

Hometown News

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Friday, April 20, 2018



WHAT A CATCH!

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

CATCH 12



MEET SCARLETT

Would you like to meet a slightly shy but friendly young cat? Visit the Humane Society

LOOKING FOR A HOME 7



UP IN THE AIR

Vero Beach Air Show will be filling the skies around the Vero Beach airport this weekend

ENTERTAINMENT 11



PLANNING A TRIP?

'Touring with the Townies' features reader-submitted photos from travels. Let's see how many places we can go! Send your pictures or questions to newsfp@hometownnewsol.com

TAKE US WITH YOU

Community Calendar

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

• Living Shoreline

Breakwater Construction: 9 a.m., meet at the Indian River Land Trust parking area on the north side of 79th Street, east of U.S. 1. (A big white sign with 'Hobart Landing' in blue letters marks 79th Street.) The Ocean Research & Conservation Association (ORCA) is seeking volunteers to assist with the breakwater construction of our first living shoreline site, which protects the coast and create a quality aquatic habitat. We will be deploying over 300 bags of fossilized shells and coquina rocks. Please wear tennis shoes that you don't mind getting wet, and bring work gloves and a reusable water bottle. We will have some work gloves to share. Snacks and water will be provided. All volunteers will be required to sign a release form before work begins. After you park, please follow the signs to arrive at the breakwater site by foot. Please RSVP to Andrea by April 19. For more information or to volunteer, contact Andrea at (772) 467-1600 or abeam@teamorca.org.

• Free Horse Care

workshop: 12-3 p.m., Humane Society's Adoption and Education building, 6230 77th St, Vero Beach.

See CALENDAR, page 16

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Nautical art on display



Photo by Megan Hoots

Annabel Brewster sits in front of her tent displaying her original artwork at the Vero Beach Marine and Art Show. Annabel is a highschool senior, and professional artist specializing in marine themed art.

Volunteers needed to protect coastal habitat

By Mike Winikoff

mwinikoff@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH — The Ocean Research & Conservation Association is seeking volunteers Saturday, April 21, at 9 a.m. to assist with breakwater construction at ORCA's first living shoreline site.

"Living shorelines are shoreline protection projects that provide habitat for plants and animals, stabilize shorelines and improve water qual-

ity," ORCA Marketing Coordinator Lauren Tracy told Hometown News. "Living shorelines usually include the construction of a hard structure or breakwater made from rock or bagged shell and the planting of native vegetation along intertidal shorelines. The breakwaters play an important role in living shorelines as they help with erosion issues, slow the intrusion of muck and storm water and provide essential hard surface for a

See COASTAL, page 7

Sebastian hires new City Manager

By Mike Winikoff

mwinikoff@hometownnewsol.com

SEBASTIAN — At the April 11 City Council meeting, the City of Sebastian hired Paul E. Carlisle, Jr. as the new City Manager. Mr. Carlisle replaces Joe Griffin, who submitted his resignation in January.



Carlisle

Mr. Carlisle is currently the Glades County Manager. During the first month of employment, Mr. Carlisle will be allowed to be away from Sebastian City Hall for one day per week to assist Glades County in its transition to a new County Manager.

According to the Glades County website, Mr. Carlisle has been the Glades County Manager since 2014. That position performs similar duties to the Sebastian City Manager.

Before his Glades County position, Mr. Carlisle was the Director of Public Works for the City of Rock Hill, South Carolina. Before that he worked for various municipalities in south Florida, including Town Manager for Lake Park, Division manager for the Village of Wellington, and Vice-Chair on the Seacoast Utility Board, comprised of officials from five communities that had joint

See MANAGER, page 2

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Community notes

Fairy and Pirate Festival at McKee is Saturday

McKee Botanical Garden's eighth annual Fairy and Pirate Festival will be held Saturday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This family-friendly event includes a safari hunt, face painting, crafts and games, fairy manicures and pirate tattoos, a balloon twister, dancing around a Maypole, a wishing bush, and building your own fairy house at the Gnome Depot.

SmileCloudsUSA will entertain guests with its whimsical clouds in a variety of shapes. Watch as these environmentally-friendly, slow rising clouds float up, up and away!

Come dressed in your fairy best or swashbuckling gear. (Costumes are encouraged but not required). McKee's Pixie Boutique will have fairy and pirate accessories available for purchase.

Sealantro at the Garden Café will feature a special menu.

Admission is \$12 for adults, \$11 for seniors, \$8 for children ages 3-12. McKee members and children under 3 admitted for free. Advanced tickets can be purchased during

regular business hours Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Sunday from noon to 5:00 pm and closed Monday. The last ticket is sold at 4:00 pm.

For more information, call (772) 794-0601 or visit www.mckeearden.org.

Grant will support VNA's new overnight bereavement camp

Quail Valley Charities recently presented VNA Hospice with a \$10,000 grant to fully fund the organization's request to assist with Camp Chrysalis- Overnight Camp. This is the tenth year Quail Valley Charities has supported the Visiting Nurse Association's (VNA) children's bereavement camp.

Since its inception in 2001, Quail Valley Charities has dedicated their funding to selected non-profit organizations and programs in Indian River County, which focus solely on children and their education. The grants are funded through proceeds from Quail Valley Cup Charity Week, which has grown from a two-day golf tournament with 12 beneficiaries to more than a week's worth of activities with 35 grant recipients. To date, more than \$6,000,000 has been contrib-

uted to local nonprofits.

"The overnight camp is in direct response to feedback from family members whose children had attended the one-day camp offered by VNA Hospice. They felt the children needed more time and learning opportunities because of the strong feelings of sadness and fearfulness they were experiencing," said Kerry A. Bartlett, CFRE, Vice President of the VNA and Hospice Foundation. "The cost of camp is not reimbursed by insurance or other sources; VNA Hospice is committed to seeking private funding to support the experience. Without Quail Valley Charities, we weren't sure we could provide this critical service so quickly when the need arose."

Scheduled for June 2 and 3 at Historic Dodgertown, Camp Chrysalis is free to attend and will serve local youth who have experienced the loss of a loved one such as a parent, sibling or grandparent, by helping facilitate healthy grieving through education.

VNA's new, overnight format is designed to provide 28 hours of continuous support to children ages 6-12. Camp is open to any child, not just those whose loved ones were cared for by hospice.

VNA staff, licensed clinical social workers, bereavement

Manager

From page 1

ownership in the utility.

The Sebastian contract specifies May 1 as Mr. Carlisle's start date. From May 1-9, he will work on the transition with outgoing City Manager Joe Griffin. On May 9, Mr. Carlisle will assume all duties.

May 9 is the date Joe Griffin specified as his last day in his retirement letter. In that letter, he said he was retiring "to pursue

family responsibilities and other interests that retirement may allow."

The City Manager position is established by the Charter of the City of Sebastian. The City Manager is responsible for providing an annual fiscal plan of operation and for carrying out the policies and plans of the City Council. The City Manager is appointed by and reports to the City Council.

The city will pay Mr. Carlisle \$135,000 per year salary, plus health insurance, life insurance, and a nine percent contribution to a retirement plan.

The new City Manager will be immediately vested with ten vacation days, and shall then accrue vacation, sick, and disability benefits at the same rate as other managerial employees of the city.

Mr. Carlisle's contract also provides for use of a city vehicle for business use and personal use within 25 miles of the city.

Mr. Carlisle will be required to establish his primary residence within the city of Sebastian by Nov. 1, and to maintain that residency as long as he is City Manager. He currently lives in Loxahatchee. There was

previously no residency requirement for the position.

Mr. Carlisle also agreed to not take any other employment except occasional teaching, writing, or consulting during his time off.

The contract provides that the City Council may terminate the agreement at any time for any reason, or no reason. If he is terminated without cause, he will be given 20 weeks base salary plus a payout of accrued sick or vacation time. No severance will be paid if he is terminated for cause.

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A+ Auto Detailing treats your car like an investment

By Mike Winikoff

mwinikoff@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH — When you meet Joe Miller, owner of A+ Auto Detailing in Vero Beach, it is immediately clear that this business is not just his job; it is his passion. Nothing makes him happier than seeing the look on a customer's face after he's finished with their car, motorcycle, truck, or boat.

"Sometimes people bring their car or boat to me to clean up before selling it," Mr. Miller told Hometown News. "Then, after they see how good it looks when I'm done, they don't want to sell it anymore. That makes me so happy."

A+ Auto Detailing won Hometown News' 2017 Readers' Choice Best Car Wash and Window Tinting, and Mr. Miller's enthusiasm is a big reason why. Another reason is that he recognizes how important your vehicle is to you.

"In today's world, your vehicle is often your office. Treat it like an investment. Let the professionals take care of your investment. I've seen so much damage that people cause to their own vehicles, such as using Brillo pads to remove bugs. Don't do that. Bring it to me. But if you have done something like that and now it's scratched, I can fix it. That's what I do, and I really know what I'm doing."

