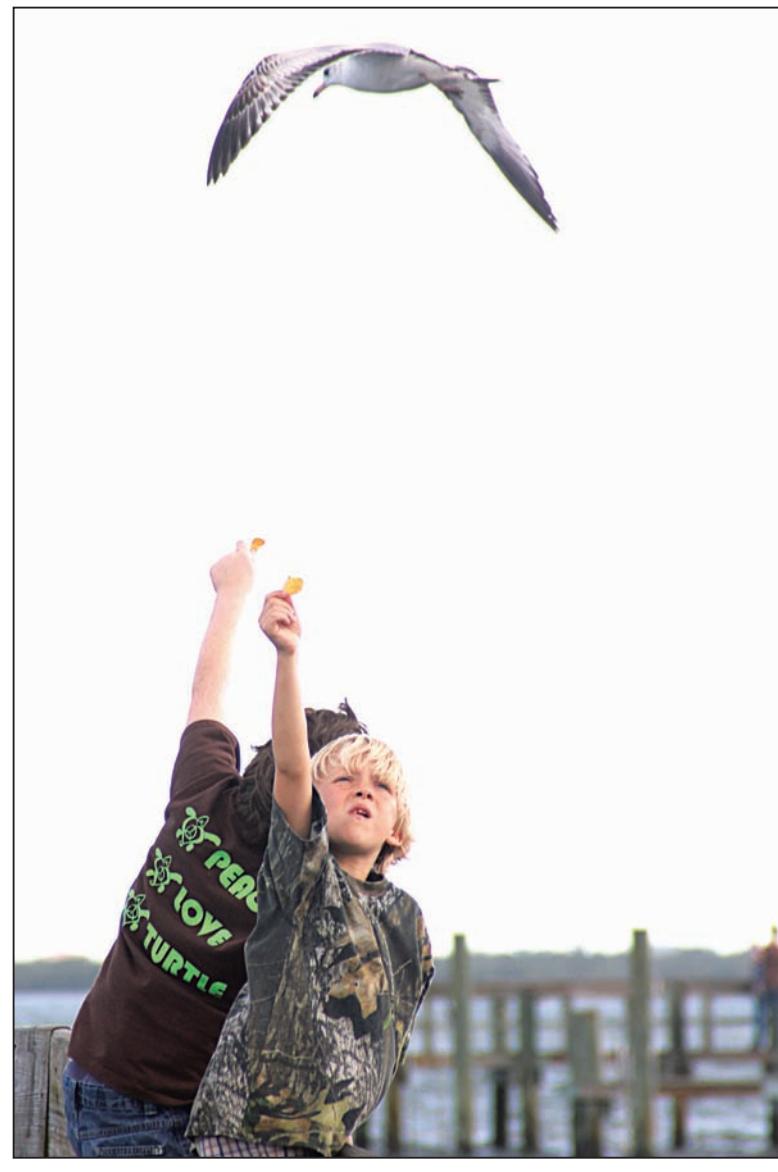
Lagoon health concerns lead to strict fertilizer regulations

A new county-wide fertilizer ordinance nixes any use of fertilizer with phosphorous and calls for a halt of fertilizer with nitrogen from June through September, the historical rainy season. The ordinance does not exempt professional fertilizers, a reversal of a previous rule on the county books.

Fines for violations of the ordinance were also established.

The health of the lagoon is a hot topic, even outside of election season, and the fertilizer ordinance by county, which has also been adopted by municipalities for uniformity, is a result of people wanting to take an active part in helping the lagoon.

Acres of sea grasses are

**A year in photos**

Aidan O'Brien and Cody Berni of Sebastian try and coax a seagull to a corn chip on the docks at Riverview Park during the Sebastian River Fine Art & Music Festival in January. The boys' families manned food tent to help the Sebastian Soccer Association raise money to help with field maintenance and purchase new equipment and uniforms. For more information, go to [sebastiansoccer.com](http://sebastiansoccer.com).

**Cliff Partlow**  
staff photographer

dead or dying and the lack of food sources is taking a toll on the wildlife, experts have said.

The Indian River County commissioners also agreed that the fertilizer with the nitrogen in it must contain slow-release nitrogen, workers in landscaping and lawn-care must take a state training course in fertilizers and be licensed and does not allow fertilizer to be placed within 10-feet of waterways.

Vero Beach Air Show returns  
After an 18-year hiatus, the Vero Beach Air Show

returned to the Vero Beach Municipal Airport, bringing high-flying aerobatic pilots, a squadron of vintage World War II aircraft, pyrotechnics and even truck with a jet engine.

The two-day event was brought back through the collaborated efforts of the Exchange Clubs of Vero Beach, Indian River and the Treasure Coast, as well as the Veterans Council of Indian River County. Funds raised at the two-day event went to the four organizations to be distributed for the prevention of child abuse and to assist local veterans.

Another air show put on by the same organizations is already scheduled for May 10-11 and will feature the U.S. Navy F/A-18 flight demonstration team, "The Blue Angels."

Florida Tech challenge course opens

In April, U.S. Army ROTC students from Florida Tech in Melbourne started training on a new, state-of-the-art challenge course in Fellsmere.

The approximately 18-acre course is a joint partnership venture between the city of Fellsmere and

See TOP, A4

**A look back at 2013**

**Cliff Partlow/staff photographer**

The Elephants arrived at the National Elephant Center in Fellsmere in May. 'Thandi,' one of two adult females, showed her maternal instinct to protect the young males with a short, quick charge at the group, letting us know we were too close.



**Cliff Partlow/staff photographer**

Wiley Robinson, of Melbourne Beach, shows his surfing skills as he spins over the top of a wave at Sebastian Inlet State Park Friday, Aug. 23.

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**Students collect stockings for soldiers**

For Hometown News  
[NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com](mailto:NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com)

TREASURE COAST — Indian River State College Criminal Justice students collected hundreds of "Stockings to Soldiers" donations for several weeks to help support the active military serving

abroad during the holidays.

The concept was to provide individuals, especially those who receive nothing during the holidays, with a Christmas stocking containing a snack, a small game, toiletries, and a Christmas card with the option of providing the

name and address of the person donating.

The students placed collection boxes at several locations throughout South Florida and were entirely responsible for collecting and organizing the items. The students also made their own generous contributions with

cases of soups, noodles, crackers and other snack items.

With the help of monetary donations, the "Stockings to Soldiers" items will be shipped in time for the holidays.

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**Program announces 'no waiting list' for child care assistance**

For Hometown News  
[NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com](mailto:NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com)

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — For many working families in Indian River County, child care is one of the highest costs in the household budget. Although child care is a necessity that enables parents to work, the high price of child care is a financial burden that can force many families to compromise on the quality of their child care program.

Many families don't realize that The Early Learning Coalition of Indian River, Martin and Okeechobee counties provides eligible

families with financial assistance toward early childhood services. In the past, there have been as many as 800 children on a waiting list to receive this financial assistance in Indian River County.

At this time, there is no waiting list, and ELC is encouraging Indian River County families who need help paying for child care to apply now for assistance.

"This is the first time in recent memory that the ELC has not had a waiting list and is able to offer eligible Indian River County applicants a shortened time period to receive childcare assis-

tance," said Jacki Jackson, ELC CEO/executive director.

"We were able to use existing funds to offer child care assistance to 300 children that had been on our current waiting list and still have additional funding available. We are excited to be in a position, especially at this time of year, where we can quickly help families provide their children with these early learning opportunities."

This assistance is available through the School Readiness program and is an income eligible program that requires parents to be

working or enrolled in school at least 20 hours per week.

Those who meet the requirements can apply online at <http://www.elcirmo.org/p/16/school-readiness>, by calling (877) 220-1223, Ext. 260 or in person at 2459 St. Lucie Avenue in Vero Beach, Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information about the Early Learning Coalition and its programs that give children a competitive start in life, visit <http://www.elcirmo.org>.

**We're all winners here**

Jody Houston, of Fellsmere Elementary School gets a hug from Misael Marceleno, 10, one of her fourth-grade students, after she was named the 2014 Teacher of the Year in February.

Cliff Partlow  
staff photographer

Lt. Maureen McDevit, a 25-year-veteran paramedic firefighter, helps retrieve a rescue dummy in a Stokes-basket from the rocks on north jetty of Sebastian



Cliff Partlow  
staff photographer

**Top**

From page A3

Florida Tech and the school's Army ROTC program. The project is part of a long-range 100-acre eco-tourism effort the city planned.

At certain times of the year, the elevated ropes courses, log climbs, alpine towers, cargo nets, vertical walls, sand traps, a 300-foot zip line and other course structures will be available for public use under supervision by challenge-course trained representatives from the school.

Adult arcades close, reopen

State legislators approved a bill this year that shut down many adult arcades but several in Indian River County have adjusted their business model and are back in business.

Instead of providing digital slot-machine style arcade games and other games where players can win prizes of gift cards or cash, establishments have converted their games to be for entertainment only, with no payouts, which are not a violation of the legislation, local law enforcement said.

Physical prizes are still given at some arcades, such as golf clubs, fans, coffee makers, but the establishments have taken a hit to their businesses. Legislators may bring up the issue in future sessions to clarify the restrictions.

To read past articles in their entirety, visit [www.myhometown-news.net](http://www.myhometown-news.net).

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|---|---|--|

**Know**

From page A2

National Park closed Dec. 1 and will reopen to harvest March 1, 2014.

This and other regular season closures are designed to help protect the species during vulnerable times such as cold weather.

Visit [MyFWC.com/Fishing](http://MyFWC.com/Fishing) and click on "Saltwater Fishing" and "Recreation-Related Regulations" for more information on snook.

**Memberships being accepted**

New members are being accepted into the Vero Beach Christian Business Association. Dues invest-

ment is \$150 for one year, with most of the dollars being donated to local Christian nonprofits. There is also an "Associate" member category for \$100, designed for those Christian businesspeople and retirees who don't necessarily have a business affiliation with a Christian-owned business.

Founded as a nonprofit in 2004, the Vero Beach Christian Business Association is an equipping ministry for Christian business leaders. They hold monthly luncheons which are open to members and nonmembers alike.

