**Parents school lunches to be restricted**

School safety official wants parents checking their children out to eat off campus for security reasons

By Donald Rodrigue
For Hometown News

STUART – A note to parents posted on the Martin County School District’s Facebook page Jan. 22 by the head of security caused an uproar among parents accustomed to eating lunch with their children on campus while volunteering at their schools.

The note described an interview between Director of Safety and Security Frank Frangella and CBS 12 News Correspondent Erin MacPherson during which the former recommended such parents sign their children out to eat lunch off campus or eat “at an outside seating area.”

Danielle McDonough, founder of the Martin County Parents United group, was one of three parents who addressed the topic that evening at the Fair. See page 4

**Aw, shucks**

Sevin Bullwinkle/Staff Photographer

The 13th annual Port Salerno Seafood Festival, hosted by the Port Salerno Commercial Fishing Dock Authority, took place on Saturday, Jan. 26, offering patrons the opportunity to sample some local offerings, shop through maritime and arts and crafts booths and more in historic Port Salerno along the waterfront of the Manatee Pocket. For more information please visit www.portsalernoseafoodfestival.org

Here, Beth Wolfe, Alex Lincoln, George Myer and Chad Voorhees shuck oysters.

**County paves way for fair move**

Commission agrees to lease terms for 107-acre property north of Indiantown

By Donald Rodrigue
For Hometown News

STUART – Martin County Fair-goers may one day head out Citrus Boulevard instead of driving down Dixie Highway to get to the fairgrounds after the County Commission approved the preliminary lease terms for a 107-acre piece of property near the Indiantown Airport to use for a future fairgrounds.

Assistant County Administrator George Stokus described the terms and conditions of the proposed lease terms on the land, which has sat empty for the last several years after being deeded to the county by the South Florida Water Management District for recreational purposes in exchange for other property needed for a water project.

“The proposed lease is an initial term of 40 years, with two 10-year renewal options after that,” he said. “The option to lease would require the fairgrounds by Nov. 15 of 2020 to provide the following for review and approval: architectural designs and engineering construction plans for the property; a

See FAIR, page 9
Earl Stewart is the owner and general manager of Earl Stewart Toyota in North Palm Beach. The dealership is located at 1215 N. Federal Highway in Lake Park. Contact him at www.earlstewarutoyota.com, call (561) 358-1474, fax (561) 658-0746 or email earl@estoyota.com.

The pain of buying a used or new car may be greater than the pain of having it serviced, but you need to have it serviced far more often than you must buy a car. Below, I'm listing eight suggestions to make your visit to your car dealer(s) or independent service department as pleasant as possible.

1. The Dealer with the Best Price Might Have the Worst Service. Remember that you don't have to have the same dealership service your car that sold you your car. You probably bought your car from the dealer who gave you the best price. You should have your car serviced at the dealer who can best maintain and repair your car. The price of service is important, but secondary to the quality of the service and repairs. Do a little research. Ask friends and neighbors who drive your make of car. Check with the BBB and the County Office of Consumer Affairs. Ask the service manager at the dealership to show you his factory score on CSI (customer satisfaction index) and customer service loyalty (what percent of customers return to this dealer for service)? Every manufacturer surveys dealers' service customers and ranks that dealer by how well he treats his customers.

2. Establish a personal relationship with your service advisor. The person in the service drive who writes up your repair order is very important. Be sure you get a good one. He should be knowledgeable, attentive to your needs, promptly return phone calls, and recommend only necessary services. You might not find this person on your first visit, but if you aren't comfortable with the person you are dealing with, ask for one with whom you are. When you make an appointment to have your car serviced, always ask for that service advisor.

3. Don't pay the “gotcha”, miscellaneous supplies fee. Almost all car dealers and independents tack on a phony fee when you pay your bill which is simply more profit to the dealer but is disguised by various labels. It is also sometimes called “environmental impact fee”, “sundry shop supplies” and many others. The cashier just adds a percentage ranging from 5% to 10% to your bill. This is no different than the “dealer fee” that the sales department tacked on to the price they quoted you on the price of the car. Most dealers will waive this fee if you complain about it, especially if you threaten to call the BBB, their manufacturer, or the Florida Attorney General’s office.

4. Always road test your car, preferably with the technician. If you brought your car in for a drivability problem such as a noise, vibration, or pulling to the right or left, don't accept the car back until you ride in the car with the technician or service advisor and confirm that the problem has been remedied. I also recommend that you drive the car with the service advisor to demonstrate the problem when you bring it in. Experiencing what you experience always communicates your problem more accurately than verbally describing it.

5. For a written estimate of the total cost of repairs and maintenance. Florida law requires that the dealer give you a written estimate. By law, they may not exceed this by more than 10 percent. (6) Make an appointment ahead of time. You should insist on making an appointment and you should try to make that appointment at a time when the dealer's service department will be least busy…typically the middle of the afternoon on weekdays or Saturday and Sunday. Avoid the 7:30-8 a.m. rush. When your service advisor has written up your repair order, ask him how long it will take. After he tells you, ask him to let you know ahead of time if, for any unforeseen reason, your car will be delayed.
**Community Calendar**

**FRIDAY, FEB. 1**

- **BookMania! Book Club: BookMania! Book Club**, featuring titles by authors scheduled to appear at the event. "Extended Check Out" copies available at the Blake Library on first-come, first-served availability. All book club discussions will take place at Blake Library, 2351 SE Monterey Rd, Stuart, 11 a.m. Feb. 1. Discussion will be on Necessary Lies by Diane Chamberlain.

- **The Unaltered Tour**: How do we find our way to a life that is full and flourishing? We have to get back to the original design-the unaltered plan. The Unaltered Tour defines the original purpose of love, sex and life. This is a movement inspiring teens to live with integrity and influence. Presented in partnership with Protect the Heart, local churches, and Silver Ring Thing, the event will be held at The Grace Place, 1500 SE Highway, Stuart, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.unalteredtour.com.

**SATURDAY, FEB. 2**

- **The Environmental Studies Council’s ‘Grandparents Day’**: The Environmental Studies Council will be hosting “Grandparent’s Day” on Saturday, February 2 from 9am-12pm. The Center, located at 2900 NE Indian River Drive in Jensen Beach, features salt water aquariaums, hands on learning, and is home to releasable Loggerhead Sea Turtle, “Luna.” Students are encouraged to bring their grandparents to tour all of the exhibits, sharing what they’ve learned on their yearly visits to the center, where they are able to see the alligator, sea turtle, gopher tortoises, creatures in the wet lab, and much more up close! Visitors will also enjoy a light brunch, crafts, activities, games, and more, as well as the opportunity to visit the Center’s gift shop. For more information, visit www.escmc.org or call (772) 232-5949. This event will be held at Bunkhouse Coffee Bar, 3181 NE West End Highway, Stuart, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.goldengatecentermc.org.