Joe Miller has been in the auto detailing business for over 30 years, much of that time in Vero Beach, where he has deep roots.

"My family is from Vero Beach. My brother owned Discount Carpets. My mom owns Daily Courier. My dad owns MJM Car Wash. We're a working family in Vero Beach. We came to Vero Beach in the 70s,

when I was 13 years old. I went to Jr. High and High School here."

"I used to dirt bike on the trails around here, now it's where I have my car wash. I just knew this would be a prime location once it got started. And it took a lot of work."

Mr. Miller opened at his current location about four years ago. His shop offers a wide variety of services, from a \$10 car wash up to \$1,000. In addition to cars, A+ Auto Detailing takes care of trucks, motorcycles, boats, RVs, even planes and helicopters.

"I specialize in motorcycles. I just did a big 30 foot boat. Anything people use to get around on land, water, or in the air, I can do. I do mini-planes, helicopters. We can go to Piper and clean your plane there. I have a passion for this. It's not just a job to me."

One of Joe's most popular services is odor removal. "Got a car that smells like dogs or cats? We can eliminate odors and help you keep the odors out. We go deep into the vents and make sure everything is deodorized. We don't just clean what people see on the outside. We go up in your vents, and deodorize every part of your car."

"For people who transport animals in their car, when it comes time to sell that car, sometimes they can't because of the odors. I can get rid of those odors so you can sell your car."

A+ Auto Detailing also provides services like headlight restoration, window tinting, and engine cleaning.

"We go from front to back. I paint. Whatever you need. We do a lot of high speed buffing to get out scratches. We know how to buff right. When your car is done, you won't see any burn marks, you'll see shear glass. In the hood of your car, you'll see

reflections of birds in the sky."

They also have a dent guy who removes small dents. They perform some services that normally require a body shop.

"If you run your hand along your car, it will often feel scratchy, not smooth. That's from environmental factors, like things falling from trees. Sometimes you can even feel fuel residue."

"I always use the best of the best products. That is very important to me. I don't care how much the products cost, I will always use the best. I don't use cheap products, I use top shelf." It's not just having the best products, it's also knowing how to use the products.

"I have such enthusiasm about seeing a customer smile when they come to pick up their car. I really care about how they view the job I've done. That's how my business got built. It can be a simple \$10 car wash, but we're still going to do it right for you."

Mr. Miller cares about the \$10 customer just as much as he cares about the \$500 customer. His passion is the same regardless of the level of the job.

"When I do a vehicle, I don't just put a coat of wax on it. I get everything off, then put six or seven coats of a hard shell wax, and then two or three coats of filler wax. Your paint has pores in it, like our skin."

"Then I put a sealer on top of that. When I get done with it, it looks better than when you bought it from the showroom. Even the dealers in the showroom don't take all the



Joe Miller, owner of A+ Auto Detailing in Vero Beach, works to make every motorcycle, car, truck, and boat look its best. Staff photo by Mike Winikoff

steps that I'm going to take to make your vehicle look magnificent."

If you go to a review website like Yelp, you'll see lots of great reviews for Joe Miller and A+ Auto Detailing.

"That really helps me a lot," Mr. Miller said. "People post their car pictures, their Corvettes, and they're all really happy with the job we do. I've got customers who come in with old cars that they're tired of, and after I'm done with them they fall in love with their cars all over again. I've been detailing cars and trucks all my life, and it really is my passion."

Joe Miller likes to help out good causes around town. You'll often find him handing out free car washes at community special events. "I like to help out good causes in the community."

A+ Auto Detailing is located at 643 27th Ave. SW, Vero Beach. Free pick-up and delivery is available.

For more information, call (772) 696-1201, or stop by Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sundays by appointment only.

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Grand Harbor donates to help homeless families

By Mike Winikoff
mwinikoff@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH — According to The Hope for Families Center in Vero Beach, 44 percent of Indian River County households cannot afford basic needs. Over 2,500 people in the county cannot afford safe and adequate shelter, including about 700 children.

Hope for Families is a nonprofit organization that provides transitional housing, meals, clothing, and access to education, job training and budget planning. The target community is adults with parental responsibility for children under 18, and women who are at least seven months pregnant. The center has 21 rooms to house families.

To assist that charitable work, Grand Harbor Community Outreach recently donated \$20,000 to Hope for Families. To put that number in perspective, it costs \$231 to provide one client with one week of shelter, food, and services. A month's worth of support for one client costs \$990. The average client can make his/her way to self-sufficiency for roughly \$6,900 in donations.

The center is currently raising funds to build a "quiet zone" for children to provide an improved learning environment.

"The Hope for Families Center's capacity to effectively assist 21 homeless families simultaneously is critical to the continuum of services within our community," said Dale Jacobs, Co-Chair of Philanthropy for Grand Harbor Community Outreach. "We welcome the opportunity to continue our support."

Since 2001, Grand Harbor Community Outreach has granted nearly \$4 million to county organizations involved with education, health, jobs, and human services.

Hope for Families seeks to give residents the tools to resolve their problems, find good jobs and stable living arrangements, and become contributing members of the community.

"Of the 74 families we've served since July, two-thirds have become employed, received financial education, created a budget and established a savings so they could move into permanent housing," said Hope for Families Executive Director Diana Grossi.

Adult residents are required to find jobs within two weeks of acceptance into the program, save 75 percent of their income, and spend 30 hours per week contributing time at the organization's Second Chance thrift store or around the Hope for Families Center.

Homeless families in need of assistance should start by completing an application, either online or in person at the center. You must be homeless and meet HUD guidelines that define a family as a household composed of two or more related persons, at



Photo courtesy of Hope for Families

Grand Harbor Community Outreach's Dale Jacobs (left) and Julie Collart (center) deliver \$20,000 grant to Hope for Families Executive Director Diana Grossi.

least one being a child accompanied by an adult or juvenile parent. Applicants must be drug/alcohol free, and willing and able to work, perform community service volunteer hours, or go to school.

Applicants must also be free of a felony charge for violence, multiple misdemeanor charges for violent acts, or a sexual criminal

conviction. The Hope for Families Center is located at 720 4th St., Vero Beach.

For more information, to donate, to schedule a tour, or to apply for assistance, call (772) 567-5537 or visit www.hopeforfamiliescenter.org.

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Police report

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

Arrests listed were made April 2-8

Indian River County Sheriff's Office

- Heather Christine Hopfinger, 26, homeless, possession controlled substance.
- Jeremiah David Jackson, 18, 306 Mades Dr., Ft. Pierce, two counts robbery with a weapon, two counts third degree grand theft.
- Michiel Gene Hamons, 56, 1043 State St., Vero Beach, third degree grand theft.
- Barbara Ann Anthony, 29, 2453 N. Myrtlewood St., Philadelphia, Penn., two counts fraudulent use of personal ID, two counts grand theft.
- George Frederick Trusty Jr., 45, 1616 McCaskill Ave., Tallahassee, violation of probation.
- Jordan Tooker Hearndon, 35, 14055 109th St., Fellsmere, dealing in stolen property, third degree grand theft.
- John Robert Hucek, 40, 8236 97th Ave., Vero Beach, violation of probation.
- Jordan Roderick-Bryant Dawkins, 20, 4896 29th Ave., Vero Beach, first degree murder.
- Parker S. Harris, 31, 191 23rd Ave., Vero Beach, two counts violation of probation.
- Tommie Lee Bertion, 55, 3975 46th Place, Vero Beach, knowingly driving with license suspended or revoked, third or subsequent conviction.
- Robert L. Staggs, 56, 2756 La Palma Terrace, Stuart, failure to appear.
- Paul Patrick Ricci, 39, 111 Duban St., Sebastian, sale of Hydromorphone.

- Nathalie N. Desouza, 26, 20806 109th Ave., Queens Village, NY, failure to appear.
- Markeva Lushawn Lynn, 28, 14178 NW 17th Ave., Miami, two counts retail theft, retail theft in concert with others.
- Latorya Latrice Cooper, 32, 451 NW 7th St., Miami, two counts retail theft, retail theft in concert with others.
- Arthur Lee Dupree III, 26, 502 7th Place, Vero Beach, violation of probation.
- Preshae Tierney, 18, 9750 66th Ave., Vero Beach, battery on law enforcement officer, resist arrest with violence.
- Y'Kia Kishon Northard, 21, 4450 34th Dr., Vero Beach, organized fraud.
- Celone Marquis Sands, 22, 8686 65th Court, Vero Beach, possession crack cocaine.
- Garrett Anderson, 47, 1881 Palm Bay Road, Palm Bay, two counts petit theft.
- Wanda Elizabeth Newman, 53, 1426 43rd Ave., Vero Beach, worthless check.
- Byron Reynard Harvey, 43, homeless, organized fraud.
- Lucky Velente McIntosh, 30, 4385 23rd Court, Vero Beach, resist arrest with violence, battery on law enforcement officer.
- Christopher Lamar Jones, 39, 4857 34th Ave., Vero Beach, possession crack cocaine.
- Katherine Renee Allen, 45, no address given, aggravated child abuse.
- Kenetha Shariel Holmes, 40, 291 6th Dr., Vero Beach, giving false name while detained.
- Tiffany Marie Thatcher, 27, 362 SW Kentwood Road, Port St. Lucie, uttering a forged bill, check, or draft.
- Brian Shayne Scurlock, 36, 2801 E. New York Ave., Deland, violation of probation.
- Montrell Deshaun Rolle, 21, homeless, first degree murder with a firearm, failure to appear.
- Traveion Lamar Banks, 15, 3953 Kennedy Court, Vero Beach, two counts burglary.

