

MAY 2017

Volume 26 Issue 2

Art | Music | Dining

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SAL VALENTINETTI

Lucky Peterson CINCO DE MAYO PARTIES

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LOU'S BLUES



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TRICK ROPIN TREVOR
NOON CRUISE



MAY 9TH & 16TH
ROCKY & THE ROLLERS
AM CRUISES



MAY 19TH
LEAVING HAVEN
PM CRUISE



MAY 20TH
MEET & GREET REALITY STARS
EMILY SERPICO, DAVID "DOC"
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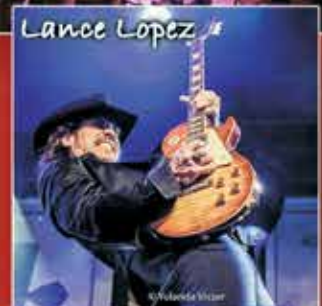
Rocket City



Horsepower



Damon Fowler



Lance Lopez



Joel DaSilva

SATURDAY, MAY 27TH
ROCKET CITY 2pm
HORSEPOWER 4pm
DAMON FOWLER 6pm
LANCE LOPEZ 9:30pm

SUNDAY, MAY 28TH
JOEL DASILVA &
MIDNIGHT HOWL 2pm
24TH STREET WAILERS 4pm
LUCKY PETERSON 6pm
MIKE ZITO 8pm

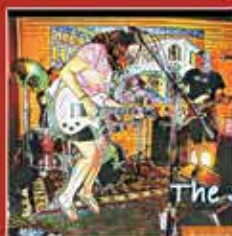


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The Seeds



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Content

May 2017

FEATURES

SAL VALENTINETTI

Sal Valentinetti is an Italian-American crooner known best for his flawless vocals, larger than life personality and his heart of gold. In 2016, Season 11 of the NBC hit show “Americas Got Talent” was taken by storm by Sal.

Page 10

COCOA VILLAGE’S BBQ & BLUES

Cocoa Village will host fifty Pro teams for the Seventh Annual, FBA Sanctioned, Historic Cocoa Village BBQ & Blues. Besides fingerlicking BBQ this festival always serves a great music line-up.

Page 13

EARL’S FEST

Earl’s Hideaway in Sebastian will present another unforgettable festival of music on Memorial Day weekend - Earl’s Fest - featuring an incredible amount of talent and national performers. Best of all, there’s no admission charge..

Page 13

RENAISSANCE RISING

For years the building of the former Chocolate factory, Grimaldi Candies, has been empty - until now. Caroline Grimaldi has created an Emporium called The Shoppes of Strawbridge. It’s unique and diversified.

Page 15

SNOWBIRDS OF THE STREET

When *Brevard Live* writer John Leach got a visit from a former acquaintance, now a homeless person, he decided to take a look behind the scene. Yes, he did! John checked out one of Brevard’s homeless camps.

Page 16

PHONELESS IN PHOENIX, PART 2

There he was, out in the jungle of airline schedules and re-schedules - all without his cell phone that he accidentally left at home. John Leach was asking for adventure, and he was getting his share.

Page 21

Columns

- 22** **Charles Van Riper**
Political Satire
“The Column”
- 25** **Calendars**
Live Entertainment,
Concerts, Festivals
- 33** **Local Download**
by Andy Harrington
Local Music Scene
- 35** **In The Spotlight**
by Matt Bretz
- 36** **Flori-duh!**
by Charles Knight
- 40** **The Dope Doctor**
Luis A. Delgado, CAP
- 44** **Florida Arts**
Lori Emly

**FRIDAY
MAY 5TH**

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2 PM - 1 AM**

Burrito Station
Games & Prizes
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BREVARD LATELY



The **MELBOURNE AIR & SPACE SHOW** returned to the Orlando Melbourne Airport last month, April 1-2, for two days of family fun featuring a lineup of world-class military and civilian performers. The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds capped off each air show day with a thunderous performance demonstrating the capabilities of current generation fighters. Spectators witnessed the amazing capabilities of the team's signature red, white, and blue F-16 aircraft known as the "Fighting Falcon."

Photo: Chuck Van Riper



A Rock'n'Roll Wedding

Picture a perfectly cloudless blue sky with the temperatures in the low seventies along with a crisp spring breeze while relaxing to beautiful music on the bank of the Indian River Lagoon. It was that kind of day when many of Brevard's brightest stars and beautiful people converged in North Merritt Island for the wedding of the year. After a seven year courtship Space Coast bluesman Russ Kellum and Amy Pastorious wed in a most romantic rock and roll ceremony. There was nary a dry eye present when the heartfelt vows were exchanged, it was a breathtaking moment indeed. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Kellum, we at *Brevard Live* and the music community wish you both a long and exciting journey of love and music!

Charles Knight

The Henegar

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Sal Valentinetti

When you hear the term “crooner,” you think of great voices like Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Tony Bennett, back in the days when the world was a lot softer, cleaner and friendlier. At second glance you realize that the list of famous crooners goes on and on ... Harry Connick, Jr., Barry Manilow, Michael Bublé, yes, even rocker Rod Stewart belong into this category. This is by no means a dying genre, and they might just be the greatest male singers ever, many have become legends and larger than life. And then there are the ones “in the making” - and Sal “The Voice” Valentinetti has put his singing career into overdrive ever since his applauded performance in the 11th season finals of the TV show “America’s Got Talent” in September 2016. He didn’t win, Sal made 5th place out of 10, but he received standing ovations, an impressed nod from Simon Cowell, and the coveted “Golden Buzzer” from a very excited Heidi Klum. Overnight this 21 year old, clean-cut, well-dressed, pleasant, and mature mannered crooner rose to stardom, and this was Sal’s chance to turn his “15 minutes of fame” into a long-lasting music career. *Brevard Live Magazine* had the opportunity to converse with him about his sudden fame, the rollercoaster ride of the last six months, his hopes and dreams and ask him (*please imagine the distinguished New York-Italian accent*) - “How you doing?”

“I feel so blessed,” Sal says with a forceful voice, then he starts talking about his family, especially about his Uncle Joe. “He helped me with my self-confidence. You know, I wasn’t good-looking, a bit chubby, other kids were making fun of me, and it was my Uncle Joe who understood my personality and told me never to change who I am.”

It doesn’t take long to realize just how tenacious he is. Sal Valentinetti seems to be quite comfortable in his skin and if you watch his AGT performance, you’d think he’s dealt with large crowds for decades. Not your typical 21-year-old by any means. From a very young age Sal was influenced by his grandmother, Tina Valentinetti, to love the musical genius of Dean Martin, Tony Bennett and Frank Sinatra but he didn’t find out that he had a voice until he was 15. “I had a private music teacher and I played the horn and trombone in our high school band. At one practice I was asked to sing “Mack the Knife” and we all were surprised about my voice. Sure I sang in the shower but never in front of other people.” And once again, Uncle Joe encouraged him to pursue his dreams,

advised him to enter different contests - "You know I also tried out for American Idol. Uncle Joe even got me a gig at a restaurant where I performed for \$100 every Thursday." (He laughs) "He said to me 'they love who you are, this is only the beginning'." Unfortunately Uncle Joe didn't live to see his vision come true. Shortly before Sal's AGT break-through he passed away.

So how has his life changed? "Well, I used to delivered pizza for my cousin's Italian restaurant while going to college; I hung out with my family and friends on the weekend. It was pretty simple. Now I am performing in London, Paris, or just last night in Phoenix, places I never thought I would see." And how does he handle it? "I have the right people in my life, and when I travel, I take my family with me. I hire my family members, just like family businesses do. We help each other out and make big decisions together."

Sal left for Hollywood as a pizza delivery man and returned home to Bethpage as a National Rock Star. His live show, featuring his new band "The Black Tie Brass", is now in great demand. Sal "The Voice" Valentinetti sold out three Christmas Shows at the now famous, Paramount Theatre in Huntington, New York. Then his dream came true, an opportunity to perform in the round at one of Frank Sinatra's favorite venues, The Theatre at Westbury (formerly The Westbury Music Fair). Sal loves to tell the story of how his father saved up just enough money to see Frank Sinatra on June 11, 1975 in Westbury. The Valentinetti family returned to Westbury on March 3, 2017 and they watched with pride as Sal performed his 90 minute show to a sold out crowd of 3,000 people just like his idol, Frank Sinatra.

After Sal's successful sell out shows at home, he teamed up with some of the country's top promoters and agents like Brian Rosenberg, Robert Maffia, Fever Entertainment and TCI Talent Agency and is now touring



Photo by Jack Roman

the country as one of the hottest new performers on the scene. They are all young people, Sal's manager Tommy is merely 23.

In between shows on the road, Sal is in the studio working on his first EP which is scheduled to be out in Spring of 2017. Sal: "All recording is done, now it just has to be mastered and will be available on my website." His next

project is a reality show and "we already started taping."

Sal is not only influencing people with his music, he has also become a role model for Millennials. Mr. Valentinetti was named "Restaurants Against Drunk Driving" (RADD) Man of the Year 2016.

www.mattscasbah.com

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5th**

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SAL "THE VOICE" VALENTINETTI



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June 2 & 3, Historic Cocoa Village
BBQ & Blues

Friday and Saturday, June 2nd and 3rd, Cocoa Village will host fifty Pro teams for the Seventh Annual, FBA Sanctioned, Historic Cocoa Village BBQ & Blues. This event is a World Food Championship BBQ Qualifier as well as an American Royal Invitational, Sonny's Smokin' Showdown Invitational and Jack Daniel's World Championship qualifier. A major source of support this year is a \$5,000 grant from Smokin' with Smithfield, which enables the festival to up the prize money awards from \$10,000 to \$15,000 for the Professional BBQ competition.

Admission to this great event is free to the public and partial proceeds go toward supporting the great community services provided by *Aging Matters of Brevard*. BBQ & Blues is open to visitors Friday afternoon and evening from 4:30 to 9:30 pm, and all day Saturday from 11 am to 9:15 pm. In addition to the BBQ competition, there will be a kids zone, craft vendors, food vendors, and, of course, Blues music featuring a great lineup of artists.

BBQ & Blues kicks off the weekend's entertainment Friday night in Riverfront Park featuring **The Big Blues Machine** followed by the Friday night headliner, the **Joey Gilmore Band**.

On Saturday, Riverfront Park will be smokin' with hot BBQ in the park and cool blues on stage. The line-up for Saturday features **Matt Rossman**, **Bird Dog Bobby**, **The Daniel Heitz Band**, **Josh Miller's Blues Revue**, and rounding out the weekend, **The Tommy Z Band**.

Also not to be missed are the *People's Choice* judging at 11 am Saturday, and of course, the 5 pm Awards Ceremony to honor the very tastiest in Florida BBQ. Come hungry! A dozen BBQ vendors will be on hand to delight you with their culinary specialties.

www.CocoaVillageBBQandBlues.com.



Memorial Day Weekend, Sat/Sun/Mon, May 27-29,
 Earl's Hideaway, Sebastian

EARL'S FEST

Now in its 10th year Earl's Hideaway in Sebastian will present another unforgettable festival of music on Memorial Day weekend - Earl's Fest - featuring an incredible amount of talent and national performers. Best of all, there's no admission charge. So put on your leathers, get on your Harley and cruise down to Sebastian. You'll meet lots of other bikers. Or just come for the music and enjoy the view over the Indian River. You will meet a lot of other blues enthusiasts as well.

Spend the whole weekend and enjoy the delicious food. They serve breakfast, and burgers, hot dogs, chicken, wings, shrimp, fish sandwiches and all kinds of pizza.

The festival starts Saturday, May 27th with an incredible line-up of live bands: **Rocket City** 2pm, **Horsepower** 4pm, **Damon Fowler** 6pm, and **Lance Lopez** 9:30pm.

Sunday's line-up - May 28th - keeps the festival going with prominent blues acts back-to-back: **Joel Dasilva** 2pm, **24th Street Wailers** 4pm, blues legend **Lucky Peterson** (see photo above) 6pm, **Mike Zito** 8pm.

