



Parrish Village News

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Volume 23, Issue 3

March 2016 FREE

In this issue of the *Parrish Village News*

30th Annual Parrish Heritage Day Parade - 5th Annual Chili Cook Off This Saturday Tickets \$5 in Advance, \$10 at the Gate On Sale at Parrish 7 Eleven and Parrish Y



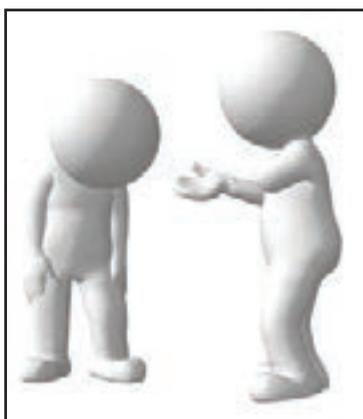
Easter ham and what you can do with the leftovers. See page 5.



Ralph tells us historic and picturesque Montenegro on page 5.



Bob the Wine Guy gives us a choice of wines for Easter on page 8.



Andrea talks about criticism and self scrutiny on page 9.



Kathryn talks about how everybody needs heroes on page 17.



Over 30 teams will provide attendees a chance to sample their chili and then have the opportunity to vote for People's Choice. Judges will also rate the chili and award the Overall Best Chili, 2nd Best and Third Place. Awards will be given for Spirit and Fund Raising.

This Saturday marks two BIG anniversaries for events held in Parrish. First, there is the 30th annual Parrish Heritage Day parade which starts at 10:30 a.m. and goes up 121 Avenue ending at the Florida Railroad Museum.

A couple of long-time Parrish area residents were overheard reminiscing about how the parade once ended at the old School House and how much the parents loved sitting under the big shade trees and watching the children running and playing. When the parade route was reversed because the parade grew so big, the parade just ended and there was nothing else to do. Then five years ago the Festival and Chili Cook Off was born and things really changed quickly.

The first year of the Festival and Cook Off we had 11 chili teams competing and each team had to cook five gallons of chili. The chili has to be cooked on site and the chili teams start cooking at 6:00 a.m. so that a sample of their chili is ready to be collected for the judging at 10:30 a.m. Five gallons looks like a lot of chili and several of the teams could be heard asking what they were going to do with the left over chili. When the parade was over and the gates opened at 11:00 a.m., a crowd of over 1,000 people surged through and by 1:00 p.m. every team was out of chili. Thus was born a successful event that has grown each year

both in the number of teams competing and the size of the crowd. This year there will be over 30 teams competing to be the Chili Champion.

The event has grown in more ways than just chili teams. Over the years more things for the kids have been added including a rock climbing wall, pony rides, an obstacle course and a demonstration area by the Parrish Fire Department. And last year, the Parrish Pioneering area was added. This area depicts life in early Parrish and visitors can once again sit in the shade of the trees and enjoy some old time music, visit several vendors featuring quilts and the like, watch some cracker cattle getting hand fed by the kids, and even watch a bullwhip cracking contest and demonstration. There are also over 30 vendors with a wide variety of food and drink along with several offering a variety of crafts. And yes, the Budweiser truck will be there with a variety of wines and cold beer.

The best thing about the event is that all proceeds go to The Parrish Foundation's Grant Fund which each year provides grants to not for profit corporations serving our Parrish community. In just four years over \$110,000 in grants has been awarded by the Fund. Finding a way to have great family fun while providing support for those groups helping the people in our community is a wonderful thing – and it is something all GREAT communities do.

Parrish FPL Plant Breaks Ground on Solar Power Plant

New community-scale solar plant will be among the largest in the Eastern US

Story on page 6



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P. O. Box 257
Parrish, FL 34219

Cookie Jordan
Publisher and Editor
941-776-9019
RJo2344@aol.com

Volunteer Staff

Advertising Manager
Gene Orłowski
PVNADV@aol.com

Contributors

Ralph Bellrose
Travel

Andrea Harkins
Motivational Blogger and Writer

Patrick McGinnis
Pets Plus in Parrish

Stacy McKee
Y News

Ben Jordan
ben.jordan@verizon.net

Cookie Jordan
RJo2344@aol.com

Bob Monica
parrishwineguy@gmail.com

Leslie Wells
Real Estate

Joann B. Larson
Extension Service

Kathryn Newman
Inspirational Stories

Norma Kennedy
norma.kennedy@verizon.net

Jackie Felix
Insurance News and Tips

Capt. Jason Prieto
Tight Lines! Fishing

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Message from the Editor

I've just looked at the extended weather forecast for next Saturday, March 5th and it looks like it will be cool in the morning and warm in the afternoon -- just perfect for the 30th Annual Heritage Day Parade and 5th Annual Chili Cook Off. Mark Saturday the 5th on your calendar now. You can purchase tickets in advance at the Parrish 7 Eleven and the Parrish Y. Children 12 and under are free. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$10 at the gate.

We are so lucky to live in Florida and enjoy our community! Not only do we have mostly mild weather, we get to enjoy the abundance of wildlife -- especially water birds -- that are so plentiful in our area. I have enjoyed watching the white pelicans this winter as well as the wood stocks, herons and ducks. Recently, a reader of the newspaper sent me the photograph below of a Roseate Spoonbill he took at the lake behind his home. It's beautiful and so interesting. This photograph was one of two that Allan Tremmel from the Lexington area shared with me. He saw a pair of them who returned from last year. Thank you, Allan for sharing.

We should really count our blessings and take time to look at what is around us. We live in a beautiful part of the state and country with so much to see and do!



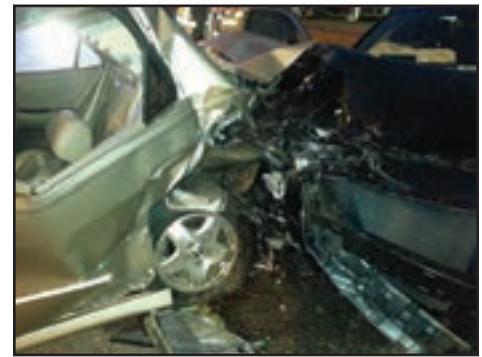
Don't Miss the 5th Annual Chili Cook Off

The 5th annual Chili Cook Off is this weekend, Saturday, March 5, 2016. Over 30 teams will be cooking the best chili in Manatee County. There are also lots of vendors already signed up -- food, beverages, arts and crafts and others. There will be lots of activities for the entire family including the kids with bands, pony rides, bungee trampoline, bounce houses and an obstacle course for children. If you need any more information in addition to what's on the website, send an email to Cookie Jordan at RJo2344@aol.com.

Remember, the event raises money for The Parrish Foundation and all proceeds go back to the community in the form of grants to organizations serving our own community. Some of last year's recipients include the Parrish Y, the Family Partnership Center, Hospice, Manatee County 4 H, Boy Scout Troop 41, Cub Scout Troop 41, the Florida Railroad Museum, Feeding Empty Little Tummies (FELT), the Palmetto High School Biomedical Program and many others. In four years The Parrish Foundation has awarded over \$110,000 in grants.

Attend the 5th Annual Chili Cook Off, taste over 30 chilis, have fun, listen to music and help out your community at the same time!

Did You Witness This Accident?



You can help one of your neighbors. On Wednesday, February 24, 2016 an accident occurred in front of Ace Hardware Plaza in Ellenton at approximately 6:15 p.m.

Although many people stopped to console the victims and to speak to the Florida Highway Patrol about the accident, the victims did not obtain the names of those who witnessed the accident and now need that information.

The accident involved a black Chrysler and a gold Honda. Many people saw two cars street racing on US Highway 301 from Parrish heading west toward Ellenton/Palmetto.

"We need anyone who was there that evening and saw the accident to call us. Please call us at (727) 460-8830 and leave your name and contact information. We appreciate your help."



The Parrish Seal & Motto

March Needs for Blood



Sunday, March 12: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Parrish United Methodist Church, 12180 US Highway 301 N, Parrish, FL 34219.

Sunday, March 20: 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 **Friday, March 25:** Rocky Bluff Library, 6750 US Highway 301 N, Ellenton, FL 34222.

Monday, March 28: The Gardens Mobile Home Park, 11300 US Highway 301 N., Ellenton, FL 34222.

Presenting.... Deb's Helping Hands

Carol Ciarniello, Parrish Professionals

Something wonderful happened in Parrish Florida four years ago---Debbie Carter came to town, and when she did a new level of service was born. Some people say they provide service, but in reality, it's only talk. However, when Deb Carter says she'll provide a service, you can guarantee it will be the best service you've ever had, and she'll do it with a smile and a positive attitude. Her motto is the golden rule, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

So exactly what "service" does Deb provide? Here's a list: pet care/sitting; house-sitting (a recent client was saved hundreds of dollars when Deb discovered a water leak and was able to remedy it before the entire house was damaged); transportation to appointments, shopping areas, airports; supervising home maintenance;

and counseling for behavioral issues, especially regarding Autism. But if you need something else, just give her a call, because as she says, she is a "Jill of all trades!!"

When Deb gives you a ride to the airport you'll think you're royalty! She is on time and cheerful. Her vehicle is clean inside and out; she opens the doors; she loads and unloads the luggage; and she provides beverage and snacks! Yes, it's true---I can personally vouch for this.

Deb has always had a servant's heart toward others. She owned and operated a restaurant in New York, but when it had to close suddenly, she took the opportunity to go back to school. During that time she often struggled, but a very influential professor told her, "Never give up; keep going", and that's exactly what Deb did.

As a result of her diligence she received a Master's degree in Guidance and Mental Health. She is also a Behavior Specialist Consultant. One of her greatest "servant" joys is helping children who have been diagnosed with Autism. Deb lights-up when she talks about helping a child become more social or perform everyday tasks or learn a new skill or helping parents to understand the complexity of Autism.

Did you know that 1 in 68 people have Autism and that it's more prevalent in males? The most common indicators are difficulty with language, social skills and sensory perception, and as you can image, any of these things can cause a child to feel isolated, odd and alone. But with help from Deb and the Autism Now organization, these precious children can learn to overcome and even flourish. If you have a child with Autism or suspect that he may have Autism or you know someone with a child who has Autism and you want to know more, please contact Deb at Deb's Helping Hands 724-816-7693. She has many helpful resources.

If you want 1st class service from a 1st class lady, call Debbie Carter at Deb's Helping Hands.

Deb is a member of Parrish Professionals Networking Group. Parrish Professionals meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month, and we welcome your participation. For more information visit our website: www.ParrishProfessionals.org or call Jackie Felix 941-504-2376.

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Oh What A Beautiful Home... or Is It?



Leslie Wells

Sellers often have high expectations and rightfully so! The 2016 market brings with it higher prices and an increased pressure to sell and sell fast. Today's Realtor is expected to be knowledgeable about every facet of home sales and marketing including the best ways to sell a home for the highest price, in the shortest amount of time and with the least inconvenience to the seller's lifestyle.

Statistically, more homebuyers shop the internet than ever before. This means home photography must be top-notch and must immediately grab the buyer's attention. While some agents still rely on their cell-phone camera, others are finding great value in using

professional photography. Utilizing the skills of a trained photographer can pay off big when done correctly. They know how to capture the right lighting, the little details like trim-work or unique kitchen backsplash. A good photo allows the viewer to feel more connected with the home. It helps them to imagine what it would be like to live there.

Part of marketing is the ability to transform the ordinary into the extraordinary. Sometimes, we are challenged to take homes that have been marginally maintained and make them look desirable to a wide audience. Yards in desperate need of grass can instantly have lush lawns via the magic of Photoshop but just how much is too much? Where do we draw the line?

We've all seen the late night ads featuring that delicious looking hamburger. They pull us in and sure enough, the next day we have a craving. We place our order and open our wrapper with anticipation. Sadly we find a soggy bun, limp lettuce and a questionable patty. We feel deceived and sometimes angry! This is not the experience we want buyers to have when house shopping.

An agent recently shared a story with me about a buyer that had been looking for homes in a particular area. Upon finding a home online they made an appointment, booked a flight and let's just say the outcome was not as the agent had anticipated it would be. The buyer likened the experience to a people on dating sites using someone else's picture!

While it is our job to showcase our properties in the most positive light, we should never want to hear a buyer say, "The photos are better than the house." As you begin thinking about listing your property for sale, reflect on the things that first drew you to your home. If the baseboards need a touch-up, go ahead and do it. If the bathroom fixture was popular in 1985, it might be time for an upgrade. If the yard could benefit from a few carefully placed flowers, start planting. The more you do to bring your house to life, the easier it will be for Realtors to sell your home. Your efforts will help yield the best outcome possible. Buyers will fall in love with your home in pictures AND in person!



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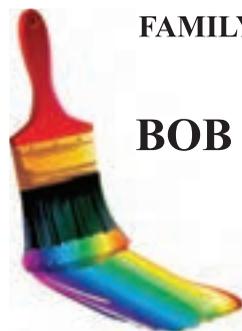
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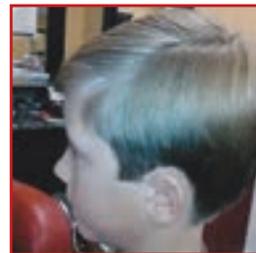
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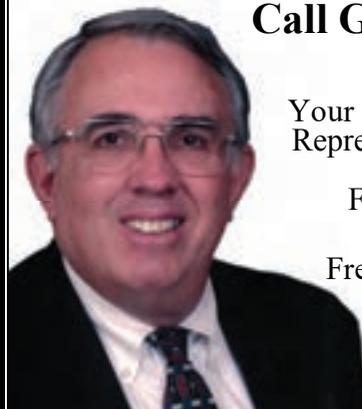
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Cooking with Cookie

Have A Great Easter Ham and Leftovers

I always like to prepare an Easter ham. It's good and goes a long way for meals even after Easter. You might want to try these favorites I plan to have in March.

Honey Glazed Ham (pictured at right)

1 (5 pound) ready-to-eat ham
1/4 cup whole cloves
1/4 cup dark corn syrup
2 cups honey
2/3 cup butter



Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Score ham and stud with whole cloves. Place ham in foiled-lined pan. In the top half of a double boiler, heat the corn syrup, honey and butter. Keep glaze warm while baking ham. Brush glaze over ham and bake 1 hour and 15 minutes. Baste every 10 minutes with the honey glaze. During the last 5 minutes of baking, turn on broiler to caramelize glaze. Remove from oven and let set a few minutes before serving.

Yield: 8 servings.

Ham and Chicken Casserole

1/2 cup uncooked egg noodles
2 Tbsp. butter
2 Tbsp. all purpose flour
1 cup milk
1/2 cup cooked, cubed chicken breast meat
1/2 cup cooked, diced ham
1/4 cup chopped celery
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. ground black pepper
3 ounces shredded Cheddar cheese
1 tsp. paprika

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Lightly grease a medium baking dish. Bring a saucepan of lightly salted water to a boil. Cook egg noodles in boiling water for 6 to 8 minutes. Drain. Melt butter in a saucepan over medium-low heat. Mix in flour, heating until bubbly. slowly whisk in milk. Cook for 5 minutes, stirring constantly till smooth. Remove the saucepan from heat. Mix in the noodles, chicken, ham, celery, salt and pepper. Spoon the mixture into the prepared bakng dish. Bake for 15 minutes. Sprinkle with cheese and paprika and continue baking for another 5 mintes. Serve hot.

Yield: 8 servings.

Ham and Broccoli Braid

2 cups cooked ham, diced
1 cup chopped fresh broccoli
1 small onion, chopped

1 Tbsp. dried parsley
2 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
1 1/2 cups Swiss cheese, shredded
2 (8 ounce) cans refrigerated crescent roll dough

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, combine ham, broccoli, onion, parsley, mustard and cheese. Stir well. Unroll crescent roll dough and arrange flat on a medium baking sheet. Pinch together to form a single sheet of dough. Using a knife, cut 1 inch strips in towards the center, starting on the long sides. There should be a solid strip about 3 inches wide down the center, with the cut strips forming a fringe down each side. Spread the filling down the center strip. Fold the side strips over filling, alternating strips from each side. Pinch or twist to seal. Bake in oven for 20 to 25 minutes until deep golden brown.

Yield: 8 servings.

Leftover Ham Salad

8 ounces cooked ham, diced
1 cup celery, finely diced
1 cup red onion, finely diced
1/3 cup mayonnaise
1 tsp. dried rosemary leaves, crumbled
2 cups torn romaine lettuce
1/4 cup ranch dressing

Mix ham, celery and red onion in a large bowl. Add mayonnaise and rosemary and stir to coat. Refrigerate ham mixture for at least an hour. Put lettuce into a large bowl. Spoon ham mixture over the lettuce. Serve with ranch dressing on the side.

Yield: 4 servings.

I hope you have a wonderful Easter no matter what you decide to prepare for your Easter Sunday dinner! If you choose not to have these recipes this month, save them for later in the year. They are always good for your special meals.

Bon appetit!

Yugoslavia (Montenegro)

Ralph Bellrose



Kotor - a panoramic view.

The region known as Montenegro (Black Mountain) was conquered by the Romans around 9 A.D. It is roughly the size of Connecticut and includes some of the most rugged mountains and deepest canyons in Europe. For most of its history Montenegro consisted of several kingdoms ruled by warlike clans, in constant conflict with pirates, the Ottoman Turks, the City-State of Venice and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The early Montenegrins devised an interesting strategy to deal with plunderers; when attacked, they would simply set fire to their villages and hide in the many mountain caves that dot the area. After the frustrated enemy departed, the villagers would return and rebuild. Montenegro was finally recognized as a kingdom in 1910 but was absorbed into Yugoslavia after WW II. In June of 2006, Montenegro regained its independence and became a member of the United Nations. They are currently in the process of joining NATO and The European Union.

We entered Montenegro through a narrow inlet into the Bay of Kotor. Steep, pine covered mountains, soared around us. Some have described this bay as the southernmost fjord in Europe, but it is actually a "Ria," a submerged river canyon. Our guide commented that in ancient times long metal chains would be stretched across the tightest channels to stop or delay hostile vessels. We sailed unimpeded to the end of the horseshoe-shaped bay and docked near the walled city of Kotor.

The "old town" of Kotor is one of the best preserved medieval cities in Europe and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Its recorded history dates back to the 5th century B.C. The impressive fortifications and buildings were constructed by the Venetians who ruled this area for almost 400 years, from 1420 to 1797, and gave Kotor its unique character. Although the city is relatively small, the walls are over three miles long and extend high into the steep hills behind the town. The rewards for those hardy enough to hike these walls are some spectacular views of Kotor and its bay. (I passed and bought a postcard!) The "old town" has about 100 residents; so, unlike Dubrovnik, it is maintained primarily for tourists

Please see **Yugoslavia** CONTINUED ON PAGE 33



Three New Solar Power Plants Will Triple the Amount of Solar for Customers

Florida Power & Light (FPL) celebrated the ground breaking of its three new solar power plants with a ceremony on the site of the future FPL Manatee Solar Energy Center in Parrish on Thursday, February 11, 2016.

The three new large, community-scale plants, which include the FPL Babcock Ranch Solar Energy Center and the FPL Citrus Solar Energy Center, are expected to begin producing affordable, clean energy by the end of 2016 and will triple the company's solar capacity.

"Six years ago, not far from the Parrish location, FPL commissioned what was then the largest photovoltaic solar power plant ever built in the US with 90,000 solar panels," said Eric Silagy, FPL president and CEO. "Fast-forward to 2016, and we're extending our leadership role in the renewable energy space by installing 1 million new solar panels. If you laid these panels end to end, they would nearly wrap around the entire state. But we couldn't have come this far on our own. Working with the communities we serve, we are building solar energy centers that are not only reliable, but also cost-effective, providing affordable, clean energy for our customers for generations to come."