- Paul Michael Breslin, 23, 2026 15th Lane, Vero Beach, four counts violation of probation.
- Angelina Grace Maloney, 22, no address given, battery on persons 65 years of age or older.
- Larry Donnell Bell Jr., 37, 1206 13th Ave., Vero Beach, two counts possession controlled substance.
- Vincenza Mico, 60, 20 Vista Garden Trails, Vero Beach, grand theft.
- Kristopher A. Ruszczyk, 27, 2143 1st Place SW, Vero Beach, battery on law enforcement officer.
- Jose Frederick Perez, 45, homeless, violation of probation.
- Jameka S. Dawson, 32, homeless, retail theft.
- Emmanuel Valcourt, 34, 1155 NE 137th St., North Miami, aggravated child abuse.
- Kenneth Winn Novander, 34, 4825 50th Ave., Vero Beach, possession of marijuana over 20 grams.
- James Jamario Richard, 23, 55 Sonrise Place, Fellsmere, trafficking in Hydromorphone, possession cocaine with intent to sell, possession MDMA, possession Oxycodone, carry concealed firearm.
- Chad Steven Reece, 33, 11255 Bluefield Road, Okeechobee, aggravated battery/domestic violence.
- Lisa Harrington, 33, 4855 32nd Ave., Vero Beach, violation of community control.

Sebastian Police Department

- Austin Issiah Colson, 18, 116 Duban St., Sebastian, possession of marijuana with intent to sell, possession of marijuana over 20 grams.
- Nicholas Downing Martin, 22, 468 Biscayne Lane, Sebastian, aggravated battery.

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Vero Beach Police Department

- Audrey M. Malin, 44, no address given, violation of probation.
- Tracey Denise Brown, 55, 1115 9th St. SW, Vero Beach, violation of probation.
- Corey D. Jones, 25, 4515 33rd Ave., Vero Beach, violation of probation.
- Jeremiah Calloway Napier, 21, 510 N. Valencia Circle SW, Vero Beach, grand theft.
- Michael E. Girardin, 62, homeless, criminal mischief, introduction of controlled substance.
- Donald John Scali, 23, 806 18th Ave., Vero Beach, grand theft.
- Joseph M. Saucier, 26, 176 Sayles St., Woonsocket, RI, grand theft.
- Matthew Michael Howard, 37, 2340 16th Ave., Vero Beach, violation of probation.
- Brian J. Swack, 29, 1795 46th Ave., Vero Beach, possession of cocaine.

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VIEWPOINT

FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2018 • SEBASTIAN • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSIRC.COM • PAGE 6

Rants & Raves

Got something to say?

Email the Hometown Rants & Raves at

newsfp@hometownnewsol.com

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

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

Interesting time at resort

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

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

Can you help me?

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

How do you stop all these mailings looking for money?

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

Are we having fun yet?

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

We rely on the Postal Service

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

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

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

Turn signals

Of course, everyone who has driven has noticed the 50-60 percent of the inconsiderate drivers in who are too lazy and uncaring to use turn signals. If I was in law enforce-

Faces of pride



Photo courtesy of Megan Hoots

Edgar Rivas of Stuart helps Miss Space Coast Pride 2017 Azhiatz Li with her crown at the 14th annual Treasure Coast PrideFest at Fort Pierce's River Walk Center.

ment, I'd give everyone I saw not use a turn signal a ticket. However, that's all an officer would do all day. I'd come in on my days off and work eight-to-10 hours a day unpaid; and everyone I saw not using their turn signals would get a ticket.

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

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

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

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

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

Mail the empty envelopes back

To the person seeking suggestions on how to stop receiving excessive mailings for money. Open the mail, and mail the return envelope (empty) that's inside back to the

organization requesting the money. They will eventually get tired of paying postage both ways for nothing.

We need to slow down

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

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

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

Hometown News

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Looking for a home



Scarlett is an eight-month old spayed female white and gray tabby mixed breed cat. She came to the Humane Society on March 26. Shy Scarlett hid a lot at first, but is now coming out of her shell. She hangs out in the open in her cat room, approaches people, and will even sit in a lap. Although timid, Scarlett is a spunky girl, using a swat of her paw to defend her personal space from intruders. Scarlett is the perfect combination of sweet with just a touch of sass, sure to become your loving, entertaining companion. Call the Humane Society at (772) 388-3331 or visit the shelter at 6230 77th St., Vero Beach. Animals for adoption can be seen on the shelter's website www.hsvb.org.

Coastal

From page 1

variety of sheltered and attached organisms."

The project, the first of its kind in the county, will take place at the Indian River Land Trust Toni Robinson Waterfront Trail.

ORCA hopes to place over 400 bags of fossilized shells and coquina rocks about 10-15 feet offshore. Volunteers will be lifting 20-40 pound bags, and should expect to get wet.

"This location at the Indian River Land Trust Toni Robinson Waterfront Trail is ORCA's first living shoreline breakwater construction, although we have done shoreline plantings with plants provided by ORCA's native plant nursery," Ms. Tracy said.

ORCA created a restoration nursery at the Fort Pierce Inlet to propagate native vegetation. That nursery now includes 1,500 individual plants representing 14 native coastal species. This weekend's specific volunteer restoration project will focus on the building of a hard breakwater.

For about 10 years, ORCA has been developing engineering and scientific methods to monitor lagoon health. The organization considers habitat restoration and shoreline reclamation to be the logical next step.

With its groundbreaking Kilroy and Ecotoxicity programs, ORCA mapped areas to identify good candidates for restoration. ORCA explains on its website how the data they've been collecting will now be put to use to "reclaim the lagoon."

"For the last decade ORCA has collected some of the most in-depth and usable data on the Indian River Lagoon," ORCA's web-



Photo courtesy of ORCA

The Indian River Land Trust Toni Robinson Waterfront Trail Breakwater Construction location.

site says. "It has been our vision since our inception to find ways to use this information to help the Lagoon moving forward. Our living shoreline program is the culmination of this vision. Habitat restoration is a perfect fit for the ORCA team and we have planned our future to include this entity as a major part of our future work."

Those interested in volunteering for the project are asked to RSVP, wear tennis shoes that you don't mind getting wet, bring work gloves if you have them, and bring a reusable water bottle. Snacks and water will be provided.

Volunteers should park at The Indian River Land Trust parking area at the Toni Robinson Waterfront Trail, on the north side of 79th St., east of U.S. Hwy. 1, Vero Beach. Look for a large white sign with blue letters that says Hobart Landing, which marks 79th St. From there, signs will direct you to walk to the breakwater site.

If you are interested in helping or have questions, contact Andrea at abeam@teamorca.org or (772) 467-1600. For more information, visit www.teamorca.org.

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North Indian River & South Brevard County Events – April/May 2018

Dinner at American Legion Post 189

Every Friday from 5-6:30pm
American Legion Post 189
807 Louisiana Avenue, Sebastian
772-589-8710 or www.AL189.ORG

Earth Day/Arbor Day Celebration

Saturday, April 21st 9:00AM - 4:00PM
Riverview Park, Sebastian
Sebastian's Earth Day Festival & Arbor Day Observance will provide an opportunity for people to mingle with earth-friendly organizations and learn about various ways to protect our planet and enjoy nature.

ELC EcoTalks

Saturday, April 21, 2018 at 11am
Environmental Learning Center
255 Live Oak Drive, Vero Beach
The Fascinating world of Bats! by Shari Blisset from the Florida Bat Conservancy. Learn all about bats during this fascinating talk! Did you know that one bat can devour up to 3,000 insects in a night? It's little wonder that bats are considered the most important natural controller of night-flying insects as well as pollinators of fruit and flowers, and they play a vital role in the survival and re-growth of rainforests.