For more information email the VBCBA board at [info@vbcba.org](mailto:info@vbcba.org) or visit [www.vbcba.org](http://www.vbcba.org).

## 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 Dec. 11 to Dec. 17, 2013

### Vero Beach Police Department

• Jacob Lynn Bicht, 21, 945 17th Lane Southwest, Vero Beach, was charged with aggravated assault.

### Indian River County Sheriff's Office

• Daniel Jason Bullins, 35, 1972 Big Cypress St., Palm Bay, was charged with violation of probation. He was on probation for two counts of possession of controlled substances without prescriptions.

• Roberto Elman Diaz, 49, 2426 First St. S.W., Vero Beach, was charged with grand theft of a motor vehicle.

• Sotirios Hantzos, 27, 125 Whippoorwill Drive, Palm Coast, was charged with violation of probation. He was on probation for possession of a controlled substance.

• Angenetta Shonta Wayne, 47, 105 Beauford Drive, Fort Pierce, was charged with burglary, poss-

sion of cocaine, tampering with or destroying evidence and misdemeanor charges of criminal mischief and possession of drug paraphernalia.

• Michael Vincent Novakowski, 26, 6216 Sixth Place, Vero Beach, was charged with grand theft and a misdemeanor charge of driving while license suspended with knowledge.

• Jeanine Renee Rivera, 51, 6147 97th St., Sebastian, was charged with possession of marijuana, possession of marijuana with intent to sell and a misdemeanor charge of violation of probation. She was on probation for driving under the influence and refusal to submit to testing.

• Rory Cassidy Spence, 44, 4141 16th St., Apt. 1502, Vero Beach, was charged with possession of hydrocodone.

• Clint Brandon Story, 31, 3025 10th Parkway, Vero Beach, was charged with violation of probation. He was on probation for possession of cannabis.

• Mark George Yates, 41, Five Isabella Ave., Sebastian, was charged with possession of a controlled substance and misdemeanor charges of no Florida driver license and giving a false name while detained.

• William Gonzalez, 25, 2120 Dawson Court, St. Cloud, was charged with third-degree grand theft and burglary of an occupied dwelling.

• Walter Edward Hope, 54, 4055 41st Ave., Apt. IRCJ, Vero Beach, was charged with violation of probation. He was on probation for sexual battery.

• Tiewon Saheed Miller, 23, 4775 38th Circle, Vero Beach, was charged with third-degree grand theft, fraudulent use of a credit card and six counts of criminal use of personal identification information.

• Rashard Deshaun Williams, 22, 2421 Seventh Court S.W., Vero Beach, was charged with grand theft of an automobile and misdemeanor charges of theft and driving while license suspended with knowledge.

• Jamie Artavian Brown, 27, 4055 41st Ave., Vero Beach, was charged with domestic violence aggravated battery and false imprisonment.

• Nicole Lynn Morgan, 35, 72 Highland Court, Indialantic, was charged with driving while license suspended, habitual offender.

• Lester E. Sumner, 49, 8425 102nd Ave., Vero Beach, was charged with violation of probation. He was on probation for possession of cocaine.

• Joshua Clint Walker, 32, 510 61st Ave., Vero Beach, was charged with robbery.

• Jorin Dale Brow, 27, 6803 Citrus Park, Apt. 303, Lake Wood Park, was charged with dealing in stolen property and misdemeanor charges of resisting a merchant

and shoplifting/retail theft.

• Mary Caprice Mullen, 50, 2102 14th Place, Vero Beach, was charged with possession of hydrocodone and a misdemeanor charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• Marlon Carlynton Clarke, 36, 3071 Northwest 43 St., Apt. 8, Lauderdale Lakes, was charged with driving while license suspended, habitual offender.

• Kimberly Lay McMath, 50, 14755 95th St., Fellsmere, was charged with second-degree grand theft.

• Siovhan Marie McMILLER, 30, 3950 Lincoln Drive, Vero Beach, was charged with violation of probation. She was on probation for felony petit theft.

• Jay Allen Robbins, 36, 1228 24th St., Lot 38, Vero Beach, was charged with possession of child pornography and sexual battery of a child younger than 12, perpetrator 18 or older.

• Frances Peige Ball, 31, 5737 38th St., Vero Beach, was charged with violation of probation. She was on probation for possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine.

• Phillip Leroy Bechard, 19, 822 Majestic Ave., Sebastian, was charged with violation of probation. He was on probation for giving false ownership or identification information to a secondhand dealer and possession of cannabis, ecstasy and alprazolam.

• Ryan John McCarron, 28, 1934 23rd Ave., Apt. 2, Vero Beach, was charged with resisting arrest with violence, corruption by threat, burglary, attempted burglary of an

occupied dwelling, aggravated battery on a person older than 65 and misdemeanor charges of criminal mischief, battery, resisting arrest without violence, driving under the influence and resisting arrest without violence.

• Patrick Richard Reilly, 23, 1727 State Road A1A, Apt. 203, Vero Beach, was charged with possession of marijuana with intent to sell and a misdemeanor charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• Edward Joseph Watson, 51, 2161 S.W. Airoso Blvd, Port St. Lucie, was charged with felony petit theft.

15th Lane, Vero Beach, was charged with possession of mariju-

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# VIEWPOINT

FRIDAY, DEC. 27, 2013 • HOMETOWN NEWS • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSOL.COM

## Be careful of the advertisement trap

A couple of weeks ago we ran my article on going to [www.speedtest.net](http://www.speedtest.net) to check the speed of your internet connection.

Now, *speedtest.net* has been around for a long time and they do have a solid reputation for giving unbiased results to people who visit the site to check their internet speed but there is one fly in the ointment that people need to watch out for – advertisements.

Like many sites out there that provide a free service, they make enough money to stay online by running advertisements.

People often ask me how services like SpeedTest.net can offer their service for free and most of the time they do it with ads that line the top, bottom and sides of their website. Just about every site out there from *Yahoo.com* to Facebook use advertisements to fund their business so the presence of ads on a website comes as no surprise to me. After a while you learn to tune them out and that's an important skill to acquire. Just like when you watch TV you automatically tune out the advertisements, when you are surfing the web you have to learn to tune out the ads that are a constant companion every step of the way.

Many of the websites that run banner ads often have many ads loaded up in a rotation. That means that each time you visit the site you may see a different ad than you saw the last time that you visited the site.

Unfortunately there are unscrupulous advertisers out on the internet that use trickery to lure unsuspecting people into clicking their ad by disguising their ads to look like they are a legitimate part of the website that the ad is hosted on. And this is the pitfall that some readers emailed and called to complain about.

You see, *SpeedTest.net* does run ads at the top, bottom and sides of their page. The complaints that I got were from readers who had visited the site and were tricked by the clever wording and design of one of the banner ads in the rotation. The ad in question used the same color



**COMPUTE THIS**  
SEAN MCCARTHY

background as the SpeedTest page and added a button that said something like "Before you begin the test, click here to speed up your computer." Clicking the button whisks the unsuspecting visitor away from the SpeedTest site and then convinces the user to install some system optimization crap that has nothing to do with SpeedTest.

And SpeedTest.net isn't the only site that has had this form of hijacking forced upon its users. I've seen similar ads at Download.com where you go to download a particular piece of software and there are ads all over the place that say "Download Now" in the hopes that people will click the ad thinking that the ad is the correct button to complete their download. It's enough to drive you nuts!

So what lesson can we take away from this? Well the first thing I'd like to point out is that when I write a column like the one I wrote about SpeedTest.net I give specific instructions. In that column I wrote "...go to [www.speedtest.net](http://www.speedtest.net) and click the 'begin test' button." I didn't write speedtest.com, I didn't write "click the 'click here to speed up your computer' button" and I certainly did not instruct anyone to download and install anything. It's important to stay on task and if something deviates from instructions slow down for a second and look for the button that I did say to click.

If you ever have any trouble following the instructions in one of my columns, stop and give me a call. My number is at the end of every column and I'll be happy to help. I know the internet can be a tricky place especially if you're not computer savvy.

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

## A home for the piggies



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer

The Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County needs you help placing three rescued Vietnamese pot-bellied pigs. These three have been together practically since birth and need to be adopted together. Ilka Daniels, director of protective services, offers from left, Sweet Pea, Samson and Squealy a treat. *For more information, call (772) 388-3331 ext. 10.*

## Rants & Raves

### Got something to say?

Call the Hometown Rants & Raves line at

**(772) 465-5504**

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

you feel superior?

5. Are you already living in fear? Do parents unconsciously put fear in their children?
6. In the end, lies and gossip can ruin a whole community.

Do your part and stop rumors before they start and ruin your community or put you in fear unnecessarily. Find the truth, it's easy.

Plato said, "Don't commit haphazard talk. Speak only the truth."

If you don't really know, all you have is your imagination. So, you might as well jump over the cliff. You'll be happier without judgment. Try it. Enjoy healing speech for the holidays. You are no better than anyone else. Get used to it. Otherwise, start running. Anyone can make up a lie about you, too.

### Congestion is too much

I've been living in Vero Beach close to 30 years. The congestion is getting too much. Why can't something be done? There are no grocery stores on route 60 near the I-95 exit and it's too crowded to get to the one near Oslo and 58th. What are those who live in the trailer parks supposed to do?

### Remove the homeless

City officials in Fort Pierce need to do something about the quality of life in the city. There are boarding houses off U.S. 1, and homeless people living everywhere. They are panhandling and lining the streets in downtown Fort Pierce. We need to move them near the I-95 exit.

### Self-centered Americans

Americans never cease to amaze me. They are self-centered and conceited. They think they are the smartest on earth. They think they have invented everything. Everyone should have a corrupt government like us and have thieving businessmen like us. What can you expect from a polyglot nation that's made up of misfits?

Unlike most industrial nations, Americans lack class and culture. We are like a herd of wild animals. We stole everything from the Indians and the Mexicans, but have claimed this land as ours.

### Legal aliens have it easy

You want free health care, public schooling, and in-state tuition, welfare and driver licenses for illegal aliens all in hope of votes and what you see as loyal minions.