FPL has been working for several years to find ways to reduce costs in order to make the construction of these three solar plants cost effective. The company identified three suitable existing sites with unique built-in advantages, such as existence of sufficient transmission and substation infrastructure and strong community support. Also, by buying solar panels in such a large quantity, FPL has been able to realize significant savings for customers. Without these unique cost advantages, solar power - even the most economical community-scale installation - is still generally not yet cost-effective in FPL's service area, due in part to its higher costs compared with the company's highly efficient system and low electric rates.

The FPL Manatee Solar Energy Center will consist of more than 338,000 solar panels over 782 acres - enough to cover 577 football fields. The other two solar plants are FPL Citrus Energy Center which is being built on 841 acres in DeSoto County and FPL Babcock Ranch Solar Energy Center now under construction on 440 acres in Charlotte County as part of the new Babcock Ranch sustainable community.

The three new solar energy centers will employ nearly 250 people during construction, helping support the local economies of the three communities.

These projects will join the company's existing solar facilities: the FPL Space Coast Next Generation Solar Energy Center near Cape Canaveral, the FPL DeSoto Next Generation Solar Energy Center in DeSoto County and the FPL Martin Clean Energy Center, the



world's first hybrid solar/natural gas plant.

Florida Power & Light Company is the third-largest electric utility in the United States, serving more than 4.8 million customer accounts across nearly half of the state of Florida. FPL's typical 1,000-kWh residential customer bill is approximately 30 percent lower than the latest national average and, in 2015, was the lowest in Florida among reporting utilities for the sixth year in a row. FPL's service reliability is better than 99.98 percent, and its highly fuel-efficient power plant fleet is one of the cleanest among all utilities nationwide. The company was recognized in 2015 as one of the most trusted US electric utilities by Market Strategies International. A leading Florida employer with approximately 8,800 employees, FPL is a subsidiary of Juno Beach, Florida-based NetEra Energy, Inc., a clean energy company widely recognized for its efforts in sustainability, ethics and diversity, including being ranked in the top 10 worldwide for innovativeness and community responsibility.

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Match Traditional Easter Meals with Elegant Wine

Wine Guy Bob Monica



What's in your Easter basket this year?

Hopefully your blessings will include lots of Florida sunshine, family, friends and a delicious dinner accompanied by a refreshing vintage that enhances the repast. Each year Americans sit down to an Easter dinner meal which traditionally consists of an entrée of lamb or ham. Both require a wine that combines strength and elegance. So let's review some possibilities.

Keep in mind, when matching food and wine... it ain't brain surgery. Yes, there are guidelines to avoid conflicting flavors. But the bottom line is, drink what makes you happy, and not necessarily what some wine guru suggests. Use your common sense and follow your unique instincts.

Start by choosing a bottle you would like to try if you were not matching it with food. Despite all the hoopla about matching food and wine you will probably drink most of the wine without the benefit of food – either before or after the meal. Therefore, you can't go wrong if you find the wine intriguing.

When it comes to lamb, virtually all recommended wines are in the red category. My personal favorite is a robust Syrah featuring jammy flavors of blackberry or boysenberry augmented by hints of olive, pepper, rosemary and mint. I'm a fan of Andrew Murray Syrah Tous les Jours Santa Ynez Valley which can typically be found for around \$15. For a slightly brighter version try an Australian Shiraz. Peter Lehmann is my first choice. It runs about \$20.

Lamb can also stand up to accommodate a good Cabernet Sauvignon or even an aggressive Pinot Noir. But make sure, if you choose either varietal pick a vintage that has good levels of tannin to refresh the palate.

For ham we have to switch gears completely.

The flavors of ham are delicate requiring a kinder, gentler approach. I always recommend a white wine with big flavors of fruit. Not sweet, but full of bright fruit flavors. Try a Chenin Blanc or even an off-dry Riesling. Both varietals are generally filled with delicious flavors that will not mask the ham and may even improve its taste.

If it must be red (and, hey, why not?), then it really should be Pinot Noir. Steer clear of California and head over to Oregon's Willamette Valley for a change. Try an Argyle or Christom Vineyards. Both start at about \$20, but provide great value due to their fresh and glorious flavors.

I hope that I've helped a bit to make your Easter dinner more spectacular. Enjoy it with all the blessings of the day.

Happy Easter!



For Easter wines Wine Guy Bob Monica suggests a Syrah such as Andrew Murray Syrah Tous les Jours Santa Ynez Valley (at left) or any number of whites you may like such as Chenin Blanc or an off-dry Riesling.

Take your pick: even a Pinot Noir.



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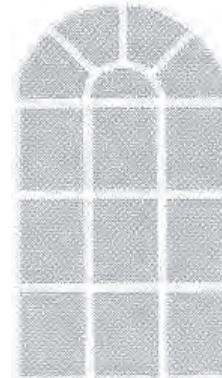
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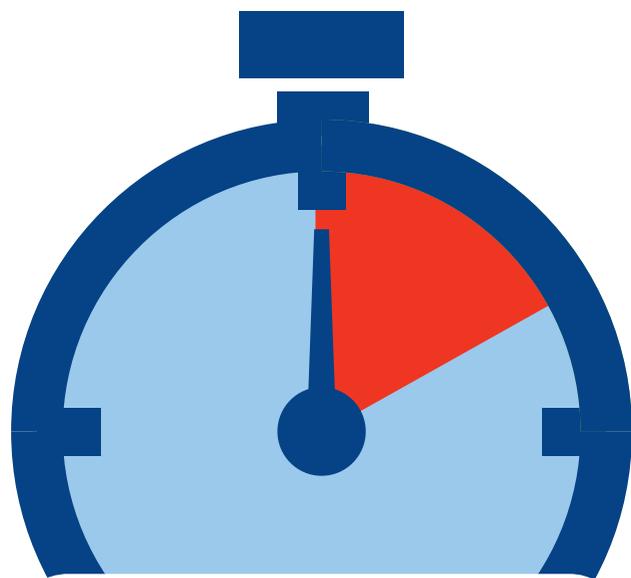
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*CMS Hospital Compare Q4 2013-Q3 2014



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Self Confidence Trumps Criticism

As an established blogger, I often get asked by new bloggers if they should promote their writing more via social media. Their first concern is criticism. Bloggers put themselves out there in the world in a number of different ways. Their grammar, their ideas, their opinions, their beliefs and their personalities are subject to criticism, if they are brave enough to share.

I have to admit it, I completely understand. I was worried, too. After all, I often weave my most difficult life experiences into my stories and even though it is all my opinion and my own thoughts, someone, somewhere, might object to my meaning, my content, or my disclosures. It's me, right out in the open and in any moment arrows can be pummeled at me from any direction. It is a scary thought, but really, it doesn't frequently happen that way. A couple of times someone has "disagreed"

with me, but those disagreements ended up working in my favor. My words actually sounded better because the disagreements were clearly not serving a good purpose.

Back to the beginning, though. When I first starting my blogging endeavor, I felt completely disheartened at the thought of criticism. This is a mind game that you play. You get overly concerned about what someone might think before they have even have the chance to think it. You flip your own negativity back and forth before you actually proceed with your goals, such as going to a new school, starting a new business, taking a karate lesson, beginning a new job, meeting new people, or writing a blog. Your own criticism builds before anyone else even has a chance to criticize it!

When I started to write my blog, I was my own worst critic. I would wonder:

- Did I use the right tense in that sentence?
- What if someone thinks I'm not telling the truth?
- Does this personal story sound too crazy to share?
- Do I seem like a real martial artist?
- Am I helping someone by writing this?

While a little bit of self-scrutiny is a good idea, worry about criticism will hold you back from your true purpose. Share the message that you want to share, whether you are a writer, a friend, a mother, a co-worker, a boss, or a spouse. Don't allow the thought of criticism dissuade you. I almost did....until I found the key, the trick, the missing piece, to all of this worry.

Brushing even the slightest criticism away feels like running your hand over a cactus. It hurts when it is happening, and if you allow it, the prickly needles remain in your fingertips for a long time. How many times have one small criticism made a big impact on you? Someone didn't like what you said, what you wore, why you did something, or where you went? Their prickly, critical words stung. If you are not careful, and if you lack self-confidence, the effects last a good, long time.

The key? The trick? The missing piece?

Stay true to you. What matters the most is not what others might think of you, but what you think of you.

I know that I have a lot to share about overcoming obstacles by using a strong and powerful martial art mindset. Realizing this as my steadfast mission guides me directly and succinctly where I want to go. Before you can get past any fears of being criticized in life, for whatever reason, you must engage your mission fully and thoroughly. Believe in yourself and the rest will fall into place. Criticism still stings, but usually the cactus points have nowhere to stick.

Please see **Self Confidence** CONTINUED ON PAGE 35



Andrea F. Harkins
Karate Teacher at Parrish YMCA,
motivational blogger
www.themartialartswoman.com



Great Activities/Spring Book Sale in March at RBL

March means a lot of great activities at Rocky Bluff Library, but most of all it's time for the Spring Book Sale. The Book Sale starts on Wednesday, March 16 for Friends only and then is open on Thursday through Saturday for the general Public (March 17 - March 19). You can get lots of nearly new books at great prices. You also will not want to miss the Booktique section at the Book Sale where there are some really exclusive books offered for sale at again great prices.

The Friends Only day on Wednesday, March 16 begins at 1:00 PM and goes to 5:00 PM. Then on Thursday the 17th the sale is from 12:00 noon to 6:00 PM, Friday the 18th from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM and on Saturday the 19th from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. You won't want to miss this great sale to stock up for summer reading!



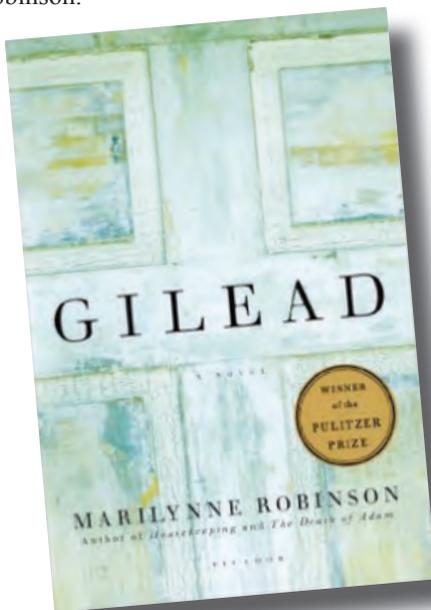
Enjoy Board Games and LEGOS with Friends

If you have some free time on Tuesdays, come to the library and enjoy board games with friends and new acquaintances. The dates for March are the 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th. Chess other board games can be played (i.e. Scrabble, Monopoly, etc.). All ages and skill levels are welcome.



Rocky Bluff Book Club on Wednesday, March 9

The book Club selection for March is *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson.



Marilynne Robinson's second novel is no surprise to find that it is religious, somewhat essayistic and fiercely calm. *Gilead* is a beautiful work -- demanding, grave and lucid -- and is, if anything, more out of time than Robinson's book of essays, suffused as it is with a Protestant bareness that sometimes recalls George Herbert (who is alluded to several times, along with John Donne) and sometimes the American religious spirit that produced Congregationalism and 19th-century Transcendentalism and those bareback religious riders Emerson, Thoreau and Melville.

Gilead is set in 1956 in the small town of Gilead, Iowa, and is narrated by a 76-year-old pastor named John Ames, who has recently been told he has angina pectoris and believes he is facing imminent death. In this terminal spirit, he decides to write a long letter to his 7-year-old son, the fruit of a recent marriage to a much younger woman. This novel is that letter, set down in the easy, discontinuous form of a diary, mixing long and short entries, reminiscences, moral advice and so on.

Our narrator's father, also called John Ames and also a preacher, was a very different kind of man. He was a pacifist and he quarreled with Grandfather Ames, so that the older man, who had been living with his son, left the

house and wandered off to Kansas, where he died. Gilead is much concerned with fathers and sons, and with God the father and his son. The book's narrator returns again and again to the parable of the prodigal son -- the son who returned to his father and was forgiven, but did not deserve forgiveness. Ames's life has lately been irradiated by his unexpected marriage and by the gift of his little son, and he consoles himself that although he won't see him grow up, he will be reunited with him in heaven: "I imagine your child self finding me in heaven and jumping into my arms, and there is a great joy in the thought."

Robinson's book ends in characteristic fashion, with its feet planted firmly on the Iowa soil and its eyes fixed imploringly on heaven, as a dying man daily pictures Paradise but also learns how to prolong every day -- to extend time, even on earth, into a serene imitation of eternity: "Light is constant, we just turn over in it. So every day is in fact the selfsame evening and morning." *Gilead* closes as simply as as it opened: "I'll pray, and then I'll sleep."



Book Donations Welcome for March Book Sale

If you have some books you have already read and want to donate to the library, that would be terrific. The Friends of Rocky Bluff Library are getting ready for their Spring Book Sale scheduled for March 16 through March 19. They would welcome any books you would like to donate to this sale. The book sales are a great way for the Friends to earn money to support library projects and programs. Your donation can ensure that this group will have plenty of books on hand for the sale!



New "Friends Book Shoppe around the Corner" Is Open!

The new "Friends Book Shoppe around the Corner" is officially open! It is located in the back corner of the library by the Teen Area. Paperbacks will be sold on the Honor System for \$.50 and \$1.00. The box where patrons can deposit payment for their book purchases is located at the end of the shelves. Volunteers will keep the books current by rotating books on a scheduled basis. All proceeds will go toward library programs for adults and children.

The Friends of Rocky Bluff hope you will use and enjoy the Book Shoppe as a way of continuing to support the library.

Join the Friends of Rocky Bluff Library

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Individual - \$10
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Manatee River Garden Club To Host 11th Annual Garden Club Tour

On Saturday, April 2, 2016 the Manatee River Garden Club will host their 11th Annual Garden Tour called *Bradenton in Bloom* from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

You will be able to take a self-guided tour of five lovely gardens in Bradenton and enjoy a gourmet lunch at the clubhouse for \$10.00. While at the clubhouse you can also shop the vendors and buy plants.

Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$15.00 at Crowder's Gifts & Gadgets (Bradenton and Lakewood Ranch) and Plants & Treasures or on the Garden Club's website at www.manateerivergardenclub.com. On the day of the tour, you can purchase tickets for \$20.00 at the clubhouse located at 3120 First Avenue West in Bradenton.

If you purchase advance tickets, you can download the map and directions from the Garden Club's website. On the day of the tour you will get a booklet with directions at the clubhouse when you purchase your tickets.

For more information, please call 941-870-2259.

Below and right are two examples of the lovely gardens that people will see when they participate in the 11th Annual Manatee River Garden Club's Tour - "Bradenton in Bloom" on Saturday, April 2, 2016.



Easter Services at Faith Lutheran Church

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Sunday, March 27, at 8:00 or 10:30 a.m.

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2 Corinthians 1:3-4



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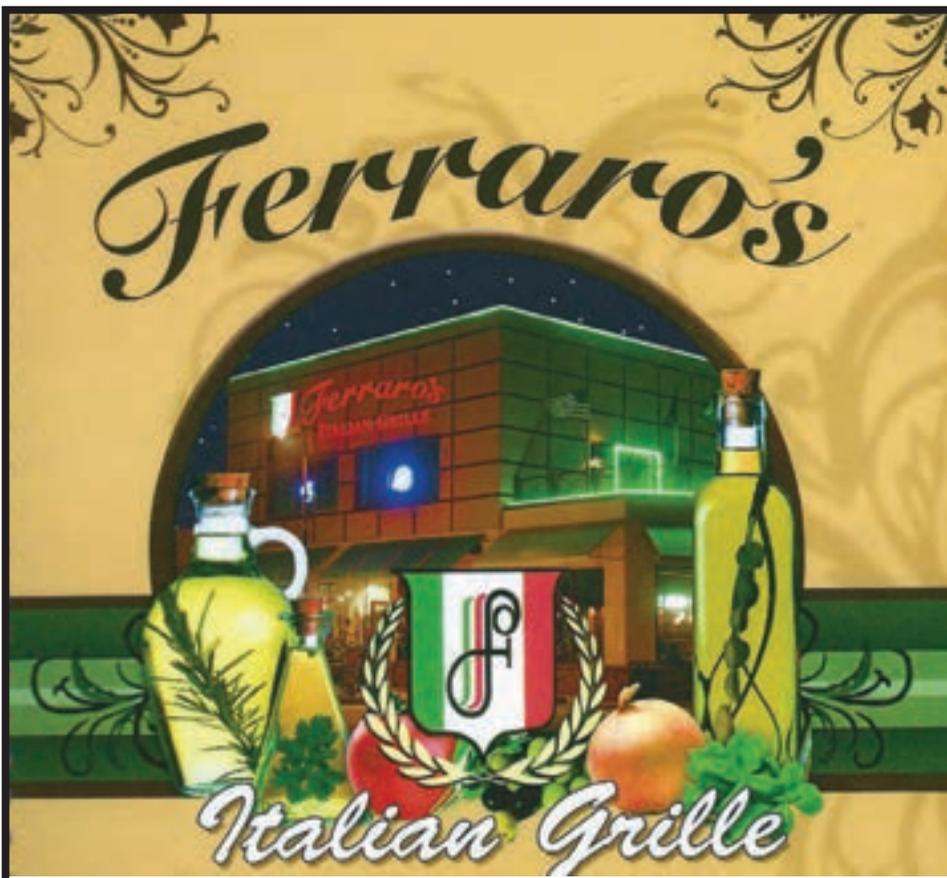
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Sunday School
10:30 AM
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February Trivia

Jim Casey, Trivia & Game Show Host
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It's time for the Annual Parrish Florida Chili Cook Off on Saturday, March 5th. Think you know about chili? I have some trivia questions about chili, the cook off and the upcoming St. Patrick's Day.

- What year was the first Annual Parrish Chili Cook Off?
 - 2010
 - 2011
 - 2012
 - 2013
- What is the event that happens immediately before the Cook Off?
 - Railroad Museum Parade of Trains
 - Pepto Bismol Relief Parade
 - Parrish Heritage Day Parade
- What is the heat scale for chili peppers called?
 - Mouth Burning Scale
 - Ta-basco Scale
 - Kevin Scale
 - Scoville Scale
- What is the substance called that makes chili peppers so hot?
 - Campiarin
 - Carotin
 - Capsaicin
 - Cayenin
- What state is chili the official state food?
 - Florida
 - Louisiana
 - Texas
 - Alaska
- According to legend, St. Patrick drove what out of Ireland?
 - Rats
 - Snakes
 - Dogs
 - Humans
- Why do we drink on St. Patrick's Day?
 - A way to wash all the chili down from the Parrish Chili Cook Off
 - To celebrate fallen leprechauns
 - To celebrate the church lifting the alcohol ban
 - To celebrate the Irish / American bond
- In what city was the first American St. Patrick's Day parade held?
 - Boston
 - New York
 - Philadelphia
 - Parrish
- Sean's Bar in Ireland is said to be the oldest in the world. What year was it opened?
 - 1641
 - 1542
 - 1216
 - 900
- Another prefix that many Irish Americans have is the "O" such as O'Reily. What does the "O" represent?
 - Father of
 - Elder of
 - Grandson of
 - Descendant of

Trivia Answers can be found on page 49.

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Mark March 5th on your calendar NOW!
That's the date of the 5th Annual
Parrish Heritage Day Parade, Festival
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You don't want to miss it!