"Scrabble Club"

Every Saturday from 11am–3pm
North IRC Library, 1001 Seb Blvd
589-3273 or 388-5839

Bingo

Every Saturday & Thursday- 11 am
Sebastian Eagles, 9606 Trade Center Dr, Sebastian. 772-589-6573

Capt Hiram's 1st Annual Riverfront Clean-up

Sunday, April 22nd from 8-10am
Capt Hiram's, 1606 Indian River Drive, Sebastian
Meet at Hiram's at 8am, teams will split up and go north and south.
www.Hirams.com

Wellness Qigong

Every Sunday from 8:00AM - 9:30AM
True Balance Energy Center, 8800 U.S. 1, Sebastian. Energy Exercise Classes. Improve your health & enhance your energy. \$10.00. *For weekly schedule, visit Truebalanceenergycenter.com or 559-0866

Capt Hiram's Resort Karaoke

Every Sunday from 7:30PM - 11:00PM
Capt Hiram's Resort, 1606 Indian River Drive, Sebastian
Join us for Karaoke Night with Good Times Entertainment
www.hirams.com

PIPS Meeting

Monday, April 23rd at 6 p.m.
North Indian River County Library
1001 Sebastian Blvd., Sebastian
Laura Flynn, wetland scientist for Lewis Environmental Services and Coastal Resources Group Inc., has worked at Pelican Island since 2005. Laura has monitored the restoration projects at Pelican Island, the most recent being 2017, which implemented a small scale oyster reef near the island with the Pelican Island Refuge staff and numerous volunteers including mem-

bers of PIPS.
firstrefuge.org or call 772-202-0697.

Trivia Night

Every Tuesday Night at 6:30 p.m.
Woody's BBQ, 13600 US 1, Seb.
Play for prizes

Bingo at the Sebastian Elks Lodge

Every Wednesday at 12:00 pm
Sebastian Elks Lodge, 731 S Fleming St, Seb. Open to the public. Proceeds benefit all Elks charities. 772-589-1516

Rotary Club of Sebastian Networking Luncheon

Every Thursday at 12:15 pm
Vic's Pizza, 482 US Hwy 1, Seb.
Guests are welcome to see what Rotary is all about and listen to a speaker. Lunch \$15. sebastianrotary.com. 581-3199

Roseland Jam Session

Meets every Thursday- 1:30 -3:30p
Roseland Volunteer Fire Department building, 8025 129th Court, Roseland
Acoustic Country & Bluegrass music!
Audience welcome. 913-2182

Live Bluegrass Jam

Every Thursday Night at 6:30 p.m.
Marsh Landing Restaurant
44 N. Broadway, Fellsmere
Enjoy some traditional and original songs! Good music, good food & a good time. Bring your instrument & join the fun!

Night Sounds at Sebastian Inlet Concert Series with St. Johns Wood

Saturday, April 28th from 6-9 pm
Sebastian Inlet State Park
9700 S. A1A, Melbourne Beach (Coconut Point)
St. Johns Wood is a five-piece band that transports you back to the music of the 1960's British invasion. The concert is free with regular park entry fees. www.floridastateparks.org/park/Sebastian-Inlet or call 772-388-2750 or 321-984-4852

27th Annual Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament

Saturday, May 5th at 7:45am (Shotgun Start)
Sebastian Municipal Golf Course
101 Airport Drive West, Sebastian
Join us for a great day of golf followed by a fiesta style lunch at the Tiki Bar & Grill! This Annual Golf Tournament provides the opportunity for social interaction and networking among golfers and t-box sponsors. As our biggest fundraiser, this event helps underwrite the Chamber's efforts in supporting a healthy business environment, promoting our tourism resources, and enhancing the quality of life in our community. In addition to a fun day on the links, participants will also enjoy a luncheon and awards presentation along the Indian River Lagoon at the Tiki Bar & Grill. Lunch includes (2) draft, wine or well drinks OR (1) well margarita. 772-589-5969

To have your event listed, please send details to:
Info@SebastianChamber.com
772-589-5969

Spoonbill Marsh debated

By Mike Winikoff

mwinikoff@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH — An issue that was already a confusing battle over science and statistics became even more confusing at an April 12 meeting called by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

The subject was Spoonbill Marsh, one of three waste water treatment facilities operated by Indian River County. A small group of concerned citizens led by Carter Taylor, the former president of the Indian River Neighborhood Association, and Vero Beach artist Barry Shapiro have for two years been challenging the operation of the facility and the methods used by the county and the state to measure success.

The group of citizens and the state could not even agree on the format of the meeting that was meant to address concerns. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Shapiro wanted a regular public hearing, with one person speaking at a time from a podium and state officials responding for all to hear. Instead, the DEP offered a more casual meeting in which state and county officials were spread around a room to engage in individual conversations, with no opportunity for the assembled crowd to follow along.

About 60 people attended the meeting at the Indian River County Administration Complex. For two hours, attendees moved individually between three tables. At the "permitting table," DEP staff answered questions regarding permitting rules and the current draft permit. At a "compliance and enforcement table," DEP staff answered questions regarding the latest Spoonbill Marsh inspection report and other compliance issues. At the "Indian River County table," utility district representatives answered questions about their proposals.

Comments were submitted at the "dedicated comment table."

The result was that there was no opportunity for one coherent conversation in which all could listen and participate. Instead, the time was filled with dozens of individual conversations taking place at the same time, with each participant repeating his or her same points to different listeners, many of whom could not even hear each other over the roar.

To make matters more confusing, the DEP written materials handed out at the meeting had the wrong email address for the public to submit comments. Some attendees received an email the next day with the proper address for comments, along with a request from the DEP to "Please feel free to forward this email as necessary."

"As far as I'm concerned, this format is worthless," Mr. Shapiro told Hometown News in frustration.

"This so-called public meeting/open house is a violation of our due process rights as citizens," Mr. Taylor added. "This meeting format is cacophony. There is no organization, no agenda, no governance. Most importantly, I'm having this conversation with you, and I'm giving you information that I have assembled tediously over two years, and nobody else is hearing it. If I were standing at a podium, I would be able to challenge them and receive responses in plain view of the general public, and with cameras to capture it for people who can't be here."

Asked if he thought meeting organizers were deliberately trying to prevent his side from organizing and supporting each other's points, Mr. Taylor answered "Yes, I do. We never acquiesced to this format being appropriate. In fact, we notified them that we wanted a hearing. This violates our due process. We believe that the law requires a public hearing if we request one before issuing the permit, but we got no reason for the denial

of the public hearing other than this is the way we do it."

County Attorney Dylan Reingold took a different view of the format. "Sometimes this is actually a more effective method for asking questions and dialogue," Mr. Reingold said.

Both Mr. Shapiro and Mr. Carter took time to explain their concerns about Spoonbill Marsh to this reporter. Their points revolved around the flow of water between the water treatment facility and neighboring land owned by the Indian River Land Trust.

"They built this thing as a water treatment facility," Mr. Shapiro said. "It should have complete containment. But it wasn't designed for complete containment."

"On the north side of Spoonbill is the Indian River Land Trust property. That property was one of the last large salt marshes on the east coast of Florida."

"I went out there on a dry day and the berm separating the two pieces of property was completely covered over. The water was flowing right into the Land Trust property. Trees were dying because of the change in salinity changing the entire ecology of that property, which was supposed to be preserved the way it was."

"Since our complaints, they have gone in and raised the berm, so at this time there is not free flow between the two. But how long is that going to last? After Hurricane Irma they spent \$200,000 on repairs to fix the berm. This thing was an experiment, and it was a failed experiment. The county should come up with a plan to move this treatment facility."

The county counters that Spoonbill Marsh is an environmental success.

"The site has been transformed into a wetland and wildlife habitat," reads an Indian River County statement given to Hometown News at the meeting. "Although Spoonbill Marsh is surrounded by urban development and automobile traffic, it is an oasis for wildlife. Nestled along the lagoon, the ponds at Spoonbill Marsh have become a safe haven for aquatic life. Migratory birds make us of the mangrove canopy, along with the native species such as herons, egrets and osprey."

"A true indicator of a healthy ecosystem is the presence of apex predators such as alligators, bobcats, otters, birds of prey, and fish such as snook and tarpon that now make their home at Spoonbill Marsh."

A separate statement from Indian River County Department of Utility Services says in part "This 67-acre manmade habitat uses nature's own proven treatment techniques for the removal of both nitrogen and phosphorus from not only the de-mineralized concentrate by-product, but also from the waters of the Indian River Lagoon itself. The vegetation and aquatic organisms you see throughout the marsh play an active role in efficiently removing the nitrogen and phosphorus from the blended waters. After passing through the marsh, the water exits back to the lagoon in a cleaner state than when introduced."

Because the format of the meeting did not allow for the listener to hear either side question the other, it seemed impossible for an average concerned citizen to reach a conclusion regarding the merits of the competing arguments.

Those members of the public who wish to learn more or submit public comments have a short window in which to do so. You can read the current DEP draft permit at <https://tinyurl.com/ycynsp37>, or request a copy by email to Bradley Akers of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection at Bradley.Akers@floridadep.gov. Use that same email address to submit comments.

