

The Beacon

Shedding Light on the
News and Events of Titusville,
Mims, Scottsmoor, Port St. John,
and now Merritt Island & Cocoa

Vol. 6 No. 5

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2008

www.NorthBrevardBeacon.com



Susan Walden

Space Coast Jr./Sr. High student Caitie White, 14, plays Dixie during a tribute and dedication ceremony honoring Capt. James Pritchard, Civil War veteran and one of Titusville's pioneers.

Organizations dedicate plaque to Pritchard

By Susan Walden

History and the present melded on a cool Saturday morning at Oaklawn Cemetery in Titusville.

Capt. James Pritchard, a Civil War veteran and one of Titusville's pioneers, was honored Nov. 22 in a gravesite ceremony in which the Confederate Sons Association Indian River Camp 47 unveiled a four-by-four-foot granite plaque affixed on his grave.

It was the culmination of over three years of planning for the CSA. They had help from the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Chapter 2358 and North Brevard Heritage Foundation, Inc., according to Mitch Morgan, CSA commander.

Civil War reenactors and others dressed in period clothing set the mood for the event as a sun broke

through the clouds sometimes casting a bright ray on Pritchard's grave.

"We wanted to pay tribute to Capt. Pritchard because he was the founder of our camp back in 1891 and he served the Confederacy honorably," Morgan said. "He was also one of our founding forces in the settlement of Titusville."

After the war, Pritchard moved to Galveston, Texas, where he met and married Key West native Mary Boye. In 1870 the couple settles on the Delespine Grant (now part of Titusville) where his family grew and prospered.

As an early pioneer, Pritchard organized the Indian River State Bank of Titusville, the third oldest institution

See PRITCHARD, Page 6

Mascot water dog reminds residents to conserve water

By Debi Fleming

Living in Florida has its privileges, like sunny days, beautiful vegetation and mild winters.

Living in Titusville also has its perks, like a four-footed furry neighbor known as "Winston the Water Dog" that helps residents learn how to live a Florida-friendly lifestyle while conserving life-sustaining water resources.

Winston's owner, Maureen Phillips, is the community program coordinator for the City of Titusville Water Department. Her job is to spread the word about Titusville's water conservation program, help educate the public about the department's toilet rebate and shower head exchange program and encourage native Florida landscaping.

Because her Golden Retriever Winston is a "water dog," it seemed a perfect fit to enlist Winston's help in spreading the word.

"I wanted to keep building on the success we'd had with previous projects to let residents know about water conservation and other programs, so Winston has become a great ambassador for water conservation," Phillips said. "We had a couple of billboards up on Garden Street featuring Winston and have been getting feedback that people see the signs and love the message Winston is helping to get out."

The billboards could not have been located at a more convenient spot along the street Phillips said, as they were at Williams Street, just blocks from the Water Treatment plant.

"The billboards promoted Winston telling people to "Think 2," meaning to water only two days a week, and to use native plants and water wise plants in landscaping," Phillips said. "Since fall is a great time to plant things in Florida it was the perfect time for the billboard campaign."

To wrap up all the conservation efforts Phillips gives out doggy waste bags for locals to use when taking their dogs on walks.

Phillips hand delivers the bags to animal shelters to give to those adopting pets. Picking up the dog waste

See WINSTON, Page 2

NEXT ISSUE: Dec. 11

Schools now dismissed Dec. 22 for Winter Break

The Brevard County School Board voted Nov. 18 to forgo the Dec. 22-23 school makeup days necessitated by Tropical Storm Fay. BPS students missed four days of school due to the storm, and have made up two of those days.

The Florida Department of Education has approved the district's request to waive the remaining two days missed due to Tropical Storm Fay.

Students will now be out on winter break beginning Dec. 22, and will return to school Tuesday, Jan. 6. Secondary school exams will be conducted Dec. 17, 18 and 19.

For year-round schools, Dec. 18 and Jan. 5 are no longer makeup days for students. Year-round students will return to school from winter break on Tuesday, Jan. 6.

Phillips: 'Work with environment instead of fighting it'

WINSTON, from Page 1

also helps our waste water, Phillips said.

Phillips advice to new homeowners and those wishing to spruce up their yards is to visit The Enchanted Forest to see firsthand how native plants can be both aesthetically pleasing and water conserving. Homeowners will see that most of their water usage is outside, so it makes sense to focus outside the house when looking to reduce water costs.

"Work with the environment, instead of fighting it," Phillips said. "There are many native plants, some that are flowering, that once they are established never need watering."

There are many ways to reduce water usage in the house as well Phillips said, such as replacing an old toilet with a newer one which will also reward you with a rebate from the water department. Residents can bring in their old shower heads and exchange them for a free, water conscious shower head.

And simple things, such as not letting the water run while brushing teeth and rinsing dishes, and taking a five-minute shower instead of a 20-minute one will reduce water usage by thousands of gallons over the course of a year, Phillips said.

"We want the light to go on for all age groups," Phillips said. "Winston thanks you."

For more information on water conservation, the toilet rebate program, or shower head exchange program call Phillips at 383-5669 or visit www.titusville.com.



Debi Fleming

Maureen Phillips, the community program coordinator for the City of Titusville Water Department, gets help from her dog Winston to spread the word about the city's water conservation program.

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Busts nets 28 arrests

After some significant planning, the Titusville Police Department teamed up with the Brevard County Sheriff's Office and Florida Department of Law Enforcement Task Force and the State Department Probation and Parole to make a significant dent on criminal activity in North Brevard.

Twenty-eight arrests were made Nov. 20-21 in crimes ranging from the sale of cocaine, possession of concealed weapons to other active warrants.

The operation included a "buy-bust" operation in which undercover operatives purchased rugs from known criminals and were immediately apprehended. A search of one house at 1602 Whispering Hills in Titusville – home of a criminal on probation for selling cocaine – netted two guns along with .45 and .25 caliber pistols.

Dwayne Antwan Mitchell, 24, was charged with numerous counts of violation of probation and was booked into jail without bond.

"We are committed to continuing this aggressive approach to ensure we get these violent criminals off our streets," said police Chief Tony Bollinger.

