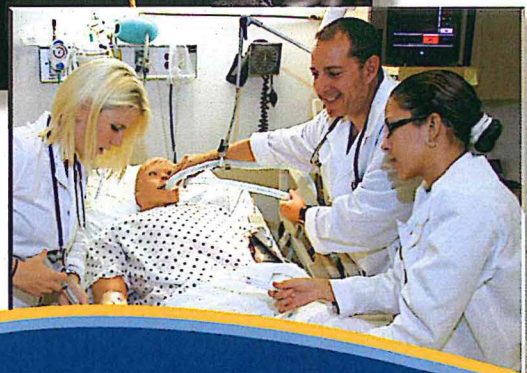
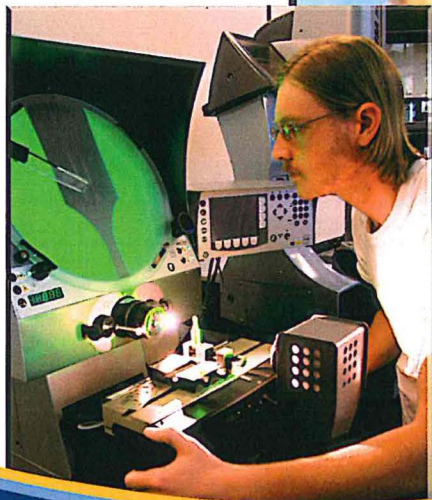
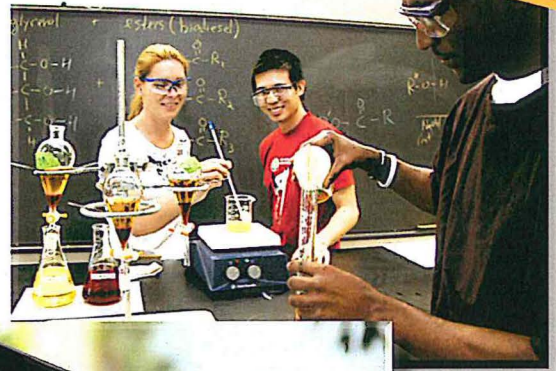


# Sharing the News

December 31, 2010



CELEBRATING  
**50** IRSC YEARS OF  
INNOVATION

INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE  
1960 - 2010

# Region <sup>Press Journal</sup> moving to head of class

■ Area residents better educated than in 2000, data shows

**By Kelly Tyko**

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772-409-1324

Treasure Coast residents are better educated than they were a decade ago, the latest estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau show.

Those findings show a higher percentage of adults with high school diplomas in Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties and a higher percentage who are college graduates for the 2005-09 survey period, compared with 2000 Census data, according to data released Tuesday in the American Community Survey.

"Area residents recognize that higher education is essential for the new types of jobs emerging in our area in the life sciences, digital media, health care and other fields," Indian River State College President Edwin Massey said. "The more education you have the less likely you are to be unemployed, and

## LOCAL

### CLASS from 1A

salaries generally increase with every level of education.”

The American Community Survey data is based on information compiled from about 1 of every 10 U.S. citizens between 2005 and 2009.

The survey makes available estimates of social, economic, housing and demographic statistics for every community in the country. The numbers are not the 2010 census counts, which will be released in

early 2011, but provide a more detailed snapshot.

In Indian River County, 86.4 percent of residents have a high school diploma or higher degree, an increase from 81.6 percent in 2000. The 26.5 percent of county residents with a bachelor's degree or higher is above the state's rate, but lower than the national average.

Indian River County Schools Superintendent Harry La Cava said the district is working hard to increase graduation rates.

“As the graduation re-

# 86.4

Percent of Indian River County residents with a high school diploma or higher degree

quirements get more difficult, our task becomes more challenging,” La Cava said. “We are doing things like what Principal Eric Seymour has started at (Vero Beach High School), which is a program called “Man Up, Vero”. It is a mentoring program for students who could be at risk to graduate on time.”

School and college officials hope to see the region's rates continue to grow.

Indian River State College, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in September, started offering bachelor's degrees in January 2008. The college will continue to expand its offerings.

“By offering four-year degree programs locally many more Research Coast residents are able to continue their education close to where they live and work,” Massey said.

## Our view

Tribune 12-10-10

# Getting green for going green

## ■ County will offer low-interest loans for purchases of energy-saving products

Low-interest loans for St. Lucie County homeowners to purchase energy-saving products such as solar hot water heaters may be available by the end of the month.

Use the Solar and Energy Loan Fund established by St. Lucie County commissioners is another step by the county in becoming a national leader in the use of green energy technologies.

"I'm very pleased that we've gotten this far and are going to be able to make the loans," said county Commissioner Chris Dzadoovsky, president of the nonprofit agency created to administer the loans.

Recently, the board of that agency approved basic guidelines for the loan program, including initial loan rates of 4 percent. The loans will be made from a \$23 million pool financed by local financial institutions and a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy.

Interested in participating? Call 772-462-1400.

St. Lucie officials are hopeful that homeowners will save sufficient money in energy costs to offset the added expense of paying off loans they receive to buy solar energy products.

The program is designed to help homeowners interested in going green and saving on energy use.

But it is only one part of a comprehensive green energy program established by the county. The county also created a solar energy panel-production apprenticeship program to train people for jobs in the green industry.

In addition, the county is attempting to attract green energy manufacturing companies to locate within its research and education park now being developed.

This year, the county also took a major step in creating a model program for the use of energy saving devices in homes, businesses and government buildings in partnership with the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory and General Electric.

Other participants in the innovative project, which likely will be initiated in the city of Fort Pierce, include Port St. Lucie, the Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County, the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority, Indian River State College and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Research Laboratory in the research and education park.

The green energy jobs program already has begun. The upcoming loan program is the next major step.

If these programs succeed as envisioned, St. Lucie County will be far ahead of other communities in building a more energy efficient and more productive economy for a new century.

## Our view



**SIGN OF THINGS TO COME:** One of the hottest movies this season is "Tron: Legacy," and it's got some strong Treasure Coast connections.

The 3-D Disney remake of the 1982 science fiction film, "Tron," had major input from Digital Domain's California studio.

According to Digital Domain Holdings CEO John Textor, who is bringing a Florida branch of Digital Domain to Port St. Lucie with a studio and some training for the field through Indian River State College, some of those who worked on the film, including the director of training and the visual effects supervisor, have relocated to Port St. Lucie.

Work on the new "Tron," such as film environments and characters, "was a great warm-up for what we're doing in Port St. Lucie," Textor said.

The Treasure Coast operation of the digital animation company is expected to have at least 500 employees within the next few years.

Those jobs not only offer exciting opportunities in a growing field, but the chance for some considerable pride when work shows up on the big screen to the thrill of audiences around the world.

*Tribune 12.26.10 / Press Journal / Stuart News*

## Treasure Coast unemployment improving, may be normal in 3 to 5 years, business leaders say

By Eric Pfahler

Friday, December 10, 2010

Thousands of The Treasure Coast residents are out of work and unemployment remains in the double-digits. But when will people find work again and what type of work will they find?

Residents are eager to find out what the future holds. Here's a look at what some of the Treasure Coast's brightest business leaders think about where unemployment rates will be in the short term and the long term as well as how people can find jobs and what businesses can do to stay open.

Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers: Could (you) give us one sentence about when you see unemployment dropping to pre-boom levels?

Dennis Hudson III: I think we're in recovery. Things are coming back, but I call it an L-shaped recovery. It's really going to be a really tough, long comeback and it will be eight years. It's not going to be a near-term thing. And I also think we need to recognize that the employment levels that existed at the top of the bubble were themselves somewhat of a bubble. They were historically extremely low, almost unsustainably low, and I'm not sure we're going to see that again for a long time.

John Smith: A short answer might be three to five years, but it's a little bit more complicated question because you have the underemployed and you have the people who just stopped looking, which we all know are out there. And whatever that number is is added to the reported unemployment number, so it's not a short-term situation.

Michael Corbit: We're seeing a slight drop. I mean everybody hears one-tenth of a percent, everybody is happy about that and so forth, and we are excited about that, but we're seeing more and more people coming into the job centers. They're trying to get retrained to get into a different field. And you have a lot more people like Tammy (Simoneau) said trying to start their own business and they're working from home. Over 50 percent of the small businesses are home-based businesses, so they're not going into the commercial centers or the retail centers unfortunately.

Bill Penney: We're a few years away as everybody agrees from whatever normal is, and there's a new normal. Normal could be 6 or 7 percent unemployment, but I think

the key thing to focus on is the private sector job creation as opposed to unemployment because what's going to happen is jobs are going to be created. People are going to come back into wanting to get a job and the unemployment is going to go up. It's going to be a strange phenomenon. So it's follow the job creation. The success of our recovery is job creation.

Bill Wallace: I do believe things are getting better. But to get back to post-recession full employment, it may take five years.

Don Santos: Even though our construction industry probably has a 25-30 percent unemployment rate specifically, I think a lot of those (people) are trying to do different things. I have a good friend who's a builder, has been for many years. He's now in Internet business. He's selling poker chips and doing very well at it. It's just a whole different dynamic. But to get back to post-recession, which is maybe as much as five times less than it was at the height of the boom, it probably will take us three to five years, and I see us in our industry maintaining our level of employment that we have today and maybe getting a little bit better. I guess I'm cautiously optimistic in my life.

Helene Caseltine: I concur with some of the comments made, and we've had some nice, some good announcements this year in terms of job creation. Indian River County, St. Lucie, Martin throughout the whole region. But keeping in mind, those new jobs that are anticipated aren't going to come on line next week. Those are three to five years down the road, the timeline that they have to create those new jobs. So I would concur with the rest of those folks down the table. It's going to be several years.

Penny Chandler: I agree also, and I think some of the jobs that are being created today that are going to be employing people down the road the next couple years are also changing and there are jobs we can't even begin to anticipate. I think that in our region, we may be ahead of the curve because we have a state college (Indian River State College) that is ahead of the curve with education and creating those opportunities, not just for those students, but for our region to be an attractor of new types of jobs.

Tammy Simoneau: Another thing I would add to the mix because I do think it is going to be a few more years, but I think that the businesses that will pull out faster are those who have an outlook and a leadership of an emerging business looking at the new needs of the employee. Remember we've got a younger generation coming up that has a totally different mindset of what they want their career and their job to look like. So those businesses who are able to have flex time and day care and look at the full unit of the family are the ones that are going to fully move forward ahead because they're going to be partnering here, if you will, with their employees and the attitudes of their business needs as well.

Chandler: That's a really good point. I think that the younger generation is expecting a whole lot of different kinds of things out of their employer than my generation. I think it's going to be totally different. If businesses don't adjust to that, they're going to be left

behind.

Simoneau: So when they're redoing their business model, they need to be looking at the type. You can teach a person a skill, but it's the type of person you're looking for in some of those leadership competencies that we're really starting to look at that we need to develop within the person.

Linda Cox: I think it's going to take years and I agree wholeheartedly about the value of our Indian River State College. It's just tremendous, and if you're not working now, there's lots of programs out there. Workforce Solutions has wonderful training operations. You need to be doing something instead of just sitting at home. Get retrained. Enhance your skills. Even if you don't want to change industries, you have lots of opportunities for certifications and things like that. Take the lull as an opportunity.

Larry Pelton: Seventy-five percent of the jobs that entering first-graders in our school system will have when they graduate don't exist today.

Cox: I think that's the mentality of what Tammy was saying. As you're retooling your business, it's like almost all bets are off the table. You have to be flexible.

Pelton: But I think that's also a challenge to the existing workforce to understand that shifts that our going on in industry are going to demand a whole new set of skills.

Chandler: And the younger generation expects to have more jobs in their career than we did.

Corbit: To your point Penny, the average person in this day and age has a new job every 3.8 years. That's a lot of turnover.

Pelton: I've got the turnover rate in the industry sectors I mentioned ... annual labor turnover in construction/real estate in construction it's 12.4 percent in the state of Florida, 10.2 percent in real estate services. In the wholesale/retail it's 7.2 percent turnover in wholesale, 9.5 percent in retail. I could go through the others as well. Turnover is a big deal in Florida.

Helene Caseltine: Florida is such a transient state. Florida typically is kind of a transient state.

Tammy Simoneau: Another opportunity that we need to look at is how we're using our broadband and our technology and some of those things that when we're looking at our business models and our economic climate, great opportunities to do business.

Corbit: Well, Martin County is leading the charge in that.

Simoneau: Yes, we are.



Corbit: They actually bought in, and it's taking off.

Simoneau: And the school district is one-third of a partner in that because they realize the importance in technology in education in the job creation environment, so we just need to keep moving forward with that type of innovation.

Johnathan Ferguson: Just a different twist to it, historically what I've seen — and limiting an attorney to one sentence is impossible (laughter), but I'll keep it short. ... The region historically started out with an agricultural-based economy. It then morphed into a construction-based economy, sort of its juvenile years. I see the economy as being too large, the population being too large in the region to be sustained simply by construction, so I don't think we're going to go back to where we were and employment goes back. So I see employment taking longer to get back to normal levels, whatever that number the economists agree is, because I see our economy having to morph again. We have to grow up. We're now a mature region. We have to diversify the business base more normally. It's still going to be heavily construction. The attributes of people moving to the area are still there. That's what we can sell.

Santos: There's a saying in the home-building industry that houses are where jobs go at night, and so if you create diversity in jobs, if jobs are created, then housing just follows. And when it's the opposite way, which it was during the boom years, it's just a formula for failure.

Ferguson: Well and it has Don, not just the boom years, but probably for the last 20-25-30 years, that's been the economic engine, especially I think in the Treasure Coast. The prior 50-60 years, it was (agriculture) then building and tourism, but we now have to figure out.

Penney: We're talking about how to recover from this recession. There will be another recession in 5, 10, 15 years out. We don't know how or when or what will cause it. When it happens, we'll all look back and say, "We should have seen that coming." The success of the job creation efforts of Larry and Helene and the folks at Martin County are doing now for our area will be reflected in what the unemployment is at the trough of the next recession. It's too late to help now because it takes a long time. The vision is let's keep on, keep on, keep on this."

### **Economic Roundtable Discussion participants**

Here is a list of people who attended and contributed to the Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers' economic roundtable discussion:

Johnathan Ferguson, land use attorney based in St. Lucie County

Linda Cox, St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce president

Tammy Simoneau, executive director of the Economic Council of Martin County

Penny Chandler, Indian River County Chamber of Commerce president

Helene Caseltine, economic development director for Indian River County Chamber of Commerce

Don Santos, former president of Treasure Coast Builders Association

Bill Wallace, owner of Wallace Automotive Group

Bill Penney, president of Vero Beach-based Marine Bank and Trust

Larry Pelton, executive director of the Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County

Michael Corbit, business projects regional consultant for Workforce Solutions

Debra Duvall, secretary-treasurer of the Realtor Association of Martin County

John Smith, Marine Industries Association of the Treasure Coast president

Dennis Hudson III, Seacoast National Bank chairman and chief executive officer



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## Martin County Commission seeking economic opportunities in 2011

By George Andreassi

Thursday, December 16, 2010

JENSEN BEACH — Martin County government officials should figure out new ways to generate income, such as trying to market the innovative computer software developed by the county's Information Technology Services Department, the commissioners decided Thursday.

"It creates an income stream that is not tax-based income," said new Commissioner Ed Fielding, during a day-long strategic planning meeting at the Mansion at Tuckahoe in Indian RiverSide Park.

Fielding suggested creating a new county agency called Martin Enterprise to handle the new businesses the county may develop. That would include trying to market county-developed software that performs local government functions, such as issuing building permits electronically through the county's website.

The commissioners also decided to try to restart the Martin CARES (Citizen Academy and Resource Education Series) program that offered county residents a free course of six weekly classes showing how the county government works, including tours of facilities like the county jail.

A total of 1,600 county residents have completed the course, but it was suspended two years ago in a cost-cutting move, county officials said. It cost about \$5,000 per year to offer six courses per year.

Commissioner Doug Smith suggested that Florida Power & Light Co., Waste Management and other large companies that do business with Martin County could sponsor the courses and show county residents the best aspects of their operations.

The Martin CARES program helped county residents see that the county government is spending their tax money wisely, said Commission Chairman Ed Ciampi.

Here are some of the goals and objectives the county commissioners set for themselves in 2011 related to economic development:

Objective: Work more closely and build better relationships with the businesses in

downtown Stuart and the county's seven community redevelopment areas, particularly Indiantown.

Objective: Maximize the existing footprint of Witham Field, the county owned airport, with the highest and best uses that benefit the county.

Goal: Support the creation of significant commerce parks complete with infrastructure such as water and sewer service.

Objective: Develop a life science, technology and research campus on Cove Road with Indian River State College and Martin Memorial South.

Goal: Support farming and sustainable agriculture.

Goal: Further explore emerging and renewable energy.

Objective: Evaluate implementation of the Tourist Development Council strategic plan for attracting visitors.

Objective: Identify ways to assist small businesses.

Goal: Create a funding source for continual maintenance of the St. Lucie Inlet.



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## COMMUNITY WISHBOOK

# Veterans seek food, transportation help



PHOTOS BY ALEX BOERNER/TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

Ryan Adams hugs his co-worker Betty Cipollone as he prepares to leave the Veteran Services office in Port St. Lucie, where he participates in the work-study program.

## IF YOU GIVE:

**Wishbook Wishes:** The United Veterans of St. Lucie County raises funds for programs that support veterans in the county, including the van transportation program to the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center; the "Holiday Food for Veterans in Need" project; and the Emergency Veterans Assistance Fund.

**Contributions of gift cards:** For food from stores including Publix, Winn Dixie, Walmart Supercenter and Albertson's are especially needed at this holiday time. Donations to the emergency assistance fund also are needed. Contributions can be mailed to United Veterans of St. Lucie County, 2300 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce FL 34982.

## Donations help transport veterans to VA Medical Center, feed needy veterans

By Janet Begley

Special to Treasure Coast Newspapers

PORT ST. LUCIE — After serving two tours of duty as a Marine in Iraq, 28-year-old Ryan Adams of Port St. Lucie returned home with lots of questions.

And he turned to his local veterans organization to provide the answers.

"They helped me file for benefits under the GI bill," said Adams, who is enrolled at Indian River State College. "When you get out of the military, they give

you a bunch of briefings, but nobody really gives you the practical information that you need."

In St. Lucie County, the Veterans Services office on Southeast Walton Road in Port St. Lucie helps veterans such as Adams apply for benefits; get help with food, education, housing and employment; and arrange transportation to the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center.

Veterans Services is helped out by the United Veterans of St. Lucie County, which raises money to help needy veterans.

This year, Community Wishbook is spotlighting area nonprofits that need assistance helping others in our community.

One area where the United Veterans helps local veterans is by raising money for the van transportation system, which shuttles 20 veterans each day back and forth to the hospital. The vans make pickups in Fort Pierce and St. Lucie West at specified stops 52 weeks a year.

Ron Kneppshield is one of the van's drivers, and is also chair-

man of the United Veterans of St. Lucie County. He drives one day each week and said that he's logged the most miles and hours of any of the van service drivers.

"It's something I really like to do," said Kneppshield, who is 73 and an Army veteran himself. "I like to listen to their stories, and try to help them in any way I can."

One of the other programs sponsored by the United Veterans is the "Holiday Food

See VETERANS, 10A

## LOCAL

### VETERANS from 1A

for Veterans in Need” project. Members encourage donations from the community to help local veterans who are experiencing a shortage of food at anytime throughout the year.

“Every year, at both Thanksgiving and Christmas, we try to provide the Veterans Services Office with gift cards to local food markets,” said Knepshield. “We ask people to specifically purchase and donate the cards because what doesn’t go out through the holidays gives our veterans some assistance during the rest of the year.”

Hal Ripperger, an Army veteran, and his wife, Flo, from Port St. Lucie, donate to the gift card program each year.

“I think it’s a great program,” said Flo Ripperger. “It’s better than giving cash. You give them

the card and then they buy whatever food they need.”

In addition to help with food, the Veterans Services Office maintains an emergency veterans assistance fund to help in crisis situations. But with the troubled economy, fundraising for the emergency program has been difficult and the United Veterans is looking for donations to bolster the account’s meager \$500 balance.