On Memorial Day, Monday, the 29th, the entertainment will continue with **Seeds** starting at 2pm. Earl's Hideaway is a beautiful down-to-earth place with an incredible view on the Indian River Lagoon and a laid-back atmosphere

Besides the annual music festival, Earl's Hideaway is featuring great regional and national touring blues performers every Sunday starting at 2 pm. For more information call 772-589-5700.

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The Shoppes On Strawbridge

RENAISSANCE RISING

**Former Chocolate Factory
Now Houses A New Emporium**



Once upon a time, a little girl and her family moved from Miami to Brevard County where father Vincent opened up a chocolate factory. Grimaldi Candies was the company's name and soon it became famous for its delicious coconut patties and chocolate covered orange and grapefruit peels. These treats were a hit with tourists and so Grimaldi Candies supplied the local fruit shippers and - Disney World. This is where the little girl, Caroline Grimaldi, saw it for the first time - The Emporium, a large retail space in the middle of Disney's Mainstreet that offered "a little bit of everything that's good." Back then, the now worldwide corporation was rather community oriented and featured items that were typical and original to the area. Grimaldi Candies was one of the local treasures, and Caroline remembers how the family worked often late into the night to get the orders filled. It was the mid-70s, way before the global equalizer took over the individual efforts, but the visits to Disney's Emporium have remained a very fond memory.

Time changed and so did the chocolate. Chocolate covered potato chips were the new addiction in the 80s and the Grimaldi's had the best, selling the

goods right there in downtown Melbourne from the factory to the public. In 2000 Vincent decided to sell his business and stay on as a consultant. In 2012 new owners decided to leave the old chocolate factory in downtown Melbourne to build a new facility in Rockledge. 815 Strawbridge Avenue was a giant empty space. Until now! After two years of renovation, Caroline Grimaldi opened the doors to her new emporium called "The Shoppes On Strawbridge" featuring 18 shoppe owners selling their arts and crafts, and that includes paintings, carvings, jewelry, bathing suits, southern caramel, pottery, even home-made soups. "A lot of shoppe owners have sold their goods on the internet but feel the need to have some brick and mortar as well," said Caroline. "They don't have the time to produce while selling and dealing with the public. We do." She spent years as a financial adviser for big firms and understands "family business." She's the right person for the job.

What's an emporium without community involvement? Two more rooms of the former chocolate factory are under construction. The 1,000 sq. ft. candy kitchen will house a cafe, and the 1,500 sq. ft. warehouse has already



a stage, a mural and can host music events. Caroline: "Music will be a big part of this emporium." Growing up in Brevard and being a music fan, she knows the scene and the players. "This is a place that represents our community, and where we feel comfortable." Visit the emporium on your next trip to downtown Melbourne at 815 E. Strawbridge Avenue. - Bring some time.

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SNOWBIRDS Of The Streets

By John Leach

Like so many before and legions more sure to follow, Josh and Kara (not their real names) did not come to Florida to vacation, they came to Florida because they were running away from their former lives up north. Abusive relationships, violence, drugs, unemployment and cold weather drove them to pack their meager belongings into a questionably roadworthy Kia and flee to the sunshine and relative serenity of Brevard County. Like most transplants from Indiana they had friends in the area to provide a few friendly couches to crash on in the early days of their arrival but, after a few hot showers here and home cooked dinners there, Josh and Kara decided to start their own lives on the streets and beaches of Melbourne.

"I'm happier than I've ever been in my life" smiles Kara. "I'm completely free. Josh and I found each other at the right time of life for each of us. We're very much in love and want to get married. We've started a new life together and it's awesome."

After sleeping on the beach for a few weeks ("Once you get past the beauty of sleeping under the stars to the sound of the waves thing, the sand gets pretty hard to sleep on" says Josh) the couple met other street people and learned the lay of the land, as it were. They're currently living in a wooded homeless camp with about 12 others, take their meals at Daily Bread, spend their days on the beach, and are reveling in the peace of mind that stepping away from mainstream society provides.

"We were down to our last three dollars" Josh relates, "and Kara, being the good hearted person she is, saw a guy with a sign saying 'Homeless Vet Please Help'. We pulled up and offered him the three dollars but he took one look at us and said 'You guys living in your car? I can't take your money... Come back in two hours and I'll take you to a place you can crash...'"

The man led them to the camp in the woods and they've been staying there in a tent with brand new queen mattress (Pillowtop! Josh is always quick to include) that a friend bought them, for about two months now. As they've gotten to know the people of the streets and the support structure that revolves around them, Josh and Kara live

“Living this way is pretty much the same as doing a music festival or touring with The Grateful Dead..”



a simple life one day at a time. They have no plans for the future except that they know it'll soon be too hot to remain in the area when the full Florida summer comes to bear.

Josh had been doing day labor but when I asked if he'd been working lately his simple reply was “No. Don't need to really... we're good.” He'd injured himself hauling concrete on one of his day labor gigs and the \$53 dollars a day he earns that way didn't seem worth getting hurt all over again.

Being the only ones in camp with a car, Josh and Kara make a few dollars giving rides to others. At least two of the camp residents have full time jobs and while I was visiting one stopped by to ask for a ride to pick up his paycheck and a run by the bank to cash it. The man, let's call him Bob, has been in this spot for seven years now. Bob works, pays taxes, presents well, and has no desire to join the straight world and the responsibilities it engenders. Josh and Kara laugh about Bob's well appointed camp and call him a ‘Glamper’ (Glamorous Camper). If you stood next to Bob in Winn Dixie you'd never know he was homeless. But then, he's not really. His home is here and Josh and Kara are his neighbors.

According to Josh, “Living this way is pretty much the same as doing a music festival or touring with The Grateful Dead back in the day. Kara never got to do those things so she's getting the experience this way. Just like a Dead tour, peanut butter is always on the menu and if you don't have any bread the old ‘finger sandwich’ will get you by!” Josh laughs aloud, kicks back in his camp chair, and demonstrates his enjoyment of breakfast at it's most basic...

“The hardest thing is to stay organized, we carry supplies back here in crates, we wash dishes in that old broken cooler over there, but stuff just kind of piles up.” As testa-

ment to that Josh points at an impressive pile of empty Natural Ice beer cans and laughs at what he calls ‘The Savings Account’. There's also an extra ‘Guest Tent’ for when they have friends to stay. Sometimes fellow street people will get a hotel room for the night and invite Josh and Kara over for hot showers or to spend the night inside for a change. Hot showers are the one thing Kara misses in her new transient lifestyle but it's not enough to make her want to settle down into a more traditional and static way of living.

Josh experiences only one downside to his current living arrangement:

“The bad thing about living out here is the raccoons, they come into camp every night. They ripped into our tent twice (one of the other camp residents is a seamstress and repaired the tent for them) while we were away and they make a lot of noise crashing around the place. Of course one thing about this place is that it's the only neighborhood where you can get away with getting screaming drunk and hootin' and hollerin' at three in the morning. Where else can you get away with that? I guess you could call that a plus or a minus depending on your position on the subject.”

The camp maintains its own sort of HOA

Josh, like most in the itinerant neighborhood, is not a dumb person and the camp has a longtime occupant that's earned the title of Mayor. Residents that bring in new people, the way Josh and Kara were brought in, present their case before the Mayor and a resident's council to decide if they'll be allowed to stay. The camp maintains its own sort of HOA that keeps order and Living this way is pretty much the same as doing a music festival or touring with The Grateful

continued page 19



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SNOWBIRDS Of The Street

continued from page 17

Dead. Josh says, “Everyone here is super cool but that’s not the case everywhere. Daytona is not cool, the street people there are real mean and Cocoa Beach sucks because you have to pay to park everywhere!”

People, both street people and straight people, have been very kind to the couple. A friend from back home bought the mattress and a cell phone, strangers share money, food, and time, and lunch at The Daily Bread gets them all the nourishment they need for the day. Kara, nearly skeletal on arrival, has put on twenty pounds since fleeing Indiana and when lunchtime rolled around we all went to ‘The Bread’ for the day’s main meal. A surprisingly tasty, well presented cafeteria lunch was served by upbeat, smiling volunteers in a clean and relaxed environment. With a mixed greens salad, brussels sprouts, pulled pork and rice, fresh Publix bread and butter, ice tea and dessert it was a healthful and satisfying meal that would have cost at least \$12.95 at a local lunch joint. It was so good I’m thinking about taking my in-laws there when they visit next month...

With the few bucks they get as a homeless taxi service and erratic stints with Day Labor, Josh grins as he sings the words to the iconic Grateful Dead song “Cumberland Blues”: *Gotta get down to the Cumberland Mine, that’s where I mainly spend my time, make good money five dollars a day, if I made any more I might move away...*

Summer is coming and they know they’ll need to move northward soon but, for now, life is pretty good for these snowbirds of the streets. After spending a day in their world one may ask:

“What exactly constitutes a ‘home’ anyway?”



May 5-21, Henegar Center, Mel.

HANDS ON A HARDBODY

This is not your average show and it is a Brevard County Premiere! *Hands on a Hardbody* is a musical based on the 1997 documentary film of the same name. The book is by Doug Wright, music by Trey Anastasio and Amanda Green, lyrics by Amanda Green. The documentary was adapted into a musical commissioned by La Jolla Playhouse, La Jolla, California. And this is its story line:

For 10 hard-luck Texans, a new lease on life is so close they can touch it. Under a scorching sun for days on end, armed with nothing but hope, humor and ambition, they’ll fight to keep at least one hand on a brand-new truck in order to win it. In the hilarious, hard-fought contest that is *Hands on a Hardbody* only one winner can drive away with the American Dream.

“I try to produce shows that aren’t your typical shows,” says the Henegar Center’s artistic director Hank Rion. “The music is a mix of rock, gospel, country. It’s a beautiful underrated musical.” There’s a fresh breeze coming from the Henegar Center; and with Luis Diaz-Albertini as new managing director who recently took over the reigns, the art center wants to step out into the spotlight with a hipper and broader approach.

Luis Diaz-Albertini had a long, successful career in radio as a manager at various stations, mainly in Tampa and Miami. He knows the power of promotion and how to work it. Together with the talented Hank Rion, he will take the Henegar Center to a new level.

For tickets and information call 321-723-8698 or go to henegar.org.



Saturday, May 13, 11am-4pm,
SC Harley, Palm Bay

PET POSSE 2

After last year’s success, they are doing it again: On Saturday, May 13th, from 11 am to 4 pm Space Coast Harley Davidson, the City of Palm Bay and the Brevard County Sheriff’s Office will be hosting the second annual “Sheriff’s Pet Posse Festival” to help raise money in support of our Brevard County Animal Care Centers. Like last year there will be live music featuring four bands, among them Cactus Jack & The Cadillacs (- no, that is not Jack Starr-), a classic rock and blues band that keeps you swinging. “We will have two stages with on-going music,” said Tim Bishop, events coordinator at Space Coast Harley. “And Sheriff Wayne Ivey himself is the MC.” Last year five dogs were adopted on-site. “This year we’re going for 10, and with every adoption we give a licensed Harley T-shirt,” so Bishop.

Besides the “Pet Posse” you’ll find a kids zone with bounce house and face painting. There will a Mustang Club Car Show and Mini Motorcycle Rodeo along with slow ride games, 50/50 raffles, prizes and silent auctions. There is no admission charge and the money raised will benefit the local animal services and shelters.

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Part two of a series - Last month's installment told of a bicoastal traveler living a phoneless limbo in a place he was never meant to be...

PHONELESS IN PHOENIX

By John Leach

Arriving back at Phoenix's Sky Harbor Airport Terminal 4 the pilot announced, "If everyone could please sit tight, we'll let you know any updates as soon they're received. We're not sure how long this may take. Please stay in your seats and wait for further information..."

The one hundred or so San Diego-bound souls were grumbly but surprisingly calm considering the circumstances... It wasn't long before the pilot's next address: "Folks, we really can't tell you when this plane will be going to San Diego but it will be at least 90 minutes before we have any new information. If you'd like to deplane to stretch your legs or grab some breakfast, you may leave your luggage on the plane and listen to the terminal PA for announcements about departure. Again, leave your luggage on the plane and listen for announcements in the terminal. Thank you for flying Southwest."

