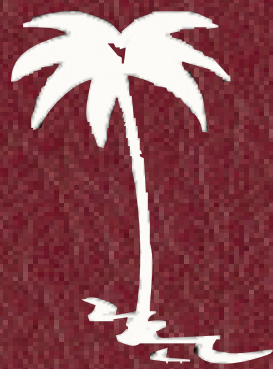


# Palm Coast

ISSUE 30

JANUARY, 2024



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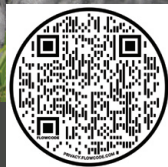
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Issue #30, January 2024

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Welcome to our second annual yearbook issue. You may be wondering, "What is a yearbook issue," and that's perfectly understandable considering the fact that you've probably never seen an actual yearbook since you graduated from high school or college.

Well, this issue is simply a yearbook for a city instead of a school, in this case Palm Coast. The biggest challenge in doing this, of course, is trying to find every group, club or association that's here in the city. It's easy if you're a school: you already know what's going to be in the yearbook.

With a city yearbook you've got to find all of the non-governmental groups that you need to fill up the photo section. It was relatively easy to get all of the photos that we needed from the city and other agencies: the city government, the sheriff's department and the fire department. Brittany Kershaw, Michael Lutz and Patrick Juliano were invaluable to us, as they coordinated dozens of photographs for us from the city, the Flagler County Sheriff's Office and the Palm Coast Fire Department respectively.

And the other people who stepped up for us were the people from all of the many

clubs, groups and organizations that also found photos for us or had them taken before our deadline. We can't list you all here but please accept our thanks nonetheless.

Basically, we just want you to know that this was a group effort and that we greatly appreciate all of the help that we received from all of the people in our wonderful little town.

So we hope that you enjoy this issue and we apologize in advance for any groups that were left out. It wasn't our intention and we'll definitely correct any oversights when we do our next Palm Coast Yearbook in 2024.

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— Tom Aikins, Publisher, Palm Coast magazine.

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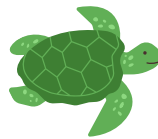
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# Last Year's Happenings At A Glance

## See what happened in Palm Coast in 2023

### JANUARY

The Flagler Auditorium hosted a sold-out performance from the National Ballet of Ukraine. Held on January 4th, the ballet featured Ukrainian-born performers and gave them the opportunity to display their gifts to the stage aficionados of Palm Coast. Support of Ukrainian arts and culture in America is at a high, and it's no different at the Flagler Auditorium.

A deceased orca whale washed up near Jungle Hut Beach in Palm Coast, an extreme rarity both for Palm Coast and marine biology. The whale captured public attention for days, and an examina-



The National Ballet of Ukraine at Flagler Auditorium.

tion by scientists at the Smithsonian eventually determined it died of disease, and not human interference as initially suspected.

Lehigh Trail, the three-segment walking path connecting US-1 to Colbert Lane, was announced to be receiving major renovations by the City of Palm Coast. The trailhead located at Belle Terre Pkwy and Royal Palms Pkwy was slated for paved parking, a dog park, and improved lighting among other things. As 2023 wound on, many of those improvements began to make themselves known. Much of the funding for the renovations came from

state grant money.

Mayor David Alfin publicly ruled out a run for the Florida state legislature, instead committing to running for re-election as Mayor. Alfin was elected in 2021 in a special election and has served continuously to the present, and he'll have up to two more four-year terms if he can win them. Notably, as of the writing of this magazine issue Alfin hasn't filed for his re-election campaign, but three challengers all have.

### FEBRUARY

The City of Palm Coast received a grant from the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) to construct improvements to Waterfront Park. Long one of the most celebrated amenities in the city, the Waterfront Park walking trail and waterway was chosen to receive more convenient water access for non-motorized boats and open up the full scope of its beauty all who visit.

The annual State of the City address was delivered at the Palm Coast Community Center by Mayor David Alfin. The event marked Alfin's second time delivering his yearly update on the well-being of Palm Coast, plus a summation of positive developments that took place since



David Alfin delivering his State of the City address./Eryn Harris photo.

last time. Alfin's own daughter, Melanie DiMartino, performed a stunning rendition of the Star-Spangled Banner, and recently-appointed City Manager Denise Bevan highlighted the hard work of city staff to uphold the quality of life within city limits. Awards were given to retired Fire Chief Jerry Forte, teen volunteer Emma Stanford, and activist Charles Silano.

The 8th Annual Pow Wow Festival was held at Princess Place Preserve. Long one of Palm Coast's largest and celebrated amenities, Princess Place Preserve is home to several ultra-popular community gatherings, the Pow Wow not the least among them. Organized by Flagler County's Parks and Recreation Department in tandem with Jim Sawgrass, the Pow Wow put a variety of Native American cultural festivities on display. Attendees were treated to weapons demonstrations, wildlife exhibits, storytelling, trading booths, and more.

### MARCH

The Flagler County Public Library, whose main branch is located at Belle Terre Pkwy and Palm Coast Pkwy in Palm Coast, debuted its brand new 'Food for Thought' kiosks in Bunnell. Here, citizens can exchange food, hygiene products, and books with the honor system. In addition to presenting resources to those who may need them most, the kiosks formed a new way for community members to connect and help each other out. Two locations were opened, with both open for use

around the clock, seven days a week.

A new policy was adopted by the Palm Coast City Council to approve all questions



A Food For Thought kiosk in Bunnell.

appearing on resident surveys before they're sent out. The idea, championed by Vice Mayor Ed Danko, was in response to a question on a survey asking residents for their gender identity. Citing modern social politics, Danko objected to the question and successfully rallied to get the City Council's eyes on any surveys before residents ever participate in them.

In grislier news, a man convicted of murder in Palm Coast was approved to receive the death penalty by Gov. Ron DeSantis. The decision by the governor to put Louis Bernard Gaskin to death was the first time it had ever happened to a Palm Coast criminal, though the city wasn't yet incorporated at the time of Gaskin's crimes. In 1989, Gaskin murdered a married couple in what is now Palm Coast's R Section by firing a .22 caliber rifle into their home while dressed as a ninja. He would receive his lethal injection in April 2023.

### APRIL

The Palm Coast Garden Club marked ten years in the community with its centennial Spring Festival & Plant Sale. Held at Flagler Palm Coast High





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School in Palm Coast, the event brought together hundreds for the largest plant sale in town. "Our festival has been going on now for ten years," said Garden Club President Denise Garcia. "I've been running it eight years with my team. We keep growing every year."