March 2016 Daily Holidays, Special and Wacky Days:

- National Pig Day
- Peanut Butter Lovers' Day
- Old Stuff Day
- I Want You to be Happy Day
- If Pets Had Thumbs Day
- National Anthem Day
- Peach Blossom Day
- Employee Appreciation Day
- Holy Experiment Day
- Hug a GI Day
- National Salesperson Day
- Multiple Personality Day
- Dentist's Day
- National Frozen Food Day
- National Crown Roast of Pork Day
- Be Nasty Day
- International (Working) Women's Day
- Panic Day
- Middle Name Pride Day
- Popcorn Lover's Day
- Johnny Appleseed Day
- Worship of Tools Day
- Girl Scouts Day
- Plant a Flower Day
- Ear Muff Day
- Jewel Day
- Learn about Butterflies Day
- National Potato Chip Day
- National Pi Day- Why today? Because today is 3.14, the value of Pi.
- Dumbstruck Day
- Everything You Think is Wrong Day
- Ides of March
- Freedom of Information Day
- Incredible Kid Day
- National Agriculture Day
- Everything You Do is Right Day
- Submarine Day - the hero sandwich or the boat??
- Saint Patrick's Day
- Goddess of Fertility Day
- National Agriculture Day
- Supreme Sacrifice Day
- National Quilting Day
- Poultry Day
- International Earth Day
- Extraterrestrial Abductions Day
- Proposal Day
- Credit Card Reduction Day
- Fragrance Day
- National Goof Off Day
- Melba Toast Day
- National Chip and Dip Day
- Near Miss Day
- National Chocolate Covered Raisin Day
- Good Friday
- Pecan Day
- Waffle Day
- Make Up Your Own Holiday Day
- National Spinach Day
- Easter Date
- National "Joe" Day
- Dyngus Day
- Something on a Stick Day
- National Mom and Pop Business Owners Day
- Smoke and Mirrors Day
- National Doctor's Day
- I Am in Control Day
- Take a Walk in the Park Day
- Bunsen Burner Day
- National Clam on the Half Shell Day

Florida Extension Classes and Activities for March

The Manatee County Agriculture and Extension Service is offering a variety of free educational classes during March, 2016. The Extension Service is an educational program within county government which brings the resources of the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) to Manatee County to solve local problems, provide educational opportunities, promote

economic enhancement and development, and improve the quality of life for all of our citizens.

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

Unless otherwise noted, all classes are free and are held at the Manatee County Agriculture and Extension Service, 1303 17th Street West, Palmetto, Florida 34221. Minimum workshop size is required; workshop size is limited. Please register in advance online via our website at <http://manatee.ifas.ufl.edu> (click on Calendar of Events located at center, bottom on website) or call 941-722-4524 for all workshops.

Join the Master Gardeners for a stroll through Manatee County Preserves

2nd Saturday, March 12, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m., Emerson Point Preserve: Stroll through Emerson Point Preserve to learn more about Florida's native plants and inhabitants of a coastal habitat. Suitable for all ages. Tour begins in tower parking area at 5801 17th Street West, Palmetto. Call the Extension Master Gardeners to register.



Emerson Point Preserve.

2nd Saturday, March 12, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m., Riverview Pointe Preserve/DeSoto National Memorial: Stroll through De Soto National Memorial and Riverview Pointe Preserve to learn more about Florida's native plants and inhabitants of a coastal habitat. Suitable for all ages. The hike begins in the parking area of the De Soto National Memorial Park and enters into the Riverview Preserve at 8250 De Soto Memorial Highway, Bradenton. Call the Extension Master Gardeners to register.

3rd Sunday, March 20, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m., Robinson Preserve: Stroll through the Robinson Preserve's salt marshes to learn more about Florida's native plants and inhabitants of a coastal habitat. Suitable for all ages. Tour begins in parking area by main entrance at 1704 99th Street Northwest, Bradenton. Call the Extension Master Gardeners to register.



Robinson Preserve.

Florida Master Naturalist Modules: Upland Systems and Coastal Systems

Coastal Systems Module: Learn about Florida's ecosystems, the Coastal habitats, through presentations, field trips, and hands-on activities. This six-day module will provide instruction about the flora and fauna within the habitat, the impacts on the habitat, and conservation issues. Classes begin March 3 (8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) and continue on March 10, 17, 24, 31, and April 7, and 12. The cost for the course is \$230, which includes all field trips, 40 contact hours of instruction, and a comprehensive student reference work

book. Register at www.MasterNaturalist.org, click on current course offerings, then Coastal Systems, then Manatee. Contact Lisa Hickey at (941) 722-4524 or lisa.hickey@ufl.edu, for more information.

Workshops and Classes Offered By Extension Agents and Master Gardeners

Wednesday March 9, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m., Introduction to Florida Friendly Landscape™ - The 9 Principles: Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ means using low-maintenance plants and environmentally sustainable practices. Learn how you can have a beautiful landscape that could save you time, energy, and money while protecting our future. Class will include a tour of the Master Gardeners Educational Gardens. Register online or call the Extension Master Gardeners.

Wednesday March 9, 10:00 a.m. - Noon, Orchid "Make and Take" Workshop: A "make and take" workshop where you will mount a Phalaenopsis orchid on a piece of wood. Learn about these beautiful epiphytes and how they can enhance your home and landscape. Registration and advance payment of \$20 for materials due by March 2 guarantees your spot in class (cash or check only, payable to Friends of Extension). Register online or call the Extension Master Gardeners.



Orchid Make and Take Workshop

Saturday, March 19, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Rain Barrel and Home Composting Workshop Combo, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.: Storing rainwater aids in the reduction of storm water runoff which can help reduce the levels of pesticides and fertilizers that drain into ponds, streams, lakes, and our bays. Learn how to install, paint, and maintain a functional rain barrel. Start conserving today. Workshop is free. Rain barrel and kit offered at the workshop for a fee of \$33, (cash or check only; make checks payable to Friends of Extension). Register online or call the Extension Master Gardeners.

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Learn to turn your kitchen scraps and yard waste into useful soil amendments, along with details on how to set up a home compost bin. Workshop is free. Compost bins will be available for purchase at the workshop for \$40, cash or check only; checks made payable to Manatee County Government. Register online or call the Extension Master Gardeners.



Home composting.

Wednesday, March 23, 9:30 a.m. - Noon, Faerie Gardening with Friends: This is a fun workshop to do with your friends or family. Bring in a container no bigger than

Please see Extension CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

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Manatee Orchid Society to Feature Monroe Kokin

The Manatee Orchid Society's March 8th speaker will feature Monroe Kokin, with his presentation of Growing Orchids in S. W. Florida.

Monroe Kokin's passion or obsession for orchids started with his trip to Longwood Gardens and his love of photography over 28 years ago. After leaving the orchid conservatory with hundreds of photos he and his late wife Linda visited the garden shop. Monroe wanted to buy an orchid and his wife said, "NO, you don't know a thing about growing orchids and you will kill it".

Months later he was taken to Waldor Orchids by his wife and some friends and that was the start of his orchid obsession. Monroe has a collection of over 1,100 orchid's specializing in Bulbophyllums. He also grows Hybrid and Species Cattleya's, Dendrobium species, and many other genera in the orchid world.

Monroe is a snowbird and spends six months a year at his home in Venice Florida and six months in South Brunswick New Jersey with his new girlfriend. He was President of the Sarasota Orchid Society for over nine years and was their show chairman for the past 13 years. He is also a life member of Central Florida Orchid Society in Orlando and is a member of Central Jersey Orchid Society.

Monroe has traveled extensively all over the world in search of orchids for his collection. He has attended the last four World Orchid Conferences in Dijon France, Miami Florida, Singapore and most recently Johannesburg, South Africa. Monroe has also traveled extensively through South East Asia in search of new orchid species for his collection. He plans on also attending the 22nd WOC in Guayaquil, Ecuador in 2017.

The Manatee Orchid Society meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the Manatee River Garden Club, 3120 1st Ave. West in Bradenton. The public is welcome to attend the meetings at 7:00 P.M.





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Florida Timeshare Owners Schedule March Meeting

The Florida Timeshare Owners Group spring meeting will be held from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Sunday, March 13th, at the Hampton Inn & Suites Sarasota/Bradenton Airport, 975 University Parkway, Sarasota 34243. All timeshare owners are invited to attend and participate. Advance reservations are required and may be obtained by members through Frank Debar, Chairman at fdebar433@gmail.com or (941) 351-1384. Non-members are invited but must make reservations by telephone and will be asked to pay a nominal door charge.

Topics to be presented by visiting industry representatives and group members include: "Sunset Provision" deadlines affecting all Florida timeshare resorts; exit strategies and realistic tax benefits for owners selling or donating their timeshare units; transferring timeshare ownership to the next generation; takeovers at timeshare resorts through multi-unit purchases by Vacation or Holiday Clubs; using timeshare interests for travel to non-timeshare areas world-wide; law firm representation in contract disputes with managers and homeowners associations; and taking advantage of timeshare rental opportunities. A Question & Answer session will follow each discussion.

The Owners Group was founded in 2004 and is the largest individual timeshare owner organization in the country. Sales solicitations are not permitted. This will be the group's 32nd membership meeting. Additional membership and meeting information may be found at the group's website: www.tsownersgroup.com.



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We All Need Heroes in Our Lives

Kathryn Newman

*Where have all the good men gone
And where are all the gods
Where's the street-wise Hercules
To fight the rising odds
Isn't there a white knight upon a fiery steed?
Late at night I toss and turn and dream of what I need
I need a hero
I'm holding out for a hero 'til the end of the night
He's gotta be strong
And he's gotta be fast
And he's gotta be fresh from the fight
I need a hero*

(Bonnie Tyler – I'm Holding Out for A Hero Lyrics | MetroLyrics: Songwriters Jim Steinman; Dean Pitchford)

80's music...what can I say? For the most part, it was cheesy and encouraged big hair (which I had). Hate it or love it, (for the most part, I hate it) many argue that the 80's music decade transitioned into its own genre mainly due to the use (or overuse!) of synthesizers and keyboards. I still laugh when I see a keyboard strapped over some musician's shoulder like a guitar...whatever! The most significant contribution linked to the 80's genre evolution, however, was the introduction of MTV in 1981. Videographers rejoiced!

Sure, we could talk all night about the MTV revolution and how we, who were alive then, watched it with wonder to see which artist would perform next. We could talk about the strange concept of having a video that had absolutely nothing to do with the actual song itself. We could talk about the choreographed dance sequences, the cinematography, the fake rain, the fashion trends, the insinuations, the politics and again...the massive, big hair...but we won't. Why? Because this article is about something totally different!

This article explores what Bonnie Tyler sang about in her big hair video; the need for heroes. If you pay any attention to our world these days, (and how could you not when it's constantly in our faces on every technological device known to man), it's easy to be aware of only the most negative, devastating and destructive aspects

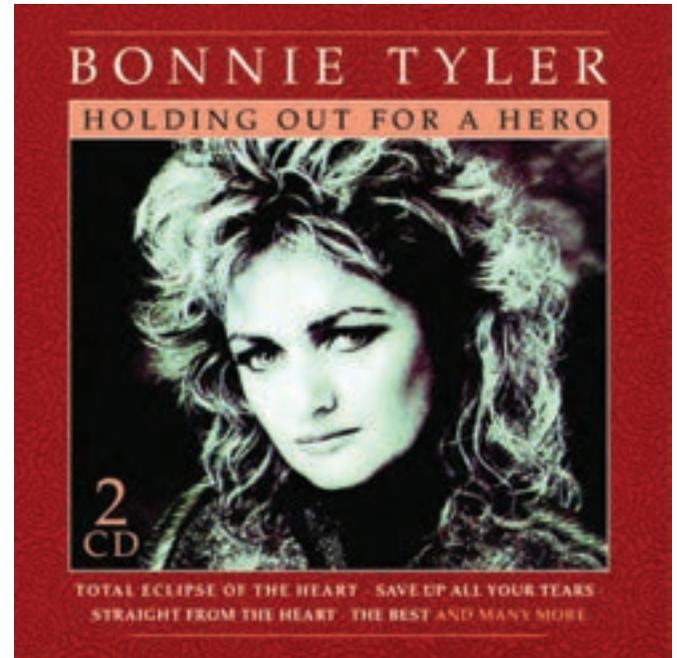
of our world. You cannot turn on the TV, cell phone, computer, tablet or any other media medium without hearing or catching a glimpse of all of the seemingly non-stop horrors of our planet. It's overwhelming.

Where ARE all the heroes? Sure, there have been some Marvel movies over the years that bring back the notion of 'heroes.' There's also been a few television series that depict 'heroes' saving mankind from everyday tragedies and averting certain doom. If we're being honest, though, these hero 'depictions' are only make-believe that don't apply to real life and real humans. We'd all like to believe there are people with 'super-human' abilities who can either fly, scale or whatever Batman does, to save us. We'd love to believe there's a group of geniuses that single-handedly arrive at the only, last minute solution to prevent that giant meteorite from colliding with planet earth and obliterating us from the cosmos. Belief in those types of super-human, super-genius people, however, is sadly just fantasy; and fantasy heroes are not heroes at all.

So, again I ask: where are all the heroes? If we take just a few extra seconds to look beyond all of the negative, devastating and destructive aspects of our world, we will most definitely begin to see true, bona fide, everyday 'common' human beings doing heroic deeds.

Merriam-Webster describes a hero as, "a person who is admired for great or brave acts or fine qualities" and "a person who is greatly admired."

Please see **We All Need Heroes** CONTINUED ON PAGE 39



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Build on Your Strengths, Work on Your Weaknesses



John Phillips

In this month's column, I will suggest ways to maximize your practice time in order to achieve the best possible results.

As a professional teacher, I find that most of my students have extremely busy schedules. For students of school age, they have to make time for school, homework, sports and other extracurricular activities. Adults have work, family and a host of other demands on their time. It is difficult to consistently set aside time for daily practice. Therefore, it is vital to be able to get the most out of every available moment.

To simplify matters, I suggest that you set forth two basic goals for every practice session.

1) Build on your strengths: This is a great place to begin. Most students have certain techniques and pieces with which they feel the most comfortable. These provide an excellent beginning to any practice session. They help to build confidence and enjoyment, and are a great way to 'warm up.' Build upon these strengths first and seek to improve your technique, fluidity and confidence with these pieces. Be careful not to stop at this point. Many guitarists tend to only practice music which is familiar and easy for them. This hampers their progress and they soon find themselves in a creative 'rut.' In order to avoid this situation, one must proceed to step 2.

2) Work on your weaknesses. This is the less comfortable part. It is, however, absolutely critical. These weaknesses will always remain weak until you work on them. Practice the weaknesses until they become strengths. This happens slowly and incrementally. Correct, patient and persistent daily practice is the key. Closely follow the instructions of your teacher. Remember that he or she has already been where you are. They have faced the same challenges and know how to overcome them. Be careful not to overemphasize this aspect of your practice time either. Too much emphasis at this point can make practice seem tedious.

In conclusion, in order to maximize the effectiveness of your daily practice, it is best to strike a healthy balance between building on your strengths and working on your weaknesses. Both aspects are important. They require daily attention and will greatly improve your enjoyment of the art of guitar.

If you have any questions regarding music or topics which you would like to see in future columns, contact me on my website at www.guitarlessonsmanatee.com. To inquire about guitar lessons or more information about jam sessions, call 941-915-4694.

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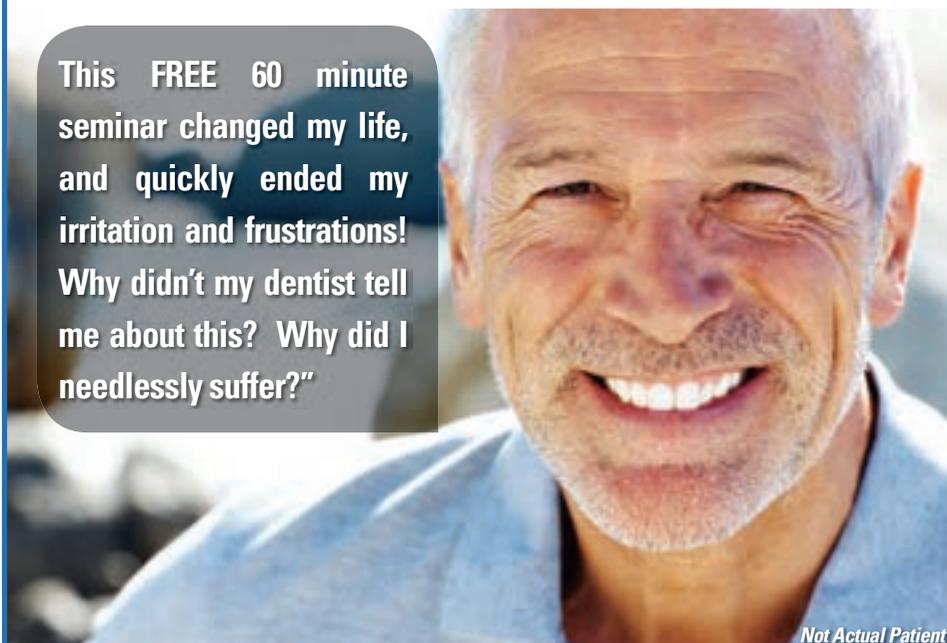
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Living History Drama Announces Production Call and Search for Artistic Director

The Manatee County Historical Commission is pleased to announce the 2016 production dates for Season VI of Spirit Voices from Old Manatee. This popular special event is a key fundraiser benefitting public programming and preservation projects at Manatee Village Historical Park.

ABOUT THE SHOW:

Spirit Voices from Old Manatee is an outdoor drama and cemetery tour that premiered in 2011 as an original living history production. Through this program, the Manatee County Historical Commission fulfills its mission: "Preserving our Past to Enrich Our Future", by educating the public about the lives of early Southwest Florida pioneers who settled this area. Thesians in period dress personify several of Manatee's early pioneers interred at the 1850 Manatee Burying Grounds. Their graveside dialogs are based on narratives from archives, descendents, diaries, military logs, books and legend. The program is an experience like no other, unfolding at the Old Settler's House at Manatee Village Historical Park with a Victorian wake and continuing by torch-light "on the other side," at the 1850 Manatee Burying Grounds, as the sun sets.

PRODUCTION DATES:

The 2016 production will take place the second, third, and fourth weekends of October: Week I: 6, 7, 8; Week II: 13, 14, 15, 16; and Week III: 20, 21, 22 and 23. Tickets will go on sale to the public on Tuesday, September 6th.

OPENING FOR ARTISTIC DIRECTOR:

The Manatee County Historical Commission gratefully acknowledges the contributions made by past Artistic Directors during the first five seasons. Their enterprise and creativity have helped grow the show, shaping it into a much-anticipated event that continues to play to "sold-out" audiences. Organizers now invite new talent to add their vision to, and make an impact on, this evolving program. Those interested in applying for the position should email Christine Brown, Special Events and Marketing Coordinator at Manatee Village Historical Park: christine.brown@manateeclerk.com to request the job description with application details. (A stipend is provided.)



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Esther McClatchey Celebrates 103rd Birthday

Esther McClatchey celebrated her 103rd birthday on February 25, 2016, with friends and family at Popi's Restaurant on Route 301 in Ellenton. Esther lives with her daughter in Veranda Springs.

She plays bingo every week, loves to go out to eat and just enjoys life. Having spent her working career as a hairdresser, she enjoys a weekly outing to Don D's.

When asked "What is your secret to a long life?", she answered, "Just keep moving."



Esther McClatchey is shown with her birthday cake celebrating her 103rd birthday.

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Wagner Realty is sponsoring a hole in the "Mac" MacDonald golf tournament fund raiser to help defray the cost of mission trips for high school students. The Sarasota Baptist Church spearheads this effort to help students grow spiritually. This year, they will go to Aosta, Italy, at the foot of the Italian Alps.

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Second Annual Parrish Pioneering Exhibit March 5th at the Parrish Heritage Day Parade, Festival and Chili Cook Off

Pat Bradley

Parrish Pioneering: A living history experience featuring our town's heritage

Building on the success of their inaugural event, Pearl McCraw and her Team are excited to present *Parrish Pioneering* once again to visitors at the Parrish Heritage Day Parade, Festival and Chili Cook Off on March 5th. Many vendors who participated last year are returning along with a number of new crafters and demonstrators eager to share their passion for time-honored skills.