**SUNDAY, FEB. 3**

- **Yoga Latte**: Yoga Latte is back! Join Meghan Rose RYT 200 for an all-level yoga class and grab a cup of coffee too! $15 includes the class and a drink of your choice. You may sign up in person at Bunkhouse Coffee Bar or Twin Spirits Yoga or sign up by calling: Kelly: (772) 261-8312 or Joanna: (772) 232-5949. This event will be held at Bunkhouse Coffee Bar, 3181 NE West End Highway, Stuart, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.goldengatecentermc.org.

**Auto**

From page 2

Not be ready in the promised time. Often when you call a service department they will tell you to “bring the car in anytime” or “come right over”. Service advisors will tell you this because they are either too busy or too lazy to take the time to make a proper appointment. When they tell you this, tell them that their time is very valuable and that you insist on an appointment at a time when they can get you in and out quickly. Always write down the name of the person who gave you the appointment.

(7) Shop and compare high cost repair prices. Most service departments are competitive on maintenance items like oil changes, wheel alignments, and tire rotations. However, the costs of major repairs can vary considerably. If you are looking at an air-conditioner, transmission, or engine repair that can cost several thousands of dollars, get bids from more than one service department. Often just suggesting that you will do this will keep the cost down from the dealership you prefer.

(8) Introduce yourself to the service manager. This falls along the same philosophy as developing a good personal relationship with your service advisor. It can’t hurt to know the “boss”. If you are on first name basis with the service manager, it just might earn you a slightly higher level of treatment from those that work for him. Be sure you meet the real manager. Lots of service advisors/salesmen call themselves managers or ASM’s… assistant service managers”:

They are not…they are service salesmen.

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**Welcome to the Video Revolution!** It’s estimated that by the end of 2018, 70% of online traffic will be streaming video! Simply put, Consumers love video! It makes them feel more educated about your business, keeps them on your website longer and is much more likely to be shared in social media. Are you using Video in your Web & Social Marketing?

**How can we Help Your Business Grow Today?**

For more information and a free digital audit for your business, contact us today at 772-465-5656 or visit us online at www.hometownnewsmediagroup.com

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**Cupid’s Coming!**

**Welcome to the Video Revolution!** It’s estimated that by the end of 2018, 70% of online traffic will be streaming video! Simply put, Consumers love video! It makes them feel more educated about your business, keeps them on your website longer and is much more likely to be shared in social media. Are you using Video in your Web & Social Marketing?

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Lunches
From page 1

the School Board meeting and believes the District would have had a calmer response had it handled the matter differently.

“That was like a bad accident watching that take hold today on Facebook, and I think communication is key,” she said. “It could have been avoided if we would have used maybe a different tool in letting parents know.”

Renee Slabicki made the first post on the Facebook page, calling Mr. Frangella’s suggestion “absurd.”

“I have lunch infrequently with my child, but when I do, it just makes her entire day,” she said in the post. “If safety is a true concern, doing what many have suggested and getting Level 2 background checks should be implemented. There’s no reason to deny access to our kids.”

Ms. Slabicki made reference to a suggestion previously made by Seawind Elementary parent Wess Yancurak, who repeated the same idea during the meeting that night.

“I feel that you’re setting a precedent for all the parent-involved events during the school day if we’re eliminating the ability to have lunch with our children,” he said. “If we could just require a level-two background check on all the lunch attendees at this point, I think that would solve a lot of the safety issues. We’re volunteers — my wife is a volunteer, and I try to volunteer as much time as I can at the school. I love spending time with the students and watching them learn, and I feel that not being able to have lunch with them is taking away from that.”

Jensen Beach Elementary School parent Andrea McAvoy concurred with that assessment.

“I probably put in a good 20 to 30 hours a week of volunteering at my kids’ school, and one of the rewards that I feel is to sit down and have lunch after I’ve helped open snack packs and juice boxes,” she explained. “Having a seat with my sons is one of the things that I look forward to as being part of volunteering at the school. Taking away a privilege I feel is sad, and I would like to know if there’s any statistics that you can guys can show us that the biggest security problem is during lunchtime when parents or grandparents or aunts and uncles come and have lunch with their kids.”

Immediately after the public speaking portion of the meeting, Chairman Christi Li Roberts asked Mr. Frangella to respond to the complaints and address the issue of safety at lunchtime. The safety and security director immediately attempted to squash a rumor that the District was trying to close campuses completely to parents.

“First, I want to address the concerns of parents about my intentions — that I’m going to shut everything down with the parents — and that’s simply not true,” he said. “With most of our events, they’re one-time event at one school. I meet with principals all the time, we discuss it, we make any necessary adjustments to the plans and we go forward with the plan.”

Mr. Frangella emphasized, however, that having parents on multiple school campuses during lunchtime has become a logistics nightmare in an era of heightened security since the Parkland massacre last Valentine’s Day.

“The problem with parents having lunch at school is it occurs daily, and it’s at over a dozen of our schools,” he explained. “So, I’ve received information that things were happening during those times: Visitors were not adhering to campus rules and found roaming the hallways; they were taking pictures of students; they weren’t using the designated areas, which was set aside just for them; and they were inviting extended family members here.”

Mr. Frangella believes front office personnel in the District’s schools are already overworked at certain times of the day and particularly during lunchtime.

“There are three times that are our most vulnerable: during dismissal, arrival and at lunch,” he added. “On some of our campuses, we receive 30-plus visitors during our lunchtime. Our front staff are responsible for the visitors coming in, but they’re not trained law-enforcement agents. I’m more worried about somebody trying to slip in during our high-traffic time. There are other things that could happen as well, and my concern is that we have issues with custodial battles and domestic issues and those could actually intensify. At any given time, it could escalate quickly, and that poses a danger to our children as well.”

As a result of his concerns, Mr. Frangella sent out a memo to all school principals in the District to address the issue of “clearing the lunch areas,” which subsequently became the topic of the aforementioned television interview.

“I gave it to the principals, and it was a direct response to what was going on and what they were telling me,” he emphasized.

Mr. Yancurak said he was unaware of any specific incidents at Seawind Elementary but believed his recommended security clearance, coupled with punishment for offenders, would nip the problem in the bud.

“I don’t know of any parents coming in and causing mass problems,” he said. “If a parent is not where they’re supposed to be, either have a stern conversation with them or you tell them they can’t come back.”

Ms. McDonough said her own teenage son fondly remembers such a lunch years ago when he was in the first grade, and she worried prohibiting parents from having lunch on campus could cause some to stop volunteering.

“I’ve been listening to the parents, they’re very passionate, and I think today we want parents who are involved,” she said. “There has to be another way that we can go about enacting the security changes without pushing our parents away. I’m not saying lunch is bad. I’m just saying I appreciate that parents are speaking up about anything. They want to be involved, and they want to have a voice.”

Not all parents see the need to eat lunch on campus with their children. Gwen Rooney was one of two Facebook respondents who didn’t understand all the fuss.

“My parents weren’t allowed to have lunch with me at school. ‘I’m not saying lunch is bad… I’m just saying I appreciate that parents are speaking up about anything. They want to be involved, and they want to have a voice.’

Parents were allowed to go to lunch with their kids, “he said. “If my parents weren’t allowed to have lunch with me, I wouldn’t be here today.”