For Adams, just knowing that services for veterans are available close to home through both the Veterans Services Office and United Veterans of St. Lucie County is comforting. His father and grandfather were both members of the Marine Corps and his brother James served at the same time he did.

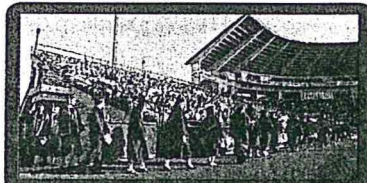
“They do so many great things for us veterans,” said Adams. “I’m just grateful for the help.”



Ryan Adams, 29, a sergeant in the Marine Corps who served two tours in Iraq, sits at the table at the Veterans Services offices in the St. Lucie County Walton Road Annex building, where he participates in the work-study program while attending classes at Indian River State College. Adams, who now lives in Port St. Lucie, credits the service with helping him apply for the GI Bill and getting him back into school, where he is taking classes toward earning a degree in either nursing or biology.

ALEX BOERNER  
TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

# St. Lucie's population now larger, more youthful



FILE PHOTOS

Students walk into the stadium as the sun sets during the start of the Indian River State College graduation ceremony at Digital Domain Park in Port Lucie. Increased educational opportunities mean more Treasure Coast residents have college degrees.

## EDUCATION

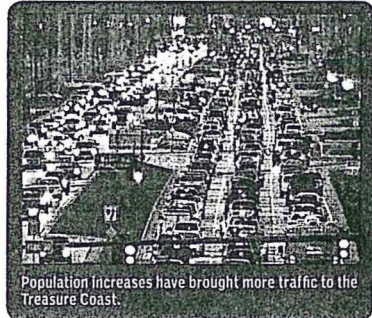
Level	2009	2000
Graduate or professional	6%	5.2%
Bachelor's	12%	9.8%
Associate's	8%	7%
High school/GED	35%	32.7%



Tony Damjanov, 18 (right) a senior at Port St. Lucie High School, gets guidance from his teacher Bryan Smith while editing a planning and zoning video for the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences while in the Jaguar Television Studios classroom in February 2010. Education and health care make up a large chunk of the Treasure Coast's work force.

## EMPLOYMENT

Industry	2009	2000
Construction	13%	10.9%
Retail	17%	16.5%
Education/health care	19%	18.3%
Arts/recreation	9%	9.4%



Population increases have brought more traffic to the Treasure Coast.

## POPULATION

Age	2009	2000
65-plus	20%	22.7%
45-64	25%	23%
25-44	24%	25.1%
Under 18	23%	22.6%
Under 5	6.3%	5.6%

## Area's population has passed half-million mark

By Keona Gardner  
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772-978-2231

**ST. LUCIE COUNTY** — The estimated population for the Treasure Coast has surpassed the half-million mark, and is younger and more diverse than it was in 2000, according to statistics from the American Community Survey released Tuesday morning.

The survey makes available estimates of social, economic, housing and demographic statistics for every community in the country. It replaces the former "long-form" census and uses information collected annually from 2 million households from 2005 through 2009. The numbers are not the 2010 census counts, which will be released in early 2011, but provides a more detailed snapshot than the decennial count.

It's estimated that St. Lucie County's population has increased to more than 250,000 people, compared with 192,695 people counted in the 2000 Census, records show.

And the age of the overall population is going down. Compared to the 2000 Census, it's estimated there are more people ages 45 to 64, and fewer over age 65. Children, particularly those under age 5, increased from just over 5 percent of the population in 2000 to more than 6 percent. Those under age 18 also increased, from just over 22 percent of the population in 2000

### ABOUT THESE STATISTICS

- American Community Survey estimates are based on data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau over a five-year time period. The estimates represent the average characteristics of population and housing between January 2005 and December 2009 and do not represent a single point in time.
- The numbers are not the 2010 census counts, but they provide a more detailed look at each community.
- Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers and TCPalm.com will use the information amassed to provide snapshots of what makes up our Treasure Coast communities, in a continuing series of stories, visual displays, and data. For more, visit [TCPalm.com/data/census](http://TCPalm.com/data/census).

to 23 percent in recent estimates.

The survey revealed the impact the recession has had on housing foreclosures. Vacant residential units increased from just a seventh of the population in the 2000 Census to almost a quarter of the current estimated population.

Yet, St. Lucie is the only Treasure Coast county in which the percentage of families and individ-

uals living in poverty is estimated to have decreased since the 2000 Census. About 8 percent of families and 12 percent of individuals in St. Lucie County are estimated to live in poverty, whereas in the 2000 census count, more than 9 percent of families and 13 percent of families lived in poverty.

Census officials define poverty based on the size of the family, age and estimated income threshold. Thresholds range from \$10,952 for one person, to \$44,188 for nine or more people.

The area also is becoming more ethnically diverse, records show.

The ethnic groups showing the most growth in all three Treasure Coast counties are the Hispanic and Asian populations.

Hispanics account for a seventh of St. Lucie's total population compared with just a tenth in 2000 Census. Meanwhile, the Asian population is estimated to have more than doubled from 1,800 in 2000 Census to more than 4,200, records show.

Those increases don't mean there's an influx of immigrants to the country, but ethnic groups could be moving from other parts of the state, University of Florida sociology and demography professor Tanya Koropecyk-Cox said.

"Traditionally, immigrants move to the larger cities, but this shows they are settling into

See SNAPSHOT, 3A

“Traditionally, immigrants move to the larger cities, but this shows they are settling into places that are further out. Maybe they want a better quality of life.”

Tanya Koropecyk-Cox, University of Florida sociology and demography professor

## LOCAL

### SNAPSHOT from 1A

places that are farther out," she said. "Maybe they want a better quality of life."

What's noteworthy is the county's ethnic population increase comes during the recession, when unemployment is high and jobs are scarce. However, the job outlook has to be compared to the area where the immigrant is leaving, Koropecyj-Cox said.

"People will move to the U.S. from another country or from another part of the state if they see a better prospect for themselves and their families," she said.

## HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES

In 2005-2009, there were 99,000 households in St. Lucie County. The average household size was 2.6 people.

Type	2005-2009	2000
Married-couple families	52%	55.3%
Other families	16%	15.2%
People living alone	25%	23.5%
Other non-family	6%	6%

Source: American Community Survey, 2005-2009

## POVERTY

In 2005-2009, 12 percent of people here were in poverty. Eighteen percent of related children younger than 18 were below the poverty level, compared with 8 percent of people 65 and older.

Age	2005-2009	2000
65 and older	8%	7.7%
Children younger than 18	18%	16.4%
All families	8%	9.6%
Female households	24%	31.7%

Source: American Community Survey, 2005-2009



# Many Treasure Coast residents off to Gov. Scott's inauguration

■ Some invited, some paying to attend historic event

**By Jim Turner**  
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772-692-8901

A number of Treasure Coast residents — in addition to elected officials — will be trekking to Tallahassee next week

to catch Gov.-elect Rick Scott's efforts to surround his inauguration with two days of festivities.

Some have received invites for their contributions to political campaigns during the past election.

Others have paid \$95 per ticket to attend the inaugural ball, as well as catch the rest of the pageantry, attend events and make connections. Scott's inauguration is Jan. 4.

"I am very interested in politics. This is like my

## INSIDE

A list of inaugural events and donors. **4A**

ultimate dream to go to something like this," said Landy Wade, an Indian River State College political science student from

See **SCOTT, 4A**

## SCOTT from 1A

Vero Beach.

Meanwhile, Ken and Marisol Guntkowski of Port St. Lucie, who got involved in local politics a little more than a year ago because of their concerns about the economy, are also headed northwest because of connections they made during the campaign.

With Marisol serving as the photographer for the Republican Club of St. Lucie County, they received tickets for a number of events through a contact with Scott's campaign.

While Marisol admits to being excited about watching the change in leadership at her first inaugural, her husband, a financial adviser, views the trip as a chance to

further see which direction the state is headed.

"The biggest concern is jobs and the economy," said Ken Guntkowski. "I do see businesses that are hurting right now. I'd like to hear what Rick Scott has to say for bringing down unemployment here in Florida. It would be great if he did make a big announcement, but I really don't know what to expect."

Dale Simchick, who has been to lobby in Tallahassee as a member of the Sebastian City Council, will be showing her husband, Ed, around the capital, as he will do when he returns in March chaperoning their son's fifth-grade class.

"I'm anxious to show him the capital and enjoy the new beginnings of our state hopefully going in a better

direction," said Simchick, who received tickets to the inaugural ball from state's chief financial officer-elect, Jeff Atwater.

Scott has collected nearly \$3 million from private donors — each paying up to \$25,000 — for the celebration that will include a candlelight dinner for the "Friends of the Inaugural" at Mission San Luis, prayer breakfast, parade and ball at the Leon County Civic Center.

Four years ago, Gov. Charlie Crist dumped plans for an inaugural ball, replacing it with a \$100-a-ticket barbecue outside the governor's mansion, in response to criticism of a high-flying affair at a time when mounting insurance costs and property taxes were the bane of homeowners and businesses.

**For Immediate Release**  
December 7, 2010

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305-216-6208

## FLORIDA CHARTER HIGH SCHOOLS EARN HIGH MARKS

**FLORIDA** – More than 68 percent of state’s public charter high schools earned either an “A” or “B” grade during the 2009-10 school year.

High school grades were released by the Florida Department of Education on December 7, 2010. Once driven completely by the results of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FACT), the state’s grading system for high schools now takes college readiness -- measured by graduation rates as well as participation and success on the SAT, ACT, and Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate courses – into account to determine school grades.

Here are some highlights from charter high schools around the state:

- Martin County - Clark Advanced outscored neighboring high schools in every category, achieving a score of 1,423.
- Miami Dade County - International Studies Charter High School in Miami-Dade was once again the highest performing charter school and among the top non-magnet programs in the county. Doral Academy Prep, Doral Performing Arts Charter High, Mater Academy, and Somerset Academy High School all earned an A.
- Hillsborough County - Brooks Debartolo Collegiate jumped from D to A.
- Lee County - Oasis Charter School maintained an A

“It is evident from these grades that many charter schools are helping students achieve academically,” said Robert Haag, President, Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools. “For more than decade, public charter schools have been a vital and thriving component of Florida’s K-12 public education system – giving families a quality education option and providing educators with the freedom to innovate and develop curriculum that matches the needs of the children they serve.”

Founded in 1999, the Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools (FCPCS) is a 501(c) charter school support organization. FCPCS provides a seamless system of support to member schools and helps promote the establishment and operation of high quality public charter schools through the development and implementation of focused statewide activities. There are currently more than 400 public charter schools in the state of Florida serving more than 150,000 students.

###



Wednesday, December 8, 2010 *Stuart News*

## State gives strong grades to Martin's high schools

Majority get 'A' grades despite change in grading formula this year

<b>VERO BEACH HIGH SCHOOL</b>  2010: B, 2009: B	<b>ST. LUCIE WEST CENTENNIAL</b>  2010: C, 2009: C	<b>FORT PIERCE WESTWOOD</b>  2010: D, 2009: D	<b>CLARK ADVANCED LEARNING</b>  2010: A, 2009: A
<b>SEBASTIAN RIVER HIGH SCHOOL</b>  2010: B, 2009: A	<b>PORT ST. LUCIE HIGH SCHOOL</b>  2010: C, 2009: D	<b>LINCOLN PARK ACADEMY</b>  2010: A, 2009: A	<b>JENSEN BEACH HIGH SCHOOL</b>  2010: A, 2009: A
<b>INDIAN RIVER CHARTER</b>  2010: B, 2009: A	<b>FORT PIERCE CENTRAL</b>  2010: C, 2009: D	<b>TREASURE COAST HIGH SCHOOL</b>  2010: B, 2009: C	<b>SOUTH FORK HIGH SCHOOL</b>  2010: A, 2009: B
<b>MARTIN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL</b>  2010: B, 2009: A	<p>“These results provide a true reflection of the hard work and dedication to student success that is taking place at each grade level in our high schools.”</p> <p><i>Nancy Kline, schools superintendent</i></p>		

By **Christin Erazo**  
christin.erazo@scripps.com  
772-223-4747

**MARTIN COUNTY** — The county's high schools received top scores, with the majority receiving A grades, despite a change in grading measures this year.

**Clark Advanced Learning Center** achieved an A with the highest scores in the county, while Martin County High School dipped slightly and earned a B.

South Fork High School earned an A, improving from last year's B.

Jensen Beach High School received an A.

“These results provide a true reflection of the hard work and dedication to student success that is taking place at each grade level in our high schools,” said Superintendent Nancy Kline, in a statement released by the Martin County school district.

Regarding Martin County High's slight decline, the release said the school “earned enough

### INSIDE

A breakdown of each Treasure Coast high school's grade. 4A

total points for an A, but was penalized one letter grade due to learning gains among students in its lowest quartile in reading.”

Final report cards based on last year's performance were released Tuesday by the Florida Department of Education. The new grading system, which pertains only to high schools, measures a school's performance 50 percent by the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test scores and the other half by new scholastic measures, to achieve a score that reflects a high school student's overall four-year performance.

Schools have the chance to earn a possible 1,600 points, with a minimum of 1,050 points for an A.

Factors considered in the new grading measures include

### GRADING FORMULA

The formula used to determine high school grades was altered this year to place an equal focus on student performance in advanced coursework, college readiness and graduation rates.

Previously, high school grades were released in the summer, along with grades for elementary and middle schools. Grades were based on student performance on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test.

The following details the new formula used to compile high school grades:

Half the grade is based on FCAT scores, 800 points possible

The remaining points are based on:  
**Graduation rate of all students:** 200 points possible

**Graduation rate of students considered to be at-risk — those students who scored a Level 2 or below on both sections of the FCAT in the eighth grade:** 100 points possible

**Student participation in accelerated courses, such as advanced placement or International Baccalaureate:** 200 points possible

**Student performance in accelerated courses:** 100 points possible

**Student performance on the reading section of a college-readiness test such as the ACT or SAT:** 100 points possible

**Student performance on the math section of the ACT or SAT:** 100 points possible. Schools may also earn up to 20 additional points in each component where there is improvement.

Schools may also lose 5 points in each component where there is a decline.

**Grade scale:**

**A:** Greater than or equal to 1,050 points

**B:** 990-1,049 points

**C:** 930-989 points

**D:** 870-929 points

**F:** Below 790 points

Source: Florida Department of Education

High School Grades

School name	FCAT points	Percent of students in advanced courses		Advanced courses performance rate		Graduation rate		At-risk graduation rate		Non-FCAT points	Total points
		2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010		
<b>MARTIN COUNTY</b>											
Clark Advanced Learning Center											
Clark Advanced Learning Center	640	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	97%	99%	97%	783	1423
Jensen Beach High	582	50	80	92	98	99	93	97	86	761	1343
Martin County High	539	67	82	100	100	93	91	75	76	733	1272
South Fork High	565	57	69	100	100	93	94	81	80	710	1275
<b>ST. LUCIE COUNTY</b>											
Fort Pierce Central High											
Fort Pierce Central High	441	32	43	86	96	74	76	67	72	550	991
Fort Pierce Westwood High											
Fort Pierce Westwood High	430	20	28	75	70	80	69	71	50	440	870
Lincoln Park Academy	592	90	82	98	85	100	100	100	100	725	1264
Port St. Lucie High	432	12	22	87	77	78	87	71	77	537	969
St. Lucie West Centennial High											
St. Lucie West Centennial High	467	32	23	65	82	92	90	82	81	519	986
Treasure Coast High	461	18	36	100	100	85	88	78	77	635	1096
<b>OKEECHOBEE COUNTY</b>											
Okeechobee High	408	23	42	100	86	72	74	50	55	588	996
<b>INDIAN RIVER COUNTY</b>											
Indian River Charter High											
Indian River Charter High	563	66	85	100	100	92	93	91	78	746	1309
Sebastian River High	500	30	78	100	86	88	88	75	71	672	1172
Vero Beach High	512	36	65	100	91	80	80	63	61	619	1131
<b>SOUTHERN BREVARD COUNTY</b>											
Bayside High School	537	40	59	89	93	94	95	87	93	722	1259

SCHOOLS from 1A

graduation rates, student participation and performance in accelerated coursework and student preparation for college through college standardized test scores.

Other considerations are a school's dedication to graduate students who did not pass eighth-grade FCAT reading and math, and making sure at-risk students progress.

Finally, if a school shows

vast improvement from one year to the next, it benefits the overall score.

But, if a school fails to improve the majority of its lowest FCAT-scoring students, the bottom 25 percent, the school can drop a whole letter grade — as was the case with Martin County High. In 2009, the school earned an A.

This year, Martin County earned 1,272 points, but dropped to a B.

"I think Martin County High absolutely did an excellent job," Kline

said. "The B is really the state's rating. The one-grade penalty represents a very small percentage of one particular category and doesn't represent the whole school."

South Fork High School's lowest-scoring students showed gains and it improved to an A with 1,275 points.

Jensen Beach High School and Clark Advanced Learning Center maintained their A grades.

Jensen Beach High scored 1,343 points, while

Clark Advanced, the county's charter school, outscored the other high schools in every category, achieving a score of 1,423.

These new grading measures were part of a 2008 mandate by the Florida legislature to fix how high schools were measured by putting less emphasis on the performance of underclassmen.

Kline said the district will adjust to the new grading and will see it as an opportunity to improve scores.

## Linda Syfrett named Trustee of the Year by Florida Assoc. of Community College

Linda Syfrett, who represents Okeechobee on the Indian River State College Board of Trustees, was recently honored as the 2010 Trustee of the Year by the Florida Association of Community Colleges. The award recognizes leadership and outstanding contributions in meeting the needs of students and the community.

Mrs. Syfrett has served on the IRSC District Board of Trustees from 1991 to 1999, serving as Chair from 1994 to 1996. She was reappointed in 2002 and currently serves as Chair of the Personnel Committee.

"Linda is a true advocate for higher education and sincerely dedicated to the expansion of educational opportunities for the residents of Okeechobee," said Dr. Edwin R. Massey, IRSC President. "She is an extremely valuable member of the IRSC Board of Trustees and an outstanding community leader."

Mrs. Syfrett played an integral role in the development of IRSC's Bachelor's Degree programs and expansion of occupational training. She was a staunch supporter of the fundraising campaign for the Williamson Conference and Education Center at the Dixon Hendry Campus, Okeechobee's first state-of-the-art venue for business conferences and community events.

As a strong supporter of the Indian River State College Foundation and as President of the Okeechobee Educational Foundation, she has provided many students with the opportunity to obtain a college education and achieve their dreams.

In addition to her work in higher education, Mrs. Syfrett is actively involved in the Okeechobee agricultural community. She is an Okeechobee County 4-H leader, member of the Okeechobee Youth Livestock Show Committee and active in the Florida State Fair Authority coordinating state and local fairs.

In addition to her work in higher education, Mrs. Syfrett is actively involved in the



Special to the Okeechobee News

**IRSC Trustee Linda Syfrett (second right), of Okeechobee, was congratulated for receiving the 2010 Florida Association of Community Colleges Trustee of the Year Award by (left to right) Michael Brawer, CEO/Executive Director of the Florida Association of Community Colleges (FACC); Dr. Edwin Massey, IRSC President and David Talley, FACC Trustees Commission Chair.**

Tribune 12-24-0

## IRSC marks decade of culture of leadership

Indian River State College is not only celebrating 75 years, they are also celebrating 10 years of cultural shift, said Tina Hart, vice president of Institutional Effectiveness.

Ten years ago, IRSC President Edwin Massey decided to create a culture of leadership at the college, Hart said.

The college began focusing on supporting its employees. In turn, they started to give more support to the goals of the college. As a result, Hart said, the people feel empowered. By empowering employees, graduation rates went up for associate degree students who went on to bachelor degree programs at four-year schools (bachelor degrees at IRSC are too new to calculate graduation rates.)

The college also started to earn recognition from groups around the country. And, in July, the college made the Honor Roll among Great Colleges to Work For. "Among colleges our size, we were right in the top 10 with

University of Michigan, Georgia Tech and Notre Dame," Hart said.

The Chronicles of Higher Education made the selection based on anonymous surveys of employees completed by the Chronicles.

The new culture makes employees give 110 percent, Hart said. The first day after Hurricane Frances ripped through the campus, employees were at the campus cleaning up debris and mopping floors. Their efforts got the college open while many other college campuses remained closed, Hart said with emotion.

