NORTH BREVARD Beacon

Shedding Light on the News and Events of Titusville, Mims, Scottsmoor, Port St. John and Bellwood communities...

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HAPPY NEWYEAR

Joel Reynolds

Be very quiet and watch your head

David Simpson, an instructor at last year's Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival, explains the habits of a woodpecker during a field trip. This year's festival is Jan. 23-28 in Titusville. Officials believe there will be a record-breaking 4,000 participants, as it is now the top birding festival in the country. The center of the festival is at Brevard Community College in Titusville but the festival reaches into six counties with 32 workshops, 55 seminars, 39 photography workshops and presentations, more than 70 exhibitors, 15 kayak excursions, a pelagic trip, five well-known keynote speakers and 41 field trips. There's plenty to do for the whole family, even for those who aren't bird enthusiasts. ***See story on Page 4.***

Titusville boasts lowest crime rate in Brevard County

> *"While we know that crime isn't entirely preventable, we are proud of our proactive initiatives in the past year that have really made a difference."*
>
> **– John Lau**
> *TPD Assistant Chief*

By Susan Walden

Being proactive goes a long way especially when fighting crime, says Titusville Police Department Assistant Chief John Lau.

According to a recent Florida Department of Law Enforcement report, crime in Titusville was down 9.6 percent in the first half of 2007. The city is the only one in Brevard County cited with a drop in crime.

Crime in Florida went up 3.9 percent in the same period.

The highest crime rate was reported by Melbourne Village Police Department with a 166 percent; West Melbourne was a close second with 118 percent.

"While we know that crime isn't entirely preventable, we are proud of our proactive initiatives in the past year that have really made a difference," Lau said. "We give a lot of credit to our new Crime Suppression Unit."

The unit studies crime patterns in the city and goes into the areas – whether it is crack cocaine sales, burglaries or shoplifting – to stop the crime. "We try to anticipate the crimes and it's really paid off."

TPD spokesman Lt. Todd Hutchinson also credits the city's crime decrease to better community communication. "We go out and talk to homeowners associations and other groups, and more tips are coming forward," he said.

"We're working hard on crime," said Lau. "We're very proud of what we're doing."

NEXT ISSUE: Jan. 17

New downtown Farmers Market location not permanent

By D.D. Remini

There's something new to do in downtown Titusville – and when it finds a permanent home it will be even better.

Friday Farmers Market offers everything from fresh baked goods and produce to gourmet items, jams, plants, arts and crafts and even live entertainment from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

It began a month ago at Spaceview Park, but after disagreements between the venue, Parks and Rec and Spacewalk of Fame, the event has moved to the parking lot of the First Baptist Church at 301 Main Street.

Like many things that seem like a good idea on paper in Titusville, there are always those that have opposite views.

"We just need to find a happy medium," said Mark Ryan, Titusville city manager, who plans to order a few more rounds of talks between all the parties in the near future. He says the problem with the Farmers Market being at Spaceview Park is that it hurts the grass. "And then there's an issue when there's a launch because of so many people there to see it."

The second time the market was in the park, one vendor who requested anonymity, said the electricity was turned off during the event. It is an issue that confuses the vendors to say the least because they were also given exclusive rights by the city to sell launch memorabilia at Spaceview Park during a launch.

"I called the First Baptist Church and the pastor said he would love to have the Farmers Market there as long as it doesn't interfere with their activities," said the city's downtown coordinator Karen Johnson. So the vendors moved to the church.

D.D. Remini

Titusville's new Farmers Market, part of the Brevard Farmers Market, sets up shop every Friday at first Baptist Church, 301 Main Street, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. It probably won't be the permanent spot for the event.

Her choice location for the market is in the Julia Street/U.S. 1 parking lot but it is on taps to be refurbished. "We could have it on Julia Street but that also presents an issue because we'd have to close off the street," she said. "The whole idea is to have it in one location."

Titusville's Friday Farmers Market is the newest part of Brevard Farmers Market, made of mostly the same group of vendors, give or take a few. There are five Farmers Markets that run Thursday through Sunday – Rockledge, Cocoa Beach, Eau Gallie, Titusville and once a month in West Melbourne.

"We want a Farmers Market here in Titusville," said Ryan. "It's a great idea. We just have to come with a good solution for everyone."

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Kudos

❒ Titusville Police Department Commander David Butler has been selected to attend the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy in Quantico, Va., Jan. 7 – March 19.

Butler oversees the Division of Professional Standards and Training. Only 1 percent of law enforcement officers nationwide are selected to attend the academy.

❒ Sheriff Jack Parker was selected by the Brevard Community College and received the "Distinguished Alumnus Award" Dec. 20 for his outstanding contributions to Brevard County. Dr. Jim Drake, president of Brevard Community College bestowed the honor onto Sheriff Parker at Brevard Community College's Graduation Ceremony at the King Center.

During a formal Promotion and New-Hire Swear-in Ceremony Dec. 14, Parker promoted one lieutenant and four sergeants and the hiring of 11 new deputy sheriffs and 10 new corrections officers. Along with the promotions and new hires, Sheriff Parker announced the formal appointments of several deputy sheriffs to the positions of agents, field training officer and corporal.

Promotion to lieutenant is Lt. Ronald Tomblin, Jr. – County Jail Complex. Promotion to sergeant is Sgt. Robert Edwards – County Jail Complex, Sgt. Brad Thomas – Patrol Division/East Precinct, Sgt. Gary Harrell – Patrol Division/North Precinct, Sgt. Robert Baker – Reserve Unit.

❒ Three new Titusville Police officers graduated from the Police Academy Dec. 14. All three recruits were chosen as squad leaders during the academy, a distinction given to recruits who show strong leadership skills. The new officers are Jorge F. Martinez, of Merritt Island; Mark A. Jennings, of Titusville who graduated from Titusville High school; and Neal C. Arnold, from Titusville, who graduated from Astronaut High School.

New Toys for Boys and Girls!

By Andrew Whitaker of Brooke Insurance

This time of year people are receiving all sorts of new electronics, recreational vehicles, boats, cars, jewelry and more. And this is the best time to review what insurance coverage you have or what you might need. New ATV's, cars, motorcycles, boats and even Segway's need their own insurance.

Other smaller items may dictate the need for raising personal property coverage on a home or renters policy. High value jewelry and collectibles may need a special inland marine policy.