Did it ever occur to you and some Republicans that you will all be voted out?

Wake up. They already have their own people ready to step in.

I know how hard you fight for felons and illegal aliens to vote, just about as hard as you try to block our brave soldier's votes. At least some felons are legal citizens.

What part of illegal is so hard to understand?

Crossing our borders is just the first law that is broken. I consider it invading a sovereign country. Driving and holding a license is a privilege. I know a few people that have been jailed for losing this privilege. What about the issue of identity theft and giving out false social security numbers?

Again, American citizens are jailed for this crime. My daughters could not cross lines to attend public schools, yet illegal aliens are welcomed with open arms. My children could not travel to an out of state school and expect to get in-state tuition, yet we give them to illegal aliens not to mention every form of public aid and top priority for scholarships.

There is absolutely no respect for this country. Now, the Mexican flag is flown over ours. They have the right to be patriotic to a country they fled, in our homeland; yet, we have to fight to be patriotic in our own country.

Enough is enough; I'd move my family to Mexico when it finally empties out, but guess what, you can never become a full citizen there. Funny, their southern border is protected by the military.

### Discrimination against single people?

A local golf course charges a married couple \$1,203 for an annual membership but they charge single people \$1,792. Why are they charging them \$500 more? Why do they discriminate against single people? That's not right.

### Leave dogs home

I recently went to an art show and was surprised by the number of dogs present. Dogs don't know a thing about art. I didn't go there to see and hear dogs. I went to view art. I don't understand why some people feel it necessary to bring one, two and three dogs to those types of events. I have a dog, and I wouldn't bring him to an art show. Some dog owners are so inconsiderate.

### Facing childhood obesity

I worry about the children who are overweight. I think that this attention and measurement is detrimental. It will hold children up to the ridicule of their peers.

Yes, tell the schools to have healthy choices of fruits and veggies. Yes, get rid of the vending machines. Yes, get back to two or three recesses, with one being a structured exercise class, per day. Yes, have health classes explaining the value of healthy eating and daily exercise.

No, do not measure a child's body fat and no do not send a form home to the parent to tell them their child is overweight. Come on, use some common sense. Why hurt a child, emotionally, in a quest for social engineering?

### Clean up after your pup

The park walk is a dog's delight. Trees, birds, squirrels and you. What more could he want?

How about when he does the do? Do you grab a bag and pick up the pooh before it gets on my shoe?

There's more to being a good owner and my neighbor than puppy kisses, playing ball and pats on the head.

### Put an end to gossip

I'm so sorry I'm stuck here with you. I'm talking about the 85 percent of the population who likes to spread rumors and lies someone else made up.

Yes, people make up lies to suit their needs. It sometimes seems all people have is to talk poorly about others.

Judging and gossiping is used to divide, not unite. Whenever you find (or think you find) fault in others through being self-righteous, it is often based on fear, ignorance and sometimes hatred. Before spreading gossip:

1. Wonder if it's really true or something embellished. Never take hearsay as truth and never pass it along.
2. How do you know if it is or isn't true? Do you know where it started? Does it seem too unreal to be true? If so, it probably is false.
3. Who started it? Was their perception and interpretation correct or something imagined?
4. If you spread lies and degrade others does this make

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## Hometown News

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One of the top 3 in America every year since 2003.

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VERO BEACH

# College-museum collaboration earns award

Arts and science is a winning combination

**By Jessica Creagan**  
jcreagan@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY—The Vero Beach Museum of Art and Indian River State College were recognized for their partnership and collaboration in a dual-enrollment program project this month.

A stroll in the art museum's galleries through Jan. 5 will reveal breathtaking photographs from around the world in "Simply Beautiful: Photographs from National Geographic," and right next to it are other examples of beauty, and these are much closer to home.

In a project dubbed "From STEM to STEAM: Putting Arts in STEM," the museum and Indian River County high school students dual-enrolled at Indian River State College, have been creating art projects, and the fall 2013 project features a digital photo display of the Indian River Lagoon.

The project emphasizes the lagoon and promotes lagoon awareness, said Shanti Sanchez, school and youth programs manager for the museum.

The collaboration with the college has been going on since at least the fall of 2012 and has received attention from a state organization that

promotes campus-community partnerships, Florida Campus Compact.

Education experts promote science, technology engineering and math, or STEM, frequently, but the truth is, arts programs are just as significant in the well-rounded education of students, Ms. Sanchez said.

Developing creativity in students or showing students how they can be creative is valuable because it can show them how they can share their knowledge and skills in unique ways, she said.

The 15 students that participated in the project researched and learned about the local properties owned and preserved by the Indian River Land Trust, as well as the Indian River Lagoon, and the challenges the area faces because of the loss of sea grasses.

In all, the project really connected art, math and science, as well as community service, Ms. Sanchez said.

The project will be on display until Jan. 5, after which it will be taken down and sent to the Tallahassee offices of state legislators, along with letters written by the students about what they learned about their local environment, Ms. Sanchez said.

Previous "From STEM to



Photo courtesy of Indian River State College

Jared Brewster and Sam Mingear, Vero Beach High School and Indian River State College dual-enrollment students, display the digital photo exhibit of the Indian River Lagoon created for a joint program between the college and the Vero Beach Museum of Art. The two entities recently earned an award for campus-community collaboration for the project.

STEAM" projects include creating recycled puppets to accompany a spring 2013 exhibit "Recycled Dreams" by Pablo Cano, and a sculpture made with 600 soup cans for a fall 2012 pop art exhibit.

The cans were donated by Publix Supermarkets and

after the exhibit closed, the cans were given to a nonprofit that helps people in need.

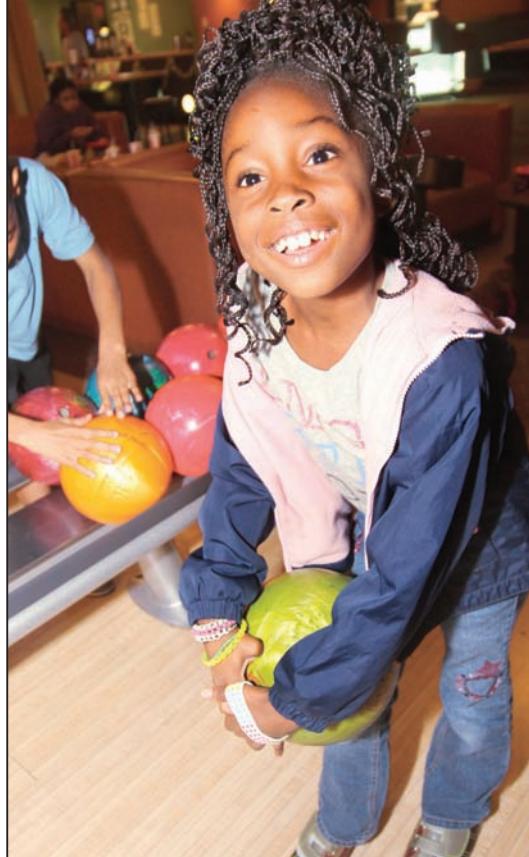
For more information about "From STEM to STEAM" collaboration or exhibits at the art museum, call (772) 231-0707 or visit [www.verobeachmuseum.org](http://www.verobeachmuseum.org).

## Rolling for a strike

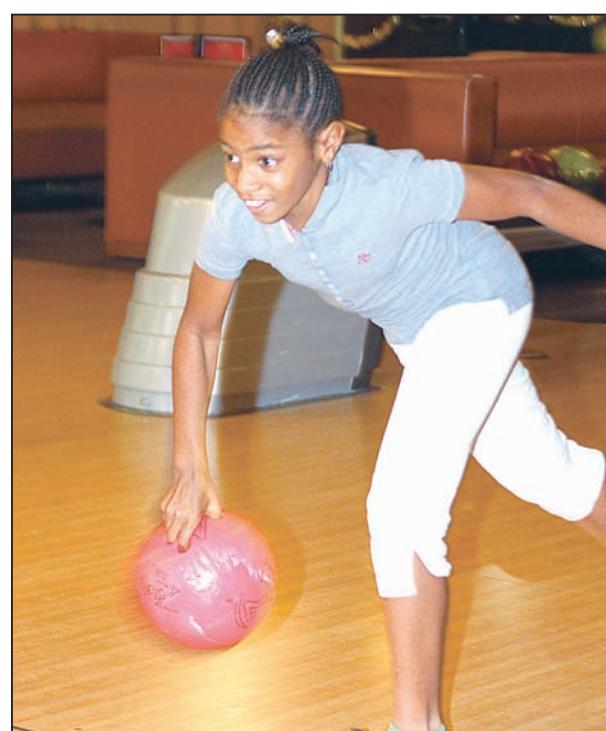


The Youth Guidance Mentoring and Activities Program held its annual holiday party over three days at Vero Bowl. The Teen Group, Karate Group and Girls Group along with volunteers, children and staff celebrated the holidays with bowling, a pizza party and some present exchanges. As of now, there are 400 children in the program and only 61 mentors. Volunteers and donations are needed more than ever.

For more information, call (772) 770-5040 or visit [youthguidanceprogram.org](http://youthguidanceprogram.org).



**Cliff Partlow/staff photographer**  
**Above:** Eight-year-old Jatalia Hammond waits to roll her ball while Marlin Thompkins, 9, gets his ball.



**Left:** Debriona Thompkins adds some underhand to her bowling form.

**Cliff Partlow  
staff photographer**

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# Dining & Entertainment

Sebastian

SECTION B • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSOL.COM • FRIDAY, DEC. 27, 2013

## Out & about

THROUGH 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](http://www.riversidetheatre.com).

FRIDAY, DEC. 27

Nikki Talley and Jason Sharp will perform at 8 p.m. at Inlet Wine and Brew, 13401 U.S. 1, Sebastian. All ages show. For more information on the duo, visit [nikkitalley.com](http://nikkitalley.com). For more information on the show, call (772) 589-4445.

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](http://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](http://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](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

THROUGH DEC. 31

'Purrr-fect show': Cat related artwork by Flametree residents and other area clay 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](http://www.flametreeclay.com).