Travel back to the 1800s and learn about the lifestyles and crafts of the day from local storytellers, historians and artisans.

- Watch bullwhip making, chair caning, quilting and basket weaving demonstrations.
- Buy beautifully hand-milled soaps, candles, jewelry and yarn goods.
- Stop at the Cracker Trail Wagon to learn about the cow hunters of yesteryear and their cattle drive from Fort Pierce to the mouth of Tampa Bay.
- Listen to live music throughout the day and interact with the performers in a natural amphitheater created by large oak trees.
- Discover the docile, friendly nature of Florida cattle, miniature donkeys and pygmy goats and get up close for some great photos.
- Enjoy a variety of children's activities such as a lariat popping contest.

Parrish Pioneering is a celebration of old-time Parrish and offers fun for the whole family.

Come experience a slice of 19th century Parrish history and early American life in a rural, small village. Look for the banner announcing *Parrish Pioneering* adjacent to the Florida Railroad Museum at the Parrish Heritage Day Festival and Chili Cook Off on Saturday, March 5, 2016.

Admission to the event is \$5.00 if tickets are purchased in advance. Tickets will be \$10.00 at the gate. Children 12 and under are free.



NORTH RIVER CHURCH OF CHRIST Even the Demons Confessed Who Christ Is!

We live in an era of growing skepticism among some, while at the same time many others are professing faith in the existence of God and the Deity of Jesus Christ. It ought to be instructive to us that the historical record of the Bible shows that even the demons confessed the latter and believe in the former. The highest of enemies of both God and Christ do not doubt that God exists or that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. They know that both propositions are true.

James points out, concerning the existence of God, "the demons believe – and tremble" (James 2:19). They even have an emotional reaction to that knowledge. As to the Deity or Divine Sonship of Christ, the demons openly addressed Him as "the Son of God" or spoke of Him in similar vein (Matthew 8:29; Mark 5:7; Luke 4:41). They also knew that He would ultimately punish them for their evil. They held no doubt on the matter.

It is amazing then that we should see in our day those who profess not to believe in either the existence of God or the Divine Sonship of Jesus Christ, and yet being so angry over the matter as well. These same people will claim that God no more exists than the tooth fairy or leprechauns. Some even joke about belief in a "flying spaghetti monster" being equal to belief in God. They also claim the Jesus is no more the Son of God than unicorns are an existent species of the horse, et al. Yet, the demons acknowledge what supposedly intelligent people deny and ridicule.

But there is strangely also an emotional reaction of many who deny these two propositions on God's existence and the Divine nature of Jesus that betrays the profession of disbelief in the existence of these truths. The same people who claim these are not true (some even claiming now that Jesus never even existed) nonetheless get beside themselves with anger over the very mention of them. Is it truly rational to become angry over that which one earnestly believes does not exist? When was the last time that such folks flew into a rage over mention of leprechauns, unicorns, tooth fairies, and even "flying spaghetti monsters"? Yes, indeed, their emotional reactions say otherwise! Just a few thoughts to ponder!

We are simply seeking to be Christians – no more and no less – just as the Bible presents them. Come and be with us at the North River Church of Christ and see for yourself. Our times for services are as follows: 10:00 A.M. for Bible Study; 11:00 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. for Worship each Sunday; 7:00 P.M. each Wednesday for Bible Study. We have Bible correspondence courses available upon request free of charge including the postage. You can contact us by calling (941) 776-1134. Visit us also on the web at www.nrchurchofchrist.org

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Ringling College Willis Smith Gallery Presents Photography & Film Constructs



Ringling College Willis Smith Gallery is pleased to present Photography & Film Constructs, opening March 4 from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. during the campus-wide ArtWalk.

The exhibition features artists whose concepts are manifest in photography and film-based media. "Each artist in this exhibition approaches creating a single image or composite film or video in a different way. The artist may construct a fiction involving a person, objects in a setting, a location and/or narrative, in each case challenged to address purely formal issues as well, while creating an invented image."

Artists in the exhibition include Morton Bartlett, Julie Blackmon, Gregory Crewdson, Stan Douglas, Adam Fuss, Generic Arts Solutions, Mishka Henner, Elizabeth King, Adam Magyar, Yasmasa Morimura, Vik Muniz, Doug and Mike Stam, Bing Wright and Ji Zhou.

The Opening Reception is Friday, March 4 from 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. at the Willis Smith Gallery. This exhibition is sponsored by Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax Revenues and WSMR 89.1. The hours are Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. The Willis Smith Gallery, Academic Center is located at 2363 Old Bradenton Road.

For more information go to www.ringling.edu/galleries@ringling.edu or call 941-359-7563.



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To participate in the 30th Parrish Heritage Day Parade, just show up at 9:30 a.m. behind the Fire Station in Parrish. People will line you up and get you ready for the parade which begins at 10:30 a.m..

Virgil Mills' Students Host Activities in February

Mills Students and Staff Celebrate the 100th Day of School!



Mrs. Harrington's 1st grade class.



Mrs. Phillips's kindergarten class.



Some of our 100 year old kindergarten teachers.



Mrs. Patrick's 1st grade class.



Above right Mrs. Brown's kindergarten class.



At right-Delaney B showing her "100 things" collection.

Did you know that Monday February 8th was the 100th day of school? To celebrate, teachers and students in kindergarten and 1st grade dressed up to show what they would look like if they were 100 years old. Students also made posters showing a collection of 100 things. On the poster students also got to tell what they would want 100 of and what they would not like to have 100 of. Some cute responses from Mrs. Phillips' class included: "I would not like to have 100 sisters or brothers or pieces of homework. I would like to have 100 dogs, toys, hugs, and books!" We had so much fun celebrating the 100th day.

Pre-K Students Celebrate Their Dads!



Evan W. and his dad building their bird house.



Above Pre-K thanks our dads for coming to play! At right Athens D. and her dad showing off their building skills



On January 21, Ms. Choate's Pre-K class invited DADS to come celebrate the day! With Father's Day being in the summer, this day of celebration usually gets missed. Pre-K students and their guests were treated to a yummy snack and watched a video of reasons why their DAD was COOL. After the video, each child spent time with their dad, grandpa or friend building a birdhouse that was donated by The Home Depot (University Parkway location). Students used real hammers and constructed a wooden birdhouse to take home. The morning was a successful way to introduce our 3rd Quarter Unit of Study in Pre-K: BUILDINGS.

Family Bonfire Night

To kick off the long President's weekend, Mills PTO hosted a Bonfire Night at Mills for local families to enjoy. This was our second year hosting this family friendly event, and once again, a fun time was had by all. Approximately 1,200 people attended this event. There was so much to do: from the food trucks, to having the 1st grade teachers serve up hot dogs, to dancing with music from DJ Garza, to s'mores, and popcorn. We can't wait until next year's Bonfire!



3rd Grade Science Lesson



Above left Dr. Sadkin and one of his special guests.



Above right Students from Mrs. Weinkein's class dissecting their pellets.

Directly above "What's in the pellet?"

The third grade students at Mills were recently visited by Dr. David Sadkin, Ph.D., Director of Education Services from Wildlife, Inc. He came to speak to the students at Mills about owls as the third grade students are studying the classifications of animals and learning about different species. The students read books about owls and researched and learned about what the owls eat. Then the students were given an owl pellet to dissect and a sorting chart to determine the type of animal their owl ate. Students first thought it was gross that this was regurgitated from an owl, but once they started dissecting their pellets and finding bones and hair/fur, they were super excited. What a great hands-on learning opportunity. Thanks, Dr. Sadkin for sharing your knowledge with our students.



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Announcing the New Parrish Slogan & Seal

The Parrish Civic Association (PCA) is pleased to announce the town's new slogan and seal: Preserving our Past – Embracing our Future: Parrish, Est. 1850. The slogan encircles the important images in the seal that capture the town's unique character and personality, and that represent all that the town has to offer. The slogan and seal will be used in marketing communications efforts as Parrish looks ahead to its future growth and development. It was developed as a result of a contest among Parrish residents who were asked to help create a slogan that best defined the town. The winner of the contest was Sondra Thorson. "Parrish is a rapidly growing Manatee County community with currently approved development plans for more than 17,000 new residences and related commercial developments that could be completed in the next 10 years," said Ben Jordan, PCA President. "We believe that use of our new slogan and beautifully designed seal in our communications efforts will help people understand all of the positive aspects of living in, working in and visiting our great town. The PCA's goal is to work with Parrish residents, businesses, land developers, major corporations, Manatee County and other stakeholders to shape what the town of Parrish will look like and how it can meet the needs of its residents and businesses 10 years out."

About the Parrish Civic Association (PCA): The Parrish Civic Association was founded in 1980. It is dedicated to working with Parrish residents, businesses, land developers, major corporations, Manatee County and other stakeholders to shape the future growth and development of the town of Parrish. The PCA is guided by a 12 member Board headed by Board President, Ben Jordan. It has over 400 dues paying members and its Board meets monthly at the Parrish YMCA located at 12214 U.S. 301 North.



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The 56th Annual Spring Open House at Gamble Plantation



Take a trip back to the lives of the early Florida pioneers. The United Daughters of the Confederacy, Judah P. Benjamin Chapter, and the Florida Park Service proudly announce that the 56th Annual Spring Open House will be held this year on Sunday, March 6, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Gamble Plantation Historic State Park in Ellenton, Florida.

Once again you can travel back to the Old South during the day through the many lifestyle demonstrations of that time period. The ladies of the United Daughters of the Confederacy will be wearing costumes reminiscent of the era of the 1840's through 1870's to add that special touch of authenticity to the day. The Gamble Mansion will be open to the public with free tours of the building. Additionally, the 4th Florida Volunteer Infantry will be dressed in military uniforms re-enacting a Confederate encampment. Music, crafts and more await attendees. Admission and parking will be free.

We extend a most cordial invitation for everyone to join us for the Spring Open House. Gamble Plantation Historic State Park is located on U.S. 301 in Ellenton, one mile west of I-75 off of exit #224. Florida State Parks are in various stages of accessibility. We are working to improve access to services and facilities. Should you need assistance to enable your full participation, please contact Gamble Plantation. For further information please call Gamble Plantation Historic State Park at 941-723-4536 or Fax 941-723-4638.

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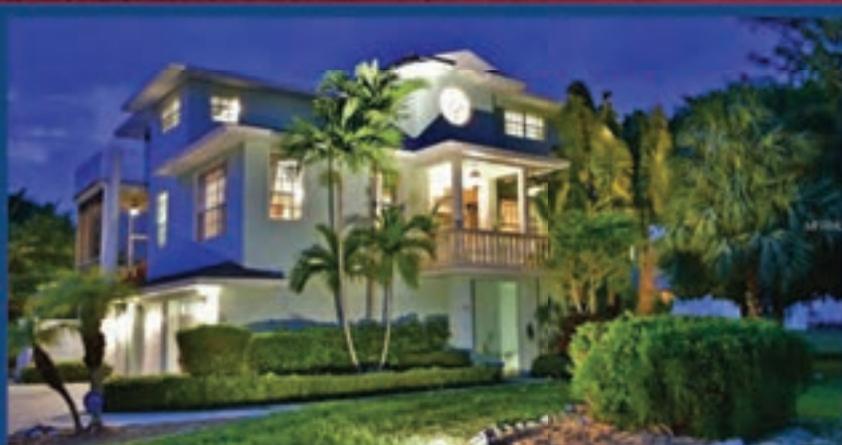
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A4144875 3702 1ST AVE W, BRADENTON \$729,000

Top to bottom restoration and modernization in this Northwest Bradenton home nestled among mature oaks and trees on an oversized lot with large paver circular driveway. A double door entry presents this spacious high volume ceiling open floor plan introducing you to it's gourmet kitchen, 42" wood full overlay cabinets, exotic granite countertops, double granite sinks, large island with table top design, stainless steel appliances and custom wood pantry make this kitchen the center of attention in this home.



A4145567 15436 27TH CT E, PARRISH \$575,000

Fantastic opportunity to own this exquisite custom built Arthur Rutenberg 5BR/3.5BA pool home uniquely positioned on a preserve lot with serene views! This elegant home is ideal for entertaining with a formal living room and formal dining room. The chef's kitchen features beautiful 42" cabinets, center island, granite countertops, breakfast bar, stainless steel appliances, and double ovens.



A4145323 1916 68TH DR E, ELLENTON \$449,000

Canal Front, 2 story home in small, quiet subdivision of Raintree Inlet with direct access to the Manatee River. The entire home has been newly updated with tile and wood flooring throughout. Downstairs of this unique home features 10' ceilings with crown molding, family room with fireplace, an attached office/music room/fourth bedroom, and formal dining room.





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Tiffney Mosley
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Tina Hoopingarner
737-4093
Tina@LeslieWellsRealty.com



Madison Wells
405-6917
RealtorMadisonWells@gmail.com



Marilyn Sakelaris
356-3167
Marilyn@LeslieWellsRealty.com



Jim Hegemier
320-3080
jimhegemier@yahoo.com



Lisa Zimring
932-6005
lzimring@tampabay.rr.com



Jordan Chancey
545-8816
FLBrokerJordan@yahoo.com



Sarah Whisnant
238-8624
SelectPropertiesBySarah@yahoo.com



Dani Lolli
725-2112
Dani.Lolli@verizon.net



Luci Spielsinger
224-9190
lucispiel@aol.com



Devon Darsey
448-3432
latemodel25@verizon.net



Katie Kennedy
350-4969
kk1958@aol.com



Brando Quarles
603-512-7208
Brando@LeslieWellsRealty.com



Matt Guthrie
737-1500
MGuthrie34219@yahoo.com



Kelly Eckersen
962-0328
keckersen1@gmail.com



Gina Debbs
545-0987
ginadebbs@gmail.com



Pamela Spolarich
730-5477
Pamela0402@verizon.net



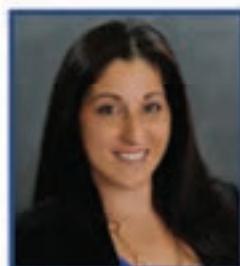
Cathy Morehead
737-8138
Info@CatherineMorehead.com



Philip Pratley
807-7042
PPratleyRealtor@gmail.com



Doreen McCarthy
518-6991
macjny@mindspring.com



Jamie Hegemier
404-0510
Jamie@LeslieWellsRealty.com



Peggy Johnson
718-3233
peggy4realtor@gmail.com



Lance Clayton
345-5614
Lance@LeslieWellsRealty.com



Tom Collier
773-3952
TomCollier@LeslieWellsRealty.com



Marcie Tanner
962-3293
gatorbiz1@aol.com



Shelley Jander
524-7128
MyRealtorShelley@tampabay.rr.com



Shannon Ford
321-5910
Shannon@LeslieWellsRealty.com



Rachel Bolyard
448-6001
RachelBolyard.Realtor@gmail.com



Morgan Johns
544-3992
MorganJohns941@gmail.com



Edward Bailey
504-2421
EABailey2003@yahoo.com



Jerri Phillips
809-5059
jerriphillips@hotmail.com



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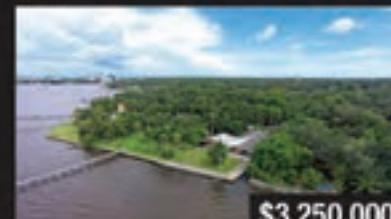
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Rocky Bluff Library Is More than Just A Library

I feel privileged to work for the Award-Winning Manatee County library system. I'm going to try very quickly to give you a picture of what we're up to these days. We often find people are quite surprised, sometimes astonished, by what libraries are all about.

If any of you have followed the recent stories about the abrupt closing of the Venice Library a little South of here, you'll know what I'm talking about as far as why libraries are important to a community as a Place:

- Rocky Bluff sees on average 500 - 600 hundred people per day and numbers are increasing with the area's dramatic growth
- On a typical day, people come in to read newspapers, magazines, pick up the books they requested, browse the new book shelves, do their homework, even doing puzzles
- Also using the computers and printers and free wifi that we provide (i.e. a young man took his real estate exam the other day; a young mom was applying for jobs with her child in a stroller; an older man was struggling to email his children in North Carolina; a woman was printing her W-2
- Moms, dads, even many grandparents are there every week for storytime for children, they meet, hang out afterwards, get to know each other and go home with bags of books to read with their kids
- We offer parenting and child development programs for new parents and their babies, a partnership with another nonprofit, a structured learning experience for children with the underlying mission of helping parents be better parents by providing them needed skills
- We've got tutors meeting their students, sitting wherever they can squeeze in, prepping for classes, learning

- English, reviewing their math skills, struggling with their papers
- Film series for children and adults, expanding their worlds
- Book clubs for children and adults, promoting the love of reading, sharing their ideas, making new friends
- Chess club and game days mixing adults and children, adults teaching children and sometimes vice versa
- Informal concerts – including a blues guitarist, mountain fiddler, even handbells! Music echoing through the library, annoying a few people but bringing enjoyment to many and exposing them to new sounds and experiences
- Theater groups performing original plays with much laughter and clapping, and again, a free educational experience
- We've had shadow puppet shows telling the stories of the Greek gods, kids faces mesmerized
- AARP provides tax aides to file your taxes, free; they're at the library as we speak. There was a rowdy crowd at the door this morning waiting to reserve a spot
- We're even an early voting site and this year, how important is that?
- The career bus is in our parking lot today, the list goes on...
- The Library is a safe place of discovery, fun, inspiration, education and sharing, but we're also a reliable source:
- Source of information, - we still do research and answer interesting questions and some not so interesting (was Mr. Rogers really a war hero? Apparently that's a myth...) – we refer people to appropriate gov-



Rocky Bluff Library Supervisor Kate Lippincott government agencies or local organizations for assistance

- We teach people technology skills, how to get an e-book onto their AARP tablet that they just bought online but have no idea how to use and don't have a grandchild available to teach them
- We guide them to our vast online information sources – including ebooks, research databases on genealogy, business, literature, careers, car fixit guides, stocks
- And we STILL have the physical collection – the Books, DVDs, CDs, magazines, newspapers.
- A few months ago a grandmother marched her grandson up to the desk to find books on how to raise a goat for his 4H project. And, we had one!
- If you haven't been to Rocky Bluff, come see us!

Enrichment Center at Renaissance On 9th News for March 2016

The Enrichment Center at Renaissance On 9th is your local community center for active adults over 50 to gather and participate in recreational, cultural and educational programs. Many activities are offered at Renaissance On 9th. Although we have a membership program, most of our activities are open to the general public. It's a great place to meet new people, connect, learn and get active. Renaissance On 9th is centrally located just south of downtown Bradenton at 1816 9th Street West, and our phone number is 941-749-0100.

Other delights you'll find at the Renaissance On 9th:

- Turner Ballroom is the area's premier meeting and banquet facility, offering elegant and full-service space for weddings, events and meetings as well as professional, onsite and off-site catering services.
- 9th Street Bistro, offering affordable lunch with delicious daily soup, quiche and sandwich specials, is open to the public Monday – Friday, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Generations Gift Shop and the 2nd Generations Thrift Shop are open to the public Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and offer the latest in fashion, jewelry, bags, gifts and home accessories.
- All proceeds from Renaissance On 9th help support the programs of Meals on Wheels PLUS of Manatee.

Special Events this month at the Enrichment Center at Renaissance On 9th

St Patrick's Day Party: Join us for an authentic Irish lunch, entertainment and lots of green! Thursday, March 15th, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. RSVP by March 11th. \$12 for members, \$15 for guests. Wine and Beer available for \$5. Call to reserve your seat: 941-749-0100, ext. 2100.

Ailments & Healing, Benefits of Essential Oils: Learn about the power of essential oils and the role they can play in health creation, protection and healing. Thursday, March 10th, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Free for members, \$3 for guests. Call to reserve your seat: 941-749-0100, ext. 2100.