Parent Mr. Yancurak emphasized, however, that parents who are involved, “there’s no absolutely no effort in any way to stop parent volunteers,” she said. “We thrive on parent volunteers, and we want you to continue to volunteer on our campuses.”

Superintendent Laurie Gaylord emphasized the District’s desire to continue encouraging parental volunteers as she attempted to quash a rumor.

“We do want parents to volunteer — there’s no absolutely no effort in any way to stop parent volunteers,” she said. “We thrive on parent volunteers, and we want you to continue to volunteer on our campuses. I’ve heard say ‘first it’s school lunch, then it’ll be something else and something else.’ No that’s not it: It’s to control our campuses during those high traffic times.”

Ms. Gaylord reiterated Mr. Frangella’s concerns.

“On a day-to-day basis with the lunch, we don’t know how many people are going to show up, and so that’s been a problem,” she explained. “Like I said, there have been inci-

See LUNCHES, page 7
Police report

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

Martin County Sheriff’s Department

Vicente Jimenez, 32, of Port St. Lucie, was arrested Jan. 21 and charged with two counts leaving the scene of a crash involving damage to property, failure to stop/remain at crash involving injury, and driving while license suspended with knowledge.

Ana Pelaez-Zamudio, 27, of Palm City, was arrested Jan. 21 and charged with tampering with/fabricating physical evidence, and possession of marijuana under 20 grams. Pedro Roblero-Perez, 30, of Stuart, was arrested Jan. 21 and charged with molestation of victim 12-16 years of age by offender 18 years of age or older.

Dillon Wall, 29, of Port St. Lucie, was arrested Jan. 21 and charged with possession of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana under 20 grams, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Nikolas Macedo, 30, of Palm Beach Gardens, was arrested Jan. 22 and charged with possession of marijuana over 20 grams, driving under the influence, and driving under the influence with property damage.

Robert Bryan, 42, of Jensen Beach, was arrested Jan. 22 and charged with possession of marijuana over 20 grams.

Arturo Carranza, 52, of Hobie Sound, was arrested Jan. 22 and charged with three counts possession of a controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Shaen O’Conner, 38, of Stuart, was arrested Jan. 22 and charged with possession of marijuana over 20 grams.

John Williamson, 36, of Beverly Hills, was arrested Jan. 23 and charged with three counts possession of methamphetamine within 1,000 ft of worship/business, three counts possession of a controlled substance, possession of methamphetamine, and three counts use of a two-way communication device to facilitate felony.

Luis Hernandez, 50, of New York City, NY, was arrested Jan. 23 and charged with unauthorized possession of blank/forged/stolen driver license, utterance of false instrument, use/possession of ID of another without consent, given false name or falsely ID themselves, and obtaining property by fraud.

Glenn Barrett, 56, of Palm City, was arrested Jan. 24 and charged with possession of phenetidines 10 grams or more.

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TUESDAY, FEB. 5

• Free Money Management Program for Adults: February workshops cover spending and budgeting, how to save money to reach your goals, how to improve your credit, and what you need to know to buy a home. Attend 4 out of 4 money management classes this month and receive a $50 gift certificate to House of Hope’s thrift stores. Refreshments provided. Sign-up today! All classes are free. This event will be held at Golden Gate Center for Enrichment, 3225 SE Dixie Highway, Stuart, 6-7 p.m. For more information, call (772) 286-4673 (x1600), or visit www.goldengatecentermc.org.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6

• 32nd Annual Environmental Lecture

See CALENDAR, page 7

WARNING!
DEALER FEES DETECTED IN YOUR AREA

The following counties are affected:
- Palm Beach County
- Martin County
- St. Lucie County
- Broward County
- Miami-Dade County

These bogus fees are being charged by car dealers in our community! Expect to pay $700 to over $1,000! They are illegal and should not be paid. You will not be informed of the fees until after you’ve signed your purchase agreement.

When your car dealer tries to charge these... LEAVE!

SAFE CAR DEALER WITH NO DEALER FEES:

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1215 US1 North Palm Beach/Lake Park
561-844-3461 EarlStewartToyota.com
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.

So far, so good

Governor DeSantis has started out his term on a very positive note requesting the members of the South Florida Water Management District resign. And hopefully, the two who refuse will be replaced immediately with people chosen by Governor DeSantis. The many appointments made at the last minute by Governor Scott should also be carefully vetted and removed if the sitting Governor had his own choices to make. Senator Scott also made it a point to let everyone know that the situation under control immediately as he is now there to make sure it gets done.

The Government shutdown

As I understand, when the shutdown is over all the Federal Government employees affected will receive their back pay, for time they did not work. Most Federal Government employee, other than those like the TSA and other law enforcement agencies could work at another job during the shutdown, then receive their back pay, or not working. If they are financially able to, they could treat the shutdown as a paid vacation, going off on a nice vacation until the shutdown is over. Not a bad deal.

More about turn signals

So after working for the Ford you think using the turn signal to much will where it out? Don’t think so. And I guess it is on no one is around to not use the signal either. So you only break the law when no one around to see! Then you complain about someone who speeds! It comes down to being so lazy you only break the law when no one around.

Higher taxes

Yep, I knew it was coming, just not so quickly. Just a couple weeks ago the Sheriff wrote an article about a future initiative to raise taxes “specifically for school safety” and now we’re seeing it proposed for teacher salaries. Everyone wants to jump on the bandwagon. An extra mill on the tax bills for school taxes will be a huge hit for homeowners, especially on the heels of a recent tax increase in Port St. Lucie and higher sales taxes. Keep in mind that senior and homestead exemptions do not decrease the sales taxes. Keep in mind that senior and homestead exemptions do not decrease the sales taxes. Everyone pays the same whether elderly, retired, fixed income, no kids, etc... The economy is not out of the woods yet and seniors aren’t taking in more cash so this coming proposal needs to fall flat on its face.

What’s really going on?

So many Trump fans (actually a minority of Americans) are refusing to acknowledge that it appears more and more, with every mounting indictment and guilty plea for those lying to cover up Trump’s relationship with Russia’s Putin, that the US president is creating lots of Putin’s wishes. Attempting to end NATO, bashing of the United Nations and our closest allies and creating chaos within our own country while lifting sanctions on Russian Oligarchs with connections to the Russian Mob, are all things on Putin’s decades-long wish list. Wake up people, the wall is a distraction to keep your attention away from the fact that Trump’s Crime Family Network is unraveling right before your eyes. We had an election and a huge margin, those wanting an ineffective wall at the border lost that election. Grow up and pay attention to all the guilty pleas, and people revolving around Trump going to prison for lying about Trump’s Russian connections. America does not want the 18th-century solution for a 21st-century problem. Border security could be better served by using modern technology not ancient walls the next generation will simply tear down.
Calendar

Series: The Environmental Lecture Series is FREE and open to the public. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and seating is available on a first-come first-served basis. This week’s schedule features Dr. Walter Goldberg, coral reef scientist, presenting an environmental and scientific travelogue “Diving the Coral Triangle in Indonesia”. All lectures will take place at the Environmental Studies Center auditorium, located at 2900 NE Indian River Drive in Jensen Beach. All lectures are free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.escmc.org or call (772) 334.4643.

