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BREVARD DELIVERS

THIRD QUARTER | 2020

MAJOR GENERAL JOHN CLELAND MEMORIAL BRIDGE

DESIGNATED BY:
2018 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

Pineda Causeway Overpass

One-of-a-Kind Bridge to be named
in honor of Major General John Cleland

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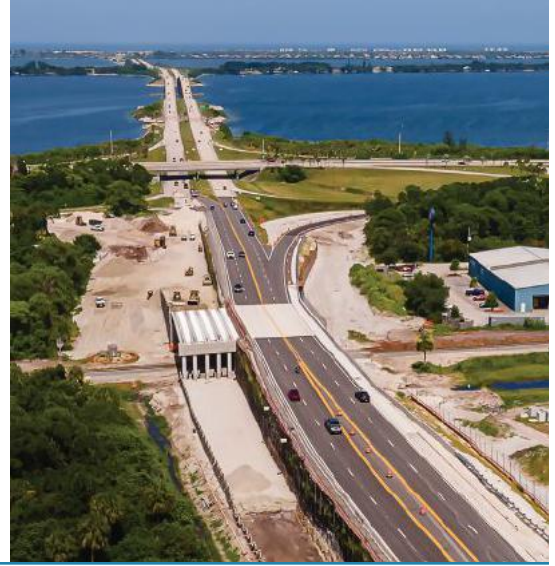


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On the Cover:

The Pineda Overpass, a one-of-a-kind span located between U.S. 1 and Wickham Road, will be named in honor of the late Major General John Cleland during a ceremony planned for Sept. 26. It will become the only railroad overpass in Brevard County.

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BREVARDELIVERS

A quarterly publication keeping you informed on projects throughout our County. Brevard Delivers is an additional way for Brevard County Government to continue building confidence through transparency.



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Milestone Reached in St. Johns Heritage Parkway Construction



A downpour couldn't stop transportation and elected officials from celebrating the opening June 2 of the newest segment of the St. Johns Heritage Parkway.

The 2.2-mile, four-lane stretch of new roadway that extends from just north of U.S. 192 to just west of the Interstate 95/Ellis Road Interchange, marked a milestone in the project that's been 30 years in the making.

The St. Johns Heritage Parkway project includes a 3.1-mile, 2-lane south segment between Emerson Boulevard and U.S. 192 in West Melbourne that was completed in November 2017 at a cost of about \$12.4 million; a 2.5-mile Palm Bay segment between Malabar Road and Emerson Drive, which was completed in 2015 at a cost of \$13.4 million; and the newest 2.2-mile segment from U.S. 192, and done in coordination with

the Florida Department of Transportation's I-95/Ellis Road interchange project, at a cost of \$11-plus million. Contractor for the north segment, Jr. Davis Construction Company, Inc., met substantial completion early to help coordinate opening of the roadway and interchange at the same time. Completion was originally targeted for September 2020.

The St. Johns Heritage Parkway project provides motorists in Palm Bay, West Melbourne, Melbourne and unincorporated Brevard access to a north-south alternative to the congested Minton Road, is a catalyst for future growth and will also be a critical evacuation route.

The next focus will be on widening Ellis Road from two to four lanes east of the new interchange, from John Rodes Boulevard to Wickham Road. This project is currently unfunded.



Life Experiences

Where the art of healing comes to life

Date: 9-Jul-2020
To: Parrish Medical Center
From: David S.
Subject: Recent Experiences

Thursday, July 8th, I was in the Titusville Hospital for Cardiac catheterization. I am a very active 63 year old man, a cabinet maker, and author. From the time I walked to the security man, until they rolled me out the front door, I was in the company of constant care. Each person seemed concerned for my safety and ensuring that this process moved smoothly. I was closely monitored, visited, and every need taken care of. Before going home I was completely clear of all of the follow up procedures that I needed to maintain. Each person in the CC department seemed to be as much of a teacher as a medical person. I am not normally the type of person that will respond to a form such as this, but I was so impressed that I felt it to be a necessity. Thank you Parrish staff.

Date: 4-Jul-2020
To: Parrish Medical Center
From: Jon D.
Subject: Recent Experiences

My sincere thanks to the doctor and nurse that so nicely and efficiently removed a large fish hook that was embedded in my arm on Friday, July 3, 2020. My very comforting and thorough nurse was Nicole. I don't remember the doctor's name, but he was great (and painless). I'm 71, and really appreciate both their efforts to ensure my well being. Please give kudos to both of them. I arrived at about 7:20 am, and was out by 8:00. How about that for a swift end to my discomfort! They even put the removed hook in a plastic jar for me to keep as a souvenir. I was impressed also by the appearance and cleanliness of the ER and its rooms. THANKS again for everything, and God Bless and protect all of you!! Jon

* Feedback in these advertisements was received from patients responding to parrishhealthcare.com and reprinted with permission.



Where the Art of Healing comes to Life

Learn more about the healing experiences at
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MAJOR GENERAL JOHN CLELAND MEMORIAL BRIDGE

DESIGNATED BY:
2018 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

Like General Cleland, the bridge is one-of-a-kind

By Maria Sonnenberg

If your travels do not often take you near the Pineda Causeway, you will not believe what you see the next time you are in the area.

“You would be quite surprised,” said Craig Kupec, an engineer with Brevard County Public Works Engineering. Kupec is referring to the Major General John Cleland Bridge, which helps motorists zip along 24 feet above the Florida East Coast Railway tracks as they travel to or from U.S. Highway 1 and the Pineda Causeway.

Although the project is not expected to reach completion until well into the Fall, a September 26 ceremony will honor Major General John Cleland, in whose memory the bridge has been named. The Viera resident passed away in 2017 at age 92. He missed having a Fourth of July birth-

day by one day, but General Cleland, born July 5, 1925, in our Nation’s Capital, was a natural-born patriot.

“John Cleland answered his country’s call to duty and enlisted in the U.S. Army in World War II right after graduation from high school,” said his oldest son, Dr. Bruce Cleland. General Cleland served for 37 years, engaging in combat in WWII, Korea and Vietnam, and earning the Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Combat Infantryman Badges for all three wars and two Purple Hearts, among numerous other medals. He was inducted into the U.S. Army Infantry Hall of Fame.