"A teamwork approach with both our citizens and other law enforcement agencies is proving to be very effective."

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Opinions

Change doesn't start with the president, it begins with us

My View

By
Susan
Walden



There are so many things to worry about lately.

Sometimes I feel like everything's coming down on me and now I have to worry about space junk entering the atmosphere and dodging it.

All I need is a NASA tool kit smashing me in the head from the heavens as I take the dog out. One of the astronauts "dropped" her \$100,000 tool kit during a space walk last week. Poor thing must

have been so embarrassed. When you're an astronaut all eyes are on you, just like owning a newspaper. You make one mistake and it's like being Hitler's sister.

Whether you're the president, an astronaut, a newspaper publisher the guy down the street who owns a business – everyone makes mistakes, omissions – heck, sometimes we don't even make mistakes at all – and others lately sit in such judgment that I certainly hope I don't see them as the jury at the pearly gates.

Right now it's tough being a business owner. We're pushed at both ends. No sales and bills galore. Each business makes it harder on the other by not paying their debts.

Cross words, blaming each other for this and that. "Check's in the mail" or it bounces five times.

Listen folks, as a good friend aptly put it the other day – it's not the financial end of this country that's going to do us in as

Americans, it's ourselves imploding – being rude, hateful, deceitful without an ounce of integrity left. We don't need terrorists; we're doing it to ourselves.

There is a growing number of people who have no problems relieving stress.

They relieve it on others and walk away feeling great about themselves.

I saw my sales manager, who is one of my best friends and like a sister to me, reduced to tears the other day because some bozo who owns a big business in town decided to pick up the phone and yell. She couldn't say anything because he kept interrupting her. If he'd bothered to check before calling us he would have uncovered that his employees were not telling the truth and blamed it on us. I wrote the guy telling him that and showing proof. Not a word back.

Can't say I'm sorry anymore either, I guess.

Do you know what's going on in someone else's life? The stress you are adding could be the last straw?

If we want to turn this country around and have "change" it isn't just about voting in a new president. Each one of us has to look at ourselves in the mirror and get rid of our cranky, nasty, finger-pointing, judgmental attitude.

We need to help each other, be nice, fair and understand that every stone we throw in the river ripples to the next person – bad or good.

One city in America is paying it "backward" at a local coffee shop's drive-thru. Many customers pay for the person's order behind them.

I can't see that happening around here the way everyone's acting. It would be more like throwing the wrappers at the car behind us and shooting their tires out for the heck of it.

However, I will remain an optimist. This is why I write these kind of commentaries. I wrote once about paying it sideways, behind us and in front of us.

Maybe this holiday season we can give each other the gift of kindness.

Liberty has become a bride; by her stripes all the nations shall be blessed



As I stood in the line in the lobby at my local bank, I couldn't stop looking at the dividers above the service counter that now separate us from the tellers. They've been there for so long now; there are probably very few who even take notice of them anymore.

I understand the importance of security and the absolute necessity for the safety in any workplace, but it saddens me that my children may never know what it was like to stand in a bank and chat with a friendly teller without being separated by a 3 inch piece of bullet proof plexiglass.

I know this seems like a small thing to some, but I truly miss the time that we didn't have to live our lives with so many fearful encumbrances. There are numerous examples of social erosion in our nation today, but this glass divider just seemed to strike right at the heart of the matter. It is unfortunate that most of the hindrances aren't as transparent or as easily recognizable at first glance.

A sure sign that there is a snake in the garden is the onset of division between those people who we would normally be working with in some type of positive personal or business relationship. A subtle barrier of communication slowly begins to form, until one day we discover that our once trivial differences are now a wall of separation that exclusively define the relationship.

Once divided, communication ceases and the gap between us naturally widens, creating a vacuum that pulls everything into it. Once taken in, what some may perceive and proudly define as the center, the middle ground, or a place of balance, is in reality a place of compromise and defeat.

When ideals that are diametrically opposed come together in peace and consummate their relationship; they will give birth to lukewarm faith, contaminated and cloudy precepts, and an endless chain of venomous doctrines.

In order to communicate to our children how to keep our nation, we must discuss with them what we could stand to lose if it is left unkept. They need to know the difference between tolerance and apathy. Far too many people do not perceive value until their possessions are taken away. In the case of our nation's liberty and sovereign status, we cannot allow anyone to blindly give away such valuable generational gifts in rational ignorance or unlearned innocence.

The process that removes the wealth of heritage from any nation is much like the act of strip mining for gold-where miners remove mountains from their place-turning

them into clay pits. They leave the natural landscape barren, desolate, and void of life. If we patiently stand by and allow this thievery to take place in our nation, it won't be much longer before we find ourselves stomping straw and making mud bricks.

If a deluding spirit of error can operate freely in our families/nation, and successfully keep us in a place of perceived comfort and sleep-like temporal sedation, we will be robbed of every last thing of true value that we possess. The only way we can truly protect our children is by teaching them how to protect themselves. We must not only show them the standard; we must try to live up to that standard ourselves everyday. We must be faithful in our commitments to them, so they can learn to have faith in others.

If we can guide them into a broad-based understanding of the deeper principles in life, they personally will not have to go down into a pit to know darkness, nor experience the resulting loss of sight, and power for themselves.

What we learn from our daily experiences comes by the way that we choose to define them – it comes by knowing the standard that everything that has ever been built on this earth will one day be laid against. I am truly proud of my nation's heritage, her biblical roots, and the revealed mystery of Christ in us. Liberty has become a bride, and by her stripes all the nations of the world shall be blessed.

We have so much to be thankful for in America

Letters to the Editor

This is in reference to (I.J. Stagi's commentary in the Nov. 13 issue).

I have been wondering when someone was going to bring up the issue about Obama's mixed heritage.

I certainly am glad that I am not the only one who has a problem with every so-called journalist calling Obama an African American. I am in no way, shape, or form a racist. But if you wanted to be politically correct, Obama would be technically considered an European African American.

I, like Obama's mother, am of European decent, but I do not go around calling myself an European American. This is ridiculous. And from everything I have read, Obama was indeed born in America; Hawaii to be exact. The fact that his father is from Africa doesn't make Obama himself an African American. It simply means that he is of African descent. Much like most of the people born in the USA are of some other descent, whether it be European, Asian, Scottish, Irish or African.