Rest Assured Workshop: The Do's and Don'ts of Sleep Apnea. Michael J Dale, PA-C with PrimeCare will talk about the misconceptions of sleep apnea. Thursday, March 31st, 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Refreshments provided. Free for members, \$5 for guests. Call to reserve your seat: 941-749-0100, ext. 2100.

Fun-day Mondays at Renaissance On 9th

Line Dancing, Mondays, starting at 9:00 a.m. Come early and learn the basic steps. The longer you stay, the more advanced the dances become. \$5 per person (free for members).

The Lunch Club, Mondays, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. A fun, informative club for the life-long learner, you'll enjoy a delicious meal, meet new friends, and participate in discussions led by a featured guest speaker each week. Topics include, but not limited to, travel, entertainment, Medicare, healthy living and finances. The cost is \$9 per person. Call Jerry Gironda at 941-747-4655 for more information and to register.

Ballroom dancing with the band "Just Friends" Mondays, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. Free to all! Dip, slide and glide to the reminiscent tunes of the 20's through the 50's.

Every Month at the Enrichment Center

Daytrips Now Available – Check our monthly newsletter for a listing.

AAA Mature Driving Class – Tuesday and Wednesday, March 15th & 16th, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. You may be eligible for a discount on your automobile insurance (consult your insurance company.). RSVP to Debbie at 941-798-2221 x2263.

Pancake Breakfast - Friday, March 25th, 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. This month's signature flavors are Chocolate Chip and traditional buttermilk. The public is welcome, so bring friends and family. Cost is \$5 (\$4 for members).

Bradenton Christian Women's Connection – Meets the 2nd Friday of each month.

Please see **Enrichment Center** CONTINUED ON PAGE 49



Registration Now Open for Teen Recycled Fashion Show

Manatee County Public Libraries announced that registration is now open for the Third Annual Teen Recycled Fashion Show taking place on Saturday, April 16, 2016, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., in the Downtown Central Library.

Manatee County Public Libraries' popular event, in collaboration with The Friends of the Library and Keep Manatee Beautiful, gives teenagers the opportunity to live the day in the life of a fashion designer and/or model.

Contestants make their own original fashion using recycled or repurposed materials and present their creation on the runway in front of a live audience where a panel of judges select a winner based on creativity, presentation and use of recycled materials.

Contestants must be no younger than 13 and no older than 19 and can submit as an individual or as a group. They may model their own creations or find a model to wear the piece.

GUTI, Bradenton-based beauty and wellness academy, will be back this year to do hair and make-up for free for contestants and models. Make up is being donated by Brandy Harlan of Mary Kay Cosmetics.

The registration form can be accessed on the Manatee County Public Libraries' Website at mymanatee.org/library. It can be submitted online or printed and dropped off at any of the six library locations. Registrations must be completed by Friday, April 8, 2016.

Contestants are asked to attend one of the two Pre-Show meetings scheduled on Monday, April 11, and Wednesday, April 13, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., in the Manatee County Downtown Central Library.



4 H Livestock and Horse Judging at the Florida State Fair



Left to right 4-H Livestock Judging Team members Casey Wingate, Chloe Bunyak, Hannah Whitaker and Jimmy Ference are all smiles after placing first at the 4-H Livestock Judging Contest during the Florida State Fair. The team is coached by Mrs. Tamara Wingate.

Ten Manatee County 4-H youths recently braved the cold to participate in the 4-H livestock judging and horse judging events at the Florida State Fair in Tampa. The livestock judging team, composed of Chloe Bunyak, Jimmy Ference, Hannah Whitaker and Casey Wingate placed first out of the 14 registered teams for the event. The senior horse judging team, composed of Beth Ciemniecki, Isabel Collazo, Erin McClure and Zoe Soler placed fifth out of the nine registered teams. Lexi Parks and Chevelle Pearo competed as junior individuals in horse judging.

The livestock judging contest entailed placing classes of cattle, hogs, goats and sheep as well as the evaluation of feeder cattle. Near the end of the contest, participants were asked 10 questions from the classes they evaluated. The horse judging contest consisted of judging four halter and four performance classes. Participants were asked to give one set of reasons on a class of horses.

The purpose of the 4-H livestock judging program is to help youth improve their knowledge of livestock for its merit and value as either breeding or market animals. The purpose of the 4-H horse judging program is to help youth learn to evaluate a horse's form as it relates to function, and compare it to the ideal as well as to other horses. The added benefit of both livestock and horse judging is that it gives youth the opportunity to sharpen their decision making skills and their ability to defend those decisions. The judging programs further enhance a youth's communication skills, character, citizenship, sportsmanship, discipline and responsibility while creating an atmosphere for learning and awareness of life.

For more information on the 4-H livestock and horse judging programs, contact the Manatee County 4-H Office at 941-722-4524.



Left to right 4-H Horse Judging Team members Lexi Parks, Erin McClure, Beth Ciemniecki, Isabel Collazo, Zoe Soler and Chevelle Pearo pose at the 4-H Horse Judging Contest during the Florida State Fair. The teams are coached by Mrs. Karen Ciemniecki and Mrs. Shannon Cox.

4-H Open Horse Show Being Held

A Manatee County 4-H Open Horse Show will be held Saturday, March 5th and Sunday, March 6th at the Mosaic Arena located on the Manatee County Fairgrounds in Palmetto. English, Over Fences and Western classes will be held on Saturday, March 5th at 9:00 a.m. Registration starts at 8:00 a.m. The Western classes will not start before noon. Speed and Ranch classes will be offered on Sunday, March 6th at 9:00 a.m. Registration starts at 8:00 a.m. Ranch classes will not start before noon.

Junior (ages 8-13 as of September 1, 2015), Senior (ages 14-18 as of September 1, 2015) and Open (non-4-H'ers) classes will be offered. Day of the show costs are \$7.00 per class for 4-H'ers and \$8.00 per class for non-4-H'ers. Pre-entries are discounted \$1.00 per class. To pre-enter, visit <http://manatee.ifas.ufl.edu/4H/index.shtml> and/or email registrations to kdkhomeinteriors@aol.com. A \$2.00 insurance fee will be charged for all non-4-H'ers. Daily high point awards will be given. Don't miss this opportunity to test your equestrian riding skills!

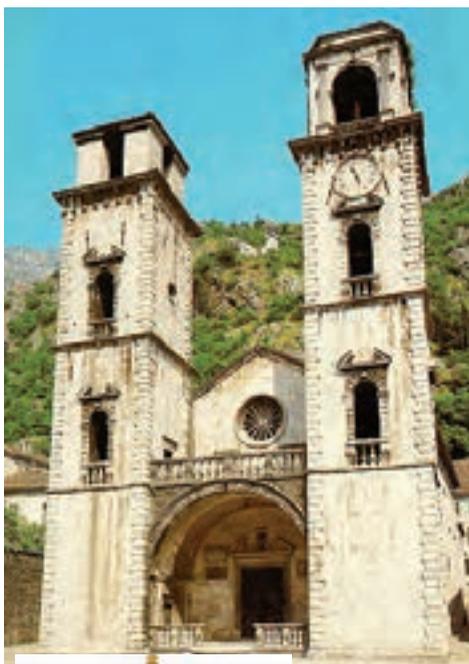
For more information, contact the Manatee County 4-H Office at 941-722-4524. This program is open to all youth (ages 8 and above) without regard to race, color, sex, handicap or national origin. Anyone with a disability needing assistance should call 941-722-4524 prior to the show.

Yugoslavia CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

- a "Hollywood" set. However, the well preserved buildings and winding cobblestone streets, really give one a feel for what it was like to live here 600 years ago. (Minus the garbage and animal waste!) We entered through the "Maritime Gate" which faces the bay and followed our guide through the narrow streets to the Cathedral of Saint Tryphon, completed in 1166 A.D., one of four churches within the city walls. Saint Tryphon is the patron saint of Kotor and the church contains his tomb. This Romanesque cathedral, very popular with tourists, is one of the oldest churches in Europe and the largest and most ornate building in Kotor. After a brief visit we returned to the streets for some wandering and shopping. I added the Montenegrin coat of arms to my hat-pin collection and we found a great pizza parlor down a narrow alley. My friend Bill has a "bucket list" item to have a slice of pizza in every country he visits and he hasn't missed one yet.

We were scheduled to make a bus trip in the afternoon to the old capital of Montenegro, Cetinje, and tour the summer palace of King Nikola I, who ruled the country from 1860 to 1918; however, a rockslide had closed the only access road and there was no estimate on when it might be opened; so, we were on our own. Some of the group decided to try the wall climb, while others, including me, decided to explore the local farmer's market which had been set up just outside the city walls. We found a great collection of meats, cheeses, wines, and other goodies and immediately planned a cocktail party on board the ship for that evening.

Next time we visit Perast and "Our Lady of the Rocks" before sailing to the island of Korcula.



At left the Cathedral of Saint Tryphon which was completed in 1166 A.D.



Above a picturesque view of Kotor from high up.



At right the Maritime Gate at the entrance to historic Kotor, one of the best-preserved medieval cities in Europe.

At left the Montenegrin Coat of Arms which Ralph bought in the form of a hat pin for his collection.



Extension CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

a gallon size and leave with a magical garden! Learn all about setting up and tending your tiny garden as well as adding decorations. You are encouraged to bring small plants and other natural and man-made miniature items to share. Registration and advance payment of \$10 for materials due by March 16 guarantees your spot in class (cash or check only, payable to Friends of Extension). Register online or call the Extension Master Gardeners. **Tuesday, March 29, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., Taking The Mystery Out of Micro-Irrigation:** This class satisfies the irrigation educational requirement for the Manatee County Outdoor Water Conservation Rebate Program. Tom Funari, Irrigation Technician, will introduce you to micro-irrigation. Learn how to select, install, and operate your own water-saving irrigation system, the pros and cons, parts and pieces, and how to put it all together. He will discuss why it is important to water shrubs and other landscape plants separately from your lawn. Register online or call Joann.

Wednesday, March 30, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., Dazzling Florida Friendly Landscape™ Designs: This interactive, hands-on class demonstrates how to implement the nine principles of a Florida-Friendly Landscaping™. We will highlight dazzling landscape designs by Manatee County homeowners. Register online or call the Extension Master Gardeners.

Wednesday, March 30, 9:00 a.m. – Noon, Propagation. Workshop: Grow your own plants from seeds and cuttings and save money! Learn several ways to propagate plant material, proper timing, and materials needed to have successful propagation. Techniques demonstrated include seeding, cuttings, and air layering. Attendees will receive one cutting to take home to propagate. Presented by Lisa Hickey, Extension Agent and Barbara Davis, Master Gardener. Register online or call the Extension Master Gardeners.

Thursday, March 31, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., Ground Covers – Plants That Work: This class satisfies the irrigation educational requirement for the Manatee County Outdoor Water Conservation Rebate Program. Valrie Massey, Horticulture Program Assistant, will present how landscaping with low-growing ground cover plants has become a popular trend in landscape practices because once they are established, these plants need little or no water. Learn noteworthy plants, site considerations, and management of these plants. Register online or call Joann.



Ground covers - plants that work.

In addition to the workshops identified above, several other opportunities are offered to receive free gardening information:

1. The Manatee County Master Gardener monthly E-newsletter, The Master Gardening Bench, is available to download at <http://bit.ly/ManateeMGnewsletter> -- look for The Master Gardening Bench on the right of the page and click on "Monthly E-newsletter."
2. Can't make it to the Manatee County Agriculture and Extension Service office to get advice or to solve your gardening problems? E-mail us at manateemg@gmail.com. Be sure to include as much information as you can in your e-mail and include your telephone number in case additional information is needed. Attach photos if possible. Remember, a photo can be worth a thousand words!
3. Get FYI from FFL (Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program). Visit the Manatee County Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program page on Facebook and "like" us to stay current on workshops and classes, events, publications, tips for your landscape, plant information, and more.
4. Ask an Extension Master Gardener! - Every 2nd Saturday (10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.), Visit the Extension Master Gardener information table and get answers to your gardening questions. Location: South Manatee Library, 6081 26th Street West, Bradenton.
5. Ask an Extension Master Gardener! – Every 2nd and 4th Saturday (10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.), Visit the Extension Master Gardener information table and get answers to your gardening questions. Location: Rocky Bluff Library, 6750 U.S. Highway 301N, Ellenton.
6. Interested in having a beautiful landscape while saving water? The Manatee County Agriculture and Extension Service offers a Mobile Irrigation Lab with a FREE evaluation of your landscape and irrigation system. Call 941-722-4524 today to schedule your free evaluation.

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Sunday: Closed

Seld Confidence CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

My initial goal for my blog (besides the long-term goal of helping others live a better life) was to find one reader. If one person found it inspiring or motivational, then I would continue. When I allowed my mission to stick, my self-confidence to flourish, and stopped projecting what criticism might come my way, everything started to fall into place. One reader turned into two, turned into three, then four, and more. I know what I want and where I am going, and no one can shake that.

Confidence can be shaken through criticism, but it can also be strengthened. For every negative, there is a positive.

The thought of being criticized struck when I proclaimed my twenty-six year martial art journey as the basis of my blog and my mindset. Part of the apprehension was that some other martial artist or fighter well experienced in street fighting or grappling or MMA, would challenge me. "Let's see what you can do, Ms. 26 year martial arts veteran." I'll be honest, I don't know anything about grappling or fighting, and my initial angst was that I'm not trendy. I'm not modern. I'm not contemporary. I don't fight. I don't grapple. I don't hit people in the face, up close and personal. I'm 52 years old. I only know what I know.

I only know what I know! That is another key to overcoming criticism!

What I write is what I know. I don't try to stretch across broad categories of which I have no knowledge base. Self-confidence boosts when you stick with your knowledge and your own style. In the face of criticism, I now say "bring it on!" because the more criticism I get, the more readers I have and more readers is my goal. Spreading a positive martial arts mindset message far and wide is my vision. On occasion, someone will point out a flaw in my blog post or disagree with my opinion. My response is always, "thanks, I respect your opinion," because that is all I ever want anyone to do for me. Critical people who nit-pick ideas and thoughts will always exist. Their impact on you, is up to you.

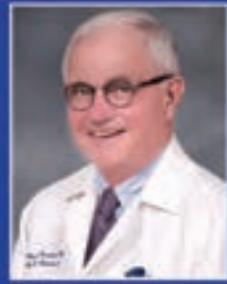
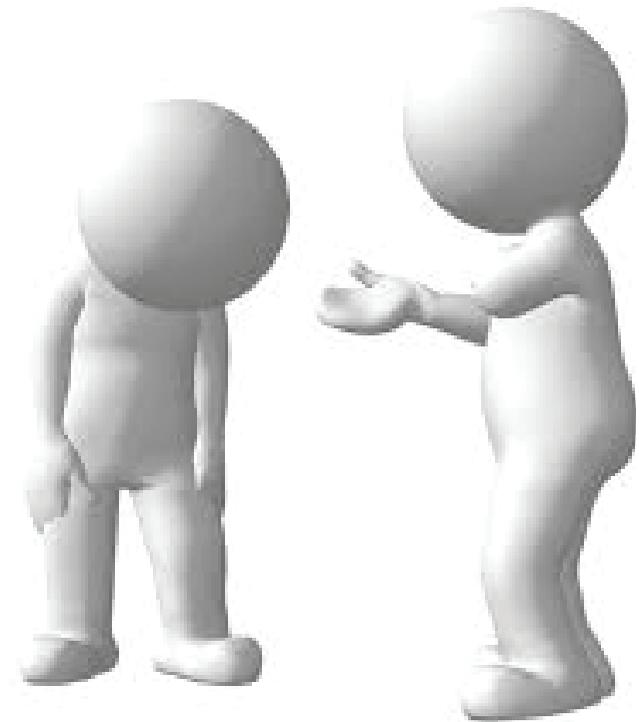
Blogging gave me the chance to share my martial art

mindset with you and I continue to be drawn to sharing the lessons that I've learned so you can cope with your own worries and fears. The person who takes action, who believes in himself, trusts his own instincts, and works toward making something good and positive happen, is going to succeed.

Don't shy away from opportunities or dreams or goals. Don't allow fear of criticism to infiltrate. Life is full of criticisms, big and small, as evidenced by my own initial fears of spreading my blog posts. Deflect criticism and move on.

I'm a martial artist of twenty-six years and a blogger. There's not a single criticism in the world that can change that.

My final word to you is this: I am absolutely positive that you can do whatever you want. Be sure of yourself and your self-confidence will naturally trump criticism.



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Florida Cracker Cowboy Art Show



The Palmetto Historical Park and Manatee County Agricultural Museum are hosting the "Florida Cracker Cowboy Art Show" through April 16th. The exhibit will open with a reception on March 5th, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. The exhibit includes paintings by Jean Gragert, Wendell Graham, Joneen Nielsen, Jerri Phillips, Wesley Powell, Arthur Sarlin, Rosemary Sexton, Mara Trumbo, and Norma Wilder. In addition, select photos from Jimmy Peters' award winning photographs of Florida Cowboys will be on display. Peters' photos have been exhibited in galleries throughout



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the state and are in private collections around the country. The Park and Museum are located at 515 10th Ave. West, Palmetto. The exhibit reception is free and open to the public but reservations are requested. Call 721-2034.

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How to leverage your business through golf

*The Professional Golf Staff at
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Some of the biggest sales deals are written after a round of golf. Note the operative word is 'after' and not during the round of golf. Most successful companies realize the importance of either having a membership or affiliation with a Country Club or Golf Course. Being able to take a client to lunch and/or enjoy a round of golf on a championship golf course can be worth thousands (and sometimes millions) of dollars to a company.

Although the golf market has suffered some brief setbacks the last few years, conducting business transactions at the club or after a round of golf are still a critical part to most companies' business plans. Most business owners stress the importance of developing relationships and sharing quality time with customers. There are few places more inviting than an impressive Country Club or spending 4 hours on a well-manicured golf course.

Besides golfing with clients or prospective clients, many business owners set up golf lessons, golf outings or even business luncheons and/or dinner parties as part of winning new contracts and/or sales. Over the last 30 years as a golf professional I've witnessed hundreds of deals as a result of time spent either on or off the course in a Country Club setting.

Keys to business transactions while at a Country Club:

- Pick a course that you know has a professional staff so you can guarantee your clients will be treated professionally and courteously
- Make sure no maintenance work is being done on golf course and it is in great shape
- Reserve tee times and lunch/dinner reservations well in advance
- Give the names of your guests to the staff so they can personalize all greetings
- Discuss any business dealings at lunch or after the round. Don't discuss business on the course unless the customer brings it up
- Conduct yourself professionally at all times, don't get upset if you are playing poor golf. Keep your emotions in check during the round
- Always be a gracious host

If you are looking for a Country Club with a championship golf course to impressive clients feel free to contact River Wilderness Golf and Country Club. Located among the wilderness just minutes from I-75 we offer a full array of amenities from championship golf, lessons with PGA Golf Professionals and full service dining to handle groups from 2 to 200. Contact the clubhouse at 941-776-2691 or our golf shop at 941-776-2602 to provide the services you desire.

Patrick Walsh, PGA Golf Professional and General Manager

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Tank Cycling 101

You've probably heard about "cycling your tank," but if you're new to Aquaria you may not know how to properly set up your tank, and make it the best environment for your new fish. To begin, here's a basic Equipment Checklist of some items that will be needed in your new hobby.