After retiring from the military in 1983, Cleland spent more than three decades helping Brevard, Florida and his country through organizations ranging from hospital

boards to the Military Officers Association of America. In 2013, he was part of the inaugural class of the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame, whose focus is on the inductee's post-military contributions to the state. "He was passionate for the welfare of military veterans, active duty servicemen and women and the youth in Brevard enrolled in JROTC and ROTC," added Dr. Cleland.

"My dad applied hard work, integrity and his leadership skills to facilitate improvement." General Cleland raised his five children to follow the Golden Rule and to work hard with dedication and integrity. "We saw his passion for his profession and found our own passion," said Dr. Cleland. "I found my passion as a physician and my other siblings found theirs in law, the military and business."

Mrs. Cleland and her Cleland clan, who live in Louisiana, Utah, Virginia, South Carolina and Nevada, will convene, COVID-permitting, for the bridge dedication ceremony before heading to the Veterans Memorial Center and Museum for a reception that includes the late General's friends and colleagues. A bench at the Veterans' Plaza on the Museum grounds will be dedicated in the couple's

continued on page 8

WHEN YOU DRIVE BY...

- You will notice that both eastbound and westbound traffic lanes are now traveling over the railroad crossing, thanks to the completion of Phase 1 of the project.
- Watch for the Phase II bridge construction, now underway to finish the remaining 40% of the structure.
- You will see permanent walls installed adjacent to the railroad and wrapping around the north side of the overpass.
- You will encounter work on around the ramps leading to and from U.S. 1.
- Look out for the temporary traffic signal installed at the driveway of Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy. Driveways into the Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy campus, as well as into a County facility, are currently under construction.

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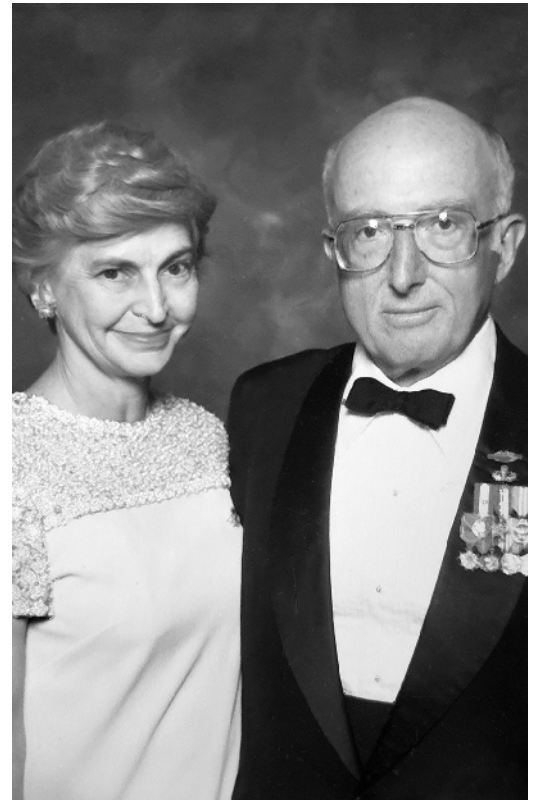
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Major General John Cleland Memorial Bridge

Major General John Cleland retired from the United States Army in 1980 after 37 years of active service. He served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. His decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal; the Silver Star Medal; the Defense Superior Service Medal; the Legion of Merit, and the Purple Heart Medal. He was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge in all three wars and is a member of the US Army Infantry Hall of Fame and the Florida Veteran's Hall of Fame. Major General Cleland made tremendous post military contributions to the Brevard County and to the State of Florida by serving both in civic and military organizations.

Major General Cleland died on October 25, 2017.



Left: This plaque honoring Major General John Cleland will be mounted adjacent to the overpass.

Right: Clara Cleland and Major General John Cleland

continued from page 7

honor. “We hope to see the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, along with his friends from MOAA,” said Donn Weaver, the Center’s special projects coordinator.

Like its namesake, the Major General John Cleland Bridge will make life better for residents of Brevard. “Based on the County’s latest study, the traffic count for the Pineda roadway is approximately 33,000 vehicles a day,” said Kupec.

When finished, S.R. 404 and its bridge will offer two lanes in each direction to keep traffic flowing. It comes at an opportune time, since Virgin Trains USA is going full steam ahead with its plans to connect Orlando with South Florida through a route that parallels the Florida East Coast Railway. The commuter rail, which will add ten more trains daily through the area, is expected to start service in 2022. Currently, an average of 14 freight trains pass through the area every day.

Back more than a decade ago, when the four-lane overpass was barely more than a gleam in Florida East Coast Railway officials and County Commissioners’ eyes, there was already discussion of the commuter train’s arrival. “Even in the planning stages, there had been a sense that the high-speed rail would eventually come through Brevard,” said Kupec.

The \$24-million-dollar bridge, funded by the Florida Department of Transportation under the oversight of Brevard County, elevates motorists approximately 24 feet above the railroad tracks west of U.S. Hwy. 1 and near Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy. The overpass construction required reconfiguration of the U.S. 1 interchange as part of the project. “Motorists on S.R. 404 will not have to stop when the trains come by,” added Kupec. Not only will the overpass alleviate traffic snarls, but it will also improve safety for motorists, since grade-separated railroad crossings boast a better safety record than at-grade crossings.

During storm season, keeping the traffic flowing in the area is particularly critical, since the Pineda Causeway serves as a major evacuation route for beachside communities.

The overpass unfortunately did not escape being affected by the pandemic, which has delayed its completion, originally scheduled for this past Spring. “Our contractors have been able to maintain the pace, but our sub-contractors have been slowed down because of the pandemic,” said Kupec.

Like General Cleland, the bridge is one-of-a-kind. Most roads over railroad tracks in Brevard are too close to U.S. 1 or to businesses for an overpass to be considered. The Major General John Cleland Bridge will be the only railroad overpass in the county, and no others are being planned. ■

The current construction schedule indicates that the project will be completed in the upcoming Winter season.