This is what makes up this country. The simple fact that we are nation of mixed breeds. I wish that every other journalist would start calling Obama by what he really is, and that is an American, pure and simple.

I wanted to give kudos to the author of the editorial for bringing up such a controversial subject. In my opinion, it is very black and white. If you were born in America, that makes you an American. If you were born elsewhere and have moved to the US, then you have the right to call yourself _____ American. Fill in the blank by your native heritage.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comment on the subject and I hope you find that you can print this.

Michele Morey

Talk of the town

What are you thankful for this season?



"My family. (Also) I'm happy because of the people I work with. They make it easier for me to come to work."

Dr. Miguel Medina
Titusville



"I'm extremely thankful for my family and my family in the office."

Toni Moore
Titusville



"I'm thankful for my mother and the wonderful friends and family I have at the office."

Diane Barthel
Mims



"My family and friends."

Nancy Davis
Titusville

Mark your calendar for these Christmas events!

Dec. 5

Tree Lighting Ceremony, 6 p.m.
Spaceview Park

Dec. 6

Mims Christmas Parade, BBQ & Bazaar

Bazaar, 8:30 a.m.

Parade and BBQ, 10:30 a.m. U.S. 1
Fire truck & car display, visits with Santa and more.

Entry info: 267-9652

Port St. John Season Spark-tacular
7-11 p.m. Port St. John Comm. Center
Campfire, hot dogs, s-mores, popcorn,
hot chocolate, punch and more.

Admission is \$5. Limited to 50 people.
For info: 633-1904

Dec. 6-7

Cracker Christmas at Fort Christmas
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Fort Christmas Rd., Christmas
Admission is free. Cracker activities,
pioneer demonstrations, craft fair, food,
exhibits.

For info: (407) 568-4149.

Dec. 13

Titusville Breakfast with Santa
9 p.m. Fox Lake Park

Admission is \$5. Enjoy pancake break-
fast and kids get candy-filled stock-
ings. Santa arrives at 9:30 a.m. Bring
your camera. Limited to 150 people.

For info: 264-5037.

48th Annual Titusville Christmas

Parade

6 p.m., U.S. 1

For entry info: 267-7049

Dec. 20

11 a.m.

Port St. John Christmas Parade
Begins at Waterloo/Fay Blvd, to
Carole St.

For entry info: 633-7499



Pritchard instrumental in providing light for town



The four-by-four granite plaque was created by Able Monument in Titusville.

PRITCHARD, from Page 1

of its kind in Florida. He served as the bank president until March 28, 1923, when he sold his stock in the bank and retired. Pritchard also had a hardware store business downtown.

He was also the first real estate man in this section of Florida and gave Titusville its first light plant, which exists now as Florida Power and Light Company.

Before moving to Titusville, Pritchard enlisted in the Confederate Army in Missouri and moved up into the rank of captain of Company E, 1st Regiment

Missouri Infantry under the command at the Battle of Shiloh in April 1862 and the Siege of Vicksburg. He fought in the Battle of Corinth in October of the same year under the command of Gen. Sterling Price. In 1863, he went through the Vicksburg Campaign, including the Battles of Grand Gulf, Port Gibson, Bayou Pierre, Big Black and the siege from May 18 through July 4.

At the surrender of Vicksburg, he was paroled and when exchanged a few months later he was assigned duty at Aberdeen, Miss. Pritchard was then ordered by the department at Richmond to report to Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest at Jackson, Tenn., and accompanied the general on his famous raid to Paducah, Ky. Afterward, he served with Joe Blackburn on the Mississippi River.

He founded and commanded the United Confederate Veterans Indian River Camp 47 in Titusville.

Members of the CSA formed their camp in 2003. "The CSA is a historical, patriotic and nonpolitical organization and our mission is to honor the memory of Confederate soldiers," said Morgan, who lives in Merritt Island. "When Pritchard was in it, it was called the UCV. We decided in Brevard County to adopt the same camp – Indian River Camp 47."

The CSA members participated in a living history program at the Pritchard House, which is under renovation, and met the Civil War veteran's family, namely his granddaughter Mary Schuster and her daughter Polly. This added interest and depth into Pritchard's life. Then at an annual Confederate Memorial Day service at Oaklawn Cemetery, the CSA camp saw



Mike Linthicum presents a flag to Pritchard's granddaughter Mary Schuster, who until recently lived in the Pritchard house on U.S. 1 near downtown Titusville. The house is now under renovation by the North Brevard Heritage Foundation. Her daughter, Polly, is to her right.

an opportunity to pay tribute to Pritchard through a plaque at his grave.

"Our first step was to gain approval from his family, which also gave us the chance to get to know them better, and also to learn more about Capt. Pritchard," said Morgan. "Then began the process of camp members meeting to design the plaque, a very detailed but gratifying task, which went through many reworks to get the final product. And then we began the process of commissioning its manufacture and placement (with Able Monument). The members also solicited the help of the UDC Canaveral Light Chapter 2358 and the North Brevard Heritage Foundation.

"We are members of the Heritage Foundation and they are the principals in the restoration of the Pritchard House."

Dressed in period clothes, Roz Foster, president of the North Brevard Heritage Foundation, spoke briefly in front of the few dozen at the ceremony.

"We are very pleased to participate in this ceremony honoring Capt. James Pritchard and to pay honor to his family."

Helen Stubbs, the area's UDC president, began by saying "nothing is ended until it's forgotten."

"We at the UDC are in gratitude of the service of Capt. James Pritchard."

In her 90s but looking 20 years

younger, Pritchard's granddaughter Mary Schuster approached the podium to speak. "I'm touched that the CSA wanted to recognize their commander in such a respectful way."

"It's quite an honor," she said before the ceremony. Schuster, was 12 when he died and lived in the house until a few years ago, recounted her grandfather fondly. "He was quite a character."

Great granddaughter Polly Schuster described Pritchard as one who loved music, as he played several instruments, including the drums for the Indian River band, and sang.

"His favorite song was 'Where the River Shannon Flows,'" said Schuster.

