

Artemis marks 25th year with new corporate office; 'Companies to Watch'

By Ken Datzman

The information technology sector in America has never looked more promising.

With the adoption of rapidly developing technologies such as cloud computing, artificial intelligence, Voice over Internet Protocol, the Internet of Things, 5G technologies, and the increased emphasis on cybersecurity, the industry seems poised for growth, years into the future.

And local firm Artemis/The IT Company has long been helping businesses of all sizes harness technology to increase their efficiencies and drive growth in an ever-changing environment.

In mid-2020, for example, with the pandemic raging, Artemis showed companies how to develop flexible work-from-anywhere strategies.

"Some of our clients were using virtual office and related technologies, but a lot of our customers weren't prepared to make the transition with their employees not physically working in their offices," said Travis Proctor, the chief executive officer of Artemis in Melbourne.

His company helped businesses shift from the traditional, structured office to location flexibility, and absorbed the cost of doing it. "We use a fixed-price contract for selling services," said Proctor. "When a business engages us, they know what they are paying for. And it really doesn't include home networks and home computers and those types of things. But we made the decision early on in the pandemic that we would extend the contract coverage to customers working at home."

Initially, it increased Artemis' work volume by about 40 percent and then it leveled off at 25 to 30 percent higher than a year ago. "We absorbed that cost into our operations because we have always said we want to be a 'true partner' for our customers. As they went through this transition, we were at their side. We feel confident it will pay dividends over the long term. We strive to build long-term customer relationships," he said.

Artemis has been a "true partner" to businesses in the region now for 25 years. The company is marking a quarter century in business in 2021 with an office relocation and expansion. Artemis purchased a two-story, 25,000-square-foot building on South Apollo Boulevard and renovated areas of the facility. The building is now known as the Artemis Corporate Center.

Artemis occupies about 14,000 square feet on the first floor of that facility. Tenants in the building include DKN Legal, Viasat, Brevard Symphony Orchestra and Johnson & Johnson Inc., an insurance agency..

The new space more than doubles what Artemis had at its previous buildings on Aurora Road in Melbourne, which it also owned. The new building houses Artemis' growing service team, network operations center, professional services group, and administration.

"This relocation and expansion gives us additional room to support our growth," said Proctor, adding, "There is not a lot of commercial office space in this size range (25,000 square feet) in the area. We had been looking for almost two years."

The high-tech design features a lot of angled walls and glass, floor-to-ceiling in some areas. Interior glass is one of the most popular materials being used today in new office



BBN photo — Adrienne B. Roth

Businessman Travis Proctor is founder and CEO of Artemis/The IT Company, which is celebrating its 25th year in business in 2021. His growing company just purchased a 25,000-square-foot facility on South Apollo Boulevard in Melbourne. Artemis occupies 14,000 square feet of the two-story building. The Artemis Corporate Center houses the firm's service team, network operations center, professional services group, and administration. Proctor is the new chairman of the Florida Tech Board of Trustees. He is a 1998 graduate of the school, earning a bachelor's degree in computer science information systems.

construction and renovation. Glass opens offices to light and collaboration, and it plays a role in sustainability. It also is more durable and requires less maintenance than drywall, according to architects and interior designers.

Artemis worked with Rob Becker, a partner at the commercial firm Lightle Beckner Robison Inc. in Melbourne. "LBR is now marketing and seeking tenants for our former building on Aurora Road," said Proctor. The general contractor for the Artemis Corporate Center was area firm Chesapeake Construction Inc., whose president is Chad Cabrera. Merritt Island-based Community Bank of the South led by Bill Taylor, the founding president and

CEO, was the real-estate lender.

"It was a pleasure to work with the entire team on this project," said Proctor. "Community Bank of the South was very flexible in putting the finance package together. They really understand how a small business works."

Artemis is a multifaceted information technology solutions provider. The firm offers everything from computer sales and support to network design and installation, hosting, co-location Web development, and software development.

Please see Artemis/The IT Company, page 23

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Metropolitan Museum of Art, Verizon launch interactive virtual art experience; access to digital galleries

By Katie Magnotta (katie.magnotta@verizon.com)
Verizon Communications Inc.
and Miki Spinazzi (micol.spinazzi@metmuseum.org)
Metropolitan Museum of Art

NEW YORK (Jan. 12, 2021) — The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Verizon today launched The Met Unframed, an immersive virtual art and gaming experience, with enhancements powered by Verizon 5G Ultra Wideband, that features more than a dozen one-of-a-kind digitally rendered galleries and nearly 50 works of art from across The Met's vast collection. At a time when access to one of the world's greatest art collections is limited, "The Met Unframed" brings a creatively reimagined Met experience to people wherever they are.

TheMetUnframed.com invites online visitors to explore digital galleries and play games that unlock augmented reality (AR) versions of the art on view that can then be displayed virtually at home. The Met Unframed is accessible from any 4G or 5G smart device, and is available for free for a limited five-week run.

Within the experience, four of the AR works of art are enhanced with activations accessible to users on Verizon 5G Ultra Wideband. These users can watch the objects come alive in AR by utilizing high-speed responsiveness and ultra low lag.

Max Hollein, director of The Metropolitan Museum of Art commented, "Our mission since The Met's founding 150 years ago has been to connect people to art and ideas, and to one another — something we've found to be more powerful than ever over these last months of isolation and uncertainty. The Met Unframed brings the Museum to audiences wherever they are in an innovative viewing experience, in which users can virtually visit iconic spaces and engage with The Met's masterpieces, learn more about the works in a playful way and through AR, and enjoy bringing the art into one's own surroundings. The Met Unframed expands the ways in which we can understand, experience, and appreciate art."

Andrew McKechnie, chief creative officer of Verizon, added, "The Met Unframed enhances digital inclusivity for an audience that may have never experienced art in such a personal way. We're utilizing the power of

technology and enhancements enabled by Verizon 5G, to provide extensive access, in-depth education, and opportunities for interactivity and sharing, for beloved works of art from one of the world's most renowned museums."

The custom-designed digital galleries were rendered exclusively for The Met Unframed and evoke or nearly replicate spaces from across the Museum. The virtual layout creatively arranges a sampling of galleries that display art from across millennia and from around the world, allowing the Museum — and the collection — to be experienced like never before.

Visitors to The Met Unframed are first welcomed into an intricately detailed rendering of the Museum's iconic Great Hall, where Kent Monkman's monumental diptych mistikôsiwak: Wooden Boat People (2019) hangs, and from there banners offer broad thematic concepts — Power, Home, Nature, and Journey — that visitors can take up while exploring the galleries.

Highlights from The Met's collection include works by the contemporary artists El Anatsui, Mark Bradford, Ibrahim El-Salahi, Sam Gilliam, and Carmen Herrera; all of The Met's five paintings by American modernist Jacob Lawrence; and massive works like the Egyptian Wing's magnificent Temple of Dendur (completed by 10 B.C.) and a stunning 14th century Chinese mural depicting the Buddha of Medicine.