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Indian River Lagoon Update

LAGOON LOYAL LAUNCHES



By Brandon Smith, *Environmental Specialist*

Did you know you can be rewarded for joining the effort to restore the Indian River Lagoon?

Brevard County recently launched its new website, LagoonLoyal.com, to facilitate and reward people for doing things to help the lagoon. While the site provides information on issues like fertilizer, septic systems, grass clippings, excess irrigation, litter, pet waste, and car maintenance, it goes a step further than the traditional environmental education website. Participants earn rewards for each action that helps restore the Indian River Lagoon with discounts from local businesses who are supporting the program.

Residents sign up for an account on Lagoon Loyal to report a host of lagoon-friendly actions and earn points. Did you know you're helping the Lagoon when you take your car to a carwash or schedule an inspection of your septic tank? You are... you can earn points for it, and you don't have to spend money to earn points. Actions like blowing your grass clippings back into your lawn or setting your irrigation timer can also earn you points. It's as simple as uploading a picture of the action or a receipt of a lagoon-friendly purchase and you'll be racking up points. Points are also awarded for attending lagoon-themed presentations like our monthly Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting or Marine Resources Council's Brown Bag Lunches. Eligible events and actions are all listed on the Lagoon Loyal website.

So what do you get for these points? We've enlisted over 54 businesses throughout the county to become "Lagoon Loyal" and reward people who help the lagoon with discounts to their businesses. The participating businesses include restaurants, outdoor recreation, health and wellness, retail, and a range of services. Whether it's a delicious dinner, kayak rental, massage, unique gift, or appliance repair, there's a reward for everyone. For a limited time, we are also providing Lagoon Loyal members with a Save Our Lagoon/Lagoon Loyal gaiter available for pickup at a participating



Save Our Lagoon/Lagoon Loyal gaiters are available with coupon redemption at participating Lagoon Loyal businesses.

Lagoon Loyal business with your next coupon redemption. Show your love of the lagoon every time you wear it.

The Save Our Indian River Lagoon Plan is working on big-picture projects like stormwater improvements, septic to sewer conversions, sewer plant upgrades, and muck removal. Large-scale improvements will help the lagoon, but we also need our community to help us put the Indian River Lagoon on a nutrient diet. Lagoon Loyal is a great place to start learning what you can do to reduce your personal contribution of excess nutrients entering the lagoon and be rewarded at the same time.

LAGOONLOYAL Home About For Residents For Businesses Resources Contact Sign Up

LET'S BE CLEAR...

A HEALTHY LAGOON STARTS WITH YOU.

Every year, Brevard County residents contribute thousands of pounds of excess algae feeding nutrients to the Indian River Lagoon by polluting both groundwater and stormwater. What actions produce these nutrients? How can you reduce your lagoon footprint?

[BECOME LAGOON LOYAL](#)

Take Simple Actions Each Day to Protect the Lagoon.

ADJUST SPRINKLERS BEFORE SUN

Excess irrigation leads to water runoff, which can introduce harmful pollutants into the lagoon. Control or reduce water usage before rainy days.

PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET

When pet waste is left on the ground, harmful bacteria can enter the lagoon through stormwater and drains. Make it your business to pick up your pet's business.

WASH YOUR CAR OVER YOUR LAWN

Your car acts like a filter to trap harmful oils and dirt off the road and out of the lagoon. Reduce runoff and drains by using the lagoon.

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Take the "What's Your Lagoon Footprint?" quiz
Find out what more you could be doing to reduce pollutants from entering the lagoon.
5 Lagoon Loyal™ Points

Locate your septic tank & drainfield
Click for tips to help you find it and why you should protect it.
10 Lagoon Loyal™ Points

Blow grass clippings back into your lawn after mowing
Find out how beneficial grass clippings are for your yard!
10 Lagoon Loyal™ Points

Purchase a portable ashtray
Cigarette butt litter can pose a hazard to animals and marine life when left on the ground.
15 Lagoon Loyal™ Points

Install a rain barrel
Conserve water while reducing stormwater runoff.
15 Lagoon Loyal™ Points

Purchase lagoon-friendly fertilizer
Limit excess fertilizer nutrients entering the lagoon by knowing what to look for at the store.
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SAVE OUR INDIAN RIVER LAGOON PROJECT UPDATES

Listed below are the projects that were either contracted, began construction or completed during the time period running April through June 2020. These Save Our Indian River Lagoon Projects will remove a total of 13,813 pounds of nitrogen and 2,320 pounds of phosphorus annually.

SAVE OUR INDIAN RIVER LAGOON PROJECTS CONTRACTED

■ South Central Zone F Septic to Sewer Conversion	\$1,701,972
■ North Indian River Lagoon Living Shoreline Planting Phase 2	\$4,800
■ Basin 5 Dry Retention	\$16,680
■ Sherwood Park Stormwater Quality Project	\$392,108
■ Roxy Avenue Septic Removal Conversion	\$88,944
■ Osprey Plant Pond Managed Aquatic Pond System	\$60,000
■ Draa Field Managed Aquatic Pond System	\$31,281
■ Draa Field Vegetation Harvesting	\$57,360

SAVE OUR INDIAN RIVER LAGOON PROJECTS THAT BEGAN CONSTRUCTION

■ Basin 832 Broadway Pond Biosorption Activated Media	\$42,864
■ Basin 115 Carter Road Biosorption Activated Media	\$62,510
■ Basin 2134 Fleming Grant Biosorption Activated Media	\$56,588
■ Basin 10 County Line Road Woodchip Bioreactor	\$72,773
■ Fisherman's Landing Living Shoreline Planting	\$4,800
■ Rotary Park Living Shoreline Planting	\$4,500

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■ Basin 832 Broadway Pond Biosorption	
Activated Media	\$42,864
■ Basin 115 Carter Road Biosorption	
Activated Medi	\$62,510
■ Basin 2134 Fleming Grant Biosorption	
Activated Media	\$56, 588
■ Basin 10 County Line Road	
Woodchip Bioreactor.....	\$72,773
■ North Indian River Lagoon Living	
Shoreline Planting	\$720
■ Coconut Pt/EELS Oyster Bar	\$45,120
■ Fisherman's Landing Living Shoreline Planting.....	\$4,800
■ Rotary Park Living Shoreline Planting	\$4,500
■ Cliff Creek Baffle Box.....	\$347,781