The airport was barely awake as the still stranded passengers dragged back into Terminal 4 and the shops and restaurants that were actually open at 8AM had no customers. A bored server at an empty food counter was kind enough to let me use her phone and leave another "I really can't tell you when I'll get there" message for the Balloon Guru before I downed a burrito and got back on the now empty plane. There was no way I would be held hostage to PA announcements in Terminal 4. I spread out in my vacant aisle, put a jacket over my eyes, and drifted off to sleep.

The sound of the pilot's announcement jolted me up with a slap to the senses that no one on the now half filled airplane could have predicted: "Sorry to tell you this folks but this plane will not be going to San Diego today. As a matter of fact, San Diego remains fogged in and I don't think any planes are going to San Diego today. Please take your luggage off of the plane and make arrangements with the attendants at the boarding gate for a flight tomorrow. Thank you for flying Southwest."

There was a stunned silence as this registered in our collective heads. I had a Mike Doughty concert to attend at 8PM and even though I'd been traveling 24 hours it seemed impossible to make showtime - now only nine hours away.

As I turned my head to exit I locked eyes with a man on the other side of the aisle. He'd come in while I slept, I'd never seen him before in my life, but his eyes burrowed straight into mine as he growled "Screw this! I'm about ready to rent a damn car and drive to San Diego!"

I held his gaze and growled right back. "If you'll drive it, I'll pay for it."

"Deal" he said.

"Deal" I said.

Without breaking our (was it camaraderie or confrontation?) stare-down we shook hands and gave each

other the eyes-locked 'Let's Roll' nod. He collected his girlfriend, I grabbed my bags, and we trooped off the grounded Southwest Airlines plane in a stark march that only times of trouble bring to total strangers. For better or worse we were committed, that was obvious, neither of us would back down from our bargain or back out of our spontaneously tenuous partnership.


His clothes and demeanor were classic biker. Long hair banded up, head scarf, full beard, black leather vest, jeans, boots, chain wallet, Harley Davidson T-shirt - check, check, check. His lady friend also sported the classic biker look and I found comfort in the assumption that they'd be easy folks to have a beer with at Earl's Hideaway Lounge. Still, no one slumping off that plane was in a good mood and it would be a mistake to try and predict how that our anxious energy would play out. They felt it, I felt it. For the next seven hours or so we'd be bombing through the American desert locked together in a small rental car. All we needed was Zac Galifianakis and a small dog to complete the scene.

An angry walk through the airport, a stressed out ride on a shuttle bus and finally, after a full forty minutes, we stood side by side at the rental car counter. Very little small talk had passed between us and it wasn't until we were actually booking the car that I turned to my new, soon to be very familiar acquaintance and said, "I'm John, what's your name anyway?"

To be continued...



If you like to get in contact with John Leach, email him at John@brevardlive.com



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The Column

By **Chuck Van Ripper**

Smart World

"Knowledge is power" – Sir Francis Bacon, 1597

Everything is "smart" these days. We have smart phones, smart cars, smart appliances, smart snacks, smart cereal, smart toothbrushes, smart pens, smart houses, and smart TV's. Except for the food items, "smart" has become synonymous to being connected to the internet. Now really, how much "smart" do we really need in our lives? Do I really need a toothbrush that can send me a text if I missed a spot? Do I really need a refrigerator to tell me I'm out of milk? There's even a dishwasher that knows when you're almost out of those little round soap things and will automatically order them from Amazon for you!

Imagine a simpler time, if you will. A time when you could drink water straight from the hose outside, a time when you could ride a bike without a helmet, a time when a phone was connected to a wall, a time when we typed without spell check and used whole words and sentences, a time I grew up in. Back then, technology consisted of bug zappers that effervesced cerulean beams of bug killing delight. And charcoal that didn't need lighter fluid. We had answering machines and pagers. Finally there was color television, though it was still a huge wooden box of an entertainment center, sometimes with a record player built in! We had 8 track tapes (ok, maybe that was anti-technology). If we wanted information about anything, we looked it up in a Funk and Wagnalls. There was real news. TV went off the air at midnight.

We saw the advent of CDs, VHS, cellphones, flat screen TVs, that little vacuum thing that goes around scaring the cat, and of course, personal computers. Nowadays, we have a constant connection to everything we could ever want to know. Want to find out about the sex life of a yak in Inner Mongolia? No problem, Google it on your phone. Want to find the lowest price on chocolate covered bacon? In mere seconds you can not only have the lowest price, but a map showing the quickest route to go buy them. Want to talk to someone in Borneo? It's just a button push away. We are inundated by information 24/7. We are con-



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nected, for the first time ever, to EVERYTHING! And everything, it seems is connected to us. We can learn pretty much anything we want, yet how do we utilize this technology? By breaking little balls that are three in a row, or putting enough Orks on the battlefield, or posting our midday culinary delights on social media. Theoretically speaking, we should be the most educated people ever on the planet. After all, we are victims of the information age.

So how smart will technology get? Obviously smarter than us. My car can tell me when there is someone in the lane next to me or when it's unsafe to back up. I can talk to my phone and it answers me. I can watch anything on TV from the beginning no matter what time it is. Scientists are developing computer chips based on human DNA which will be 10,000 times faster than anything we have now and fit on the head of a pin. Which brings up the question of how human will technology get? There are already robots that make circuit boards, pack boxes, perform surgery, build cars, and much more. If DNA is used in the computer chips, will more "humanity" be instilled into these robots. Look at Siri. She's already got a bad attitude. Ask her for a date and you'll see what I mean. We've all seen the movies about robots taking over the world. Seems like science fiction, but so did robots 50 years ago. Today they're making lifelike ones. They look and feel real. Of course, you can only get one if you want to pay a crapload of money for a sex toy, but they look real! (See, where have our priorities as a society gone?).

So robotics have advanced to the point where they are even affecting the economy. In general, the information age itself has changed the whole economic agenda. We have free unlimited knowledge that we carry around in our pockets every day. The making of the equipment to access that knowledge is becoming less expensive every day. How can you monetize that? Look at the TV business. With all the streaming technology, traditional business models don't work anymore. It's the same thing in the music business, the automotive industry, the food industry, and pretty much everything else. Capitalism is changing drastically.

If knowledge is power, how will we as a society use all this power? The choice is ours. Perhaps the robots will always be smarter than humans, I just hope that before they try to take over, the aliens come back.




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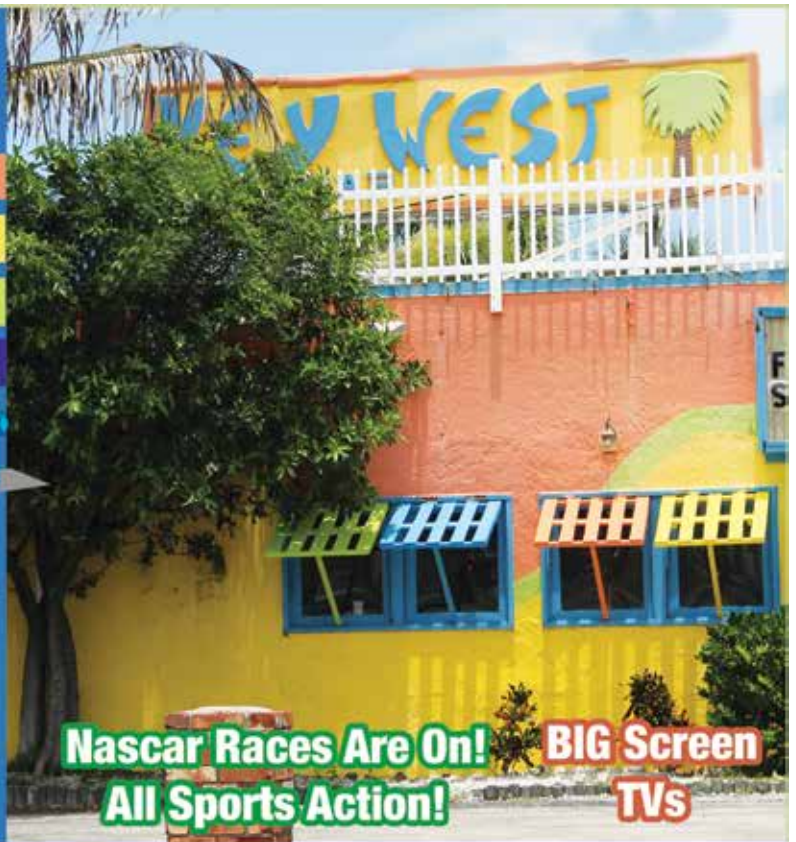
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- 13: Greg & Brian**
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Entertainment Calendar

1 - MONDAY

CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Kevin McCullers
COCONUTS: 7pm Micah Read
LOU'S BLUES: 7pm Dirty Bingo; 9pm Shain
SANDBAR: 7pm Nashville Greg; 10pm Bailey Callahan
STEAGLES: 8:30pm Comedy Show
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm Karaoke
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 7pm Blues Cruise with Derek Trull

2 - TUESDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS: Don Londini
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm 21 to Burn Lite
COCONUTS: 7pm Dave Kury
LOU'S BLUES: 8pm Invite Jam
MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm Joe Calutti
OASIS: 7pm Beec Bluegrass Jam
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm Frankie Lessard
SANDBAR: 9pm DJ Colione
THIRSTY CLAM: Elvis
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 11am Highway 1
WHISKEY BEACH: 9pm Open Mic w/ Mike Burns

3 - WEDNESDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS: Dave Kury
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Greg & Brian
COCONUTS: 7pm Ryan Winford
CROWNE PLAZA: 4:30pm Just Us
LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm Duelig Pianos; 9pm Rockstar w/ Joe Calautti
MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm Eric & Sam
OASIS: 9pm Jam Night
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm Devon Lupis
SANDBAR: 8pm Jam Session
SIGGY'S: 7pm Adam Van Der Broek
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 7pm Jonnie Morgan

4 - THURSDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS: Chuck Van Riper
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Iris
COCONUTS: 7pm Hannah Valdez

CROWNE PLAZA: 4:30pm Bittersweet
EARLS: 7:30pm Fat Bottom Girls
LOU'S BLUES: 8:30pm Red Tide
MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm Untamed Duo
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm David Southwood Smith
SANDBAR: 4pm Teddy Time; 8pm Big Daddy Karaoke
SIGGY'S: 7pm The Hitmen
SLINGERS: Larry-oke
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach: 7pm Matt Riley
STEAGLES: 8pm Karaoke
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm Karaoke
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 11am Donna Moore Diva Legends Show

CINCO DE MAYO 5 - FRIDAY

BONEFISH WILLY'S: 6pm Matt Adkins
CANTINA DOS AMIGOS: All Day Parking Lot Fiesta w/ Live Music
CAPT HIRAMS: 3:30pm TBA; 7:30pm Ladies of Soul
COCONUTS: 2pm Jonny Mogambo; 7pm Syndicate
CROWNE PLAZA: 4:30pm Hot Pink
EARLS: 8:30pm Rock N' Roll Dundee
KEY WEST BAR: 9pm Red Tide
LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm Karaoke; 9:30pm Kattysack
MATT'S CASBAH: 6pm Son de Mi Tierra; 10pm DJ Apache
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 2pm Cinco de Mayo Street Party w/ Light Out Project, 23 Trees, James & Barry, Reggae Juice.
SANDBAR: 7pm Burrito Eating Contest; 9pm Dub Masters
SIGGY'S: 8pm DJ Chris; 9pm Bullet Theory
SLINGERS: Night People
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach: 7pm Buck Barefoot
STEAGLES: 8:30pm Open Mic
THE SHACK: 5:30pm Paul Christopher
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm Sonny Tackett & Jimmy Staggs of Ghosttrain
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 10am "Be the Match" Swab Party; 7pm Rocktown
WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm Rocky James