TUESDAY, DEC. 31

'Noon Year's Eve Skate': 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Skate Factory, 485 27th Avenue S.W., Vero Beach. Meant for children under age 10. \$7 entry fee includes skate rental, hats, horns, balloon drop with prizes. "Midnight" celebrated at 3 p.m. Advance ticket not required. For more information, call (772) 794-3373 or visit [www.skatefactory.us](http://www.skatefactory.us).

All Night Skate: 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. on New Year's Day, Skate Factory, 485 27th Avenue S.W., Vero Beach. Meant for children ages 10 and over. \$20 per person includes party favors, balloon drop, chance at \$1,000 in cash and prizes. On-duty police officer and adult supervision provided. Advance ticket not required. For more information, call (772) 794-3373 or visit [www.skatefactory.us](http://www.skatefactory.us).

See OUT, B2

## Make glowing garden visit a post-Christmas treat

### Botanical garden to open on select evenings

By Jessica Creagan  
[jcreagan@hometownnewsol.com](mailto:jcreagan@hometownnewsol.com)

VERO BEACH — Soft lights shining in twilight, illuminating lush foliage, spiky palms and mammoth trees — it sounds like a fairy tale, but it's reality in Vero Beach.

The McKee Botanical

Garden is opening its doors for a few evenings before the end of the year, and the beautiful Floridian and tropical plants will be the stars of the show as some plants and garden pathways are lit up with thousands of little lights.

The "Nights of Lights" event will take place Dec. 28-30 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. As a special treat, McKee's holiday G-scale model train display will also be available for viewing.

The train display this

year features four trains running on 200 feet of track. A small group of garden volunteers spend about 200 hours updating the buildings and figures and putting the display together for visitors to enjoy, said Kelly Susino, marketing director for the garden.

"What really distinguishes our train is the level of detail. It's very impressive," she said.

The garden closes at 5 p.m. all throughout the year, and is only open at

night for three events annually, and "Night of Lights" is one of them, staff said.

"The holiday season is a busy time for many people, and the number of projects and obligations pre-holiday can be overwhelming," said Christine Hobart, executive director of the botanical garden, in a press release.

"Whether entertaining visitors or simply looking for an activity to enjoy with

See MCKEE, B4



Week of 12-20-2013

ARIES - March 21/April 20

Aries, enjoy some well-deserved time off. Life has taken on a hectic pace of late, but some much-needed time to rest, relax and recharge has finally arrived.

TAURUS - April 21/May 21

Taurus, hidden feelings come to the surface, and this will prove a pleasant surprise. Let things play out this week, and you will get some peace.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21

Gemini, your friends are up to something and they want it to remain a surprise. Keep your distance, and don't let your curiosity get the better of you.

CANCER - June 22/July 22

A temporary situation at work may alter your plans for a few days, Cancer. But don't let changes stop you from scheduling some down time with your friends.

LEO - July 23/Aug. 23

Leo, think things through before swinging into action. Run your ideas by someone close, and consider all of your options. This will ensure you make the best decision.

VIRGO - Aug. 24/Sept. 22

Your confidence about the future is a byproduct of the past, Virgo. You have learned from past mistakes and are ready to forge ahead and turn your hard work into results.

LIBRA - Sept. 23/Oct. 23

Libra, now is the time to address some relationship issues that you have been avoiding. Deal with them in a straightforward way, and you will be glad you did.

SCORPIO - Oct. 24/Nov. 22

A demanding schedule makes it impossible for you to be bored this week, Scorpio. However, if you desire a little time to decompress, you can fit it into your schedule.

See SCOPES, B2

## Finding beauty in the ordinary



Cliff Partlow/staff photographer

Jimmy Allen, a member of the Sebastian Craft Club, shows off his landscape wheels made of antique glass, plates, cups and bicycle rims during the club's show and sale Saturday, Dec. 7 in Riverview Park.

## Music fills the air with park series

For Hometown News  
[NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com](mailto:NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com)

SEASTIAN — "Concerts in the Park" is back for its 15th year! Come out and enjoy an evening on the Indian River Lagoon at Riverview Park in Sebastian from 5:30-8 p.m. as we showcase some of the area's local bands!

From Bluegrass and Oldies, to Rock and Jazz,

there's certainly something for everyone's musi-

cal taste! There will be food and refreshments for sale by New York Nick's Hot Dogs, Bluebird Concession, Walter's Fun Foods, Lacarde Ice Cream; and the Lions Club of Sebastian will be selling popcorn! During intermission, the crowd will have a chance to win giveaways from the local business community. Bring your lawn chair and blanket (and your appetite), and enjoy the music and

river breezes! These concerts are free and fun for the entire family.

"Concerts in the Park" series is a partnership with the Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce and the City of Sebastian. The concert series is Sponsored by: FPL, Sebastian River Medical Center, Bay Street Pharmacy, Waste Management, Oculina Bank, and RE/MAX Crown Realty.

Concert Series line up

for 2014:

Jan. 10—St. John's Wood (British Rock)

Feb. 7—Professor Pen-

nygoode's Mighty Flea

Circus (Swing, 50s Rocka-

billy, Jumpy Blues)

Feb. 21—Porchdogs

(Louisiana Cajun, Zyde-

co, Southern Rock, Blue-

grass, Classic Rock)

March 7—SRHS Jazz

Ensemble and Steel Drum

Band (Jazz)

March 28—Bobby Owen

Concert Series line up

See PARK, B5

## Helping to make the holidays brighter



Ms. Debra Barnes' first grade class, at Fellsmere Elementary School, made special angel ornaments for the Indian River Habitat Home Center ReStore's HabiTree to help make sure Habitat homeowner children will have a happy Christmas. Habitat Family Services staff member Debbie Meeker and volunteer Colleen Audette worked with first grade teacher Debra Barnes on the annual project, and the children produced a tree full of unique ornaments as they learned about sharing and helping others.

Photo courtesy of Habitat for Humanity

## DINING &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

**Theme for 2014 EcoFest announced**

**For Hometown News**  
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

SEBASTIAN — Go Native!, a celebration of all things native to Florida, will be the theme of the Environmental Learning Center's 2014 EcoFest.

The announcement was made this week by co-chairs Pat Casselberry and Maureen Kane. The 18th annual Open House, to be held on Sunday, March 2, 2014, will feature native plants, animals, people, and history, in the form of

exhibits, crafts, games and music.

As always, there will be activities appealing to all ages. Crafts booths will emphasize recycling and re-using materials and will feature native plants and animals, particularly those

that are vanishing from the state.

Admission is free, and free parking is available using shuttle service provided from satellite locations nearby. Music will once again be provided by everyone's favorites, The

River Rats.

The Environmental Learning Center is located north of Vero Beach off County Road 510 at the end of the Wabasso Bridge. Its 64-acre campus includes exhibit areas, native plant gardens, picnic facilities,

gift shop, and visitor center. ELC membership benefits, a list of its many field excursions, EcoVentures, including nature walks, canoe excursions, and boating adventures can be found at [www.DiscoverELC.org](http://www.DiscoverELC.org).

**Out**

From page B1

- **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 Debbie 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](http://www.theatregorounddinnertheatre.com).

**WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1**

- **"Eagles Nest Hangover Open Team Scramble"**: 8:30 a.m. shotgun start, Sebastian Golf Club. Everyone is welcome. Bring your own

foursome or be placed in one. Food, fun, prizes. Fee is \$50 by Dec. 27; \$55 after that date. Fee includes golf, traditional roast pork dinner, plus draft beer, iced tea and soda.

Bloody Mary specials available. Sign up forms available in Eagles Nest restaurant; see Theresa or bartender. For more information, visit [www.EaglesNestRestaurant.com](http://www.EaglesNestRestaurant.com)

- **First Day Hike**: 8 a.m., Sebastian Inlet State Park. Meet at the Day Use Area parking lot on Highway A1A, half-mile south of the Sebastian Inlet Bridge. Ranger-led moderate beach/inlet walk that will be two miles in length. No pets, no smoking. Bring a water bottle, comfortable walking shoes, bug spray, hat and sun protection as appropriate. Regular park entry fees apply. For more information, visit <http://www.floridastateparks.org/sebastianinlet/events.cfm>.

**THURSDAY, JAN. 2**

- **Classic Film Series**: 3 p.m., North Indian River County Library, 1001 Sebastian Blvd., Sebastian. Showing 'The Red Shoes,' a 1948 British drama starring Moira Shearer that's often found on best film

**FRIDAY, JAN. 3**

- **Art exhibition**, McKee Botanical Garden, Vero Beach, times vary. The garden presents the "J. Seward Johnson, Jr. Sculpture Exhibition," a collection of 20 life-size bronze casts depicting real people performing everyday activities. Cost: Garden admission fees apply. Website: [www.mckeegarden.org](http://www.mckeegarden.org).

**FRIDAY, JAN. 3 – APRIL 27**

- **An Evening with Neil Sedaka**, Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 8 p.m. Singer-songwriter and author Neil Sedaka will perform. Cost: \$59 or \$69 per person. Website: [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

**FRIDAY, JAN. 3**

- **Art exhibition**, McKee Botanical Garden, Vero Beach, times vary. The garden presents the "J. Seward

Johnson, Jr. Sculpture Exhibition," a collection of 20 life-

size bronze casts depicting

real people performing everyday activities. Cost: Garden

admission fees apply. Website: [www.mckeegarden.org](http://www.mckeegarden.org).

**SATURDAY, JAN. 4**

- **Craft show**, Riverview Park, Sebastian, 10 a.m. Hosted by the Craft Club of Sebastian. Rain date: Jan. 5. Cost: Free. Website: [www.sebastiancraftclub.com](http://www.sebastiancraftclub.com).

**SUNDAY, JAN. 5**

- **Art in the park**, Humiston Park, Vero Beach, 10 a.m. A monthly fine arts and crafts show by Vero Beach Art Club members. Free. Website: [www.verobeachartclub.org](http://www.verobeachartclub.org).