Visitor favorites also abound, like The Unicorn Rests in a Garden (1495–1505) from The Met Cloisters' Unicorn Tapestries; Jackson Pollock's Autumn Rhythm (Number 30) (1950), Vincent Van Gogh's Wheatfield with Cypresses (1889), Emanuel Leutze's Washington Crossing the Delaware (1851), and Rembrandt van Rijn's Self Portrait (1660); along with important works like Lee Krasner's Rising Green (1972), Standing Bear's The Battle of Little Bighorn (ca. 1920), and Margareta Haverman's Vase of Flowers (1716).

The Met Unframed was designed in partnership with multidisciplinary production company Unit9, and developed using the latest in web AR and emerging mobile technology combined with The Met's rich digital, educational, and curatorial teams providing rich content and expertise. The high-fidelity gallery and art renderings in this experience were modeled by 3D artists based on the Met's extensive collection of images — many

within its Open Access program — created by the Museum's staff photographers and post-production team. Games in the experience — such as trivia questions, riddles, and a "Zoom and Spot" challenge — encourage close observation of the works of art and accompanying descriptions and content, while a game called "Analysis" uses The Met's infrared and XRF conservation documentation scans of paintings to give users a glimpse of underdrawings and other hidden details of well-known Met paintings that would go unseen in an in-person visit to the Museum.

● About The Met

The Metropolitan Museum of Art was founded in 1870 by a group of American citizens — businessmen and financiers as well as leading artists and thinkers of the day — who wanted to create a museum to bring art and art education to the American people. Today, The Met displays tens of thousands of objects covering 5,000 years of art from around the world for everyone to experience and enjoy. The Museum lives in two iconic sites in New York City — The Met Fifth Avenue and The Met Cloisters. Millions of people also take part in The Met experience online at metmuseum.org

● About Verizon

Verizon Communications Inc. (NYSE, Nasdaq: VZ) was formed on June 30, 2000, and is celebrating its 20th year as one of the world's leading providers of technology, communications, information and entertainment products and services. Headquartered in New York City and with a presence around the world, Verizon generated revenues of \$131.9 billion in 2019. The company offers data, video and voice services and solutions on its award-winning networks and platforms, delivering on customers' demand for mobility, reliable network connectivity, security and control.

Christine Velez Stone is January Artist of the Month at Studios of Cocoa Beach

Christine Velez Stone of Titusville is the January Artist of the Month at the Studios of Cocoa Beach, 165 Minuteman Causeway, in downtown Cocoa Beach.

As a child Stone's father was often gone on business trips and she communicated by drawing pictures. Seeing her talent, her family enrolled her in art classes and her studies continued in school. She received an art scholarship and earned an associate's degree in visual arts from Berkshire Community College in Massachusetts.

She then moved to Columbia to spend time with her late father's family. While there, she spent three years studying art and design at La Academia Superior de Arte in Medellin. This led to work as a designer and painter including murals, trompe l'oeil, faux finishes, and set design for theater groups.

She has also taught art in elementary schools and in various after-school settings.

Her award-winning acrylic paintings have been in art shows and exhibits throughout Florida. The big, bright and bold paintings depict happy, care-free events and places. Stone says, "If while viewing my art a smile appears on your face then I know I achieved the goal and my life's journey...to bring joy, peace and love to all who gaze upon His glory! Life is a picnic, Enjoy!"

At this time, the Studios of Cocoa Beach is open most days from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and some evenings. Hours are subject to change as volunteers are available. Visit www.studiosofcocoa.com for confirmation or call (321) 613-3480 to schedule an appointment. You can view profiles of the Studios artists, see more views of Stone's work, and learn about this nonprofit gallery at the website.

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Now right time to heed Washington's first inaugural address — call to unity

By David Head
UCF Forum columnist
University of Central Florida

(Jan. 13, 2021) On Inauguration Day — Jan. 20 — I always think there's no better time to recommit to the spirit of the man who held the president's office first.

George Washington, the man who invented the inauguration speech, crafted an address that speaks to what unites Americans.

Washington took office in a precarious moment. The previous government, the Articles of Confederation, had failed and nothing guaranteed there would be a second president if Washington faltered. Washington's words as he assumed office announced his goal: a nation unified despite its deep disagreements.

His inauguration took place in New York City, then the country's capital, on April 30, 1789. Congress, though supposed to meet in early March to certify the results of the presidential election, couldn't muster a quorum until April. The delay revealed the indifference of the new representatives and senators toward the new government. Rhode Island and North Carolina didn't send any representatives at all. They hadn't ratified the Constitution yet.

According to the Constitution, the sole required part of a president's inauguration is to recite a specific oath of office. But over the spring, as Washington saw he would be elected president, he decided he should also

give a public address.

Washington's speech followed his taking the oath, which he completed publicly while standing on the second-floor balcony of Federal Hall on Wall Street. As the crowd cheered and huzzahed its acclaim, he repaired inside to address Congress.

The speech itself was brief. A mere 1,400 words, it might have taken less than 10 minutes to deliver. The speech advocated no specific policies. But what Washington lacked in innovative ideas, he made up for in his vision of the nation's destiny.

"Among the vicissitudes incident to life," Washington began, "no event could have filled me with greater anxieties" than learning he would become president. He felt unequal to the task, he said, but he could not resist being "summoned by my country, whose voice I can never hear but with veneration and love." Washington, who hungered for fame as much as any renowned leader, played coy, but with a purpose: He signaled that he was not ambitious for power as famous men often were or as liberty-loving Americans feared.

Fortunately for our democracy, he demonstrated that America and its president would be something different.

Washington continued with an exhortation to unity. But he didn't lecture his audience or shame people for their disagreements. He didn't offer sappy bromides that no rough-and-tumble politician believes. Instead, he recalled the shared sacrifice of the revolution and what he saw as God's providential care for guiding the United States, his words turning his listeners' minds to what they'd accomplished together and to the beliefs they shared.

"No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible hand, which conducts the affairs of men more than the people of the United States," the president said. "Every step, by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation, seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency."

Washington didn't need to state the implications outright: Just as the nation had achieved its independence together, it could launch the new government together.

After a brief allusion to a Bill of Rights and his promise to accept no salary but only reimbursement for his expenses, Washington closed by once more invoking "the benign parent of the human race." He called for divine blessing on officials whose "enlarged views" along with "temperate consultations" would frame "the wise measures on which the success of this government must depend."

That's the spirit presidents should always emulate: a humble symbol of unity. Washington's words are a reminder of what the American people have accomplished, his manner serious but hopeful.

It's a difficult task. A president is a political figure, and politics means making choices that anger some people. But presidents should speak — especially on Inauguration Day — with devotion to the country, including the people who didn't vote for them.