The comment period will close on Friday, April 27, at 5 p.m. Questions or requests for more information from the county's perspective should be addressed to Art Pfeiffer, at apfeffer@ircgov.com or (772) 226-1826.

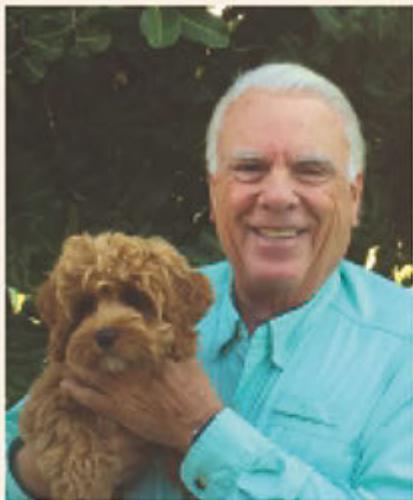
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Gastroenterologist joins medical center

For Hometown News
newsfp@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH --Dr. Yakov Gitin earned his medical degree at University of Utah Medical Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. After completing his internal medicine internship and residency at

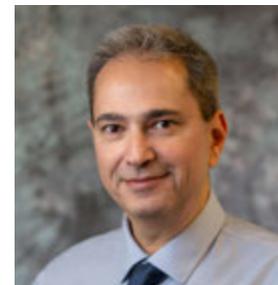
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, he completed his fellowship in gastroenterology at Boston University Medical Center in Massachusetts.

Before joining the staff at Indian River Medical Center, Dr. Gitin practiced with Medical Specialists of the Palm Beaches in Atlantis, Florida. He has been published in several medical and aca-

ademic publications.

Dr. Gitin will further develop the scope of gastroenterology services offered at Indian River Medical Center. Dr. Gitin's office is located at the Health and Wellness Center on the campus of Indian River Medical Center.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call (772) 299-3511.



Gitin

Master storyteller to enchant families at VBMA

For Hometown News
newsfp@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH — The Gifford Youth Achievement Center will present storyteller and mask-designer Doug Berky in a program for all ages Wed., April 25, at the Vero Beach Museum of Art.

“Doug Berky, GEMS: The World Wisdom Stories” features dramatic and comedic interpretations of classic stories woven together. The multi-talented artist is also a costume designer and mime.

This performance by Mr. Berky will first be presented for children at the GYAC at 3:15 p.m. Students will have an interactive experience with Mr. Berky. In the weeks leading up to the performance, artist/teacher Christine Thomas worked with the students to create their own masks.

The public show at 6:30 p.m. will be on stage at the Leonhardt Auditorium at the VBMA. The one hour performance will include classic stories like “The Lion and the

Mouse” and “The Boy Who Cried Wolf” with large scale masks and props to enhance the performance.

According to the artist's website, Mr. Berky believes that stories should be seen as well as heard. With the tools of improvisation, mime, masks, voice, and puppetry, Mr. Berky creates a visual feast filled with fanciful characters, and dramatic and comic twists and turns.

Proceeds will benefit the Gifford Youth Achievement Center's educational programs.

Tickets for the April 25, 6:30 p.m. performance are \$10 per person and only available from the Gifford Youth Achievement Center by visiting www.GYAC.net and clicking on the Events tab, or by calling (772) 794-1005 ext. 241.

Any remaining tickets will be available at the door.

For more information about Doug Berky, visit www.DougBerkyTheatre.com.

The Vero Beach Museum of Art, Leon-

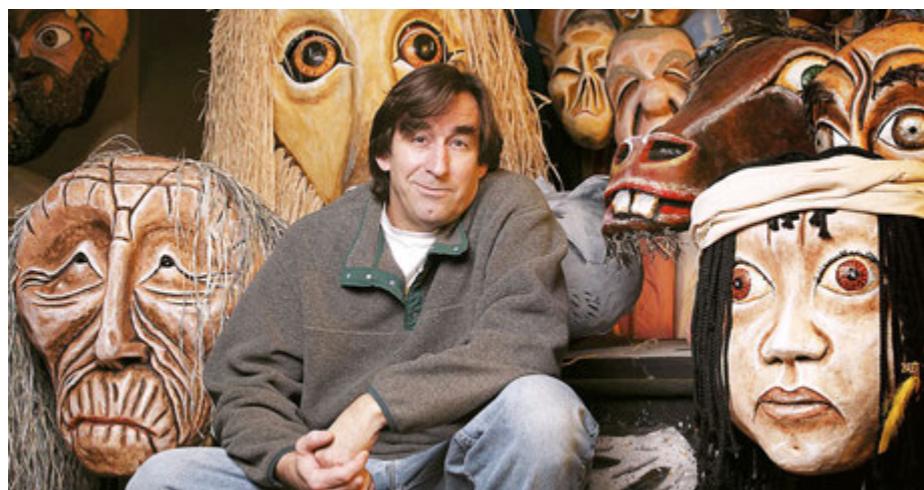


Photo courtesy of GYAC

Doug Berky with some of his magical creations he'll bring to Vero Beach on April 25, first at GYAC in the afternoon and then at VBMA in the evening.

Leonhardt Auditorium is located at 3001 Riverside Park Drive, Vero Beach.

Residential Waste Tire Amnesty Day
April 28, 2018
9 am – 3 pm

For One Day Only, Dispose Up to **10 tires*** For **FREE** at:
The Main County Landfill or One of the 5 Customer Convenience Centers (CCC)

<u>Main Landfill</u> : 1325 74 th Ave SW	<u>Gifford CCC</u> : 4901 41 st St.
<u>Roseland CCC</u> : 7860 130 th St.	<u>Oslo CCC</u> : 950 1 st Pl.
<u>Winter Beach CCC</u> : 3955 65 th St.	<u>Fellsmere CCC</u> : 12510 C.R. 512

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Blue Angels return to Vero Beach

By Mike Winikoff

mwinikoff@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH — The skies above Vero Beach will be filled with sights and sounds April 21-22, as the Vero Beach Air Show takes over the city.

Beginning with a practice show Thursday, April 19, residents and visitors alike will find themselves looking up and marveling at the acrobatics of the world's best aerial performers.

The event features the return of the Blue Angels, who performed at the 2014 Vero Beach Air Show. The Blues were scheduled to return at the 2016 show, but that was cancelled following the death of Captain Jeff Kuss, Blue Angel #6, just a few weeks earlier in Tennessee.

Vero Beach is the site of one of only 32 Blue Angels 2018 shows nationwide and the only one on Florida's Treasure Coast.

The Air Combat Command F-16 Viper Demonstration Team is among the numerous other world-famous acts that will also appear.

Robert Paugh, the President of Vero Beach Air Show, Inc., said "adding the Air Combat Command F-16 Viper Demonstration Team to the 2018 Vero Beach Air Show is like icing on the cake. This show will be a real crowd pleaser."

Gates open 9 a.m. each day. Air show performances run noon-4 p.m., with the Blue Angels flying late in the day on both days.

Guests will not be allowed to bring backpacks, coolers, outside food and beverages,



Staff photo by Mike Winikoff

Lt. Tyler Davies and Capt. Corrie Mays arrive in their Boeing F/A-18 Hornet at Vero Beach Regional Airport prior to their 2016 performance. That appearance was cancelled due to the death of Blue Angel Capt. Jeff Kuss during a practice session in Tennessee.

pets, weapons, or large umbrellas, though small handheld umbrellas are permitted. All bags will be searched.

Guests should consider bringing earplugs, sunscreen, hats, sunglasses, folding chairs, and blankets. Chair rentals will be available for \$10.

The show is held under an open sky with very limited shaded areas. There are no bleachers. No smoking is permitted on the grounds.

Tickets range from \$15 for youth general admission to \$40 for reserved seats. Reserved seats are not under a tent and no umbrellas are allowed in the reserved seating area.

Parking is \$10 per car. RV parking is not permitted.

On Sat., April 21, there will be a free food fest and meet-and-greet from 5-8 p.m.

under the oaks adjacent to Riverside Theatre, on Riverside Dr. The food fest will feature fun activities for the whole family, 30 food trucks, live music by Collins & Company, and the chance to meet many of the air show performers, including members of the Blue Angels, who will pose for photos and sign autographs.

The Vero Beach Air Show is a non-profit event that is scheduled every two years. A portion of event proceeds benefit the Veterans Council of Indian River County, The Exchange Clubs of the Treasure Coast, the Exchange Club of Indian River, and the Exchange Club of Vero Beach.

The Vero Beach Regional Airport is located at 3400 Cherokee Dr., Vero Beach.

For more information or to purchase tickets and parking passes, visit www.veroairshow.com.

Horoscopes



ARIES - March 21/April 20

Aries, soon you will be able to clarify your thinking and articulate your needs to others. Until then, you need to wait for an opportunity to share your point of view.