People who came to the ceremony will probably never look at the Pritchard house in the same way after a story Schuster told during the event.

She said Pritchard used to sit on the porch and watch the passersby of his house on U.S. 1 near downtown.

"If someone walked by he didn't want to talk to, he'd pull his hat down over his face and pretend he was asleep."

Morgan said recognizing and honoring Confederate veterans and their sacrifices doesn't end.

"We have a responsibility to continue to honor them and to be the guardians of our southern heritage."



Titusville High School student Garrison Brown plays taps during the Pritchard ceremony as Civil War reenactors stand in formation.

Kudos

Foundation elects new officers

Jess Parrish Medical Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Parrish Medical Center, announced the election of Jason Snodgrass as chairman of the board of directors. Snodgrass is vice president of The Watauga Company, a family-owned general contracting firm based in Titusville that specializes in government and commercial buildings. Snodgrass was born in Melbourne and grew up in Titusville. He lives in Titusville with his wife Teresa and two daughters and has served on the JPMF board of directors since 2000.

Other officers and members of the executive board voted into office at JPMF's annual meeting recently include Richard Boggs (chairman-elect), L. Lee Moore (vice chairman), Chris Broome, Esq. (secretary), Barbara Terhune (treasurer), Jerry W. Allender, Esq. (past chairman), Christine Sylvester and Judith Allender (members at large) and George Mikitarian (PMC president and CEO). Also elected to serve on the executive board are Christopher Manion, M.D., chairman, Corporate Gifts; Gene Sego, chairman, Major Gifts; and Rachel Terry, chairman, Annual Gifts.

Also serving as directors are Santiago Bulnes, Randall Coleman, Shannon DeBalli, Kathy Dunn, Marcia Gaedcke, Jack Gould, Dorothy Hudson, Robert Jordan,

Kerry Kennedy, Roger Miller, Katherine Musick, J.J. Parrish III, Tricia Parrish, Dr. Howard Rinker, Turmy Sieveking, Tim Skeldon, Gregory Sparkman, William Terry, John Weaver, Dr. John Williams and Bob Yarbrough. Newly elected to serve three-year terms were Jessie Kirk, Kirk Realty, and David Ferguson, North Brevard Funeral Home.

Teacher wins award

Matt Susin, history teacher at Space Coast Jr./Sr. High School, received The Warren Tracy Beginning Teacher Award at the recent Florida Council for Social Studies) state conference. This award recognizes and celebrates the enthusiasm beginning teachers bring to the social studies profession.

The general education teacher is primarily responsible for providing educational content to the students with disabilities while students are supported by the special education teacher's knowledge of instructional strategies. Together, the co-teachers can develop flexible and responsive classrooms.

Educators who have taught for three years or less may be nominated for this award. Susin was nominated by the district because of his zeal for teaching and outstanding work in the classroom.

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Tips address keeping aging relatives happy

For many families, the holiday season marks one of the only times of year that all members can gather together to celebrate and enjoy each other's company. The portrait before and after this joyous time, however, is often far less picturesque for seniors living alone or far away from relatives.

As the aging population continues to grow – the U.S. Census Bureau projects over 88 million people age 65 and older in the U.S. by 2050 – memory loss and dementia in seniors are posing a major public health burden and it's often difficult for relatives to monitor that aging family members are getting the level of stimulation and socialization they want and need. But there's hope. According to a recent study by the Harvard School of Public Health, researchers have found evidence that seniors in the United States with active social lives may have slower rates of memory decline and lower mortality rates.

Given these findings, Patricia Bell of Comfort Keepers®, a franchised, in-home care services provider located in Titusville, has provided the following tips for family members to address with their aging relatives this holiday season to ensure a happy and healthy time is had by all.

1. **Link Up with Like Minds:** Senior groups plan activities like exercise, meals, games and trips for seniors wanting to get out of the house and expand their circle of friends. Look into these groups with your relative and find one that best fits their interests.

2. **Pick Up a Pen:** Sending holiday cards is a wonderful way to spark a new kind of relationship between family members. Once these lines of communication have been opened, seniors will be more inclined to keep up with the correspondence long after the holiday season ends.

3. **Get in the Game:** Brainteasers, memory games and mathematical puzzles are not only fun but can employ areas of the brain that aren't regularly stimulated. Try a few with your relative while you are in town and leave them with a few books or games that they can continue using after you leave.

4. **Make a List and Check it Twice:** Send your relative a list of possible gift ideas for other family members and review their purchases upon your arrival while helping them with wrapping. If you have the luxury of arriving prior to the holiday, accompany your relative on a shopping excursion to select the perfect presents.

5. **Hire a Helping Hand:** If you are still concerned your relative is in jeopardy of mentally "checking out" when the holiday season comes to a close, discuss the possibility of hiring an in-home companion. Not only will this person be able to help with basic chores and activities but the companion will be able to provide much-needed social interaction for your loved one on a daily, weekly or live-in basis.

Comfort Keepers® provides in-home companion care on an hourly, daily, weekly or live-in basis for individuals needing assistance with activities of daily living. Services are tailored to the individual needs of each client and, in the case of seniors, can allow them to continue living safely and in the privacy of their own home. Care duties include companionship, meal preparation, light housekeeping, grocery shopping, transportation for errands and appointments, laundry, recreational activities, and more. Comfort Keepers has over 550 independently owned and operated offices worldwide in 47 U.S. states, Canada, Australia, Ireland, Singapore and Portugal. Long-range projections call for 700 locations worldwide by the end of 2010. For more information, visit www.comfortkeepers.com.



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Give blood, get gift card

Florida's Blood Centers and the Florida Association of Food Banks are working together to give life, food and hope. From now until Dec. 31, FBC blood donors will receive a \$10 Publix gift card. Keep the cards for your own holiday food expenses, or return them to FBC, which will donate them to the food bank in the donor's community. The cards will go to families who need help during the holiday season.

Get a flu shot

Walgreens offers flu and pneumonia vaccines at various locations at times: 4600 S. Washington Ave., Port St. John: Dec. 8, 2-6 p.m.; 1106 Clearlake Rd., Cocoa: Dec. 2, 2-6 p.m.; 4600 S. Washington Ave., Titusville: Dec. 8, 2-6 p.m.