**TUESDAYS, JAN. 7 – FEB. 4**

- **Film studies course**, Vero Beach Museum of Art, Vero Beach, Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. or 7 p.m. Topic to be discussed is "Inside/Outside: Films from and about Cuba." \$50 for museum members, \$70 for non-members. Website: [www.verobeachmuseum.org](http://www.verobeachmuseum.org).

**THURSDAY, JAN. 9**

- The Atlantic Classical Orchestra presents "Opening Night Master Works," Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts at St. Edwards School, Vero

See OUT, B3

**Scopes**

From page B1

Once a situation has been resolved, take some time to recharge your batteries.

**AQUARIUS - Jan. 21/Feb. 18**

Sagittarius, while you may be anxious about the future, make sure you enjoy the here and now and not wish the present away too soon. New friends come into your life.

**CAPRICORN - Dec. 22/Jan. 20**

Capricorn, react swiftly to stressful situations, but do so with a clear head and conscience.

Aquarius, do your best to hold up your end of a bargain with a loved one. If you are struggling, simply ask for more time or help to ensure that everyone comes out a winner.

**PISCES - Feb. 19/March 20**

Pisces, your foremost priority is to further your position at work. Rely on your strong work ethic and attention to detail.



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**2013 READER'S CHOICE**

## Plant terms everyone can understand

With the holiday season underway, many of us will be hitting the local nurseries for new plants that will enhance your yard after the holidays have passed.

This week, I am listing some common plant terms and what they mean. This is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to plant terminology. If you have any other plant terms you would like defined in future columns, drop me a line at the e-mail address in the bottom of the article.

The first area that I will cover is some of your basic plant categories. The first and most popular group of plants is called annuals. Annuals are simply defined as plants that complete

their life cycle in a single growing season. The complete cycle from seed to the plant dying off is completed in one season. Some examples of annuals are impatiens, marigolds and begonias.

Perennial plants are another group that is very popular. Perennials are defined as plants that live for more than one growing season. There are basically two types of perennials: Plants that die off in the winter and send out new shoots in the spring and plants that live year round. Plants that live year round and grow larger each year are defined as woody perennials. Many of your most common flowering shrubs fall into this category.



**GARDEN NOOK**  
JOE ZELENAK

ry. Some common examples are Plumbago and Lirope.

If you own rose bushes, a common term that will pop up is black spot. Black spot is commonly defined as a disease of the foliage of roses that is caused by moisture. The best way to help avoid black spot is not to plant your roses in the path of your sprinklers. This will help avoid the leaves being constantly wet which is how this disease often starts. You can treat black spot by spraying with

Funginex or using liquid copper. If you prefer a natural cure, try using one teaspoon per gallon and spray on the plant in early morning before the hot sun hits the plants.

Mealy bugs are a common insect problem that affects many of our favorite ornamentals. Mealy bugs are defined as a scale-like plant-eating insect that is coated with a powdery, waxy secretion. These pests are very destructive and feed on the inner juices of the plant robbing it of needed nutrition. These pests can often be controlled with Orthene or other like insecticides.

Scale is another common problem of many ornamentals and unlike the mealy

bug, which has a cottony secretion; the residue on the leaves is usually of a harder consistency. Scale insects also have piercing-sucking mouthparts that allow them to use the sap of the plant as food. This can cause severe dieback in most plants that are infected. Scale can be very difficult to control and a systemic insecticide is the best choice.

The pH of your soil can be an important factor as to what type of plants that you might want to place in a given location. Soil pH is defined as the amount of lime (calcium) that is contained in your soil. If your soil pH is lower than 7 then you have acidic soil and plants such as Garde-

nia, Ixora and Hibiscus will do well. If your pH is higher than 7 then you have alkaline soil, which will support other plant varieties that require a lower acid content. You can test your soil pH easily with a home test kit available at many lawn and garden centers.

I hope you enjoyed this "mini seminar" and found the information useful. I plan on adding more terms of interest in future columns so stay tuned!

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

## Annual casino event taking place Jan. 24

### For Hometown News

NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — Get ready to roll the dice at the third annual Casino Magnifique to benefit SunUp ARC on Friday, Jan. 24 at the Elks Lodge, 1350 26th Street, Vero Beach.

The George E. Warren Cor-

poration is the presenting sponsor again this year. Major sponsors are Faith and Dick Coleman; Morgan, Jacoby, Thurn, Boyle and Associates; The Vero Beach Elks Lodge and Brandt's Appliance & Outdoor Kitchens; food sponsor.

Proceeds from the event will help provide services to

the special needs individuals in Indian River County.

The evening will feature professional gaming tables, silent auction items, registration for Black Jack and Texas Hold 'Em, raffles, balloon pops and music.

As everyone knows, cooking with salt blocks is the latest trend on the culinary

scene, so be prepared to give your taste buds a treat with salt block finger foods.

This year the Silent Auction not only has an exciting array of items (from jewelry to boat trips) donated by the caring business in the community, but also will have an Orlando Getaway package with passes to theme parks

and a weekend stay at Grand Lakes Resort for two.

SunUp ARC supports and empowers individuals with special needs to achieve their life goals. SunUp ARC will advocate for full acceptance of individuals with special needs as valued members of our community. SunUp Arc operates on three

campuses; two in Vero Beach and one in Sebastian, providing much needed services to more than 180 special needs individuals.

Tickets are \$50 per person. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (772) 562-6854, Ext. 225. Limited sponsorships are still available.

## Out

From page B2

Beach, 7:10 p.m. A 50-minute lecture is followed by a concert featuring the Atlantic Classical Orchestra. Cost: \$55 for adults, \$5 for students, season subscriptions available. Website: [www.atlanticclassicalorchestra.com](http://www.atlanticclassicalorchestra.com).

• **Art of Networking**, Blue Star Wine Bar, Vero Beach, 5 p.m. A networking event presented by the Cultural Council of Indian River County. Cost: To be announced. Website: [www.cultural-council.org](http://www.cultural-council.org).

• **Antique show and sale preview party**, Vero Beach Museum of Art, Vero Beach, 5:30 p.m. Opening night for the 22nd annual antiques show and sale. Admission for the preview party is \$150; tickets should be purchased by Jan. 6. For more information, visit [www.verobeachmuseum.org](http://www.verobeachmuseum.org).

FRIDAY, JAN. 10

• **Concerts in the Park**: St. John's Wood performs, 5:30-8 p.m., Riverview Park in Sebastian. This concert series features local bands playing bluegrass and oldies, rock and jazz, plus food and refreshments for sale, chances to win giveaways from local businesses, and more. Free admission, family-friendly. For more information, visit [www.sebastianchamber.com](http://www.sebastianchamber.com).

• **"Sleeping Beauty,"** Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 8 p.m. The timeless fairytale comes to life with the unparalleled art of Russian ballet. Cost: \$20 for children 12 and younger, \$45 or \$55 for adults. Website: [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

FRIDAY, JAN. 10 – SUNDAY, JAN. 12

• **Antique show and sale**, Vero Beach Museum of Art, Vero Beach. The annual antiques show and sale returns for the 22nd year. Featuring 18th and 19th century Americana including furniture, jewelry, art, glassware, porcelains, collectibles, more. General admission for the show is \$10 per person (includes unlimited show re-entry). For more information, visit [www.verobeachmuseum.org](http://www.verobeachmuseum.org).

• **Theatre-Go-Round** presents "Milestones and Memories," 14th Avenue Steakhouse, Vero Beach, 12:30 p.m. A matinee dinner theater production encompassing 50 years of musical hits from the 1940s through the 1980s. Cost: \$45. Website: [www.theatregorounddinnertheatre.com](http://www.theatregorounddinnertheatre.com).

FRIDAY, JAN. 10 – SATURDAY, JAN. 11

• **Riverside Theatre presents "The Comedy Zone,"** Waxlax Stage, Riverside Theatre, Vero Beach, 7:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m. Featuring comedians to be determined. Cost: \$15 for show only, \$25 for show and food voucher. Website: [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

SATURDAY, JAN. 11

• **The Great American**

**Songbook' concert:** 7 p.m., Vero Beach High School Performing Arts Center. The Space Coast Symphony Orchestra and Jazz Orchestra will present "The Great American Songbook," with selections by famous American composers. The concert will also include superstar entertainer Jeff Shadley. Cost: \$20. Website: [www.spacecoastsymphony.org](http://www.spacecoastsymphony.org).

• **Haiti clinic 5k run/walk**, South Beach Park, Vero Beach, 6:30 a.m. Cost: \$25 per person in advance, \$30 on race day. Website: [www.runnersdepotvb.com](http://www.runnersdepotvb.com).

• **Star party**, Sebastian Inlet State Park, Sebastian, 6:15 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. Cost: Park entry fees apply. Website: <http://www.floridastateparks.org/sebastiainlet/events.cfm>.

SATURDAY, JAN. 11 – SUNDAY, JAN. 12

• **Riverside Children's Theatre Schoolsical Production presents "Disney's Jungle Book Kids,"** Annie Morton Theatre, Riverside Children's Theatre, Vero Beach, 1:30 p.m. Mowgli, Baloo, King Louis and the gang swing their way through madcap adventures and thwart the ferocious tiger, Shere Khan. Cost: \$8. Website: [www.riversidetheatre.com](http://www.riversidetheatre.com).

SUNDAY, JAN. 12

• **Art in the park**, Humiston Park, Vero Beach, 10 a.m. A monthly fine arts and crafts show by Vero Beach Art Club members. Cost: Free. Website: [www.verobeachartclub.org](http://www.verobeachartclub.org).

• **Cavalleria Rusticana**, The Vero Beach High School Performing Arts Center, Vero Beach, 3 p.m. Marcello Giordani stars in this opera. Cost: \$30, \$40, \$50 or \$100 per person. Website: [www.verobeachopera.org](http://www.verobeachopera.org).

• **Theatre-Go-Round** presents "Milestones and Memories," 14th Avenue Steakhouse, Vero Beach, 12:30 p.m. A matinee dinner theater production encompassing 50 years of musical hits from the 1940s through the 1980s. Cost: \$45. Website: [www.theatregorounddinnertheatre.com](http://www.theatregorounddinnertheatre.com).