- **Aquarium:** Contrary to what you might think, a slightly larger aquarium of at least 20 Gallons is recommended for beginners. Larger aquariums are generally more stable due to the additional volume of water.
- **Aquarium gravel:** Gravel should be coarse enough to allow water flow but fine enough to encourage nitrifying bacteria. As you will see below, bacteria (in this case) is a good thing.
- **Aquarium filter:** Your aquarium filter should be rated to turn over at least 3-5x the aquarium volume every hour.
- **Replacement filter media:** Ensure you have plenty of replacement filter cartridges. They will be replaced more frequently in the early stages of your aquarium. They will assist in keeping your water clear and debris free.
- **Heater:** A heater is essential to limiting disease. Water temperatures in your tank can fluctuate quickly, and many tropical fish have limited ranges in which they can thrive, or even survive!
- **Other decorations (plants, rock, resin ornaments):** While these can be thought of as aesthetic, they also may provide much needed structure for your fish (particularly the smaller, less aggressive ones) to have a place to hide and feel safe. Stress is never good for fish.
- **Aquarium Water Test Kit:** A good quality test kit is very important. It will allow you to test your levels before introducing fish. It will also alert you to toxic aquarium conditions down the road and potentially save your tanks inhabitants. Many pet shops will test your water for free or for a very small fee. This, of course, requires you to take a drive and sometimes wait in line, which is why we recommend having the ability to do it yourself. This convenience may also prompt you to test more frequently, helping you to catch deviations more quickly.
- **Fish food:** A quality fish food will result in brilliant, brightly colored fish. Fish should be fed small amounts daily. Just like with everything else, not all food brands are the same quality. Read your labels or ask your pet advisors what they might recommend. Choose a variety of options, as well. This will help to ensure your fish have all the nutrition they require, and will more likely replicate the many things they might encounter in their natural habitat.

After setting up your new tank, it's time for Tank Cycling! This is the most important part of your new Aquarium. Fish waste and excretion release ammonia into the water column, and ammonia kills fish! Bacteria within the filter media will convert this ammonia to nitrites. Good!?! Well, yes... but these are even more toxic than ammonia, so our work is not complete.



Fortunately, another type of bacteria will consume the nitrites in the water column and convert them into nitrates. While Nitrates are not toxic at lower levels, they are not healthy for your fish either (too higher levels will lead to loss of color/appetite and also algae blooms). A small water change will be required from time to time to maintain your Nitrates at acceptable levels.

This is why cycling the tank is so important; it produces bacteria in the filter that will support your fish economy by neutralizing their waste and making the aquarium habitable. Follow these steps to properly cycle your tank:

1. ADDING FISH - Your goal in this cycling process is to populate the tank with fish that produce waste but can survive the initial high levels of toxins long enough for the beneficial waste-processing bacteria to grow. You'll want to pick a variety that is known for being a good cycling fish and start with a small number. Later, once the bacteria have grown, you can slowly add more fish of different types. Below are just a few good choices for cycling fish:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| White Clouds | Zebra Danios |
| Cherry or Tiger Barbs | Pseudotropheus Zebra |
| Gouramis | X-ray Tetras |
| Most minnows | Most guppies |

There are others as well, so just ask an associate at your local pet shop if you are seeking something different.

2. UPKEEPING THE FISH - During the tank cycling process, your fish will probably Please see **Tank Cycling 101** CONTINUED ON PAGE 39

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Some thoughts about Fluoride

Dr. Patty Schnur, Parrish Children's Dentistry

Wow, how time flies! Once again it is time for Parrish Heritage Day and the Parrish Chili Cook Off on Saturday, March 5th. Good luck to the Williams Elementary team - sponsored by Parrish Children's Dentistry. And don't forget to look for us in the parade. We might have a special guest - the Tooth Fairy - escorting our float!

Hello, My name is Dr. Patty Schnur, and I am a general dentist practicing in my Parrish dental practice, Parrish Children's Dentistry. I limit my practice to children 2-18 years of age. We're located in the Eye Center Plaza near US 301 and Old Tampa/Erie Roads.

This month, I've been getting a lot of questions about fluoride from parents of my new patients. Many parents ask when they should start using fluoride toothpaste for their children. There are many types of over-the-counter toothpastes available, with and without fluoride. Here are my suggestions.

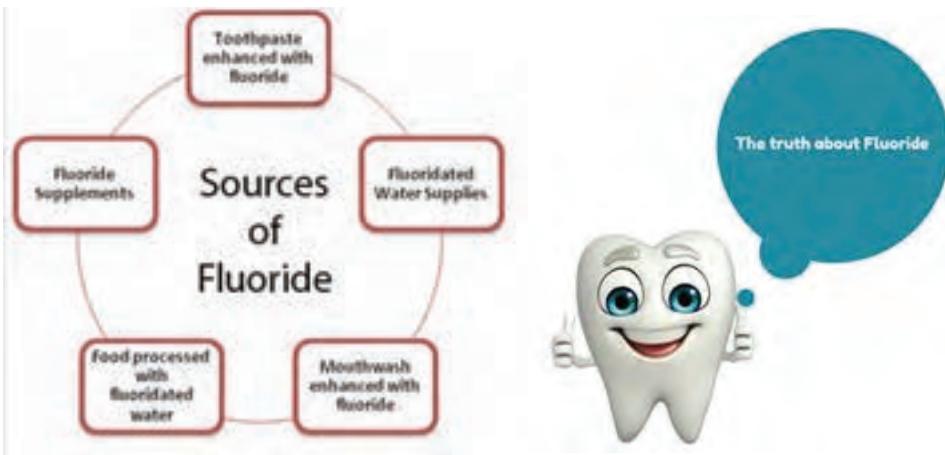
Fluoride in toothpaste is meant to act topically, which means it works on the surface of erupted teeth. In contrast, Manatee County has fluoridated water, also intended to prevent tooth decay. Fluoridated water works systemically, i.e. it is ingested and incorporated into teeth that are still developing in a child's jaw. Topical toothpaste can help fight against acid in the mouth from eating sugary or acidic foods. So, it helps existing teeth keep from getting decay.

It is best for young children not to ingest fluoride toothpaste, although doing so is not an acute problem. Children who repeatedly swallow fluoridated toothpaste are at higher risk for fluorosis, which presents as white spot lesions on the teeth. White spots on teeth

are areas of higher fluoride concentration, and although cosmetically unappealing, they are not a risk for dental decay.

The best time to start a fluoride toothpaste is when a child can spit or rinse out any excess paste after brushing. If a child comes to my office with decay earlier than that time, I will often recommend the tiniest smear of paste on the toothbrush right before bed, but no more than that. Before incorporating fluoride toothpaste, many parents use a glycerin based non-fluoride toothpaste to prepare their children for the "real thing." Getting your child into a healthy oral care routine is essential to lifelong oral health.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have further questions, or have a topic you'd like me to address in a future column, please feel free to contact my practice, Parrish Children's Dentistry, at (941) 776-5135.



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Although those two definitions sound similar, they actually can have somewhat opposing meanings. A person who is 'admired for great or brave acts or fine qualities' makes a more qualified definition of the word, "hero" in my opinion. Someone admired for selfless contributions/actions they've made to society that benefitted other people above themselves is a better definition for "hero" than someone who is simply 'greatly admired.' Let's face it, there are countless people out there who are 'greatly admired' (i.e. those in the entertainment industry, athletes, the rich and famous, cult leaders, politicians, etc....) that have done absolutely nothing for the betterment of mankind.

Who are these common, everyday human beings performing heroic deeds? They're people like our military service men and women who sacrifice their families, personal aspirations and their very lives to make sure our country is safe. They're folks like first responders who risk their lives to save and protect others. They are people in every walk of life that give of their own resources, time and physical labor to enrich the lives of others. These common, everyday human beings are mostly unnoticed, anonymous people that have no desire to promote their good deeds for all the world to know and admire.

I wonder how our planet would be if we had a 24-hour television channel that promoted only the selfless heroes in our world? What if our children tuned in to a show that displayed all of the amazing acts of generosity and heroism that typical people do every day in every place on the face of the earth? What if we and our children tuned in to a channel that constantly reminded us in both video and audio how valued and precious we all are and how much good there still is in this world? What if?

I believe the more we allow ourselves and our children to be inundated with the wrong and the horrors of our world (and they are countless), the more we become desensitized to the condition of our societies. The more we see it and hear about it, the more we accept it as true. The more we accept it as true, the more we tolerate it and expect it. The more we tolerate it and expect it, the easier it is for us to give up hope that we have the power to change our world.



So who are the obvious, true heroes in your world today? Who are the heroes that perform brave acts or give of themselves to the improvement and benefit of others in your life? Perhaps it's a teacher or other educational provider that truly has a heart to see someone exceed and excel. Perhaps it's a community or government official whose real motives are to see prosperity, safety and unity come to their area. Maybe it's a relative, friend or neighbor that works in or with a charitable foundation. Your hero may be someone who volunteers with the countless groups or organizations that endeavor to educate, equip or edify.

So what does all of this have to do with big-hair Bonnie Tyler and her need for a hero? Absolutely nothing (because she was looking for a love-interest)...except that her song is now interestingly highlighted in a Heineken beer commercial that depicts women asking where all the 'heroes' have gone that know how to drink (alcohol) responsibly, knowing their limit, which I think is a positive ad campaign that encourages moderation, at least. For all of you unseen, anonymous, true heroes out there: though I don't know all of what you do or the sacrifices you've made, I appreciate your heart for unity and your willingness to place the needs of others above your own. I appreciate your dedication to service without the need of fanfare. I appreciate that you continue to pursue whatever it is that provides good for mankind while expecting nothing in return. You are true heroes and our world is better because of you!

To read more about true, every day heroes around our globe, visit www.myhero.com.



be stressed. A good way to reverse this is to do small water changes every few days, about 10-15% should be changed, any more and you will be taking away the ammonia and nitrite that the bacteria are trying to feed on. This is an all too common mistake people make when they start to see cloudy water. When you feed your fish do so very carefully and sparingly, any excess food left over will only add to the ammonia and nitrite that are already present.

3. MONITOR TOXIN LEVELS - When you add fish to your tank, the levels of toxic chemicals known as ammonia and nitrites will quickly rise as the fish release waste into the water. As beneficial bacteria begin to grow in response to these chemicals, their levels will gradually drop to near-zero, at which point it's safe to add more fish.

To monitor these chemicals, you can use commercially-available test kits. Testing daily is ideal, but you can sometimes get away with testing every few days. You will want to keep ammonia levels below 0.5 mg/L and nitrite below 1 mg/L throughout the cycling process (ideally, they should be less than half of these values). If these chemicals start to approach unsafe levels, increase the frequency of your water changes.

4. ENDING THE CYCLE - The cycling process is complete when both ammonia and nitrite levels drop so low that they are undetectable. For practical purposes, this is often referred to as "zero," though this isn't technically accurate. This process will take anywhere from 2 - 8 weeks, if you do not stock too many fish and follow this guide!

Interested in a Fishless Cycling Process? There are new products on the market that assist with the bacteria cycling, without the need for fish until your tank is ready.

Best of luck with your new piece of nature!



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Fine Craft & Photography and 12X12 Open Exhibitions Coming to ArtCenter Manatee

ArtCenter Manatee presents two open, juried exhibitions in February and March.

The first, Fine Craft and Photography, features the work of over 100 local artists in photography, both color and black and white, and fine craft, including pottery, wood and jewelry. Fine Craft and Photography will be on display in the Kellogg and Searle Galleries. The Presenting Sponsor is Johnson PhotoImaging.

Also on display will be 12 x 12. Work is 12 x 12 - inches, centimeters, millimeters, points or picas. (no feet or yards!) This juried show will present work in all media.

Both exhibits will be on display February 23 to March 25 in the three galleries of ArtCenter Manatee. An opening reception was held Thursday, February 25 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. The exhibits and reception are free and open to the public.

About ArtCenter Manatee

ArtCenter Manatee is the winner of the 2015 Reader's Choice Award for Best Art Gallery from the Herald Tribune and the 2015 People's Choice Award for Best Gallery from *The Bradenton Herald*.

Located at the gateway to arts and culture in downtown Bradenton, ArtCenter Manatee is the premier center for visual arts in Manatee County. ArtCenter Manatee offers over 300 classes and workshops for adults and children, an Artists' Market gift shop featuring the work of local artists and regional artists, and three galleries with exhibits that change monthly and showcase the work of over 2,000 local, regional and national artists. Meet the exhibiting artists and art enthusiasts at our monthly evening opening receptions which are always free and open to the public.

ArtCenter Manatee is a proud member of Bradenton Kiwanis and the Manatee Chamber of Commerce, and a cultural partner of Realize Bradenton.

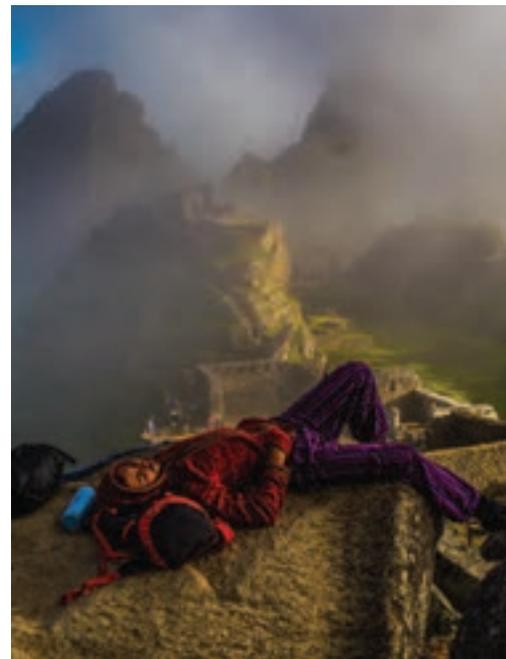
For more information please call 941-746-2862 or visit <http://www.artcentermanatee.org>.



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South Bay Hospital Holds “Topping Out” Ceremony

South Bay Hospital and general contractor, Charles Perry Partners, Inc. celebrate the next phase of the hospital’s new ICU/PCU tower construction with a traditional “topping out” invitation only ceremony. Subcontractors involved in the building of the tower and community VIP’s will come together along with the hospital’s employees next week to “top out” the building and sign one of the building’s elevator shaft walls to commemorate the event. The ceremony for the project was on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. at the construction site in front of the hospital.

“This latest phase in our expansion project is exciting. We feel the construction is moving along appropriately and we want to take time out to celebrate with our contractors, our employees and our community, explains Chief Executive Officer Sharon Roush. “This is a milestone for us as we move towards a more patient and family friendly aesthetic along with our continued focus on quality care.”

In building construction, the “topping out” ceremony marks the point when the structure’s highest element is hoisted into place, a practice that started in Scandinavia over 1,000 years ago. Before cutting the first tree, builders would formally address the forest, reminding it of the consideration and respect they had toward the trees and ask the forest to grant use of a tree for construction of their home. When the structure was complete, the topmost leafy branch of that tree would be set atop the roof to appease the tree-dwelling spirits of those ancestors that had been rendered homeless. The gesture was to further convince the “tree dwelling spirits” of their sincere appreciation for the people building the structure, in the hope that those living or working in the dwelling would flourish and have good fortune.

Charles R. Perry Construction, established in 1968, began “topping out” with its founder, Chuck Perry, and today Charles Perry Partners, Inc. (CPPI) continues his legacy with South Bay Hospital by commemorating this time honored tradition for the new hospital tower expansion.

South Bay Hospital’s renovation and expansion project will include a 30,900 square foot new Patient Tower and the renovation and refurbishing of public areas and existing



Architect's rendering of South Bay Hospital's new ICU/PCU Tower construction.

patient care units. The new Patient Tower will feature all private rooms and include a 14-bed Progressive Care service and 12 additional intensive care beds on the second floor. It will increase the hospital’s bed total to 138 and has been designed to accommodate future expansion of two floors for an additional 48 beds.

The renovation and refurbishing components include a new hospital entrance, enhanced main lobby and gift shop, dining expansion, new education classrooms and a chapel. Patient care units will be renovated to reflect the new Tower design elements. Participants in the “topping out” ceremony were include Sharon Roush, CEO – South Bay Hospital; Dr. Charles D. Rentz of United Methodist Church of Sun City Center; Jody McCoy, Project Manager, Charles Perry Partners, Inc. and many of the subcontractors who have been diligently working on the construction of the tower.

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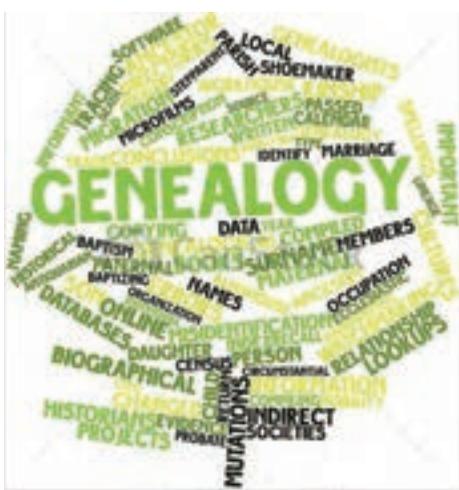
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Manatee Genealogical Society Sets April Meeting

The Manatee Genealogical Society will meet on Tuesday, April 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Manatee County Central Library located at 1301 Barcarotta Boulevard West in Bradenton. Bryan Mulcahy, Reference Librarian, Fort Myers Regional Library, will present: *grits, Genealogical Research In The South.*

For society information go to <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flmgs/>. You can email questions to mgs.society@gmail.com.

Parking is free and lunch is included with pre-registration. Non-member cost is \$40; members \$35.



Rocky Bluff Library Activities at A Glance

Rocky Bluff		
Tue 01	AARP Tax Aides Chess/Board Games (all ages & skills welcome)	12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wed 02	Forty Carrots Partners in Play ² Seussabration! Celebrate Dr. Seuss Day!	1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Thurs 03	Films With Franc: Romantic Comedies (Friends Sponsored)	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Fri 04	CareerSource Suncoast Mobile Career Center Preschool Storytime AARP Tax Aides	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tue 08	Chess/Board Games (all ages & skills welcome)	3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wed 09	Rocky Bluff Book Club Gleed by Marilynne Robinson	6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Sat 12	Master Gardener: Drop in for tips Crochet Hour (all skills; knitters/fiber artists welcome)	10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Tue 15	You Gotta Read This Book Club Share your latest book, but don't tell us the ending!	11:30 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Wed 16	Chess/Board Games (all ages & skills welcome) Friends' BOOKSALE: Special Preview Members Only (memberships can be purchased at door)	3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Thurs 17	Friends' BOOKSALE Neighborhood Services Community Outreach	12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Fri 18	Friends' BOOKSALE	10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sat 19	Friends' BOOKSALE	9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Tue 22	AARP Tax Aides Chess/Board Games (all ages & skills)	12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wed 23	Forty Carrots Partners in Play ² Personal Finance Series	1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Fri 25	Suncoast Bloodmobile Preschool Storytime AARP Tax Aides	10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tue 29	AARP Tax Aides Chess/Board Games (all ages & skills welcome)	12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wed 30	Forty Carrots Partners in Play ²	1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
Thurs 31	Art Club (ages 6-12)	6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

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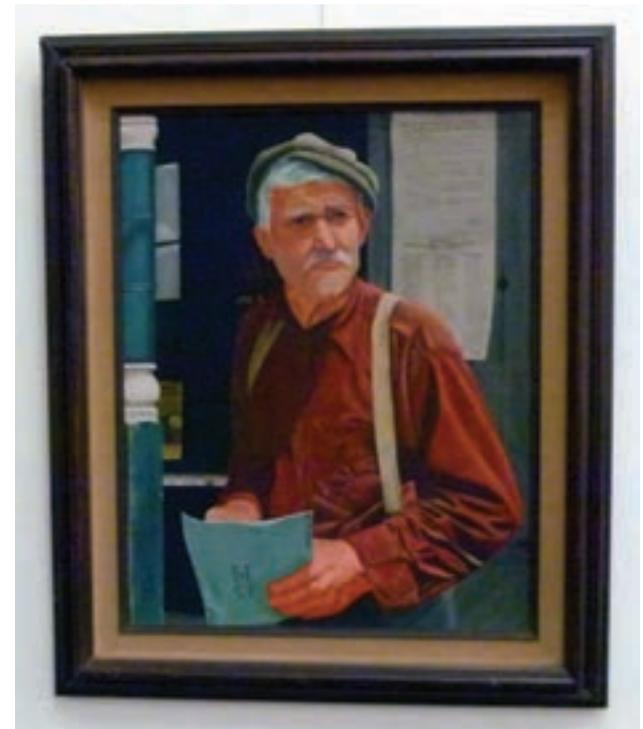
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Art Wall at Rocky Bluff Library Features Two Artists: Sally Wooldridge and Evelyn Bishop



At left an example of Sally Wooldridge's watercolors.