With so many wonderful things going on this time of the year, please do not forget to properly insure what you have given or received. Boys and girls, young and old please be safe and have fun. The joy of giving is a wonderful thing. *Have a wonderful holiday season an a very Happy New Year from Brooke Insurance!"*

Andrew Whitaker
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Birding Festival full of things to do for area residents

By Susan Walden

Oodles of birds, wildlife and over 215 activities are on tap for the 11th Annual Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival Jan. 23-28.

Now the top birding festival in the country, the event includes something to do for the whole family, whether you're a bird aficionado or you don't know a mangrove swallow from a pelagic cormorant.

"It's exciting to see how the festival has grown every year," said Neta Harris, executive director of the Brevard Nature Alliance, the nonprofit organization that sponsors the festival and serves as one of the primary advocates of community-based nature activities in Brevard County.

"We had 3,000 participants last year and expect 4,000 this year." Festival-goers are from all over the world, the nation, Florida and the local area.

The center of the festival is at Brevard Community College in Titusville but the festival reaches into six counties with 32 workshops, 55 seminars, 39 photography workshops and presentations, more than 70 exhibitors, 15 kayak excursions, a pelagic trip, five well-known keynote speakers and 41 field trips.

"We're so lucky and blessed to have such a great habitat here," said Laurilee Thompson, co-founder of the festival. "This is the key reason for the event's success. We are surrounded by more than a quarter of a million acres of public ownership that is beneficial to wildlife and our ecosystem."

Ray Scory

Adam Kent, left, shows how to use a spotting scope to see birds and wildlife at last year's Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival. The event, which is expected to bring 4,000 participants, runs Jan. 23-27.

So what's there to do at the largest festival of its kind? Whether you're 5 or 95, they're something for everyone, according to Harris. For children, there's Hands-On Wildlife Safari, all sorts of educational and entertaining programs featuring snakes, panthers, and of course, birds such as eagles, owls and falcons. "The Raptor Project is very popular each year," Harris said. "Jon Woods takes birds out and flies them. These birds are recovered from an injury or health situation. He and his staff recuperate them and educate the public."

Each year before or during the festival Woods premieres his birds in various local schools to the glee of elementary school children. "We have such positive feedback ever year from this. They children just love it," said Thompson. "We did four schools last year, sponsored by Dixie Crossroads and we'll do two this year. The kids come home and tell their family and then they all come out to the festival to see the Raptor Project."

The Raptor Project features 15 to 20 raptors from diverse habitats at each show. Many of the birds have permanent handicaps but have been tamed and trained to educate the public as charming ambassadors of their species and the environments they inhabit. Show times for the Raptor Project are Jan. 24, noon – 2 p.m.; Jan. 25, 9:30 a.m., 1 and 3:30 p.m.; and Jan. 26, 10 a.m., 2 and 3:30 p.m.

"Even the exhibit show itself is worth coming to," said Thompson. It's free and there are many organizations and companies showing their wares. And for anyone looking for a bargain on photography equipment, binoculars and other items associated with wildlife and bird watching, the festival is shopper's dream, according

Cont. on next page

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Cont. from previous page

to Thompson.

"You can get tremendous deals on high end or starter equipment, clothing, books and more."

Seminars are $5 but for $40 participants can take on as many seminars and workshops as they want. "Due to the dedication and support we get from our great sponsors, we are able to bring all this for a very reasonable fee," said Thompson. Those in mind for a vacation, can talk to representatives of ecotour lodges. "They have fabulous places to go, and not just for birding," she said. "They offer exotic locations and some great deals for the whole family that children will enjoy as well. If you are considering this type of trip you won't find a better opportunity to get a good deal."

Those who like bats are in luck because the Florida Bats Conservancy brings American and foreign bats to the festival. There will also be programs at Enchanted Forest in Titusville for the whole family.

Want to learn to make a birdfeeder or build an owl house? The festival offers these free classes. "There will be presentations on owls from the University of Florida. "Kids can make the owl houses for the university's owl project," said Harris.

In addition to various seminars, workshops, presentations, exhibits and excursions, there are many field trips around the area – some new ones. Two are at garbage dumps. Though for a moment it might not sound like the greatest place to be, bird enthusiasts and experts claim it's a great place for bird watching so the festival has added two field trips to the list. "We've never done this before," said Harris, "but that's where the birds go; it's a new phenomenon. We also go to wetlands and a reclamation plant."

Other hands-on activities include many kayaking trips from as close as Titusville's Fox Lake to Lake Monroe and lots of bodies of water in between. Those who've put down "learning to kayak" on their New Year's resolution list can see a demonstration on Jan. 26 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Chain of Lakes.

Touted as one of the most interesting exhibits in the festival is Operation Migration, a re-entry program for endangered whooping cranes. Founded in 1994, the nonprofit organization raises whooping cranes from the egg, including dressing up like cranes, then using an ultralight plane, helps and teaches them to migrate from Wisconsin to Florida. Bill Dishman, the first human to fly with the birds, led the first flock of Canada geese from Ontario to Virginia, inspiring the making of the hit movie, "Fly Away Home." Dishman's associate and fellow pilot Joe Duff will be on-hand at the festival along with his plane and will explain the recent and ongoing migrations from Wisconsin to Florida.

Courtesy of Brevard Nature Alliance

The center of the festival is at Brevard Community College in Titusville with more than 70 exhibitors who grace the gymnatorium. Keynotes speakers, kayak and othe tour excursions, workshops and field trips are just part of what participants can enjoy at the festival.

His free presentations will be Jan. 25, 1-2 p.m. and Jan. 26 10:30 – noon, with seating limited to 100 people.

For more information on Operation Migration, go to www.operationmigration.org.

For a complete list of the festival's events, go to www.nbbd.com/fly or pick up a copy of the festival's magazine, *The Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival* 2008 at Dixie Crossroads. Titusville Area Chamber of Commerce and Merritt island National Wildlife Refuge.

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Brevard County Schools holds Choice Fair

VIERA — The fifth annual Choice Fair is at the Melbourne Square Mall on Jan. 12, and at the Merritt Square Mall Jan. 19 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Informational booths will feature choice schools, magnet schools, career and technical academies, middle schools, high schools and charter schools.

This year's goal is to raise awareness about the district's Secondary Schools of National Prominence initiative, and to allow parents the chance to peruse the career academies, major areas of interest, and the new course offerings at the secondary school level.

Also, the Office of School Choice wants to showcase the students, teachers, and administrators who work diligently throughout our district to strive to be first in Florida.