From page 5

- Gardening for Healthy Families: Get your hands dirty during this interactive gardening class for the whole family! Join us to learn which healthy fruits and veggies grow well in winter. Reserve spots for your family today! This event will be held at Golden Gate Center for Enrichment, 3225 SE Dixie Highway, Stuart, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. For more information, call (772) 286-4673 (x1600), or visit www.goldengatecentermc.org.

THURSDAY, FEB. 7

• Pass the GED in 10-weeks: Attend 8 of the classes in this 10-week program and House of Hope will pay for your exam fees! Learn proven test-taking tips for each GED section to help you improve in the areas you need help with the most. Books, calculators, and protractors provided. Materials + Exam Fee Bonus = $166 in savings for you! Space limited. This event will be held at Golden Gate Center for Enrichment, 3225 SE Dixie Highway, Stuart, 6 - 7:30 p.m. For more information, call (772) 286-4673 (x1600), or visit www.goldengatecentermc.org.

Meet Sox!

Sox is a special needs senior kitty looking for a fur-ever home. She is diabetic; her diabetes is regulated through diet and daily insulin injections. Sox doesn’t act her age or let her diabetes stop her from being a playful cat and a mighty hunter. She loves to chase and catch toys dangled for her entertainment. She has been in our care since late June and is currently enjoying the company of Turtle, Puppy, and Oreo in the feature room at the main shelter. Her adoption fee has even been sponsored by a generous donor! Meet Sox at the Humane Society of the Treasure Coast, 4100 SW Leighton Farm Ave Palm City. For more information, call (772)600-3204 or visit www.hstc1.org.

Lunches

From page 4

dents on campuses. So, you can still have lunch with your student in a safe area; some of the schools from what I understand have designated a specific table so you can have lunch privately with your student. I don’t know how they’re going to work that out -- that’s up to each individual school to work out.”

The superintendent emphasized that other planned events involving parents on campus would not be affected.

“A perfect example was the spelling bee,” she said, referring to the annual Lillian A. Dassori Elementary Spelling Bee held in the Jensen Beach High School auditorium. “We had extra security there, and we were on heightened state of many people coming on campus. So, we can take that extra time when we know that there’s going to be a lot of traffic.”

Lunches

Free Career Coaching: Have you met with a career coach yet? Call us today to schedule an appointment (772-286-4673 x1600); All career coaching sessions are free! Career coaches assist with career exploration, job searching, completing job applications, writing a resume or cover letter, guiding you through mock interviews, and more. This event will be held at Golden Gate Center for Enrichment, 3225 SE Dixie Highway, Stuart, 2 - 5:30 p.m. For more information, call (772) 334.4643.
Episcopal Church of the Advent Presents a New Season of Jazz in the Sanctuary

4th Concert of the 7 Part Series
February 11, 2019 at 7:00 PM - Free Admission
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Don't Miss Your Chance to be a part of our special Valentine's Day pages that will print again on Feb. 8th
772-465-5551
1-800-823-0466

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PalmBeachZoo.org  (561) 547-WILD (9453)
1301 Summit Blvd., West Palm Beach, FL 33405
Open Daily 9am-5pm  1-95 Exit 68  Free Parking

Don't Miss Your Chance to be a part of our special Valentine's Day pages that will print again on Feb. 8th
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1-800-823-0466
Fair
From page 1

development schedule including detailed development milestones and construction completion dates; detailed cost estimates certified by a professional engineer; and a Phase 1 environmental site assessment for any necessary follow-up action.

The lease would also require the Martin County Fair Association to provide a completion date within five years of the initial lease approval. Although the organization is planning $50 million in improvements on the property to offer year-round activities on the site, Martin County will have to foot the bill on more than $1.6 million in infrastructure improvements.

"When we were discussing the ability of the fair to go on to this property," Mr. Stokus explained, "we asked the Martin County Utilities and Solid Waste to come up with some preliminary construction costs associated with an extension of the water main, as well as a sewer main extension. The water main is approximately $470,000 and the sewer forced main extension is approximately $485,000. The total cost of those items is $955,000 total for utilities, $420,000 for turn lanes and about $275,000 for engineering fees, which would bring your total up for the potential impact to $1,650,000." Commissioner Sarah Heard then peppered the assistant county administrator with questions about infrastructure funding and the county’s plans for the existing fairgrounds if the Commission decided to proceed with the proposal. When Mr. Stokus told her about potential grant opportunities that the future of the current fairground property had yet to be debated, she felt staff was putting the cart before the horse.

"We need to figure out what our vision is and what our plan is," she said. "It's premature to decide to move the fairgrounds if we don't know what we're going to be doing with the existing fairgrounds. These are expensive county assets and we need to plan." Commissioner Doug Smith questioned Mr. Stokus about the purpose and use of the proposed site, which is currently classified as surplus county property. The assistant county administrator admitted the official intent was "a little fuzzy." "My understanding is that South Florida took the properties that Martin County purchased and conditioned them and put them with their bigger part of their water project, and we received this 107 acres of less-valuable, fallow citrus land based on the zoning on this for recreational use," he responded. Commissioner Smith concurred with that assessment and expressed his backing for the proposed fair usage since it "fits the description" of the required recreational usage.

"I think for the benefit of Martin County residents and taxpayers, it's a perfectly great idea," he said. "So just on the face of where we are today and what you're asking us, I think it's perfectly appropriate to move forward." For his part, Commission Chairman Ed Ciampi said he’d been having talks with Fair Association Manager Jay Spicer about the possibility of moving out there or to another location for many, many years, and felt the fair itself shouldn't be bound to the current site simply because the county doesn’t know what to do with the land afterwards.

"The concept of what we're going to do with the existing location actually has very little to do with the folks that are here from the fair," he said. "That's not their responsibility or their requirement. The fair is currently -- and has been for 60 years -- operating very effectively and efficiently and successfully and is a tremendous asset to Martin County residents." Mr. Spicer then addressed the Board and Commissioner Heard in particular, emphasizing that his proposal for the new site would be much more than an annual event. "Madam Heard, it's not about the fair anymore," he said. "The fair is an event that happens on the property one week a year, but this park is more inclusive of youth and community activities that will serve the community all year round." The fair manager then went on to detail the potential facilities the project would include a soapbox derby, archery center, equestrian center, livestock pavilion, an 80,000-square-foot expo center, a midway for carnivals and other activities and an attraction he referred to as "the farm." "We have a vision for a Florida Cracker Village historical center with museums," he explained. "We've already been in contact with folks about relocating some buildings and building replicas of some buildings. We have the Ashley Gang exhibit that will be making a permanent home here and other things on the farm as well, like a blacksmith shop, horticultural exhibits and a petting zoo." As far as whether the Martin County Fair and Youth Livestock Show would lose attendance or participation at the new location, Mr. Spicer believes it wouldn’t affect his current tenants because he charges them very reasonable rent and the drive takes less time from the current location then driving to U.S. 1 in Jensen Beach.