David Head is an associate lecturer of history at UCF. He can be reached at David.Head@UCF.edu.



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Brevard Business News is published every Monday by Brevard Business News Inc. Bulk Rate postage is paid at Melbourne, FL and Cocoa, FL. This publication serves business executives in Brevard County. It reports on news, trends and ideas of interest to industry, trade, agribusiness, finance, health care, high technology, education and commerce.

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Subscription Rates for home or office mail delivery are \$26.00 for one year (52 issues). Send all address changes to: Circulation Department, Brevard Business News, 4300 Fortune Place, Suite D, West Melbourne, FL, 32904, or email BrevardBusinessNews@earthlink.net.

Officers installed for Brevard Federated Republican Women

The 2021-2022 officers for the Brevard Federated Republican Women were installed by Chaplain Patti Febro on Jan. 6. The officers are: president, Jill Gentis; first vice president, Diane Norwood-Steven; second vice president, Deanna Reiter; treasurer, Terry Boylan; recording secretary, Marlene Frye; assistant treasurer, Debbie Schofield; and corresponding secretary, Lisa Byl. The organization was established in 1950 and meets regularly on the first Wednesday of the month at the Space Coast Convention Center. The club's focus is on educating residents on local and state issues, and the empowerment of women in the political arena. For more information on this organization, visit www.brevardfederatedrepublicanwomen.org or call (321) 727-1212.

From the Public Record of Brevard County Sheriff Wayne Ivey

From: Bill Erfurth <bill@moderncityentertainment.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 16, 2018 10:01 AM
To: Bill Erfurth
Subject: Police Videos

Hey, how's things? Some recent developments have come together about possibly turning the Heroes Behind The Badge documentaries into a TV series. Without getting into too many details, there is interest in setting up the series with a montage of real and dramatic police body camera, dash cam, helicopter, etc captured video. I'm reaching out to you to see if you happen to have any, or are aware of some highly dramatic, heroic, exemplary types of these videos? The more current the videos the better, but amazing footage is always still amazing.

Hope all's well. Any help would be great!

Thanks, Bill



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Page 1 of 324

Mr. Timothy Michaud
1791 Wekiva Drive
Melbourne, FL 32940

2019 FLORIDA NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT

DOCUMENT# N36299

Entity Name: THE COCOA BEACH AREA HOTEL AND MOTEL ASSOCIATION, INC.

Current Principal Place of Business:

976 BREVARD AVE
ROCKLEDGE, FL 32955

Current Mailing Address:

976 BREVARD AVE
ROCKLEDGE, FL 32955

FEI Number: 59-3048626

Name and Address of C

MICHAUD, TIMOTHY
1300 N ATLANTIC AVE
COCOA BEACH, FL 32931 US

The above named entity submits this

SIGNATURE: TIMOTHY

Electronic Sig

Officer/Director Detail :

Title S

Name NORONHA, D

Address 5575 N ATLAN

City-State-Zip: COCOA BEAC

Title DP

Name WILLIAMSON,

Address 3425 N ATLAN

City-State-Zip: COCOA BEAC

From: "Goodyear, Tod" <tod.goodyear@bcso.us>

Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at 10:22 AM

To: Bill Erfurth <bill@moderncityentertainment.com>

Subject: RE: TV idea follow up

Bill,

Not as wet up here as you are but we are getting some of the rain, which we do need...Thanks for the update.

Tod

I hereby certify that the information indicated above, or on an attachment with all other li

SIGNATURE: TOM WILLI

Electronic Sig

FILED

Feb 07, 2019

Secretary of State
0275169506CC

RE: Post-judgment issues

Please

SUMMARY

DATE **DESCRIP**

Oct-09-09 Telephone
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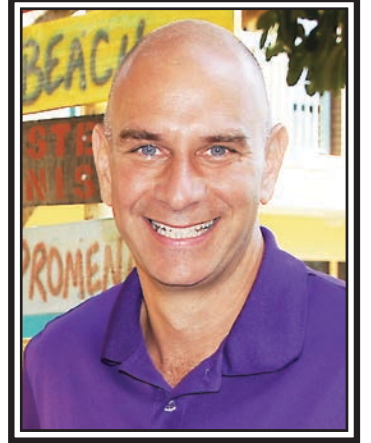
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Timothy Michaud

'Based upon my investigation as a criminal investigator with the Craven County Sheriff's Department there is probable cause to arrest Timothy Michaud for sexual assault on R(xxxx) Michaud.'

John Whitfield
May 7, 2010



Brevard County Sheriff's Office photo

'I need to report suspected abuse.'

Dana Delaney Loyd
aka Theresa Smith
to Florida Abuse Hotline
at 11:12 a.m., April 29, 2015



Brevard County Sheriff's Office photo

'Loyalty is everything to me!!!'

Sheriff Robert Wayne Ivey
to Dana Delaney Loyd
at 5:19 p.m., April 29, 2015

DID THE EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT MURDER FORMER COMBAT MEDIC GREGORY EDWARDS?

BBN NOTE: John M. Stewart — a partner at Rossway Swan — is a past president of the 107,000 member The Florida Bar.

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To Be Continued ...

The measures government, partners take to 'protect' us from disease are same used to suppress political dissent

By Jane M. Orient, M.D.
doctorjaneorient@gmail.com

(Jan. 12, 2021) Students of history feel that we are living in a time comparable to 1848 (the Spring of Nations) in Europe, 1917 in Russia, 1933 in Germany — or the times of the French Revolution, the American Revolution, or the U.S. Civil War.

Most Americans who are alive today have lived in a period of relative political stability and ideological clarity. It never occurred to them that they might be facing dilemmas like those their ancestors did in times preceding the American Revolution or Civil War — or those that immigrants from Cuba, Romania, communist China, the Soviet Union, and other totalitarian states came to America to escape. Most Americans, especially young ones, have no knowledge of history.

The people who were experiencing those times of upheaval had absolutely no clue about the future. They therefore tried to make the best predictions they could and bet on various outcomes. They joined different factions

based upon their place in the societal structure and upon their predictions and bets. Some guessed right, and many were wrong. Millions of people were killed, and many were forced into exile.

Most Americans are — or have been — apathetic about politics. But politics is coming for them. People in the upper middle class have felt secure — they have assets, live in a safe neighborhood, still have a paycheck or pension, and have not knowingly offended anyone. But their gated communities have been crashed.

Even the privileged elite know they are no longer safe. Imagine an interloper — of whatever faction — putting his feet on Speaker Nancy Pelosi's desk while she had to run and hide! And someone carried off her podium. He did get arrested, unlike those who scoop up expensive cosmetics at Walgreens.