"This year offers even more educational options available for families," said Superintendent Dr. Richard A. DiPatri. "The fair will also focus on assisting students in choosing which high school or middle school they would like to attend. The Office of School Choice personnel will be there to explain all the options—magnets, charters, schools of choice and choice programs."

School Choice will sponsor student performances near Macy's at both malls. They include musical theatre, dance, flag and rifle, modeling, singing, and others.

"We're excited about this opportunity to feature innovative school programs to meet the interests and needs of all students," said Vicki Mace, director of the Office of School Choice.

If you would like more information, call the BPS Office of School Choice at (321) 633-1000 ext. 395.

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Governor congratulates Brevard Public Schools for Sterling accomplishment

More than 500 Brevard leaders gathered for a special luncheon featuring Florida Gov. Charlie Crist Dec. 19 at the Radisson Resort at the Port in Cape Canaveral. Crist recognized Brevard Public Schools' achievement of the 2007 Governor's Sterling Award, acknowledging high-level student achievement and excellence in management and operations. Brevard Public Schools was honored with the prize at the 2007 Sterling Conference in Orlando earlier this year.

"We are gratified to have such strong community participation in our shared celebration," said Superintendent Dr. Richard A. DiPatri. "Thanks to the leadership of our entire BPS team, from our School Board to our principals and teachers, this district continues to strive for new levels of excellence."

Crist acknowledged the hard work of the district in achieving the award, and thanked all BPS employees for their commitment to continuous improvement. After the luncheon, he also recorded a special video message to all 75,000 BPS students that aired on BPS-TV Dec. 20.

"It is important to honor organizations that make positive contributions to their communities and to Florida," Crist said. "Organizations like the Sterling Council are helping make Florida a great place to live, work and raise a family. I am committed to continue building a world-class education for Florida students and appreciate the work Brevard County is doing to help with that endeavor."

The Governor's Sterling Award is a prestigious accolade that recognizes organizations that work hard to meet their full potential. Last year, 96 percent of Brevard schools received a grade of an A or B. BPS also boasts the highest graduation rate in the state.

Numerous community sponsors made the event possible, including The Glover Group at Morgan Stanley-Al and Scott Glover and the Boeing Co. The event was attended by a broad representation of the community—from state legislators and business leaders to principals, parent leaders and school student government representatives.

"The Glover Group was pleased to sponsor this significant recognition for Brevard Public Schools," said Scott Glover. "It was an important celebration not only for our school district, but for our community."

The Boeing Co. has a long-standing partnership with Brevard Public Schools providing volunteers, in-kind and monetary donations to enrich the educational experience provided to students. Boeing has provided an estimated $500,000 in charitable contributions through the Brevard Schools Foundation. Additionally, Boeing employees volunteer in local schools and have contributed more than 17,000 pounds in school supplies through its Books & Backpacks drive.

"Boeing congratulates Brevard Public Schools for receiving the Governor's Sterling Award," said David Bethay, site director for Boeing Florida Operations. "This award speaks to the level of excellence to which our local schools strive to achieve. Boeing is proud to invest in the quality learning environments provided by Brevard Schools."

The Florida Sterling Council, through a public/private partnership with the Executive Office of the Governor, oversees the Governor's Sterling Award.

The council is comprised of public and private sector members and led by an Executive Committee. Based on the application of the Sterling Criteria, organizations have received the Governor's Sterling Award for significant improvement and achievement of performance excellence since 1992. The Governor's Sterling Award is recognized as the preeminent state award process in the nation.

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Opinions

Exercise resolution isn't easy for everyone

My View

By Susan Walden

Got resolutions?

I do. I'm back on the exercise kick again, which isn't easy for someone like me who has never been "athletically inclined," as my mother used to say.

I was never the popular one in gym class. After a few weeks in the class, most knew to pick me last for teams. I tried to prove I wasn't so bad in athletics so I marched home one day and told my parents I joined the track team.

"Really? Wow …," said my mom. OK, I had to prove her wrong too.

My first practice the coach told us to run around the track, like 900 times. I asked why, never understanding in school why you had to repeat something over and over once you "got it." I decided sprinting was more my style. I was low to the ground (vertically challenged) and weighed about 85 pounds so I had a lot going for me. But then it hit me.

"What am I thinking? I only run when something's chasing me."

So I quit. Hey, I was in the band anyway and that was exercise. You know how hard it is carrying and pounding out notes on a glockenspiel on the field and in parades? (This is a pretty good band joke if you've ever been a band geek.)

In college I took a karate class off campus. It was torture, especially the exercise before it in which I had to sit on the floor and hold my toes while Master Sin Te fed his fish in his eight fish tanks. Geez, he did it so slowly. Since I wasn't allowed to bend my knees, grabbing and holding on to my short little toes was an ancient Chinese secret I hadn't learned to do very well. When I had a hold of my toes every day, I knew they were getting longer from pulling on them. I could feel them growand I thought I heard a crack a time or two. I didn't mind sparring and going through the katas; it was holding those toes that killed me. My shoe size grew two sizes after that, just to accommodate my toes.

When I was in my 20's it was all the rage to dress up in the "Flashdance" gym clothes – those heavy socks sitting around the ankle– and go to Jazzercise. The object wasn't to exercise, it was to look good in the leotard. And what was with those thick socks around your ankles for anyway?

My friend and I decided to give Jazzercise a try after work one day. We didn't know that the steps were like being in a Broadway show. I thought I was being choreographed in a version of "Annie." Wish I'd brought my gun.

If you hadn't been to "practice" before, you were likely to slam into others going right and left, back and forth. After stepping on 37 toes and slamming into 15 people, my friend and I became hysterical. It was like a scene out of an "I Love Lucy" episode. The teacher screamed, "You ladies in the back. Get with it." We just laughed harder. Needless to say that was my first and last time in organized exercise class.

Over the years, my husband and I have walked for exercise beginning way before the sun comes up. Here I am, half asleep – sometimes I don't even remember I exercised, which isn't such a bad thing – and there's a rustle in the bushes in the pitch dark. He's half deaf from being in tanks in the Army, so I scream and push him out of the way to clear the path so I can get away from whatever it is that's rustling in the bushes. Could it be a Florida swamp ape? A panther? A bear? I look back, hand clutched to my chest, my husband with a puzzled look on his face, and a small armadillo saunters out of the weeds. Did I mention I'm a chicken in the dark?