Support Toys for Tots

The Valiant Air Command Warbird museum in Titusville is again supporting the

Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" program as a drop-off point this year. Additionally, on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 6 and 7, if you bring in a new toy (recommend value of at least \$5), you will be admitted free to the museum.

With the recent arrivals of new aircraft on exhibit, there is something for the whole family to see; so come in, take a tour ... and become a part of history. The museum is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

For more information call 268-1941, or visit www.vacwarbirds.org.

Parents have night out

Parrish Early Care and Education sponsors a "Drop & Shop" evening Dec. 6 from 5-9 p.m. Parents can enjoy a free evening for holiday shopping without their children (ages 8 and younger), or simply a night out. Children will enjoy a fun filled evening with crafts, story time, a puppet show and pizza dinner.

See BRIEFS, Page 12

Ask Chris



The hair that is growing nowhair

Dear Christian Allen,

Is it true that my hair will grow faster if I keep the ends trimmed every 4 – 6 weeks? I am trying to grow my hair long but I keep getting a cut every 5 weeks and it seems like I am getting nowhere. My stylist says it promotes growth to keep it cut regularly. What should I do?

*Signed
Cousin It*

Split ends make this difficult. It can be like trying to get to the airport in two cars at the same time. It would just take longer.

The trick is not to cut more off than has grown since the last cut. Now I always suggest when growing out a style that you wait a few weeks longer than normal.

My question to you is this, does your hair split so often that you need it cut every 5 weeks when growing into a longer style? Products and processes – find the source of your splitting and your hair shall soon be on its way. Remember the average is only 1/2 inch per month ... of hair growth that is.

*Gotta Split till next time,
Christian Allen*

Dear Growing Nowhair,
There is some truth to the old wives tale that cutting your hair will help it grow.

The keratin and poly-peptide chains that form in the follicle of the scalp must push up through the hair and work its way out of the scalp.

Got a beauty question? Ask Christian Allen! Write him at christianallens@aol.com.



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Hello! My name is Selena. My birthday is 6/10/08. I am a Domestic Short Haired black, white and orange Torti. I was brought in to the S.P.C.A because someone found me, my mom and my sibling and thought I would go to a really good home if i was brought here. I am very lovable and love to cuddle with you. I love toys and I like to chase after them. I had multiple eye surgeries because I had ulcers due to an upper respiratory infection. I am getting better everyday so it's not slowing me down at still having a good time. Please come in today and give me a second chance at a great life



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HOLIDAY PACKING & SHIPPING TIPS

PACKING: Remember that the largest item will determine the box size needed. (Ex: Board games can require large boxes). Lightweight items that are large may have to be shipped at 30, 70, or 150 lbs. regardless of actual weight due to size. (Large stuffed animals, wreaths, etc.).

Breakable items need sufficient, acceptable cushioning materials. This does not include crunched up newspaper. Valuable items that are breakable should be double-boxed.

The box used must withstand the shock, vibration and compression that will occur in handling and transit. The box should be made for shipping (not moving or storage) and a used box should not have any holes, or collapsed areas on it. All previous addresses must be removed. Items should not be placed against the sides, top or bottom of the inside of the box.

Firearms, explosive materials, alcohol, etc. cannot be shipped. Your PSO must include a full description of the contents of the box.

Once the box is closed, you should not hear any rattling when you shake it and the box should not give at the seams when you press on it. If it does, it needs more packing material.

Do not use brown paper or string (these items catch on automated equipment). Use shipping tape only, not masking tape, duct tape or scotch tape. Secure all open seams, not just the top of the box.

SHIPPING: UPS has guaranteed delivery dates on all products until right before the holiday. Ask for verification. All UPS shipments are trackable and the first \$100.00 of declared value is included. Additional declared value can be added. Priority Mail is neither a guaranteed or trackable service.

UPS GROUND SERVICE

Holiday Shipping Deadlines

The following are the latest possible dates to ship to each state via UPS Ground for arrival to the 25th. Remember, guarantees are removed as Christmas nears

TUESDAY – DECEMBER 16

California (SE Pocket) *Idaho (NW)

*Montana *Nevada (Northern Pocket) *Oregon * Washington State*

WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 17

*California * Colorado (Eastern Half) *Idaho (SE Corner) Minnesota (NW Pocket)

*Nevada *North Dakota *South Dakota *Utah *Wyoming*

THURSDAY – DECEMBER 18

Massachusetts *Minnesota *Michigan (Upper Peninsula)

Nebraska *New Hampshire *New Mexico *New York (Upper)

FRIDAY – DECEMBER 19

Arkansas *Connecticut *Delaware *Illinois *Indiana *Kansas *Maryland *Michigan

*Missouri *New Jersey *New York (Lower) *Pennsylvania *Ohio *Oklahoma

*Texas *W. Virginia (Northern Parts) *Wisconsin (Southern Parts)

MONDAY – DECEMBER 22

Alabama *Florida (Panhandle) *Georgia *Kentucky *Louisiana *Mississippi

*North Carolina *South Carolina *Tennessee *Virginia *W. Virginia (Southern Parts)

TUESDAY – DECEMBER 23

Florida (except Panhandle) *Georgia (Southern)

Ship Early!!



BRIEFS, from Page 10

Cost is \$20 for the first child and \$10 for each sibling for the evening. Call The Children's Center at 321-264-0855 for more information or to register.

Area kids need your help

Sand Point Senior Living at 1800 Harrison St., Titusville, is the drop off place to take toys so local children who are under privileged can receive a Christmas/holiday present this year.

Your gifts should remain unwrapped.

Let's make this Christmas special for the children of North Brevard, by giving from your heart to brighten their lives during this festive season.

These children might have a parent who is in jail, a war zone or in a family who has fallen on hard times. Please help the kids have a bit of joy in their lives this holiday season.

Go to Sand Point's main office building and through the doors next to the office is a huge box. Leave your gifts there. Thank you!

Guild offers look at vintage Christmas

The Brevard Symphony Orchestra North Guild hosts a "Christmas in the 1950s" open house Dec. 13 from 2-5:30 p.m. at the home of Ann-Marie Brush and Janet Makarevich, 580 Willowgreen Lane, La Cita, in Titusville.