"We offer them a more affordable price," he exclaimed. "Ninety-two percent of the groups that we have talked to that use the place now have agreed for them it's about cost and space, so they're willing to go over there." Commissioner Heard then questioned Mr. Spicer on his funding plan, which she said “relied heavily on others” including a hoped-for $1.6-million Department of Environmental Protection grant. "Do you have that grant?" she asked. Mr. Spicer replied negatively, insisting that applying for grants and outside funding would be useless without a signed lease. "Until I have the paper in my hand that says we have possession of the property, I have no leverage," he said. "They’re not going to sign a lease for that." The commissioner, who ultimately cast the lone dissenting vote on the lease agreement, referred to the proposal “as a multi-million-dollar risk.” "It’s troubling to me that you haven’t acquired commitments of funding from anyone and you’re relying upon Martin County taxpayers’ generosity to lease this valuable piece of property to you and then fund infrastructure," Commissioner Heard said. "I’m completely onboard with preserving farm land and preserving that tradition, but I’m also Martin County’s fiduciary representative and a very conservative one at that. You need to raise money first, and you need to show us more concrete intent than a funding plan that really relies upon promises.”

Chairman Ciampi disagreed with that assessment. See FAIR, page 12

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Joan Lunden, journalist, best-selling author, former host of Good Morning America and senior living advocate.

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CHAMBER EVENTS

Networking Breakfasts
Tuesday, February 5th
7:45 AM
Hosted & Sponsored by The Pine School
12350 S.E. Federal Hwy,
Hobe Sound

Networking Luncheon
Wednesday, February 13th
11:45 AM
Sponsored by Loving Chiropractic of Stuart
Hosted by The Kane Center
900 S.E. Salerno Road
Stuart

Business After Hours
Wednesday, February 20th
5:30 - 7:30 PM
Hosted & Sponsored by Elliott Museum
825 N.E. Ocean Blvd.
Hutchinson Island Stuart

The Chamber Conference Center is sponsored by T.C. Urgent & Family Care

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For Chamber Membership Information call 772-287-1088, ext. 101

CHARTING THE COURSE OF BUSINESS
COMPASS

VOLUME 42 - ISSUE 2
www.stuartmartinchamber.org
February 1, 2019

Chamber Presents 33rd Annual Home, Garden & Orchid Show
Join the Chamber for the 33rd annual Home, Garden, & Orchid Show on March 2nd and 3rd from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Martin County Fairgrounds!
This event is known for its wide variety of exhibitors from all aspects of the Home & Garden Industries. Whether you need gardening tips, a new air conditioner or are wanting to remodel your kitchen, there will definitely be something for you at this show! We have once again paired up with the Martin County Orchid Society as they host their annual American Orchid Society sanctioned orchid show, with the theme “Orchids in the Land of Oz”.
This show is a great opportunity for an array of businesses to showcase their products and services, including but not limited to landscapers, contractors, remodelers, interior designers, artists, movers, florists, and furniture and decor retailers.
The two day event boasts being the largest and most comprehensive home, garden and recreation showcase in Martin County with great visibility and community-wide exposure for our vendors as well as a worthwhile destination for weekend show enthusiasts.
We had more than 7,500 people in attendance last year! Free admission and parking is a bonus for the public.
Sponsorship and vendor opportunities are currently available. To secure your premium space, contact Caitlin Hartry at 772-287-1088 ext. 112 or caitlin@stuartmartinchamber.org.

People of all ages attended the Chamber’s Health & Wealth Show, held January 11th at Treasure Coast Square. The theme “Get your body & budget in shape for the New Year” was evident throughout the show, including a live Zumba demonstration.
Special thanks to show sponsors: Beachside Rehab, Crazy Buchanan PA., WILD FM/101.3 Treasure Coast, Hometown News, Jupiter Medical Center, Martin Health System, SandyShines, Seahorse Publications, Solaris Healthcare, True Oldies 106.3 FM, United Healthcare and Water’s Edge at Sandhill Cove.

Stuart/Martin County Chamber Chairman Will Carson, Forward Electric & Air Conditioning (left) presented the December Ambassador of the Month Award to HB Barnett for all of his hard work and dedication, at the January Networking Luncheon, sponsored by Humane Society of the Treasure Coast at Monarch Country Club.

As the community presenter and sponsor of the Stuart/Martin County Chamber’s January Networking Luncheon at Monarch Country Club, the Humane Society of the Treasure Coast introduced some of their adoptable friends and presented heart-warming stories of recent adoptions. Shown with the adorable pooches are (from left) Chamber Chairman Will Carson, Forward Electric & Air Conditioning, Sonia Rivera, Angela Sanchez, Linda Greben, Karen Magie, Michelle Baker, Bill Barry, Holiday Inn and Chamber President/CEO Joe Catrambone.
Dining & Entertainment
FRIDAY, FEB. 1, 2019 • MARTIN COUNTY • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSTC.COM • PAGE 11

Treasure Coast Wildlife Center hosts wine, music, art in the wild

For Hometown News
newsml@hometownnewsol.com

PALM CITY — Things are about to get wild as the Treasure Coast Wildlife Center welcomes guests to its inaugural Fine Wine & Art Festival at the Wildlife Center on Saturday, Feb. 2 from 2 - 6 p.m. Attendees will have the opportunity to get up close and personal with the Center's Wildlife Ambassadors – the wild creatures who are permanent residents of the Wildlife Center - shop fine art booths, listen to live music, enjoy delicious food and refreshments provided by local food trucks, and sample a variety of fine wines. General admission is free and tickets for the wine tasting are $12 in advance and $15 at the door.

Attendees interested in the wine tasting can expect to sip and savor a unique assortment of reds and whites poured by TheWineMan, Gerd Hambsch of PPF Wine International. Between samples, participants will be able to browse through more than twenty local art exhibitors and food trucks, participate in raffles with Coast Treasure & Smith Jewelers, the Black & White event host for these events, and more from the artists who are on site to discuss their inspirations and processes for each hand-made work. This event will be held at 11954 SE Dixie Highway in Hobe Sound, Saturday: 10 a.m. and Sunday, 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.eventbitite.com/e/18th-annual-hobe-sound-festival-of-the-arts-tickets-53996699582?aff=ebdssb destsearch.

One of the Center's Red Shouldered Hawk Ambassadors is being held by Treasure Coast Wildlife Care Specialist, Vicky Green. "Events such as these bring our wildlife and human communities together, helping to raise awareness and support for the Center's mission to the preserve wildlife and conserve natural habitats."

Visit the Treasure Coast Wildlife Center at their inaugural Fine Wine & Art Festival at 8626 SW Citrus Boulevard in Palm City. You must be 21 or older to partake in the wine tasting. For more information and to purchase tickets go to www.tcwild.org, visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/TreasureCoastWildlifeCenter, email Jordan@tcwild.org or call 772-287-5272.