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office decides to name its new K-9 recruit 'Neo', in honor of his fallen predecessor. The FCSO put out a poll to the public to source a name for

will ensure that we continue to properly manage our land assets with the highest level of diligence, and Ms. Smith's legal background will provide the necessary skills required for land use policies and regulations and any needed changes to City ordinances."

### MAY

Flagler Schools received its first ever Black superintendent, with the appointment of LaShkia Moore to the interim role in

mid-May. Moore, who would soon thereafter be appointed permanent superintendent, received her education at Bethune-Cookman University and worked at Rymfire Elementary School before ascending to the district office. Her promotion to superintendent was catalyzed by the firing of

The Garden Club at Palm Coast held their 10th Annual Plant Sale Festival.



its newest German Shepherd, who was brought in to take the mantle from K-9 Keanu, who passed away in February. As Keanu's named invoked actor Keanu Reeves, the new dog was named Neo after one of Reeves' most iconic characters (from 1999's The Matrix). Neo was born in Hungary and donated to the FCSO by a local businessman.

Cathy Mittelstadt by the Flagler School Board at the urging of the Palm Coast-Flagler Regional Chamber of Commerce. Though the community was initially skeptical of Mittelstadt's firing, Moore has been met with overwhelming positive reception.

Hang 8 Dog Surfing became one of the largest new attractions in Flagler County, drawing

Palm Coast City Clerk Virginia received a major promotion within the city government, being appointed Land Management Administrator. In her new post, Smith was tasked with heading up Palm Coast's expansion westward past US-1, the most significant planned development in the next few decades for the city. "Ms. Smith is the most experienced personnel on this topic, which will allow for a smooth transition," said Communications Director Brittany Kershaw. "This amplified role

The Hang 8 Dog Surfing competition took place at Flagler Beach./Chris Gollon photo



thousands to Flagler Beach on May 20th. Organized chiefly by Mayor Suzie Johnston and City Commissioner Eric Cooley, Hang 8 pitted a variety of dogs (and cats!) against one another

in one of the country's foremost animal sporting events. The competition was a huge hit in its second year, bringing hordes of tourism and activity to the local economy.

The City of Palm Coast and its former waste disposal partner, WastePro, had an ugly clash over the ownership of thousands of plastic recycling bins. After the Palm Coast City Council opted to end its relationship with WastePro, employees from the scorned company were sent out into

the community to collect the bins initially issued by WastePro at the onset of the arrangement. The city government was irate, asserting that the bins were given to residents with no expectation of return.

**JUNE**

The Palm Coast Arts Foundation added Gustav, the 19th addition to the city's renowned Turtle Trail. A grand unveiling was scheduled for July, but PCAF wasted no time familiarizing residents with the newest turtle sculpture. Installed at Hammock Dunes, Gustav was carefully designed in light of the work of Austrian artist Gustav Klimt, his namesake. Local artist Judi Wormeck made Klimt's work come to life and prepared the turtle for his long-lasting place in Palm Coast's art culture.

The Flagler County School Board rejected a program that would've armed teachers and faculty with firearms in the event of a school shooter. The majority vote was formed by Colleen Conklin, Cheryl Masaro, and Sally Hunt, with Will Furry and Christy Chong in the minority. In the event the measure had passed, the School Board would've contracted the Flagler County Sheriff's Office to train them, pending the result of grant applications. For

now, the main line of defense against a potential gunman would be the response of FCSSO school resource deputies.

Two alumni of the Palm



Gustav was added to the Turtle Trail./ Flagler News Weekly photo.

Coast City Council both declared their campaigns for the Flagler County Commission: Vice Mayor Ed Danko and former City Councilman Victor Barbosa. Both candidates were given their first shot at elected office in 2020, when they won the races for City Council seats 1 and 2 respectively. Danko has stayed on since then, and has now chosen to forego a re-election campaign in favor of moving up a level. Barbosa resigned in 2022 after allegations of crimes both in Costa Rica and in Palm Coast.

**JULY**

The brand new AdventHealth hospital location opened on Palm Coast Parkway, after months of construction and much anticipation. The facility brought in brand new equipment and greatly expanded Palm Coast's hospital bed capacity, with the SR-100 AdventHealth location previously being its only major option. CEO Wally Aquino, who addressed the media ahead of the hospital's opening, instantly became one of the most important business leaders in Flagler County. The influence of his direction of AdventHealth Palm Coast Parkway is felt in how healthcare is administered every day.

The return of Palm Coast's Senior Games was announced,

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with a start date scheduled for September 15th. The games, which provide a fun, competitive avenue for seniors to stay active and play the sports they love, combined a variety of



AdventLife Hospital added its second Palm Coast location.

events at sporting facilities all around Palm Coast. Some of the games included pickleball, golf, tennis, billiards, shuffleboard, and horseshoes. Qualifiers from Palm Coast's 2023 Senior Games were given the opportunity to compete in the State of Florida Senior Games in December.

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office buried two time capsules at their new operations center in Bunnell. Both capsules are to remain buried for over 40 years before being opened to share their history with whoever is around to open them then. One capsule marks 100 years since the FCSO was founded in 2017, with news articles included about the anniversary from the date it was reached. The other was made to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the new operations center,

which will be reached in 2072. That one contains an eviction notice from the old location at the Government Service Building and a mask from the COVID-19 pandemic.

**AUGUST**

Bunnell Elementary School was thrust into international

headlines when school faculty held a racially segregated assembly. The Black students in attendance were warned of early deaths or imprisonment if they didn't improve their test scores. Several employees resigned including the principal, and parents throughout the county objected to having to explain the connotations of what occurred with their young children. Disagreements over the public relations of the event lead to the censuring of the School Board chair.

A brand new boat launch and rental station were debuted at Waterfront Park, the result of thousands of dollars in renovations to the facility. Newly debuted were a launch for small boats to navigate the waterways of the park, plus a kayak and stand-up paddleboard rental station just inside



New facilities debuted at Waterfront Park including a boat launch. /Steven Helfrich photo

the entrance to Waterfront Park. Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Commissioner Randy Stapleford, a champion of grant money needed for the additions, was on-hand to help usher them in.

Brian and Hailey McMillan purchased the Palm Coast Observer and Ormond Beach Observer from their previous owner, publisher John Walsh. Brian McMillan was all too familiar with the two Observer outlets, having served for years as editor-in-chief prior to leaving for months earlier in 2022.

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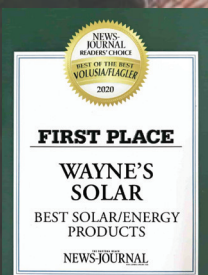
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"When I left the Observer in July 2022, I never imagined I would return," McMillan said in an email interview Tuesday evening. "But I always loved journalism and community newspapers, so I was happy when the opportunity arose."