The struggling middle-class "deplorables" have been toiling away like the faithful horse Boxer in George Orwell's "Animal Farm," trusting in the system. They hoped that a messiah named Donald Trump would rescue them. But the essential industries are still in China, the temporary relief from taxes and regulations is about to be

suddenly reversed, and the faction that deems them deplorable appears to be in total control of the federal government. A huge percentage of Americans believe that their votes don't count.

So, what is left? This is the question asked by a man who stormed the Capitol on Jan. 6 — an action he never dreamed he would consider.

The current crisis is complicated by the COVID-19 panic. Some speculate that it could be a biological warfare attack. Or perhaps it might as well be. It has resulted in terror much worse than on 9/11.

Besides deaths attributed to the virus, there are the deaths that have resulted, or will result from the lockdowns — from denial of medical care, suicide, drug abuse, and poverty.

The measures government and its partners — big tech, news media, even most medical organizations — are imposing to "protect" us from a viral disease are the same as those used to suppress political dissent. Social media postings by Donald Trump or persons concerned about election fraud are being suppressed now — but messages from those promoting early COVID treatment have been cancelled for months. One cannot post anything on Facebook or "nextdoor" that might relate to COVID without an obligatory referral to the Ministry of Truth. The central message is: NO early at-home treatment except the very expensive intravenous monoclonal antibodies possibly available in some facilities under an Emergency Use Authorization (not the same as FDA approval, which requires a lot of evidence).

Independent medical treatment, even advice about vitamins, is discouraged or even banned. Once in hospital, patients are at the mercy of the corporate protocol — with no nosy visitors to check for oversedation, incorrect or missed medications, failure to check for urine output, or overflowing trash cans.

Normal social interactions or non-favored enterprises that generate income are severely restricted, ostensibly to inhibit coronavirus. There is no evidence for effectiveness for this purpose — but they do inhibit the spread of the dissent virus and cripple potential dissenters economically.

Plans to force people to take minimally tested vaccines, at least if they don't want to be under house arrest, are being considered, despite the acknowledged facts that they are not a magic bullet, might not prevent transmission, and might not work against mutant strains.

Lack of early treatments for which there is substantial and growing evidence may cause more than 100,000 needless deaths. The destruction of liberty and the institution of socialism has caused 100 million deaths in history. Desperate actions by people with nothing left to lose wreak havoc.

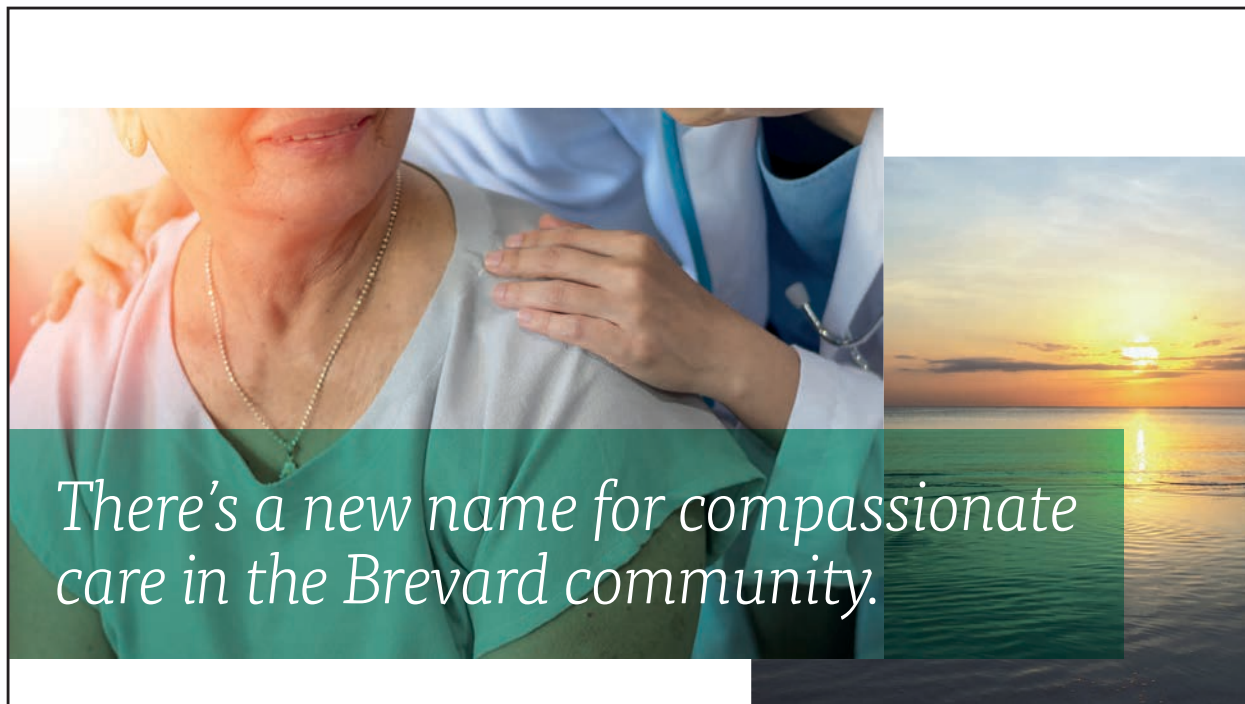
Those who are for protecting human lives are against censorship, central planning, and unfettered, nonaccountable government — and for freedom and individual rights.

● About the author

Jane M. Orient obtained her undergraduate degrees in chemistry and mathematics from the University of Arizona in Tucson, and her M.D. degree from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1974.

She completed an internal medicine residency at Parkland Memorial Hospital and University of Arizona Affiliated Hospitals and then became an instructor at the University of Arizona College of Medicine and a staff physician at the Tucson Veterans Administration Hospital. She has been in solo private practice since 1981 and has served as executive director of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS) since 1989.

She is currently president of Doctors for Disaster Preparedness.



There's a new name for compassionate care in the Brevard community.

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Viera rises in ranks of Top 50 Master-Planned Communities across nation; 16th best-selling in 2020

By Eva M. Rey
eva.rey@duda.com
The Viera Company

VIERA (Jan. 7, 2021) — John Burns Real Estate Consulting, LLC and RCLCO Real Estate Advisors have released their list of the Top 50 Master-Planned Communities (MPCs) across the United States.

Viera has been ranked within the top 20 MPCs in the nation on both lists and, for 2020, made a significant jump in rankings from previous years.

Karl Pischke, vice president of RCLCO Real Estate Advisors, noted that “After an impressive 45 percent increase in sales compared to 2019, Viera became the 16th top-selling community in the country for 2020.

Viera’s performance in 2020 is particularly impressive following a 22nd place finish in RCLCO’s 2019 report, and is indicative of the careful planning and investment in community place-making done by The Viera Co.”

Both organizations base their top 50 rankings on high-performing MPCs and new home sales within the

communities. Consultants provide feedback from industry contacts that support the research, which goes into producing the prestigious annual rankings.