Out & about

SATURDAY, FEB. 2 - SUNDAY FEB. 3

• 18th Annual Hobe Sound Festival of the Arts: Hobe Sound will once again welcome the nation’s top artists and skilled craft artisans during the 18th Annual Hobe Sound Festival of the Arts. The free, outdoor event features hundreds of gallery-style booths filled with every medium of fine art, including painting, ceramics and more from the artists who are on site to discuss their inspirations and processes for each hand-made work. This event will be held at 11954 SE Dixie Highway in Hobe Sound, Saturday: 10 a.m. and Sunday, 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.eventbitite.com/e/18th-annual-hobe-sound-festival-of-the-arts-tickets-53996699582?aff=ebdssb destsearch.

• BookMania! Book Club: Discuss "Necessary Lies" by Diane Chamberlain at 11 a.m., Blake Library, 2351 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart. Celebrate 25 years of BookMania! by reading three titles by authors scheduled to appear at the event (which will be held on March 2, 2019). Extended checkout copies of each title are available in advance (starting at the previous book club meeting) at the Blake Library on a see OUT, page 12

FRIDAY, FEB. 1

• BookMania! Book Club: Discuss "Necessary Lies" by Diane Chamberlain at 11 a.m., Blake Library, 2351 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart. Celebrate 25 years of BookMania! by reading three titles by authors scheduled to appear at the event (which will be held on March 2, 2019). Extended checkout copies of each title are available in advance (starting at the previous book club meeting) at the Blake Library on a see OUT, page 12

Horoscopes

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20
A sense of magic is in the air this week, Aries. Some may conspire to keep you in the dark about a situation. Don’t worry - it will have a pleasant culmination.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, once someone earns your love, that bond is not easily broken. You will find new ways to show your affection this week for a person close to you.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, sometimes your mind is too quick to speak before you fully think through your thoughts. This can get you into trouble in some instances. Find ways to address any faux pas.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22
Past relationships do not have to get in the way of current ones. Cancer, things aren’t always as complicated as you make them seem. Just go through with your daily business.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, things will seem like a piece of cake this week, so much so that you may wonder if there’s a catch. There is no catch. Enjoy your good fortune and lightened workload.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 23
Virgo, you may enjoy an unexpected respite in the next few days. Initially you may not know what to do with your time off. But soon enough you will figure it out.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, even if you might be afraid of confrontation, you should not use that as an excuse that prevents you from righting wrongs. You will find your voice.

See SCOPES, page 15
Touring with the Townies

Christy Kee, of Lakewood Park, took along her copy of Hometown News to Window Rock, Arizona, on Navajo Reservation in August, 2018. She took the trip to meet her first great-grandchild.

Are you a fan of the Hometown News? Well, we are inviting you to take us along on your next adventure. Each week, we will feature a different reader-submitted photo that showcases one (or more) of our Treasure Coast residents reading the Hometown News in a unique or exotic place. Whether you take a trip to the Grand Canyon or a cruise to the Bahamas, bring your Hometown News with you and have someone snap a picture.

Email your photo (at least 1 MB in size) to yourphotos@hometownnewsol.com and include your first and last name, the city you live in and the location/date of where the photo was taken. Type “TOURING WITH THE TOWNIES” in the subject line.

Let’s see how many places we can go!

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Out

From page 11

first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call (772) 288-5702 or visit www.library.martin.fl.us.
• Painting Party with Brenda Leigh: Join the Kane Center’s resident painting instructor Brenda Leigh for a Friday evening Painting Party! Brenda will guide you step-by-step through the process of painting your masterpiece. Fee includes all supplies plus light refreshments. Cash Bar will be available. This event will be held at Kane Center, 900 SE Salerno Road, Stuart, 4 p.m. For tickets, call (772) 223-7800 or visit kanecenter.org.

SATURDAY, FEB. 2
• The Anderson Brothers Play Benny Goodman: “Virtuosos on clarinet and saxophone” (New York Times), identical twins and Juilliard graduates, Peter and Will Anderson are known for their unique renditions of classic jazz songs and innovative original music. The Anderson Brothers debut at the Kane Center playing music from the King of Swing Benny Goodman. This event will be held at Kane Center, 900 SE Salerno Road, Stuart, 1 p.m. For tickets, call (772) 223-7800 or visit kanecenter.org.

SUNDAY, FEB. 3
• Smoking Section: Enjoy quality, FREE reggae music from the Smoking Section at the downtown Stuart waterfront Riverwalk Stage. Rock’n Riverwalk is a non-profit community event that is funded by sponsorships and donations. This event will be held at Rock’n Riverwalk St Lucie Ave, Stuart, 1 p.m.

See OUT, page 15

St Lucie County!

Voted the BEST Festival/Fair in St. Lucie County!

Thrills & Squeals and Ferris Wheels

February 22nd – March 3rd, 2019

Fair

From page 9

“I can’t imagine you going out to deep-pocketed folks and asking them to participate when officially you have nothing,” he said to Mr. Spicer. “So to me, this is the first step, and we’re showing our support and our belief in you.”
Commissioner Stacey Hetherington also chimed in, expressing support for the Fair’s expansion plans and bemoaning the fact that schools were gradually withdrawing their support for the Future Farmers of America and 4H programs. “We’re losing a lot of our agricultural heritage,” she said. “We’ve talked for many years about equestrian tourism in Palm City and Indiantown, and I love the way that you’ve incorporated some of those ideas to draw people all year long.”
Three members of the public also expressed their support for the proposal, including Stuart Mayor Becky Bruner. “I didn’t believe or think we would ever get to this point with the Fair,” she exclaimed. “Everybody is this community is willing to watch this grow and get it going.”

The Commission subsequently voted 4-1 to approve the lease, with Commissioner Heard dissenting.

Fair Tickets On Sale NOW!

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Only $65 each (SAVE $20)

Includes Gate Admission - Unlimited Rides everyday

All Prices Good Till Feb. 16, 2019 or Online Till Wed., Feb. 20th!
Adult Admission ......... $8.00* Save $2.00
Single Mega Pass....... $6.00* Save $2.00
Child Admission (6-12) $3.00* Save $2.00
Single Day Unlimited Rideband $20.00*

(Reg. Price: $25.00 M-Thurs/$30.00 Fri-Sun)

StLucieCountyFair.com or 772-464-2910

For tickets, call (772) 223-7800 or visit kanecenter.org.
Where do you grocery shop?

Everyone has their favorite place to grocery shop.

Some people just shop at one store, and others shop for certain items at different stores.

Not me. I shop at all the grocery stores. I love it. I can always find different foods from meat and vegetables to grocery items that are domestic and ethnic.

One day I found some breadfruit at a Hispanic grocery. I bet you don’t see that every day. By the way, you have to be able to tell a potato and then peel off the outside skin. It is very starchy and needs some butter and seasoning.

Now my wife, on the other hand, never goes grocery shopping. If she goes to a store, something must be wrong or she is getting something for the grandkids.

I break down my shopping by certain categories. The store with the best produce, the best meat prices, biggest variety of food, convenient location, fast and friendly service, and finally cleanliness. That is probably why I am looking for. Is the price fair or competitive? I want to go to the store that fills all those needs.