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PET FRIENDLY

Mosquito Control's New Fish Hatchery and Stocking Program

In late May, sudden rain and tidal driven water level increases in and around the Indian River Lagoon triggered Mosquito Control's environmental staff to close culverts and begin pumping the 28,000 acres of mosquito impoundments that we manage in Brevard County; and it was the perfect opportunity to put our new fish hatchery program to the test! One native mosquitofish is said to consume up to 100 mosquito larvae per day. Although the hatcheries are still undergoing some finishing touches at both our north and south office locations, our fish stocking team has been successfully stocking about 100,000 mosquitofish per month since May...

Steve Whitt, Jamaine McWhite, Chris Murphy, Trevor Tapp and Scott Singleton all took part in repurposing a large tank to transport fish for mass stocking events. The tank was originally purchased for liquid larvicide mixing during the Zika response a few years ago. The team outfitted the tank with new hardware and plumbing, and they mounted it to a customized pallet that could be safely secured upon our flatbed dump truck.



Inspector/Sprayers Tommy Tucker, Glen Wright and James Brown are shown releasing a large quantity of fish in the Scottsmoor impoundment in North Brevard County. Following the onset of the Indian River Lagoon water level rise, Tommy had spotted some mosquito larvae in this area and marked it as an ideal candidate for fish deployment. James and Glen had just returned from picking up a mass quantity of mosquitofish from the National Fisheries Hatchery in Crescent City. An estimated 20,000 fish were stocked at this particular impoundment location.



Jonathan Linder, our new Environmental Specialist, is evaluating the conditions with a multiparameter water quality meter at a potential stocking point to ensure fish survival.



James Brown and Bob Spreitzer are transporting and stocking a smaller quantity of mosquitofish in an isolated area off the Scottsmoor impoundment dike road. James was recently appointed as the Lead Inspector/Sprayer over Hatchery and Outreach activities. He has been consulting extensively with Christos McDowell, Associate Environmental Specialist, and Mike Buono, Ground Operations Superintendent, for several months in the planning and design of the new hatchery program.



Aquatic Section Supervisor Dave Prather, is getting back to nature as a scrub jay decides to land on his head to help him find a good fish stocking location in the Mosquito Lagoon impoundment, part of the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. Keith Minner, Impoundment Supervisor, took this photo during a fish stocking kickoff meeting with Wildlife Refuge staff.



It was soon realized that one hatchery up in our northern County (Titusville) facility, was not enough to service the entire 72-mile long stretch of Brevard County. So the talented and dedicated staff in the south end of the County built a hatchery at our Valkaria facility. Jonathan Koagel, Bob Spreitzer, Jackie Matteo, and Roy Montalvan quickly created this fish haven to service the south half of the County. As in the Titusville hatchery, homemade filtration systems were constructed in plastic buckets, making for quite a cost-effective hatchery system overall.



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Plant Salvias to Attract Hummingbirds

By Sally Scalera, Urban Horticulture Agent & Master Garden Coordinator



I have often been asked if we really have hummingbirds here because those asking had never seen one. For those of you who haven't seen a hummingbird either, rest assured that we do have hummingbirds here in Brevard County. They are small and if they detect us first, they will dart off before we ever see them.

Hummingbirds are only found in the Americas. They migrate south from the colder areas of the United States and live year-round in the subtropical and tropical regions of the U.S., Central America and South America. Of the sixteen species that live in the U.S., only three are found in Florida. The Black-chinned and Rufous just visit for the winter, but the ruby-throated hummingbird nests here in Florida. The ideal flower colors for attracting them are red, orange and pink, but the flowers must also provide plenty of nectar. Hummingbirds have one of the largest appetites of all birds, with their first meal starting as early as 45 minutes before sunrise and then every 10-15 minutes through the day, ending around dusk. In addition to nectar, hummingbirds also require protein and other nutrients, so they eat soft-bodied insects, including mosquitoes and spiders.

Hummingbirds coevolved with *Salvia* flowers in the tropical and subtropical areas of the Americas. Botanists and ornithologists understand their relationship because of the abundance of hummingbirds and *salvia* species in the tropics. That relationship revolves around the hummingbird's ability to pollinate the *Salvia* flowers and in exchange, the *Salvia* provides nectar. The *Salvia* flowers fit the hummingbird's head and the nectar produced is made specifically for hummingbirds. Whereas insect pollinators prefer simple sugars (like fructose and glucose),

hummingbirds want sucrose (white table sugar) which they can digest quickly.

In addition to planting *Salvia*, you may want to plant a native Coralbean tree, *Erythrina herbacea*, to grow among the *Salvia*. The reason for this suggestion is so that you will know if hummingbirds have visited your yard! When hummingbirds visit, they pollinate the flowers and seed pods form. The location of the seed pods will also show you if the hummingbird didn't visit for a while because there will be an empty space surrounded by developing seed pods. When choosing the location to plant your hummingbird plants, be sure to locate it in a sunny spot that is close enough to the house so you will be able to watch the hummingbirds from inside.

To attract the highest number of hummingbirds, add a hummingbird feeder too. Use a hummingbird feeder that has bright red on it, to attract them, and fill it with a solution of one quarter cup sugar mixed in one cup of water. Change it out at least every three days, if the birds don't drink it all before then. If you would like to skip the feeder, you could plant a Baby sunrose,

Aptenia cordifolia, in a hanging basket. Be sure to hang it near a window so you can watch the hummingbirds up close!

Every time you plant a new plant, scatter some earthworm castings and granular mycorrhizal mix in the planting hole. Make sure to keep an eye on your newly planted plants and water them every day until they are established and begin producing new foliage. After the plants are established, inoculate the plants with a liquid product (i.e. Bushdoctor Kangaroots, etc.) that contains beneficial bacteria and mycorrhizae. A liquid product is mixed in water and used to water the plants. This could be repeated a second time a month or so later. For a copy of my bulletin, How to Add Life to the Soil, (and/or to request Coralbean seeds) email me at sasc@ufl.edu.