**SEPTEMBER**

Hurricane Idalia impacted



*Kaiti Lenhart will be seeking a third term as Flagler County Supervisor of Elections.*

Flagler County and other regions of Florida at the end of August, ultimately resulting in a best-case-scenario for Flagler. Not nearly as lucky were areas along Florida and Georgia's

border, such as Madison County. Jonathan Lord and Nealon Joseph of the Flagler County Emergency Management Department were dispatched to assist in the recovery from the disastrous Idalia impact in Madison, lending the expertise and manpower that Flagler was very close to needing itself. "We have a great team, dedicated to their work," said Flagler County Administrator Heidi Petito. "Flagler County was fortunately spared, and we are extremely grateful for that. Jonathan Lord and his staff were prepared to work and didn't hesitate for a moment to answer the request from Madison County."

The Flagler Tiger Bay Club announced its new lineup of leadership officers. Business leader Jay Scherr became the new President, taking over from founding President Greg Davis. Flagler Auditorium Di-

rector Amelia Fulmer became First Vice President, and attorneys Marc Dwyer and Dr. Joe Saviak each became Second Vice Presidents respectively. Meanwhile, a slate of guest speakers for the remainder of the year were also announced, including Scenic America President Mark Falzone and Florida East Coast Industries CSO Hussein Cumber.

Kaiti Lenhart, the Flagler County Supervisor of Elections since 2015, announced she'd seek a third full term in office in 2024. Lenhart was appointed to the post eight years ago by

then-Governor Rick Scott, and has been re-elected twice to four-year terms. "I know from experience that running for office is brutal," she said. "It's such hard work, it's very expensive, and you sacrifice time with family and friends to put your life out in a public arena."

**OCTOBER**

The Flagler Playhouse, long one of the foremost artistic institutions in Flagler County, burned down in a late night blaze. The building caught fire in the early hours of October 30th and most of the structure was entirely destroyed before firefighters could extinguish the blaze. Prior to being bought by the Playhouse owners in the 00's, the building was a Baptist church for decades.

The Tomahawk Tavern, one of the more well-known novelty restaurants in Flagler



*The Flagler Playhouse burned in a late night blaze./Chris Gollon photo*

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County, announced its immediate and permanent closure. The restaurant lasted around two years, and gave patrons the opportunity to engage in ax-throwing while they ate their food and drank their drinks. "We will miss you all," the owners said in their final message.

The Palm Coast Fire Department ran its annual Halloween Hall of Terror for the 22nd year, once again bringing thrills and scares to the community. As always the event was held at Fire Station 21, with the whole facility being transformed by the hard work of the firefighters. For two nights including Halloween, a dark hallway was sectioned off with smoke, light effects, scare actors, and props to turn an ordinary fire station into the best haunted house in town.

**NOVEMBER**

In a story nobody ever wants

to have happen, Sheriff Rick Staly announced a suspect had been charged in the shooting death of his infant niece in Palm Coast. The family, who lived in



the R Section, were at home when C.J. Nelson allegedly discharged his gun on accident, striking the 18-month-old victim. Staly credited Detective Kathryn Gordon with helping to bring charges to Nelson.

Will Furry was appointed Chair of the Flagler County School Board, taking the position over from prior chair Cheryl Massaro. Furry's appoint-

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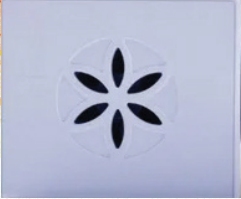


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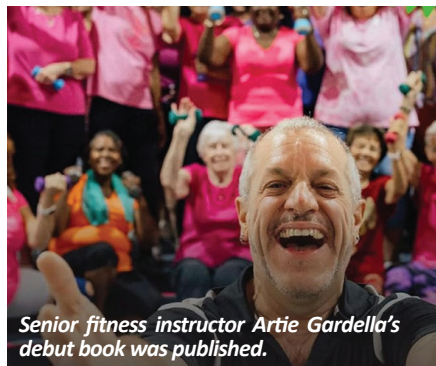


ment was unusual in that he took over the leadership role in just his second year in office, an irregularity in Flagler County politics. Furry was backed by Christy Chong and Sally Hunt, and opposed by Massaro and Colleen Conklin.

Sims Jones, a longtime pastor and political activist, passed away at 67 following a long series of health issues. Jones ran three campaigns for the Palm Coast City Council with all three falling short, but succeeding in affecting the narrative surrounding major city issues. Jones was remembered for his compassion and leadership in the community.

**DECEMBER**

Flagler Sheriff Rick Staly was recognized by Bethune-Cookman University for his office's work in diversity and race relations. The honor came at the 6th Annual Florida Historically Black Colleges and Universities Law Enforcement Luncheon. "I



Senior fitness instructor Artie Gardella's debut book was published.

am honored to be among the law enforcement professionals recognized today," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "Building a strong relationship between our agency and our community has been incredibly important to me since the day I became Sheriff. This recognition is a testament to our partnership with BCU that we greatly cherish."

Senior fitness instructor Artie Gardella released his debut book, 'Because You Have a Bucket List'. In writing his book, Gardella drew from years of experience helping seniors with their strength and mobil-

ity in writing, and he now gets to present it proudly to his clients. "It encapsulates my experience in empowering seniors to live their lives to the fullest," Gardella said. "This book is more than just words; it's an invitation to embrace every moment with enthusiasm and courage, no matter your age."

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office arrested a parolee from Georgia in Bunnell on a slew of drug and gun charges. 22-year-old Nathan Tanner was convicted in a burglary some time ago, and was potentially thrown back into legal turmoil when he was arrested just last month in Flagler County. Tanner is accused of possessing several illegal narcotics as well as a firearm he was barred from owning due to his prior conviction.



Flagler Sheriff Rick Staly was recognized by Bethune-Cookman University for his office's work in diversity and race relations.

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# 2023 Yearbook

The road to creating this yearbook has been a long strange trip. The idea of publishing a city yearbook first occurred to me in 1982 while I owned Material World Publishing, a small company in Portland, Maine. Fresh on the heels of publishing a successful magazine to mark the 350th anniversary of the founding of the city of Portland (1632-1982), I came up with the idea of publishing a yearbook for the city.

For a number of reasons it never came to fruition but the idea was always in the back of my head. Now, finally, after 40 more years of publishing magazines in the U.S. and overseas, I've had the opportunity to bring this idea to reality.