"People buckle down in good times and bad," she added.

Like everyone else in the current economy, "We have had to make do with what we have," Hart said. "But instead of focusing on what we don't have, we focus on abundance."

"People take ownership when your culture is right," she said. "Otherwise, you can have their bodies but you can't have their souls."

## Colleges/Universities

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18 THROUGH FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2010

Indian River State College recently celebrated its 50th anniversary, and the school has gone a long way from a few buildings on what was once a landfill. The Fort Pierce college has ever-growing campuses across the region and continues to expand with new bachelor's degrees in business, education, nursing and digital media.

### **BARRY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION**

- Treasure Coast: 337 S.E. Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St. Lucie, 34984, (772) 871-8000, [www.barry.edu/ace](http://www.barry.edu/ace).

### **FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY**

- Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute: 5600 N. U.S. 1, Fort Pierce, 34946, (772) 242-2400, [www.fau.edu](http://www.fau.edu).

- Treasure Coast Campus: 500 N.W. California Blvd., Port St. Lucie, 34986, (772) 873-3300.

### **FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY**

- FSU Regional Medical School: 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce, 34981, (772)

464-0034; <http://med.fsu.edu/index.cfm?page=ftPierceRegional.home>.

### **INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE**

- Main Campus: 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce, 34981, (772) 462-4772, [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu).

- Mueller Campus: 6155 College Lane, Vero Beach, 32996, (772) 569-0333.

- IRSC Blackburn Educational Building: 3002 Avenue D, Fort Pierce, 34947, (772) 462-7100.

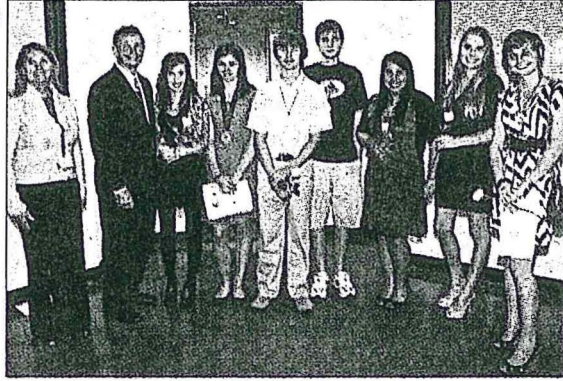
- Prima Vista Adult Education Center: 419 Irving St., Port St. Lucie, 34983, (772) 343-9553.

- St. Lucie West Campus: 500 N.W. California Blvd., Port St. Lucie, 34986, (772) 879-4199.

- Chastain Campus: 2400 S.E. Salerno Road, Stuart, 34997, (772) 419-5600.

- Indiantown Education Center: 15655 S.W. Osceola St., Indiantown, 34956, (772) 597-5130.

- Dixon Hendry Campus/Williamson Conference and Education Center: 2229 N.W. 9th Ave., Okeechobee, 34972, (863) 824-6000.



Submitted to TCPalm.com/YourNews

From left: Maria Mosley, executive director of Clark Advanced Learning Center; Dr. Edwin Massey, Indian River State College president; and Clark students Kara Russell, Meaghan McMahon, Trey Bomeisler, Joseph Rubano, Riha Wadhwa, Allison Orr, and Paige Turner, who were recently inducted into the Nu Iota Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society at IRSC.

## Students inducted into Phi Theta Kappa

**BY JEAN PATTON/IRSC**  
YourNews contributor

Seven Clark Advanced Learning Center students were recently recognized for their academic achievement by induction into the Nu Iota Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society at Indian River State College.

The Clark inductees were Trey Bomeisler, Meaghan McMahon, Allison Orr, Joseph Rubano, Kara Russell, Paige Turner and Riha Wadhwa.

These IRSC dual enrolled students achieved a 3.5 grade-point average or higher while carrying a full college course load.

During the induction ceremony, the students participated in the traditions of candle lighting (the symbol of knowledge), taking a white rose (symbolizing intellectual friendship), reciting the Phi Theta Kappa oath of membership, and signing the membership book.

Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in

American higher education with 1,200 chapters around the world and more than 2 million members since its founding in 1918.

Clark Advanced Learning Center students have an opportunity to complete one to two years of college at no cost through dual enrollment.

Students also engage in internships related to their interests and utilize technology in project-based learning.

A personal laptop computer is assigned to each student while in attendance at the school.

The Clark Advanced Learning Center is on the Indian River State College Chastain Campus, 2400 S.E. Salerno Road, in Stuart.

Applications are available now. For more information, call (772) 419-5750 or visit [www.clarkadvancedlearningcenter.org](http://www.clarkadvancedlearningcenter.org).

This story has been edited for space. For the full version, go to [TCPalm.com/YourNews](http://TCPalm.com/YourNews).



# Clark students inducted into Phi Theta Kappa

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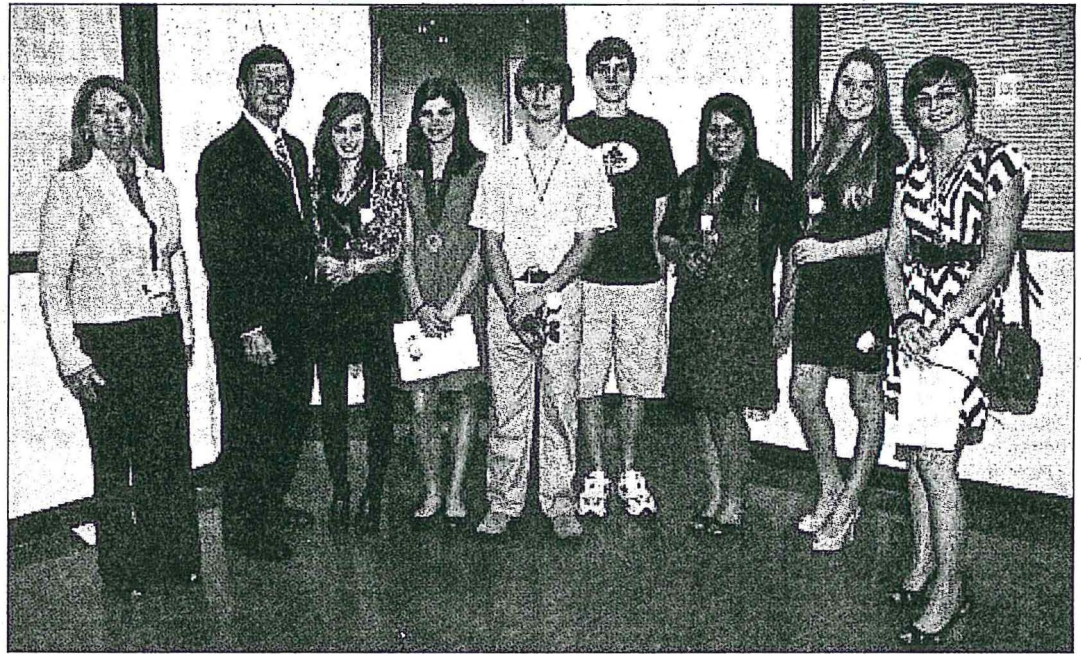
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## Indian River State College has given me hope for the future!

a serious student

**Pros** wide range of degrees available, easy application process, tutoring center on site

**Cons** not all classes available are convenient

**Indian River Community College** — I have been attending IRSC since June of 2008. I did not attend college out of high school, which I graduated in summer school in July of 1997. I am bright, but had other things I wanted to do after graduating. In April of 2008, the place I was working for closed, and I decided to take the opportunity to start college. Growing up I always wanted to be a designer of some sort. But I decided on the AS degree in Paralegal Studies. The advisor at IRSC is awesome! Her name is Meredith. She was so helpful. I had no idea where to start, what I needed, etc, and she walked me thru the whole process, which was simple.

I started with taking the placement test. From there, I took two classes on campus, starting with my required math and english. You can take classes in any order you prefer. soon after I started with online classes because I need more freedom. They are simple, and the instructors for my degree are excellent. Use [ratemyprofessors.com](http://ratemyprofessors.com), though, to be safe.

Class sizes aren't too bad. Most teachers give a break or two, and others let you go out when you want. Financial Aid was easy to apply for, as well as other grants and loans. I qualify for full Fin Aid, which is nice. Any money that isn't used comes to you in a check, and you don't pay taxes on it. So, I get paid to go to school! The amount has been cut recently, but I still get \$600 back for two classes, which is great because I am still unemployed from 2008.

It's never too late to go...two and four year degrees are available!

## CLARK ADVANCED LEARNING CENTER STUDENTS PROTECT ENDANGERED ECOSYSTEMS

Armed with cameras, measuring sticks, and sunscreen, twelve high school students from the Clark Advanced Learning Center gained hands-on experience evaluating Florida's ecosystem through field visits to the DuPuis Management Area in western Martin County. Students from the public charter high school on the Chastain Campus of Indian River State College, mapped the area, monitored growth of native vegetation, and documented plant diversity.

Squatting in a patch of saw palmetto, Clark junior Shailah Steck found Caesar weed, chalky bluestem, and rusty Lyonia, and left the patch with an important lesson, "There is actually more to what you see; you just have to get down and experience what's going on around you."

The students learned about the ecosystem with the assistance of staff from the South Florida Water Management District through the Legacy Project and Florida Center for Environmental Studies, which is run by Florida Atlantic University. It was their second visit to the 22,000 acre site as part of a dual enrollment class with Indian River State College, enabling the students to earn high school and college credits simultaneously. As part of the course, the students survey a section of the pine flatwoods ecosystem before the district shreds the growth and razes it in a controlled burn. The goal is to covert the property to its natural state by controlling vegetation growth and encouraging species diversity. The students will return twice after the burn to document how the land regenerates.



Clark Advanced Learning Center students gained hands-on experience evaluating Florida's ecosystem through field visits to the DuPuis Management Area in western Martin County.

"Through this experience our students understand the connections between science and nature," said Susan Roark, Assistant Director of the Clark Advanced Learning Center. "This is a unique opportunity for high school students to conduct real research which will be utilized by the South Florida Water Management District."

The Clark Advanced Learning Center, a national model public charter high school, serves about 220 high school sophomores, juniors and seniors with enriched learning opportunities, including internships, and personal attention in a small school setting. Clark students are able to earn college credits at no charge while still in high school through dual enrollment and each student is assigned a laptop computer to assist with research. The Clark Advanced Learning Center is located at the Indian River State College Chastain Campus in Stuart, FL. For more information, contact the Clark Advanced Learning Center at (772) 419-5750 or visit [www.clarkadvancedlearningcenter.org](http://www.clarkadvancedlearningcenter.org).

*Article submitted by Jean Patton, Institutional Advancement Department, Indian River State College  
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## South Tech Academy participates in funding Epilepsy Foundation

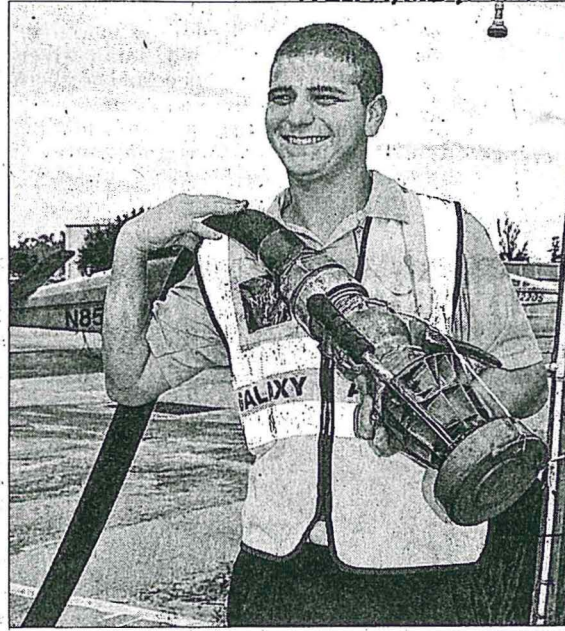


November was National Epilepsy Awareness Month. Once again South Tech Academy in Boynton Beach utilized its resources with the help of Sysco and Gordon Food Services, who donated the flour and eggs, to provide community awareness for the 360,000 Floridians diagnosed with this seizure disorder. The goal was for the Epilepsy Foundation to sell 360,000 cupcakes in November. The money provides those living with epilepsy the opportunity to receive the medical and support services they may need to live productive lives. South Tech's Culinary Academy baked 300 cupcakes as donations that sold at the Salsa Fest in Greenacres on November 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

*Article submitted by Suzanne O'Neil, Chef Instructor  
1300 SW 13th Ave, Room #210, Boynton Beach, FL 33426  
phone: 561-369-7004 ext 47119, fax: 561-369-7024*

## GOOD FOR YOU

*Stuart News 12-26-10*



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

With career plans of becoming a pilot, Nick Gangi, a senior at the Clark Advanced Learning Center, completed a 60-hour internship at Galaxy Aviation.

### *Stuart News 12-26-10* **Clark internships benefit students**

The internship program at the Clark Advanced Learning Center immerses the public charter high school's seniors in real-world experiences related to their career interests. This semester, students used sophisticated computer drafting to plot county parks, shipped specimens of marine life, assisted with aircraft servicing, handled varied duties in a veterinary practice, developed customer service skills, observed nurses in a hospital Labor and Delivery Department, worked with dental assistants and completed many other internship projects. The final requirement of the 18-week internship course is a Capstone Project, requiring each student to explain what was learned, and if the experience reinforced or changed his or her career plans.

Logan Shatters of Stuart assisted the Martin County Engineering Department, where he used his AutoCAD skills to create engineering templates and plot out a backstop and dugout for a community baseball field. The 17-year-old also assisted the Survey Division with field surveys. Shatters plans to go into the Naval Acad-

emy and focus on electrical engineering. As a result of the high school/college dual enrollment opportunities at the Clark Advanced Learning Center, he will graduate in May with an associate in arts degree, ready to continue his education as a college junior. The Clark is located on the Chastain Campus of Indian River State College (IRSC) and offers students the opportunity to earn high school and college credits simultaneously at no cost to their parents.

With the goal of becoming a pilot, 18-year-old Nick Gangi immersed himself in the airport environment at Galaxy Aviation, where he interned as a Line Service Technician. "Learning about the ground operations of airports was the most valuable thing for me," he said.

"I really enjoyed my time at Reefcleaners and learned a lot about customer service; I'm interested in a career in aquaculture," said Aaron Lay. The Palm City 17-year-old packaged marine invertebrates and macro algae shipped out by the firm to aquarium hobbyists to maintain healthy tank environments.

Thirty-three Clark Advanced Learning Center students each completed 60 internship hours during the Fall 2010 Semester, and another group of 44 will intern during the Spring 2011 Semester.

# Internships clarify career choices for Clark high school seniors

- Jean Patton - IRSC
- Posted December 16, 2010 at 10:43 a.m., updated December 16, 2010 at 10:44 a.m. TCPalm.com



IRSC

With career plans of becoming a pilot, Nick Gangi, a senior at the Clark Advanced Learning Center, completed a 60-hour internship at Galaxy Aviation.

STUART — Designed to help high school students decide “what I will do when I grow up,” the internship program at the Clark Advanced Learning Center immerses the public charter high school’s seniors in real-world experiences related to their career interests. This semester, students used sophisticated computer drafting to plot county parks, shipped specimens of marine life, assisted with aircraft servicing, handled varied duties in a veterinary practice, developed customer service skills, observed nurses in a hospital Labor and Delivery Department, worked with dental assistants and completed many other internship projects. The final requirement of the 18-week internship course is a Capstone Project requiring each student to explain what was learned, and if the experience reinforced or changed his or her career plans.

“My internship reinforced my desire to become a vet,” said Annie Washio, 17, of Palm City, who interned at Martin Downs Animal Hospital. “It’s good to see people caring for animals, and I also like the fact that as a vet you are a small business owner and independent.”

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The Clark is located on the Chastain Campus of Indian River State College (IRSC) and offers students the opportunity to earn high school and college credits simultaneously at no cost to their parents.

With the goal of becoming a pilot, eighteen-year-old Nick Gangi immersed himself in the airport environment at Galaxy Aviation where he interned as a Line Service Technician. "Learning about the ground operations of airports was the most valuable thing for me," he said.

"I got to see how dental assistants really care for their patients and are concerned for their health," said Sophia Monjaras, 17, who interned at Anchor Dental Practice. She plans to continue her education through the dental assisting or dental hygiene program at Indian River State College.

"I really enjoyed my time at Reefcleaners and learned a lot about customer service; I'm interested in a career in aquaculture," said Aaron Lay. The Palm City seventeen-year-old packaged marine invertebrates and macro algae shipped out by the firm to aquarium hobbyists to maintain healthy tank environments.

Desiree Daily interned on the Labor and Delivery floor of Martin Memorial Health Systems.

"I learned the ins and outs of patient care, the signs of true and false labor and how to monitor the fetal heart beat," she said.

Thirty-three Clark Advanced Learning Center students each completed 60 internship hours during the Fall 2010 Semester, and another group of 44 will intern during the Spring 2011 Semester. The Clark Advanced Learning Center, a national model public charter high school, serves about 220 high school sophomores, juniors and seniors with enriched learning opportunities such as internships and job shadowing, with personal attention in a small school setting. Clark students are able to earn college credits at no charge while still in high school through dual enrollment and students typically graduate with a least a year of college completed. Each student is assigned a laptop computer to assist with research.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2011/2012 school year. For more information, visit 772- 419-5750 or visit <http://www.clarkadvancedlearningcenter.org>.

*This story is contributed by a member of the Treasure Coast community and is neither endorsed nor affiliated with TCPalm.com*

Act, were achieved for the Everglades Agricultural Area and C-139 Basins and amendments were adopted to refine the Best Management Practice (BMPs) source control program for reducing phosphorus from the C-139 Basin.

In other efforts, the District secured \$60 million in state appropriations for environmental restoration, developed and adopted a comprehensive Strategic Plan for the Big Cypress Basin and successfully enrolled more than 26,000 acres of land in the Fisheating Creek Basin into the United States Department of Agriculture's Wetland Reserve Program.

#### Agency Management/Corporate Resources

Efficiency and public accountability are always at the forefront of District actions and initiatives. In 2010, the agency identified and implemented additional measures and improved business practices including revamping the budget development process with an emphasis on fixed overhead costs, baseline operations and funding ongoing costs with recurring revenues.

The use of "green" initiatives continue to reflect a multi-year decline in kilowatt and water usage, reducing the headquarters annual electric bill by more than \$200,000 and using 1.5 million fewer gallons of water (30.6% reduction).

The District was also recognized by the Government Finance Officers Association for excellence in financial reporting and distinguished budget presentation (18th consecutive year).

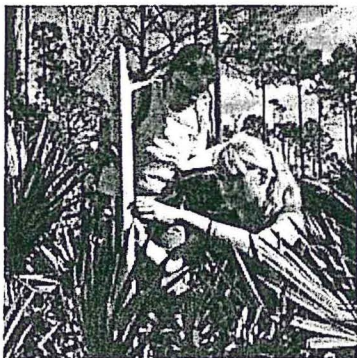
In carrying out its emergency management responsibilities, the Emergency Operations Center was activated in preparation for Tropical Storm Nicole utilizing new WebEOC computer information management software. In addition, all District structures have been evaluated for security assessments in accordance with Homeland Security guidelines and requirements.

For more information, see *Just the Facts: South Florida Water Management District 2010 Accomplishment Highlights*.

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## Legacy Takes Students Outdoors for Science Lessons

### *Hands-on education program introduces high school students to SFWMD public lands*



Students from two high schools recently experienced science in action through Legacy, a new South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) environmental education program. The hands-on program connects water resource and environmental education with land management activities by partnering local high schools with District-managed public lands.

Recently, Clark Advanced Learning Center students visited DuPuis Management Area, and Osceola County School of the Arts students visited the Reedy Creek Management Area, to collect information that will add to the knowledge and experience relied on by District land managers to make real-world decisions.

"Students who explore District lands through Legacy today will be stewards of these irreplaceable natural areas in the future," said SFWMD Governing Board Vice Chair Jerry Montgomery. "This program is about building connections between our youth and publicly owned lands that are vital to Florida's water resources and ecology."

Originally developed by the St. Johns River Water Management District, the Legacy program utilizes the SFWMD's expertise in land management, water resource and environmental science to create classroom-specific activities tailored to certain sites.