I like to chalk up screaming and running in fear as a good solid workout. You get your heart rate up, arms flailing about – even your voice box gets a go at it.

Unfortunately, I'll have to curtail my "fun" with walking. I've had trouble in the past few years with a heel spur. I walk about a mile and drag my leg back home another mile.

So I think I'll have to get a bike. I'm just itching for a brain injury. No, I shouldn't think negative thoughts. All the past exercise disasters have prepared me for this. Got the karate long toes to help me peddle, agility from leaping away from terrorizing armadillos, rhythm from "Annie Get Your Gun" jazzercise (without the heavy socks that could get stuck in the wheels) … now if I could just get that kickstand up.

Generational craftsmanship must not pass away

There are so many craftsmen and tradesmen in the United States who have been forced to give up their trades over the last decade and seek employment outside of their realm of experience, expertise and training.

They have exchanged their life's ambition for broken dreams and lower paying jobs that do not offer anywhere close to the personal satisfaction of the generational trade that once filled their lives with passion and stability.

The U.S.A. has a long history of excellence in agriculture, industrial production, millwork, textiles, electronics, woodworking, metalworking, and every kind of engineering under the sun.

As with any trade, there is a great deal of training that goes along with becoming a master craftsman. This specialized know-how should always be reinforced and perfected through the multiple facets of apprenticeship.

Whether we realize it or not, this nation is at a very important crossroad in our 200-plus year history: An intersection that is so incredibly important to the future vitality of our nation that we cannot rush headlong through it without fully considering that the opportunity to take this particular turn in the road may never come again.

We are approaching the point of no return when it comes to generational craftsmanship in America and it is of the utmost importance that we do not allow the current generation to pass away without a full transfer of all their knowledge and experience to the next generation of workmen, or we will stand the risk of losing all the secrets of their crafts and trades forever.

I realize that to many this train of thought sounds absurd: insinuating that there is a pathway that leads back to a place of tradition, and quality workmanship: Believing with conviction that these things have a lasting meaning or intrinsic value to our nation.

There are those that believe that it is worthless to embrace any form of sentiment or regard toward any of the vanishing trades while living in an economy that so much of the commodities that are being produced are thrown away just about as quickly as they are purchased.

I fear that such apathy will be the end of the craftsman, and the tradesman in our nation. It saddens me beyond measure that there is not enough support or organized efforts that are willing to recognize its importance to the point of immediate intervention. The facts alone should not only lead us to act, but require us to do so without hesitation.

No amount of books, CD's, DVD's, or classes can replace the hands on training that one gets while working side by side with a professional tradesman, nor can they reduce the value of oral instruction from the mouth of an experienced and knowledgeable craftsman.

I cannot bear the thought of our nation resolving itself to allow such an important part of our society to disappear from history with not so much as a whisper, or the faintest cry of remorse.

We mustn't ever forget where we came from.

Visit our Web site: onthewall.us

Talk of the town

What's your new year's resolution?

"To be a better father."

Brandon Thomas
Alexander City, Ala.
(visiting his daughter in Titusville)

It's the new year already?"

Jennifer Riddle
Titusville

"I'll finally do my resolution I made last year – to quit smoking."

Gerry Korbis
Titusville

"I want to lose 35 pounds."

Ashley Pichon
Titusville

"Lose weight."

Nancy Thomas
Alexander City, Ala.

"I don't have one because I never follow through."

Nancy Wheeler
Sharpes

Letter to the editor

The report about the shooting of the Winn Dixie robber on North Singleton awakened a pet peeve of mine. Why airlift those felons to medical attention? Why not take the slow route?

As a matter of fact, I would gladly volunteer to drive them to the nearest medical facility … when I get the time.

Ralph Arlin
Titusville

Do you have an opinion you would like to share with others?
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THS, AHS auto students prepare for Great Race

By Susan Walden

One hundred years ago, 17 brave men from four countries set out in a race to prove that the "new" automobile was an important mechanical achievement and a mainstay for mankind.

The Greatest Auto Race, now called the Great Race, has been winding through the streets throughout the world every year since, including the United States.

This year, a handful of students from Titusville and Astronaut High, along with their teacher and volunteers, will join the 15-day North American part of the international race to prove they're one with their vehicle – a 1930 Ford Model A Speedster.

Racing from New York to Vancouver, British Columbia with a turn of the key May 30, the timed endurance 4,500-mile road rally for antique cars (pre-1942) will pit 100 competitors against one another for top awards and bragging rights.

It's a race they know they can endure and win because Titusville has had a winner before – in the same car.

1930 Ford Model A Speedster

Twelve years ago, automotive students from Astronaut High School rebuilt the car, which was nothing more than a barely recognizable heap found in a Scottsmoor palmetto thicket with a tree growing through the middle of it. The team, the first in the race's history to be made of mostly students, raced the Speedster in the event for three consecutive years.

In 1996, they took home the Spirit of Event Award for being student rookies. In 1997, they raced to the finish line in second place in their X-Cup division. The last year, 1998 the students won the X-Cup.

One of the students on the racing team liked the car so much, he bought it years ago and rebuilt it over the years with his father.

Chad Nelson now has another challenge. Under his tutelage and Titusville High School's automotive instructor Frank Soros, five hard-working students will cross the finish line with Nelson, the driver, and the teens revolving one by one in the passenger's seat. But being a passenger isn't just sitting their idly with wind blowing through their hair. Using skills they learned in other classes, especially math, the students will have to navigate and calculate speed versus time to get to the finish line first. It isn't a race for speed either; the race has to do with adhering to the speed limit.

As old-fashioned as the vehicle itself, skills to finish the race come from the old noggin. "Times have to be logged; it's a big math project along with everything else," said Soros. "There's no digital equipment allowed."

Math skills are called upon months before the race, as a matter of fact. "Not too long ago we had to calculate the size of the gas tank and the fuel," said Nelson. "The calculation called for geometry so we asked one of our students who excels in geometry and she got the answer right."

Right now their challenge is to make the car a lean driving machine and that includes rebuilding the engine, transmission and rear end. "We're working on it in class," said Soros. "There are many students who want to be in the race so we have to narrow it to the top five who work on it the most, including after school hours."