“Viera’s inclusion within the top 20 best-selling MPCs in the country and top 5 in Florida is a great distinction and recognition of the attractiveness of the community to prospective residential buyers and commercial developers alike,” said Todd Pokrywa, president of The Viera Co.

“During 2020, Viera witnessed significant increases in residential sales and commercial interest. Viera is unique in terms of its geography, being situated in the heart of the Space Coast market with four interchanges along the East Coast’s Main Street USA (for example, Interstate 95), close to 72 miles of Atlantic Ocean beaches, and between two international airports that are less than 45 minutes driving time from the community.”

In 2020, Viera continued to improve the community through the development of new roads, such as the extension of Lake Andrew Drive at both the north and south ends and the construction of the Pineda Causeway extension, expanding future housing options, adding new

elements to the Viera Town Center, and creating new commerce hubs, such as the Borrows West project at the I-95/Viera Boulevard Interchange.

In response to COVID-19, Viera provided a safe home buying experience utilizing the latest technology in “hands-free” home touring and loan closing procedures and leveraged the community amenities to elevate its lifestyle offerings, which provided recreational options to its residents who were quarantining at home and looking for outdoor activities.

Lesley Deutch, principal consultant at John Burns Real Estate Consulting, said, “We attribute Viera’s success not only to its wide variety of home product offerings but also to its attractive lifestyle which was emphasized during COVID. Given the circumstances, the MPC innovated its lifestyle offerings in 2020 offering ‘footgolf’ (using a soccer ball instead of a golf ball, with holes large enough for the soccer ball) and offering a wide range of community activities like ice cream food trucks and running races.”

The Viera Co’s Scott Miller, senior vice president of sales and community development, describes the increase in annual home sales as “a ringing endorsement of our well-conceived master plan and buoyed by the stable and open environment that Florida and Brevard County provide for businesses and individuals, which has been particularly evident during the pandemic.”

And Pokrywa added that “Viera benefits from a diversified economy with high paying job growth in the commercial space, defense contracting and high-tech industries and includes a supply of well segmented residential options from rentals, paired villas, semi-custom homes, up to multimillion-dollar estates, and everything in between.”

The master-planned community of Viera showcases over 100 miles of multi-use trails, access to wetland and conservation areas, numerous community and neighborhood parks, a resort style amenity center, unique shopping and dining options, A-rated schools, and recreational opportunities.

Located in the heart of Brevard County with multiple access points to I-95, Viera’s accessibility for local businesses and residents make it a premier location to work and live. Viera also offers popular amenities such as The Avenue Viera, Brevard Zoo, USSSA Space Coast Stadium Complex, the award-winning Duran Golf Club, quality medical services, and multiple places of worship all within minutes of every home.

“They say the three most important things in real estate are location, location, and location, and Viera’s ranking as a Top 20 Selling MPC in the country really starts with its central location on Florida’s Space Coast and its unique master plan,” said Miller.

“The Space Coast’s globally unique status as a quintamodal transportation hub (road, rail, air, sea and space) fuels businesses and tourism in a unique coastal ecosystem that ‘National Geographic’ described as a ‘must see’ and ‘a launch pad for wonders both in the sky and in waters below.’”

● About The Viera Co.

The Viera Co., a wholly owned subsidiary of A. Duda & Sons Inc., manages commercial and residential development of Duda’s non-agricultural property and is the developer of the master-planned community of Viera in Melbourne. The company’s integrated real estate operations include Viera Builders, Viera Commercial Properties, and the Duran Golf Club. The mission of The Viera Co. is to create vibrant, livable communities that are built with faith, integrity and thoughtful stewardship of the land. For more information on Viera, visit www.viera.com.

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Winter Haven Hospital Foundation, Florida Tech establish training program for psychology students

By Adam Lowenstein
adam@fit.edu
Florida Tech News Bureau
Florida Institute of Technology

A powerful new partnership developed by the Florida Tech School of Psychology and the Winter Haven Hospital Foundation is providing both doctoral students in psychology valuable real-world experiences and important

services to patients in need.

Spearheaded by Joel Thomas, a Florida Tech alumnus and president of the Winter Haven Hospital Foundation, and Patrick Aragon, assistant professor of clinical psychology at Florida Tech, the program launched in September with doctoral clinical psychology students Tenasia Wynn and Shelby Gregson.

Two days each week, Wynn and Gregson are seeing patients and providing care at several Polk County facilities in the BayCare Health System and, just as

importantly, working alongside medical residents from the Florida State University College of Medicine's family medicine residency program in Winter Haven.

"It is unique to have two universities working together, helping people," said Aragon, who supervises the program for Florida Tech.

A 2018 Polk County Community Health Needs Assessment highlighted the need for mental health services, so Thomas and the Foundation developed a multi-pronged approach to addressing it that included the establishment of the Psy.D Internship Training Program with Florida Tech.

"You've got the best and brightest of these new medical students combined with the best and brightest of clinical psychology," he said. "It's state-of-the-art thinking going into the patient encounter."

Lisa Steelman, dean of Florida Tech's College of Psychology and Liberal Arts, agreed.

"This is where the field is going — integrating psychology with medical doctors to provide care for the whole patient," she said. "This is extremely important, and it's great for students to have these learning opportunities."

For Wynn and Gregson, the experience is a critical step as they prepare for their professional futures.

"This is allowing me to apply the clinical and assessment skills that I learned from my classroom experiences," said Wynn, who aspires to be a health service psychologist. "I am also able to see firsthand how cultural factors influence the psychological well-being and testing performance of medically compromised individuals."

Gregson, who hopes to work in a medical setting to advocate for mental health, is excited to be building on her classroom knowledge, as well.

"I have always said it is one thing to 'learn' about what to do but it is another to actually utilize what you have learned," she said. "Being involved in this training program has also given me a better understanding of psychopharmacology and the biological basis of behavior, and working with a diverse interdisciplinary team has allowed me to gain knowledge from many different disciplines within an integrative behavioral health setting."

The partnership is a win for all involved, Thomas said.

"Health systems are paying millions of dollars for telepsychiatry and teleneurology. Like the development of our FSU family medicine residency program with physicians, our objective is to grow our own clinical psychologists and retain them in our community."

● About Winter Haven Hospital Foundation

The Winter Haven Hospital Foundation is an independent, Winter Haven-based, not-for-profit charitable institution governed by a board of volunteer trustees. The Foundation cultivates philanthropic support to provide patients with state-of-the-art medical care, cutting-edge technology and equipment, and the best educated and trained personnel. All funds raised are retained locally and utilized to support the not-for-profit patient care mission of Winter Haven Hospital. Learn more at <https://whhfoundation.org/>.