The goals of the program include:

- Strengthening the connection of District lands with water resource and environmental education
- Providing communities with new opportunities to benefit from public lands
- Enhancing environmental stewardship in youth
- Encouraging recreational use of public lands

"We hope this educational program creates a bond between students and these natural areas — and maybe even inspires some of them to become land managers," said Governing Board member Kevin Powers.

The 12 Clark Advanced Learning Center students participating in Legacy at DuPuis are taking an environmental science class through a dual-enrollment program offered by their school and Indian River State College. On their recent visit, the students were trying to determine what types of plants were growing within a one-square-meter sampling area thick with saw palmetto.

Osceola County School for the Arts students are participating in Legacy through the Osceola County Schools Environmental Study Center. From sampling areas at the site, students recorded details about gopher tortoise burrows, including their size and whether

they appeared to be active or inactive.

Information collected by students will help land managers at DuPuis and Reedy Creek build a picture of how habitats respond to management efforts, including prescribed burning, hydrologic restoration and exotic plant control.

"The cool thing is the professionals aren't doing it for us. They're helping us do it ourselves," said School for the Arts junior Rebeca Gurnica.

Through Legacy, students can interact with the environment in a way that inspires them to value South Florida's conservation lands and encourage others to do the same, said Dan Thayer, SFWMD Director of the Vegetation and Land Management Department.

The 22,000-acre DuPuis Management Area in western Martin County is one of four sites around the 16-county District that are part of the Legacy program in 2010-2011. The multi-use natural area is interspersed with numerous ponds, wet prairies, cypress domes, pine flatwoods and remnant Everglades marsh.

At the Osceola County Schools Environmental Study Center at Reedy Creek,

a riverine cypress swamp is located in the watershed of Reedy Creek, which connects Lake Russell to Cypress Lake and Lake Hatchineha. While floodplain swamp dominates, 13 additional communities, including rare dry prairie, mesic flatwoods and scrub are also found.

The other two Legacy sites for 2010-2011 are:

- Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW) Marsh – Lee and Collier Counties.
- Loxahatchee Impoundment Landscape Assessment (LILA) – Palm Beach County.

For more information on the Legacy program, please visit the District's Educational Programs website or read this fact sheet.

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## The 111th Christmas Bird Count Spotlights Wildlife Havens in Everglades Stormwater Treatment Areas

### *Public lands offer renowned opportunities for bird-watching and other recreation activities*



The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) recently joined with the Hendry-Glades Audubon Society on as the group conducted its portion of the 111th Christmas Bird Count in Stormwater Treatment Area-5 (STA-5) in Hendry County. It was the Hendry-Glades Audubon's fourth year conducting the count at STA-5.

The data collected during the annual counts — which span North America and beyond — are critical to studies of the long-term health and status of bird populations. Such data is used to protect birds and identify environmental issues with implications for people as well, according to Audubon.

STAs are the water-cleaning workhorses of Everglades restoration. They have become renowned havens for wildlife. The STAs, managed by the SFWMD, also provide the public with a variety of recreational opportunities, such as hiking, biking and excellent bird watching.

During the 110th Christmas Bird Count, Audubon teams in STA-5 and the surrounding area documented 96 species and more than 87,300 birds, including the all-time highest count of an individual species (2,800 Glossy Ibis and 2,100 Fulvous Whistling Duck) in the Christmas Bird Count within the United States. Results of the annual Christmas Bird Count are usually released in January.

The South Florida Water Management District is steadily increasing recreational access to public lands while continuing to manage them to support environmental restoration, water supply, water quality and flood control missions. At present, the District owns 621,000 acres of land that are open to the public. Many of these properties are in their natural state or have enhancements such as picnic tables, informational kiosks, campsites and hiking trails. For more information on recreational opportunities throughout the District's 16-county region, visit [www.sfwmd.gov/recreation](http://www.sfwmd.gov/recreation).

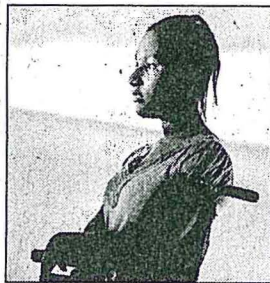
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## Two Habitat for Humanity Homes Certified by Florida Water Star *Stuart houses are the first in Martin County to receive the water-saving program's*





Seven Clark Advanced Learning Center dual enrolled students were recently inducted into the Nu Iota Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society at Indian River State College. From left: Maria Mosley, Clark executive director; Dr. Edwin Massey, TRSC president; Kara Russell, Meaghan McMahon, Trey Bomeisler, Joseph Rubano, Riha Wadhwa, Allison Orr and Paige Turner.



Joleine Labbe

**JOLEINE'S WISH:**

Joleine Labbe was in a tragic 2008 car accident that killed her mother and grandmother and left her paralyzed from the waist down. After months in the hospital, Joleine, a girl with an unsinkable spirit, wasted no time. She took online courses to make up her junior year. Instead of being home-schooled, she went back for

her senior year and finished by the middle of this summer. And she was accepted to Indian River State College, where she will begin four classes in January. She would like help with tuition expenses for her first year of college. Her father could use a wheelchair-accessible van to transport Joleine to her classes and appointments.

> Nominated by **Child Life Program of the Parent Child Center Inc.**, 5325 Greenwood Ave., Suite 309, West Palm Beach, FL 33407. (561) 727-1043.

FROM BEACH POST 12.17.2010

**CLARK ADVANCED LEARNING CENTER**

**Seven Clark students** were recently recognized for their academic achievement through induction into the Nu Iota Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society at Indian River State College.

Inductees were Trey Bomeisler, Meaghan McMahon, Allison Orr, Joseph Rubano, Kara Russell, Paige Turner and Riha Wadhwa.

**Yearbooks are \$65** through Friday.

**Final exams are under way** and continue through Friday.

FROM BEACH POST 12.16.2010

# Sebastian man is among four who escaped high-seas disaster

## Men survive ship explosion by boarding smaller boat

By James Kirley  
jim.kirley@scripps.com  
772-978-2363

VERO BEACH — When Jeremy Donaldson of Sebastian was invited to sail the Caribbean and earn money over Thanksgiving break, the Indian River State College student jumped at the chance to “see something new, learn something different.”

Thursday, he and three other crewmen from the 118-foot ship Nelson arrived on the tiny island of Dominica, located about halfway between Peurto Rico and the northern coast of Venezuela.



Jeremy Donaldson of Sebastian holds a mahi-mahi caught aboard the Nelson with crewman Kenneth Rudnick, before the vessel sank.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO.

They were aboard the 40-foot fishing boat Roamer, which they had been towing behind the Nelson to new owners in Granada, a Caribbean island south of Dominica.

An explosion three days earlier, however, had sunk the Nelson, and the men survived by boarding the smaller boat.

There, they lived on short rations and listened on the boat’s radio as the

U.S. Coast Guard searched a 3,600-square-mile area for them. They couldn’t reply because the boat’s radio transmitter was broken.

Without a fuel gauge and not trusting the boat’s navigation gear, they motored east towards a chain of islands that was their best chance of making landfall before being swallowed by the open Atlantic Ocean.

See **DISASTER, 8A**

## DISASTER from 1A

Saturday, 14 hours after flying into Miami, Donaldson reflected on survival.

“You look at life a lot differently,” he said. “A lot of stuff doesn’t seem so bad. You’re more appreciative.”

Donaldson got a berth on the Nelson after helping a friend’s father load the Roamer with fishing gear.

Since departing Port Canaveral on Nov. 21, Donaldson had been in more-or-less constant communication with his mother, Bonnie Peterson Carmine of Vero Beach.

“He was phoning me and texting me whenever he could get a (cellular) signal,” she said. “He had been calling me at least every other day, and sometimes more than once a day.”

Those messages stopped Nov. 28.

“On Wednesday, at 6:50 p.m., I sent him a text,” said Carmine. It asked, “Are you OK? Where are you? I miss you. I

love you.” She got no reply.

“I was starting to worry big-time,” Carmine said. “I got very little sleep Wednesday night.”

She got a phone call 10 a.m. Thursday from a phone number she didn’t recognize. It turned out to be a Dominica Coast Guard station.

“He said, ‘Hey Mom’ — which was great, to hear his voice — ‘I’m OK. The boat sank. Can you get me a plane ticket home from Dominica?’”

According to the Coast Guard, there was an explosion aboard the Nelson that sank the vessel.

Donaldson said a cargo container loaded with oxygen and acetylene welding gases on the Nelson’s aft deck exploded. No crew was injured, he said, but the Nelson was “just a mess.”

“The boat was taking on a lot of water into the engine room,” Donaldson said. “We know that we had to do something to survive.”

The crew scrambled to gather pro-

visions, then hauled in the tow line to the Roamer. Seas were high and several attempts to hook a line between the Nelson’s life raft and the smaller boat failed.

Donaldson said that’s when he jumped off the Nelson’s stern, grabbed the Roamer’s bow and muscled himself aboard. He then hauled the life raft and its three passengers alongside.

Soon afterwards, the Nelson sank.

The Coast Guard in Miami intercepted a signal from a small battery-powered device that signals satellites when a vessel is in distress. It indicated the Nelson was lost 130 miles south of St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The Coast Guard launched a search jet out of Miami. The crew of a cutter diverted to the area found the Nelson’s life raft and radio beacon — but no sign of the either boat or crew, according to a Coast Guard press release.

# Cholera claims Vero Beach woman's grandmother

Posted: 11/29/2010

Last Updated: 19 hours and 59 minutes ago



• By: Jon Shainman

VERO BEACH, Fla. - Lusana Borge looks at the one black and white picture she has of her grandmother Eclaircenia St. Hilaire. When Borge last spoke to St. Hilaire, she was in perfect health.

"When I go to Haiti, she dance with me, she laughed with me," said Borge,

But Sunday night, Borge got the tragic news her grandmother died.

"She didn't know what water to drink and not drink. So she drunk bad water and she died."

The 80-something year-old St. Hilaire died from cholera, an intestinal infection she picked up by drinking water that had been contaminated by feces.

"They don't have TV, no phones. So word doesn't get out there where everybody sees it on TV don't drink the water, she doesn't get that word," Borge said.

Borge lost her mother at age five and spent her childhood bouncing between homes in Fort Pierce and Vero Beach. Her grandmother was the closest person she had to a maternal figure. "So when I go to Haiti and get a hug from my Grandma, it means something."

Cholera is easily treated but the current situation in Haiti means there are many challenges getting help to the sick.

One organization that gets those much needed supplies to Haiti is Missionary Flights International. Based at the St. Lucie County Airport, at least two flights from there head to Haiti each week.

Dick Snook says while the airports are secure, demonstrations after this weekend's elections could bring new issues.

"The missionaries can't travel or the doctors can't travel. We key off their input. If it's not a safe day to travel, we stay home and wait until it is," said Snook.

Borge is working hard to make sure others don't meet the same fate as her grandmother. This mother of three is a home health aide and a medical student at Indian River State College. "To know that I lost her over clean water, is frustrating."

Borge is trying to scrape together enough money for a plane ticket to Haiti and to help bury her grandmother. If you'd like to help, you can call (772) 501-9098.

# SAY LUMINARIES

luminaries@scripps.com



*Scripps Luminaries 12-13-10*  
**St. Lucie County**

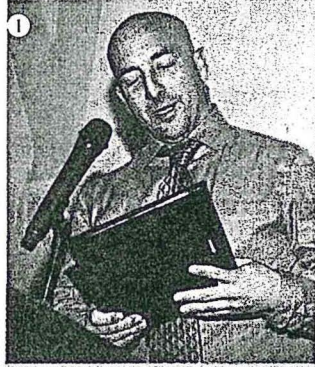
## Night of Heroes December 4, 2010

Presented by The Van Duzer Foundation, "Night of Heroes" was a celebration of volunteerism in its purest form. From donating time to monthly fundraisers to donating - literally - gallons of blood to Florida's Blood Centers, St. Lucie County residents were honored and recognized for their commitment to community at this first ever event.

The much-anticipated naming of the winner of the 2010 Blood Bowl, a contest of local teams striving to donate the most blood during the Nov. 3 "Be a Hero Day" blood drive, was handled by none other than famed Miami Dolphins Coach Don Shula; still the only undefeated coach in the NFL.

"Too many people think, 'Someone else will do it,' but you've done it," Coach Shula said as he presented the gi-normous Blood Bowl trophy to the Boys & Girls Club of St. Lucie County.

- ① Jimmy "Fish" Fisher is overcome with emotion as he accepts the Van Duzer Foundation Volunteer of the Year award.
- ② Joseph and Robyn Scotto with Coach Don Shula
- ③ Brenda Stokes of Boys & Girls Club of St. Lucie County accepts the Blood Bowl from Coach Don Shula.
- ④ Don Aussiker (second from left), a resident of St. Lucie County who has donated more than 64-gallons of blood to Florida's Blood Centers, is congratulated by Scott Van Duzer and FBC's Alicia Pritchard and Mike Pratt.
- ⑤ Foundation board member Tony Schwab presents a plaque of recognition to IRSC president Dr. Edwin Massey.
- ⑥ Scott Van Duzer, Jr., and Jordan Van Duzer with Gramma Pat Van Duzer
- ⑦ Families that have been assisted through funds raised by the Van Duzer Foundation stand with Scott Van Duzer.



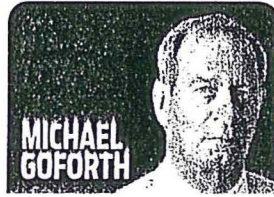
## Honoring those who make our county, and our lives, better

It is that time of year when I present my annual list of the "beautiful people" of St. Lucie County, those talented, generous and caring people who daily put their hearts and talents into making this a better community in which to live.

This 14th-annual unscientific, totally biased and incomplete list seeks, in a small way, to recognize some of the people among us who work in front of and behind the scenes, who are role models in their passion and commitment. We would not be the community we are without their dedication.

**ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT:** This year my list includes John Wilkes, Colleen Nash Becht, Michele Anastasio, Jernie Talles, Kathleen Fredrick, R.L. Freeman Davenport, Ron "Doc" Grober, Michael Horowitz, James Gibson and other Highwaymen, Anita Prentice, Pat Cochran, Josephine Lawson, Patty McGee, Ashley Vickers, Ginny Piech Street, the Avenue D Boys and Girls Choirs, Jose H. Garofalo, Bob "Laff" and Leslie Lafferandre and the Ken Pruitt Boys and Girls Club band.

**EDUCATION:** The list of "beautiful people" in education includes Anita Neal,



COLUMNIST

Eddie Widder, Wendy Dwyer, Robin Dannahower, Jon Bell, Charles Cuomo, Jill Roberts, Lisa Stewart, Erick Gill, Dawn Jones, Michael Nash, Amy Dahan, Daryl Bey, Christine Epps, Samuel Patterson, Pamela and Richard Houghton, Mary and Earl Hendricks, Ginger King, Janie Gould, Joe Crankshaw, Keith Andersen, Al Bernetti, Anthony Westbury, Carol Nilson, Jackie Holfelder and Michelle Abaldo. ✓

**COMMUNITY ACTIVISM:**

There are visionaries within the community who lead us into the best of our potential. They take personally the challenges of the community and use their positions and talents to make this a better place.

My "beautiful people" in the area of community activism include Terri Palumbo, Sean Boyle, Charles Grande, Doug Coward, Sandi and Dick Hellstrom, Doug Anderson, Sean Baldwin, Hazel Hoyleman, George L. Jones,

Carol and Greg Wyatt, Barbara and Dave Miller, Christine Coke, Chris Dzadovsky, Larry Pelton, Doris Tillman, Diane Trabulsky, Suzanne Dannahower, Katherine McClure, Pam and Gary Gillette, Eileen Emery, Larry Clancy, Bob Davis, Karen Knapp, Joe Smith, Jon Ward, Arden Peck, Pam and Mike Cully, Veronica Tempone, Anne Satterlee, Carole Mushier, Maria Creel, T.A. Wyner, Britt Reynolds and Margaret Benton.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

My choices this year for the "beautiful people" in the area of community service are Larry Lee Jr., Wyn Burns, Audrey Knapp, Darrell Drummond, Dick Boyd, Sydney and Mel Liebman, Jay Apicella and Cris Adams.

**HALL OF FAME:** This will be the eighth year that I've named individuals to my "beautiful people" Hall of Fame for a lifetime of service to the community.

New members this year are Gloria Grimyser, for her tireless work for a better Fort Pierce; Gerald Pierone, for his incredible commitment to the fight against AIDS; and Scott Van Duzer, who in relatively short time has achieved what for others would be considered a lifetime of

success in fundraising for the community through his nationally recognized foundation.

I congratulate these inductees to the Hall of Fame, where they join previous inductees Zanobia Jefferson, Carlos Barrera, Helen Terry, Vern Melvin, Judi Miller, Bud Adams, Anne Wilder, Dorothy Brennan, Pat Alley, Strelsa Schrieber, Anne Abood, Ada Coats Williams, Betty Lou Wells, Carl Junker, Zora Neale Hurston, A.E. "Bean" Backus, Gertrude Walker, Gloria Moore, Ed Massey, Kathryn Hensley, ✓ Jim Holmes, Haver "Coach" Fenn, "Corky" Behncke, Bob Betcher, Olive Dame Peterson, Doug Anderson, Gerri McPherson and Ossie Wright.

My lists, as I say each year, are very incomplete. There are many, many more "beautiful people" in this community. It is my hope that those who know such people will tell them that they, too, are appreciated.

And take time today to thank the "beautiful people" in your own lives.

For more on St. Lucie County, follow Goforth's blog at [tcpalm.com/goforth](http://tcpalm.com/goforth). Contact him at (772) 409-1332 or [michael.goforth@scripps.com](mailto:michael.goforth@scripps.com).

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Special to the Okeechobee News/Devin Maxwell  
12-8-10

## Economic Council

Members of the Economic Council of Okeechobee (ECO) were presented with information from Sam Smith, Provost of the Indian River State College Dixon-Hendry Campus in Okeechobee during their meeting on Dec. 1. Chairwoman Libby Maxwell and Treasurer Jon Geitner were recognized for their contributions to the organization. Also pictured is Tara Minton, ECO executive director. Donna Helton (not pictured) was also recognized for serving on the Economic Council Board of Directors.

# Understanding your new role as a leader

You got the job. Congratulations. Your new position may also require that you lead, supervise or manage a group of people while striving towards goals or specific thresholds that will move your organization forward. Or perhaps you've been in a leadership role for a period of time and have noticed a sense of complacency in your business that coincides with lackluster results?

Your greatest source of innovation and creativity is right in front of you. It walks through the door every morning, fully equipped to play a part. Each one of your direct reports bring to the workplace a unique set of strengths and talents that collectively have the potential to take your business, organization or department to the next level. As the leader it may seem counter-intuitive to realize that you do not have to be the sole source of all the answers and ideas for the company. To the contrary, your most important role is to create the conditions that will unleash what's percolating just below the surface of your workforce. Your authority will actually be enhanced by orchestrating opportunities for your people to contribute.

Your job is to inspire. You must make time to prepare, think, listen, read, research, and anticipate what's approaching that might impact your organization. This preparation will enable you to share new angles, novel approaches and fresh food for thought from a 40,000-foot view. The foundation you verbally create will trigger innovative ideas from your people, connecting resources and opportunities for the future. This is leadership. The next important step is to make time and space for "group think." Busy schedules filled with seemingly urgent "to-do tasks" discourage digging deeper. To maximize the talent on your team, you must make the time for free-flowing exchange and encourage the input of all. The innova-



tion and creativity that will result from making this a regular priority will amaze you. Be clear in communicating your expectations.

Instill in your employees the desire to "be the one" for your organization or department. It's very meaningful for people in the workplace to assume the role of go-to person for a particular skill set, expertise or talent. This suggestion will encourage profound self-reflection and result in passionate ownership and desire for improvement in your direct reports.

Many leaders have a knack for hearing the unspoken and sensing the feelings of others even if they don't match the spoken word. Utilize these skills to "check it out" when you sense something is incongruent with an employee. Encourage and value transparency in the workplace and practice it as a leader.