6 - SATURDAY

BONEFISH WILLY'S: 6pm London Ink
CAPT HIRAMS: 3:30pm Tree Frogs; 7:30pm TBA
COCONUTS: Noon Vince Read; 7pm Jonny Mogambo
CROWNE PLAZA: Noon Cherry Down
EARLS: 2pm Buckshot; 8:30pm Love Valley
KEY WEST BAR: 9pm KelMarie
LOU'S BLUES: 1pm Ana; 5:30pm Karaoke; 9:30pm Divas
MATT'S CASBAH: 7pm Tru Phonic; 10pm DJ Ducati
OASIS: Founder's Day Party w/ Stompbox Steve 9:30pm
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm Devin Lupis; 10pm DJ Swager
SANDBAR: 4pm Stoney and the House Rockers; 9pm Hot Pink
SIGGY'S: 8pm DJ Chris; 9:30pm 21 to Burn, Oblivious Signal, Bleeding in Stereo
SLINGERS: 2pm Steak Shoot; 8pm Karaoke & Line Dancing
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach: 7pm Andy Harrington
SPACE COAST HARLEY DAVIDSON: 11am Customer Appreciation Day w/ Horsepower & Jack Starr
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm Lady DB & Guitar Lin
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 9am "Be the Match" Swab Party; 11am Country Music w/ Lockhart; 7pm DJ Don Pablo and Nik:11
WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm Greg & Brian

7 - SUNDAY

BONEFISH WILLY'S: 4pm Rueben
CAPT HIRAMS: 2pm Southern Thunder; 6pm Barry & James
COCONUTS: 2pm Electric Tide
EARLS: 2pm Southern Rock's Finest
JAMAIKIN ME CRAZY/MAMBOS: 1pm Bullet Dodgers and DJ Tony T
LOU'S BLUES: 2pm Joey Gilmore; 7pm SIN Trivia
MATT'S CASBAH: 1:30pm Carl Lewis on Sax
SANDBAR: 4pm Changes; 9pm DJ Cerino & Special Guest
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach: 5pm Andy Harrington
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 Downtown Melbourne

OLÉ's CINCO DE MAYO STREET PARTY

Olé Fire Grill is organizing a big street party for Cinco de Mayo from the railroad tracks to Municipal Court with 11 different vendors, bouncing house with gladiator shows and jousting games, tug & dunk bungee cords, pinada - it's going to be a huge fiesta. There will be an outside stage featuring Lights Out Syndicate, 23 Treez, Reggae Juice, James & Barry, Andrew Walker, the music starts at 2pm. At night there will be DJ Dukati and DJ E spinning records. The food includes a pig roast, a burrito station, Cheeto Taco Bags and much more. There is no admission charge.



May 5th-12th, Coconuts,
 Cocoa Beach

JONNY MOGAMBO

From Mozart to Mambo, Mo'betta, Mogambo (a quote from the website). Led by singer Jon Lindner aka Jonny Mogambo, this Colorado based band is rooted in Chicago blues and also rhythm and blues. Since 2010 Cocoa Beach has been on his touring schedule, and this month he will perform again at Coconuts on the Beach.

Entertainment Calendar

DAVIDSON: 11am Half Moon Band & Car Show
THIRSTY CLAM: 2pm Chuck Van Riper; 7pm Spacecoast Playboys
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: Noon Trick Ropin' Trevor
WHISKEY BEACH: 2pm Jah-D

8 - MONDAY

CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Kevin McCullers
COCONUTS: 7pm Jonny Mogambo
KING CENTER: 7:30pm Carl Palmer's ELP Legacy Tour
LOU'S BLUES: 7pm Dirty Bingo; 9pm Dave Kury
SANDBAR: 9pm Jake & Chelsea
STEAGLES: 8:30pm Comedy Show
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm Karaoke
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 7pm Blues Cruise w/ Derek Trull

9 - TUESDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS: Jessica Ottway
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm 21 to Burn Lite
COCONUTS: 7pm Jonny Mogambo
LOU'S BLUES: 8pm Invite Jam
MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm Ana Kirby
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm Frankie Lessard
SANDBAR: 9pm DJ Colione
THIRSTY CLAM: Elvis
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 9am "Be the Match" Swab Part; 11am Rocky and the Rollers; 3pm Blood Drive
WHISKEY BEACH: 9pm Open Mic w/ Mike Burns

10 - WEDNESDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS: Michele Wood
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Greg & Brian
COCONUTS: 2pm Jonny Mogambo
CROWNE PLAZA: 4:30pm Touch'd
LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm Reverend Billy C. Wirtz; 9pm Rockstar w/ Joe Calautti
MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm The Hitmen
OASIS: 9pm Jam Night
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm

Devon Lupis
SANDBAR: 4pm Pat Michaels; 8pm Jam Session
SIGGY'S: 7pm Frakie Lessard
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 7pm Jonnie Morgan

11 - THURSDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS: Jay DiBella
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Lucy Iris
COCONUTS: 7pm Jonny Mogambo
CROWNE PLAZA: 4:30pm Changes
EARLS: 7:30pm Jack Starr
LOU'S BLUES: 8:30pm Shake & Bake
MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm Frank Rios
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm David Southwood Smith
SANDBAR: 4pm Island Breeze Steele Drums; 8pm Big Daddy Karaoke
SIGGY'S: 7pm Joe Barrera
SLINGERS: Larry-oke
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach: 7pm Matt Riley
STEAGLES: 8pm Karaoke
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm Karaoke
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 11am Donna Moore Diva Legends Shows

12 - FRIDAY

BONEFISH WILLY'S: 6pm Matt Adkins
CAPT HIRAMS: 3:30pm Iris; 7:30pm Quick Change
COCONUTS: 2pm Jonny Mogambo 7pm Even Odds
CROWNE PLAZA: 4:30pm The Willies
EARLS: 8:30pm Ladies of Soul
KEY WEST BAR: 9pm John Quinlivan Band
LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm Karaoke; 9:30pm Umbrella Theives
MATT'S CASBAH: 6pm The Kore; 10pm DJ Craig
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm Frankie Lessard; 10pm David Southwood Smith
SANDBAR: 4pm Jake Solo; 506 Crew
SIGGY'S: 8pm DJ Chris; 9pm Wreck
SLINGERS: DJ Larry
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach: 7pm Mark Nathan
STEAGLES: 8:30pm Open Mic
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm Chuck & Dave's Old Hippy Jam

VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 7pm The Seeds
WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm Jessica Ottway

13 - SATURDAY

BONEFISH WILLY'S: 6pm Rueben
CAPT HIRAMS: 2pm Prestage Brothers Album Release Party; Eugene Snowden and Ten Pints of Truth, Gravel Kings, Packrat's Smokehouse, Juke, Firewater Tent Revival, Beartoe, Reverend Ron, Lauris Vidal, Passersby
COCONUTS: Noon Johnny Danger; 7pm Vintage
CROWNE PLAZA: Noon Lionheart
EARLS: 2pm Danny Morris; 8:30pm Blotter
KEY WEST BAR: 9pm Greg & Brian
KING CENTER: 8pm Classic Albums Live: Pink Floyd: Dark Side of the Moon & Animals
LOU'S BLUES: 1pm Jeff Bynum; 5:30pm Karaoke; 9:30pm Luna Pearl
MATT'S CASBAH: 17pm Buckshot; 10pm DJ Ducati
OASIS: 9pm Barry-oke
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm Devin Lupis; 10pm DJ Swager
SANDBAR: 4pm Separate Checks; 8pm UFC 211 No Cover; 9pm Red Tide
SIGGY'S: 8pm DJ Chris; 9:30pm Mayhem
SLINGERS: 8pm Karaoke & Line Dancing
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach: 7pm Stompbox Steve
SPACE COAST HARLEY DAVIDSON: 11am Cactus Jack & The Cadillacs; Sheriff Ivey's Pet Posse
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm Reverend Billy
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 11am Rocket City; 7pm Picture Show
WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm Dave Thrift Band

MOTHER'S DAY

14 - SUNDAY

BONEFISH WILLY'S RIVERFRONT GRILLE: 4pm Paul Thrift
CAPT HIRAMS: 2pm Red Tide; 6pm Double Down
COCONUTS: 2pm Jimmy Mazzo
EARLS: 2pm Ellie Lee Band
JAMAIKIN ME CRAZY/

MAMBOS: 1pm Future Prezidents and DJ Shawtta Don
LOU'S BLUES: 2pm Matt Sams Band
SANDBAR: 4pm Love Valley; 9pm DJ Cerino & Special Guest
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach: 7pm Andy Harrington
SPACE COAST HARLEY DAVIDSON: 11am Mother's Day Party w/ Changes
THIRSTY CLAM: 2pm Chuck Van Riper; 7pm Sonny Tackett & Jimmy Staggs of Ghosttrain
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: Mother's Day Cruise w/ Josh Leggett & Rick Silanskas
WHISKEY BEACH: 2pm Stephen Cotta

15 - MONDAY

CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Kevin McCullers
COCONUTS: 7pm Micah Read
LOU'S BLUES: 7pm Dirty Bingo; 9pm Michele Wood
SANDBAR: 9pm Jake and Chelsea
STEAGLES: 8:30pm Comedy Show
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm Karaoke
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 7pm Blues Cruise with Derek Trull

16 - TUESDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS: James
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm 21 to Burn Lite
COCONUTS: 7pm Dave Kury
LOU'S BLUES: 8pm Invite Jam
MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm Stay Tuned
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm Frankie Lessard
SANDBAR: 9pm DJ Colione
THIRSTY CLAM: Elvis
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 11am Rocky & The Rollers
WHISKEY BEACH: 9pm Open Mic w/ Mike Burns

17 - WEDNESDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS: Jon Parrot
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Tree Frogs
COCONUTS: 7pm Ryan Winford
CROWNE PLAZA: 4:30pm Simone & The Supercats
LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm Angie Parks; 9pm Rockstar w/ Joe Calautti

Entertainment Calendar

MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm
Cash Colley
OASIS: 9pm Jam Night
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm
Devon Lupis
SANDBAR: 8pm Jam Session
SIGGY'S: 7pm Eric & Sam
**VICTORY CASINO
CRUISE:** 7pm Jonnie Morgan

18 - THURSDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS:
Jeff Bynum
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Kevin
Nayme
COCONUTS: 7pm Vince Reed
CROWNE PLAZA: 4:30pm
The Kore
EARLS: 7:30pm Logan Bros.
LOU'S BLUES: 8:30pm Russ
Kellum Band
MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm
Salt & Pepper
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm
David Southwood Smith
SANDBAR: 4pm Teddy Time;
8pm Big Daddy Karaoke
SIGGY'S: 7pm Shain Allen
SLINGERS: Larry-oke
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach:
7pm Matt Riley
STEAGLES: 8pm Karaoke
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm
Karaoke
**VICTORY CASINO
CRUISE:** 11am Donna Moore
Diva Legends Show

19 - FRIDAY

BONEFISH WILLY'S: 6pm
Matt Adkins
CAPT HIRAMS: 3:30pm
Syndicate; 7:30 One Night
Band
COCONUTS: 7pm Rocket
City
EARLS: 8:30pm Spacecoast
Playboys
KEY WEST BAR: 9pm Pinch
LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm
Karaoke; 9:30pm Spanks
MATT'S CASBAH: 7pm
Second Light; 10pm DJ Apache
OASIS: 9pm No Tomfoolery
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm
Frankie Lessard; 10pm David
Southwood Smith
SANDBAR: 4pm 506 Crew;
9pm Island Breeze Band
SIGGY'S: 8pm DJ Chris; 9pm
Absolute Blue
SLINGERS: DJ Larry
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach:
7pm Buck Barefoot
STEAGLES: 8:30pm Open
Mic
THE SHACK SEAFOOD:

5:30pm Paul Christopher
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm Sonny
Tackett & Jimmy Staggs of
Ghostrain
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE:
7pm Leaving Haven
WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm
Joshua Keels