• **Paula Poundstone,** Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 7 p.m. A night of comedy with Paula Poundstone. Cost: \$29 or \$39 per person. Website: [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

TUESDAY, JAN. 14

• **Doctors Club**: The group meets every second Tuesday of the month at the Vero Beach Yacht Club until May. Retired, semi-retired physicians and

spouses are welcome, whether Treasure Coast residents or visitors. Social hour starts at noon; luncheon is served at 12:45 p.m. Luncheon is \$20 per person. For more information, call Billie at (772) 257-6249.

• **"Godspell,"** Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 7 p.m. The National Touring Company will bring the Stephen Schwartz musical, "Godspell" to the stage. Cost: \$50 or \$60 per person. Website: [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

TUESDAY, JAN. 14 – SUNDAY, FEB. 2

• **Riverside Theatre presents "Miss Saigon,"** Stark Stage,

Riverside Theatre, Vero Beach, times vary. A classic love story of love and loss in the turmoil of war. The musical follows the tale of an American soldier and a Vietnamese girl who fall in love. Cost: \$45-\$70 per person. Website: [www.riversidetheatre.com](http://www.riversidetheatre.com).

TUESDAY, JAN. 14 – MARCH 11

• **Library art exhibit**, Indian River County Main Library, Vero Beach, times vary. Vero Beach Art Club members display art. Theme: "Heat." Free. Website: [www.verobeachartclub.org](http://www.verobeachartclub.org)

TUESDAY, JAN. 14 – MARCH 24

• **Museum art school**

classes, Vero Beach Museum of Art, Vero Beach, times vary. Winter term classes. Registration fees vary. Website: [www.verobeachmuseum.org](http://www.verobeachmuseum.org).

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 15

• **Educational lecture**, North Indian River County Library, Sebastian, 7:30 p.m. The Sebastian Area Historical Society presents "Life at Blue Cypress Lake," with Steve Hayes, certified master naturalist of Florida. Free. For more information, call (772) 581-1380.

• **Behind the Baton**, Indian River State College Mueller Campus, Vero Beach, 9:30 a.m. Cultivate a greater

understanding and appreciation of classical music with Stewart Robertson, artistic director and conductor of the Atlantic Classical Orchestra, as part of the Fielder Institute for Lifelong Learning. Cost: \$80 for Atlantic Classical Orchestra subscribers, \$135 for non-subscribers. Website: [www.atlanticclassicalorchestra.com](http://www.atlanticclassicalorchestra.com).

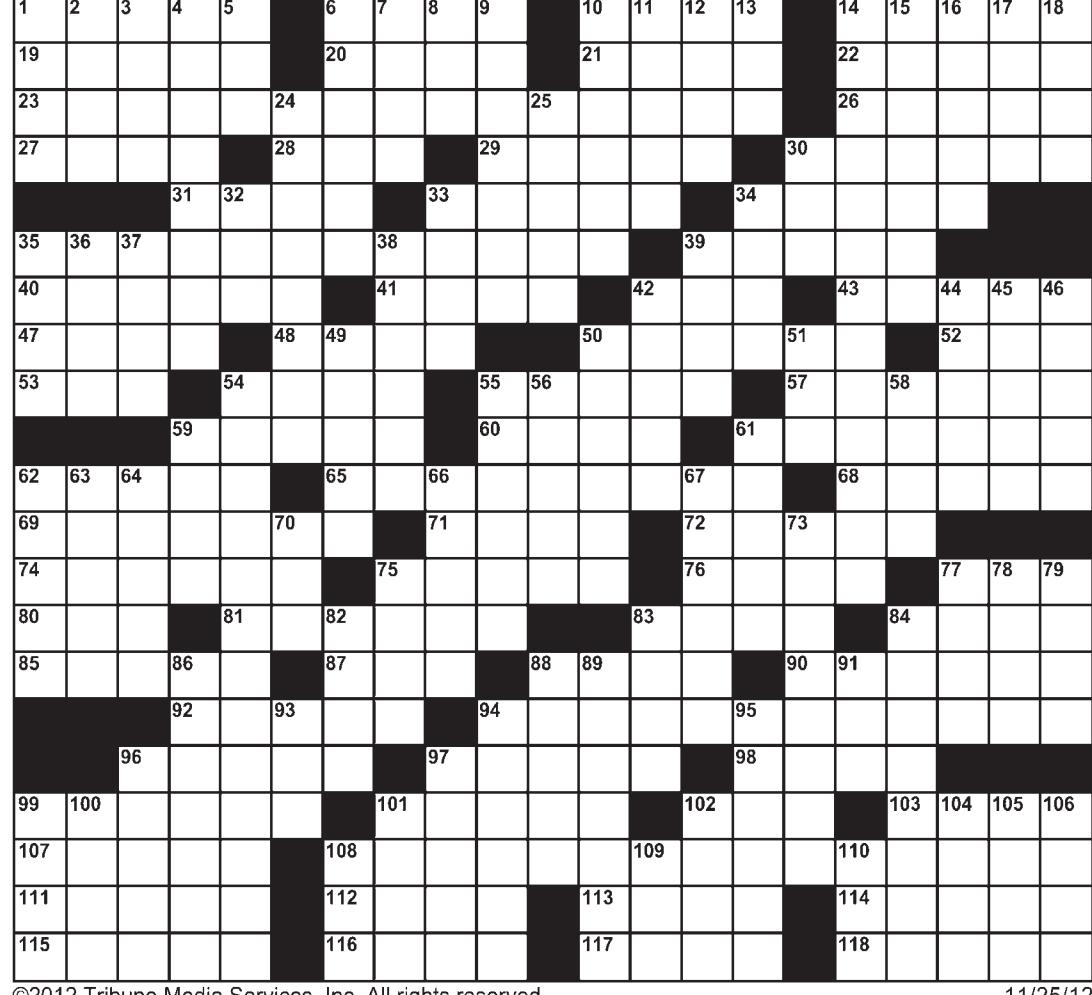
• **"An Evening with Garrison Keillor,"** Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 7 p.m. Humorist and celebrity speaker Garrison Keillor will speak. Cost: \$49 or \$59 per person. Website: [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

See OUT, B4

### ACROSS

- 1 Actor George C.
- 6 Staff
- 10 Porgy
- 14 Eastern country
- 19 Buckwheat
- 20 Pilaster
- 21 Spray
- 22 Consolidate
- 23 Elated
- 26 Aromatic herbs
- 27 Intend
- 28 God of the underworld
- 29 Jimmy
- 30 Predominant
- 31 Yemen's former capital
- 33 Temptress
- 34 "Wanted" poster word
- 35 Elated
- 39 Food fish
- 40 Indoctrinate
- 41 Clamp
- 42 Child's game
- 43 Access
- 47 Contended
- 48 Assist
- 50 Climax
- 52 \_\_\_ pig's eye!
- 53 Sprite
- 54 Road to Roma
- 55 Derides
- 57 Fan
- 59 Without interruption
- 60 Leftovers
- 61 Pilchard
- 62 Visual aid
- 65 Unrestrained joy
- 68 Kids
- 69 English explorer
- 71 Network
- 72 Liliaceous plants
- 74 bragh
- 75 Hullabaloo
- 76 Wow the audience
- 77 Greet wordlessly
- 80 Pass the hat
- 81 Annoy
- 83 Surface protection
- 84 Dingy place
- 85 Sea flyers
- 87 Dander
- 88 off (kill time)
- 90 Runs off
- 92 Foam
- 94 Ardently carefree
- 96 facias
- 97 Underground dwellers
- 98 Tolerable
- 99 Feeble person
- 101 Man from Malaga
- 102 Chem. unit
- 103 Wrinkle
- 107 Giraffe's cousin
- 108 Successful

### Outer Space



11/25/12

Answers located in Classified Section

## Free fitness testing, assessments for seniors

**For Hometown News**  
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY — JAS Fitness, a leader in exercise programming for older adults, is conducting free fitness testing and

assessments for Indian River County residents over the age of 60. The assessments are to be held on Saturday, Jan. 4, 2014 and test times are between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Scheduled time

slots will be appointed on a first call first serve basis.

Strength, endurance, flexibility and agility tests will be administered and are designed to measure the capacity needed to perform

functional tasks of every day and independent living. Compiled in a printed out report, comparative results are based on the participant's gender and age group.

JAS Fitness is located at Leisure Square, 3705 16th St in Vero Beach.

By providing exceptional exercise programming, the mission at JAS Fitness, LLC is to help people expand

their level of fitness and improve their quality of life.

For more information or to schedule an individual time slot, contact John Sammarano at (772) 321-6003 or visit [www.jasfitness.com](http://www.jasfitness.com).

## Housing program encourages public to participate in survey

**For Hometown News**  
NewsFP@hometownnewsol.com

MARTIN COUNTY — The Martin County Housing Program encourages the public to participate in a regional housing survey. The survey on fair housing issues in St.

Lucie, Martin, and Indian River Counties is being conducted by the St. Lucie County HOME Consortium. Results of the survey will be published in the St. Lucie County HOME Consortium's report on Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Fair Housing is a right protected by Federal and State laws ensuring each resident is entitled equal access to housing opportunities regardless of their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, familial status, marital status, age, ancestry, sexual orienta-

tion, or source of income.

Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties make up the St. Lucie County HOME Consortium. The St. Lucie County HOME Consortium is a recipient of Federal HOME Investment Partnership Program funds. The objective of the

HOME program is to provide decent and affordable housing opportunities for very low and low income households through activities such as; first time homebuyer assistance and homeowner housing rehabilitation.

To take part in the survey,

go to [www.slchousing.org](http://www.slchousing.org) and click on "Fair Housing Survey". The survey will be available until January 31, 2014.

For more information on Fair Housing visit [www.HUD.gov](http://www.HUD.gov).

## McKee

From page B1

the family post-holiday, 'Nights of Lights' is the perfect solution," she said.

General admission rates apply to this special event. Adult entry is \$10, senior citizens, \$9, and children 3 to

12, \$5. Admission is free for garden members and children younger than 3.