Feedback is the most profound vehicle for change. Your direct reports are the best source of honest feedback about your leadership effectiveness. These are the people with whom you work alongside for hours each day and they tend to be "spot-on" in providing the most accurate suggestions for improvement. Initially they are most comfortable providing feedback anonymously. Over time, as transparent practices become a natural part of day-to-day operations, comfort levels will increase. Employees will come to appreciate your receptivity and respect your desire to grow as their leader.

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*Christina T. Hart, Ph.D., is vice president of Institutional Effectiveness for Indian River State College. She may be reached at (772) 462-4703 or e-mail [chart@irsc.edu](mailto:chart@irsc.edu). IRSC's Office of Institutional Effectiveness is responsible for grants development, strategic planning, employee development, accountability, and accreditation, and acts as Federal liaisons.*



## National Perspective Presented at ACTE Convention

Assistant Secretary Brenda Dann-Messier opened the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) 2010 Convention in Las Vegas on Dec. 2, welcoming over 5,000 participants by providing both a national perspective on and a new direction for CTE. Dann-Messier also delivered an imperative to the audience of educators, policy makers, and industry representatives to align education and skills to workforce needs, emphasizing that implementation of career pathways is integral to the process. During the conference Dann-Messier and Sharon Miller, director of OVAE's Division of Academic and Technical Education, conducted three CTE Community Conversations on the current and future Perkins legislation to help all students achieve college- and career-readiness and success.

In addition, Elizabeth Livings-Eassa, on loan to OVAE from Indian River State College, led a panel on the recently awarded grant program, Promoting Rigorous Career and Technical Education Programs of Study (RPOS). Panelists shared their applications and expectations for implementing their projects. The states and clusters represented were: Arizona – education; Kansas – science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); Maryland – automotive technology; Montana – construction; Utah – health science; and Wisconsin – manufacturing. The work of the grantees will be disseminated nationally.

## Russella Davis-Rogers Joins OVAE

Russella L. Davis-Rogers joined OVAE in November as a confidential assistant to the assistant secretary. Davis-Rogers particularly enjoys working with youths, and has been volunteering in their behalf since the age of 15, when she first served as a Big Sister. She has served as a Court Appointed Special Advocate for abused and neglected children in Detroit. Davis-Rogers was a project coordinator for the nonprofit organization buildOn, motivating students to perform community service and raising funds to build schools in underserved countries in Africa and Central America. She is a published author whose first work, *And We Fell Out Laughin'*, is a collection of short stories from her childhood.

In 2008, Davis-Rogers received the Barack Obama Organizing Fellowship in then-Senator Barack Obama's presidential campaign in Detroit. She was then hired as a field organizer responsible for a Detroit region with over 45,000 constituents. Davis-Rogers also served on the scholarship selection committee for the Coleman A. Young Foundation, and as a lecturer on racism and sexism. She is a Spirit of Detroit recipient—the highest honor bestowed on citizens of Detroit for exceptional achievement and leadership towards improving the quality of life for the city through community service.

Most recently, Davis-Rogers served as Metro-Detroit regional field director for Organizing for America, the grassroots arm of the Democratic National Committee, the liaison to state and national leadership for Michigan's 13th and 14th Congressional Districts.



## Duncan, Dann-Messier Kick off GED Pilot, Meet Students in Manhattan

Secretary Arne Duncan shared a clear message with adult students from District 79's adult education program on Dec. 9, at an alternative school in New York City: "It's important to keep going. Don't stop!" Secretary Duncan and Assistant Secretary Dann-Messier, along with New York's Mayor Bloomberg and Chancellor Klein, visited Mid-Manhattan Adult Learning Center to kick off a pilot test of new types of GED test items aligned with emerging national standards. They then met with adult students for whom attaining a GED certificate was a game-changer in their lives.

Two young men told the secretary that the GED became a turning point in their lives after they immigrated to the United States from the Dominican Republic. "Now, I can see my future—before I wasn't serious—I didn't care," said one. A 49-year-old mother of three told of going on to college after passing the GED. Her sons graduated from college and she wanted them to be proud of her. She is completing her studies to become a teacher. Another student was 21-year-old man, who had spent two years in prison. After passing the GED exam, he enrolled in college to become a social worker and now aspires to start his own nonprofit group to help inmates re-enter society. He told the secretary, "People do not know how to look for help. Males are scared to look for help."

Duncan affirmed the importance of these success stories for others who also need to return to school. "They need to find other people like themselves who have done it. They need to see that they can reach it, too," he said.

***OVAE Connection wishes everyone happy holidays for the next two weeks! We will see you on Jan. 6, 2011.***

# Clark Advanced Learning Center staff earns Character Counts! grants

BY JEAN PATTON  
YourNews contributor

Two Clark Advanced Learning Center staff recently received Character Counts! mini-grants for their proposals in support of positive behavior among high school students.

Character Counts! is a character education program sponsored by the United Way in Martin County. In its fourth year, Character Counts! grants totaling \$10,000 are awarded to district personnel, schools, individual teachers and staff for supporting and enhancing the Character Counts! program. The mini-grants help with the implementation of awareness projects in literacy, positive behavior, anti-bullying, and physical education.

The two Clark Advanced Learning Center recipients receiving grants totaling \$800 are:

- Leslie Kandefer for "The Heart of Art, It's All About Character."
  - Linda Jaskela for "Character is Everyone's Business."
- Kandefer, of Tequesta, has been



Submitted to [tcpalm.com/yournews](http://tcpalm.com/yournews)  
From left: Susan Roark, assistant director of Clark Advanced Learning Center; Ariana Martinez, Clark student; Leslie Kandefer, school counselor; Linda Jaskela, career specialist; and Holly Laiben, United Way of Martin County.

employed at the Clark Advanced Learning Center for four years and is the Clark School Counselor. She earned a master's degree in

education from Florida Atlantic University. Jaskela, of Palm City, has been employed at the center for three

years as a career specialist and earned a bachelor's degree of liberal arts from Barry University. In addition, Clark student Ariana Martinez assisted Kandefer with the idea for her proposal.

Clark Advanced Learning Center students have an opportunity to complete one to two years of college at no cost through dual enrollment.

Students also engage in internships related to their interests and utilize technology in project-based learning.

A personal laptop computer is assigned to each student while in attendance at the school. The Clark Advanced Learning Center is on the Indian River Chastain Campus, 2400 S.E. Salerno Road, Stuart.

Applications are available now. For more information, call 772-419-5750 or visit [www.clarkadvancedlearningcenter.org](http://www.clarkadvancedlearningcenter.org).

This story has been edited for space. For the full version, go to [TCPalm.com/YourNews](http://TCPalm.com/YourNews).

# 14 Character Counts! doles out \$10,000 in mini-grants

YOUR NEWS • MARTIN COUNTY • WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2010

**BY JUSTIN BEARD**  
YourNews contributor

United Way of Martin County's Character Counts! program recently awarded 20 Martin County School District teachers with mini-grants.

"For the past four years, the Character Counts! mini-grants have helped reinforce and support the character education lessons our teachers and school staff are teaching our children every day," said Holly Laiben, Character Counts! director. "It's evident that our children are learning those lessons by understanding and recognizing the Six Pillars of Character.

"For example, when they

hear 'respect' they know it means that we all need to be considerate of others' feelings, to deal peacefully with disagreements, and not to threaten or hurt anyone.

This year's winners are:

- Clark Advanced Learning Center, Leslie Kandefer – The Heart of Art, It's All About Character.

- Clark Advanced Learning Center, Linda Jaskela – Character is Everyone's Business.

- Hidden Oaks Middle School, Julie Carreiro – Show Us How and We'll Show You the Character Inside us.

- Hidden Oaks Middle School, Michael Dailey and the PBS Team – Caught Ya' ... Being Good ... Again.

- Hobe Sound Elementary, Anne Wheeler and the 2nd Grade Team – Junie B Jones Teaches Second Graders About Character.

- Hobe Sound Elementary, Julie Thill-Stellman – HSE Flips Outs with Good Character.

- Hope Rural School, Jessica McGaha – Increasing Awareness through Art.

- Jensen Beach High School, Andrea Levy – Peer Mentoring Anti-Bullying Awareness Campaign.

- J.D. Parker School of Science, Math & Technology, Brian Hayden – CHARACTER COUNTS! Community Art Banner.

- J.D. Parker School of Science, Math & Technology, Emily Gallo – It's Cool

to Show Good Character at J.D. Parker.

- Martin County High School, Glenn Wells and Dorcas Boucher – Teens that Read 'Reality' Internalize 'Real' Character.

- Martin County High School, Jamie Herd-Tesson and PBS Team – Respect at MCHS.

- Murray Middle School, David Axton and Annie Galland – Good Character Counts!

- Pinewood Elementary, Jennifer Holbrook – Create the Plate: Infuse the Curriculum.

- Pinewood Elementary, Jennifer Holbrook – Feeding the Soul Builds Strong Character.

- Pinewood Elementary,

Samantha Horsfield – Second Step Family Guide.

- Port Salerno Elementary, Diane Gumbinner – Positive Points at Port Salerno Elementary.

- SeaWind Elementary, Andrea Colasanti – Don't Get Heated!

- Warfield Elementary, Alison Bayko and Lori Smith – Have You Filled a Bucket Today?

- Warfield Elementary, Elaine Zumsted – Learning While Moving: Character Counts!

Call (772) 283-4800 or visit [www.charactercounts.net](http://www.charactercounts.net) for more information.

This story has been edited for space. For the full version, go to [TCPalm.com/YourNews](http://TCPalm.com/YourNews).

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## School staff receive mini-grants

Excellent!  Rating: ☆☆☆☆☆ (0 votes) [ShareThis](#)

Posted: 2010 Dec 07 - 23:47

For Hometown News

MARTIN COUNTY - Two Clark Advanced Learning Center staff received CHARACTER COUNTS! mini-grants for their proposals in support of positive behavior among high-school students.

CHARACTER COUNTS! is a character education program sponsored by the United Way in Martin County.

In its fourth year, CHARACTER COUNTS! grants totaling \$10,000 are awarded to district personnel, schools, individual teachers and staff for supporting and enhancing the program.

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Clark Advanced Learning Center is located at the Indian River Chastain Campus, 2400 S.E. Salerno Road in Stuart. Applications are available now.

For more information, call (772) 419-5750 or visit [www.clarkadvancedlearningcenter.org](http://www.clarkadvancedlearningcenter.org).

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# Restaurant receives new look, menu

By Dawn Krebs 12-11-10  
dkrebs@hometownnewsol.com

PORT ST. LUCIE — For residents who want a delicious meal without driving too far, the search has ended.

Grill on the Green, a restaurant formerly known as Bistro at the Saint's Golf Club, has new management, a new menu and an attitude toward food that puts the customer first.

Jane Rowley and her husband, Gene, who have been married 52 years, took ownership of the business Sept. 1, and changes have been made both in the look of the restaurant and the food.

"We painted the dining room and added artwork," Mrs. Rowley said.

As for the food, Mrs. Rowley wanted to give customers a more diverse selection to choose from, adding special touches along the way.

For example, the restaurant now offers a Sunday breakfast buffet from 7:30

a.m. to noon every week, and the lunch menus offer variety, as well.

"Our lunches are a real combination of what people would like," she said. "We have everything from an Asian salad to a fresh corned-beef sandwich. The chef corns the beef himself."

In addition to the lunch menu, daily specials are offered.

"We realize that people can get bored with the same food, so we try to have different specials every day," she said.

But there was no getting bored with the tuna fish sandwich I tried.

Fresh tuna was piled high on lightly toasted bread. Savory spices gave the sandwich some depth, and small flakes of carrots and other vegetables added both color and flavor. It was served with hot, crispy French fries sprinkled lightly with seasoning, and homemade coleslaw.

See **GRILL, B3**



Staff photo by Dawn Krebs

Jane Rowley enjoys lunch in her new restaurant, Grill on the Green at the Saint's Golf Course in Port St. Lucie. The restaurant is open for breakfast and lunch every day, and for dinners from 5-8 p.m. on Fridays.

# Grill

From page B1

But it was dinner that won me over.

Arriving with my companion on Friday night, we were greeted by tropical music being played live. It was enjoyable to listen to, and just loud enough to hear and still be able to hold a conversation.

Our friendly waitress brought us warm rolls with chilled butter while we looked at the menu.

We started off with an appetizer of conch fritters, with homemade "boom-boom" sauce. They were fried perfectly, with chunks of conch, and the sauce had the perfect amount of heat to balance the fritter.

I ordered roasted loin of pork, topped with mushrooms and a red wine demi sauce. It came with roasted potatoes, sautéed vegetables and a salad.

My guest ordered the whitefish Parmesan, crusted

with Panko crumbs, pan-fried and topped with tomato sauce over a bed of sautéed spinach. He also ordered the seafood chowder.

The salad came out overflowing with carrots, cucumbers, red onions and a variety of croutons. The soup was amazing; chunky with pieces of seafood and vegetables, sprinkled with dill and served with crostini.

After all that, we almost didn't have room for our dinners, and were pleasantly surprised at the large portions that arrived at our table.

The pork was tender and juicy, and the vegetables were crispy, blending perfectly with the sauce and the mushrooms.

The whitefish was flaky and the crust held up well under the homemade sauce, which boasted large pieces of tomato. The sautéed spinach had a wonderful punch of garlic.

Then dessert arrived, and we found we had room for

just a little bit more.

The Italian cream cake came drizzled in raspberry sauce, and the balance of the sauce with the rich chocolate crème makes this dessert a winner.

Mrs. Rowley said the Friday night menu offers something different every week.

"The chef creates dishes based on what is freshest that week for fish and vegetables," she said.

The hard work and dedication put into the meal preparation was evident, and we will definitely be back to try more from the dinner menu.

Mrs. Rowley is no stranger to hard work. She currently balances running the restaurant with her community relations work for both Lawnwood Regional Medical Center and St. Lucie Medical Center. She also serves on the board of Big Brothers/ Big Sisters and the Indian River State College board of trustees.

She was awarded the Pres-

ident's Volunteer Service award on Dec. 4 at the "Night of Heroes" at the PGA Learning Center in Port St. Lucie.

"I think it's important to give back the community," she said.

A banquet room that can hold up to 140 people is available for parties, luncheons, weddings and dinners. Huge windows overlook the golf course.

"There are not too many places to have a meeting in

the area that have windows," she said.

*Grill on the Green is located at 2601 S.E. Morningside Blvd. in Port St. Lucie. It is open for breakfast from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and lunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Dinner is served from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Fridays. Gift certificates are available. For more information, call (772) 337-0180 or send an e-mail to grillonthegreen@aol.com.*

Members of the Royal Palms of St. Lucie presented \$17,500 to nine charities. Pictured are, front, Roxanne Wells, Jennifer Wedebrook and Debbie Bryer, with recipients representing IRSC Foundation, PACE Center for Girls, Tykes & Teens, Harvest Food & Outreach, Pink Tie Friends, WaveCrest, Hibiscus Children's Center, Treasure Coast Food Bank and SafeSpace.

*Tribune 12-10*



## Helping People Succeed's Healthy Families participant receives \$10,000 Scholarship

mooreadrienne, a member of the Treasure Coast community. This story is neither endorsed by nor affiliated with this site.

Originally published 01:03 p.m., December 5, 2010

Updated 01:03 p.m., December 5, 2010

STUART — Jeanne Emiddio is on her way to Indian River State College, thanks to a \$10,000 college scholarship from the Florida Ounce of Prevention Fund and Chris Evert Charities.

Emiddio is one of three recipients statewide of the 2010 Gerulaitis Scholarship presented each year to assist participants in Florida's Healthy Families program. Helping People Succeed, based in Stuart, hosts the Healthy Families Martin - Okeechobee program, serving approximately 450 families.

A participant in Helping People Succeed since 2000, Healthy Families Martin – Okeechobee has guided Emiddio and her children through a variety of programs and agencies during the last four years. Her four children include two girls, 8 and 10 years old and twin boys, 4 years old.

“Without the help of this agency (Healthy Families), I would have lost my home, been on welfare, depressed and given up all hope,” said Jeanne, who is about to kick off a two-year college program with her recently-awarded funds. “Thank you Healthy Families for everything and for being a lifeline for families.”

Emiddio will be enrolled in IRSC's health science programs, working toward a two-year degree.

Healthy Families support worker Kim Reid said, “Jeanne's successes are attributed to her determination, persistence and tireless efforts. Healthy Families merely provided her with the tools, such as information, referrals and encouragement to reach her goals.”

“Jeanne is truly an exceptional role model for her children, as well as anyone in the community facing challenges and obstacles,” Reid added.

Emiddio received her scholarship during the 21st Annual Pro Celebrity Tennis Classic Tournament, coordinated by tennis legend Chris Evert. A board member for the Ounce



of Prevention Fund, Evert has raised more than \$18 million dollars through Chris Evert Charities to fund educational scholarships each year. The Ounce of Prevention Fund is the source of funding through the Florida Legislature and the Department of Children and Families for the Florida Healthy Families program.

"While tennis has been my profession, helping needy children has been my passion," said Evert, who was born and raised in South Florida.

The scholarship is named for tennis great Vitas Gerulaitis, who died in 1994 from carbon monoxide poisoning. During his 20-year tennis career, he had more than 25 wins and 29 runner-up positions in Grand Slam Singles and Doubles Tournaments, U.S. Open, French Open and Australian Open.

*This story is contributed by a member of the Treasure Coast community and is neither endorsed by nor affiliated with this site.*



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# College offering international study programs

For Hometown News 12-17-10  
News@hometownnewsol.com

TREASURE COAST —  
Indian River State College is offering six study abroad trips in 2011.

"We've found that students who participate in study abroad experiences develop a much broader understanding of current events, history, art, humanities, business and economics, as well as a deeper appreciation of other cultures," said Mary Locke, IRSC vice president of instructional services and chairwoman of the sponsoring global initiatives committee.

The following trips are being offered:

**Learning styles in Denmark:** With a focus on international learning styles, this two-week program, beginning on May 14 will encompass visits to Aarhus, Copenhagen and surrounding locations.

**A cruise study of Mayan astronomy and Caribbean coral reef ecology:** Offered May 14-21, this seven-day, interdisciplinary study abroad opportunity will invite students to delve into the history and culture of

"We've found that students who participate in study abroad experiences develop a much broader understanding of current events, history, art, humanities, business and economics, as well as a deeper appreciation of other cultures."

**Mary Locke**  
Vice president of instructional services

the Mayan people and country of Belize, while exploring the physical sciences through snorkeling barrier reefs and visiting Mayan sites, as well as observing near and deep sky objects, such as the Southern Cross and Orion Nebula, visible during the travel dates.

**Economics and business in Europe:** This trip has a focus on international business and economics. Beginning on May 17, the 10-day program will encompass visits to cultural, historic, business and economic centers in London, Paris and Rome.

**Spain: Land of many cultures:** Starting on May 17, this fascinating two-week program will lead participants on tours of the beautiful and scenic cities of Madrid, Seville, Granada and Barcelona.

The summer institute in international disaster relief and humanitarian assistance: Starting May 18, this intensive, 16-day, field-based program will be presented in partnership with eight universities from throughout the U.S. and

Macedonia, as well as the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Macedonia.

**International service-learning in Costa Rica:**

Designed to increase the student's cultural, historical and linguistic awareness of the Spanish language, this trip is July 10-23. Students will become familiar with the social customs, traditions, daily life, leisure activities, food preferences and health and educational issues of the people of Costa Rica. Students enrolled in Spanish courses and/or special topics in nursing will spend two weeks in the small community of Heredia and surrounding locations, participating in service-learning activities, particularly health-promotion activities that complement their academic studies, to aid community residents.

All trips include the guidance of an experienced IRSC faculty member, and participants earn college credits through completion of assignments related to their study abroad experiences.

For more information, call (866) 792-4772 or visit [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu).



Photo courtesy of Indian River State College

Gale Cipra, left, an Indian River State College interior design student, discusses different green design options with Nancy Bredemeyer a professor at the college, for a project in the Interior Design Studio at the Kight Center for Advanced Technologies on the IRSC main campus in Fort Pierce.

*Hometown News 12-17-10*

## College offers course on 'green' interior design

**For Hometown News**  
News@hometownnewsol.com

MARTIN COUNTY — Residents can learn how to reduce, reuse, recycle and renovate a "green" home or business through a new course offered by Indian River State College.