We realize that we have almost certainly left out some groups or organizations that we would

have wanted to be included but it wasn't easy for us to identify all of the private groups that are in the area so we ask for your indulgence if we neglected to mention any group or organization you are involved in. It certainly wasn't intentional and we ask that you contact us as soon as possible so that you'll be in on our database going forward. That's because we have plans to publish another yearbook next year and many more afterwards.

So we hope that you enjoy what we've created and please, if you can, let us know what you think. We always welcome feedback of any kind (see our email address on page 4) and it always helps us to get better. Hope everyone had a good holiday season and have a great 2024.

## CITY GOVERNMENT AND CITY HALL



*City Manager Denise Bevan, Vice Mayor Ed Danko, Councilwoman Cathy Heighter, Mayor David Alfin, Councilwoman Theresa Carli Pontieri and Councilman Nick Klufas.*



THE EXECUTIVE TEAM



THE CUSTOMER SERVICE TEAM



THE FINANCE TEAM





**THE STORMWATER TEAM**



**Above: the Human Resources team; above right: the Marketing team; right: the Business Tax team.**



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James Hirst



Jason DeLorenzo



Renina Fuller



Matt Mancil



Stephen Flanagan



Kyle Berrhill



**THE UTILITIES TEAM**



County Sheriff Rick Staly



**PCFD RETIREES CELEBRATE THE RETIREMENT OF DRIVER LEO CHUMACEIRO**



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*Palm Coast*

*January 2024*



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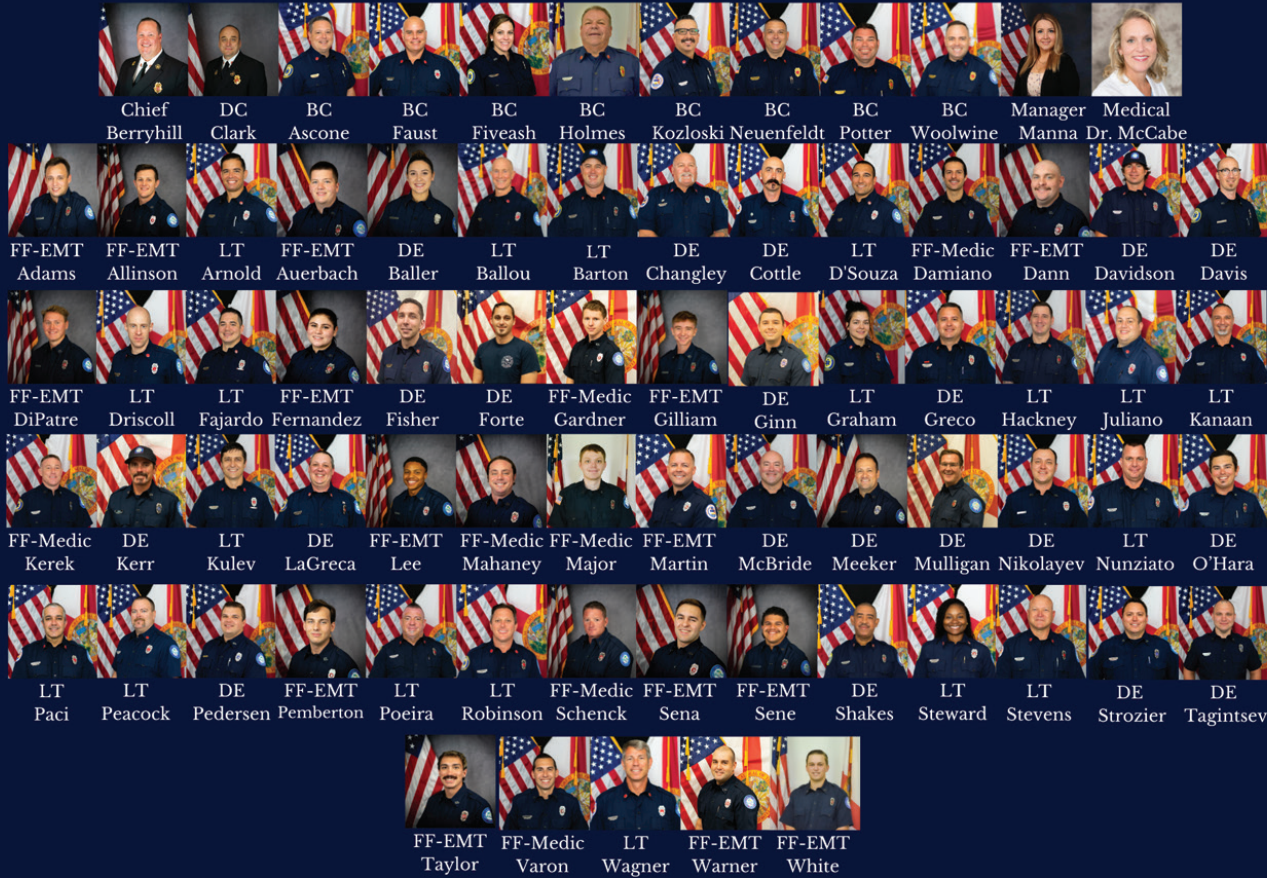
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# Palm Coast Fire Department 50th Anniversary 1973-2023



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**For more information on Municipal Bonds log on to [msrb.org](http://msrb.org)**



# Local Happenings

*Check out some of the more interesting meetings, events and activities from 2023 as published in our pages each month*



*The Palm Coast-Flagler Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony in January to mark the 25th anniversary of Dick Stark's Carpet One on Palm Coast Pkwy. Dozens of people were in attendance and food was provided by Redefined Foods.*



*Sixteen Palm Coast residents graduated from the 54th session of the Palm Coast Citizens Academy on November 7th at the City Council meeting. This session of the Palm Coast Citizens Academy began on September 25th and completed on November 6th.*



*Photo and text courtesy of flaglercountybuzz.com*

*On August 18 the City of Palm Coast held a ribbon cutting event at Waterfront Park, to acknowledge and announce the completion of the Kayak boat launch area of the park. Photographs of the entire process of this new addition lined the path leading to the new pavilion area of the park, directly across from the new launch area. Mayor Alfin came to speak about the park's new addition which includes a floating dock, concrete paved patio area and slope leading to the dock, a paddleboard and kayak rental station as well as picnic tables and seating. This new addition to the park sits just before the Children's Memorial Gardens, a place for local families to remember the children they have lost.*



*Hosting a variety of local vendors and live music in the park, it was a full day of fun dedicated to celebrating Earth Day on Saturday at Washington Oaks Gardens State Park. Several hundred people attended the event, put on by the Friends of Washington Oaks.*



*City of Palm Coast Fire Chief Kyle Berryhill, Palm Coast Mayor David Alfin, Flagler County Sheriff Rick Staly and Debbie Staly were present at the Touch A Truck event on May 27 at City Center.*



*Atlantic Benefit Consultants celebrated the opening of their new office at 50 Leanni Way with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on February 16. The move was necessitated by the expansion of the company as they now have seven agents in their office.*





Members of the Flagler County Detachment 876 Marine Corps League placed flags for Memorial Day at the graves of Veterans at the Pellicer Creek Cemetery in St. John's County and Masonic Cemetery on South Old Kings Road in Palm Coast.