20 - SATURDAY

BONEFISH WILLY'S: 6pm
Mike Cambron
CAPT HIRAMS: 3:30pm Sean
& Gage; 7:30pm One Night
Band
CLUB 52: 8:30pm Groucho's
Comedy Club
COCONUTS: Noon Marcus
Gullen; 7pm My Remedy
CROWNE PLAZA: Noon
John Nugent
EARLS: 2pm Nasty Habits;
8:30pm Umbrella Thieves
KEY WEST BAR: 9pm Greg
& Brian
LOU'S BLUES: 1pm Shain;
5:30pm Karaoke; 9:30pm
Absolute Blue
MATT'S CASBAH: 7pm
Vintage; 10pm DJ Ducati
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm
Devin Lupis; 10pm DJ Swager
SANDBAR: Boat Races; 9pm
Hot Pink
SIGGY'S: 8pm DJ Chris;
9:30pm Spearfish
SLINGERS: 8pm Karaoke &
Line Dancing
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach:
7pm Dave Myers
**SPACE COAST HARLEY
DAVIDSON:** 11am "Can You
See Me Now" Ride w/ SCHD &
Friends
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm
Reverend Billy
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE:
7pm Reality TV Cruise
WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm
Queen & King

21 - SUNDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S
RIVERFRONT GRILLE:**
4pm Rueben
CAPT HIRAMS: 2pm
Changes; 6pm Buckshot Trio
COCONUTS: 2pm Russ
Kellum Band
EARLS: 2pm Katy Guillen &
The Girls w/ Tommy Z
**JAMAIKIN ME CRAZY/
MAMBOS:** 1pm Mystic Dino
and DJ Soul One
LOU'S BLUES: 2pm Big
Blues Machine; 7pm SIN Trivia
MATT'S CASBAH: 1:30pm

Carl Lewis on Sax
SANDBAR: 4pm Syndicate;
9pm DJ Cerino & Special Guest
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach:
5pm Buck Barefoot
**SPACE COAST HARLEY
DAVIDSON:** 11am Thunder
Music Company & Sunnyland
Steve
STEAGLES: 83pm
Pennsylvania Day Party and 6
Year Anniversary w/ AK-40
THIRSTY CLAM: 2pm Chuck
Van Riper; 7pm Spacecoast
Playboys
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE:
Noon The Souvenir Band
WHISKEY BEACH: 2pm
Dudley Quest

22 - MONDAY

CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Kevin
McCullers
COCONUTS: 7pm Micah Read
LOU'S BLUES: 7pm Dirty
Bingo; 9pm Shain
SANDBAR: 9pm Jake Chelsea
STEAGLES: 8:30pm Comedy
Show
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm
Karaoke
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE:
7pm Blues Cruise w/ Derek
Trull

23 - TUESDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS:
Michele Wood
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm 21 to
Burn Lite
COCONUTS: 7pm Everette
Stephens
LOU'S BLUES: 8pm Invite
Jam
MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm
Big Blues Machine
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm
Frankie Lessard
SANDBAR: 9pm DJ Colione
THIRSTY CLAM: Elvis
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE:
11am Highway 1
WHISKEY BEACH: 9pm
Open Mic w/ Mike Burns

24 - WEDNESDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS:
Dave Kury
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Whiskey
Richards
COCONUTS: 7pm Hannah
Valdez
CROWNE PLAZA: 4:30pm
The Groove Affiliation
LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm
Christopher C; 9pm Rockstar w/
Joe Calautti

MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm
Jake Salter
OASIS: 9pm Jam Night
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm
Devon Lupis
SANDBAR: 4pm Pat Michaels;
8pm Jam Session
SIGGY'S: 7pm Gary Vadimsky

25 - THURSDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS: Jay
DiBella
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Double
Down
COCONUTS: 7pm Johnny
Danger
CROWNE PLAZA: 4:30pm
TBA
EARLS: 7:30pm Love Valley
LOU'S BLUES: 8:30pm
Syndicate
MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm
Kore's Lite
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm
David Southwood Smith
SANDBAR: 4pm Island Breeze
Steele Drums; 8pm Big Daddy
Karaoke
SIGGY'S: 7pm Frankie Lessard
SLINGERS: Larry-oke
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach:
7pm Matt Riley
STEAGLES: 8pm Karaoke
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm
Karaoke
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE:
11am Donna Moore Diva
Legends Show

26 - FRIDAY

BONEFISH WILLY'S: 6pm
Matt Adkins
CAPT HIRAMS: 3:30pm Live
Bait; 7:30pm King's County
COCONUTS: 7pm Absolute
Blue
CROWNE PLAZA: 4:30pm
Kattyshack
EARLS: 8:30pm Roughouse
Band
KEY WEST BAR: 9pm Russ
Kellum Band
LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm
Karaoke; 9:30pm TC & Sass
MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm
Spearfish; 10pm DJ Dray
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm
Frankie Lessard; 10pm David
Southwood Smith
SANDBAR: 4pm Slyder; 9pm
Spread The Dub
SIGGY'S: 8pm DJ Chris; 9pm
Funpipe
SLINGERS: DJ Larry
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach:
7pm Mark Nathan
STEAGLES: 8:30pm Open Mic

THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm Chuck & Dave's Old Hippy Jam
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 7pm Tropical Friday w/ Lyma
WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm Sam Simms

27 - SATURDAY

BONEFISH WILLY'S RIVERFRONT GRILLE: 6pm Josh Doyle
CAPT HIRAMS: 3:30pm My Brother Mark; 7:30pm 21 to Burn
COCONUTS: Noon Marcus Gullen; 7pm Goin' Nuts
CROWNE PLAZA: Noon Bittersweet
EARLS: 10th Annual Earl's Fest 2pm Rocket City; 4pm Horsepower; 6pm Damon Fowler; 9:30pm Lance Lopez
KEY WEST BAR: 9pm Space Coast Playboys
LOU'S BLUES: 1pm Michele Wood; 5:30pm Karaoke; 9:30pm Umbrella Thieves
MATT'S CASBAH: 6pm Coverstory; 10pm DJ Ducati
OASIS: 9pm Barry-oke
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm Devin Lupis; 10pm DJ Fully Loaded Entertainment
SANDBAR: 4pm Vintage; 9pm Micro Midget Wrestling
SIGGY'S: 8pm DJ Chris; 9:30 Buckshot
SLINGERS: 8pm Karaoke & Line Dancing
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach: 7pm Stompbox Steve
SPACE COAST HARLEY DAVIDSON: 11am Memorial Weekend Concert; Brevard Jeep Fest Against Cancer
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm Sonny Tackett & Jimmy Staggs of Ghosttrain
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 7pm Hot Pink
WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm Barry & James

28 - SUNDAY

BONEFISH WILLY'S: 4pm Stay Tuned
CAPT HIRAMS: Parrothead Party w/ 1pm Caribbean Chillers; 6pm The Stowaways
COCONUTS: 2pm Derek Duo
EARLS: 10th Annual Earl's Fest 2pm Joel DaSilva & The Midnight Howl; 4pm 24th Street Wailers; 6pm Lucky Peterson; 8pm Mike Zito
JAMAIKIN ME CRAZY/ MAMBOS: 1pm Oceanstone

and DJ Jsinn
KING CENTER: 8pm Blake Aaron & Tom Braxton
LOU'S BLUES: 2pm Changes; 7pm SIN Trivia
MATT'S CASBAH: 1:30pm Carl Lewis on Sax
SANDBAR: 4pm The Action; 9pm DJ Cerino & Special Guest
SLOW & LOW/Cocoa Beach: 7pm Andy Harrington
SPACE COAST HARLEY DAVIDSON: 11am Memorial Day BBQ; Live Music; Community Give Back
THIRSTY CLAM: 2pm Chuck Van Riper; 7pm Sonny Tackett & Jimmy Staggs of Ghosttrain
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: Noon The Souvenir Band
WHISKEY BEACH: 2pm David Southwood

MEMORIAL DAY 29 - MONDAY

CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Kevin McCullers
COCONUTS: 7pm Micah Read
EARLS: 10th Annual Earl's Fest 2pm The Seeds
LOU'S BLUES: 1pm Dave Kury; 7pm Dirty Bingo; 9pm Jeff Bynum
SPACE COAST HARLEY DAVIDSON: 11am Memorial Day BBQ; Live Music; Community Give Back
STEAGLES: 8:30pm Comedy Show
THIRSTY CLAM: 7pm Karaoke
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: Vets Sail Free; 7pm Blues Cruise w/ Derek Trull

30 - TUESDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS: Jessica Ottway
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm 21 to Burn Lite
COCONUTS: 7pm Dave Kury
LOU'S BLUES: 8pm Invite Jam
MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm Sam Simms
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm Frankie Lessard
SANDBAR: 9pm DJ Colione
THIRSTY CLAM: Elvis
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 11am Highway 1
WHISKEY BEACH: 9pm Open Mic w/ Mike Burns

31 - WEDNESDAY

CANTINA DOS AMIGOS: Jon Parrot
CAPT HIRAMS: 6pm Deja Blue 2
COCONUTS: 2pm Ryan Winford
CROWNE PLAZA: 4:30pm TBA
LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm Reverend Billy; 9pm Rockstar w/ Joe Calautti
MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm Devin Lupis
OASIS: 9pm Jam Night
OLE' FIRE GRILL: 6:30pm Devon Lupis
SANDBAR: 4pm Pat Michaels; 8pm Jam Session
SIGGY'S: 7pm Marc Dobson "One Man Band"
THIRSTY CLAM: 6pm Trivia
VICTORY CASINO CRUISE: 7pm Jonnie Morgan

COMMUNITY EVENTS

May 5: First Friday by the Bay at Celebration Square. 4600 Dixie Hwy (US1) Palm Bay. 321-952-3443
May 5: Cape Canaveral Friday Fest w/ Panama Band
May 12: Melbourne Friday Fest in Historic Downtown Melbourne. 321-724-1741
May 13: Fly-In Breakfast at Valiant Air Command Warbird Museum at Space Coast Regional Airport in Titusville. 321-268-1941
May 13-14: Cocoa Village Art & Craft Fair. 321-631-9075
May 17-21: "Thunder on Cocoa Beach" Annual Space Coast Boat Grand Prix
May 19: Movie in the Park at Riverfront Park in Cocoa Village. 321-639-3500
May 20: Movie in the Park at Canaveral City Park. 321-868-1226
May 26: Cocoa Village Friday Fest. 321-749-6100

EXHIBITS & ART

May 5: First Friday Gallery Walk. Eau Gallie Arts District, 321-574-2737
Until July 29: Pan American Modernism: Avant Garde Art at Foosaner Art Museum in Eau Gallie Arts District. 321-674-8916

MUSIC & DANCE

May 6: Brevard Community Chorus at the King Center in Melbourne. 321-242-2219
May 7: Brevard Symphony Youth Orchestra at Suntree United Methodist Church. 321-216-7804
May 7: Pops Bouquet w/ Space Coast Symphony at Scott Center Auditorium at Holy Trinity, Suntree. 855-252-7276
May 10-11: MCO and The Wild West w/ Melbourne Community Orchestra at the Melbourne Auditorium. 321-285-6724
May 19: May Flowers Dance with Swingtime Jazz Band and Melbourne Municipal Band at Melbourne Auditorium. 321-724-0555
May 20: Palm Bay Concert in the Park. Fred Poppe Regional Park. 1951 Malabar Rd. NW
May 27: Cosmos Concert w/ Space Coast Symphony at Scott Center Auditorium at Holy Trinity in Suntree. 855-252-7276,

THEATRE

May 5-21: Hands on a Hardbody at the Henegar Center in Downtown Melbourne. 321-723-8698
Until May 7: The Glass Menagerie on 2nd Stage at Titusville Playhouse. 321-268-1125
May 12-Jun 4: Next to Normal at Titusville Playhouse. 321-268-1125
Until May 14: Mary Poppins at Cocoa Village Playhouse. 321-636-5050
May 19-Jun 25: The Glass Menagerie at the Melbourne Civic Theatre in Downtown Melbourne. 321-723-6935
May 20: The Lion King Jr. at Titusville Playhouse. 321-268-1125
May 26-28: Disney's 101 Dalmations KIDS at Cocoa Village Playhouse. 321-636-5050



All listings may be subject to change during the month.