During "Nights of Lights," visitors will also have the opportunity to preview four sculptures in an upcoming art exhibit at the garden, "The Seward Johnson Sculpture Exhibition," which officially opens Jan. 3.

Four of Mr. Johnson's life-size bronze creations will be illuminated this weekend, and when the exhibit opens, there will be 20 sculptures on display in the garden.

The sculptures will come from two of Mr. Johnson's collections, "Celebrating the Familiar" and "Beyond the Frame," Ms. Susino said.

"Celebrating the Familiar" captures people doing everyday activities, while "Beyond the Frame" is based on masterpieces from the Impressionist period.

In the 'Familiar' series, you really will do a double take because they really do look like people doing things. One of them is a man

asleep in an Adirondack chair," Ms. Susino said with a laugh.

The life-size figures in "Beyond the Frame" stay true to the master paintings, with color and style, but presented in a 3d-style, creating an illusion of reality, she said.

"We really feel like the

sculptures will appeal to all ages," Ms. Susino said.

McKee Botanical Garden is located at 350 U.S. 1, Vero Beach.

For more information about "Night of Lights" or other programs at the garden, call (772) 794-0601 or visit [www.mckeegarden.org](http://www.mckeegarden.org).

## Out

From page B3

### THURSDAY, JAN. 16

• **McKee Botanical Book Club**, McKee Botanical Garden, Vero Beach, 11 a.m. The book club will review "The Everglades: River of Grass" by Marjory Stoneman-Douglas. Cost: \$5 suggested donation. Website: [www.mckeegarden.org](http://www.mckeegarden.org).

• **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.verodance.org](http://www.verodance.org).

### THURSDAY, JAN. 16 – SUNDAY, JAN. 26

• **'Harvey'**: Presented by the Vero Beach Theatre Guild. Times vary. A Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy about a man who pals around with an invisible six-foot three-inch rabbit named Harvey. Cost: \$22 or \$24 per person, season tickets available. Website: [www.verobeachtheatreguild.com](http://www.verobeachtheatreguild.com).

### FRIDAY, JAN. 17

• **Night sounds at Sebastian Inlet concert series**,

Coconut Point, Sebastian Inlet State Park, Sebastian, 7 p.m. Featuring Atlantic Bluegrass. Park entry fees apply. Website: <http://www.floridastateparks.org/sebastianinlet/events.cfm>.

• **Chris McDonald's: Memories of Elvis Rockin' Birthday Bash**, Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 8 p.m. A Las Vegas style show with a full-production eight-piece band, dancers and singers. Cost: \$25, \$35 or \$40 per person. Website: [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

• **Seward Johnson Twilight Night**, McKee Botanical Garden, Vero Beach, 6 p.m. Enjoy live music and view the "J. Seward Johnson Jr., Sculpture Exhibition," at night. Garden admission fees apply. Website: [www.mckeegarden.org](http://www.mckeegarden.org).

### FRIDAY, JAN. 17 – MONDAY, JAN. 20

• **Fellsmere Frog Leg Festival**, downtown Fellsmere, times vary. Event will include live music, various craft and vendor booths and hundreds of pounds of frog legs and other food. Free admission. Website: [www.froglegfestival.com](http://www.froglegfestival.com).

### SATURDAY, JAN. 18

• **Celebrated Speaker Series lecture**, The Emerson Center, Vero Beach, 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Featuring Admiral

Mike Mullen, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 2007-11. Cost: To be announced. Website: [www.theemersoncenter.org](http://www.theemersoncenter.org).

• **Outdoor flea and "krafts" market**, Sebastian Elks Lodge, Sebastian, 8 a.m. Proceeds from the event will go to various Elk charities, local scholarships, youth activities and care packages for overseas troops. Free to attend, renter's space fee varies from \$10-\$25. Contact phone number: (772) 589-1516.

• **Raffle drawing**, Sebastian Elks Lodge, Sebastian, time to be announced. The Sebastian El-DOEs present the "Dining Around Town" raffle drawing. Cost: To be announced. Contact phone number: (772) 589-1516.

• **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 sculptures from the museum's permanent collection. Free for members, \$5 for each non-member child. Registration is required. Website: [www.verobeachmuseum.org](http://www.verobeachmuseum.org).

• **Bark in the Park**, Riverside Park, Vero Beach, time to be announced. An outdoor doggy-friendly event with games, booths and exhibits.

Cost: To be announced. Website: [www.mckeegarden.org](http://www.mckeegarden.org).

• **Theatre-Go-Round presents "Disco Divas"**, The Quilted Giraffe Restaurant, Vero Beach, 4:30 p.m. A musical dinner theatre production celebrating the sounds of the 1970s. Cost: \$55. Website: [www.theatregorounddinnertheatre.com](http://www.theatregorounddinnertheatre.com).

• **Beethoven and Schubert Strings**, Vero Beach Museum of Art, Vero Beach, 3 p.m. Featuring the Atlantic Classical Orchestra chamber musicians.

The concert is followed by a wine and cheese reception. Cost: \$5 for students or children, \$30 for museum members, \$40 for non-members. Website: [www.atlanticclassicalorchestra.com](http://www.atlanticclassicalorchestra.com).

• **Rock of Ages**, Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 7 p.m. The National Touring Company bring the world-wide party musical to the stage. Cost: \$45 or \$55 per person. Website: [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

• **L'Elisir D'Amore**, Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 7 p.m. One of the most popular operatic comedies comes to Fort Pierce thanks to the 65-person cast and orchestra of Teatro Lírico D'Europa. Cost: \$45 or \$55 per person. Website: [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

• **Carrier**, Turn to the Experts

• **Dave Mundy and Soulfege concert**: 5 p.m., atrium, Vero Beach Museum of Art, Vero Beach. Outside food, alcohol and sodas are not permitted. A full cash bar will be available. Concert will take place rain or shine. Bring your lawn chairs. Cost: \$10 for members, \$12 for non-members. Website: [www.verobeachmuseum.org](http://www.verobeachmuseum.org).

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• **Carrier**, Turn to the Experts

• **Charity ball**, Sebastian Elks Lodge, Sebastian, 5:30 p.m. The annual Harry-Anna charity ball is an event to raise money for the Florida Elks children's therapy services and the Florida Elks youth camp. Cost: To be announced. Contact phone number: (772) 589-1516.

• **KidZ Artshops**, Vero Beach

Museum of Art, Vero Beach, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enjoy a guided gallery visit and related studio art activity with no registration required. Free for members, \$5 for each non-member child. Website: [www.verobeachmuseum.org](http://www.verobeachmuseum.org).

• **KC and the Sunshine Band**, Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 8 p.m. A concert with plenty of funky hits. Cost: \$59 or \$69 per person. Website: [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

• **Art exhibition**, Vero Beach

Museum of Art, Vero Beach, times vary. The museum presents "Stephen Lawson:

Images of Time," a collection of

fascinating sectioned panoramas shot over varying periods of time. Museum admission fees apply. Website: [www.verobeachmuseum.org](http://www.verobeachmuseum.org).

• **Art exhibition**, Vero Beach

Museum of Art, Vero Beach, times vary. The museum presents "Dale Kennington:

Mythologies." Museum admission fees apply. Website: [www.verobeachmuseum.org](http://www.verobeachmuseum.org).

• **Concert**, The Vero Beach

High School Performing Arts Center, Vero Beach, 3 p.m. The Space Coast Symphony

See OUT, B5

### SATURDAY, JAN. 18 – SUNDAY, JAN. 19

• **Sebastian River Fine Arts and Music Festival**, Riverview Park, Sebastian, time to be announced. More than 100 local professional artist and craftsmen and musicians will be showcasing their talents. Free admission. Website: [www.sebastianartshow.com](http://www.sebastianartshow.com).

• **Riverside Children's Theatre-RCT On The Go presents "Cows Don't Fly."**

Annie Morton Theatre, Riverside Children's Theatre, Vero Beach, 1:30 p.m. Based on the popular children's book series "The Cow Who Wouldn't Come Down," "The Pig Who Ran a Red Light," and "The Goose Who Went Off in a Huff," this play captures the vision of a world where extraordinary things happen on a regular basis. Cost: \$6. Website: [www.riversidetheatre.com](http://www.riversidetheatre.com).

### SUNDAY, JAN. 19

• **Jungle Day**, McKee Botanical Garden, Vero Beach, noon. Celebrate the history and heritage of one of Florida's earliest attractions, Jungle Gardens, and learn how McKee Botanical Garden came to be. Cost: To be announced. Website: [www.mckeegarden.org](http://www.mckeegarden.org).

• **Theatre-Go-Round presents "Disco Divas"**, The Quilted Giraffe Restaurant, Vero Beach, 4:30 p.m. A musical dinner theatre production celebrating the sounds of the 1970s. Cost: \$55. Website: [www.theatregorounddinnertheatre.com](http://www.theatregorounddinnertheatre.com).

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• **KidZ Artshops**, Vero Beach

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• **Art exhibition**, Vero Beach

Museum of Art, Vero Beach, times vary. The museum presents "Dale Kenning

# Sebastian 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.gfwctreasurecoast-women.org](http://www.gfwctreasurecoast-women.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](mailto:bluewateropen@gmail.com), or visit [www.exchangeclubofindianriver.org](http://www.exchangeclubofindianriver.org) and [www.bluewateropen.org](http://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 Men-

tal 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 [downeast\\_ggo@bellsouth.net](mailto:downeast_ggo@bellsouth.net).

• TOPS 641: Take Off Pounds Sensibly, Chapter No. 641 meets every Thursday at the Roseland Fire Department, located on 129th Court, off Roseland Road in Sebastian. Weigh-in is from 7:45 to 8:30 a.m. and the meeting starts at 8:30 a.m. For information call (772) 569-0760.

(772)-589-8445.

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

• Rotary Club of Sebastian meets at 12:15 p.m. every Thursday at Sebastian River Medical Center, 13695 U.S. 1, Sebastian. For more information, call (772) 360-5837 or visit [www.sebastianrotaryclub.org](http://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 is located at 1301 Sebastian Blvd., Sebastian. For more information, call (772) 589-7117.