TAURUS - April 21/May 21

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

GEMINI - May 22/June 21

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

CANCER - June 22/July 22

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

LEO - July 23/Aug. 23

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

VIRGO - Aug. 24/Sept. 22

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

LIBRA - Sept. 23/Oct. 23

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

See SCOPES, page 14

Out & about

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

• **A Decade of Dancing:** A Celebration of 10 Years of Dancing with Vero's Stars, benefitting Indian River County Healthy Start Coalition. 5:30-8 p.m., Indian River County Intergenerational (IG) Center, 1590 9th Street SW (Oslo Road), Vero Beach. Free admission, business casual. Silent auction, introduction of the 2018 Star Cast and Vero's Stars Alumni, light refreshments, cash bar, live music. RSVP suggested. For more

Information call (772) 563-9118 or visit www.dancingwithverostars.com.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20 — SATURDAY, APRIL 21

• **The Comedy Zone Experience:** Shows are at 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., plus free music on Live in the Loop outdoor stage. Comedy performances take place on the Waxlax Stage at Riverside Theatre, 3250 Riverside Park Drive, Vero Beach. Riverside's showcase of professional comedians touring

the comedy circuit on the Waxlax Stage and local musicians on the Live in the Loop stage. Comedians and musicians to be determined. Tickets: \$18, \$16. For information, call (772) 231-6990 or visit www.riversidetheatre.com.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

• **Fairy & Pirate Festival:** Eighth annual festival at McKee Botanical Garden, 350 US See OUT, page 12

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Nice Catch!

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



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

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

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

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

Out

From page 11

Highway 1, Vero Beach. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Imagine a magical and mythical place as the Garden transforms into a pirate and fairy wonderland where children can go on a treasure hunt, build their own fairy house, enjoy crafts and games, face painting and more. General admission rates apply. For more information, visit www.mckeeegarden.org.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21 – SUNDAY, APRIL 22

• **Vero Beach Air Show:** Vero Beach Regional Airport, 3400 Cherokee Drive, Vero Beach. The Blue Angels return for their only 2018 Treasure Coast air show performance; additional performers will be announced nearer to showtime. Proceeds to benefit local Exchange Clubs and the Veterans Council of Indian River County. Send an email to info@veroairshow.com for information on participating as a volunteer or sponsor. For more information on the event, watch www.veroairshow.com.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

• **Opening reception for Spring Gallery Rotation:** 3-5 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 520 Royal Palm Blvd., Vero Beach. Featured local artists include Keith Mills, Susan Lavender, and George Pillorgé. Tours will be available as well as an opportunity to meet the artists, and light refreshments will be served in the Eleanor T. Smith lounge. Free. The works will be on display from April 4 through June 27. For more information, contact Ginger Lagemann at (772) 562-9088 or ginger@firstpresvero.org.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

• **Doug Berky, "GEMS: The World Wisdom Stories:"** presented by Gifford Youth Achievement Center at the Vero Beach Museum of Art Leonhardt Auditorium, 3001 Riverside Park Drive. 6:30 p.m. Berky is a storyteller who uses a combination of costumes, mime, drama, comedy and music to weave entertaining tales for children. Proceeds benefit the Gifford Youth Achievement Center's educational programs. Tickets, \$10, may be purchased online at www.giffordyouth.org. See OUT, page 14

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

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

You need to take a good look at your clubs. Examine the heads, grips and shafts.

GOLF
JAMES STAMMER



Most importantly, make sure that they are as ready to play as you.

Start with your grips. Grips are probably the most overlooked part of a club. Since

the grip is the only place that you actually contact the club, your grips must be in good shape for you to maintain control and hit good shots.

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

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

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

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

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

during a swing.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Hometown News

EOE/We drug test

Out

From page 12

www.GYAC.net or by calling (772) 794-1005.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

- **Downtown Friday:** Street party along 14th Avenue in downtown Vero Beach from 6-9 p.m. on the last Friday of the month. Live music, food, fun, crafts, more. For more information, call (772) 643-6872 or email info@mainstreetverobeach.org.

- **Shakespeare play:** presented by Master's Academy 7th grade students. 6:30 p.m., Youth Building, 1105 58th Ave., Vero Beach. Call (772) 794-4655 for details.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27 – SATURDAY, APRIL 28

- **Riverside Theatre for Kids:** 'James and the Giant Peach Jr.' Shows are April 27 at 7:30 p.m., and April 28 at 1:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. A delightful musical adaptation of the classic Roald Dahl adventure about a boy and his insect friends who take an amazing journey. **See OUT, page 15**

Scopes

From page 11

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

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

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

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

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

Out

From page 14

journey across the ocean. Performances take place in the Anne Morton Theatre. KIDSPOT activities take place at 6:30 p.m. on Friday and 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets \$10. For information, call (772) 231-6990 or visit www.riversidetheatre.com.

• **Howl at the Moon Experience:** Shows are at 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Howl performances take place on the Waxlax Stage at Riverside Theatre, 3250 Riverside Park Drive, Vero Beach. More than a dueling pianos show, Howl at the Moon is a high-energy music show. Come sing, dance, and howl as the most talented musicians perform your favorite rock, pop, and dance hits from the 80's, 90's, and today. Local musicians will continue to perform on the free outdoor stage between Howl performances. Howl tickets: \$22, \$20, \$18, \$16. For information, call (772) 231-6990 or visit www.riversidetheatre.com.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

• **Children's Art Festival and Indian River County Juried Student Exhibition Awards:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Vero Beach Museum of Art, 3001 Riverside Park Drive, Vero Beach. For more information, visit www.vero-beach-museum.org.

• **Night Sounds Concert Series:** 6-9 p.m., pavilions on Coconut Point at the Sebastian Inlet State Park, 9700 S. A1A, Melbourne Beach. Featuring St. Johns Wood, a five piece band that plays the music of the 1960s British invasion. Free with regular park entry fees. For more information, call (772) 388-2750 or visit www.floridas

tateparks.org/park/Sebastian-Inlet.

• **19th Annual Pioneer Dinner:** 6 pm. The Heritage Center, 2140 14th Avenue, Vero Beach. For more information visit www.veroheritage.org or facebook.com/VeroHeritage.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28 — SUNDAY MAY 20

• **Patten Community Gallery Exhibition:** Indian River County Juried Student Exhibition. Vero Beach Museum of Art, 3001 Riverside Park Drive, Vero Beach. For more information, visit www.vero-beach-museum.org.

THROUGH SUNDAY, APRIL 29

• **"It's A Jungle Out There!" exhibit:** McKee Botanical Garden, 350 US Highway 1, Vero Beach. Journey back to the days of McKee Jungle Gardens as 24 beautiful hand-crafted African jungle animals made of recycled metal, created specifically for McKee, are on display throughout the Garden. Lions will peer through the palms,

elephants will stroll silently through the underbrush joined by giraffes, a hippo, a zebra and many other jungle dwellers ranging in size from 3' to 16'. Runs from Nov. 4 through April 29. For more information, call (772) 794-0601 or visit www.mckee-garden.org.

• **'Mamma Mia!'** The smash Broadway and international hit tells the amusing tale of a mother, a daughter and three possible dads! On the eve of the daughter's wedding on a Greek island paradise, her quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they last visited 20 years ago. The story-telling magic of ABBA's timeless songs propels this enchanting tale of love, laughter and friendship. Music by Björn Ulvaeus & Benny Andersson. Lyrics by Björn Ulvaeus & Benny Andersson. Book by Catherine Johnson. Performances take place on the Stark Stage at Riverside Theatre, 3250 Riverside Park Drive, Vero Beach. Show runs April 10 through April 29. Times vary; available performance times are 2 p.m., 7:30 p.m., and 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$35. For

information, call (772) 231-6990 or visit www.riversidetheatre.com.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

• **Chamber Music Concert Series:** Solo violinist Christoph Seybold will perform at 4 p.m., First Presbyterian Church sanctuary, 520 Royal Palm Blvd., Vero Beach. The concert is open to the community; a suggested donation of \$10 will be accepted at the door. For more information, contact [Ginger Lagemann at \(772\) 562-9088](mailto:GingerLagemann@firstpresvero.org) or ginger@firstpresvero.org.