If you would like to be able to watch adorable hummingbirds in your own yard, start planning now. Remember, the more *Salvia* the better and plant them where you can see them from the house. Then, all you will have to do is just be on the lookout for when they visit!

Here are just a few of the Salvias you can plant in your yard.

- Our native **Tropical sage** (*Salvia coccinea*) is a great one. These plants produce red flowers that will catch the eye of every hummingbird passing by. This annual will grow two to three feet tall and will readily reseed year after year!
- I found **Wendy's Wish salvia** (*Salvia x hybrida 'Wendy's Wish'*) at a local nursery and it produces long, magenta pink blooms for the hummingbirds to drink from. The plant is a clump-forming perennial that can grow 36-48 inches tall and wide. It produces flowers from late spring through fall and the foliage has a citrus scent.
- **Scarlet or red salvia** (*Salvia elegans*) is typically sold at our local garden centers (though I didn't find any when I checked recently) as a bedding plant. It is a tender perennial so if we don't get a freeze, they will continue growing.
- Our culinary herb **Pineapple sage** (*Salvia splendens*) is a perennial shrub that produces bright red flowers in the fall and winter. Prune the plant often to keep it compact and keep an eye on it because it has a higher water need.

Assistance Available for Brevard Residents, Small Businesses and Nonprofits Impacted by COVID-19



The Brevard County Board of County Commissioners has allocated \$10 million in Coronavirus Air, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to assist Small Businesses and Nonprofits impacted by the COVID-19 public health crisis. Grants of up to \$10,000 are available. As of Sept. 15, 2020, the County had received 940 applications and awarded grants totaling \$6.4 million. Applications and requirements to qualify for a grant are available at www.brevardfl.gov/BrevardCares. **These are grants, not loans, and therefore do not have to be repaid to the County.**

Along with assistance for small businesses and nonprofits, other programs have been implemented that can assist individuals with rental and mortgage payments, utility and security deposits and food stability. These programs are available through the County's Housing and Human Services Department. Those eligible must be a resident of Brevard County, at or below 140 percent of area median income, and able to demonstrate assistance is required as a result of direct impacts from coronavirus. Applicants must also provide supporting documents related to income, need and

other assistance received. So far, 1,043 applications for individual assistance have been received with \$2.9 million obligated. The average amount of assistance awarded is \$3,335.

The County has also allocated funding for food stability programs and has provided 32,252 meals through a weekend feeding program; served 4,915 households through a Farmer's Market program; and provided 101,050 meals through Independent Living Systems LLC.

**Applications for all assistance programs
can be found here:
www.brevardfl.gov/BrevardCares**

In August, the County distributed 2,000 free Personal Protection Equipment kits to small businesses. Each kit included 200 procedure masks, 25 reusable cloth masks, two boxes of gloves and hand sanitizer. Additional supplies have been ordered by the County and new distribution announcements are pending in October.

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Space Coast Area Transit Agencies Attend Disinfectant Training



Transit agencies throughout Florida as well as Brevard County community leaders, attended an informational and training session to learn about a highly effective disinfectant and sanitizer Space Coast Area Transit began using inside its buses. The product, Gencie 200 GDC, kills bacteria such as MRSA, Salmonella, and E.coli; human viruses such as Hepatitis A, B & C, Influenza and Coronavirus; and fungi such as mold and algae. Once properly applied through a misting sprayer, the active ingredient forms a protective and invisible layer on the surface, becoming an integral part of the surface. It is a one-step water-based, non-toxic, non-flammable, odorless disinfectant and micro-biostatic agent, non-harmful to people or the environment, and patented and registered with the EPA.

Transit Manager of Operations and Maintenance, Lance Parker came across Gencie 200 GDC while performing extensive research to find a disinfectant and cleaner that would actually stop the

transmission of bacteria and viruses from one person to another. "This cleaner and disinfectant kills 99.9% of illness-causing germs and bacteria on contact making public transit safer for our employees and our passengers by stopping the transmission on bus seats, handles, doors and facilities." Mark Weiss, Infectious Disease Control Officer for Brevard County added that, "what we found when we did surface testing is that bacteria

is very intense in high-touch areas. By using this product, the bacteria count was reduced to low enough numbers to give us the cleanliness we require and need.

According to Gencie, the science behind the cleaner and disinfectant is that it creates a thin layer of sub-micron nano-spikes that instantly pierce the membranes of bacteria, germs, viruses and algae. The disinfectant kills cells mechanically not chemically, and is environmentally friendly as no harmful chemicals are discharged. It does not discriminate against any bacteria, virus, or algae, making it impossible for the cells to become "superbugs" and resistant to the disinfectant. Parker emphasized that, "although we continue to strongly request all bus riders continue to wear masks, use hand sanitizer, social distance when possible, and not ride the bus if they feel sick, we also want to do our part by insuring that we do everything we can to stop the spread of a broad spectrum of bacteria, viruses, and fungi. We are very excited about the benefits this product brings to both our riders and employees," he said.



Florida Transit Agencies and Brevard community leaders attended an info and training session to learn about a highly effective disinfectant and sanitizer Space Coast Area Transit began using inside its buses.