Astronaut High no longer has an automotive program so students, like Mike Bailey, are bused to THS daily for the class. "It's pretty unique to work on such an old car," said the 10th grader. "I wish Astronaut had this program but I'm lucky because I get the best of both worlds going to both schools." He said school ri-

Cont. on next page

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GLOW TITLE & ESCROW is pleased to announce the opening of a new office at 2825 Garden St. #5 in Titusville. The Merritt Island based company recently hired Desiree Sarosi, formerly with Fidelity National Title, as the Titusville Closing Coordinator. With over 20 years closing experience, Desiree adds exceptional value to the team. You can reach **Desiree, or any member of the Glow Title Team at 394-4000.**

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Although there are many Titusville and Astronaut High automotive students working on the Model A, only five will be chosen to go on the Great Race. The students hope to recapture the first-place title.

Susan Walden

valry rears its head quite often but in fun … that is until the annual football game when the schools meet head to head.

Brandon Schindler, a THS 11th grader, hopes to be one of the five students in the race. "Working on this car really puts learning about cars in perspective," he said. "This car is the basics of automotives and it is so interesting because it has heavy steel parts, not things like plastic you find in the new cars."

Just to add another challenge to them and first for the race, the team is working on the Speedster being fueled by alternative means – E85 ethanol to be exact. "This is something the students need to learn. It's taking their education and applying it now and in the future," said Soros.

Rebuilding the car and getting it ready for the big race is a gigantic project taken one day at a time.

It's also expensive.

"We're lucky because many of the parts have been donated by local car clubs," said Nelson, who graduated from AHS in 1998.

They're looking to raise about $30,000 to go to gas, lodging, food and transportation. "We have a nonprofit set up so it won't interfere with the school," said Soros. "It's all about the students and it will give an impression and memory to these kids for life."

The students and car will be at various venues, including Titusville Cruise-Ins and car shows all over Central Florida.

Individuals, families, organizations and companies interested in donating to this nonprofit organization/even can contact Soros by calling THS at 264-3100 or e-mail Soros.Frank@Brevardschools.org.

For more information about the Great Race, go to www.greatrace.com.

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Bobby Mutter

REAL ESTATE ENE

Protect Your Home While You're Away

You can safeguard your home while on vacation by following these simple steps:

- Install deadbolt locks on your doors and locks on your windows, and be sure to use them.
- Don't hide house keys outside.
- Make sure large valuables such as televisions, computers, and VCRs are engraved with your name and driver's license or social security number.
- Give a spare key to a trusted neighbor and leave your itinerary and an emergency number so you can be contacted if needed.
- Ask someone to pick up your mail, packages and newspapers on a daily basis so these won't be giveaways to crooks.
- Make arrangements to have your lawns mowed and watered.
- Keep bushes, tree limbs and other landscaping trimmed to the height of porches or windows.
- Use timers to turn on interior lights and radios. Make your house look "lived-in."
- If you park vehicles outside, have a neighbor move them periodically, so they look as though they are being driven.
- Make sure all garages and outdoor sheds are locked.
- Secure roof openings and exhaust systems.
- Never broadcast plans for travel.
- Unplug all appliances that won't be used to protect them from possible lightning strikes or othe rpower surges.
- Turn off the main water valve to prevent damage in case of water leakage.

As you can see, there is a lot you can do to protect your home while you are on vacation. By following the above suggestions, you can help ensure that your home is as safe as possible while you are away.

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My name is ***Maisy*** *and I am 5 years old. My owners brought me to the SPCA after having me since I was little kitten because they can no longer keep me. I am a shy, quiet girl and I am afraid of loud noises. I really hope I can find someone to give me a good home and show me lots of love.*

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DAR holds workshop

The Brevard County chapters of the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution plan a workshop Jan. 5, 10 a.m. – noon at the Central Brevard Public Library, 308 Forrest Ave., Cocoa, for family history researchers.

The theme is "Discover Brevard County's Resources for Family History Researchers." Participating organizations include the Family History Center, Brevard Genealogical Society, the North Brevard Genealogical Society and the Indian River Genealogical Society. Central Brevard Library Genealogist Michael Boonstra, the keynote speaker, will talk about the resources available to researchers at the Cocoa facility. Speakers from the participating organizations, including the Sons of the American Revolution and the Daughters of American Revolution, will give short presentations on what they offer to hekp people with their family research.

For more information, call 267-9774 or 632-5663.

Horsehelpers have fund-raiser

The Horsehelpers hold a Big Yard Sale Jan. 12, 8 a.m. – noon at 4239 People St., Mims, north of SR 46 on U.S. 1. Items include furniture, books, glassware, toys clothes, horse tacks and more. Follow the signs to the event, which benefits Helpers, Organizing, Rescue, Service Education, Inc.

Cruise-in Jan. 5

The next free TitusNites Cruise-In is Jan. 5, 4-8 p.m. downtown Titusville. Lots of hot vehicles – modern and classic cars, trucks and motorcycles – plus vendors of all types, entertainment and food.

Meet candidates at chamber luncheon

The Chamber of Commerce holds their monthly luncheon Jan. 9 Meet the candidates running for State House district 32 at La Cita country Club. Each candidate will have three to four minutes to speak, followed by a question and answer session. Cost for members is $15, prospective members, $20. Registration begins at 1130 am. With the program at noon. RSVP online at www.titusville.org or by calling the chamber at 267-3036.

Help clean up

Enchanted Forest Sanctuary presents South Lake Conservation Area Workday Jan. 12, 9 a.m. – noon. The event is an opportunity to see the sanctuary and help clean up the area after a recent prescribed fire. Bring water, insect repellant, and wear hat and gloves, old clothes and close-toed shoes. For more info, call 264-5185.

Learning boating

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 49 offers a boating safety program on the fourth Saturday, Jan. 26, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Flotilla located in the Upland Building in Titusville. The building is on SR 402, just North of Garden Street, West of the Max Brewer Bridge.

The one-day course will teach federal and state boating requirements. Participants also will receive a boater education ID card and qualify for boating education discounts and membership in the auxiliary.

If you are 21 or under, this program is N.A.S.B.L.A. approved to get your Florida State Boater ID card

Cost is $40, which includes all materials and lunch. Free boat inspections are available. To Pre-Register, send check to "USCG AUX Flotilla 49" in care of Pam Wood, 3855 S. Ridge Circle, Titusville, Fl 32796. Call 267-6737 or 321-268-8856 for more information.

Improve the community

It is easy and doesn't cost anything. Just complete a survey to help identify transportation needs, resources available, additional services needed, concerns that affect your family.