**Saturday, May 13, 2pm-1am, Capt Hiram's
Prestage Brothers' Album Release Party**

The Prestage Brothers' Album Release Party will feature 10 of Florida's best Blues, Swamp, Bluegrass, Americana, Folk, Blues-Rock bands from 2pm-1am. The Prestage Brothers will be doing a set of all new material around sunset, and have all new merch. If you like roots music, you cannot miss this show. There is no admission charge. Ben Prestage has been an acclaimed one-man-band and started playing with his brother Jon a little over a year ago.



**Saturday, May 27, Noon-7pm, Melbourne
1st Annual Rolli Luau With Oranga Tanga**

"Rolli's Porkloin Extraordinaire" has been a unique eatery all along, and since proprietor Jay Joseph moved his business to the entrance of downtown Melbourne on New Haven Ave, he's not only expanded his diner, tiki patio, and parking situation, he also opens his venue for monthly lot parties and live music. This series will kick off on Memorial Day weekend all Saturday afternoon with a Luau that includes a pig roast - after all Jay is the master of pork -, a beer tent, all sorts of games, and raffles. Jay suggests to "bring your own baby pool for poolside service." Just as unique as Rolli's is the band Jay hired to perform - the one and only, original, and very entertaining Oranga Tanga, the second coming of members who used to play with Brevard Busking Coalition, a band that took the title "Entertainer of the Year" in a land slide. Get ready for a fun party.

BONEFISH WILLY'S
Join us May 14th for Mother's Day
RIVERFRONT GRILLE
 BONEFISH BEACH, POCK AND TIKI BAR

LIVE MUSIC ON WEEKENDS
 OUR SUN SHAPES KEEP YOU COOL!
 FREE WI-FI

- HAPPY HOUR EVERY DAY 2-6pm -
BOGO Appetizer 1/2 Off and \$1 OFF ALL Beer & Wine

\$13 Early Menu Daily 4-6pm Tue-Thur
\$14 Fish Fry Every Friday
Sundays: Lobster, Shrimp, Clam & Mussel Boil

RESERVE FOR PARTIES, BANQUETS OR ANY OCCASION
 Open 6 Days. Tues-Sat 11am-10pm • Sun. 11am-9pm

2459 PINEAPPLE AVE. MELBOURNE Intra-coastal MM101
 321-253-8888 www.BonefishWillys.com

SLOW & SLOW BAR-B-QUE
 RESTAURANT & CATERING

Bring Mom for a Complimentary Glass of Wine (with her entree) on MOTHER'S DAY May 14th

THIS MEMORIAL DAY May 29th
LET US DO THE COOKING FOR YOU!

FOOD & DRINK SPECIALS DAILY
BAR BINGO MONDAYS 6:30pm
ALL DAY HAPPY HOUR & KID'S NIGHT ON WEDNESDAYS
LIVE MUSIC THUR-SUN

COCOA BEACH 306 N. ORLANDO AVE 321-783-6199
VIERA 5490 STADIUM PKWY 321-735-4809

f SNLBBQ.COM

SPRING FEVER!

By Matthew Bretz



People keep telling me it's spring time here in sunny FLA, but I could almost swear spring doesn't exist anymore in the southeast. And even though we are hitting the high 80s every day, it's still the most popular time of year for starry eyed soul mates to tie it up, and that's good for guys like me who have taken to DJing weddings and events to supplement my starving artist income, but every ceremony that has me standing sideline on the beach or in the middle of a lawn in a full on suit this time of year makes me wonder how this trend will continue as the temperature continues to rise.

But I digress. Where were we? Oh yes, it's a tale as old as the wind. A young warrior armed with six strings of honor sets out to light the world on fire with his music-seeking fame and fortune... and a paycheck... until one day he wakes up to realize he is forty and his audience is more likely to be the dinner crowd at beachside restaurants instead of stadiums filled with screaming fans. He doesn't want to work a real job, and he has all this sound equipment, so he starts DJing for extra cash. DJing part time turns into club gigs, more equipment, cooler lights, weddings, parties, etc..., and along the way our hero discovers there is a lot of work that goes into DJing. I'm sure you have heard it a million times over.

It's actually a wonderful way to make money, and truth be told, I kind of love it; and I'm good at it; who knew?

So, let's talk a bit about weddings because I have noticed some trends and patterns. If you are planning a wedding soon, or planning to have a wedding soon, or you will soon be planning to plan a wedding you may want to pay extra careful attention to the rest of this article. I'm probably going to be dropping some helpful info along the way.

First off! I cannot stress to you enough how important it is to pick a good matron of honor. Go crazy with your bridesmaids, pick your friends, pick fun people, pick outgoing people (you don't want drags in your wedding crew trust me), the matron (maid if you like) of honor has got to be a rock though. She needs to be trust worthy, ambitious, resourceful, and care about your needs before all others... until after the wedding of course. I have seen it go bad so many times when the maid of honor drops the ball. That lady is your personal assistant as well as the coordinator

for all of your bridesmaids all the way up until you leave the reception, so pick wisely and make sure they are up for the task. Fellas, same thing when it comes to your best man - unless you want a lame bachelor party, then ignore me.

Notes for maids of honor, and best men: Best Man, don't use the words "dude", "bro", "chicks", or anything else heard around a frat house during your speech. Have fun, be sincere, tell a funny story, and wrap it up with a classy "love you man, cheers!" Short and sweet is key.

Maids of Honor, almost every successful maid of honor speech follows this pattern "I met (bride's name) when we were (blah blah blah), and from that moment on we were best friends (blah blah), then one day she told me about this guy she was seeing and I could tell right away it was different (blah blah blah), and now he's like a brother to me (blah blah). I'm so happy you two found each other..." and then you cry, and the bride cries.

Photography, photography, photography! Hire good people to get it all, both still shots and video. You will be so nervous and stressed the whole thing will be done in a flash and you will have missed a lot of it simply because you can't be everywhere at once. And if your pics turn out badly then you will have to either suck it up, or wait for your next wedding to try it again. More and more I see photographers trending towards two photo shoots during the reception. They traditionally will take you for an hour or two and shoot pics right after the ceremony, but lately I've been noticing a second shoot a bit later during the "golden hour", when the sun is lower and the light is the most flattering. If you want to do that - cool, you will get some great pics. However, you should also remember that all of those hours you are gone your guests are just hanging out wondering what's going to happen next and drinking your bar out of liquor. Telling the DJ in advance so they (I) can plan something during that time could save that situation.

And when it comes to DJs, you get what you pay for; this is not where you want to skimp. Unless your good buddy Joe Schmoe is a pro DJ with a lot of wedding experience, hiring your friends is almost always a mistake. This is going to be both one of the best and most stressful days of your life; get someone you can trust will take some of that stress away from you and run the show like a pro ringmaster should. It doesn't have to be me (shameless plug #4) but be sure about who you hire, because they can make or break your big day if they aren't experienced, confident, charismatic, and hands on.

In the end the biggest, most useful piece of advice I can offer is to simply stick to your guns about what you want and not let others sway you towards things you don't. Your friends will offer advice they think you should

continued page 39

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By Andy Harrington

Local Download

A quick Google search for holidays in May yielded some interesting results. Apart from *MayDay* on the first (shared with *McCarthyist Loyalty Day*), the second is *Scurvy Awareness Day*, the third is *Hug Your Cat Day*, the fourth is *Star Wars Day* (May the Fourth Be With You), the fifth is *Cinco de Mayo* (a Mexican holiday commemorating a defeat of French occupiers by Mexican forces that has been appropriated by Americans as another day for excessive drinking), the sixth is *National Nurses Day*, the ninth is *National Lost Sock Memorial Day*, the tenth is *Clean Up Your Room Day*, the eleventh is *Twilight Zone Day*, the thirteenth is *Frog Jumping Day*, the fourteenth is *National Dance Like A Chicken Day*, the seventeenth is *National Pack Rat Day*, the twenty-second is *National Buy A Musical Instrument Day*, the twenty-third is *Lucky Penny Day*, the twenty-sixth is *Sally Ride Day* (the first woman in space, not the lady with the Mustang. She may have had a Mustang but that is not the point of the holiday), the twenty-ninth is *End of Middle Ages Day* and is also *Memorial Day*, and the thirtieth is *My Bucket's Got A Hole In It Day*. There is apparently no shortage of days to celebrate this month. This list is by no means an exhaustive enumeration of causes for celebration, but should you find yourself sitting around the house bored and itching to go catch some live music here in Brevard on any of those days now you have an excuse.

April was quite a boisterous month. There are some congratulations and felicitations that are in order, indeed. **Russ Kellum** and **Amy Pastorius** tied the knot on the tenth of April in Merritt Island. Mr. *Matt Riley* performed his "Last Show As A Single Man" at Slow'n'Low in Cocoa Beach on the thirteenth. Remaining a man but not remaining single, Riley married the lovely **Jessica Van Seyoc** on the twenty-second. Congratulations and Felicitations are mirthfully extended to the two sets of newlyweds. Look for the Russ Kellum Band at your favorite venues around the region and you can catch Matt Riley playing some of your favorite tunes and tunes that you forgot were your favorites at Slow'n'Low in Cocoa Beach on Thursday evenings. Well played, gentlemen. You have chosen wisely.

Many musicians, artists and fans of all things trekked to the Orange County Convention Center to attend the *Star Wars Celebration* April 13-16. When I first heard of this I thought, "Oh man, yet another convention." I immediately changed my tune when I saw the list of people that were to be there in the Autograph Hall signing autographs. In my personal order of importance, Billy Dee Williams, Alan Tudyk, Mark Hamill, Forrest Whitaker, Hayden Christiansen, Ray Park, Deep Roy, Felicity Jones, Sarah Michelle Gellar and Freddie Prinze Jr. were there. Though I was not able to attend, I did recruit an attendee to be an envoy with the mission of asking Billy Dee the burning question that has been on all our minds for a few years now. Is Princess Leia a Disney Princess? I'll be sure to share the response with you readers.

The *April in Paris French Film Festival* was enjoyed by many this year. The Florida Institute of Technology and The Foosner Museum launched the series with an outdoor screening of *Le Ballon Rouge/The Red Balloon* in the park of EGAD (Eau Gallie Arts

District). The festival ran from the seventh to the twenty-second day of April. Among others, *Le'Armee Des Ombres/Army of Shadows* and the Goddard film *Pierrot Le Fou/Pierrot Goes Wild* were screened with post-film conversations guided by Dr. J. Frongillo and Anne Smith, respectively, of the FIT Humanities Department.

The locally based metal band of national renown, **Breathing Theory**, will be performing at venue 578 in Orlando June 16th. Also on the bill are Armada, Kill the Sound, Dark Summer, Fight-Fall, and Catcher And The Rye (not to be confused with the J.D. Salinger novel of a similar title). The show should prove to be brutal and magnificent.

I have witnessed a further uptick in American Nationalist sentiment on social media (Planet Earth's Bathroom Wall) following the tomahawk missile strikes against Syria and the deployment of the M.O.A.B (Mother of All Bombs, no relation to the town in Utah) against ISIS in Afghanistan. I can only assume that there is a correlation to be made between our local population that has a good portion of servicemembers from Patrick Air Force Base, Veterans, and folks that fall into neither categories as there is a similar distribution of people on the social media feeds that I mentioned above. I further qualify the forthcoming statement with the assertion that I do not harbor a strong tendency to unfollow individuals solely based on their views. The observation, albeit admittedly anecdotal and unscientific, is this: those that have experienced war are not expressing the vehement rhetoric of those that have not. Here's where this is relevant to our local arts and music community. It is not appropriate to assume that an entertainer, artist, performer or musician shares your beliefs solely based on the fact that you have similar tastes in art and music. This is not a dressing-down of anyone's beliefs, but a plea to not

continued page 35



Photo right: Merissa Rudgren (center) with Amy Sigafoos (left), Kenny Michaels (right), MC Chris Long (back).

Photos Below: Eric Webb with Eric Hotton's mother (left), Mike Cote had Eric Hotton live from his Texas hospital on his phone (center), helpful friends offering raffles (right).