Emergency Management

- As of September 1, the EOC had been activated for 179 days or 73% of the year to date. Emergency Management continues to conduct partner briefings, produce/distribute Situation Reports and Community Reports, and support the resource needs of first responders and health care providers.
- The EOC team successfully responded to Hurricane Isaias, deploying members of the BEST program to support a collocated shelter at Viera Community Center.
- The EOC activated enhanced launch support operations for the historic Return to Human Space Flight and Mars Perseverance radiological missions.
- Brevard County partnered with State of Florida, Health Department, Health First and Parrish Medical Systems to increase the availability of COVID-19 testing across the county.
- As of August 28, the EOC staging area had received 1.97 million pounds of food and in-turn, distributed 1.64 million via 15 "Pop-up" food pantries to Brevard residents impacted by COVID-19.
- 800MHz radio systems completed the transition of all the conventional radio channels to the P25 standard, which is a suite of standards for digital mobile radio communications that is focused on interoperability and adds the ability to transfer data as well as voice. The system was further enhanced with a P25 Radio Recorder, ensuring that Brevard maintains a robust and progressive radio system network.
- 9-1-1 Administration purchased and implemented Rapid-Deploy RadiusPlus mapping system at all eleven 9-1-1 Centers/Public Safety Answering Points, increasing their effectiveness in identifying the geographic location of wireless callers (more than 80% of all 9-1-1 calls originate from a wireless device) by expanding the data that can be utilized to determine a physical location.
- As part of the on-going migration to Next Generation 9-1-1, a synchronization of the primary databases was conducted and returned a match rate of 99.46%, which exceeds the National Emergency Number Association recommended minimum match rate of 98%.

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Solid Waste Collection:

News You Can Use

Following a competitive bid process, and opting to continue same-service twice-a-week solid waste collection, once-a-week recycling collection and once-a-week yard waste collection, the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners awarded Waste Management a new seven-year contract. The new contract will increase residential garbage and recycling collection from \$139.70 a year to \$194.28. The increase will be reflected as a separate charge on property tax bills beginning in November 2020.

Unincorporated Curbside Residential Collection

Brevard County's Unincorporated areas are provided curbside collection of garbage, recycling and yard by Waste Management. If you live within City or Town limits please contact them for information on your collection services.

Residents of Unincorporated Brevard County have three collections per week.

Garbage is collected twice per week. Occasionally you may have excess garbage that will not fit in your cart. In such cases, the waste must be bagged (no garbage cans) and set beside the cart so as not to interfere with the arms of the autoloader.

Recycling and Yard waste are collected one day each week.

Place garbage and recycle carts; yard waste and yard waste cans within 5 feet of the curb the night before your collection day or before 6:00 a.m. Residential collection begins at 6:00 a.m. and runs through 8:00 p.m.

Special Collection Solid Waste

Any type of solid waste not reasonably capable of being placed in an automated collection cart or any item not reasonably capable of being reduced in size not exceeding four (4) feet in length, twenty-four (24) inches in diameter and fifty pounds (50) in weight.

Examples include:

- Household Furnishings
- Appliances
- Electronics
- Bicycles and other bulk items

- Each household shall be entitled to set out up to four (4) automobile tires with or without rims for collection per year

Please call Waste Management Customer Service at the numbers listed below for "special collection solid waste" or if you have questions concerning your service or collection days.

North Brevard • (321) 636-6894;

South Brevard • (321) 723-4455

Holiday Schedule for curbside collection of unincorporated areas

The collector shall not be required to furnish collection services on the following specified Holidays:

- Memorial Day
- Fourth of July
- Veteran's Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

There will be no make-up days.

The Collector shall notify all customers whose normal collection day falls upon such holidays that no collection service will be provided on such day and the date of the next normal collection day at least ten (10) days and not more than thirty (30) days prior to said holiday. Said notice shall be in the form of an advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation published within the County and published on the Collector's website. Brevard County residents can use any of our Disposal Facility locations during normal operational hours.

To File a Complaint:

Solid Waste Collection must be completed by 8 p.m. on designated collection days. If your solid waste has not been collected by 8 p.m. and you want to file a complaint, visit: sites.brevardcounty.us/sct/#/. Your request will be sent to the Brevard County Solid Waste Department. If you have questions please contact the Solid Waste Department at 321-633-2042.

Space Coast Office of Tourism's Recovery Campaign and Beyond

The Space Coast Office of Tourism has been continuing with their recovery campaign that launched during the summer, encouraging residents and visitors alike to enjoy our open spaces. The campaign includes messaging that clearly shows area businesses have implemented health and safety precautions. The welcome back campaign consists of billboards, TV, radio, digital ads and social media. It encourages families from Jacksonville down to Palm Beach and Orlando to Tampa to enjoy the waves,



whether it's in the ocean or from the friendly hotel, restaurant, and attractions staff. In addition, four family bloggers have taken trips here to share with their followers what a fun, relaxing, and safe choice the Space Coast is.

The campaign runs through September and the next step includes research in the areas where these ads have run to learn more about what potential visitors are looking for, brand recognition, message retention and influence to visit. With this data, ads can be adjusted to be better utilized and fit the needs of the target audience.

Looking to the future, the return to human spaceflight is going to be a major boom to the area. Approximately 200,000 people came from out of county to watch the Crew Dragon Demo-2 launch, and the Mars 2020 launch also drew the masses to favorite viewing spots. The SpaceX Crew-1 launch, currently set for no earlier than late October, is sure to bring crowds of a similar size.

Bussen-Mayer Engineering Group

An aerial photograph showing a light-colored paved road that curves through a lush, green forest. The trees are dense and cover the surrounding hillsides.

Civil
Engineers

A photograph of a wooden boardwalk or bridge structure that winds through a wooded area. The structure has a railing and is surrounded by tall trees and green foliage.

Environmental
Consultants

A photograph of a paved road that curves through a grassy field. In the background, there are large trees and a fence line.

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A square QR code located in the bottom right corner of the advertisement, which likely links to the company's website.



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Summer Food Service Program

The summer food service program is a federally funded and state-administered program that provides free nutritious meals to children ages 18 and under throughout the summer when children are not at school. Brevard County Parks and Recreation has been a sponsor of this program, serving meals throughout the county, for approximately twenty-five years.

In 2019, the program supplied over 12,000 breakfasts and approximately 17,000 lunches to youth at twelve sites throughout Brevard County. This year due to Covid-19 the federal government extended waivers to allow meals to be distributed to children to take home and eat. Due to the increase in need and availability this summer, in just June, we served over 14,000 breakfast and 14,000 lunches.