Above an example of Evelyn Bishop's art.

Two local artists, Sally Wooldridge and Evelyn Bishop, are exhibiting their art on the Art Wall at Rocky Bluff Library. The Art Wall is sponsored by the Parrish Arts Council. Every several months the Parrish Arts Council displays a new exhibit of art from artists in the local area.

Sally Wooldridge is a watercolorist and life-long artist. She has shown and sold her artwork at numerous art shows and galleries in: Hanover, Pennsylvania; Westminster, Maryland; and York, Pennsylvania. She has also won several awards for her work.

As a small child Sally initially drew animals. She's had many animal companions throughout her life, and has a deep love and respect for them. Her passion for drawing turned into experimenting with pastels, acrylics, pen and ink, oils, and watercolors. Although she took a few classes and workshops in drawing, Sally is basically a self-taught artist. When she discovered watercolor, she fell instantly in love with the medium, and over time has developed into a watercolorist.

Evelyn moved to Florida from southern Massachusetts in 1991 in order to attend massage school while she helped to take care of her ailing mother. Evelyn has always had a strong interest in painting, but never received formal training. In addition to painting as a hobby, Evelyn has many other artistic talents. She worked in a pottery studio where she designed, painted and sgraffitied hand thrown pottery that was subsequently sold to any number of venues for retail sale. Once she moved to Florida, Evelyn's creative juices became focused more on her massage business, sewing, upholstery, and fixing up older homes. Although Evelyn hasn't done any serious painting since 1990, she has always wanted to return to it and sees this opportunity to display her artwork as a sign of affirmation from the Universe.

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March Fishing Outlook!!!

Capt. Jason Prieto



Jackson Rowe with a nice Snook.

March is the month that officially kicks off spring fishing every year. It's a month that both the bay and gulf come alive. As our big schools of bait show up in the bay the big fish are eager to eat just about everything you throw at them. It's a change of pace and starts to be one of the best seasons of the year. It's a great time to fish!

Snook takes the stage this month. While there is a ton of fish to target and all are fun but Snook fishing is something special. People every year come from all over the country to catch Snook and anyone who can Snook fish in March won't be disappointed.

Bait of choice is whitebait. It's a little tough to get as waters are still cold but it will be worth the effort. Snook fishing with whitebait in March is an absolute must. Look for fish of all sizes to start to push out of the rivers and head towards the passes that lead in and out of the flats. Fishing the stronger tides will provide more fish and Snook feed best during these times.

My favorite rig is free lined bait with 30 lb Ohero Fluorocarbon and 1/0 Daiichi Circle hook. Season opens for Snook this month but this doesn't mean you have to keep them. Every year the slot gets fished out and that's what the slot is designed to do but ask yourself in the spot you fish how many slot fish do you see when you leave? Typically there are a bunch of smaller ones mixed with a few slot fish. Simple math tells me that it won't take many trips to clean those fish out. So the question to ask is if it is better to catch that fish later in the year for an epic fight, or do we keep him and know that it is one less fish we will be able to target. Just some food for thought!

Trout fishing is also at its peak. The big girls lay up on the outer flats as they get ready to have their spring spawn. Trout is a great fish for us as they are great eating and love artificial baits. Using the Mirolure baits is a great choice or if you are throwing soft plastics the Mirolure Lil John and the Zman Minnowz are good choice as well. Greenbacks are also a great choice and I do really well using the Cajun Thunder floats with them because they love any kind of surface disturbance. Most like to fish the grass flats for Trout and that's a great area but you will find the bigger Trout lurking around oyster bars and residential docks too. I've caught more big Gator Trout in these areas than on the flats.

Redfish is last but not least on the list. I would expect big schools to start showing up towards the latter part of the month. As we get our higher tides during the day and water temperatures rise, you will see more Redfish show up in decent numbers and breeder fish will also move in. Key things to look for are fishing around the New and Full Moons as Reds typically like to school up during these periods and fishing big schools of mullet. This will prove to be successful tactics to help you find the fish.

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Join the Parrish Arts Council for 2016



The Parrish Arts Council wishes you a Happy, Artistic New Year! Artists and art collectors, we need you! Parrish Arts Council has more festivals, plein air painting, classes, events and gatherings in store for our community.

Our membership has grown as we continue building the arts culture in Parrish! To become a member or sponsor and to learn more, please go to www.parrishartscouncil.org or contact Jerri Phillips of the Fine Arts Committee on (941) 809-5059.



Sign up for a Chili Cook Off Team!

Go to www.parrishchili.com

February 18 Parrish Town Hall Gathers SRO Attendance



The February 18 Town Hall Meeting in Parrish organized by Commissioner Larry Bustle was well attended and informative. When asked, "How many people in the audience were new to Parrish, about one quarter of the attendees replied affirmatively."

In attendance at the program were all the major Department Heads for Manatee County. Each of the Department Heads talked about his/her areas of responsibility and provided the audience with information on how Manatee county government works. Many of the attendees were frustrated with the slowness of the County to get things accomplished and did not have a clear understanding of how projects move through the planning process prior to presentation to the County Commission.

Topics of particular concern to residents were: a traffic light for the intersection of US Highway 301 N and SR 675; the road projects on Fort Hamer Road and US Highway 301 north from 675 to Moccasin Wallow Road; the new Fort Hamer Bridge under construction; the park and boat ramp project at Fort Hamer Park; the future Hidden Harbor Park at the south end of fort Hamer Road; and public works projects.

All questions were not completely answered to residents' satisfaction, but the people did learn about the processes to get projects accomplished and the people in charge of getting the projects completed.

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If you have problems reading—especially the fine print— it may be time for you to have a cataract evaluation. Other common cataract symptoms include:

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Adoptions and News from the Humane Society of Manatee County



Butterball Humane Society Manatee County
 Compassion. Commitment. Community.

Breed: Domestic shorthair
 Age: 2 Years
 Sex: Female
 Size: Medium
 Color: Brown
 Declawed: Yes
 Animal ID: 30647753

My personality

I am a nice girl and I enjoy sitting in boxes and on top of paper bags. I like to help with groceries, packing and office work. I love a good tuna meal and a hot sunshine spot on the rug. I love everyone and I am nice.

Love, Butterball

2515 14th St. W., Bradenton 941-747-8808 x 313
 www.humanemanatee.org

Why Adopt?

Every time you adopt an animal from the Humane Society of Manatee County, you enable them to save the life of another animal in need of a loving home. Each adoption also brings the Humane Society one step closer to becoming a humane community – a community where all adoptable animals find permanent loving homes and euthanasia is no longer accepted as a means of population control.

The Humane Society is proud of its efforts, and the Board, staff, and volunteers of

HSMC are committed to placing 100 percent of the animals brought to HSMC for adoption into permanent, loving homes.

FAQ About Adoptions

What does the adoption fee include?

Not only do you take home your new best friend, but all of the animals are spayed or neutered, microchipped and up to date on all their vaccinations. Pet insurance for 30 days is also included. Adoption fees are \$75 for all the dogs and kittens, \$50 for adult cats 6 months or older.

What is the Selection Criteria?

Pets placed up for adoption need to be of sound temperament and good health. Pets with a history of severe aggression or untreatable conditions are not suitable for the adoption program. Many animals undergo substantial medical and/or behavioral rehabilitation prior to placement for adoption. For example, the dog enrichment and obedience program, staffed by a group of dedicated volunteers, works with all the dogs to help them develop good manners as well as special needs dogs in order to resolve behavior problems that otherwise would be a deterrent to adoption.

Do you ever get purebred dogs or cats?

It is estimated that about 25 percent of the animals brought to the shelter are purebreds. If you are interested in a specific breed, check the pet lists to see if one is available. The Humane Society of Manatee County also works with purebred dog rescue organizations. Many times, these dogs are transferred from the Humane Society to rescue groups who specialize in adoption of a particular breed. That way HSMC has more room for mix breeds.

Can I return a pet I've adopted?

Yes, the Humane Society of Manatee County wants you and your pet to be a good fit for each other and recognizes that despite everyone's best efforts, sometimes this doesn't happen. Terms of return are:

The Humane Society of Manatee County will accept your pet back within 10 days of adoption. After 10 days each animal will be evaluated according to the HSMC selection criteria. The adoption fee is non-refundable.

Please call 747-8808 to discuss your circumstances with a counselor and schedule a date and time for return.

"Like" the Humane Society of Manatee County on Facebook

Take a look at the HSMC Facebook page. You'll find pets available for adoption, recent adoptions, special events that are coming up soon and many other news about Society programs. You can also catch up on all the news about the Humane Society's programs. There is even a map showing the location.

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 Senior Discounts, Military & Retired Military Discounts,
 First Responder Discounts, Educator Discounts!**

SWAT Networking Parrish Chapter Recognizes February Woman of the Month



The Parrish chapter of SWAT Networking recently honored the following woman for her dedication, hard work and positive spirit within the SWAT organization. The Parrish chapter is excited to announce Marni Mount of Marni's Mitzvahs as the February 2016 Woman of the Month. Marni is a valuable asset to the organization and exemplifies all of the qualities that determine who is chosen for this honor.

Aimee Garay (right) of Tastefully Simple, recognizes Marni Mount (left) of Marni's Mitzvahs, as the February 2016 WOMAN OF THE MONTH for the SWAT Networking Parrish Chapter.

SWAT Networking Parrish Chapter Welcomes New and Renewing Members

L to R Linda Singer of ReMax Alliance Group, welcomes new and renewing members Donna Lee Gauntlett, Artist, Author/Teacher; Betsy Plante of Yevo and Blessing Bags Project; Glenda Reagan, Owner and Counselor at Beacon Counseling; and Jennifer Sawicki of Suncoast Behavioral.



At the February meeting of SWAT Networking Parrish Chapter, the following new and renewing members were recognized: Donna Lee Gauntlett, Artist, Author and Teacher; Betsy Plante of Yevo and Blessing Bags Project; Glenda Reagan, Owner and Counselor at Beacon Counseling; and Jennifer Sawicki of Suncoast Behavioral Health.

SWAT, or Successful Women Aligning Together, is a growing group of dynamic women that support one another in business as well as in personal growth and development. At meetings, members network and build relationships, meet other professional women and learn marketing techniques. Lunchtime meetings are held in Bradenton, Lakewood Ranch, Manasota, Anna Maria Island, Venice, Parrish and Brandon. For more information, contact Dr. Robyn 941-962-0884 or director@swatnetworking.com.

The SWAT networking Parrish Chapter meets on the first Thursday of every month. RSVP no later than 12:00 noon on the Tuesday prior to the meeting. Cost is \$14 for Members, \$17 Visiting SWAT Sister and \$19 for Non-member Guests which includes lunch, beverage, tax and tip.

For more information go to www.swatnetworking.com



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Dave Psimer

(941) 720-0239



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FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

TRY THE Y THURSDAYS



It's your lucky day! FREE access to the Parrish Y every Thursday in March. Try a class, workout in our Fitness Center, and more. Babysitting is included, up to 2hrs. per day.

Join on any Thursday
in March and pay

\$0 Joining Fee

Up to \$50 Savings!

We have GREAT news!
The Parrish Y is now
open on Sundays
1-5p.

Come out for a special
celebration on Sunday,
March 12th, \$0 Joining Fee
during celebration!

Teen Conditioning / Group Exercise Classes / Summer Camp
Sports / Cycling / TRX / Dynamax / 12 Weeks to a New You

MANATEE YMCA

Parrish Branch

941-798-9622

www.manateeymca.org

Enrichment Center CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

Contact Linda Cilles 941-750-8786 or email her at whc67@verizon.net.

Women's Republican Club - Meets the first Friday each month. Membership is \$20 / year and \$17 for monthly lunch. Call Donna at 773-512-9366 for more details.

Movie & A Meal - Tuesday, March 29th, 1:30 p.m. Cost: \$8 (\$6 for members). Gratuity is not included. RSVP by March 28th to 941-749-0100. Please note: Payment is due at the time of reservation, meals are not available after RSVP date and no refunds are given for cancellations. Movie Meal Choices: Bistro salad with grilled chicken, Quiche with fresh fruit, Cup of soup and half a sandwich Combo. Contact our center for the featured movie of the month. 941-749-0100, ext. 2100.

Other Weekly Activities at the Enrichment Center

New ECR9 Book Club: Meets the second Thursday each month, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Free for members, \$2 for guests.

Argentine Tango Dance Lessons: Learn this authentic dance from our local experts Frank Solinko and Patricia Fodor. Come alone or with a partner. Every Friday, 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. \$7.50 (\$5.50 for members).

Beginner Ballroom Dance: Learn multiple styles or ballroom dance from our own Maria Miller. Come alone or with a partner. Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:30 a.m., \$7.50 (\$5.50 for members).

Tap Dancing Lessons: Get fit and have fun doing it! Mondays, 5:30 p.m. Contact Bonnie Gray at 941-741-8131 for more details.

Tai Chi (Sun Style—Perfect for Balance) Uses high upright posture with compact movements and lively footwork. Mondays, 12:00 noon - Beginners. Mondays, 1:00 p.m. - Intermediate. New classes start every 6 weeks. \$5 (Members Free).

Tai Chi (Yang Style - Most popular style) Movements are slow, soft and circular. Fingers are relaxed and loose. Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.— Beginners. Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. - Intermediate. \$5 (\$3 for members).

Tai Chi (White Crane Wu-style – most comprehensive class we offer) - Open to all ages and levels or accomplishment. Sifu Paul O'Shea teaches this more controlled narrow stance style and incorporates swords. Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. - All levels. Thursday, 5:30 p.m. — All levels. \$25 per month.

SilverSneakers Yoga: Move your whole body through a complete series of seated and standing yoga poses. Chair support is offered to safely perform a variety of seated and standing postures designed to increase flexibility, balance and range of movement. Restorative breathing exercises and final relaxation will promote stress reduction and mental clarity. Mondays, 11:00 a.m. Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m. \$7/ \$5 for Members. (SilverSneakers Members free (pre-registration required)).

SilverSneakers Classic Exercise Classes: Have fun and move to the music through a variety of exercises designed to increase muscular strength, range of movement and activities for daily living. Hand-held weights, elastic tubing with handles and a SilverSneakers ball are offered for resistance. A chair is available if needed for seated or standing support. Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. \$7/ \$5 for Members. (SilverSneakers Members free (pre-registration required)).

Italian Study Group: Practice your conversational Italian with this group on Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m. \$2 (Free for members).

Conversational Spanish – Learn a new language on Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. \$2 (Free for members). Starting up again March 1st.

Cribbage: Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. \$2 (Free for members).

Mahjong: Thursdays, 1:00 p.m. \$2 (Free for members).

Bridge: Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. \$2 (Free for members).

Pinocle: Fridays, 1:00 p.m. \$2 (Free for members).

Scrapbooking: Thursdays, 1:00 p.m. Learn the joy of scrapbooking and preserve those precious memories. \$7 (\$5 for members)

Knitting & Crochet: Perfect your craft and get ready to socialize! Fridays, 10:30 a.m. \$2 (Members free)

Game Time: Fridays, 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon. Play the game of your choice: Yahtzee, Monopoly, Scrabble, Chicken Foot or cards. Join the fun and make new friends. Free for all.

Coffee Talk – Great time to socialize and get acquainted. Join us for coffee and pastries every Wednesday morning at 9:00 a.m. \$3 (Members free)

Computer Lab/Library: Members only. Open Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. One to One computer instruction for \$8 per hour session on Monday and Thursday mornings. Call for more info. 749-0100

Free Services from SHINE: SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) is a free program offered by specially trained volunteers who assist with Medicare, Medicaid, and health insurance questions by providing one-on-one counseling and information. SHINE services are free, unbiased, and confidential. Call for reservations 1-800-963-5337. Sponsored by the FL. Dept. of Elder Affairs.

Tours are available: Monday – Friday, 11:00 a.m – 2:00 p.m, please feel free to come by, shop in our gift shop and have lunch in the 9th Street Bistro.

Fitness Center: Open Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m. Call to learn more/join.

Generations Gift Shop: Open Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

2nd Generations Gift Shop: Open Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

9th Street Bistro: Open Monday – Friday, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Check on-line daily for menu: renaissanceon9th.org.

Volunteer at Renaissance On 9th

There are many opportunities to volunteer at Renaissance On 9th, teach a class, give a Please see **Enrichment Center** CONTINUED ON PAGE 53

Answers to the February Trivia Questions



1. c. 2012
2. c. Parrish Heritage Day Parade
3. d. Scoville Scale
4. c. Capsaicin
5. c. Texas
6. b. Snakes
7. c. To celebrate the church lifting the alcohol ban
8. a. Boston in 1737
9. d. 900 AD
10. c. Grandson of

About the Author: Jim Casey is a Parrish-based Game Show Host and has entertained thousands in the Bradenton and Sarasota areas since 2010. He invites you to email your question suggestions to jim@floridagameshow.com.

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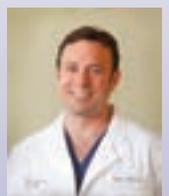
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Worship Services



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF PARRISH

12125 71st Street East
Parrish, FL 34219

941-776-1533
Rev. Joe Skidmore, Pastor

Sunday Services

Bible Classes, all ages. 9:45 AM
Morning Worship. 11:00 AM
Evening Worship. 6:00 PM

Wednesday Services

Youth Group Meetings. 6:30 PM
Prayer Meeting and Bible Study. 7:00 PM
Parrish Baptist Learning Center
Monday through Friday
6:30 AM to 6:00 PM



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Check our website for
Sunday Service Times
www.gonorthriver.org



Faith Lutheran Church
9608 Highway 301 North
Parrish, Florida 34219
941-776-1395

www.faithparrish.com
Interim Pastor - Kenneth L. Hinrichs
Saturday Service - 4:30 PM
Sunday Service - 10:30 AM
Bible Study - 9:15 AM
Sunday School - 10:30 AM

Saint Frances Cabrini Catholic Church

12001 69th Street East
Parrish, Florida 34219
941-776-9097

Pastor "Jay" J. Jancarz

Saturday Mass: 4:00 PM
Sunday Masses:
8:00 AM, 10:30 AM and 12:00 noon
(12:00 noon Mass from Christmas to Easter)
Confessions - Saturday 3:00 PM

St. Mary's Baptist Church

Erie Road
Parrish, Florida 34219

Reverend Fletcher Lawson, Jr., Pastor
941-776-3723

Fellowship Alliance Church

5735 69th Street East
Palmetto, Florida 34221
Phone: 941-723-9593

www.FellowshipAllianceChurch.com

Sunday School - 9:30 for all ages
Sunday Services - 10:45 AM

Wed. Eve. - Dinner 5:30 PM - \$3 per person
Bible Study - 6:00 PM
Prayer Time - 7:00 PM

2nd Friday each month - Friday Night Coffee House - 7 to 10 PM. The coffee house offers: praise music, a featured artist or group (genre varies from month to month), open mic and free refreshments

Small Groups - call Church Office for times
Email: FellowshipAllianceChurch@gmail.com

Crossroads Christian Church

1400 10th Street W, Palmetto, FL

941-729-2327

Pastor Jeff Mohler

Bible Study - Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Church Services - Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study - Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.