Take 10 minutes and complete the Citizens Survey at www.titusville.com, www.ircumc.com, or www.brevard.cc.fl.us

The North Brevard Coalition of Human Services is the lead agency in North Brevard that directs social service initiatives to better our community. The Coalition has partnered with other organizations to develop a survey to identify social service shortfalls. By connecting partners, in the business, social service and faith based communities; a strategic approach to service delivery will direct our efforts as together we build a better community.

Childbirth classes available

The Brevard Chapter of the Florida Outreach Childbirth Education Project offers childbirth covering the components of breathing, relaxation and position changes to help labor. Cost is $50 per family unit. Registration is required by calling Katie at 252-4573.

The North Brevard childbirth class schedule is as follows:

Children's Center, South U.S. 1, Titusville—Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings Jan. 8 –Feb. 5, 6:30-9 p.m. for five sessions. In addition, Saturday classes will be held March 15 and March 22nd for two sessions from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Childbirth class dates are subject to change. Call (321) 252-4573 for more information regarding class schedules or refer to the website www.floridaoutreach.com.

Call (321) 252-4573 for more information as assistance for labor support.

Computer club meets

The Titusville Computer Club will meet for the General Membership Meeting with a Q & A session, on Jan. 10 at 7 p.m. at St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, 414 Pine St., Titusville, in the Fellowship Hall on Palm Ave. Everyone is welcome. For further information call 267-3746.

Citizens Academy on tap

Sheriff Jack Parker is proud to announce an upcoming Sheriff's Citizens Academy Jan. 16. The Sheriff's Office Citizens Academy has been established to involve Brevard residents in the fight against criminal activity. Participants in the Citizens Academy will gain first hand knowledge of the various Law Enforcement and Corrections functions of the Sheriff's Office.

The upcoming class is at the West Precinct in the Government Center in Viera. The Academy will run for nine weeks between the hours of 6-9 p.m. except for one Saturday morning class. Classes will be scheduled at different locations throughout the academy.

Seating is limited so do not delay in registering. Citizens can fax a completed application to (321) 225-3012; drop it off at any Sheriff's Precinct, email to crimep@bcso.us , or mail it to: Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention, 700 South Park Ave., Titusville, FL, 32780.

For more info or obtain an application, go to www.BrevardSheriff.com and click on the CITIZENS ACADEMY icon on the Home Page, or call the Sheriff's Crime Prevention Office at (321) 225-3008.

Local bed and breakfast holds interesting history

By Flora Reigada

To step into the Casa Coquina Bed and Breakfast at 4010 Coquina Ave. is to step through the looking glass into a wonderland that blurs the lines between past and present, history and legend.

Guests enter through a landscaped garden area that blends several themes: a wedding garden, a butterfly garden and an angel garden. Add to that a footbridge over a goldfish pond, and two gazebos, one with a large Jacuzzi. Murals by Titusville artist Al Rao combine artistry with nature's beauty.

Inside the three-story, 10,000 square-foot mansion, each of the numerous rooms and eight suites features a unique time period, region or mood. Innkeeper Angela Walker explained that owners, Linda Rigo and Beau Harris, have accomplished this through the placement of antiques and artwork from their extensive collection.

In the entrance foyer, a knight mounted on a massive steed, captures the chivalry of medieval Spain. A tea parlor viewing a romantic wedding chapel, recalls Victorian England. Pick the room or theme, any could be used as a movie set.

Noting that the facilities may be rented for weddings and other events, Walker remembered one couple's unusual wedding.

"Most people get married in our chapel or wedding garden. These two tied the knot beside the knight on horseback," she said.

Dan Reigada

At Casa Coquina Bed and Breakfast, innkeeper Angela Walker sits at a piano, one of hundreds of items that make for an interesting stay.

The building has a history as rich as its furnishings.

Built in 1927 in what was then Indian River City, it has long welcomed Titusville's residents and guests. It has been the Scapa Hotel, the Oleander Hotel, an apartment building, a restaurant and a private residence. According to local lore, it was also once a brothel and favorite stopping-off point of gangster Al Capone during his jaunts between Florida and his Chicago base. The old hotel's proximity to the train station reportedly made for a convenient getaway.

Walker said the brothel could have been the result of Capone's influence, and if rumors are true, operational during his time.

But the mobsters and "working girls" were long gone when Rigo and Harris purchased the property in 2002. By then, it was a rundown apartment building. Making extensive renovations, the couple transformed the building into what it is today.

Despite the modernization, which includes wireless Internet, rumors persist that specters of the mansion's past linger in its rooms, corridors and passageways.

When all is dark and empty, Walker admits to occasionally feeling the glare of unseen eyes. However, she attributes this to her imagination.

And whether they exist only in the portals of the mind, these ghosts from the past may soon have a new landlord because Rigo and Harris have put the business up for sale.

While waiting to check in at Casa Coquina, a recent guest admired the antiques.

"I like to stay at bed and breakfasts," he said. "They're interesting."

Whether contemplating its past or enjoying its present, interesting is an understatement when describing the Casa Coquina Bed and Breakfast.

Additional information and a virtual tour can be found at http://www.casacoquina.com/

Crime briefs

✓ The Brevard County Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Unit along with the Brevard County Fire Rescue's Hazardous Response Team dismantled a sophisticated methamphetamine lab Dec. 23 after serving a search warrant at 4081 Fountain Palm Road, Canaveral Groves.

Sheriff's Agents arrested 36-year-old Mark Yates, 26-year-old Donna Yates and 32-year-old John R. Osborne who all reside at the address, on charges of trafficking in methamphetamine, manufacturing methamphetamine, the possession of listed chemicals/precursors and the manufacturing of methamphetamine in the presence of a child under the age of 16.

The lab was located that evening when deputies responded to the residence after receiving an emergency 911 call regarding a disturbance. Responding deputies discovered a seven-month-old child within the residence. The child was transported by BCFR to Wuesthoff Hospital for treatment and observation for a possible methamphetamine exposure.

Citizens are urged to visit www.BrevardSheriff.com to view or print a copy of an informative brochure. "First Responder and Citizen Resource Guide,,"which is located on our Home Page. This brochure provides helpful information regarding the identification, signs of use and dangers associated with methamphetamine.

Any persons who may have information concerning a suspected methamphetamine lab are asked to call the Brevard County Sheriff's Office at 321-633-7162 or Crimeline at 1-800-423-TIPS (8477).