Merissa Rudkin Received David T. Sigafoos Award

“With A Little Help From My Friends”

Over \$40,000 raised in just a few weeks for friend and musician Eric Hotton who was diagnosed with cancer - this is just one of the many benefits Merissa Rudkin has been involved with. And while she was the driving force behind the charity events at Malabar Mo's and Siggys, Merissa has been a supportive member on the music scene for many years working behind the scene and the spotlight. That's why Siggys-proprietor Amy Sigafoos felt that it was appropriate to give away the second David T. Sigafoos Award, endorsed by Brevard Music Aid Inc. of which Amy is also a Board of Directors member. This

award was created by Kenny Michaels as a lifetime achievement award given *“For Your Outstanding Leadership. Commitment To Community And Humanitarian Causes, Making This World A Better Place To Live.”*

Merissa Rudgren can claim all these virtues. It was a flashback moment from the former *Brevard Live Music Awards* when MC/DJ Chris Long took the stage to present the award during Eric Hotten's charity event at Siggys last month. Nobody was more surprised than Merissa about the accolades. Later on during a conversation with Brevard Live she pointed out: “Just like Chris said - it takes

a village to make something good like this happen. Many other people were always involved.” - Very true, but this community has seen Merissa leading the village over and over with amazing results.

During the day Merissa works as supervisor for an Air Force contractor and to simplify her duties, her friends simply call her a “rocket scientist.” Merissa was visibly moved by the surprising award. “It means a lot to me,” she said, “it's rewarding to be part of such a great community.”

Amy “Mama” Sigafoos who embraces her Siggys family of employees, musicians, and friends, a pillar in our music scene, plans to keep the award that holds her late husband's name alive.



SPOTLIGHT ON

Simone & The Supercats

By Matthew Bretz

The first time I saw Simone Star play was somewhere in the realm of a decade ago. I was at the Sun Shop in downtown Melbourne to watch some friends compete in an acoustic battle of the bands, and there onstage (or the section of floor known as such) was this curly haired young woman playing guitar and singing her heart out. She was really good and the crowd loved her, so good in fact that she beat my friends and won the whole deal. I knew then, and it was reinforced every time I stumbled into another Simone performance, that she was a stand-out performer in our community. For a few years it was just “Simone” with keys player Bryan Kezer leading her backing band, but eventually the show turned into a full band with billing and everything. I’ve always been a fan of this group, and I’m not the only one, and that’s why this month’s Spotlight is on Simone and the Supercats!

Simone and the Supercats have changed out a few members over the years, but the roster has always consistently been made up fantastic musicians. Nowadays they list the members of the band like this: Simone Star, Bryan Kezer, and Paul/Daniel/Dave. Along with that a list of revolving drummers. I’m gonna also add in K-Mac who used to keep their time back in the day and still fills in from time to time.

The Supercats play a killer mix of covers and Simone’s original music, and their catalog of covers is all over the place hitting something from practically every style on the dial. That kind of versatility has proven to keep them working all around the country...yep they tour too...and lead them to be named the Ultimate ‘One Stop’ Source for Live Entertainment. I don’t want to crow too much about their cover playlist though, I am a big fan of Simone’s original material. As a matter of fact, word has it that Simone is working on a new album right this moment as you read this article (unless you’re reading this a really long time after it was published—in that case I can’t promise anything). One



Photos by Chuck Van Riper

of my favorite songs by Simone has always been a tune called ‘Secrets of Saturn’. When the Gallery was open in downtown Melbourne I stopped in to see their set one night. After settling in I started to really pay attention to what was happening onstage. The timing was perfect because the band had just rolled into ‘Secrets of Saturn’ and Simone was spinning in circles performing some sort of impromptu interpretive dance of the song...it was friggin’ awesome! Anytime I’ve seen them since that day, and it was more than a few years ago, I always hope to hear that song.

The Supercats play anywhere and everywhere, and people always flock to the occasion. They have played thousands of shows for thousands of people, and don’t show any signs of slowing down. They release music through *Mama Spiritual*, and *Catapult Records* so check out their stuff and see what I’m talking about. They can be booked through Reverbnation, and there is all the pertinent information you need for that on their Facebook site. Next time you hear these ‘cats’ are playing anywhere you can get to, you need to go- unless you don’t like having a good time or hearing good music. For the rest of you out there...the smart ones with taste, and class...I’ll see you at the next show.

LOCAL DOWNLOAD continued

ruin anyone else’s time by asserting your own in situations where you’ll be harassing someone else’s mellow. We go out to have a good time and enjoy our little slice of tropical paradise here in Brevard. Please help us keep the venues as places where everyone can come and have a good time with-

out being ambushed by topics that are irrelevant. The world is boiling with tension right now. Let’s blow off steam without creating more heat. (*End of Rant*)

Please stay safe out there this Memorial Day Weekend. As we honor those

that have sacrificed and are sacrificing for us, I encourage you to not be bashful if you have over indulged. It’s cool to call a cab, have someone sober drive you home, or summon an Uber or Lift from the magical computer in your pocket that also makes phone calls.

Andy@BrevardLive.com



The Roof Is On Fire!

By Charles Knight

I was going to write about a controversial subject this month and then the fires came. By fires I mean wild fires. We are just getting started in this year's fire season and we have not had much rain. Factually speaking we are severely at risk for a hellish season due to near drought conditions. The last time conditions similar to this occurred was in 2011. The end result was 4,800 wildfires that burned 300,000 acres while destroying dozens of homes and businesses.

It is also the dry season in the Everglades. When it is dry in the northern part of the state it definitely affects the Glades. For those that did not know it, Orlando is historically the place where the headwaters to the Everglades begin. So, if it doesn't rain there, it is an indicator of a shortage down south. In addition to that, decades ago in their infinite wisdom the Corps of Engineers deviated water flow in order to drain the swamps and develop more land for the housing boom.

Then there is sugar... When Castro first took over Cuba we Americans lost our sugar supply. What to do? Florida's climate is almost identical to Cuba and as such was the obvious answer. I mean, we cannot possibly survive without

our sugar now can we? The sugar companies diverted water from Lake Okeechobee (which also feeds the Glades) and as a result even less water was reaching the places that nature had intended it to. I feel I have to add here that the housing boom is still in full swing and as for our addiction to sugar well, we are consuming more than ever. Lovely huh?

Florida has the second highest rate of wildfires in the nation. If you are a smoker use an ashtray, if you are cooking out, use common sense and caution. If you think that not being able to cross state routes 528 or 192 because of smoke is an inconvenience, think about no longer having a home due to fire. It happens all the time, folks.

When I was a kid in the Glades and fire season neared, dad and others would all help each other out and create 'fire breaks' around homesteads, and properties. A fire break is similar to a road in the woods. Usually cleared by someone with a bulldozer. If everything works as planned the fire reaches the break and doesn't proceed further. Sometimes a fire will jump a break. It happens on major roadways as well. Fire has even been known to jump I-95. There really is no way to determine where a fire will go, especially when the wind kicks up. I've had friends that have lost their homes to fire. I was fortunate. Never happened to us. When the fires are huge and headed to your house you do everything you can to save your home. If you are lucky you may sustain a little damage. If not, you're homeless. As a kid I never really took it seriously. I don't think my friends did either. When the fires came we would position ourselves near the edge and capture animals and snakes as they fled the blaze. One can see more fauna in escape mode in an afternoon than you might see in an average six months. Deer, hogs, opossum, armadillo, otter, panther, you name it. If it is running from fire the odds of an encounter are tenfold. I saw just about everything except panthers. They were much more rare back then. And I would imagine that there are even more interesting things to be seen these days. Pythons and Komodo dragons are just a couple that come to mind.

So, as a Floridian who loves this place and has seen what can happen up close, I encourage all of you to please use care when smoking, or using fire in any manner. Because it's not just yours...

That's my Flori-Duh too!

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Shall I Rent or Shall I Buy?

I'm a local Realtor with 33 years experience in the Brevard market. I am proud to be a member of the Space Coast Association of Realtors, Florida Assoc. of Realtors, and National Association of Realtors, organizations dedicated to providing the public with expertise in the purchase and sale of real estate. This month I'm going to share facts, thoughts, ideas, and suggestions about buying a house vs. renting. I sincerely hope this column will shed some light on the advantages and disadvantages of home ownership.

For many people owning a home is the embodiment of the American Dream, and also for many it is the biggest financial decision they will ever make. And for many the purchase of a house is very emotional. After all, when a buyer is house hunting, they try to imagine themselves and their family living in each house they see to determine if it fits the needs and wants of that buyer. And each buyer thinks of how they can make the house "their home" and enjoy their American Dream there. Let's face it, the floorplan, construction materials, and latest makeover are actually not the determining factors for buyers when purchasing a house. Most times it's the neighborhood and location, and the dream of raising children in that house, enjoying Sunday family dinners, birthday parties, pool parties, graduation parties, block parties, teaching your son to ride his new bike, dad and son playing catch in the yard, all the neighborhood kids using the skateboard ramp dad and son built, mom and daughter trying on their new clothes bought at the latest sale, and all the family welcoming the new pet, THESE are the things that make a house a HOME. So emotion plays a huge part in the purchase and sale of a home.

Now let's take a quick look at the advantages and disadvantages of home ownership, without the emotion attached.

First the advantages:

- Homes typically increase in value and build equity for later years. Currently homeowners in Brevard County have enjoyed a 10-15% annual increase in home values in the past 2-3 years. Our market has rebounded strongly from the Great Recession of 2006-2011.

- Owning a home often results in becoming neighborhood and community minded, and leads to wonderful long term relationships with others.
- The mortgage interest on your note is tax deductible, you receive no tax breaks when renting.
- Your financial costs of owning a home are more predictable and stable than renting. Sure you must spend to maintain your home, but regular maintenance costs are predictable, whereas when renting you must often rely on the landlord to maintain the property. And if something major breaks down, you better hope he has the funds to repair or replace. And remember, the Landlord has an investment and may increase your rent yearly to maximize the value of his investment.
- Owning a home provides great privacy, and can evoke feelings of accomplishment, pride, and comfort. Knowing you have worked hard to be in a position to purchase your dream home and provide stability and comfort for your family is a fabulous feeling.

Now some disadvantages:

- Typically, the Landlord is responsible for cost of repairs.
- A tenant has more flexibility for travel or job hunting that a homeowner.
- Renting is a much more short term commitment than owning a home.

Each individual or couple should weigh all the above advantages and disadvantages of home ownership vs renting, and make a fully informed decision as to what works best for them.

SPRING FEVER continued

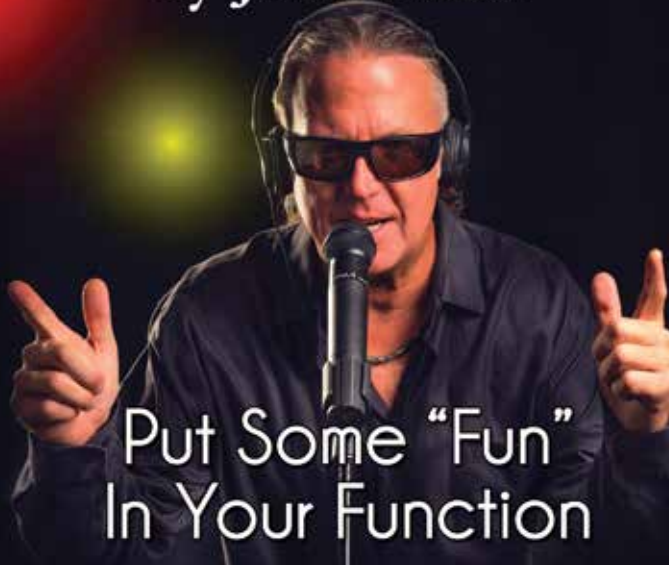
follow. You family will throw in their two cents and you may feel like you need to make them happy, but the reality is that they will be happy if you are, so get what YOU want. So many brides/grooms compromise what they really want due to the influence of others, and they wind up being more stressed and never get to relax and enjoy their own wedding-- in the environment that they have chosen.