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10 AM Sunday
6:30 PM Wednesday

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9422 Old Tampa Road
Parrish, Florida 34219
Church Office - 776-8687

www.nhbconline.org

Kevin Thompson

Senior Pastor

Sunday Services

Sunday School (for all ages) . . . 9:15 AM
All Ages

Worship 10:30 AM
Children's Church 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Nursery available for all services

Wednesday

Adult Bible Study & Prayer 7:00 PM
Awana Club (ages 3-6th Grade) . 7:00 PM
Word of Life (Teens) 7:00 PM

Everyone Welcome

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Rev. James W. Berrien, Pastor

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13885 U.S. Highway 301 North
Parrish, Florida 34219
(941) 776-1134

www.nrchurchofchrist@nrcofchrist.org
mailbox@NorthRiverChurchofChrist.org

Sundays

Bible Classes (all ages) 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesdays

Bible Classes 7:00 PM
Personal home Bible studies
or correspondence courses upon request

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH OF PARRISH

8305 Highway 301 North
Parrish, Florida 34219
Church Office - 722-0218

Rev. Rick Chaffin, Pastor

Website: emmanuelbaptist.org
Email: info@emmanuelbaptist.org

Sunday Services

9:00 AM & 10:30 AM.
.Worship/Sunday School/Bible Study
10:30 AMChildren's Church

Tuesday

9:30AM.Women's/Men's Bible Studies

Wednesday

6:00PM. . . Bible Study/Prayer/Children/Youth

EVERYONE WELCOME!
(Nursery Provided)

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Sundays

9:15 AM Sunday School - All ages
10:30 AM Praise, Worship & Word
6:00 PM Bilingual Service (English/Spanish)
(Coffee & Cookies at all services!)

Wednesdays

7:00 PM Worship & Bible Study
(Adults & Youth)

Bible-Based - Casual Dress

Nursery Available

ALL WELCOME

There's a place for *you* in My Father's House!



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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1010 24th Ave W

Palmetto FL 34221

(941)722-5292

*The Episcopal Church welcomes you!
La Iglesia Episcopal le da la bienvenida!*

Holy Eucharist/ Santa Eucaristía

Sunday/ Domingo

Rite II (Contemporary language) 7:45 am

Rite II (Contemporary language) 10:00 am

Santa Eucaristía (Español) 1:00 pm

Wednesday/ Miércoles

Holy Eucharist and Healing 9:30 am

Grupo de Oración y Alabanza 6:30pm

The Rev. Glen Graczyk, Priest

The Rev. William de la Torre, Sacerdote

First Baptist Church of Gillette

3301 Moccasin Wallow Road
Palmetto, Florida 34221

(941) 722-1937

contactus@gillettefbc.org
www.gillettefbc.org

Sunday Service

Sunday School - 9:30 AM
Children's Worship - 10:30 AM
Worship Service - 10:30 AM

Everyone Welcome! (Nursery Provided)



Parrish United Methodist Church

Connecting people with the life-changing
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Traditional Worship 8:15 AM
Contemporary Worship 9:45 AM

Blended Worship 11:11 AM

Sunday School 9:45 AM

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Saturday at 5:30 PM - Sebring, FL

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Harvest Field Community Church

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Non-denominational
Bible based - Christ centered

Worship Services

10:00 AM

Sundays

Nursery available

7710 121st Avenue East, Parrish, FL
Casual dress, warm fellowship

Music is a combination
of contemporary and hymns

Bible Study 7:00 PM each Wednesday

Pastor:

Rev. Terry L. Cary - 941-725-4150

*"Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore to
send out workers into his harvest fields."*
Mat. 9:38 NIV



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SHABBAT SERVICES FRIDAY EVENING AT 7:45 PM
TORAH STUDY SATURDAY AT 12 NOON

Rabbi: Philip Aronson Cantor: Dr. Sam Isaac

Williams' Highlights from February

Williams Upgrades Its Garden



Before the renovation.



Albright Landscaping finished project.



Williams Elementary's Science Committee is pleased to announce the opening of our new Rock Garden! What was once a butterfly garden has been converted into a Rock Garden complete with elevated planters ready to serve as the cornerstone of lessons and inspire teachable moments across all grades. Planters will be adopted by grade levels for the purpose of more explicit instruction and just in time for Spring planting! Williams would like to sincerely thank Mark and Monique Malanowicz for their



Ready for students!

very generous donation towards tools and materials, as well as, all who have donated to our Donors Choose Fund. Additionally, we would also like to thank Albright Landscaping for coming out to lay our garden's ground covering and rocks, we appreciate your kind work. Without everyone's support and enthusiasm, we would not have access to needed supplies to make our garden blossom! Now that we are ready to plant, please keep an eye out for notes from teachers possibly requesting soil donations for their class projects. Happy Spring!

Williams Welcomes New Teacher



Welcome Mrs. Ashley Daymon, our new 5th Grade Math teacher.

Join the "Wolf Pack" on Sunday, March 6th!

Williams Elementary is forming a team to participate in the 7th Annual Take Stock 5k/10k/Fun Run on Sunday, March 6th. You can walk, run, skip, crab walk, or however else you can think to finish 3.1 miles. Anyone can sign up for the "Wolf Pack", so get the whole family involved! The race will take place on Main Street in Lakewood Ranch starting at 7:30 a.m. and there will be a post-race party with food, entertainment, raffles, awards, and kids activities. Don't forget you can register as a virtual runner.

Take Stock in Children is a non-profit organization that helps deserving children achieve academic and personal success by providing mentoring programs and college scholarships. A 4-year college scholarship will be awarded to the elementary, middle, and high school with the highest number of participants, as well as to ALL schools with over 300 participants. The Florida Pre-Paid College Foundation also matches the money raised by this event dollar-for-dollar.

Prices are the same for all races:
 General Public - \$30
 Virtual Runners - \$30
 District Employees - \$20
 Students - \$15

Here's how to join the fun:

- 1) Go to www.takestock10k.com by March 2nd.
- 2) Choose Williams Elementary as your school.
- 3) Join our team! Select "join a team already created" and look for "The Wolf Pack."
- 4) Tell your friends to sign up!

Registration forms also in our front office.



Staff preparing the planters.

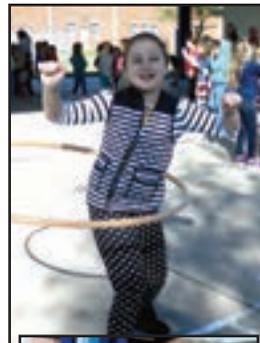
Kindergarten Class Receives Free Olive Garden Lunch



Ms. Wisniewski's Kindergarten class received a complimentary Olive Garden lunch for being our "Pasta for Pennies" overall winner. Thank you Olive Garden for the delicious lunch!

Students Earn Wolf Howls and Are Rewarded

Students who earned 10 wolf howls by exhibiting school expectations of being honest, responsible, respectful, kind and safe attended Williams 2nd Quarter PBS (Positive Behavior Support) Assembly on Friday, February 5th. They were able to participate in kickball, soccer, tennis, hula hoops, jump rope and dancing. Congratulations to students who were able to attend and our many volunteers whom we could not do without their support!!!



Plans for Butterfly Garden



Williams Elementary Science PLC chair, Melissa John was recently fully funded through Donorschoose.org for a school garden. The Science PLC Committee will be renovating the school butterfly garden to allow for elevated planters to be incorporated for student planting. Additionally, one of our parents donated generously donated funds for ground covering. The Science PLC Committee is excited to have the garden ready for students to participate in Spring planting. We are thrilled to have this project funded by our parents and community members!



*The Parrish Civic Association
welcomes our new
and returning members!
Thank you for your support!*

Basic

*Josephine Knoedler
Ralph & Cindy West*

*Leslie Pokres (Color My Pool)
Rusty & Darla Wyar*

Community Booster

*Cynthia A. Chin
Bill & Jean Clark
Velma Gillett
Jim & Linda Juillerat
Marian Erwin
Iris McClain*

Parrish Sponsor

*Norma L. Kennedy
Dennis & Mary Zlosel*

Community Patron

*Mike & Gracie Johnson
Ben & Cookie Jordan
Kris Anderson & Mary Porter*

Join the Parrish Civic Association for 2016

The Parrish Civic Association has been going strong for over 30 years. In the beginning, it accomplished a really significant thing for Parrish - helping to establish the Parrish Fire Department. This has had so much importance to Parrish.

After all these years, the Parrish Civic Association is still working hard for the common good of the community: organizing the Parrish Heritage Day Festival including the parade and Chili Cook Off, helping with the Parrish Children's Christmas Party for needy children and families, helping to get the Y established in Parrish, developing Overlays to the Manatee County Comprehensive Plan and the Village, and currently working with the Parrish Arts Council on cleaning up the corridor along 301 from CR 675 to Moccasin Wallow Road. We still have work to do.

Help us out in this effort by joining the Parrish Civic Association in 2016. A form is on page 47. Clip it out, complete it, enclose a check and mail it in today! Help your community continue the efforts!

**This Saturday, March 5th, 10:30 AM to 4:00 PM
30th Annual Heritage Parade and 5th Annual Chili Cook Off
\$5 for tickets in advance (Parrish 7 Eleven and Parrish Y), \$10 at the gate
Children 12 and under FREE!!! Plan to be there.**



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Dr. Guthrie is accepting new patients. To schedule an appointment, please call **941.216.3939**.

Most insurances accepted.



Take Stock in Children of Manatee County will hold its 7th Annual Take Stock 10k / 5k / Fun Run, on Sunday, March 6, 2016 along Main Street in Lakewood Ranch. The 10k will begin at 7:30 a.m. and the 5k is scheduled to begin at 7:35 a.m. The Kids Fun Run starts at 8:30 a.m. and there will be a Post-Race party with food, entertainment, raffles, age-group awards and kids' activities immediately following the race.

Proceeds from the run go directly to support 4-year college scholarships and mentoring for deserving Manatee County students. Take Stock in Children identifies students as early as sixth grades and provides them with a mentor and a college scholarship. In return, students commit to maintain a 2.5 or better GPA, remain drug and crime free, and meet with their mentor on a weekly basis.

Diana Dill, Executive Director of Take Stock in Manatee, says the program has proven success with a 96% graduation rate.

"Usually they're the first person in their family to attend college," explains Dill. "So you're really breaking cycles of poverty with education and a volunteer mentor."

All Manatee County Schools are being challenged to rally at least 300 runners to participate on their behalf. Every school that meets the challenge will be awarded a scholarship and a mentor for one of their students. Supporters can either register to run or select one of the virtual participation options.

"We're excited about the virtual participant options because it means even if you're out of town or have previous commitments, you can still support the school of your choice to win a scholarship," Dill said.

Support from local businesses can make a difference in the success of this event. We would be grateful if you could provide some type of donation to the race. In exchange for your donation, you will be given the opportunity to place marketing material in the goody bags of 2500+ participants as well as vendor space during the event.

Take Stock in Children is a non-profit organization that helps deserving children achieve academic and personal success by providing mentoring programs and college scholarships. The Florida Prepaid College Foundation matches the scholarship money raised dollar-for-dollar, thus creating more opportunity for young people who have shown their desire and commitment to attend college by maintaining a 2.5 or higher grade point average and remaining drug and crime free.

For additional information and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Take Stock in Children Race Director, Bethany Lynch at (941)713-8935, bethany@takestockmanatee.org.

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If You Are Single

As a single person it may first seem that there is no need for life insurance but actually the death of a single person would create financial demands on parents, siblings, other family members or friends. As a single person, consider how much money you owe others including home mortgage, auto loans or leases and final expenses.

If You Are Married

Many married couples wait until they have children to buy life insurance. In addition to your final expenses, if you spouse does not work, has limited income, or has a substantial income, a rule-of-thumb that is often used is that the surviving spouse will need 2/3 of total household income to maintain lifestyle.

If You Have A Family

The most obvious need is for married families with young children. Here it is easy to oversimplify and misjudge the need for coverage. A comprehensive life insurance needs analysis performed by a qualified life insurance agent or advisor is strongly recommended to consider payoffs of loans and debts, survivor needs, final expenses and estimates of actual college costs for school age children

For Second Marriages

A challenging and often interesting situation can be with blended families as we have come to call them. These are typically second and third marriages where we have beneficiaries that are hers, mine and ours also assets that are his, mine and ours.

Protecting beneficiaries, equalization of assets, probate and estate planning issues should be considered with the help of a tax advisor, legal advisor and life insurance agent.

After Children Are Grown

Many feel that once the children are out of college, there is little or no need for life insurance. This is not the case, because life insurance is still important for survivor income and for completion of retirement savings if premature death occurs. Life insurance provides money for final expenses equalizes values distributed to your heirs and protects your legacy.

The younger and healthier you are, the easier and more affordable life insurance can be to obtain, so waiting until your declining years can be costly or prohibitive.

For Business Owners

To business owners, life insurance is an important planning tool to consider. If you have a business partner, a Business Continuation Plan with a Buy-Sell Agreement that is funded with life insurance can avoid big problems. If your partner has immediate family (or in some cases even extended family) that could legally step in and become your new business partner upon your partner's death, how would you view that scenario?

If you have a key employee who is an important part of the business and could take time to replace, then the death of that employee could result in substantial loss of revenue, business opportunity or both. In this case, what we call Key Employee Life Insurance can be very important.

Please call me right away for an insurance review at 941-504-2376 or email me at Jackie.Felix@greatflorida.com.



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Parrish Civic Association Corner

March 2016

Dear Friends:

30th Annual Heritage Parade and 5th Annual Chili Cook Off

Are you about ready for some great chili and lots of family fun? Well, that's all going to be on tap this Saturday with the 30th annual Heritage Day Parade starting at 10:30 a.m. from the Parrish Fire Station and ending at the Florida Railroad Museum. Gates for the Festival and Chili Cook Off open at 11:00 a.m. and this year we have 30 teams competing for the award of Best Chili in Parrish.

There are lots of fun things for the whole family and you will want to be sure to wander through the Parrish Pioneering area which is set up in the woods behind the stage. The area is designed to show how life was in early Parrish and there are multiple exhibits and vendors including cracker cattle, some real old time music and a bullwhip cracking demonstration and contest.

And remember that the proceeds go to the Parrish Foundation's Grant Fund which in just four years has awarded grants totaling over \$110,000 to the small not for profit corporations serving our Parrish area. Where else can you go have some great family fun while supporting our wonderful community? You just can't beat that!!

Parrish Civic Association Town Hall Meeting

The PCA wants to thank Commissioner Bustle and members of the staff of Manatee County for coming to Parrish for the PCA's General Membership meeting on February 18. Over 130 people attended and when we asked at the start of the meeting for a show of hands of people that had lived in Parrish less than a year, about 25% of the attendee's hands went up. The purpose of the General Membership meeting is to get Manatee County officials out to Parrish so they can meet and talk to residents that might not get downtown to meet them. As pointed out by several people, we have problems with traffic and so many new homes seemingly being approved without adequate infrastructure.

But as discussed by the last speaker we are lucky (some might disagree) to be living in a growing vibrant area versus a very depressed area. He went on to say he was glad he had a chance to hear from Manatee County staff and was confident we could work with them to find solutions to our problems. It was clear from some of the speaker's comments and questions that the legal aspects of the Comprehensive Plan, Land Development Code, and Property Owners Rights are not understood. I am not sure what we can do about that because listening to a presentation on Land Development Codes and Comprehensive Plans is far from being the most exciting thing in the world. If you have a suggestion on education on these topics, please let us hear from you.

Road Improvement Projects

Like many of you that travel along Fort Hamer Road and 301 through the Village area I am getting very tired of the construction already and we have many more months of it ahead of us. I was remembering the pain of driving on 301 when it was being widened from the interstate to 675 several years ago. I had to think back because I am so used to how nice it is now (well most of the time it is). Maybe someday soon we'll be driving on Fort Hamer or 301 through the Village and not remember all of the orange barrels and mud.

Please feel free to contact me with any ideas or concerns about Parrish.

Ben Jordan
President, Parrish Civic Association
ben.jordan@verizon.net or (941) 776-9019

Message from the Membership Chairman

Dear Friends:

The Annual Membership Drive for the Parrish Civic Association began in January for 2016. Many of you have responded in 2015 and mailed in your dues and we really appreciate your support for the Parrish Civic Association. You can join for 2016 if you want to get a "jump" on the new year before you get your letter (if you were previously a member). Simply fill out the form below, select your level of membership, enclose a check and mail it in.

We appreciate your generosity. The only source of revenue for the Parrish Civic Association is dues. Your dues go to help our organization in many ways: supporting the Parrish Children's Christmas Party (held December 10 for over 130 children), funding for the annual Heritage Day Parade and this year's fifth Chili Cook Off (signs, posters, publicity), helping pay for bringing the Board of County Commissioners to our PCA meetings, bringing other guest speakers to meetings and many other activities performed by the Parrish Civic Association.

We now have over 450 members of the Parrish Civic Association. That's a very good number of people in the community who are interested in the Parrish community and making it the best place to live in Manatee County.

If you are interested in helping out on any of our activities and want to be on a committee, please contact Ben Jordan, our President, at ben.jordan@verizon.net. We would be pleased if you would like to help. We have already met with several people new to the area who are getting involved in our community's activities. It is a lot of fun and a great group of people who work to make a lot of activities occur.

And, volunteering is also fun. Every year, we need people for the Heritage Day Festival and Chili Cook Off (scheduled for March 5, 2016) and Parrish Arts Council as well as other activities during the year.

We hope to see you soon in and around our Parrish community!

Cookie Jordan
Membership Chairman
RJo2344@aol.com
941-776-9019

**Join the Parrish Civic Association.
Just clip out the form below
and mail it in with a check for your dues.**

	I wish to join the Parrish Civic Association. Here are my dues. Mail to Parrish Civic Association, P. O. Box 257, Parrish, FL 34219. (Please print.)	
	Name: _____ Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____ Phone No.: _____ Email Address: _____ <small>(Above information is for PCA use only. We do not give out or sell to outside parties.)</small>	
Please check one:		<input type="checkbox"/> New Member
		<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
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Fabulous, spotless home in the estate section of homes in River Plantation that offers four bedrooms plus a Den/Office, great room, separate living and dining. A4145925 \$299,000



Just over 1,600 square feet of living space, this home is perfect for low-maintenance living. 3/2/2 split floor plan has a spacious kitchen with plenty of storage. A4145523 \$229,000



3 bedroom, 2 bath block home in desirable Villages of Thousand Oaks. Major updates to this home includes PGT double pane impact resistant windows and sliding glass doors to your screened lanai. A4145225 \$199,900



This pristine 2 bedroom 2 bath condo shows like a model in this gated and maintenance-free community. This home features an oversized detached one-car garage leading to the homes courtyard. A4145053 \$149,900



Quiet and private on 5.75 Shady acres custom amish built home. A park like setting for a unique 3850 sq ft -pool- home. A4144917 \$625,000



Look no further! This 5.42Acre property is full of possibilities. This home/property was a former animal rescue sanctuary so this property has all you need. Bring your animals. A4144525 \$325,000



Gorgeous 4BR/2.5BA pool home on a lakefront lot with serene views. This home offers solid hardwood flooring throughout, formal living room and a separate formal dining room. A4143689 \$349,500



If you are looking for a non deed restricted home site on over an acre, then look no further. In addition to the 2 car attached garage there is also a 20x30 detached garage for all of your extra toys. A4139794 \$274,900



Oversized owner's suite, split floor plan, and a bonus room located off of the pool deck are just some of the features of this desirable "Harmony" model by Neal Communities. A4137522 \$379,900



Lush, tropical gardens and fountains greet you as you drive into Village Gardens - a hidden gem only a few blocks east of US 41/ Tamiami Trail in the Ringling Museum area. A4146383 \$105,000



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