● About Florida Institute of Technology

Florida Tech was founded in 1958 at the dawn of the Space Race that would soon define the Atlantic coast of Florida and captivate the nation. Now the premier private technological university in the Southeast, Florida Tech is a Tier 1 Best National University in U.S. News & World Report and one of just nine schools in Florida lauded by the Fiske Guide to Colleges. Florida Tech offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in aeronautics and aviation, engineering, computing and cybersecurity, business, science and mathematics, psychology, education and communication. Learn more at www.fit.edu.



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SCHEDULE & INFORMATION

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Amici's Restaurant
7720 N Wickham Rd #120, Melbourne, FL

Private Reception - 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Our Platinum Level and above sponsors are welcome to a private reception in The Wine Cellar - Amici's. Our celebrities have also been encouraged to attend.

Friday, January 22, 2021
Space Coast Early Intervention Center
3790 Dairy Road, Melbourne, FL

Lunch - 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Join us for lunch with the kids and celebrities at SCEIC. This a great chance to see the amazing work being done with the funds raised at our event. Enjoy lunch and have some fun with the kids and celebrities. Feel free to bring a guest to learn about our school.

Friday, January 22, 2021
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Jam for the Kids - 6:00 p.m. to Midnight (ish)

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Global gardeners help UF/IFAS tomato breeding program; citizen-scientists to send growth, flavor data to lab

By Brad Buck
bradbuck@ufl.edu
IFAS Communications
University of Florida

Normally, University of Florida scientists such as Harry Klee gauge the taste and aroma of their new tomatoes by letting volunteers test them at the UF Sensory Lab in Gainesville. But now, people from across the globe who grow tomatoes in their gardens can serve as citizen scientists and send flavor and growing data to Klee.

In this case, for a nominal donation to support the lab's program, participants can receive packets of seeds to grow tomatoes in their home gardens. Then, they can share information with Klee, a UF/IFAS horticultural sciences professor.

This new citizen science research project just got started, but as of Jan. 4, 191 people around the world had paid \$25 or more each to grow new, unreleased varieties of tomatoes in their yards, Klee said. That's within only two weeks of launching the new program.

Klee and his lab colleagues have distributed varieties — including Garden Gem and Garden Treasure, approved for release by UF/IFAS — since 2015. More than 13,000 people in all 50 states and roughly 40 countries have taken advantage of this offer.

"We have always encouraged feedback from these gardeners, and the enthusiasm they have shown encouraged us to formalize the process," Klee said.

But this citizen science project is new.

"This is a first for us," Klee said. "Although UF/IFAS has supported the distribution of our seeds for roughly five years, this is the first time that we have established a

formal program to collect data from individuals throughout the world, involving them directly in selection of new garden tomato varieties."

"It's an effort to educate home gardeners in the process of evaluating new varieties of a crop. They get to be amateur plant breeders," he said. "Our goal is to get feedback on the performance and consumer acceptability for varieties for as large a geographic region as possible. It goes way beyond Florida."

Donations provide support for further tomato research at UF/IFAS and help cover the cost of creating and mailing the seed packets.

Caylin Hilton, associate director for UF/IFAS Advancement, said supporters of the UF/IFAS tomato breeding program who live around the world are helping advance tomato flavor research and variety development.

"When individuals support tomato research, they receive the seed varieties as a 'thank you' for partnering with Dr. Klee's lab," Hilton said. "And now they also have the option to become an honorary member of the Klee Lab and participate in this citizen science initiative."

"This program connects passionate gardeners with

research and in turn, provides them the opportunity to try new varieties, help researchers like Dr. Klee select varieties for further development and apply the scientific method in their own gardens," she said.

Klee and the fellow scientists in his lab will develop a website to gather the data later in the growing season. Visit <https://hos.ifas.ufl.edu/kleelab/new-garden-cultivars> for more information on the Klee lab and his new garden tomato cultivars.

● About UF/IFAS

The mission of the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences is to develop knowledge relevant to agricultural, human and natural resources and to make that knowledge available to sustain and enhance the quality of human life. With more than a dozen research facilities, 67 county Extension offices, and award-winning students and faculty in the UF College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, UF/IFAS brings science-based solutions to the state's agricultural and natural resources industries, and all Florida residents.

Visit the UF/IFAS website at ifas.ufl.edu, and follow UF/IFAS on social media platforms at @UF_IFAS.

Brevard Public Schools Foundation offering \$65,000 in scholarship opportunities

VIERA — Brevard Schools Foundation announces that its annual scholarship opportunities for students graduating from Brevard Public Schools are now available.

Each year, with the support of many generous sponsors, Brevard Schools Foundation is able to provide scholarships to deserving students looking to achieve the dream of a post-secondary education. Scholarships range from \$250 to \$5,000. Some are multi-year awards. This year, 52 different scholarships are being offered totaling more than \$65,000.

To apply, students should go to the Brevard Schools Foundation website, <http://brevardschoolsfoundation.org/programs/scholarships>, or directly to the application site, Award Spring Scholarships. Applications open Monday, Feb. 1, and must be submitted by Monday, March 15.

To learn more or to become a judge or supporter, visit www.brevardschoolsfoundation.org.



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'Robot Love,' edgy grassroots art exhibition, runs through Feb. 27 at Foosaner Art Museum in Eau Gallie Arts District; includes dance, music performances in park

By Ken Datzman

The Foosaner Art Museum in the Eau Gallie Arts District of Melbourne is showcasing a truly unique art, dance, music, and tech exhibition, "Robot Love V," which debuted in 2009.

The event was also held in 2010, 2015 and 2017 at various venues in the region, then took a hiatus.

Now it's back — bigger than ever. Historically, Robot Love was held for a couple of days, but the 2021 edition will run six weeks.

This is the type of exhibit where art-meets-technology in so many interesting ways. "Prove that you are human" has become part of the Robot Love's tagline over the years.

"I am really excited to see Robot Love V because I have always enjoyed seeing what artists can do to merge technology and make new art from it — sculptures out of tape recorders, mannequins with disco-ball heads. It's all interesting stuff. This is why so many people are attracted to Robot Love," said Anthony Santiago, a gallery assistant at the Foosaner Art Museum.

He added, "The unusual meld of futurism and modern art really shows off artistic creativity at its finest in Robot Love."

"It's fun to get into this side of art," said Santiago who has been involved in local performing arts for more than 10 years. He's performed in shows at The Henegar Center for the Arts and the Melbourne Civic Theatre.

And the Robot Love V art is for sale. These one-of-a-kind pieces in different styles can be used to decorate the home or office. There are pieces of all sizes, and bold is beautiful when it comes to modern office décor. You might want to create a gallery wall of the various sized artwork. The Museum's gift shop is also open with art for sale.

The co-curators of the show send this message: "Attention humans: The robots emotionlessly invite humans to 'uninstall 2020' and 'reboot' inside the newest factory, the Foosaner Art Museum, with an immersive art experience designed to produce the heart fuel robots crave. Can you #proveyouarehuman?"