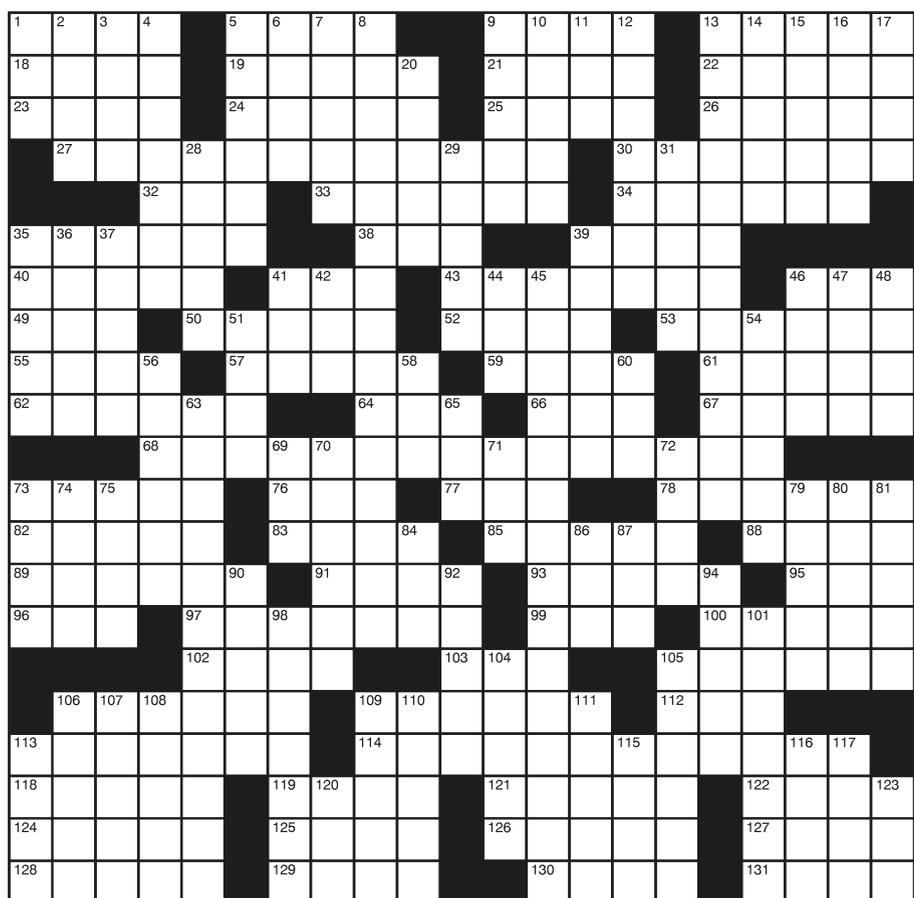
• **'Love Changes Everything!'** Presented by Theatre-Go-Round Dinner Theatre at The Quilted Giraffe Restaurant, 500 South U.S. 1, Vero Beach. A tribute to Andrew Lloyd Webber at his romantic best. Dinner is served at 4:30 p.m. with show at 6. Dinner theatre packages include three course gourmet dinner, show, tax and gratuity at \$65 per person. For more information, call (772) 252-9341 or visit www.theatre-go-rounddinnertheatre.com.

Flexible

Edited by Linda and Charles Preston

ACROSS

- 1 Fraud
- 5 Kingpin
- 9 Des. manual
- 13 Urgency
- 18 Hindu melody pattern
- 19 Supports
- 21 Novel's main character
- 22 ___ ease: jittery
- 23 Dance ___
- 24 Headpiece for the prom?
- 25 On ___: equal
- 26 Furry marsupial
- 27 Instigate recall
- 30 Electra's brother
- 32 Gold in Granada
- 33 Clerical scarfs
- 34 Type of bug?
- 35 Defensive tree barrier
- 38 Heel
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- 64 Dawn goddess
- 66 Atlas rd.
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- 68 Accept an offer eagerly
- 73 Surprise win
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- 77 Alouetta's friend
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- 82 Signified
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- 85 Appropriate
- 88 ___ -a-whirl
- 89 Compartments
- 91 Elevator name
- 93 Thrusting weapons
- 95 Ram's mate
- 96 Fort ___
- 97 Descriptive cognomen
- 99 Mehitabel, for one
- 100 ___ the hole
- 102 Rattles
- 103 ___ loss
- 105 Beautifies
- 106 Spurious
- 109 Repulsive
- 112 Greek letter
- 113 Message bearers
- 114 Relax requirements
- 118 Work a slide fastener
- 119 Bearing
- 121 Swimmer Nyad
- 122 Sleep like ___
- 124 Take care of
- 125 Mine access
- 126 Wise lawgiver



Answers Located in the Classified Section

- 127 Room, in Spain
 - 128 Ruhr city
 - 129 Signifies assent
 - 130 Cozy place
 - 131 "SNL's" Samberg
- DOWN**
- 1 Madrid Mrs.
 - 2 Pilgrimage to Mecca
 - 3 Exchange premium
 - 4 Insect larvae
 - 5 Anticlimax
 - 6 Drama award
 - 7 Wrinkles
 - 8 Exaggerate
 - 9 Portion
 - 10 Diarist Samuel
 - 11 Notable time
 - 12 Flower petals
 - 13 Raise the ante
 - 14 East Flanders city
 - 15 List of candidates
 - 16 Former German coin
 - 17 Greek letters

- 20 Pacific island group
- 28 Essays
- 29 ___ the hills
- 31 Steer catcher
- 35 Soap plant
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- 37 Noted merchant
- 39 Inhalation
- 41 ___ carte
- 42 Pose
- 44 Upper limit
- 45 Act prudently
- 46 Tibetan monk
- 47 Descended
- 48 Jane Lynch TV series
- 51 ___ bargain
- 54 Primary relative
- 56 Flair
- 58 Barfly
- 60 Grazing area
- 63 Have a head start
- 65 ___ Na Na
- 69 Ltr. addition
- 70 Broad neckties
- 71 Rhea's relative
- 72 Scruff
- 73 Shield boss

- 74 Type of review
- 75 Chalcedony
- 79 Sea duck
- 80 Bitter crystal
- 81 British guns
- 84 Key lime product
- 86 ___ tree: stumped
- 87 Soak flax
- 90 Designer Kate
- 92 Wood coloring
- 94 Hindu holy man
- 98 ___ Triathlon
- 101 ___ cucumber
- 104 Producer Mike and others
- 105 Unmitigated
- 106 Stamp sheets
- 107 Shapes' partner
- 108 Cream of the crop
- 109 El ___: Sudan city
- 110 Impressions
- 111 Fracking rock
- 113 Ruminant
- 115 Son of Seth
- 116 Spirit
- 117 Auctioneer's word
- 120 Altar response
- 123 Author Talese

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GEICO Skytypers Air Show Team introduces new demonstration at the Vero Beach Air Show

For Hometown News

newsfp@hometownnewsol.com

VERO BEACH — The GEICO Skytypers Air Show Team is preparing a new demonstration that will debut at the Vero Beach Air Show on April 21-22. The Vero Beach performance will be the first of the 2018 air show season for the squadron of World War II-era aircraft.

The GEICO Skytypers fly six SNJs powered by 600-horsepower Pratt and Whitney engines. As WWII training aircraft, the SNJs were designed to perform all the maneuvers of fighter planes from the same era, but at slower speeds.

“The SNJs flown by our team were originally used as training aircraft for WWII pilots,” says Team Flight Lead Larry Arken. “We consider it an honor to demonstrate the amazing abilities of these vintage warbirds on behalf of our sponsor, GEICO, while sharing some rarely seen aviation history with air show crowds. Now more than 75 years old, the SNJ-2 is a testament to the engineering genius of the Greatest Generation. These aircraft are a dream to fly.”

A majority of the team’s low-level flying demonstration takes place in front of the crowd. The historic roar of the vintage

engines fills the air as the team demonstrates more than 20 different period-specific tactical maneuvers during its 18-minute, low-level flying demonstration.

The GEICO-sponsored team is known as the “Skytypers” because of its unique capability of creating giant messages in the sky when not performing in air shows. Flying five aircraft in a tight, line-abreast formation, the planes coordinate in typing dot matrix-style messages with environmentally friendly puffs of white smoke. A computer in the lead aircraft uses a custom-programmed tablet to send commands to the other planes via radio signals. The result is astonishing individual letters as tall as the Empire State Building generating messages that can be seen from 15 miles away in any direction with 20-25 characters typed in less than two minutes.

“We are excited to reveal a new routine to our supporters for the 2018 Air Show Season,” said Lead Solo Pilot Steve Salmirs, who choreographed the Skytypers’ new performance routine for the 2018 season. “There is more dynamic maneuvering from the various aircraft, additional interaction between the planes in the air show air space, and some surprise elements developed to enhance and highlight the aircraft and

pilots’ capabilities. Our narration will continue to educate audiences as the team demonstrates military maneuvers taught and executed from WWII to present day. The new performance is tighter and more demanding. We believe it will initiate an evolution towards enhancements in the future. We look forward seeing old friends and making new acquaintances at air shows to hear comments. We hope everyone will be pleased,” Salmirs added.

The Vero Beach Air Show 2018, traditionally held in even-numbered years, returns to the Vero Beach Regional Airport with presenting sponsor Piper Aircraft. Headlining the show will be the elite U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Team, popularly known as the “Blue Angels” and sporting signature blue-and-gold jets last appeared at



the Vero Beach Air Show in 2014.