To qualify as a summer food site, open sites must operate in low-income areas where at least half of the children come from families with incomes at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty level, making them eligible for free and reduced-price school meals. The twelve sites that provide meals are usually home to some of our busiest summer camps. Coordi-



nators and staff at these sites have a huge responsibility to adhere to the guidelines set forth by the state. This year has been a bit challenging to navigate the program following the CDC and County guidelines for Covid-19 but once again, our staff accepted the challenge in order to make this program successful and to ensure continued success of serving the citizens of Brevard County.

2020 Summer Camps, Huge Summer Fun

Brevard County Parks and Recreation Department had a unique Summer Camp for 2020. Due to COVID-19, Summer Camp programming was planned to allow parents who were returning to work a safe place for their children to go. Erika Whitt, from Sandrift Community Center located in Titusville, had the opportunity to oversee one of those Summer Camps.

Erika explained, summer camp is always a special time of year, but it was much more this year. The children had been home since March and were finishing up virtual school. The children needed summer camp more than ever this year! Structured and unstructured playtime are equally important. Summer camp is a time of fun, learning new skills and making new friends.

Sandrif Community Center staff faced new challenges to make sure camp delivered the fun that is expected but followed new guidelines. The staff created designated play areas, individual supply baskets, and a place for each child to call their own every day. These areas were created to keep children six feet apart and have separate items available for each child to limit sharing.

The staff provided baskets full of handheld games for solo play. These games were wiped down after each use. One of the designated play areas was the Wii area. The Wii was the perfect activity for social distance gaming. Each child could stand six feet apart to play, plus this



game required physical movement. This was a hit with the children. Individual STEM kits kept everyone challenged and allowed a little competition.

The boys and girls of summer camp 2020 also became coronavirus experts. Every day they sat in their seat six feet apart from their friends, washed their hands constantly, and learned how to socially distance. Camp staff and children spent a significant amount of time outside, which allowed better social distancing. They played and learned new games that did not require shared equipment. None of this took away from the fun and memories made at Sandrift this summer. It just made it a more memorable summer.

Harry T. Moore Cultural Center recognized for Celebrating Black Culture in America

Recently the Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Cultural Center located in Mims, was recognized by Reader's Digest Contributing Writer, Mrs. Lynnette Nicholas in the July edition as one of the 12 American Landmarks That Celebrate Black Culture in the United States.



Heading into its 100th anniversary, Reader's Digest is America's fourth largest-circulation magazine brand.

The article highlights nationally recognized landmarks of legacies of

Black Americans throughout our nation's history, and acknowledges and honors Harry Moore and his wife, Harriette, who were the first members of the NAACP to be assassinated.



■ 12 American Landmarks That Celebrate Black Culture
www.rd.com/list/american-landmarks-that-celebrate-black-culture/

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A how-to guide to prepare Yard Waste for Curbside Collection.



For residents in unincorporated Brevard County, Cocoa, Cocoa Beach, Indialantic, Indian Harbour Beach, Malabar, Melbourne, Satellite Beach, and West Melbourne.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS for curbside collection

- Please **DO NOT** bag containerized yard waste
- Containerized yard waste and small piles **must be curbside** by **6:00 a.m.** on your collection day
- **Large, loose** yard waste piles are collected on a separate day
- To better serve you, we encourage customers to contact **Waste Management's Customer Service Department** for collection of large, loose yard waste piles

DO this:



LOOSE MATERIALS

Use a **40 gallon can**, **not to exceed 50 pounds in weight**, for pine needles, leaves, small twigs, palm fronds and tree/shrub trimmings.



BRANCHES / LIMBS

Place branches and limbs in a small pile in a **uniform pattern**.



LENGTH/DIAMETER

Ensure yard waste is **no greater** than 4 feet in **length** and 24 inches in **diameter**.

NOT this:



DO NOT bag yard waste.



DO NOT put branches and limbs in different directions.



DO NOT have piles larger than 4 feet in length.

DID YOU KNOW?

Brevard County Ordinance NO.94-49 states hired landscaping, land clearing or tree trimming services must remove any vegetative waste they generate on residential and commercial properties. Waste Management is NOT required to pick up yard waste created by a contractor*.

*Except within the City of Satellite Beach.

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Customer Service Department:

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New Federal South Atlantic Fishing Regulations: Descending Device Required On-Board

Beginning July 15, 2020, all recreational, commercial, and for-hire vessels are required to have a working descending device on board and readily available when fishing for any of the fish in the snapper-grouper fishery management unit in federal waters of the Atlantic Ocean from North Carolina to Florida. In Florida, this means any vessel that is fishing for fish in the snapper-grouper complex (also known as reef fish) in the Atlantic will be required to possess descending gear when fishing greater than 3-nautical miles offshore. Fish may be released using a fishing pole or hand-line with a descending device attached to a minimum 16-ounce weight, or a weighted container, with at least 60 feet of line that is capable of returning fish back to a depth of at least 50 feet. The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council has examples of descending devices and a video to make your own using a weighted hook at safmc.net/best-fishing-practices.

WHY THE USE OF DESCENDING DEVICES?

NOAA Fisheries recommends using descending devices on fish exhibiting signs of barotrauma. The new regulation does not prohibit the use of venting tools, but a descending device will still need to be on board and readily available for use. Barotrauma occurs when fish are caught and brought up from deep water, typically greater than 50 feet of depth. The rapid change in pressure when the fish is brought to the surface causes the swim bladder to expand (or even burst). Common signs of barotrauma are the stomach protruding out of the mouth, bulging eyes, and distended intestines. Descending devices use a weight to return the fish to depth, which recompresses the expanded gas and reverses the effects of barotrauma. Science has shown that descending gear is effective at getting fish back down to depth, and this increases survival rates by minimizing the effects of barotrauma.

Reef fish like snapper and grouper are the most susceptible species to barotrauma because they live on the bottom. The snapper-grouper fishery management unit includes a large list of fish, including snappers, groupers, and popular food fish like amberjack, black seabass, spadefish, triggerfish, and tilefish. Considering that more than 60% of recreational fish are caught and released alive, use of descending gear can increase the number of fish that survive to be caught again at a larger size or later when in-season. Fisheries research conducted in collaboration with fishermen shows that using descending tools greatly increases survival rates. Another advantage is descending gear reduces depredation on “floaters,” or released fish floating on the surface. These impaired fish are often eaten by birds, dolphins, barracuda, and sharks as they struggle to return to deeper water.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on how to identify barotrauma and select and use descending gear, please visit the [**Florida Sea Grant Catch and Release website**](#) or the [**South Atlantic Fishery Management Council page for best fishing practices**](#). Please see the complete [**Fishery Bulletin**](#) issued from NOAA Fisheries for additional information and details including a list of [**Frequently Asked Questions**](#).