The co-curators for Robot Love V are Derek Gores, a local collage artist whose work has a national and international following, and "boundary-breaking" designer Clifton Chandler, who launched pop-up galleries in Atlanta before moving to Brevard County.

"Clifton and I bring in the art and make some sense of it, and let the pieces



BBN photo — Adrienne B. Roth

'Robot Love V' has opened at the Foosaner Art Museum in the Eau Gallie Arts District of Melbourne. In addition to the art exhibition, the event includes an outdoor fashion show in Eau Gallie Square Park, a break-dance battle, and more. From left: Derek Gores, co-curator for Robot Love; Ashley Milliken, director, Foosaner Art Museum; Clifton Chandler, co-curator for Robot Love; and Anthony Santiago, gallery assistant, Foosaner Art Museum.

play together," said Gores. "For example, a wall is a piece of art. A room is a piece of art. A building is a piece of art. The community, potentially, is a piece of art. So that is the fun of curating. Yes, Robot Love is weird in a way, but people have embraced the incredible creativity of the event since it began."

Gores said Robot Love "was started in 2009 with a group of cohorts all with different stripes, or areas of artistic talent, and that is what has made this event unique."

"The name itself is a reference that started out as tongue-in-check," said Chandler. "But I can say with confidence that there is no other event or activity that provides such a unified interest throughout this community's media

outlets and residents."

And it's the kind of exhibit that makes Brevard special, highlighting the creativeness of participating artists, as well as the dancers and musicians.

"Robot Love V," billed as the "official-ish mascot of Space Coast creativity," opened Jan. 15 at the Foosaner Art Museum and runs through Feb. 27.

The program brings together artists, dancers, musicians, and innovators for weeks of happenings, chats, and interactions, plus a "circuit-inspired couture fashion finale, all designed to produce the natural byproduct robots crave: Love."

Robot Love V is a contemporary exhibit of creativity in its many forms — visual art, performing art, live music,

and interactive displays, often showing the connection between creativity, design, technology, and innovation, said Ashley Milliken, the Foosaner Art Museum director.

"Robot Love V is a multidisciplinary show that is a platform for all contemporary forms of art, including musical performances, dance performances, sculpture, video installation, and much more. I am super-excited about this show. I have never seen a Robot Love exhibition before," she said.

Milliken added, "Because of COVID-19, we will be having the musical part and the dance performances outdoors at Eau Gallie Square Park next to the

Please see 'Robot Love V,' page 19

Winners announced for Parrish Medical Center's Stars of the Space Coast presented by 2-1-1 Brevard — honors the outstanding work of nonprofits

By Ken Datzman

Nonprofits around the nation faced big challenges in 2020 as many community-based organizations saw increasing demand for their services amid a novel pandemic.

And they had to deal with operational and staff changes too because of the virus, with employees transitioning from commercial offices to work-from-home environments.

On top of that, many nonprofits have not been able to fundraise at the same level as in the past because of a mixture of canceled or scaled-back events.

Despite it all, locally, a number of nonprofits shined and were recipients of the 2020 Parrish Medical Center Stars of the Space Coast Awards.

The awards are presented annually by 2-1-1 Brevard to honor the "stellar work" of area nonprofits. Traditionally, the event winners are honored at a luncheon.

"We couldn't have our typical luncheon that recognizes the winners because of COVID-19, but we really didn't want to forgo the event altogether, though we probably could have found another way to raise funds. Our goal was to keep the awards program moving forward despite the challenges, and that's what we did," said Belinda Stewart, communications manager at 2-1-1 Brevard Inc.

2-1-1 Brevard serves as the lead agency for "Help Me Grow Brevard," a program that supports healthy child development. 2-1-1 Brevard is also a member of and a "front door" for services through the Brevard Homeless Coalition. Additionally, 2-1-1 Brevard employs veterans who serve as peer-care coordinators for the Florida Veterans Support Line (MyFLVet).

The awards cite nonprofits whose contributions touch various aspects of life on the Space Coast.

The 2020 Stars of the Space Coast winners in the different categories are:

- Volunteers of America/Supportive Services for Veteran Families: CBRE/Imperial Plaza Superstar Award for veterans' services.
- Space Coast Early Steps: Publix Super Market Charities All-Star Award for children's services.
- Family Promise of Brevard: Florida Power & Light Community Star Award for homelessness prevention.

"In this sixth year of presenting the awards, we chose to focus on nonprofits that align with some of our target programs," said Libby Donoghue, 2-1-1 Brevard's executive director.

"Some of these partners clearly shined in delivering assistance in the face of the



BBN photo — Adrienne B. Roth

Space Coast Early Steps, which offers services to infants and toddlers, age birth to 36 months, who have or are at-risk for developmental disabilities or delays, was one of the winners of Parrish Medical Center's annual Stars of the Space Coast. The event recognizes local nonprofits for their stellar work. From left, the Early Steps team includes: Shelli Buckley, community services manager; Mary Cancel, family resource specialist; and Althea Puzio, program director.

challenges of COVID-19."

She added, "We know firsthand how hard all the finalists and other nonprofits have worked providing help to people in need."

Althea Puzio, program director for Space Coast Early Steps, steered her organization to new levels of success harnessing technology to serve customers during the pandemic. Her program is governed by the federal "Individuals with Disabilities Education Act."

Early Steps is Florida Department of Health's early intervention system that offers services to eligible infants and toddlers, age birth to 36 months, "who have or are at-risk for developmental disabilities or delays," she said. Early intervention supports families and caregivers to increase their child's participation in daily activities and routines that are important to the family.

Positive early learning experiences are crucial for later success in school, the workplace, and the community, said Puzio. Research shows that children's earliest experiences play a critical role in brain development.

Because of the pandemic, Space Coast Early Steps had to quickly shift its service model from in-home visits to virtual visits for youth and families.

"Going virtual was a big challenge for our organization," said Puzio. "We had to purchase equipment and items to help us do virtual evaluations, visits with our providers and visits with the families. A lot of families didn't have the necessary equipment either, and even some of the providers. But we had many providers who were able to do it. The families welcomed teletherapy. And we continue today with

our virtual platform. Teletherapy is working well for Space Coast Early Steps and the many families we serve are all benefitting."

Her team includes Lisa Gemmill, project administrator; Shelli Buckley, community services manager; and Mary Cancel, family resource specialist.

The Space Coast Early Steps program receives referrals from various sources, including physicians, families, and community partners like Help Me Grow. "Families can make their own referral to our program," said Puzio.

Each child in Early Steps receives an "Individual Family Support Plan" that meets his or her unique needs. Families also receive the support to develop the skills and confidence needed in helping their child learn and develop.