More than 850 pieces of the Snow Village from Department 56 will be displayed in themed formats throughout the house. Many are animated and fully lighted. The design and layout is centered on what an American town and surrounding countryside might have looked like in the 1950s. Brush began collecting village pieces in 1997.

Admission is \$5 per adult with all proceeds going to the Brevard Symphony Orchestra. Children under 12 years of age are admitted free. There will be a drawing for a Christmas Gingerbread House donated by a guild member. Tickets for the drawing will be available at a cost of \$1 each or 6 for \$5..

Reservations are not required and all children must be accompanied by an adult. For further information call 385-1513.

Play Bunco

The North Brevard Senior Center offers the following events: Bunco Dec. 8, 7 p.m. Cost is \$3 for members and \$4 for nonmembers.



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Christmas dinner available

The North Brevard Coalition of Human Services presents its 10th annual free community holiday dinner Christmas Day, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Gibson Community Center, 835 Sycamore St., Titusville. Community members receive a bountiful meal, a visit from Santa, children's games and gifts, carriage rides, enjoy music and more.

Last year's celebration exceeded all expectations with more than 139 volunteers and 176 on-site guests, with take-home meals and meals delivered to the home-bound totaling more than 400 people served.

To volunteer or make a tax-deductible donation, contact Housing Enhancement for Lower-Income People, Inc. at (321) 567-4949, 2452 U.S. Highway 1, or mail to P.O. Box 783, Mims, 32754.

Titusville Fire and Emergency Services Department, in partnership with Parrish Medical Center offers CPR classes to the public. These classes are American Heart Association Heartsaver Adult/Child (citizen CPR). Infant CPR is not included in these classes.

These classes are free and on a first-come first-served basis. Class size is limited to 10 students and early registration is mandatory. You must be at least 16 years of age or older to register. Class location will be the department's Training Room, located on the second floor of the Titusville Fire Headquarters Building, 550 South Washington Avenue, Titusville. Classes are Dec. 5, 9 and 12, 6-10 p.m. To register, call 383-5708.

Guild holds elegant evening

The North Guild of the Brevard Symphony Orchestra presents its "Classic Holiday Dinner XIV" to benefit the orchestra Dec. 2 at La Cita Country Club in Titusville. The social hour is set for 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

An elegant gourmet dinner has been arranged by La Cita's executive chef. The menu will feature entrees of sliced sirloin Marsala with garlic herb potatoes, or pan-seared salmon with sun dried tomato vinaigrette and wild mushroom rice pilaf. Dinner will begin with salads of mixed greens with dried apricots, walnuts, and Dijon vinaigrette, and end with coffee and dessert of classic crème brulee. Wine will be served with dinner.

A silent auction will be available throughout the evening. Proceeds will help the orchestra with its many projects, including the free concerts provided each February for all fifth-grade students in Brevard County.

An ensemble from the Brevard Symphony Youth Orchestra will perform during the social hour, and a Roland electronic piano that has been donated to the BSO North Guild will be demonstrated and auctioned.

Tickets are \$60 per person, and guests are welcome. Seating is limited so early reservations are important.

For more information or reservations, call (321) 268-1093, 268-8114, or 385-1513.

Information also will be listed on the guild Web site: <http://nbbd.com/npr/northguild>.

Get your pecans

Once again the Pilot Club of Titusville is selling one-pound bags of jumbo pecan halves for their annual Fall Fundraiser. The Pilot Club has been selling pecans in North Brevard for over 25 years. The pecans are fresh from South Carolina. Call to order your pecans now - they go fast. The Pilot Club is a community service organization working to make North Brevard a better place

to live by supporting many charities and participating in hands on projects. For more information and to place an order, call Lynn 321-385-1251.

Don't miss Parks and Rec meeting

The North Brevard Commission on Parks and Recreation will hold its next monthly meeting Dec. 4 at 5 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Brevard Room at 518 South Palm Avenue in Titusville and is one week earlier than this advisory board normally meets.

One or more members of Titusville City Council and the following committees may be present: Causeway Improvements Referendum Committee, Equestrian Trails & Facilities Referendum Committee, Marina Park Referendum Committee, Mims-Scottsmeer Community Center Referendum Committee, Sand Point Park Referendum Committee, Titusville Veterans' Memorial Fishing Pier Committee, and the Fay Lake Wilderness Park Committee. The public is invited to attend.

The Brevard Room is located in a building on the north side of the parking lot behind the Brevard County Government Center-North.

For questions call Terry Lane at (321) 264-5105.

Jog for the holidays

The Central Area of Brevard County Parks and Recreation hosts Jingle Bell Jog, a 5-K race for all ages and family groups, on Dec. 20, at Kiwanis Island Park, 951 Kiwanis Island Park Road, Merritt Island.

Prizes are awarded in seven age categories, separated by gender, and to the fastest family.

Registration begins at 8 a.m., with the race following. The entry fee is \$10, on or before Dec. 10. The fee is \$15 after Dec.10, including the day of the race.

For additional information, call (321) 455-1380.

Enroll your child in winter camp

Brevard County Parks and Recreation will offer a week of fun during Winter Camp 2008. Camps are for children in kindergarten through 6th grade. Camp will be offered at two locations: Max K. Rodes Park, 3000 Minton Road, West Melbourne and at the Viera Regional Community Center, 2300 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera.

The dates for camp are Dec. 29-31 and Jan. 2 at Viera Regional Community Center.

Activities at Winter Camp will include sports, group activities, games, arts and crafts and a lot more. An awesome New Year's Eve Bash and a pizza party is planned for the last day of camp. This is a chance to make new friends and create some lifelong memories.

There are a limited number of spaces available for these action-packed camps. Registration for camp at Max K. Rodes Park will be held on Dec. 8, from 5:30-7 p.m. at 1515 Sarno Road, B-2 in Melbourne. Registration for Viera Regional Community Center will be held at the community center on Dec. 9 from 5:30-7 p.m. The fee for each camp is \$60 per child. Before and after care are available for an additional cost.

For more information, call the South Area Parks and Recreation Office at (321) 255-4400.