In addition to the Blue Angels, other military and civilian performers on the Vero Beach dance card include: the F-16 Viper Demo Team, Rob Holland, Prowlers of the Pacific vintage aircraft, Bill Stein, Dan Buchanan, Team Fastrax parachute demo, and McCart Jet Motorsports.

For more information on the air show, visit veroairshow.com

For more information on the GEICO Skytypers, visit www.geicoskytypers.com.

Celebrate Earth Day 2018

With all of the things that have been evolving with our earth, Earth Day is becoming more and more of an important event in our society. Earth day is a day we can look around and see all the wonders that nature has bestowed on us. It is also a great time to think about how we can protect and beautify our environment. This task can be as simple as planting a single tree to beautify our yard or possibly planting a colorful garden for all to enjoy on your property or even to donate your time to a local garden club to help beautify an area of your city or town. With the growing needs of our fragile environment, now more than ever, 2018 will be an important year to do everything we can to both beautify and balance our environment.

The idea of Earth Day was initiated in 1962 as a way to get people aware of what is going on in our environment. It started with President Kennedy in 1963 when he took a five-day conservation tour of our nation. The first official Earth Day was on April 22, 1970. Since then, Earth Day has blossomed into a national celebration



GARDEN NOOK
JOE ZELENAK

where people initiate ideas that can help make our environment more eye appealing and a better place to live.

With all the hype on how we are depleting our cypress forests by the use of cypress mulch, there are many other natural alternatives we can use that are both functional and also will save our natural resources. One thing we can use that we all have plenty of is natural grass clippings. That’s right; grass clippings can make an excellent mulching material that you can use on almost all your plants and flowers. You do need to be sure, however, that your turf has not been recently treated with any herbicides. The herbicides may damage some of your tender plants. Place the clippings around your plants in layers. Make each of your layers thin and do not

make it too thick, as the mulch will produce a smell. Apply the next thin layer after the initial layer has been allowed to dry out. As the clippings decompose, they will produce a fertilizing effect on your plants. The clippings tend to add nutrients back to the soil as they decay and work their way into the dirt. Remember, every time you buy a bag of mulch, trees had to be cut down to produce it!

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

Many of your favorite plants that you

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

Remember, earth day is April 22, 2018.

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

Calendar

From page 1

Topics will include basic horse nutrition, feeding a nutritious diet on a budget, feeding hard keepers and senior horses and preparing horses for disasters. The workshop’s speakers will include Tribute Feed Equine Nutritionist Dr. Nicole Rambo and HSBV’s Director of Animal Protective Services Ilka Daniel. The Indian River County Sheriff’s Office will also be on hand to speak about their Gate Code program and how it helps animals. This workshop is being held just prior to “Help a Horse Day” (April 26), a national celebration created to raise

awareness of the plight of horses. Guests are asked to RSVP by calling (772) 571-6408.

• **Bobcat 5K trail run/walk:** Race time is 7:30 a.m. Off-road race through the Boy Scout camp grounds, 8598 Potomac Ave., Sebastian. \$30 in advance, \$40 on race day. Awards for top 3 Overall Males/Females, Top 3 Age Group Males/Females, plus a walking category for Top 3 Overall Males/Females. Contact David Carlson at (772) 453-9069 or davidcarlson1950@yahoo.com

SATURDAY, APRIL 21 – SUNDAY, APRIL 22

• **Vero Beach Air Show:** Vero Beach Regional Airport, 3400 Cherokee Drive, Vero Beach. The Blue Angels return for their only

2018 Treasure Coast air show performance; additional performers will be announced nearer to showtime. Proceeds to benefit local Exchange Clubs and the Veterans Council of Indian River County. Send an email to info@veroairshow.com for information on participating as a volunteer or sponsor. For more information on the event, watch www.veroairshow.com.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

• **Earth Day Beach Cleanup:** 7-10 a.m., South Beach Park, Vero Beach. Meet at South Beach beginning at 7 a.m. We will supply gloves, pickers, and buckets. Pick up as much as you can until 10 a.m. Each

person that participates will receive a ticket for a free pint (or soda for kids) redeemable same day at Walking Tree Brewery. Plus, you will be entered in a drawing to win a SEA SUP GO gift certificate, 4 training sessions at Relentless Performance & a Walking Tree Prize Pack worth more than \$300. Drawing will be held at the brewery at noon. Kaileigh Capra will be teaching an upcycle workshop beginning at 11 a.m. at the brewery. Kids are welcome. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/events/1732858703500462/

• **Riverfront Cleanup:** 8-10 a.m., Capt. Hiram’s Resort, 1606 Indian River Drive, Sebastian. Volunteers should meet at 8 a.m. See CALENDAR, page 17

Calendar

From page 16

and will be split into two teams — one heading north, one heading south. Volunteers will collect cans, cigarette butts and trash along Indian River Drive; gloves and bags will be provided by the resort. For more information, call (772) 589-4345 or visit hiram.com.

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

MONDAY, APRIL 23

• **Pelican Island Preservation Society General Meeting:** free and open to the public. 6 p.m. North Indian River County Library, 1001 Sebastian Blvd, Sebastian. Visit www.firstrefuge.org, (772) 202-0697.

• **Basketball Registration Day:** iG Center, 1590 9th Street SW, Vero Beach. Basketball for ages 4-15, to teach the fundamentals of basketball. Cost: \$35. Call (772) 226-1732 or visit www.ircrc.com or www.irciG.com.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

• **Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County job fair:** 5:30-7 p.m., 6230 77th Street, Vero Beach. The Humane Society is hiring full and part-time staff for its Adoption Center, Animal Care Team,

Outreach Team, Wellness Clinic and Thrift Shops. Attendees are encouraged to bring resumes. Visit <http://www.hsvb.org/>

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

• **Indian River Photo Club monthly meeting:** 6:30 p.m., Vero Beach Community Center, 2266 14th Ave., Vero Beach. This month's presentation will be "Light: The Key to Successful Landscape Photography" by noted photographer Tom Doyle. The theme for this month's photo contest is "Fauna" and all member's entries are welcome. Visit the *IRPC website*, www.indianriverphotoclub.org.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

• **Lunch and Learn with Master Gardeners of Indian River County:** Second and

fourth Friday of the month through May. 12-2 p.m., Brackett Library, 6155 College Lane, Vero Beach. Learn about Florida friendly landscaping. Bring a bag lunch, coffee and bottled water will be provided. No registration required. Free to the public. Call Hollie at (772) 226-3080 for more information.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

• **Indian River Shores 5K fun run for Special Olympics:** Race time is 8 a.m. Flat, paved, out and back course starting at the Public Safety building, 6001 A1A, Indian River Shores. \$25 Pre-Registration, \$30 on Race Day, \$15 for Children under 12. Awards: TBD. For more information, contact Shawn Hoyt at (772) 231-2451 or shoyt@irpspd.org

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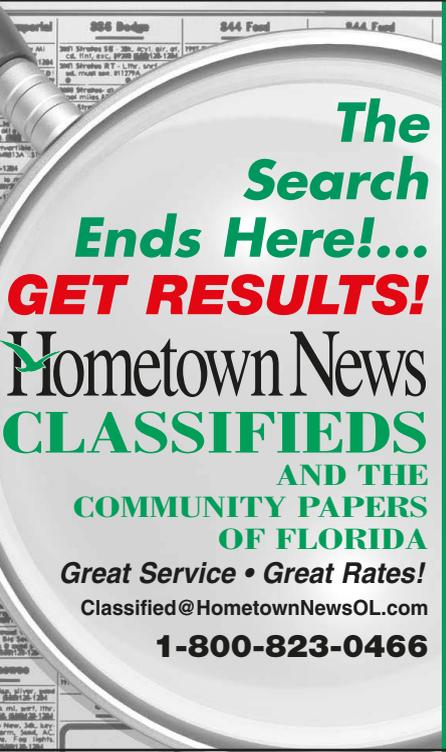
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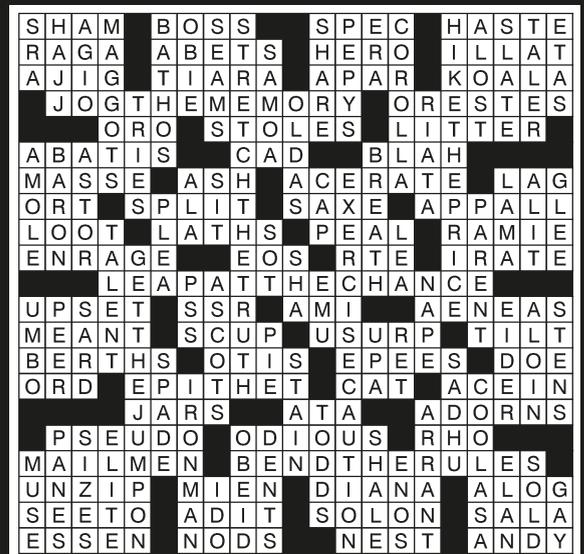
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