✓ The Brevard County Sheriff's Office Homicide Unit arrested 20-year-old Howard Strickland in the stabbing of a Port St. John man Dec. 17. Deputies received an emergency call from 4521 Ponds Ave., Port St. John, advising of a disturbance. Upon arrival, deputies determined that a fight had occurred during a party and 21-year-old Anthony M. Pignataro of Port St. John had been stabbed. Pignataro was transported to the Holmes Regional Hospital trauma unit where he later died while undergoing surgery.

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Tips for Choosing Athletic Shoes

Style...brand...price? What do you shop for in athletic shoes? Experts say at the 'sole' of many aches and pains is bad footwear.

Runners wearing tennis shoes, tennis players wearing cross trainers – it's one major mistake say experts. Another big problem is buying too small.

People don't realize that their shoes size change over time and that their foot can get bigger and wideras time goes on. And most people haven't had their feet measured in years.

Your foot can not only grow through the years, but throughout the day as well. Because of normal swelling, the afternoon is the best time to shop. Don't forget to take a test-run before you buy.

Don't believe the myth of breaking the shoe in. If the shoe doesn't feel good in the store, no matter how good it looks, you need to get a different shoe.

Runners often run past the life of their shoe. A general rule of thumb – and it doesn't apply to exactly the same to every shoe – is 300-400 miles on a running shoe or 300 hours of activity in an athletic shoe.

Another tip is to take your own athletic socks when trying on shoes to get a true fit. Experts also suggest that when it comes to shoes, you do often get what you pay for. Don't be afraid to dish out a few extra bucks for comfort.

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Hand hygiene key during cold and flu season

Every three minutes, a child puts a hand in his/her nose or mouth. Considering that some viruses and bacteria can live two hours or longer on surfaces like cafeteria tables and doorknobs that children touch throughout the day, it is easy to see how clean hands are critical to avoiding sickness.

Keeping hands clean is key to avoiding getting sick and spreading germs. The common cold accounts for nearly 22 million school days lost annually, making now an important time to remind the family of proper hand hygiene.

"There are plenty of unwashed hands out there. Only one in five of us does the job properly," says Dr. Charles Gerba, Professor of Environmental Microbiology at the University of Arizona. "Everyone needs to be sure they understand how to wash properly and use alcohol-based instant hand sanitizers."

Everyone-especially children-can benefit from a refresher on effective hand hygiene:

1.Tell children that clean hands are important to avoiding illness and spreading germs.

2.Show children how to wash hands properly, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) instructions:

- Wet hands with clean, warm water and apply soap.
- Rub hands together to create lather and scrub all surfaces (including between fingers and under nails) for 20 seconds.
- Rinse hands under running water.
- Dry hands thoroughly.

3.Help children keep clean anywhere they are. When soap and water are not available, alcohol-based instant hand sanitizers-like PURELL®-effectively kill 99.99% of the most common germs that may cause illness-and there is no evidence that germs become resistant to alcohol as a result. Show children how to use hand sanitizers properly:

- Apply alcohol-based hand sanitizer to the palm of one hand.
- Rub hands together-so that product covers all surfaces of hands and

fingers-until hands are dry.

Remind, remind, remind. Encourage children to wash hands frequently throughout the day-before eating, and after using the bathroom and playing outside. Check with schools to see if older children can carry a travel-size container of hand sanitizer in their backpack, for quick hand cleansing when soap and water are not available.

The CDC is not affiliated with the marketers of PURELL® Instant Hand Sanitizer.

For more information, visit www.purell.com.

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Thursday, January 10 • 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

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Library loads of events

The Titusville Library holds the following events:

Ongoing Programs: Storytimes: Family Storytime, Tuesdays at 6:30pm (All Ages) ; Toddler Storytime, Wednesdays at 10:00am (Ages 18-36 months); Preschool Storytime, Wednesdays at 11:00am (Ages 3-5 years); Infant Storytime, Thursdays at 9:15am (Ages 1-17 months)

Recorder Lessons:Mondays: BAG at 4-4:30pm; Theory at 4:30-5pm; Practicum at 5-5:30pm; Advanced at 5:30-6pm

Special Events:Teen Craft. Sewing-Plastic Canvas. (Ages 10 and up) Jan.10 at 4:30-5:30p.m..; Read Aloud With Us (2nd grade and up); The Spiderwick Chronicles, Book 1; Jan. 16 at 6:30-7:30p.m.; Teen Craft. Sewing-Plastic Canvas. (Ages 10 and up) Jan.17 at 4:30-5:30 p.m.; Read Aloud With Us (2nd grade and up; The Spiderwick Chronicles, Book 1, Jan. 17 at 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Read Aloud With Us (2nd grade and up); The Spiderwick Chronicles, Book 2, Jan. 23 at 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Teen Craft. Sewing-Plastic Canvas. (Ages 10 and up) Jan. 24 at 4:30-5:30 p.m.; Read Aloud With Us (2nd grade and up) The Spiderwick Chronicles, Book 2, Jan. 24 at 6:30-7:30p.m.

The Titusville Public Library is located at 2121 S. Hopkins Ave. For information and to register, call 264-5026 and ask for Youth Services. All programs are free.

Health event coming in February

Mark your calendars for National Day of Dance, 1-5 p.m. Feb. 23 in downtown Titusville.The event is much like a street 0party filled with health screening, dance, live radio, health and fitness demonstrations, contests, food, giveaways and more. Visit www.dayofdance.org for more info,.

Put pet in contest

The Florida State Chapter of Dog & Cat Lovers of America in partnership with IPOC announces that many cash and prizes are up for grabs including a $1,000 cash grand prize in the 2008 Spring Cutest Pet Photo Contest. Ten entrants will also be selected to have their photo grace the cover of an internationally distributed pet book. Pet owners from the Titusville area are welcome to win a share of the prizes.

The deadline for the contest is Feb 15. The contest is open to everyone and entry is free. Dog and cat photos are welcome. The photo may contain one pet or several and may include different pet types in the same photo. There is a strict limit of one photo per household to avoid disqualification. The preferred method of entry is to enter directly online at www.CutestPetContest.com. You may also submit your photo by postal mail. Send one color photo or black and white of any size. All photo entries must include the photographer's name and address on the back. Photographs should be sent to: FL 2008 Spring Cutest Pet Photo Contest, P.O. Box 4470, Olathe, KS 66063. Entries must be postmarked by Feb 15. Dog & Cat Lovers of America is an organization dedicated to bringing pet owners from around the world together for fun and fellowship. Membership in the organization is not required to participate and the entry is free. Past winners are listed at www.cutestpetcontest.com

Teens get together

The Teen Warehouse is a place for teens in grades 7 through 12 to hang out with friends and have a safe, fun time at Tom Statham Park Community Center, 7101 South U.S. Highway 1, in Bellwood, south of Titusville. The center is open Mondays through Thursdays from 4-8 p.m. and on Fridays from 4-9 p.m., with Saturday activities as announced. There is no fee for drop-in activities, however, fees may be charged for special events as announced in the future.