Sustainable interior design will focus on environmentally responsible interior design, with a hands-on, learn-by-doing instructional approach.

Participants will learn

about indoor air quality and how interior design products, such as wall finishes; furniture and flooring, affect it.

They will examine design strategies for interior lighting that enhance sustainability and more comfortable living for aging residents and workspaces, as well as interior components related to energy and water conservation to save on utility bills.

United States Green Building Council ratings will be discussed with emphasis on

indoor air quality, energy conservation and ways to enhance the organizational performance of a small business through environmental responsibility.

The Monday evening course, IND2608, will meet from Jan. 10 through April 24 in the Kight Center for Emerging Technologies, Room V442, at the IRSC main campus, 3209 Virginia Ave., in Fort Pierce.

For more information, call (772) 462-7705 or e-mail nbredeme@irsc.edu.

# Create a 'green' environment

12-5-10 Okeechobee NEWS

Learn how to reduce, reuse, recycle and renovate for a "green" home or business through a new course offered by Indian River State College. Sustainable Interior Design will focus on ERID, Environmentally Responsible Interior Design, with a hands-on, learn-by-doing instructional approach.

Participants will learn about indoor air quality and how interior design products such as wall finishes, furniture and flooring affect it. They will examine design strategies for interior lighting that enhance the sustainable decor and more comfortable living for aging residents and work spaces, as well as interior components related to energy and water conservation to save on utility bills.

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For more information on interior design programs offered at IRSC or a personalized visit to the department, contact Dr. Nancy Bredemeyer at 772-462-7705 or e-mail nbredeme@irsc.edu.

*Hometown News*  
*12-3-10*

# College to offer arboriculture course, exam next term

**For Hometown News**  
News@hometownnewsol.com

TREASURE COAST — Beginning Jan. 10, Indian River State College will offer a prep course for interested individuals to take the International Society for Arboriculture certified arborist exam.

The name of the prep course is fundamental principles of arboriculture,

(AGR1540C, reference No. 153855).

Topics include but are not limited to: tree biology, tree identification, tree nutrition and fertilization, installation, establishment and pruning.

The course will be offered on Monday nights from 5:30-8 p.m. at the St. Lucie West campus.

Classes run through May 2. The registration deadline

is Dec. 17 for those registering in person or Jan. 3 for online registration.

Cost for the class is \$276. Exam fees are extra and are paid to the ISA later in the semester.

Only persons with three years of full-time industry experience are eligible to take the ISA exam.

For more information, call (772) 336-6211 or e-mail amcmulli@irsc.edu.

A14 • Port St. Lucie

*12-3-10*  
*Hometown News*

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# College to offer arboriculture course, exam

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News@hometownnewsol.com

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For more information, call (772) 336-6211 or e-mail amcmulli@irsc.edu.

## Learn about skills needed for high-tech jobs at IRSC information session

By staff report

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

Individuals interested in the skills needed to get high-tech jobs can come to find out about the Indian River State College Robotics and Photonics Institute at 4 p.m. Dec. 13 in the Kight Center for Emerging Technologies on the IRSC Main Campus in Fort Pierce.

The Robotics and Photonics Institute provides sophisticated training in the latest technologies related to robotic automation and lasers.

Robots are used in biomedical research, ocean and space exploration, homeland security, food processing and advanced manufacturing. Photonics technicians are among the highest paid in U.S. industry, with median salaries around \$55,000. Graduates of the Robotics and Photonics Institute may also take the MASS test for Florida Power & Light Co. and, upon passing, apply for a job there as well.

For more information about these free information sessions, contact the IRSC Information Call Center at 1-866-792-4772 or the IRSC Advanced Technology Division at 1-866-792-4772, ext. 7575.



# Register now for spring

*Tribune 12-12-10*

## Staff report

Registration has begun for the 2011 spring semester at Indian River State College with a wide variety of educational opportunities to launch a career or re-train for a new direction.

The College offers one-stop student services centers to help students of all ages plan their educational and career path and obtain financial aid information. Financial aid and scholarships are available for full-time and part-time students. In fact, more than \$36 million in financial aid was awarded to IRSC students last year to continue their education.

"We encourage students to come in this week to register and pay to avoid the last-minute rush after winter break," said Steven Payne, assistant dean of educational services. "Paying tuition before the end of the year may provide you with tax benefits that apply to your 2010 tax return."

Registration may be completed at the nearest IRSC campus or online at [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu). Campuses are in Fort Pierce, Vero Beach, Stuart, St. Lucie West and Okeechobee. The college will be closed for Winter Break during the

## IRSC Update

weeks of Dec. 20 and 27; students can take advantage of online registration during winter break.

The last day to pay without a late fee is Jan. 3, and classes begin Jan. 5.

New bachelor's degree programs in biology, digital media and human services begin with the spring semester. Students in the biology program can focus on molecular biology and biotechnology. Areas of specialization in digital media are graphics and web, gaming and video, and modeling and simulation. Concentrations in human services are youth and family studies, addictions studies and generalist.

Other bachelor's degree programs include organizational management, public safety administration, health care management, nursing, high school and middle school math and science and exceptional student education (ESE).

For more information, call the Information Call Center at 866-792-4772.

News

*Okee News*

December 12, 2010

## Register now for spring semester at IRSC

Last day to pay for classes is Monday, Jan. 3

Registration is now under way for the 2011 Spring Semester at Indian River State College with a wide variety of educational opportunities to launch a career or re-train for a new direction in life.

The College offers convenient one-stop student services centers to help students of all ages plan their educational and career path and obtain financial aid information. Financial aid and scholarships are available for full-time and part-time students. In fact, over \$36 million in financial aid was

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Registration may be completed at the nearest IRSC campus or online at [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu). Campuses are located in Fort Pierce, Vero Beach, Stuart, St. Lucie West and Okeechobee.

The college will be closed for Winter Break during the weeks of Dec. 20 and 27; students can take advantage of online registration during Winter Break.

The last day to pay without a late fee is Monday, Jan. 3, and classes begin Wednesday, Jan. 5. For more information, call the IRSC Information Call Center at 1-866-792-4772.

## Register now for spring semester at IRSC

Registration is now underway for the 2011 Spring Semester at Indian River State College with a wide variety of educational opportunities to launch a career or re-train for a new direction in life. The College offers convenient one-stop student services centers to help students of all ages plan their educational and career path and obtain financial aid information. Financial aid and scholarships are available for full-time and part-time students. In fact, over \$36 million in financial aid was awarded to IRSC students last year to continue their education

for a brighter future.

Registration may be completed at the nearest IRSC campus or online at [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu). Campuses are located in Fort Pierce, Vero Beach, Stuart, St. Lucie West and Okeechobee. The college will be closed for Winter Break during the weeks of Dec. 20 and 27; students can take advantage of online registration during Winter Break. The last day to pay without a late fee is Monday, Jan. 3, and classes begin Wednesday, Jan. 5. For more information, call the IRSC Information Call Center at 1-866-792-4772.

*Okee News  
12-8-10*

# Fire academy class to begin Jan. 31

**For Hometown News**  
News@hometownnewsol.com

ST. LUCIE COUNTY —

Those interested in fire safety, learning about the community and how to handle emergencies can become involved in the next Citizen Fire Academy, starting Jan. 31.

The academy is a series of six sessions and is free, but registration is required. Sessions will meet weekly, starting at 5:30 p.m.

Participants will tour the

*Hometown News 12-17-11*  
emergency operations center and the Treasure Coast Public Safety Complex.

Sessions cover home safety, fire prevention, tactical rescues and hazardous materials.

Demonstrations include airport rescue and firefighting truck, air rescue and more.

Those interested can visit [www.slcfcd.com/cfa.htm](http://www.slcfcd.com/cfa.htm) to learn more and fill out an application.

For more information, call (772) 621-3333.



## Job Source Notes & News

Stuart News/  
Tribune/  
Press Journal  
12-5-10

### Adult education

Indian River School District's popular Adult & Community Education program is enrolling for January. Get a G.E.D., or become a medical assistant, phlebotomist, certified nurse assistance, security officer, or study culinary arts. Classes — which prepare you for a career in a month to a year, depending on the program — are only a few weeks away. Visit [www.indianriverschools.org](http://www.indianriverschools.org) or call (772) 564-4970.

### 'Green' house

Reduce, reuse, recycle and renovate for a "green" home or business through a new course offered by Indian River State College. Sustainable Interior Design will focus on ERID (Environmentally Responsible Interior Design), with a hands-on, learn-by-doing instructional approach. From indoor air quality to elder design, conservation to LEED ratings, the Monday evening course, IND2608, will meet from Jan. 10 through April 24 in the Kight Center for Emerging Technologies, Room V442, at the IRSC Main Campus, at 3209 Virginia Ave. in Fort Pierce. For more information on interior design programs offered at IRSC or a personalized visit to the department, contact Dr. Nancy Bredemeyer at (772) 462-7705 or e-mail [nbredeme@irsc.edu](mailto:nbredeme@irsc.edu)

### Health law webinar

What every physician needs to know about healthcare will be presented in a free webinar for physicians and other healthcare providers. The Entrepreneur Development Institute & Small Business Development Institute at Indian River State College, PNC Bank, and the Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County have partnered to host a free interactive American Healthcare Lawyers Association webinar on what you need to know about the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010. Some of the legislation's provisions will add cost and complexity, while others may provide tax benefits to qualifying business owners. Join a panel of attorneys who specialize in health law as they present on the critical tax benefit and cost implications of federal health reform for small business owners across the country. This is your opportunity to ask questions of healthcare reform experts. You are encouraged to personally invite your staff, colleagues, centers of influence, and professional organization members who would have interest in this event and webinar. It will be 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, at the IRSC St. Lucie West Campus, Port St. Lucie, Schreiber Conference Center, Core Auditorium D-107. To register, call (888) 283-1177.

## Job Source Notes & News

Press Journal/  
Stuart News/  
Tribune 12-2-11

### Robotics anyone?

Indian River State College Robotics and Photonics Institute Information Session will be at 4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 13, in the Kight Center for Emerging Technologies, Room V-116, on IRSC's main campus at 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. Learn about training in the latest technologies related to robotic automation and lasers. Call (866) 792-4772 or visit [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu).

### Entrepreneurship

Thinking about becoming your own boss? Make plans to attend the Entrepreneur Boot Camp from Feb. 7 to March 4. The best part is that the course is conducted online. The cost is \$195. Register online at [www.cctiirsc.com](http://www.cctiirsc.com). Click on eLearning, select Business & Entrepreneurship and scroll down to Entrepreneur Boot Camp. There are many other business-related e-learning courses available on the Web site. You will also find links to free consulting services for start-ups and small businesses through the SBA Small Business Development Center and the Entrepreneur Development Institute at Indian River State College. For more information, call (888) 283-1177.

### IRSC registration

Register for classes. Don't forget to register for January classes before local colleges and universities break for the holidays. Online registration is available. But register in person to speak with admissions counselors and to learn about financial aid options. If you are unemployed or underemployed, also register with your local Workforce Solutions office to take advantage of career education grants and free job search assistance. [www.yourworkforcesolutions.com](http://www.yourworkforcesolutions.com).

## Job Source Notes & News

Press Journal/  
Tribune 12-29-10

### Health technology

Indian River State College is now enrolling students for the next session of the HITECH Workforce Training Program. Health Information Technology (HIT) training programs for healthcare and IT professionals are funded by a stimulus grant. The session starts Jan. 10, can be completed in six months or less and is completely online. Experienced IT or healthcare professionals who need to implement electronic health records will want to sign up for the HITECH Workforce Training Program. Student stipends are available for those who qualify. Anyone interested in this unique training can apply. For more information, call (772) 462-7176 or visit [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu), click on Programs & Careers, select Health Science Programs, choose HITECH Workforce Program.

### HR courses

The Corporate and Community Training Institute at Indian River State College in partnership with the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) is offering classes for working HR professionals to prepare for certification as a Professional in Human Resources (PHR) or Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR). Earn 3.5 CEUs, 36 recertification hours and certificate upon successful course completion. Testing begins in May. Under new rules, to sit for the PHR exam, you must have a minimum of four years of exempt level HR experience or two years with a bachelor's degree or one year with a master's degree. To sit for the SPHR, you must have a minimum of seven years of exempt-level HR experience or five years with a bachelor's degree or four years with a master's degree. The cost is \$1,049. Classes meet 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19 through May 11, on the IRSC Fort Pierce Main Campus. Register by Jan. 20 at [www.cctiirsc.com](http://www.cctiirsc.com). For more information, contact Victoria Stalls at (772) 462-7431 or [ssalls@irsc.edu](mailto:ssalls@irsc.edu).

Stuart News/  
Tribune 1-2-11

**IRSC ADULT HIGH SCHOOL**

Bryan Beaty, IRSC coordinator of marketing and special projects for public service education, spoke to a group of students in the Public Safety, Health and Industrial academies about career possibilities in the public safety arena. While he talked to the students about the various qualifications for each of the careers and the need for these occupations in the area, he also explained the difference between the fire and police training academies and the two-year degree programs. As an enrichment activity, the Career Pathways students were treated to an interesting talk by Babu Thomas, a chemist with the Regional Crime Laboratory. He spoke about the increase in prescription drug-related deaths in the four-county area and the various types of drugs that are involved in research and analysis of cases. He presented evidence from several old cases to the students and showed them the steps taken to solve the crimes.

Tribune 12-12-10

**IRSC ADULT HIGH SCHOOL**

As part of an entrepreneurial activity, students from the Career Pathways Business Academy presented drafts of business proposals to an all-volunteer panel: Thomas D. Siplin, a financial services professional, along with professors Chris McChesney, Ray Carpenter and John Butler, all of the IRSC Business Administration and Marketing Management Department. Students received constructive advice and one-on-one feedback on elements needed to succeed in business from the panel. In addition, students were able to ask business faculty members questions regarding business-related degrees, courses, certifications, and programs of study. Jim Pruitt, of the Florida Construction Apprenticeship Training Corp., visited the Industrial Academy and spoke about careers in electrical work and the IRSC electrical apprenticeship program. He encouraged the students to think about the type of working conditions they would like to have and select a career that would make them glad to get up and go to work every day.

Tribune 12-5-10

**IRSC ADULT HIGH SCHOOL**

The various career pathways academies of IRSC Adult High School hosted guest speakers and went on field trips last week. The Technology Academy joined with the Business Academy to visit WQCS-FM, the radio station at Indian River State College. The students were able to test their voices on station equipment and learned about the various careers in the industry. The Industrial Academy heard from Johnna Dechristoforo, who spoke about the IRSC Power Plant Institute. She talked about the different tracks of study in the program and the possibility of jobs with Florida Power and Light. Members of the St. Lucie Regional Herpetological Society visited the Health Academy. They talked about venomous snakes and what a person should do if bitten. The students were studying emergency medicine and this talk cleared up some misinformation regarding the treatment of snake bites. U.S. Navy recruiters spoke to the Public Service Academy.

Tribune 12-9-10

**CLARK ADVANCED LEARNING**

Clark and IRSC final exams are Dec. 13-17. No Clark or IRSC classes during winter break from Dec. 20-Jan. 4. Clark and IRSC classes for the new semester begin Jan. 5. Submit your new semester class change requests to Mrs. Kandefer before IRSC's drop/add deadline on Jan. 11. Jan. 12 is a 12:30 p.m. early release for Clark classes. Students must attend and make their own transportation arrangements for IRSC classes held after 12:30 p.m. Seven Clark students were recently recognized for their academic achievement through induction into the Nu Iota Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society at IRSC. The Clark inductees were Trey Bomeisler, Meaghan McMahon, Allison Orr, Joseph Rubano, Kara Russell, Paige Turner, and Riha Wadhwa. Buy your yearbooks

Student News 12-12-10

**PALM BEACH POST**  
12.9.2010  
**SCHOOLS**

**NOTES**

**MARTIN COUNTY SCHOOLS**

**CLARK ADVANCED LEARNING CENTER**  
**The Masquerade Ball is Friday.** Buy tickets for \$10 from a Student Government Association member.  
**Exams begin Monday** and continue through the end of the week.  
**Yearbooks are \$65** through Dec. 17. The price will increase after that date.

# The Palm Beach Post

Print this page Close

## School News: Clark Advanced Learning Center Masquerade Ball is Dec. 10

Posted: 8:49 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2010

### MARTIN COUNTY SCHOOLS

#### CLARK ADVANCED LEARNING CENTER

Final exams for Clark and IRSC will be Dec. 13-17.

The Clark Masquerade Ball is Dec. 10. Tickets are \$10 and are available from an SGA member.

Spirit Week begins Monday .

Yearbooks can be bought for \$65 until Dec. 17. After that prices increase.

### HIDDEN OAKS MIDDLE

The band and color guard will host the 19th annual Breakfast and Silent Auction fund-raiser 8 a.m. Sunday . Entertainment will include performances from school bands, choruses, color guards, drum lines and the Hidden Oaks Jazz Ambassadors. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 3-10. Tickets can be purchased from Joyce Cox by e-mail at joycedcox@aol.com; by calling the school at (772) 219-1655; or from any band or color guard student. Proceeds go to the band and color guard programs.

### MARTIN COUNTY HIGH

The Band Booster Tree Sale pick-up will be Wednesday

The Tigerettes are selling entertainment books for \$35.

Seniors who have had their pictures taken have until Wednesday to report to C-7 and choose their pose for the yearbook.

Yearbooks will be \$76.50 if ordered before Dec. 31. After that they will \$86.00.

### THE PINE SCHOOL

There will be a Barnes and Noble book event to support the arts at 5 p.m. today at the Jensen Beach store.

Outdoor Academy will be making a presentation to the high school students today .

Friday is Spirit Day and there will be a middle school holiday dance at 7 p.m.

There will a meet and greet with new tennis coach Mario Cobo Dec. 11 at Mariner Sands from noon to 2 p.m.

Rachel Gilbert was nominated as Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy. Gilbert along with Michael Rhys, who represented Habitat for Humanity, was also nominated for Outstanding Youth Group in Philanthropy during National Philanthropy Day .

The following students were selected to perform in the Four County Honor Band: 7th/8th Cassie Pfeiffer, Annemiek Doedens, Andy Blumenthal and Ryan Reynolds. The 9th/10th Concert Band: Nathaniel Romero, James Walker and Tom Ferris. The 11th/12th Symphonic Band: Marissa Malaney, Elizabeth Upton, Bo Herlin, Josh Denton and Clarice Curto. The 9th-12th Jazz Ensemble: A.J. Van Suetendael.

Tribune 12-29-10

# Jan. 22 event to provide shoes for the shoeless

**By Kim Hughes**  
Special to Treasure Coast Newspapers

STUART — More than 200 people — from infants through adults — will receive shoes Jan. 22 thanks to the collaborative efforts of several organizations, including Mothers against Gun Violence Treasure Coast and Tamiqa's House, Soles4Souls Inc. and Finding My Shoes.

After the murder of her 26-year-old daughter, Tamiqa Taylor in October 2009, Belinda Taylor-Strachan of Port St. Lucie channeled her heartbreak into founding a local chapter of Mothers against Gun

**What:** Finding My Shoes event, distribution of shoes and personal hygiene items to previously screened individuals. Brenda Combs, motivational speaker and founder of Finding My Shoes, will speak.

**When:** 2 to 5 p.m. Jan. 22

**Where:** Robert Morgade Library on the Chastain Campus of IRSC; 5851 S.E. Community Drive, Stuart

**Cost:** Free

**Info:** Contact Belinda Taylor-Strachan at MAGVTreasurecoast@yahoo.com or visit [www.tamiqashouse.com](http://www.tamiqashouse.com)

**How you can help:** Cash donations are still needed to purchase hygiene items. Online donations are accepted at [www.tamiqashouse.com](http://www.tamiqashouse.com) or can be mailed to: Mothers against Gun Violence Treasure Coast, P.O. Box 8484, Port St. Lucie, FL 34953. Donations of new or gently used shoes for Soles4Souls Inc., are also welcome at the event.

Violence Treasure Coast. She's now launching Tamiqa's House, a drop-in center for children and teens. The Jan. 22 event

at the Robert Morgade Library on the Chastain Campus of Indian River State College in Stuart will help promote awareness of

those organizations.

Taylor-Strachan has been working with Brenda Combs, a friend and founder of Finding My Shoes, to organize the event.