Oh yeah, one more thing, if you are planning a spring wedding, please re-think the time of year. If you have to have it in spring, maybe have the ceremony in the evening or inside. Your guests will be melting waiting for you to walk down the aisle so they can watch you melt, and when it's over and everyone can get inside to the A/C they are already drenched and hoping their deodorant is holding up. Hmm... , just had a thought. Complimentary deodorant branded with the bride and grooms names on every table.

Cheers til next month!

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"We can't arrest ourselves out of this problem"
 -anonymous Sheriff.

No, we can't. We are currently witnessing and experiencing an Opioid Addiction & Overdose Epidemic and we are all part of the solution. We are in the aftermath of the Pill Mill crackdown.

Pharmaceutical opiates (pain pills) have become more difficult to get due to government pressures, investigations, arrests, and regulations. Physicians have become more conservative with prescribing. The days of walking in with an MRI and a predetermined cocktail list of what medication you want filled for your cash contribution to the office, is over. Pharmacies scrutinize and review prescriptions with an ID Channel curiosity. Pharmaceutical companies put out "safer" alternatives and have switched their efforts to the medication assisted treatment space.

What remained was the countless number of addicts left craving, withdrawing, and struggling with a ruthless disease. We definitely weren't ready to help them all. As a community and country we weren't even ready to understand their suffering and need for help.

From the sickness, crime, and chaos came the perfect storm. Heroin is introduced to mainstream America. It's cheaper, easier to get, available in every neighborhood (yes, even yours), and you don't even need a fake MRI. Boom!

What can we do about this? The arrests and regulations alone can't do it. The planned deportations and blaming Mexico for our problem will not do it. Let me not go too far on this issue because I don't care about the politics, I only want to destroy this disease and save lives.

Crushing the stigma related to addiction, recovery, and those struggling with it is a great start. Creating more access to quality healthcare is another leap forward. A huge leap actually. Again, I don't want to get too deep into our healthcare problems because it will turn this into a political discussion.

Our solution includes admitting that this epidemic is here and our friends, loved ones, children, parents, and grandparents are all suffering from this. Knowing that

heroin is not our initial problem because 80% of heroin addicts previously misused pain medications. Understanding that heroin and pain medications are Opioid Agonists. That means that heroin and pain medications are the same to the brain. In basic street language we have illegal heroin and legal heroin, only we didn't get to vote on this like we did on marijuana. The medicinal purpose of anything doesn't mean safe. It means that when done correctly it can be effective. Many people are prescribed pain medication for legitimate reasons but without an effective plan to discontinue or replace with a non-addictive alternative. The physical dependence can happen to anyone and come without notice. We are all vulnerable. What happens from here is fueled by many other factors. These can be emotional, environmental, and/or genetic.

The alternative procedures and treatments require more research and approval for medical billing. The replacement therapies need to be supported and monitored so that recovering addicts don't become a targeted population for those only interested in another revenue stream. For example, it's unfortunate that even when you have medical insurance and go to an in-network healthcare provider, they only accept self-pay for addiction treatment. Can you imagine if your doctor required you to pay cash for any cardiac issue because your insurance carrier doesn't offer an adequate reimbursement? If diabetics had to self-pay? How is this acceptable?

Lastly, we can all carry a form of Naloxone. Naloxone is a medication that is used to prevent or reverse the effects of an opioid. It's being used to save the lives of individuals who are suffering from an overdose of opioid medication or heroin. It can be found under the brand names EVZIO and NARCAN. Any physician can prescribe it to you. Anyone can get it. Everyone should. If Zika killed just 10% of those killed by opioids daily, the antidote would be in every medicine cabinet.

Imagine sitting in a restaurant and your dinner is disrupted by cries that someone has been found in the bathroom unconscious. If you are armed with Naloxone you can use it on the individual while someone calls 911. If the person is suffering from an opioid overdose you will see an immediate reversal in action. You just bought this person some time until the emergency services arrives. You just saved a life. A life that would've otherwise been lost. If the person was not suffering from an opioid overdose the medication will not work but most importantly is not known to further complicate any other health emergency. Please google Naloxone for more information and how to get it.

I'm asking us all to be the solution. Be armed with knowledge, empathy, and Naloxone. Feel free to contact me directly for any additional assistance on how to navigate the "business" of recovery and get help NOW.

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El Indio In The Melbourne Shopping Center Sizzlin' Authentic Mexican

By Charlene Hemmle

Comfort food is hearty, nostalgic and most always homemade. Each culture has their own concept of comforting foods. When I'm craving Mexican food, there's nothing better than diving into a plate of spicy taco meat wrapped in warm tortilla shells with cool, crisp toppings. It takes me back to my vacation in Oaxaca.

El Indio which is located in the Melbourne Shopping Center on Babcock Street is a mom and pop style eatery with food made from the heart. The shopping center exterior might fool you but once inside, you'll find it to be clean, colorful and quite charming. Owner Ramon has been in business as a restaurateur in Brevard County for over 20 years and being from Guadalajara he is quite familiar with Mexican cuisine.

As a chef he is passionate about the food he serves and all of his menu items are made fresh from scratch daily. Mexicans are not fans of frozen, processed foods. Instead they would rather turn chicken, pork, beef and seafood into harmonizing dishes that sing with flavor and tickle your mouth with texture. Whether your're in the mood for soup, salad or something heavier like fajitas or a huge burrito Ramon aims to please. He offers many gratifying entrees like Camaornes Al Mojo De Ajo (shrimp sauteed in garlic and butter with onions and mushrooms), Carnitas (slow cooked pork), Carne Asada (charcoal broiled skirt steak) and Pollo En Mole (chicken in sweet brown sauce). During lunchtime El Indio has generous lunch plates for \$7.95 and fajitas or egg plates like Huevos Rancheros for \$8.95. They also have a daily special for only \$6.25 - what a deal! On top of that, free chips and house made salsa comes with each order.

They also serve some refreshing ethnic beverages like hand mixed sangria, margaritas and micheladas (Mexican bloody mary). On Cinco de Mayo El Indio will offer a va-

riety of discounted Mexican beers. Cinco de Mayo (May 5th) is a date that pays tribute to the surprising victory of the Mexican Army over French forces at the "Battle of Puebla" on May 5th in 1862. Some people think it's Mexico's independence day but that's actually on September 16th.

For Mother's Day this year Ramon will prepare special "Fajitas for Two" which come with any two beverages, alcoholic or non for \$27.95. It also comes with chip & salsa, beans and rice, warm tortillas and toppings. Perfect for sharing with Mom. They are open 7 days a week from 11am to 9pm so when that Mexican food craving strikes, Ramon and the staff at El Indio will be there to fill your belly and warm your soul.



Ramon and staff give you the experience of a Mexican mom & pop diner, everything is made fresh from scratch with family recipes, and it's affordable.



Art In Action

LORI EMLY

By John Leach

Lori Emly has over 20 years experience working in the visual art field and currently owns and runs Art Abilities in the Eau Gallie Arts District. A self proclaimed average artist but very good teacher, Lori is more interested in sharing her knowledge than showing her work. In her own words “It is my passion, teaching others to be, or feel, successful.” At that, she has been very successful.

Raised in Melbourne and a Mel. High graduate, Emly’s parents moved her here in 1968. “It was pretty laid back then,” she says. “Wickham Road ended at Wickham Park and there were a lot of dirt roads. Everything was tied into the space industry and there were lots of engineers around. I grew up with rockets going off and I still love watching the rockets go. Some people have gotten blasé about it but to me it’s still an impressive thing.”

Growing up surrounded by rocket scientists it’s not surprising that Emly graduated college with degrees in computer science and electrical engineering before moving to Dallas to work for Texas Instruments. In Texas she participated in some exciting high tech projects with T.I. and other companies, even working in cutting edge cellular phone technology, before deciding to get her kids out of the fast paced city life and bring them back to her hometown.

“I wanted my kids to have a greater appreciation for things beside the rat race in Dallas. We’d always planned on moving back here so I moved back to the area in 2000 and got involved with the Melbourne Art Festival.”

Emly spent 16 years working with the Melbourne Art Festival and held many positions including president, treasurer, coordinator for student programs and scholarships, and artist co-chairperson. “I’d done a lot of volunteer work in Dallas and when I came back here I had a friend, that had a friend, that got me involved in student scholarships and workshops. I’ve worked a lot of different positions but teaching is where my heart is.”

Emly has also been involved with art and art therapy at The Haven for Children over many years. The Haven for Children is a foster group that helps kids in the system by trying to find them permanent home situations. They work with kids from birth to 18 that have been removed from their parents and an important part of their work is to keep families together. Sometimes four or five children from one family will arrive together at The Haven and it’s one of the few programs that endeavor to keep these kinds of families together.

Art Therapy: At the pottery and fused-glass studio people can socialize while creating their own art.

In 2005 Emly started working for Brevard Achievement Center, a company in Rockledge that serves people with disabilities. She ran the school based art programs there under the program Very Special Arts, a national organization headquartered in South Florida until April 2016. “The VSA helps kids with art and art experiences” explains Emly. “Locally we work with public and private schools and have big events where we strive to expose young people to the arts. The arts are very empowering and help with expression. It’s sad they’re taking them out of schools - they’re very important.”

“In 2006 I started the art program at Brevard Achievement Center for Adults with disabilities, based out of Rockledge. The work is mostly in pottery and glass and with that population it’s been a very successful program. We’ve paid for artists to come in for the adults. The students can sell their stuff and that’s a good feeling for anybody. It’s a big accomplishment. The work I’ve done there is one of my most proud achievements. Art work by the adults is sold at local art shows and in other retail locations in the area. I’ve also been a visiting artist for high school students and for elementary and middle school children with and without disabilities. I worked with the Holy Trinity High School art students to design and complete the two large fused glass windows that are installed at the upper campus small chapel - they are very impressive.”

Since being back in the Melbourne area Emly has also taught pottery and fused glass at the Art Museum, Indian River Potters Guild and other locations.



“In May 2016 I opened Art Abilities, my first very own studio. I always say, I am an average artist but a very good teacher. It is my passion, teaching others to be, or feel, successful. I love doing what I’m doing - working my butt off! I don’t make a lot of money but it’s very rewarding. I get to do what I want.”

Would-be artists can book parties at the pottery and fused-glass studio, bring along friends, food and drink, and socialize while creating their own art that will last forever. If classes are more your style Emly teaches fused glass and pottery all week long. “My

classes are very small which I like. Whatever someone wants to achieve I help them with that. Everybody gets to do different things so with everyone at different levels it makes a conducive learning environment. You can learn from people around you. Mixing younger adults with older adults is good too, they can learn from each other.”

Lori Emly is currently teaching classes six days a week. Artwork by Lori and other local artists can be purchased at the studio at 1416 Highland Avenue. Visit her website at www.artabilities.com

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MAY 17: ERIC & SAM

MAY 24: GARY VADIMSKY

MAY 31: MARC DOBSON (THE ONE MAN BAND)

THURSDAY 7PM

MAY 4: THE HITMEN

MAY 11: JOE BARRERA

MAY 18: SHAIN ALLEN

MAY 25: FRANKIE LESSARD

FRIDAY

DJ CHRIS 8PM, BANDS 9PM

MAY 5: BULLET THEORY

MAY 12: WRECK

MAY 19: ABSOLUTE BLUE

MAY 26: FUNPIPE

SATURDAY

DJ CHRIS 8PM, BANDS 9:30PM

MAY 6: 21 TO BURN,

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& BLEEDING IN STEREO

MAY 13: MAYHEM

MAY 20: SPEARFISH

MAY 27: BUCKSHOT

SUNDAY

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19th 506 Crew Duo 4pm;
Island Breeze Band 9pm
26th Jake Solo 4pm;
Spread the Dub 9pm

SATURDAY ROCKS

6th Stoney & The House
Rockers 4pm; Hot Pink 9pm
13th Separate Checks 4pm;
UFC 211 8pm; Red Tide 9pm
20th Boat Races; Hot Pink 9pm
27th Vintage 4pm;
Micro Midget Wrestling 10pm

Saturday May 13th NO COVER

UFC 211

MIOCIC vs DOS SANTOS 2

JEDRZEJCZYK vs ANDRADE

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