I am willing to bet most of you are like that as well. I guess my top reason to pick a grocery store is hard to find one grocery store that fills all those needs.

I will never shop at Wal-Mart. They changed shopping forever. They created the shopping cart. And they defined the 2-for-1 sale or Specials of the Day. Here is how it works. You have a shopping list, and you walk through the store to find them at the back wall. “You get sidetracked on the way and end up spending more money!”

Another great idea grocery marketing gurus invented was the 2-for-1 sale or Specials of the Day. Here is how it works. You have a shopping list and when you enter the door a sign greets you -- canned tomatoes 2-for-1. Well, you think, I can always use canned tomatoes and then your brain is distracted from the list. How about meatballs and spaghetti tonight, let’s see I need pasta, ground beef, grated cheese and some red wine.

Then it hits you, all I needed was bread and milk, so you try to get away and run into what they call aisle stoppers at the end of the aisles. The sign reads, “Special Price,” and you read, “potato chips, buy 2 bags, save 10 cents!” Might as well get them, you think, and just below is a sign that reads, “Special Buy” and it is paper towels for $14.95, so you grab that, too. The only problem is that $14.95 is the regular price. You made it special by buying it!

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Johnny has his favorite place to grocery shop.

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Another year, another PGA Merchandise Show

My crazy, yet fun, week in Orlando at the 2019 PGA Merchandise Show has come to an end. It was a great week. I got to see old friends, make new ones, and enjoy my time in Orlando.

My week again started off with the Tour Edge Multi-Manufacturer Media Event at Lake Nona (www.touredegolf.com). This is always a premier event and the best way to kick off the week. Many media and special guests descended upon Orlando and participated in the event.

One of the guests was Sir Nick Faldo. It isn’t often that one gets to talk to a real knight. Nick was there to talk to us about his latest golf course project in central Florida. More on that at a later date.

The news from Tour Edge was fantastic. Not only was the company introducing new clubs, but it is expanding its stable of players on the Champions Tour. The company enjoyed seven wins last year and looks to have a strong showing this year as well.

Tom Lehman and Scott McCarron are officially Tour Edge Exotics’ staff players. They will be playing many of the company’s clubs as well as carrying the company’s logo on their bags and apparel.

I now have a new driver in my bag, the new Exotics EXS from Tour Edge. This is the most tech-loaded driver the company has ever put out. The driver features a Flight Tuning System (FTS) that includes a 9-gram and 3-gram interchangeable weights, an adjustable hosel that allows for a full four degrees of loft change, an expanded sweet spot, and a new and improved SlipStream Sole for faster clubhead speed.

The 460cc head uses Japanese TSP 910 Beta Titanium in the face for a greater spring-like effect. Engineers paired the face plate with an exceptionally light Carbon Fiber Crown, allowing weight to be strategically repositioned lower and deeper in the head for optimal spin and extremely high MOI.

This club may have been designed for golfers just like me. The modified bulge and roll on the toe of the face helps to create straighter shots when the ball is hit off the toe. Turns out that I am in the majority as most miss-hits occur on the toe of the club. The EXS Driver keeps me from being punished much at all for that miss.

We all should be playing hybrids. The Tour Edge staff players on the Champions Tour are thriving with the new Exotics EXS Hybrids in their bags.

Using the same Flight Tuning System as the driver, the hybrid line has most of the features you find in the driver, but in a club designed to replace those long, hard-to-hit, irons.

The cup face on the EXS Hybrids is “quench hardened,” a special heating technique that takes 750 degrees to provide an extreme amount of strength while allowing for a thinner face. The result is a greater energy transfer to the ball. The results will put a smile on your face.

The latest iron from Tour Edge Exotics is the EXS. This hollow-body iron features a myriad of game-enhancing innovations. The irons have a forged Cup Face with state-of-the-art SpiderWeb VFT Technology for expanded sweet spots, a hollow-body design on long irons and an undercut design on short irons that incorporates LaunchPad technology behind the face for optimal launch, a 19-gram Tungsten weight for extreme toe weighting and a Ramped Sole for faster clubhead speed through the turf.

The variable face thickness technology acts as a web across the back of the face to enhance the sweet spot in every direction. The forged cup face is extremely light and thin, and coupled with a TPE polymer that has been coated with a special performance gel that absorbs shock and creates more spring effect. The hollow body design also offers the best in perimeter weighting and increased face flex on long irons. A 19-gram Tungsten toe weight elongates the sweet spot even further for maximum forgiveness on the face. A Ramped Sole offers more relief on the heel and toe for smoother turf interaction.

The week was off to a great start. Over the next several weeks, I will mix in some stories that is provided by Hometown News. One disturbing thing that I did notice was...
Out

From page 12

MONDAY, FEB. 4

• Chow Down Food Trucks Stuart: Stuart Memorial Park from 5 - 9 p.m. Chow Down Food Trucks is bringing in the A-Team of South Florida’s best Food Trucks. Come join us and have dinner & dessert from gourmet food trucks! Every meal is freshly prepared and cooked to order.

MONDAY, FEB. 6

• Medicare Basics Presentation: SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) and the Florida Department of Elder Affairs will be holding a free Medicare basics presentation. Topics that will be discussed include: Original Medicare, Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare prescription drug coverage, Medicare Supplement Insurance Policies and Medicare Prescription Drug Low-Income Subsidy. A question and answer period will follow. This event will be held at Kane Center, 900 SE Salerno Road, Stuart, 2 p.m. For tickets, call (772) 223-7800 or visit kanecenter.org.

FRIDAY, FEB. 8

• Power Through Parkinson’s: Join us for a live concert by South Florida crooner Rome Salatino singing a variety of American standards and classic love songs. Lunch is served at noon followed by the concert at 1 p.m. This is not a couples-only event! Come with a friend, a family member, a group, or even on your own. There is fun to be had by all! This event will be held at Kane Center, 900 SE Salerno Road, Stuart, 1 p.m. For tickets, call (772) 223-7800 or visit kanecenter.org.

TUESDAY, FEB. 12

• Valentine’s Day Luncheon & Concert: Enjoy a buffet lunch prepared fresh by Kane Center’s executive chef followed by a live concert by South Florida crooner Rome Salatino singing a variety of American standards and classic love songs. Lunch is served at noon followed by the concert at 1 p.m. This is not a couples-only event! Come with a friend, a family member, a group, or even on your own. There is fun to be had by all! This event will be held at Kane Center, 900 SE Salerno Road, Stuart, 1 p.m. For tickets, call (772) 223-7800 or visit kanecenter.org.

Golf

From page 14

that the number of small companies exhibiting at the show has shrunk considerably. The empty space or space taken up by food vendors and tables was larger than I have ever seen. If you add that space to all the other non-exhibitor space, there had to be a 25 percent or more reduction in exhibitors. Not a good sign for the industry.

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 stammegoli@yahoo.com.