Combs, of Phoenix, founded the organization to provide the homeless with shoes. Once homeless herself, she is now a teacher, author and motivational speaker who will speak at the Jan. 22 event.

For the past few months, Taylor-Strachan has been working with local agencies, including Tykes and Teens, SafeSpace, Mary's Shelter and the Martin Girls Academy, to gather names and shoe sizes of

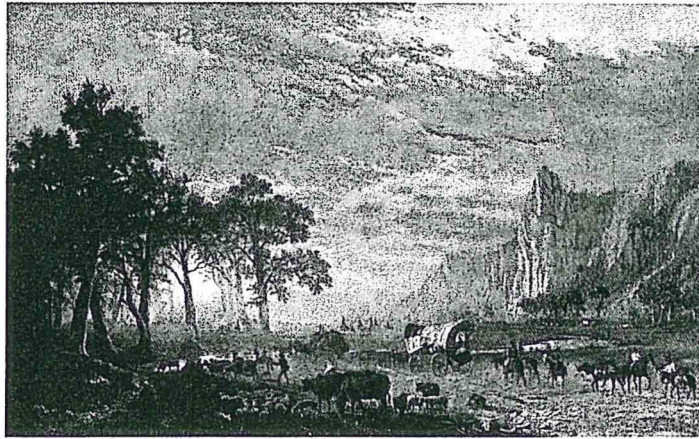
clients who need shoes.

Although she originally wanted to hold the event in December, Taylor-Strachan said there's now enough time to collect all the information and make matches. All the shoes for the event have been donated.

"Our guests will definitely get a pair of shoes," she said.

Those receiving shoes also will receive care packages that include personal hygiene items, such as toothbrushes and shampoo.

Wayne Elsey, CEO and founder of Soles4Souls, also will be at the event. Elsey founded the organization in the aftermath of the 2004 tsunami in Southeast Asia.



Albert Bierstadt, *The Oregon Trail*, 1869, Oil on canvas, 31 x 49 inches. Gift of Joseph G. Butler.

#### CELEBRATING 25 YEARS: Sculpture from the Permanent Collection

*Dec. 18, 2010 – May 8, 2011*

Celebrating 25 Years presents an engaging and focused look at the museum's growing outdoor sculpture collection on view in the Alice and Jim Beckwith Sculpture Parks. The works explore a variety of styles and aesthetics, and selections include welded sculpture by John Henry and David Hayes, kinetic sculpture by Jerome Kirk, and bronze work by Thomas Ostenberg. The exhibition will also feature newly conserved pieces by Jane Manus and Lee Tribe and the museum's most recent sculpture acquisition, Hanneke Beaumont's *Bronze #56*.



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#### AMERICAN MASTERWORKS: 150 Years of Painting from the Butler Institute of American Art

*Jan. 29 – May 22, 2011*

American Masterworks presents a selection of significant and noteworthy examples of American art and artists from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. On loan from the Butler Institute of American Art, the collection showcases more than a century of American art and the many styles and genres found therein. The exhibition incorporates 35 works of art that include stellar examples by artists such as Albert Bierstadt, John Sloan, Childe Hassam, Charles Burchfield, Reginald Marsh, Andy Warhol, and Chuck Close, among others.

#### IMPRESSIONS: Selections from the Manoogian Collection

*Jan. 29 – May 22, 2011*

In celebration of the museum's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Impressions: Selections from the Manoogian Collection brings together a group of American Impressionists' paintings not exhibited previously in Vero Beach. These paintings not only represent some of the best work by the artists selected, but also as a group capture the aesthetic in the history of American art from the collection of Jane and Richard Manoogian.

#### VERO PROMISES

*Feb. 12 – April 24, 2011*

In honor of the museum's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Vero Promises showcases a selection of promised gifts to the museum celebrating the occasion. This exhibition represents the generosity of a group of individuals who have chosen to promise their treasures to the museum, and in turn share their passion and inspiration with the community and the thousands of visitors the museum welcomes each year.

#### A.E. BACKUS MUSEUM AND GALLERY

29<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL JURIED ART EXHIBITION: "The Best of the Best"

*Nov. 3 – Dec. 4, 2010*

The juried art show includes work by some of the best artists from around the state and beyond. Because of its popularity, the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Juried Art Exhibition, formerly known as the Four County Juried Show, has expanded to include artists from beyond the region.

#### INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

*Saturday, Dec. 4*

This one-day event will be presented on the grounds and patio of the museum. More than 30 photography students from IRSC will present their work.

#### ECLECTIC HOLIDAYS

*Dec. 8, 2010 – Jan. 15, 2011*

The museum will present an eclectic array of fine art, just in time for holiday gift-giving, including furniture, jewelry, ceramics, paintings and photography. Artists include Bud Adams, Cindy Adams, Robbie Adams, Martin Cushman, Rebecca Brown, Colleen Nash Becht, Sue Ritter, Jean Tyson, Ty Tyson and Suzanne Varn.

#### THE TREASURE COAST COLLECTS

*Jan. 29 – Feb. 5, 2011*

The Treasure Coast Collects, new this season, will feature >>

Tribune/  
Stuart News 12-5-10

## The Heart Gallery

An evocative photo exhibit featuring images of local children waiting to be adopted, "The Heart Gallery of Okeechobee and the Treasure Coast" will be on display through Dec. 17 at Indian River State College, Dixon Hendry Campus, Building B, 2229 N.W. Ninth Ave., Okeechobee. Then, it will be on exhibit through Jan. 14 at the Port St. Lucie Civic Center, 9221 S.E. Civic Center Place, Port St. Lucie. The emotional photos, taken by photographers from Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers, capture the personalities of children caught up in Florida's foster care system. Once each month we will feature one of these photographs on the cover of Travel/Today. For more information, contact Children's Home Society of Florida, Treasure Coast Division at 772-429-2001 or visit [www.chsfl.org](http://www.chsfl.org).

Jennifer, 16, is a loving and affectionate. She loves music and enjoys older artists as well as hip-hop music. Jennifer also likes to participate in sports such as basketball, swimming and horseback riding. She is looking forward to being a cheerleader and she loves to dance. She loves company and making new friends. Jennifer would do best in a stable and consistent one- or two-parent forever home where she is the only child.



DEBORAH SILVER/TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

# IRSC Fine Arts Program offers holiday shows

Celebrate the holidays this year with a memorable season of shows presented by the Indian River State College Fine Arts Program.

**CHRISTMAS CABARET:** Dec. 2, 3 and 4 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 4, at 2 p.m. Join the Fine Arts Department as they perform "A Christmas Cabaret," a Wynne Black Box Theatre event for all ages. IRSC musical theatre students will take the audience "home for the holidays" as they pay tribute to this very special time of year. Tickets are \$12.

**JUST DANCE!:** Dec. 9, 10 and 11 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 11, at 2 p.m. Join the IRSC Dance Ensemble for this enjoyable evening of dance. This year's production includes excerpts from the "Nutcracker," and new works by Director of Dance, Molly Magee, returning alumnae and selected student choreographers. Start your holiday season off with this entertaining evening that is suitable for the whole family. Tickets are \$12.

**FANFARE TO MURDER:** Dec. 16 and 17, at 7 p.m. and Dec. 18, at 2 p.m. The Fine

Arts Department will produce "Fanfare to Murder," another Wynne Black Box Theatre event. This show is a delightful and interactive murder mystery dessert theatre. Silly antics with the audience members, mistaken identities, unexpected surprises, and of course, murder abound as the characters jockey for attention and stardom. The \$15 ticket includes a dessert of cheesecake and a beverage.

**UPON A MIDNIGHT CLEAR:** This special one-time performance on Dec. 16, at 8 p.m. will feature songs of the winter season under the planetarium stars featuring the live electronic music of world-renowned composer and artist Jonn Serrie. Tickets for "Upon a Midnight Clear" are \$10.

Tickets can be purchased online at [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu) or at the box office located in the McAlpin Fine Arts Center lobby on

the IRSC Main Campus at 3209 Virginia Avenue in Fort Pierce, Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., or by phone with VISA, MasterCard, Discover or American Express. For your convenience, tickets may now be picked up at will-call before the shows. Call the McAlpin Fine Arts Center Box Office today at 772-462-4750 or toll-free at 1-800-220-9915 to reserve your seats, as shows sell out quickly.

# Production features murder, dessert

By Jay Meisel 12-11-10  
Meisel@hometownnewsol.com

FORT PIERCE — "Fanfare for Murder" won't be your typical production where the audience sits and watches.

Instead, the audience will get to ask questions and help solve the mystery while eating cheesecake at Indian River State College's Wynne Black Box Theatre.

Tickets are \$15 for the dessert theatre and includes cheesecake and a beverage.

Rebecca Shearer, box office manager, said the plot involves the world premier of a famous singer and an understudy who is trying to steal the show.

Who commits the murder and why will be unveiled during the production, she said.

The unique thing about it is the interaction between the audience and the cast, Ms. Shearer said.

It's challenging for the student actors because

See MURDER, B4

## Murder

From page B1

they have to improvise, as opposed to just following a script, she said.

"They never know what the audience is going to say or do."

Felicia D'Ascanio, 19, a second-year student from Palm City, said she plays a bimbo maid who has to follow the main character around and do her bidding

for her.

Ms. D'Ascanio, who has been in a couple of other productions at IRSC, said she looks forward to the opportunity to interact with the theater.

It's an opportunity that doesn't come about too often, she said.

That leaves room for improvisation, she said.

She said she loves mysteries especially those that involve comedy, as well.

Ms. D'Ascanio said she hopes to eventually pursue

acting on Broadway.

*Tickets must be purchased in advance, online at [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu) or at the box office located in the McAlpin Fine Arts Center at 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. Its open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.*

*Tickets can be reserved by calling (772) 462-4750. "Fanfare to Murder" will be performed Dec. 16 and Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. and on Dec. 18 at 2 p.m.*

## Play benefits Education Foundation

IRSC Murder Mystery Theatre Tour 2011 will present "Fanfare to Murder" on Friday, Jan. 21, 2011 at 7 p.m. at the Freshman Campus Auditorium. Specialty desserts will be served during intermission.

**The story:** Joanna Janeen, a young but fading starlet/singer, hosts a party to celebrate her upcoming performance tour. Joanna has lured noted Hollywood producer, Toby Torleen, to attend in the hope of winning a leading role in his newest film. Joanna's agent, husband, understudy, and maid see this party as their last hope to step into Joanna's spotlight. Silly antics with the audience members, mistaken identities, unexpected surprises, and of course, murder abound as the characters jockey for attention and stardom. As dessert is served, the audience is invited to help quiz the suspects

and reveal the murderer!

The performance is sponsored by the Okeechobee Educational Foundation.

Tickets are \$20 per person and include a wide variety of specialty desserts.

Contact one of the following Board of Directors for tickets: Russ Brown, Debbie Clements, Tom Conely, Patricia Cooper, Mike Costopoulos, Peter Cruz, Dawn Hoover, Mary Hurley, Ken Kenworthy, Vic Lancaster, Beth Lehman, Kelly Owens, Gretchen Robertson, Jeff Sabin/Jenny Pung, Ben Sims, Joseph Stanley, Linda Syfrett, Tabitha Trent, Sharon Vinson, or Celeste Watford.

Death by Chocolate Intermission is underwritten by Waste Management of Okeechobee. Productions Costs covered by Lehman Auto Body & Service Center.

Okeechobee News  
12-3-10



*Okeechowee News 12-7-10*

# IRSC Planetarium announces

## three upcoming holiday programs

The Indian River State College Hallstrom Planetarium on the Main Campus in Fort Pierce announces its three holiday shows – Star of Wonder, a Treasure Coast favorite; Upon A Midnight Clear, a live concert event; and Eclipse!, a special one-night grand phenomenon of nature.

A holiday favorite, Star of Wonder, will recreate the skies as they appeared 2,000 years ago. Viewers will trace what may have been the path of the mysterious star followed by the Wise Men, showing the constellations and the locations of planets. “What was it in the sky that compelled the Magi to embark on a journey of hundreds of miles across desert and mountains?” asked Jon Bell, Hallstrom Planetarium Director. “This program will bring the audience one step closer to understanding.” Star of Wonder will be presented on Dec. 3 & 4 and Dec. 10 & 11, on Friday at 7 & 8 p.m. and on Saturday at 1 & 2 p.m. Tickets are \$3 each.

A live one-night special concert, Upon A Midnight Clear, will feature electronic music of the season “under the planetarium stars” by world-renowned composer and

artist, Jonn Serrie. Serrie will perform live on keyboards as Hallstrom Planetarium Director Jon U. Bell projects special effects of stars and stellar beacons on the planetarium dome - all choreographed to the music. Upon A Midnight Clear will be presented on Dec. 16, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each.

A grand phenomenon of nature, Eclipse!, will be presented on Dec. 20, at 7 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 10 p.m. and Midnight. Tickets are \$3 each. As midnight approaches, there will be a total eclipse of the moon, which should be visible in Florida. The Treasure Coast Astronomical Society will set up telescopes (weather permitting) to provide guided views of the lunar phenomenon.

Seating is limited. Tickets for all shows may be purchased in advance at the IRSC Box Office at the McAlpin Fine Arts Center, 3209 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce, or by calling 1-800-220-9915 with VISA, Discover, American Express, or Master Card or visit [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu).

## Covered by Earth's shadow, moon will look red during total eclipse

By James Kirley

Monday, December 13, 2010

A nighttime celestial event that will not be seen again in America until April 2014 will take place in the early morning hours of Dec. 21, when the moon crosses into earth's shadow to create a total lunar eclipse.

The eclipse will begin around 1:30 a.m., when earth's shadow begins a three-hour crossing of the moon.

"It's a slow event," said Jon Bell, director of Indian River State College's Hallstrom Planetarium. "That first bite of the earth's shadow on the moon begins on the moon's eastern edge."

Totality — when the earth's shadow covers the entire moon — is expected about 2:30 a.m. and will last about one hour, Bell said.

"You'll still see the moon," he explained. "But it will be dim and a dull copper or red in color."

The third hour will see the moon growing fully illuminated by sunlight from behind the Earth once again, growing from its eastern to western edge.

Unlike solar eclipses, which are dangerous to watch with the naked eye, lunar eclipses can be viewed without filters or protective glasses.

The Treasure Coast Astronomical Society and IRSC will host special events for the eclipse.

The planetarium will feature sky shows about the eclipse at 7 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 10 p.m. and midnight on Dec. 20.

Then, members of the astronomical society will allow the public to view the actual eclipse through their telescopes, set up in the parking lot outside the planetarium's Fort Pierce campus.

For more information, phone 772-462-7515.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

PALM BEACH POST 12.16.2010

## Today

**"Upon a Midnight Clear,"** 8 p.m., Hallstrom Planetarium, Indian River State College, 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. Concert. \$10. Call (800) 220-9915.

## Friday

**Winter Concert,** 7 p.m., Hobe Sound Bible College/Church, 11295 Gomez Ave., Hobe Sound. Featuring Cornerstone Brass. Free. Call (772) 546-5696.

**Friday Matinee—Holiday Movies,** 2 p.m., Fort Pierce Library, 101 Melody Lane, Fort Pierce. Showing *Nutcracker* featuring Mikhail Baryshnikov. Call (772) 462-2787.

**Romantic Moonlight Paddle,** 5-8:30 p.m., Manatee Observation and Education Center, 480 N. Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce. Glide across Indian River Lagoon to a tropical island. \$45; \$42 members. Call (772) 466-1600, Ext. 3071.

**Oxbow Treehouse Time,** 9:30 a.m., Oxbow Eco-Center, 5400 N.E. St. James Drive, Port St. Lucie. Exhibits and hike. Ages 2-5. Free. Call (772) 785-5833.

**Martin County Genealogical Society** meets, 1 p.m., Blake Library, 2351 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart.

Holiday party and gift auction. Call (772) 286-6470.

## Saturday

**"The Nutcracker,"** 2 p.m., Cummings Library, 2551 S.W. Matheson Ave., Palm City. Performance by the Florida Arts and Dance Company. Free. Call (772) 221-1403.

**TreasureFest,** 2-7 p.m., Port St. Lucie High School, 1201 S.E. Lennard Road, Port St. Lucie. Local artists, dance teams and guest speakers. \$6 advance; \$10 at the gate. Call (772) 708-0939.

**"Light Up the Season,"** 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Helping People Succeed, 1100 S.E. Federal Highway, Stuart. Holiday open house. Tours 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday and Tuesday; 9-11:30 a.m. Wednesday. Call (772) 320-0770.

**Brown Bag Lecture,** noon, Oxbow Eco-Center, 5400 N.E. St. James Drive, Port St. Lucie. Learn how to turn your trash into treasure. Free. Call (772) 785-5833.

**Archeological Walk,** 9 a.m., Paleo Hammock, 8551 Carlton Road, Port St. Lucie. Learn about early people of Florida. Register one day in advance. Free. Call (772) 462-2525.

## Sunday

**"It's a Wonderful Life,"** 2 and 5 p.m., The Lyric Theatre, 59 S.W. Flagler Ave., Stuart. Advance tickets available at Oculina Bank, 1030 S.W. Martin Downs Blvd., Palm City. Free. Call (772) 286-7827.

**Sail with Santa,** 2-4 p.m., Manatee Observation and Education Center, 480 N. Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce. Story time and photo with Santa. \$20 adults; \$15 ages 3-12; \$5 3 and younger. To register, call (772) 466-1600, Ext. 3071.

## Monday

**Eclipse!** 7, 8:30, 10 p.m. and midnight, Hallstrom Planetarium, Indian River State College, 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. Watch a lunar eclipse. \$3. Call (800) 220-9915.

PALM BEACH POST 12.9.2010

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Today

**Just Dance Concert,** 8 p.m. today and Friday; 2 p.m. Saturday, McAlpin Fine Arts Center, Indian River State College, 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. Performance by IRSC Dance Ensemble. Call (800) 220-9915.

Music and country-line dancing. Free. Call (772) 873-6325.

**Dessert with Santa,** 6-8 p.m., Hobe Sound Community Center, 8980 S.E. Olympus St., Hobe Sound. Bring one non-perishable food item or new unwrapped toy. Call (772) 546-0312.

**Friday Matinee—Holiday Movies,** 2 p.m., Fort Pierce Library, 101 Melody Lane, Fort Pierce. Showing *Mr. Bean's Holiday* featuring Rowan Atkinson. Call (772) 462-2787.

**"Star of Wonder,"** 7 and 8 p.m. today; 1 and 2 p.m. Saturday, Hallstrom Planetarium, Indian River State College, 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. Recreation of the skies as it appeared 2,000 years ago. \$3. Call (800) 220-9915.

television stations. As for WXEL-FM, however, we believe that it can be made healthy with better management and more resources. Barry has a buyer that offers both.

- Randy Schultz,

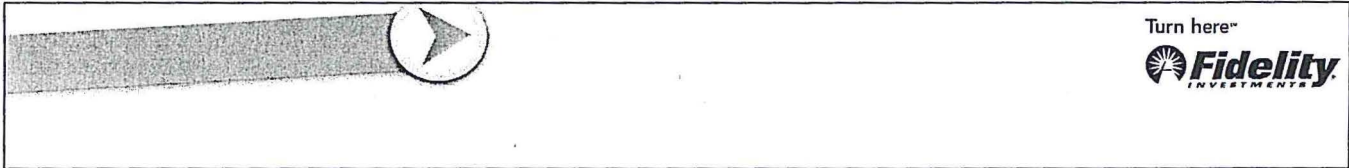
for The Palm Beach Post Editorial Board

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ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CALL BEFORE ATTENDING.

**NOTE:** See holiday events on Pages 56-57

## Thursday, Dec. 2

- Emerson Center – Vero Beach, Frank and Lisa Thomas, musicians, free
- Port St. Lucie Community Band Holiday Concert – civic center, 7 p.m.
- **IRSC Wynne Black Box Theatre** – A Christmas Cabaret, 8 p.m.
- Sunrise Theatre – Cuchito Valdes, 7 p.m.

## Friday, Dec. 3

- **Hallstrom Planetarium** – Star of Wonder, 7 & 8 p.m.
- **IRSC Wynne Black Box Theatre** – A Christmas Cabaret, 8 p.m.
- Riverside Theatre – Comedy Zone 7:30 & 9:30 p.m.
- FridayFest – downtown Fort Pierce, 5:30 p.m.