National Black Business Month was marked at a recent Palm Coast City Council meeting. City council member Cathy Heigher is shown with Leslie Giscombe, founder/CEO of the African American Entrepreneurs Association and the other city council members.



At a ceremony on September 19, Palm Coast Mayor David Alfin officially proclaimed September 15th to October 15th as Hispanic Heritage Month in the City of Palm Coast. The Chamber of Commerce's Hispanic Business Alliance received the proclamation.



The Al Krier Trail Dedication Ceremony took place on October 25, 2023 underneath the Palm Coast bridge. On what would have been Al's birthday, the City of Palm Coast unveiled a dedicated trail to celebrate his profound contributions to the community.



Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) employees donated \$25,645 to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches (FSYR) making FCSO employee's total donations to the FSYR over \$158,000 since 2017. Flagler County Sheriff Rick Staly presented the latest employee donation check to FSYR Executive Vice President Maria Knapp, and Levy County Sheriff and FSYR Board Chair Bobby McCallom on July 24th, 2023 during the Florida Sheriffs Association (FSA) semi-annual meeting.



The Palm Coast Fire Department hosted a Gold Star Dedication ceremony in memory of Army Corporal Raheen Tyson Heigher on May 27. Cathy Heigher, Raheen's mother and a city councilwoman, is shown with Christopher Strozier, the firefighter who came up with the idea originally.





# Parks And Recreation In The City

The city of Palm Coast has no shortage of green spaces and recreation areas as you will find with a little exploring. We decided to make it a little easier to find a place that's perfect for your recreation, reflection and relaxation needs. The following list shows the major playground spots as well as parks, sports facilities and nature preserves. We visited each of these places and found them all to be well-maintained and easily accessible so don't hesitate to avail yourself of the amenities they offer.

## **Belle Terre Park • 339 Parkview Dr.**

This park, located behind Wadsworth Elementary and Buddy Taylor Middle Schools, offers soccer fields, tennis and racquetball courts. Due to its proximity to the two schools, students often benefit from the park's recreational opportunities.

**Parking • Pickleball • Picnic Shelter • Playground • Raquetball Restrooms • Soccer • Tennis**



## **Bird of Paradise Nature Reserve • 179 Bird of Paradise Drive**

A passive park providing the Indian Trails neighborhood residents a place to relax and enjoy the beauty of nature. This quiet spot is peaceful and it's also popular with fishermen.

**Fishing**



## **Central Park in Town Center • 975 Central Avenue**

Drawing inspiration from towns and suburbs built in the early 20th century, this nine-acre urban park is situated in the heart of Town Center, Palm Coast's downtown area.

**Geocaching • Parking • Restrooms • Walking**



## **Children's Memorial Garden • 150 Waterfront Park Road**

Nestled in the shade of old oak hammocks along the Intracoastal Waterway scenic trail just north of Waterfront Park, this special place serves as a peaceful sanctuary for all to rest, reflect and recall.

**Parking**



## **Community Center & Park • 2860 Palm Coast Parkway**

The Palm Coast Community Center is the home for the Parks and Recreation administrative offices. It also serves as the host location for the Palm Coast City Council Business Meetings, advisory committee meetings, recreation programs and activities.

**Basketball • Parking • Playground • Restrooms**



## **Heroes Memorial Park • 2860 Palm Coast Parkway NW**

Those in the military and law enforcement who have served and sacrificed for our country now have a place to be honored. Each Memorial Day, Veteran's Day and Fourth of July memorial services are held in this park to recognize those who have given their lives in the line of duty. Branches of the military are honored with engraved granite monuments of these names, along with a Purple Heart Memorial.

**Geocaching • Parking**



## **Indian Trails Sports Complex • 5455 Belle Terre Parkway**

Host site of local, regional and state Lacrosse and Soccer Tournaments, the ITSC/ITMS site provides visitors with exceptional athletic facilities conveniently located off major transportation routes.

**Baseball • Lacrosse • Parking • Picnic Shelter • Playground Restrooms • Snack Bar • Soccer**





**James F. Holland Memorial Park • 18 Florida Park Drive N**

Holland Park is an important recreational and social hub in the community. Dog park and bocce ball courts attract residents to this most popular destination in the Palm Coast community.

- Baseball • Basketball • Bocce Ball • Dog Park • Lacrosse • Parking • Pickleball • Picnic Shelter • Playground • Restrooms Shuffleboard • Soccer • Tennis • Volleyball • Walking



**Long Creek Nature Preserve • 1050 Palm Harbor Parkway**

Long Creek Nature Preserve is the newest jewel in the City of Palm Coast’s park system.

- Canoeing • Elevated Boardwalk • Fishing • Floating Boat Dock Hiking • Kayaking • Parking • Wildlife Viewing



**Palm Coast Aquatics Center • 339 Parkview Drive**

Heated pool with lanes available for lap swimming. There are plenty of lessons offered here for everyone from kids learning to swim to senior citizens doing aquatic exercise classes. Check out their schedule on the city’s website.

- Parking • Picnic Shelter • Restrooms • Swimming



**Palm Coast Tennis Center • 1290 Belle Terre Pkwy**

The Palm Coast Tennis Center, a 2010 USTA Facility of the Year Award Winner, offers 10 Hydro-grid clay tennis courts lighted to tournament standards. Leagues, lessons, events, tournaments and programs for players of all ages and abilities are offered.

- Parking • Restrooms • Tennis



**Ralph Carter Park • 1385 Rymfire Drive**

Ralph Carter Park, adjacent to Rymfire Elementary School extends across 13.1 acres of land. It offers visitors lighted multi-sports fields, a mini skate park, a lighted basketball court, walking trail, playground, bar-b-que grills and restroom facility.

- Basketball • Parking • Picnic Shelter • Restrooms Skateboarding • Soccer



**Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park • 350 Sesame Boulevard**

Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park creates an active, social environment for our visitors. The variety of recreational opportunities appeals to children, adults and seniors, making it a favorite family destination.