Support group meets

The North Brevard Parkinson's Support Group meets at Parrish Medical Center, on the third Saturday of the month. They meet 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the training rooms 2, 3, 4 and 5 or as designated on the schedule, which is posted at each door.

For more call Mary McDowell at 268-2363.

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GOUT

Gout is an extremely painful condition caused by a build-up of uric acid in the body. The acid forms crystals that deposit in joints and cause pain accompanied by swelling, redness and warmth around the joint. Gout commonly affects the base joint of the big toe. It is most common in men over 40. It can also appear in other joints, like those of the little toe, ankle and knee. Women who develop gout usually get it after menopause.

Gout is actually a form of arthritis. The acid build-up comes from the body's inability to process protein substances called purines (pure-EENS) that are a natural part of our diet. Some foods, however, like red meat, shellfish, beer, red wine and salt, contain more than other foods. Drinking plenty of water--- 6 to 8 glasses every day--- and eating a healthy diet are ways to avoid a gout attack. The likelihood of building up uric acid is hereditary. Sometimes the tendency skips a generation.

If you have a personal or family history of gout, talk with a podiatrist about steps you should take to minimize an attack of gout.

www.BrevardPodiatryGroup.com
Risa L. Vinarub, DPM, FACFAS, FACFAOM
Robert G. Rosen, DPM, FACFAS, FCCWS

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---	---

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Have fun at library

The Titusville Public Library holds the following events:

Ongoing Childrens' Programs - Family Story Time, Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. (All Ages); Toddler Story Time, Wednesdays, 10 a.m. (Ages 2-3); Preschool Story Time, Wednesdays, 11 a.m. (Ages 3-5); Infant Story Time, Thursdays, 9:15 a.m. (Ages 1 month-walking); Pre-Toddler Story Time, Thursdays, 10:15 a.m. (Ages walking-2 years) ; Christmas Paper Craft, Mondays, 6 p.m. (Ages 6-12) ; Puppet Club for Teens, Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. (Ages 13-up) ; Manga Drawing, Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. (Ages 10-up)

Special Childrens' Programs- Christmas Party for Children with a Puppet Show and a Visit from Santa. Free books will be given out. Refreshments will be served.

Dec. 13 at 10:30 a.m. (Age Infant-12); Holiday Bracelet Craft. Taught by Beverly McNally.; Dec.13 at 2 p.m. (Age 13-up); Christmas Place-setting Craft, Dec. 14 at 2-4 p.m.; Christmas Crafts – Dec. 15-18 at 3-5 p.m., Dec. 19 at 3-4:30pm.

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

Have breakfast with Santa

Brevard County Parks and Recreation offers Breakfast with Santa for children ages Pre-K through 4th grade Dec. 20 from 9-11 a.m. at Kiwanis Island Park, 951 Kiwanis Island Park Road, Merritt Island.

The cost is \$5 per child, which includes a pancake breakfast, Christmas stocking and a picture with Santa. Adults may have breakfast for \$2.

Registration is required. For additional information, or to register, call Kiwanis Island Park at (321) 455-1380.

Kids call Santa

Special arrangements have been made for Santa to telephone preschool through second grade children from his headquarters at the North Pole.

Through "Santa Calling," calls will be made Dec. 15-17, between 5:30-8:30 p.m. to phones in north Brevard. Request forms should be faxed to (321) 264-6428 or mailed to North Area Parks Operations, 475 North Williams Ave., Titusville, FL 32796. The deadline to submit a request is Dec.12.

Through "North Pole Calling," calls will be made Dec. 16-18, between 5:30-8:30 p.m. to phones in central and south Brevard. Request forms should be faxed to (321) 633-1850 or mailed to Central Area Mainland Office, 840 Forrest Avenue, Cocoa, FL 32922. The deadline to submit a request is Dec.15.

Request forms are available at www.brevardparks.com, community centers, and parks operation offices.

There is no charge for this service.

For more information, call (321) 264-5105 in North Brevard or (321) 633-1874 in Central or South Brevard.

Play in snow

There will be a snowfall Dec. 5 as Downtown Titusville kicks off the holiday season. The event opens with the official lighting of the City's Christmas Tree at 6 p.m. at Space View Park West accompanied by the Children's Chorus of St. Teresa's School.

Enjoy a Candle Light procession into the heart of downtown, where the holiday spirit comes alive with a walk through Bethlehem and a visit to see Santa and Mrs. Claus.

All of your favorite home-based businesses, as well as, arts and craft vendors from all over the area will be set up for your holiday shopping pleasure.

Stores will be open late offering plenty of red-light specials and various discounts. Come early for the tree lighting and stay late for the shopping extravaganza.

The event includes cookie stations, an outdoor movie screen, kid crafts and, of course, snow. Join us for some holiday shopping madness!

Contact the Titusville Chamber for more details, 267-3036.

Get involved in tree auction

Get into the holiday spirit and register today to decorate a tree for the Holiday Tree Auction at the annual Gift of Light Event. Fill out the registration form found on-line at www.titusville.org. Click on Calendar of Events and then special events.

Send the completed form to the Chamber and they'll deliver a six-foot artificial tree to you. Then bring your decorated tree to Parrish Medical Center before Gift of Light on Dec. 7.

Trees will be on display and donors will be recognized with signage during Gift of Light. The trees will be auctioned off during the event and all proceeds will benefit the Main Street PMC Project.

This is a great way to get into the holiday spirit...and your expenses are a tax-deductible donation! Gather co-workers, neighbors, family or friends and make this a group project!

For more details on the tree auction, contact the Titusville Chamber at 267-3036.

Library holds events

The Merritt Island Library holds a Holiday Bracelet class. Learn to make a beaded holiday bracelet with toggle or magnetic clasp Dec. 3, 1-4 p.m. The fee is \$10 and includes instructions and materials for one bracelet and one pair of earrings. Sign up now at the Merritt Island Library Reference Desk.

The Merritt Island Public Library presents the following events in December: Dec. 5, 12 and 19 from 9-10:30 a.m. Zoombah fun exercise. Dec. 5, 12, and 19 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. watercolor art class. \$5 charge for class and \$5 for supplies; Dec. 5, 12, and 19, 1:ep-3:30 p.m. acrylic and oil painting workshop. \$5 charge for class; bring your own art supplies.