For more information on teen activities sponsored by Brevard County Parks and Recreation Department in North Brevard, call 264-5105.

Caregivers classes offered

The Caregiving Education and Resource Program at Hospice of St. Francis provides the education and support necessary to "care for the caregiver" – both current and future. Classes begin Jan,. 7. This free program

Cont. on next page

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Bon Appetit

Pete's Grill - Fast, good to-go fare

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By Kathy Warren

What a convenient way to enjoy a hot lunch on the go.

Pete's Grill has a variety of Hispanic, Italian and standard American fast food. Just east of Barna Rd on Knox McRae, next to the gas station sits a little restaurant that serves lunch and dinner. The parking is good and the curb out front is wheelchair accessible.

Open for less than a month, the cafe is clean and inviting with a walk up ordering counter and two small tables. A cheerful counter person asked me, "Do you want a menu with a complete list of meals to pick from?" It was noon so I focused only on lunch. Their menu seems to be a mixture of grilled hamburgers and Italian food; but, my interest was drawn to the Hispanic dishes. I love Hispanic food.

I tried the Tortillas with cheese and chicken, empanadas, and black beans with rice. For dessert I tried the Tiramisu (OK, so I love Italian too.) The tiramisu seemed like it should be in a specialty bakery because it was better than most that I have tried.

My friend ordered a Pete's steak sandwich with fries which she thought was good for a quick sandwich but not her favorite. I enjoyed the Tortillas and beans with a can of diet coke from the cooler and my friend got a bottle of orange soda. Both of us liked the meals.They were so good that I ordered some empanadas and black beans and rice for my office co-workers. As we enjoyed our lunch, we observed a mailman, construction workers and local business folk stopping in for a quick to-go lunch.

Service is fast and the owner came out to see us. She explained how she worked at the Titusville Courthouse before but always had a passion for cooking. She is originally from Ecuador and her husband is Italian, which explained the menu showing the varied specialties.

My friend and I agreed Pete's Grill was reasonably priced, fast and good for a place barely open a month. The portions were good and prices were quite reasonable. It was a filling lunch for around $6.50 a piece and definitely a take-out café with super beans and rice.

We rate it 3 beacons as a good local fast lunch atmosphere with good food. I think you'll find it's better than a fast food franchise. The bathroom was very pleasantly decorated, clean and handicap accessible. The owner has a touch for decorating as well as food preparation. My guess is that it will grow to offer diverse food selections to please any palette.

***Please note that the North Brevard Beacon demands restaurant reviews be done on the merits of the restaurant and are conducted anonymously to ensure fair reporting.*

From previous page

consists of a six one-and-a-half hour classes. The classes are designed to teach caregivers how to care for themselves as they care for others.

Call Barbara Borman, RN, to register at 269-4578 or e-mail her at caregiving@hospiceofstfrancis.com.

Donate old cell phones

Children's Home Society of Florida, Brevard Division has teamed up with Wireless Fundraiser to collect old cell phones in support of its programs that assist abused, abandoned, and neglected children in Brevard County.

Phones may be dropped off at Children's Home Society of Florida, 3270 Suntree Blvd., Suite 100, Melbourne, FL 32940 or call Mary Beth Phelps at 321-752-3170 ext. 235 for drop-off locations. If your business would like to become a drop-off site, call and express your interest.

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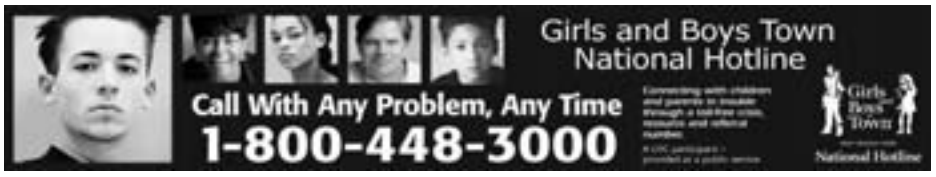

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DEATH NOTICES

ALEXANDER Flora Lee, 91, of Titusville, died Dec. 17. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

BAKSHAS Andy, 85, previously from Titusville, died Dec. 15 in Texas.

BAKER Lillie Mae, 92, of Mims, died Dec. 26. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

BENJAMIN Elizabeth "Betty," 71, of Titusville died Dec. 21. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

BRYAN Frieda, 81, of Titusville, died Dec. 20. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

COOLEY Kenneth, 54, of Mims, died Dec. 14. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

DAVIS Charles, 63, of Titusville, died Dec. 14. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

DELGADO Glenda, of Titusville died Dec. 16. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

DUDLEY Arthur, 79, of Titusville, died Dec. 16. Arrangements by Newcomers Funeral Home in Titusville.

GRAHAM Frederick, 74, of Titusville, died Dec. 20. Arrange,ents by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

HODSDEN Wilma, 73, of Titusville, died Dec. 19. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

JOHNS Gertrude, 89, of Titusville, died Dec. 21. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

MAUGLE Kenneth, 86, of Mims, died Dec. 19. Arrangements by Brevard Memorial Funeral Home in Cocoa.

PAREDES Juan, 76, of Titusville, died Dec. 16. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

PIGNATARO Anthony, 21, of Port St. John, died Dec. 17. Arrangements by Funeral Solutions in Cocoa.

POOLE Phillip, 47, of Mims, died Dec. 17. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

VELZDY Joseph, 95, of Titusville, died Dec. 13. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

VONDERCHEK Lucille, 76, of Titusville, died Dec. 15. Arrange,ents by Funeral Solutions in Cocoa.

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John Moran - Journal of Light: A Photographers Search of the Soul of Florida
Jeff Bouton - The Evolution of Birding
Jeff Gordon - The Ten Greatest Birds of the Last 30 Years
Kevin T. Karlson - Birds on the Wind: The Miracle of Migration
John Acorn - Field Notes: An Odd Form of Self-Help Therapy
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