- Geocaching • Parking • Picnic Shelter • Playground • Restrooms Soccer • Tennis



**St. Joe Walkway/Palm Coast Linear Park • 31 Greenway Court**

Nestled between the eastbound and westbound lanes of Palm Coast Parkway, Linear Park’s 57-acre jewel features many amenities for all to enjoy, including a playground, picnic pavilions, hiking and biking trails and bird watching.

- Biking • Bocce Ball • Geocaching • Hiking • Parking • Picnic Shelter • Playground • Restrooms • Shuffleboard • Walking Wildlife Viewing



**Waterfront Park/Intracoastal Waterway • 150 Waterfront Park Rd**

Waterfront Park is the only city-owned waterfront property along the Intracoastal Waterway. This large waterside park never seems to be crowded and offers a variety of activities for nature lovers.

- Biking • Fishing • Geocaching • Parking • Picnic Shelter Playground • Restrooms • Walking • Wildlife Viewing





# Events, Meetings, Classes, etc.

## Events

**Palm Coast Farmer's Market**  
**January, 7, 14, 21, 28 @12-4 PM**, European Village, 101 Palm Harbor Pkwy, Vendors include sellers of seafood, meats, dairy products, nut butters, many varieties of crafts and a lot more every Sunday.

**First Saturday Creative Bazaar Arts & Crafts Market**  
**January 6, 1500 Central Avenue, Town Center.** Produced by The Palm Coast Arts Foundation, this is a bazaar and flea market featuring arts and crafts every first Saturday of the month.

**Book Club**  
**January 5, 10:30-11:30 AM, first Friday of the month,** Palm Coast Community Center, free. Do you love to read? Each month will have a designated genre. You select and read

a book that falls within the monthly category. Book suggestions are available on our website if you need a little help. That month we will meet to share our impressions, reactions, and feelings. June: Reader's Choice. Go to [www.parksandrec.fun/adults](http://www.parksandrec.fun/adults) to sign up.

**Texas Roadhouse Events**  
**January 9, 2-8 PM**  
 Come support the Palm Coast Garden Club at Texas Roadhouse! Mention their fundraiser and 10% of your check will be donated to a great organization.

**January 12, 11-5 PM**  
 Come support the Flagler Volunteer Services at Texas Roadhouse! Mention their fundraiser and 10% of your check will be donated to a great organization.

**January 15, 2-8 PM**  
 Come support the University

Women of Flagler at Texas Roadhouse! Mention their fundraiser and 10% of your check will be donated to a great organization.

**January 22, 2-8 PM**  
 Come support the Flagler School of Dance at Texas Roadhouse! Mention their fundraiser and 10% of your check will be donated to a great organization.

**January 23, 2-8 PM**  
 Come support First Baptist Christian Academy at Texas Roadhouse! Mention their fundraiser and 10% of your check will be donated to a great organization.

**January 30, 5-8 PM**  
 Kids Night at Texas Roadhouse. Come enjoy corn hole, a bounce house, free face painting, giveaways, and meet community partners! Email [\[roadhouse.com\]\(http://roadhouse.com\) to become a vendor. It's FREE!](mailto:673marketing@texas-</a></p>
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## Meetings

**New Jersey Social Club**  
 Social club for former New Jersey residents with a monthly meeting on the fourth Wednesday of each month. For more information, contact membership chair Penni Knapp at 386-931-5976.

**Italian American Club Bingo**  
**Mondays & Tuesdays, 45 Old Kings Road,** doors open at 3 PM on Monday with free dinner served. Tuesdays, doors open at 10 AM and free lunch is served. Call 386-445-1893 for more information.

**Nara-Anon Group**  
**Monday nights at 6 PM, St. Marks By The Sea Lutheran Church, 303 Palm Coast Pkwy NE, Palm Coast.** Nara-Anon

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**The Silhouettes: Light of Christmas**  
Dec. 15, 2023 - 7:00 PM



**THE TEXAS TENORS**

The Texas Tenors  
Jan. 10, 2024 - 7:00 PM



**The Greatest Love of All Starring  
Belinda Davids:  
A Tribute to Whitney Houston**  
Jan. 20, 2024 - 7:00 PM

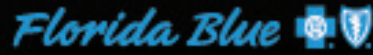
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**NEW YEAR'S EVE  
WEEKEND FRIEND-RAISER**  
*Show!*  
**THE LITTLE MERMAID**  
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FOR ART  
EDUCATION

**Friday, December 29th at 7:00 pm**  
\$5 Tickets for kids under 12 | \$10 under 18 | \$25 for adults  
**Dress up as your favorite Disney character!**  
Arrive early to enter a contest for your chance to win prizes!

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\*This show is not included in the subscription

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Events, Meetings, Classes, etc. from page 40

**AARP Foundation**  
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**AARP FOUNDATION TAX AIDE. FLAGLER COUNTY IS RECRUITING NEW VOLUNTEERS DURING THE FALL FOR THE 2024 TAX SEASON**  
 To learn more about volunteer opportunities call (386) 243-5556 or email [flaglerctytaxaide@gmail.co](mailto:flaglerctytaxaide@gmail.co)


Groups are for those of us who are affected by a loved one's addiction. Please enter through the side door next to the playground. We offer our help by sharing our experience, strength and hope. For more information please call Nancy at 386-569-0417 and leave a message.

**Classes**

**Art Classes**

All classes at **Sherry's Art Studio, City Marketplace, 2nd floor, 160 Cypress Point Pkwy.** Call 732-997-9516 for more information or see the website for a complete list at [www.sherrysartstudio.info](http://www.sherrysartstudio.info)

The activities that we have listed here that are presented by the city's park and Recreation Department are only a fraction of the total activities that occur on a regular basis. There is a truly impressive variety of activities, classes and other events that this department produces — their catalog is 38 pages. So go to <https://www.palmcoast.gov/parks-and-recreation> or scan the QR code to see a lot more.




## QR Code Use Rapidly Growing in Popularity

You've undoubtedly seen QR codes all over the place in your everyday life and you maybe a regular user of them. If you are, you may not need to read this article. If you're not that familiar with them and aren't sure of what they do, then please read on.

In either case, QR codes are here to stay and are gaining in popularity and usage. We have been using them in this magazine for over a year now and they have been steadily producing more and more scans each issue. In the last 90 days, for example, the number of scans made from QR codes in our pages has gone up 174% in the last 90 days.