Register in advance for all classes. Dec. 17, 7-8 p.m. enjoy the sounds of Igor and Joan Markstein – violinist and cellist respectively.

The library is located at 1195 N. Courtenay Pkwy., Merritt Island. Call 344-1369.

Don't forget Christmas luncheon

The Brevard County Retirees Annual Christmas Luncheon is Dec. 1, noon at Pumpnickel's Fest House, 2855 S. Hopkins Ave. Cost of the buffet is \$15.50 per person including tax and gratuity.

Make checks payable to Bettye Snyder and mail to her at 170 Ojibway Ave., Titusville, 32780 Deadline for reservations is Nov. 25.

For more information, call 267-2700. Brevard County retirees from all departments including spouses and friends are all welcome.

DEATH NOTICES

ARMSTRONG Virgona, 93, of Titusville, died Nov. 14. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

BROOME Betty Jean, 79, of Merritt Island, died Nov. 21. Arrangements by Brevard Memorial Funeral Home in Cocoa.

BROWN Sara, of Merritt Island, died Nov. 17. Arrangements by Florida Memorial in Rockledge.

CHERMS Mardelle, 82, of Sharpes, died Nov. 15. Arrangements by East Coast Cremation.

CUNNINGHAM Ruth, 71, of Scottsmoor, died Nov. 16. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

FEISTER Robert, 74, of Titusville, died Nov. 23. Arrangements by Brevard Memorial Funeral Home in Cocoa.

GOSELIN Richard, 69, of Merritt Island, died Nov. 19. Arrangements by Funeral Solutions in Cocoa.

GREGORY Margaret, 95, of Titusville, died Nov. 15. Arrangements by Brevard Memorial Funeral Home, Cocoa.

GROSS June, 86, of Rockledge, died on Nov. 7. Arrangements by Beckman Williamson Funeral Home in Cocoa Beach.

HANSEN Patricia, 80, of Titusville, died Nov. 16. Arrangements by Brevard Memorial Funeral Home in Cocoa.

HENNINGS Arthur, 86, of Titusville, died Nov. 24. Arrangements by National Cremation & Burial Society of Rockledge.

HUTCHESON Woodrow, 65, of Mims, died Nov. 21. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

IMBLER Dorothy, 103, of Merritt Island, died Nov. 20. Arrangements by Brevard Memorial Funeral Home in Cocoa.

KLENKE Catherine, 75, of Port St. John died Nov. 23. Arrangements by Brevard Memorial Funeral Home in Cocoa.

LIBRIZZI Regina, 49, of Titusville, died Nov. 16. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

MILLER John, 81, of Merritt Island, Nov. 13. Arrangements by Wylie Baxley Merritt Island Funeral Home.

TILLEY Alice 83, of Merritt Island, Nov. 15. Arrangements by Wylie Baxley Merritt Island Funeral Home.

CLASSIFIED

ITEMS FOR SALE

Hydraulic floor jack. Portable 2 1/2 ton (5,000 lb.) capacity floor jack. GM brand. Lifts to 14 3/4 inches. With carrying case and two jack stands. \$30. Call 264-2208 and leave message.

HELP NEEDED

Couple lost their home and are on social security disability receiving \$985 per month. If you have a home you could give or help in any way, call John at 537-5433.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

2 bdrm/1 ba. Washer & dryer, new paint and carpets. Newly remodeled. Great location. South Titusville. Senior discount. Call (407) 765-2242.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

****Computer Problems?*****
On-site repairs & upgrades, virus removal, cable & DSL wireless home network installation, data recover, Computer Tutoring
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Call "The Computer Doctor"
A + Certified 321-385-0193

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

2 bdrm - remodeled mobile hom. \$5,500. \$0 down, \$460/mo. Adult 55+ park - quiet, convenient location in Titusville. Call evenings - (321) 385-3909, ddays - (904) 477-2435.

Titusville charming clean single

wide, 1 bdrm, new bath, kitchen & paint. Screened porch, washer and dryer. Shaded lot #41. Call (607) 239-9900 or (321) 600-9449.

FOR RENT OR SALE 2 bdrm/1 bath, screened porch, newly remodeled. Utility rm, washer and dryer, all appliances. A/C in Mis. \$5,000. Call 268-4257.

CONDOS FOR RENT

TWO GREAT BARGAINS:
Condo on golf course, 2 bdrm/2 ba. no stairs, ex. cond. - for lease. Camelot 2 bdrm/1 ba., no stairs, very clean. \$750 mo. Call Claudine at 267-1445.

GREAT LOCATION Plaza Royale next to Walgreens, Harrison & Barna Sts., 1370 sq. ft. Call 269-6808.

Spacious 2 bdrm/2 1/2 ba. Central location. No pets. Call 383-0380 or 536-3320.

Sell it in the Beacon classifieds

It's just \$10 for an ad!!! \$15 to run it twice!



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Cancer Treatment Research Foundation
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Gift of Light

A Family Tradition

Benefiting The Health Village
at Main Street PMC



A community event sponsored by
Parrish Medical Center Auxiliary
and Jess Parrish Medical Foundation

Sunday, December 7, 2008

3 pm to 6 pm

Join us as we honor the past
and celebrate the future with the
Gift of Light. You and your family
will experience a truly spectacular
holiday gathering filled with
good friends, good tidings
and much more.

Everyone is welcome.

A very special 50-foot holiday tree,
courtesy of the Parrish Medical
Center Auxiliary, will be lit.

With a \$35 donation you can
buy a light on the tree to honor
a loved one, or for \$100
you can buy a light on the star.

All proceeds benefit the Health Village
at Main Street PMC.

Come join us for an ole fashioned
holiday celebration.

Schedule of Events

Photos with Santa & Mrs. Claus • Horse Drawn Carriage Rides
Mike and Mindy from Lite Rock 99.1
Crafts, Games, Prizes and Refreshments
Meet Live Reindeer • Performances by the "The Mistletones"
Brevard Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet
Community Performers
Radio Disney AM 990 Road Crew Tree Lighting at 6 pm



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