Scopes

From page 11

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, your focus and commitment to the task at hand are unrivaled. Others may not understand your passion, but all will be happy with the results.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, be there for someone who comes up to you and asks for help this week. Every little bit helps, and your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20
Think about what you have to offer this week, Capricorn. Run your plan by someone you trust. You may not be ready for the spotlight.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, a string of misunderstandings will soon get worked out. All will be right in the universe once more, and you can get on with all of the plans you have in mind.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, take a few extra moments each morning or evening to slow down and think about all the good luck that has recently come your way.

ACROSS

1 Ham in a can 10 Keglers’ venue 14 Small weight?
18 Le Pev 19 Colorless gas 20 For all to see
21 Gar Hatcher 22 Engrossed 23 Herbicide used in Vietnam
25 Humdrum 26 No wall 27 Exhausted 28 French spread
29 Victoria ruled one 31 Plains homes: var. 33 One of “The Avengers”
34 Sop 35 Heavyweight champ Max 36 Legal delay 38 Good taste
41 Geometric figure 43 Large-bottomed 44 Military ranks: abbr.
47 Close pal 48 Her, to Henri 49 Hebrew boy’s name 50 Knocks out
51 Get up 52 Take it on the lam 53 Funny fellow 55 Dawn goddess
56 Rent 57 Carries 58 Place of worship 60 Romeo and Juliet, e.g.
64 Split 65 Condemnation 66 . . . Lion: Hercules’s victim
67 Abandoned 68 Scores for golf 69 . . . about-town: dandy
70 Boom or Oswald 72 Haughtiness 73 Lhara 74 Passover
77 Engineering deg. 76 SW USA bolly 79 Trekkie
80 Author Shelem 81 Big-bang Firecracker 83 Beethoven dedicatee
84 Tin snick who painted his mother 86 Vinter’s prefix
87 Tins 88 Place 89 Rheas’ relatives 91 Serif
92 Italians from a tower city 96 Medical condition: suffix
97 Tilts 99 Architects’ org. 100 Poke about 101 Finn
104 British gun
105 Concerning 106 Dined 107 Author Loes 108 Certain parallelism: abbr.
109 Car necessity 110 Took an 111 Infatuated (with) 112 Territory

DOWN

1 Small sparrow 2 Painter Charles Wilson 3 State flower of Arkansas
4 Encountered 5 Polly, of “thirstymouth” 6 Snowbird
7 Yemen port 8 Blank, for one 9 Member of an army?
10 Actor Peter 11 To no . . . fruitlessly 12 Hawaiian goose
13 Work unit 14 Took the helm 15 Indulgence 16 . . . Rabbit
17 Beget 21 Some comics 24 Minstrel
25 Rundown 30 Russian jet 32 “Comma dense” author
33 Cut down 34 Mix well 36 Himself 37 Old wives’
38 Dueling swords 39 Cote sound 40 Definitely not a beeline
41 Word with sun or silver 42 Blue Jay’s rival 43 Trapper’s trophies
44 Jeered 45 Ready for battle 46 Mudfish 47 Plants with fronds
48 Assembly of witches 54 Puck passers, at times 56 Retriever restrainer
57 Less modest 59 Peter with wife woz 60 Ruins out
61 Poet’s character 62 Georgia 64 Stair part
65 Lesser Antilles Island 66 Son of Jacob 68 Beach near Santa Barbara
71 felt sore 72 “Unto us a child is given…”
74 February 74 Fermi’s foot, e.g. 75 Volcanic issue
76 Salon snipers 78 Lincoln and others 79 Will principals
80 Conflicts 82 You guys, nonstandard style 85 Gymnast’s goal
86 Spreading tree? 89 Glacier ridge 90 Pooh creator
91 “Pokémon: writer” 92 Sibling’s daughter 93 Seasonal symbol
94 Self-rigorous one 95 Scottish isle 96 Flight, pre.
97 Horn of song 98 Composer Satie 102 AFL-CIO grp.
103 Stand at the plate 104 Mrs. in Madrid

Pretty Fruity

Edited by Linda and Charles Preston

Answers Located in the Classified Section

TREASURE COAST FLUTE CHOIR: Lindsay and Al Nagler, Directors. Flutes of all sizes and shapes assemble for a memorable and rare opportunity to hear a choir of flutes perform a variety of music. 80 Southeast Ocean Boulevard, Stuart. For more information, call (772) 287-6676.

THROUGH THURSDAY, FEB. 14

• Serendipity in Ecart exhibit: Showcasing the creative process of the Ripple Project and a retrospective of Ripple’s lead artist, Lucy Keshavarz, at the Court House Cultural Center, 80 S.E. Ocean Blvd., Stuart. Exhibit is on display Nov. 30 through Feb. 14, Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, visit www.martinarts.org.

Friday, Feb. 15

• Night Explorers: 6:30-8:30 p.m., Hobe Sound Nature Center, 13640 U.S. 1, Hobe Sound

Out
Out

From page 15

Sound. Join the Nature Center for some nighttime stargazing at the Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge. Following a brief classroom orientation, Mohlenhoff will lead the group outside along the nature trail to look at the nighttime sky through telescopes. Learn about wildlife at night and how artificial lighting impacts some plants and animals at night. (If weather conditions are not conducive to viewing planets, stars, and constellations, the program will be limited to classroom activities only.) Free, all ages welcome. Reservations are required. Call the Nature Center at (772) 546-2026 or email info@hobesoundnaturecenter.org.

• Sea of Hope Luncheon: A Day in Havana: Our Fourth Annual Sea of Hope Luncheon ‘A Day in Old Havana’ raises critical funds to care for the foster children in Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River and Okeechobee Counties. Join us in serving these children, youth and families by being a sponsor of this great event on Friday, February 15, 2019 at 11:30 a.m. at Harbour Ridge Yacht & Country Club, Palm City. Pull out your fedoras and tropical prints for a Cuban-inspired day trip! Experience the sights, sounds and flavors of Old Havana! For more information, visit www.placeofhope.com/sea-of-hope.

SATURDAY, FEB. 16

• 3rd Saturday Gourmet in downtown Hobe Sound: The Hobe Sound Chamber of Commerce invites you to dine in style in 2019 at the 3rd Saturday Gourmet in downtown Hobe Sound from 5 - 9 p.m. This vegetarian, family-friendly and pet-friendly food truck series takes place under the stars on Mars & Apollo Streets. Featuring 12 different unique food trucks from all over south Florida and several local craft vendors, 3rd Saturday Gourmet is free admission. Bring chairs and picnic blankets. Please use Mars & Apollo Streets address in your GPS. 11750 SE Dixie Highway, Hobe Sound. For more information, please call the Hobe Sound Chamber of Commerce at (772) 546-4724.

TUESDAY, FEB. 19

• Lighthouse Lectures: ‘Trapper Nelson,’ 6 p.m., Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse & Museum, 5000 Captain Armour’s Way, Jupiter. Join LRHS Historian Josh Liller to learn about the colorful life and mysterious death of Vince ‘Trapper’ Nelson. Perhaps Jupiter’s most legendary character, his camp on the Loxahatchee River made for a popular tourist attraction in the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s. Seating is limited. RSVP required online: www.jupiterlighthouse.org/calendar