Original blog post authored and published by Shelly Krueger, Florida Sea Grant agent at the University of Florida IFAS Extension in Monroe County. This blog post modified and published by Holly Abeels, Florida Sea Grant agent at the University of Florida IFAS Extension in Brevard County.



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UF/IFAS Extension is here for you during COVID-19 and beyond!

By **Holly Abeels**, *Florida Sea Grant Extension Agent, UF/IFAS Extension Brevard County*

COVID-19 certainly took everyone for a loop. Changes in programming and more work being done remotely has caused Extension and others to look for new ways to reach clientele. Extension provides science-based research and education to our clientele and, even with COVID-19 and working remotely, we continue to offer educational opportunities and programs in Brevard County.

During the last 6 months of working in the new coronavirus environment, we have been working hard to find ways to continue our programs. In some instances, we have reached more clientele since many programs were switched to being offered remotely, allowing more time flexibility and attendance from any location. Without travel time, we have been able to collaborate more with other faculty and specialists from University of Florida offering more educational programming overall for our clientele. We have seen participation from throughout Florida, nationally, and internationally. Not only

are we reducing our carbon footprint from not traveling as much (or at all) but our clientele are also reducing their carbon footprint, which is a win-win for us and the environment.

Here is just a sample of the educational programs we have offered and continue to offer to the community during these difficult and unusual times.

- Pesticide applicator certification trainings are available online via Zoom. Categories taught so far include Core Principles of Applying Pesticides Safely and Correctly, Aquatics Pest Control, Ornamental and Turf Pest Control, Natural Areas Weed Management, and Right of Way. Not only are trainings being offered via Zoom but Pesticide Certification Exams are ongoing in-person at the Extension Office.
- Offered a virtual lunch and learn series with two topics being presented so far: Mole Cricket Management and Growing Palms in Florida Landscapes.



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- Problems on farms continued to be addressed with increased use of virtual diagnosis of issues.
- Florida 4-H continues to offer virtual programs for youth. There were over 40 free and low-cost virtual camps, called Florida 4-H Virtual Adventures, put on by 4-H and Extension professionals on topics ranging from robotics and marine science to sewing and beekeeping. These are available to youth from across the state.
- 4-H put together "Summer Fun to Go" baskets filled with supplies needed to complete lots of science and healthy living activities together as a family. Families can pick up the baskets from the Brevard County Extension office and enjoy all the activities together at home.
- Florida Sea Grant put together several virtual programs. The Bite-Sized Science webinar series consists of

continued on page 30



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continued from page 29

30-minute presentations on a variety of marine science and related topics. View all 46 presentations done so far at this website: bit.ly/bite-sizedscience.

- Florida Sea Grant offers a series of seafood-centric Facebook Live cooking demonstrations on Wednesday evenings at 6pm. View past videos at this website: flseagrant.org/seafood/seafoodatyourfingertips/ or go to Florida Sea Grant's Facebook page to look for the videos.
- Florida Master Naturalist Program switched to a virtual or hybrid program. The benefits of offering these courses virtually is that anyone can participate from anywhere. Current courses are located at: conference.ifas.ufl.edu/fmnp/.
- We partnered with Cigna insurance on a virtual fitness challenge "Let's Walk Florida" to over 200 county employees and residents. We also partnered with Second Harvest Food Bank, Brevard County Emergency Management Services, and others to increase the number of food distribution sites throughout the county, providing fresh produce, shelf stable supplies, and hot meals.
- There are several in-person trainings available for essential employees including Brevard School Board Limited

Structural Pest Control Training, Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance Training, Certified Pest Control Operator, Limited Lawn and Ornamental CEU Day, and City of Rockledge Landscape Maintenance Limited Lawn and Ornamental Training. These in-person classes were offered when requested.

- We are still holding some limited in-person, general public educational programs such as the Florida Friendly Landscaping series and Be Healthy: Grow Your Own Food series.
- Several videos have been created and posted to our YouTube channel on topics such as science experiments, cooking projects, and horseshoe crabs. We continue to showcase educational programs and information on our Facebook page. We are also active in posting blogs on: blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/brevardco

We are here, as always, to help and to meet the community's needs. If you have any questions about the programs above or what else we have to offer give us a call at 321-633-1702 or email us at brevard@ifas.ufl.edu. Also check out our website for more information: sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/brevard.



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Audiology and Hearing Services



Andrew Clarke
H.A.S.

Karen Cowan-Oberbeck
Au.D., FAAA, CCC-A,
Doctor of Audiology

Glenn Oberbeck
NBC-HIS

Bea McCabe
H.A.S.

AUDIGY
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OUR SERVICES:

- Comprehensive Diagnostics
- Audiology
- Tympanometry
- Tinnitus Management
- Earwax Removal
- Video-Otосcopy
- Hearing Conservation
- Hearing Protection
- Musician Monitors
- Swim Plugs
- Hearing Aid Validation
- Assistive Listening Devices

WE OFFER:

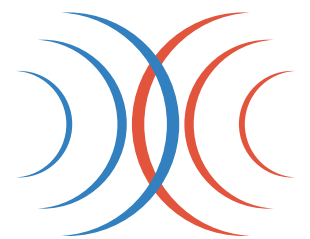
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- Earmolds
- FM/Bluetooth®

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WE ARE A LOCAL, INDEPENDENT, COMMUNITY-ORIENTED PRACTICE COMMITTED TO RENEWING YOUR WORLD OF HEARING. A strong patient-provider relationship based on honesty, integrity, and values is what we strive for, and we feel that this is the best approach to making sure you don't miss any of the precious moments in your life.

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