How do you scan a QR code? Now you can simply point most phones at a code such as the one at right and the phone will display a URL. When you touch that URL you are taken to a web page. When I first started using QR codes I downloaded a QR code reader from the Google Play Store. iPhone users that have an iPhone 11 or later can automatically scan codes without a QR reader. My current Samsung phone, an A13, also automatically scans QR codes so I don't have to use the QR reader software that I downloaded for free over a year ago. So if your phone doesn't scan codes automatically just download one of the free apps and you'll be all set.

If you want to see if your phone can scan codes then try scanning the code on this page. If it works you'll be taken to our web page where you can download any of our back issues. And if you have any questions for any reason just do a Google search and you'll find lots of information to help you. In the meantime, please keep reading... and scanning.



- Sat Jan 13** 11 AM, Light House Wood Buoy, \$65.00
- Sat Jan 20** 11 Am, 16x20 Light-house Workshop, \$125.00
- Sun Jan 21** 11 AM, OVER SIZE Floral Class 24x36, \$175.00
- Sat Feb 3** 11 AM, 12x24 Acrylic Mermaid Painting, \$75.00
- Sat Feb 3** 11 AM, "Sun Glow" 4ft Surfboard Workshop \$325.00
- Sun Feb 4** 11 AM, Beach Couple 16x20 Acrylics, \$75.00
- Sat Feb 10** 11 AM, 12" Sea Turtle Wood Heart Sign Regular price \$65.00
- Sun Feb 11** 11 AM, Wood Sea Horse Heart Stand, \$65.00
- Sun Feb 11** 11 AM, Wood Sea Horse Heart Stand, \$65.00
- Mon Feb 12** 11 AM, Elegant Flamingo Heart Wood Sign/Stand, \$75.00
- Sun Feb 18** 11 AM, "Bubbles Up" The Dolphin 12x24 Acrylics, \$75.00

**Activities**

**AQUA ZUMBA®**

**Mondays & Wednesdays, March 4-May 29 (No class May 27) 5:30-6:30 PM, Tuesdays & Thursdays Feb. 6-May 30, (No class Feb. 19 & May 27), 9-10 AM, Palm Coast Aquatics Center.** Aqua Zumba® blends the Zumba® philosophy with water resistance for one pool party you shouldn't miss. There is less impact on your joints, so you can really let loose. 13+ years, \$10/class

**WATER AEROBICS**  
**February-May, Palm Coast Aquatics Center, Mondays & Wednesdays, Feb. 5-May 29 (No class Feb. 19 & May 27) 9-10 AM.** Membership please visit: [usms.org](http://usms.org). Please call for

days, times, and registration, \$30/month or \$4/drop-in. Water Aerobics combines aerobics with strength training, moving your body through the water creates a resistance that will activate muscle groups without impacting your joints. 13+ years, Fee: \$10/class, Register: 386-986-4741

**LUCK OF THE PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT**

**Friday-Sunday March 8-10, 8 AM-4 PM, Southern Recreation Center.** Wear green and stay out of the kitchen for our March Tournament. Play in men's and women's doubles and mixed doubles. For players level 4.0 and under only. First 100 sign-ups receive a t-shirt. 13+ years, \$40/person

**MOTHER'S DAY PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT**

**Friday-Sunday May 17-19 8 AM-4 PM, Southern Recreation Center.** What's the best way to celebrate mom? Playing pickleball, of course! Play in men's and women's doubles and mixed doubles. For players level 4.0 and under only. First 100 sign-ups receive a t-shirt. 13+ years, \$40/person

**OPEN GYM VOLLEYBALL ADVANCED**

**Mondays, Session 1: Jan. 8-March 13, Session 2: March 25-May 22, 7-9:30 PM, Indian Trails Middle School.** This fun, co-ed volleyball program is for advanced players only. 18+ years, \$30/session or \$3/drop-in

**OPEN GYM BASKETBALL**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays, Session 1: Jan. 9-March 14, Session 2: March 26-May 23, 7-9:30 PM, Indian Trails Middle School.** Play some hoops with your friends or meet new people. This adult co-ed basketball

**Flagler County Orchid Society**  
 Monthly Meeting • January 25 at 7 PM  
 Trinity Presbyterian Church • 156 Florida Park Dr.  
 Orchid species and care are discussed and guests are always welcome.

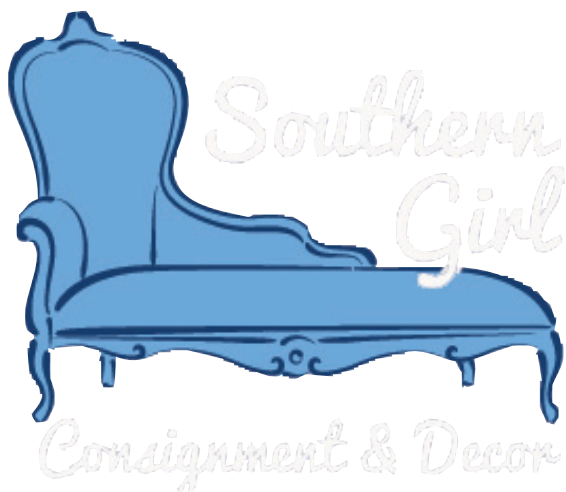
**Contact: Jeanne Long**  
**386-931-3156**

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info.

## Events, Meetings, Classes, etc. from page 43

program is a non-competitive, recreation program. 18+ years, \$30/session or \$3/drop-in

### OVER 35 OPEN GYM BASKETBALL

**Fridays, Jan. 12-May 24, 7-9:30 PM, Indian Trails Middle School.** Make some space for the legends of ball!

This program is for adults over 35 who want to get out on the court and shoot some hoops. Play a variety of games with new people, 35+ years, \$30/session or \$3/drop-in

### WELCOME TO TENNIS

**Saturday, 10-11 AM & 11 AM-12 PM, Monday, 10-11 AM, Southern Recreation Center.**

New to tennis? Learn the game in a instructional clinic that will focus on the game's fundamentals. Loaner racquets are available at no additional cost. 18+ years. Please check the online catalog for session dates and fees

### MORNING BLAST

**Mondays & Fridays, Jan. 5-May 31, (No clinic Feb. 12 & 16), Clinic 1: 9-10 AM Clinic 2: 10-11 AM, Palm Coast Tennis Center.**

Tennis meets fitness with high-paced, high-energy drills and point play. Our tennis pros will lead both beginning and advanced players alike through a challenging workout that will leave you feeling refreshed, confident, and ready to play. All skill levels are welcome. \$12/class

### DOUBLES ROUND ROBIN

**Sundays & Tuesdays, Jan. 2-June 2, (No play Feb. 13 & 18, March 31), Sundays, 9:30-11 AM, Tuesdays, 6-8 PM, Southern Recreation Center.**

In round-robin tennis, everyone has a chance to play against each other and experience a variety of games. All ages and abilities are welcome. It's a great way to meet new members of our tennis community.