• 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.

• 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 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.

• Sebastian Senior Center: The Sebastian Senior Center is located at 815 Davis St., Sebastian. Live music Tuesday through Friday from 9-11 a.m. Refreshments will be served. Classes of interest: Mondays: nutrition bingo meets at 10 a.m.; Mahjong classes meet at 12:30 p.m.; art class meets at 1 p.m.; Weight Watchers meets at 5 p.m.; Tuesday: mindful breathing meets at 1 p.m.; lectures on wellness meets at 1 p.m.; Wednesday: chi-kung meets at 11 a.m.; cribbage and pinocchio meets at 12:30 p.m.; Friday: TOPS meeting at 8 a.m.; Weight Watchers meets at 9 a.m.; sing-a-longs with Bill and Jane at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call (772)

469-2062.

• Kashi Ashram is located at 11155 Roseland Road, Sebastian. For more information, (772) 589-1403, (800) 226-1008, or visit the website [www.kashi.org](http://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 follows at 8 p.m.

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

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

— For Hometown News

## Out

From page B4

Orchestra will present, "The Planets: An HD Odyssey," a symphonic concert with high-definition images from NASA projected on the big screen. Cost: \$20 per person, multi-concert packages available. Website: [www.spacecoastsymphony.org](http://www.spacecoastsymphony.org).

• Theatre-Go-Round presents "Milestones and Memories," 14th Avenue Steakhouse, Vero Beach, 12:30 p.m. A matinee dinner theater production encompassing 50 years of musical hits from the 1940s through the 1980s. Cost: \$45. Website: [www.theatregoround-dinnertheatre.com](http://www.theatregoround-dinnertheatre.com).

• "Franco Corso," Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 3 p.m. Cost: \$35 or \$45 per person. Website: [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

### MONDAY, JAN. 27

• Jazz band concert, The Vero Beach High School Performing Arts Center, Vero Beach, 7 p.m. The Vero Beach High School jazz bands will present "Big Band Bash!" Cost: \$10 or \$12, season tickets available. Website: <http://sites.indianriver-schools.org/VBHS/PAC/index.html>.

### TUESDAY, JAN. 28

• Jazz band concert, The Vero Beach High School Performing Arts Center, Vero Beach, 7 p.m. The Vero Beach High School jazz bands will present "Big Band Bash!" Cost: \$10 or \$12, season tickets available. Website: <http://sites.indianriver-schools.org/VBHS/PAC/index.html>.

• Valentines for Heroes drive boxing, Barker Air Conditioning and Heating, Vero Beach, 9 a.m. The donated items for the Valentine Day drive for the troops will be boxed. Donations requested. Website: [www.militarymomsprayer-group.com](http://www.militarymomsprayer-group.com).

• Friends of the St. Sebastian River, North Indian River County, Sebastian, 7:30 p.m. General meeting for the nonprofit Friends of the St. Sebastian River. Free. Website: [www.fssr.org](http://www.fssr.org).

### JAN. 28 - FEB. 9

• Riverside Theatre presents "God of Carnage," Waxlax Stage, Riverside Theatre, Vero Beach, times vary. A laugh-out-loud comedy about parent behaving badly. Winner of the 2009 Tony for Best Play. Cost: \$40 per person. Website: [www.riversidetheatre.com](http://www.riversidetheatre.com).

### THURSDAY, JAN. 30

• Learn and Learn program, Vero Beach Museum of Art, Vero Beach, noon. A

catered meal and a guided tour of "Dale肯宁顿: Mthologies." Cost: Free for museum members, museum admission applies to non-members. Website: [www.verobeachmuseum.org](http://www.verobeachmuseum.org).

### FRIDAY, JAN. 31

• "Spencers Theatre of Illusion," Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 8 p.m. A magical concert for the eyes. Cost: \$10 for children 12 and younger, \$35 or \$35 for adults. Website: [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

• "Late Night Catechism," Black Box Theatre, Sunrise Theatre, Fort Pierce, 8 p.m. An interactive and uproarious piece of theatre that takes audience members back to the children they once were. Cost: \$35 per person. Website: [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.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 Poziolek at (772) 562-2549 or visit [www.saferirc.us](http://www.saferirc.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.

• 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,

A Great Egret sits atop a rock along the Wabasso Causeway recently searching for its next meal.

Cliff Partlow  
staff photographer

1350 26th St. Vero Beach.

• Wood carving class: 1-4 p.m. every Monday, taught by Joe Miller, at Crafts & Stuff, 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.eahctobacco.com/>



## Park

From page B1

Band (Classic Rock)  
April 11—The Dukes of Doo Wop (50s Music)  
May 16—The Cheyenne Band (Country)

June 13—Mojo Sandwich (Blues, Southern Rock, R&B, Country)

The concert schedule is also available online at [www.sebastianchamber.com](http://www.sebastianchamber.com) and a printed copy is available in the Chamber office located at 700 Main St., in Sebastian.

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# Spending a gift card on new clubs? Here are some tips

By now we have all opened those gifts and found either gold or coal. Today one of the most popular gifts is a simple gift card. This allows you to use the funds on the card for whatever you want. Unless it's for a specific store or restaurant.

So your conundrum may be deciding which golf clubs you want to spend that money on. Are today's clubs



GOLF  
JAMES  
STAMMER

worth the investment? One of the fortunate perks of my job is being able to test and review the latest in golf equipment technology. My bag usually has an extra

club or three, or an extra sleeve of new balls to try out and then report my findings back to the manufacturer.

Many of my golf buddies get to try the clubs as I need input from more than just one person. The question I find myself asked most often by my fellow golfers is "Does the technology really change that much from year to year to warrant me spending money on new clubs?"

It's a good question. When most of us are watching every nickel and dime, spending a few hundred dollars on that new driver or even more on new irons may be difficult to justify. Especially if your spouse or partner doesn't play golf.

With the size limits on drivers set at a maximum of 460cc, manufacturers have taken to putting as much technology as possible into that space. They now use exotic materials and move weight around to put it to better use. They have also made it so that we can make adjustments ourselves to our drivers. We can set the loft, open or close the face, and more.

Drivers no longer have grooves on the face. They have etching that resembles

grooves. This allows the face to be made thinner, with less chance of breakage. The thinner face is livelier, producing more ball speed and the weight savings allows designers to put that weight in places where it will help you hit the ball straighter. The result is a driver that is easier to hit farther and straighter than those from a few years ago.

The biggest leaps in clubs have come in the manufacturing process. Companies use CNC milling to make the faces of irons perfectly flat. They use lasers to cut the grooves to NASA-like precision.

With today's technology, it's possible to build irons with multiple materials instead of just steel. Titanium has a 42 percent lighter density than steel, while tungsten is twice as heavy. Using these materials allows designers to move weight to places that help optimize the center of gravity on the club. The lower and deeper they can place the COG, the higher and straighter the ball launches.

Today's irons are all strong-lofted. The loft of your new pitching wedge may be closer to what you had in your 9 or 8-iron years

back. However, by using different materials in the head and moving the COG, they keep the same trajectory of the old iron, but with greater distance. Imagine a ball coming off the face of your 8-iron with the same high trajectory, but with 6-iron speed. You get a shot that drops softly, while traveling farther.

Casting processes have come a long way, too. Companies have the ability to cast faces less than two millimeters thick. Designers then use that weight savings to increase perimeter weighting, improving forgiveness.

Most important is that the ability to cast this technology and design improves mass production and lowers costs, giving us a more affordable club with state-of-the-art technology.

At one time all forged clubs were muscle-backs with little forgiveness, making them difficult for recreational golfers to play and enjoy. With CNC milling machines and lasers, designers can now carve portions from the forged heads giving them the same perimeter weighting once found only in cast clubs.

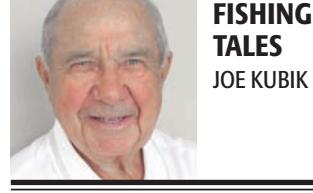
Computer simulators also play a role in measuring the drag forces of a design as it goes through the grass. This allows designers to adjust the sole of the iron to optimize how it reacts when it strikes the ground and then adjust their design to make the club more efficient for its target audience.

We all want feel in our clubs. It usually tells us how well or poorly we struck a shot. Designers are now able to measure the sound waves emitted by a club as it strikes a ball at various points on the face. Engineers then design and implement dampening inserts and stiffening ribs to make the club sound and feel better.

We've come a long way in terms of how well and how advanced we build golf equipment. If you have a few holiday bucks to spend on equipment, rest assured that it will be a good investment.

*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 stamnergolf@yahoo.com.*

## A fisherman's prayer



FISHING  
TALES  
JOE KUBIK

does well in both, including catching Bass. I'm proud to call him my friend.

### Just one more cast

*Now I lay me down to rest  
A fishing pole across my chest*

*Lord don't let me die  
before I wake  
Cause I've got one more  
cast to make*

*I've one more lake and  
stream to fish  
And one more day to  
dream and wish*

*About the one that got  
away*

*About the one for which I  
pray*

*So I lay down this night to  
sleep*

*I pray the lord my life  
you'll keep*

*And let me at the morn*

*awake  
Cause I have one more  
cast to make  
I know tomorrow will  
bring the fish  
I've sought and dreamed  
and often wished  
Oh, there he is! That fish is  
mine!  
Oh lord let me cast just  
one more time.*

*Joe Kubik is a tournament  
fisherman and former  
Charter Captain. Joe can be  
reached at j.kubik@com-  
cast.net*

**Hometown News**

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**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](http://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 displaying 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) 581-7380.

**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 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](mailto: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](http://www.meetup.com/spark-of-divine-spirit-unity-reiki-unconditional-love/events/calendar).

**Garden walk with country care roses**, weekends 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 [orzelbp@gmail.com](mailto:orzelbp@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, call (772) 778-3435.

[www.VeroBeachOBA.com](http://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](http://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.

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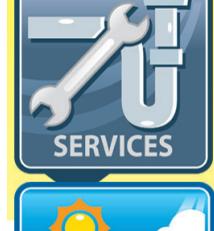
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