## Saturday, Dec. 4

- Backus Gallery – photography exhibit, Indian River State College students at the gallery.
- **Hallstrom Planetarium** – Star of Wonder, 1 & 2 p.m.
- **IRSC Wynne Black Box Theatre** – A Christmas Cabaret, 2 & 8 p.m.
- Riverside Theatre – Comedy Zone 7:30 & 9:30 p.m.
- Riverside Park – Candlelight Service of Remembrance, Vero Beach, 9 p.m.
- CFA Cat Show – Indian River County Fairgrounds, 727.7285

- Treasure Coast Jazz Society – at Vero Beach Yacht Club, Jeff Rupert and Harry Allen, the Tough Tenors, 12:30-3 p.m.
- Craft Show – Riverview Park, Sebastian, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Art Trail – tour of 10 artists' studios and homes in Vero Beach, hosted by Vero Beach Art Club, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 772.231.0303 to go on tour.

## Sunday, Dec. 5

- Riverside Theatre – Frog and Toad Kids, 1:30 p.m.
- Sunrise Theatre – The Legends of Doo Wop with Tommy Mara, 7 p.m.
- Craft Show – Riverview Park, Sebastian, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Riverwalk Jazz – downtown Stuart, 1-4 p.m.

## Monday, Dec. 6-Friday, Dec. 10

- Deck the Walls – Art Show, Phillip Steel, Backus House, 122 A.E. Backus Ave.

## Monday, Dec. 6

- Riverside Theatre – Frog and Toad, Kids, 7:30 p.m.
- Stuart Community Concert Band, Flagler Recreation Center, 7-9 p.m.

## Tuesday, Dec. 7

- A Taste of Jensen – downtown Jensen Beach, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Academy
- Jazz Jam – Sunrise Theatre Black Box, 7-10 p.m.
- Riverside Theatre – Frog and Toad, Kids, 1:30 p.m.

## Wednesday, Dec. 8 – Jan. 15

- Backus Gallery – Eclectic Holidays exhibit

## Wednesday, Dec. 8

- Lyric Theatre – Hello Dere, starring Marty Allen and Karon Kate Blackwell, 8 p.m.
- Jazz Jam – PSL Botanical Gardens, 2410 Westmoreland Blvd., Port St. Lucie
- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Academy Art Walk, downtown Fort Pierce, 5 p.m.

## Thursday, Dec. 9

- Lyric Theatre – Roger Williams Holiday Show, 6 & 8:30 p.m.
- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Academy
- **McAlpin Fine Arts Center** – Just Dance

## Friday, Dec. 10

- After Five Live – PSL Civic Center, 5:30 p.m.
- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Academy
- Sunrise Theatre – St. Lucie Ballet's Nutcracker, 7:30 p.m.
- Riverside Theatre – The Nutcracker: In Swing Time, a jazz adaptation, 7:30 p.m.
- Children's Museum – Indian Riverside Park in Jensen Beach – Holidays Around the World, 3-6 p.m.
- **McAlpin Fine Arts Center** – Just Dance
- Hallstrom Planetarium – Star of Wonder, 7 & 8 p.m.

## Saturday, Dec. 11

- Holiday Art Fair at Cedar Pointe Plaza, Martin County, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Academy
- **McAlpin Fine Arts Center** – Just Dance
- Hallstrom Planetarium – Star of Wonder, 1 & 2 p.m.
- Art in the Park – Theme: Florida Flowers. Riverview Park, Sebastian, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

## Sunday, Dec. 12

- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Academy
- Rockin' Riverwalk – Theme: Florida Flowers. Riverview Park, Sebastian, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

## Monday, Dec. 13 – Friday, Dec. 17

- Art Exhibit – Leslie and Laff Lafferandre, artists, at Backus House, 122 A.E. Backus Ave.

## Monday, Dec. 13

- Stuart Community Concert Band – Flagler Recreation Center, 7-9 p.m.

## Tuesday, Dec. 14

- Lyric Theatre – An Evening with Judy Collins, 7 p.m.
- Jazz Jam – Sunrise Theatre Black Box, 7-10 p.m.
- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Academy
- Riverside Theatre – Frog and Toad, Kids, 1:30 p.m.
- Sunrise Theatre – Miracle on Main Street, 7 pm.
- OPUS Holiday Concert – Martin County High School, 7 p.m.

## Wednesday, Dec. 15

- Dr. Seuss Sculpture Garden and Art Exhibit – McKee Botanical Garden, through April 30.
- Lyric Theatre – Judy Collins, 7 p.m.

## Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Academy

## Thursday, Dec. 16

- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Academy
- Sunrise Theatre – Garrison Keillor, 7 p.m.
- **Hallstrom Planetarium** – Upon a Midnight Clear, concert "under the stars," with John Serrie, 8 p.m.
- **IRSC Wynne Black Box Theatre** – Fanfare to Murder, 8 p.m.

## Friday, Dec. 17

- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Academy
- **IRSC Wynne Black Box Theatre** – Fanfare to Murder, 2 & 8 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 18 – May 8, 2011
- Vero Beach Museum of Art – Celebrating 25 Years, sculpture in the Beckwith Sculpture Park

## Saturday, Dec. 18

- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Academy
- Port Salerno Christmas Jamboree – downtown Port Salerno, Dixie Hwy., noon-8 p.m.
- WinterFest at Pointe West – family fun and activities, Vero Beach, 3-6:30 p.m.
- Sebastian Inlet State Park – Ashley Gang folk music, 9700 South A1A, 7-9 p.m.

## Sunday, Dec. 19

- Jazz & Blues Society – Marina Square, Fort Pierce, Papa Joe & Friends with Oscar Salas, 1-6 p.m.
- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Academy
- Rockin' Riverwalk – downtown Stuart on the Riverwalk Stage at Flagler Park, 1-4 p.m.

## Monday, Dec. 20

- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – PBG Concert Band, 7:30 p.m.
- **Hallstrom Planetarium** – Eclipse! From 8:30 p.m. until the eclipse of the moon on Tuesday. Astronomy Club will set up telescopes outside at midnight.
- Stuart Community Concert Band – Flagler Recreation Center, 7-9 p.m.

## Tuesday, Dec. 21

- Jazz Jam – Sunrise Theatre Black Box, 7-10 p.m.

## Wednesday, Dec. 22

- Jazz Jam – PSL Botanical Gardens, 2410 Westmoreland Blvd., Port St. Lucie
- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Give My Regards

## Sunday, Dec. 26

- Rockin' Riverwalk – downtown Stuart on the Riverwalk Stage at Flagler Park, 1-4 p.m.

## Tuesday, Dec. 28

- Jazz Jam – Sunrise Theatre Black Box, 7-10 p.m.
- Riverside Theatre – Thumbelina, 7:30 p.m.
- Stuart Community Concert Band – Flagler Recreation Center, 7-9 p.m.

## Friday, Dec. 31

- Maltz Jupiter Theatre – Capitol Steps

INDIAN RIVER magazine is not responsible for errors, omissions or schedule changes. Please check with the facility before attending any event. *IR*



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## IRSC BASKETBALL

# SEARCH ENDS JUST DOWN THE STREET

## ■ Joe Sanchez leaves Jensen Beach for Indian River State

By Jon Santucci  
Special to Treasure Coast Newspapers

FORT PIERCE — Indian River State College conducted a national search to find its new men's basketball coach.

As it turns out, the college didn't even need to leave the Treasure Coast.

Joe Sanchez, who had been Jensen Beach High School's girls coach, was officially announced as the IRSC Pioneers new coach on Tuesday.

"Joe Sanchez has an extensive background in basketball and the thing that I was most intrigued by as much as anything was that everywhere he's been, he's made the programs better," IRSC athletic director Scott Kimmelman said. "He also has an extensive background academically. With his experience at the

Naval Academy, what better guy could you have in the classroom?

"He's not just going to benefit our student athletes, but he will benefit the whole community as a teacher as well."



Joe Sanchez takes over as IRSC men's coach.

Sanchez has been the head women's basketball coach at six universities — including Central Florida, Wake Forest and Navy. He was named the ACC's Coach of the Year in 1987-88 and has six NCAA Tournament appearances. When he resigned from

Navy after the 2001-02 season, he was 35th in NCAA history with 448 wins.

Sanchez began coaching high school basketball in 2002 at The Benjamin School in West Palm Beach after a traffic accident

See **SANCHEZ, 4C**

## SANCHEZ from 1C

prompted him to leave Navy and recuperate at his home in Stuart. Sanchez said he had wanted to get back into college coaching and thought IRSC was the right situation.

"I think the opportunity is tremendous," said Sanchez, who was on the bench with interim coach Albrey Grimsley against St. Petersburg College on Tuesday night. "(IRSC) has a strong tradition. I feel very confident that it will be a very good situation.

"We may be behind in a few things, but we're going to do our best to catch up."

John Picchiarini, who coached the men's basketball team last year, resigned before the start of practice in September, citing his believed inability to provide the mental and physical support the players needed while serving in a part-time role.

Grimsley, who also is an assistant for IRSC's women's team, will stay with the team through the weekend. The team was 4-6 under Grimsley going into Tuesday's game.

"I'm relieved for the simple fact that I've been

doing a lot," said Grimsley, who said she was prepared to coach the team the entire season. "But whatever happened, I would be OK with it."

Sanchez first met with the team last week and had seen the Pioneers play once this season prior to Tuesday's game.

"They're deep in guards, thin at the post," Sanchez said. "When you match up against bigger teams that could be a challenge for us.

"I'm going to attack this with enthusiasm and a ton of energy."

IRSC sophomore forward Kris Alcindor said, "(Sanchez) seems like a great guy and it is a relief to finally get a coach in that spot."

After two games this weekend, the Pioneers don't play again until January 6. Kimmelman said it wasn't necessarily important to make a hire heading into the break.

"Actually, it just worked out that way," Kimmelman said. "We did not want to rush this process. We wanted to go it the right way.

"This wasn't about a quick fix; this was about the future of the program."

### JOE SANCHEZ COLLEGE RECORD

1977-79: William Woods University (Missouri); 52-9  
1979-81: University of Missouri at St. Louis; 35-26  
1981-85: University of Central Florida; 97-32  
1985-92: Wake Forest University; 109-93  
1993-94: University of Nebraska at Kearney; 19-9  
1994-2002: United States Naval Academy; 141-112  
College coaching highlights: 448 collegiate wins, six NCAA Tournament appearances, Patriot League Coach of the Year (94-95), ACC Coach of the Year (87-88)

### HIGH SCHOOL COACHING

2002-03: The Benjamin School (Boys)  
2003-07: South Fork (Boys)  
2007-2010: Jensen Beach (Girls)  
High school coaching highlights: Won one district championship at Jensen Beach, Five regional tournament appearances (two at Jensen Beach, two at South Fork, one at Benjamin)

## JUNIOR COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Tribune 12-5-78 / Press Journal /  
STUART NEWS

# Incoming coach watches IRSC win 4th straight

■ **Pioneers  
pull away late,  
defeat St. Pete  
College 80-69**

**By Jon Santucci**  
Correspondent

FORT PIERCE — With new coach Joe Sanchez watching from the bench, Indian River State College's men's basketball team put on a strong performance.

The Pioneers went on a 12-0 run late in the second half and beat St. Petersburg College 80-69 on Tuesday night. It was the fourth win in a row for IRSC (5-6).

"Overall, the guys executed the game plan very well," said interim coach Albrey Grimsley, who will stay with the team through the weekend. "We had a couple mental lapses at the end of the game, but they executed for the most part."

After slow starts the past few games, Indian River jumped out to a 10-0 lead and was up by as many as 15 in the first half. The Pioneers hit six 3-pointers in the first half — including two each by Quamain Foreman and Luke Walters.

"The guys had three days off, but I guess they retained what I had told them," Grimsley said. "They executed much bet-

ter today."

St. Pete (5-4) came back strong in the second half and tied the score 60-60 on a putback by Ernest Wiggins with 5:56 left in the game.

That's when the Pioneers took control. Walters, who finished with a team-high 18 points, hit a 3-pointer to give the Indian River the lead. Patrick Diop then scored eight of the next 10 points in the game to give the Pioneers a double-digit lead. Diop finished with 16 points.

"We started to play help defense a lot more," Diop said. "Coach called a timeout and we came out and played a lot stronger."

Sanchez was officially introduced as the Pioneers coach on Tuesday. He sat next to Grimsley on the bench and did some coaching during the game.

"It was different," Diop said. "You have two voices going — the old coach and the new coach. It's a learning process."

### INDIAN RIVER 80, ST. PETERSBURG 69

ST. PETERSBURG: McCoy 40-19, Tiluscar 25-7 10, Wiggins 5-2-2 12, Bellinger Jr. 0-2-2 2, Williams 1 0-0 2, Mbaigoto 11 0-1 30, Martin 1 1-2 4, Baroum 0 0-1 0. Totals 24 10-16 69

INDIAN RIVER: Alcindor 3 0-0 6, Diop 3 7-10 16, Dean 1 0-0 2, El Amin 7 3-3 15, Mercado 5 0-0 14, Walters 5 4-7 18, Foreman 2 3-4 9. Totals 25 17-24 80

Halftime: Indian River 38-28. 3-point goals: St. Pete 8 (Mbaigoto 5, McCoy, Tiluscar, Martin), Indian River 9 (Walters 4, Mercado 2, Foreman 2). Fouled Out: None. Total Fouls: St. Pete 20, Indian River 15. Technical Fouls: None. Records: Indian River 5-6, St. Petersburg 5-4.

DENNIS  
JACOB

HIGH SCHOOLS

## Timing of Sanchez move unfortunate

Here's what commitment means:

You finish what you start.

That's what makes the timing of Joe Sanchez's decision to leave Jensen Beach's girls basketball program to coach the Indian River State College men's team a trifle troubling.

While Indian River finally has a replacement for the resigned John Picchiarini — 11 games into the season, no less — Jensen Beach's players have every right to feel left out, even let down.

For Sanchez to leave three weeks into the girls basketball regular season?

Sorry, but that just doesn't feel right.

Look, there's nothing wrong with looking for a better job, with casting a wide net to see what might be out there.

For Sanchez, 63, a former South Fork boys basketball coach who also won 448 games as a women's college coach, the IRSC job was a whopper.

"The opportunity of a lifetime," he called it.

Great for Sanchez. Maybe he will add another layer or two to IRSC's thick championship legacy.

But what about those Jensen Beach players who had their own goals for this season and surely were counting on Sanchez to lead the way?

Once the center of Sanchez's attention, Jensen Beach is now in his past.

He ran the Falcons' practice for the last time Friday. By Tuesday, he was on Indian River State College's bench, eager to take over a team that has gone 5-6 under interim coach Albrey Grimsley.

"I'm going to attack this with enthusiasm and a lot of energy," Sanchez said Tuesday.

Jensen Beach athletic director R.J. Costello put a positive spin on things, pledging that the team would get through the coaching change and thanking Sanchez for his work with the Falcons.

Give Sanchez, who wanted to get back into college coaching, credit for being up front with school officials about his interest in the IRSC job. But when the job search dragged into the start of the girls basketball season, Jensen Beach should have forced the issue.

Commit to a fourth season with Jensen Beach or pursue the IRSC job.

Picchiarini, who earned Southern Conference Coach of the year honors after guiding the Pioneers to the league championship last season, resigned Sept. 17.

IRSC advertised the job as a full-time gig. A pool of 40 applicants was reduced to three finalists: Sanchez, Palm Beach State athletic director David Holstein and Clemson University graduate assistant Adam Gordon.

In the end, IRSC found its man a mere 15 miles south of its Fort Pierce campus. Sanchez will receive a \$57,090 salary plus a \$3,455 head coaching supplement.

Who knows where Jensen Beach's next coach will come from?

For now, it's up to Falcons assistants Annette Jones and Lisa Thiesen to stitch together the rest of this season.

dennis.jacob@scripps.com



## JUNIOR COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL

# IRSC rally wins 3rd straight

■ The Pioneers erase a 10-point deficit to beat Polk State 65-60

By Jon Santucci  
Special to Treasure Coast Newspapers

FORT PIERCE — Indian River State College's men's basketball team is quickly earning a reputation for being a second-half team.

The Pioneers lived up to that billing Tuesday night as they shook off a sluggish start to beat Polk State College 65-60. It was the third straight win for IRSC (4-6).

"This was very reminiscent of when we played

up there," Pioneers coach Albrey Grimsley said. The Vikings came back from an early 13-point deficit to beat IRSC 56-53 on Nov. 9. "What we did in the second half is very reminiscent of what they did.

"We never panicked. Panic is just another word for fear."

Polk (2-7) had a 10-point lead at halftime, but IRSC used a 20-8 run midway through the second half to take a 50-49 lead.

Polk quickly regained the lead, but IRSC took the lead for good when Jamaine Dean blocked a shot, grabbed the loose ball, was fouled and hit a pair of free throws to give the Pioneers 60-58 lead

with 1:35 remaining.

Patrick Diop sparked the comeback for the Pioneers, scoring 19 of his 21 points in the second half. Ramon Mercado added 18 points and Jauhar El Amin scored all 12 of his points in the second half.

"We were too laid back early, but they came out like gangbusters (in the second half)," Grimsley said. "I think we've outscored every team by 8-to-12 points in every game this season."

Indian River struggled early in the first half. They turned the ball over on seven of their first eight possessions and failed to make a field goal for the first 5:31. Polk, which was

led by Rayshon Mack's 31 points, was in front by as many as 12 in the first half.

"I'll take the blame for that," Grimsley said of the slow start. "If things don't go the way I want them to, I'll take the blame. When things go well, I'll give the guys the credit. They deserve it."

The Pioneers play host to St. Petersburg on Dec. 7.

### INDIAN RIVER 65, POLK 60

POLK: Gospic 2 1-2 5, Usher 0 1-3 1, Mack 11 8-12 31, Galaya 1 0-2 2, Gilchrist 4 4-4 12, Kuntz 1 1-4 3, Sanders 2 2-2 6. Totals 21 15-29 60.

INDIAN RIVER: Diop 7 6-7 21, Eversley 1 0-0 2, Dean 3 3-4 9, El Amin 2 8-10 12, Mercado 6 4-4 18, Walters 1 0-0 3. Totals 20 21-25 65.

Halftime: Polk 32-22. 3-point goals: Polk 1 (Mack), Indian River 4 (Mercado 2, Diop, Walters). Fouled out: none. Total fouls: Polk 18, Indian River 21. Technical fouls: Sanders (P). Records: Indian River 4-6, Polk 2-7.

## JUNIOR COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Tribune 12-21-0

# Pioneers finish weekend sweep at Palm Beach Classic

### Staff report

The Indian River State College women's basketball team had a successful Palm Beach Classic by winning all three games. After Satur-

day's win on Saturday, 64-43 over Kishwaukee (Wis.), the Lady Pioneers beat Shelton State on Sunday 64-61. Jessica Capers had 21 points and 13 rebounds and Patrice Collie had 14 points and eight rebounds.

On Monday, Indian River (9-3) defeated Cincinnati State 77-52. Kenisha Jones-Barrett led the Pioneers with 21 points and five assists and Capers had 14 points and 11 rebounds.

Tribune/  
Street News  
12-12-19

## BASKETBALL

# Indian River rolls past Miami Rain

### Staff report

Jessica Capers had 19 points and 16 rebounds and Teara Shaw had 10 points and six assists as Indian River State College defeated the Miami Rain 67-62 in a non-conference game Saturday in Fort Pierce.

Meme Ward added nine points and 11 rebounds and Patrice Collie had eight points and nine rebounds for Indian River (6-3).

Indian River plays in the Palm Beach State Classic at 4 p.m. Saturday against Kishwaukee (Wis.).

Street News / Tribune 12-21-0

## JUNIOR COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# Indian River women roll past Kishwaukee

### Staff report

The Indian River State College women's basketball team defeated Kishwaukee (Wis.) 64-43 on Saturday at the Palm Beach State College Holiday Classic.

Jessica Capers led

the Lady Pioneers (7-3) with 22 points and 10 rebounds. Patrice Collie added 14 points and eight rebounds and Meme Ward had eight points and 11 rebounds.

Indian River plays Shelton State (Ala.) at 2 p.m. Sunday.