You are not required to sign up with a partner. 18+ years, \$7/class

### DOUBLES SKILLS TENNIS

**Wednesdays Jan. 3-May 29, (No class Feb. 14), 9:30-11 AM, Southern Recreation Center.** Build your doubles skills with instructor-led situational drills and games. You don't need to register with a partner and all skill levels are welcome. \$17/class

### WOMEN'S DOUBLES HIGH PERFORMANCE

**Mondays Jan. 8-May 27, 9-10 AM, Southern Recreation Center.** Take your doubles game to the next level with a specialty clinic designed for intermediate level or higher doubles players. Please register in person. 18+ years, \$15/class

### LEARN THE BASICS OF YOUR COMPUTER

**Tuesdays, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, March 19, April 16, May 21 10-11:30 AM, Palm Coast Community Center.**

Learn more about your computer, like basic care, programs, and the importance of internet security. 18+ years, Free

### FLORIDA HEALTH CARE PLANS WELLNESS WORKSHOPS

**Thursdays, Jan. 25, Feb. 29, March 28, April 25, May 30, 10:30-11:30 AM, Palm Coast Community Center.**

Presented in partnership with Florida Health Care Plans. Join the conversation as healthcare professionals discuss a new topic each month that focuses on health and wellness. Check our online catalog for a list of topics. Free

### WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENSE

**Mondays, Session 1: Feb. 26-March 11, Session 2: April 29-May 13, 6-8 PM, 13+ years, Palm Coast Community Center.** Commander Michael Lutz from the Flagler County Sheriff's Office will show you how to

You can go to <https://www.palmcoast.gov/parks-and-recreation> to see a lot more activities that are offered by the city.



protect yourself from attackers and stay safe. Pre-registration is required at least 48 hours in advance; participants must attend all three classes. Free

#### LUNCH N' LECTURE

**Fridays, Jan. 12, March 8, May 10, 11 AM-12:30 PM, Palm Coast Community Center.**

Presented in partnership with AdventHealth. Join professionals during lunch for discussions on topics that may affect the lives of our adult community. Pre-registration is required on Wednesday the week prior to the program date and while space is available. Free

**Jan. 12** - City of Palm Coast, Imagine 2050

**March 8** - AdventHealth, Heart Health

**May 10** - City of Palm Coast, Pump/Lift Station Maintenance

#### YOGA FOR ALL

**Tuesdays & Thursdays, Jan. 2-May 28, 9-10 AM, Palm Coast Community Center.**

Relax and restore through stretching, yoga poses, breathing, and relaxation led by certified instructor Michele Cotto. \$8/class or \$6.25/class with the punch pass

#### ZUMBA®

**Wednesdays Jan. 3-May 29, 9-10 AM, Palm Coast Community Center.** Zumba® is a fitness program that combines Latin and international music with dance moves, alternating fast and slow rhythms, to help improve cardiovascular fitness. \$8/class or \$6.25/class with the punch pass

#### ZUMBA GOLD®

**Fridays, Jan. 5-May 31, 9-10 AM, Palm Coast Community Center.** This modified Zumba® class recreates the original moves you love at a lower-intensity, with easy-to-follow Zumba® choreography that focuses on balance, range of motion, and coordination. \$8/class or \$6.25/class with the punch pass

## Marine Corps Detachment 876 Flagler County

Meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

The VFW Post 8796

47 Old Kings Road North

Palm Coast, FL 32137

Meet and greet and pizza party at 1715 hours.

Meeting starts at 1800 hours.

**Artie Gardella**, a resident of Palm Coast for multiple decades, has announced the new expansion of his senior fitness program, Synergy Senior Fitness. The change was made as a result of increased demand, according to a press release detailing the change. Those wishing to attend the new class can come to St. Thomas Episcopal Church on Belle Terre Parkway at 10:30 AM on Mondays and Thursdays. The program aims to promote muscle tone, strength, endurance, balance and flexibility. It's covered by most insurance providers. Uninsured participants can join in by paying a donation. Synergy Senior Fitness offers a variety of classes in several locations between Flagler and Volusia counties. According to the program's website, the following locations and time slots are available:

**Palm Coast Community Center, 305 Palm Coast Parkway NE**

Mon & Thurs, 12:00 PM – Balance and Motion

**First Baptist Church, 2301 Commerce Pkwy, Bunnell**

Tues, 9:15 AM – Synergy Classic

Tues & Thurs, 9:15 AM – Active Fit

Tues & Thurs, 10:15 AM – Pilates

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 5400 Belle Terre Pkwy**

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# Sherry's Art Studio



Sherry Waldman is a published international artist bringing over 4 decades of art experience to Palm Coast. Her studio is a place where reality and fantasy meet and greet. 4,000 sqft of unbridled creativity. 3 classrooms, art supplies, murals, custom work, daily workshops and Open Studio.

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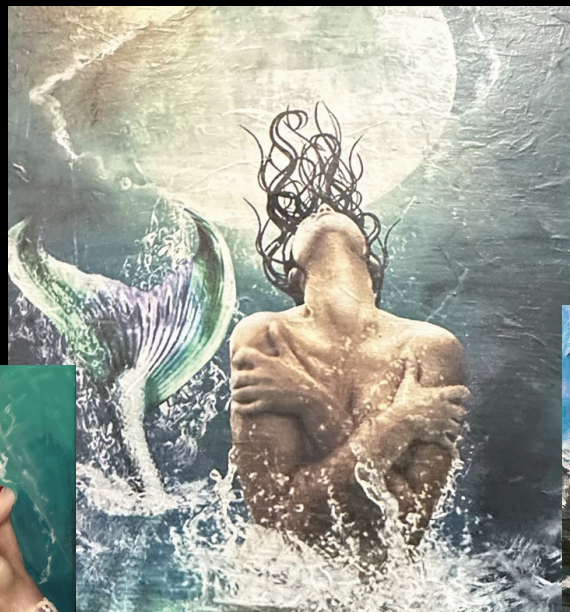
## M.A.P Mastering Art Program



Sherry brings you through the journey of becoming an artist. Build on your skills as you work your way through

Foundation, 3 tiers and a master's program. Call or come in for details.

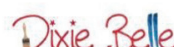
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