Please see Parrish Medical Center's Stars of the Space Coast, page 21

Neighborly acquires Precision Door Service in Titusville, grows franchisor to 28 brands; 1,000 associates

By Lauren Caracciolo
lauren@bizcompr.com
BizCom Associates

WACO, Texas (Jan. 7, 2021) — Neighborly, the world's largest franchisor of home service brands, has announced the acquisition of Precision Door Service, the nation's leading garage door repair franchise headquartered in Titusville.

The acquisition was finalized Dec. 31, making it Neighborly's fifth service brand acquired in 2020.

"I am thrilled to be adding Precision Door Service's premier customer experiences, top-of-the-line service offerings and experienced franchise owners to our global network," said Mike Bidwell, president and CEO of Neighborly.

"Our Neighborly family includes 10 million customers who rely on our brands as the home for exceptional service, and we're proud to now add to our portfolio through this acquisition the needed and important service of garage door repair and installation. We look

forward to working with the Precision Door Service team to collectively execute our strategy to 'Own the Home' through Neighborly home service offerings."

Founded in the late 1980s by Brian Tindall, who is reinvesting in the organization through franchise ownership following the sale of the company, Precision Door Service's "vision from day one has been to provide the best garage door repair and installation service in the market." Today, the organization's franchise network is more than 100 locations across the United States and generates roughly \$300 million of system sales.

As a result of this acquisition, Precision Door Service will benefit from the increased consumer awareness, new tools for growth and enhanced lead generation capabilities that Neighborly has a proven track record of providing to its franchise brands. Furthermore, Neighborly will add support for existing Precision Door Service franchise owners to help them realize their same store sales potential.

"All of us at Precision Door Service are so excited to be joining Neighborly, such a well-established and

ethical franchisor with a renowned reputation for growing franchises," said Mike Brickner, president of Precision Door Service.

"Over time, I've had the privilege of getting to know the Neighborly organization and many of its leaders and have seen firsthand how much this company values innovation and its 'Code of Values,' which aligns well with our own corporate culture. The resources this change will bring to Precision Door Service are many, and we look forward to what it will mean for us over the coming months and years."

● About Neighborly

Neighborly is the world's largest home services franchisor of 28 brands and more than 4,500 franchises collectively serving 10 million+ customers in nine countries, focused on repairing, maintaining and enhancing homes and businesses. The company operates online platforms that connect consumers to service providers in their local communities that meet their rigorous standards.

More information about its franchise concepts is available at <https://www.neighborlybrands.com>.

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Boeing to provide solar arrays for Space Station, power supply to enhance Station's health, enable research

By Laura E. Swift
laura.e.swift@boeing.com
The Boeing Company

HOUSTON (Jan. 11, 2021) — Boeing (NYSE: BA) will support the International Space Station's (ISS) growing research capabilities and commercial opportunities with new solar arrays to increase the orbiting laboratory's power supply. The modification to Boeing's ISS sustainment contract with NASA calls for Boeing to deliver six additional solar arrays to NASA for installation beginning in 2021.

The new 63-foot-by-20-foot (19-meter-by-6-meter) arrays will together produce more than 120 kilowatts of electricity from the sun's energy, enough to power more than 40 average U.S. homes. Combined with the eight original, larger arrays, this advanced hardware will provide a 20 to 30 percent increase in power, helping to maximize the station's capabilities for years to come. The arrays will provide ISS with electricity to sustain its systems and equipment, plus augment the electricity available to continue a wide variety of public and private experiments and research in the station's unique microgravity environment.

“When it comes to game-changing research and technological development, the space station is currently hitting its full stride,” said John Mulholland, ISS vice president and program manager for Boeing. “These arrays, along with other recent upgrades to the station’s power system and data-transfer speed, will ensure that ISS remains an incubator and business model in the commercial space ecosystem for the coming decades. Access to this unique lab will continue to pay off as researchers study the

challenges of future deep-space exploration and make discoveries that improve life on Earth.”

Most of the ISS systems, including its communications systems, batteries and scientific equipment racks, have been upgraded since humans began a continuous presence on the orbiting laboratory in November 2000. Two International Docking Adapters, manufactured by Boeing, have been attached to the ISS to allow commercial spacecraft to dock autonomously to the station. Boeing is the prime contractor for ISS sustainment; the company's studies have determined that the ISS could safely operate beyond 2030 if NASA and its international partners choose to do so.

Deployable Space Systems of Santa Barbara, Calif., will produce the structure of the new arrays, including the canister and frame that will unfurl to hold the solar-array blankets in place. Deployable Space Systems also built the canister, frame and solar array blanket for a prototype of

the new arrays that was successfully tested aboard the ISS in June 2017.

Spectrolab, a Boeing company based in Sylmar, Calif., produces the arrays' XTJ Prime solar cells, which will be some of the most powerful ever launched into space. They are the same solar cells that power Boeing's CST-100 Starliner spacecraft in flight and while docked to the ISS. Spectrolab also produced the station's original solar cells, as well as the solar cells tested on the prototype.

“The XTJ Prime space solar cells are much more efficient than any of their predecessors and are fit to support the cutting-edge research being done aboard the International Space Station,” said Tony Mueller, president of Spectrolab.

Visit www.spectrolab.com for more information on Spectrolab. For more information on Boeing Defense, Space & Security, visit www.boeing.com. Follow us on Twitter at @BoeingSpace.

EDC statement on U.S. Space Command location decision; Brevard one of finalists

(Jan. 13, 2021) — Secretary of the Air Force Barbara Barrett recently announced Huntsville, Ala., as the preferred location to host U.S. Space Command Headquarters. Florida's Space Coast was one of six finalists.

The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast led the effort to secure the joint combatant command on behalf of the community, working closely with Space Florida, the 45th Space Wing, Brevard County, the North Brevard Economic Development Zone, City of Titusville, the Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority, and other strategic partners. The proposed site was located at the Space Coast Regional Airport/Spaceport in Titusville.

“By making it to the finals of this process, Florida’s Space Coast has distinguished itself nationally as one of the most military-friendly communities and capable of hosting a major combatant command,” said Lynda Weatherman, president and CEO of the EDC. “I am confident this community is well-positioned for other strategic basing opportunities in the near future and we will continue to work closely with the Air Force, Department of Defense, and our state and local partners to succeed.”

The EDC is a private, not-for-profit coalition whose stakeholders are business leaders committed to the economic growth and stability of Florida's Space Coast. Visit www.SpaceCoastEDC.org for more information.

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The Titusville Fire Department raises awareness and funds in support of PMC's Cancer Care Program

By Christie Rimsky
christie.rimsky@parrishmed.com
Jess Parrish Medical Foundation

TITUSVILLE (Jan. 7, 2021) — The Titusville Fire Department (TFD) presented Jess Parrish Medical Foundation (JPMF) with \$1,500 in support of cancer care programs at Parrish Medical Center (PMC).

During the month of October, as part of nationwide and local efforts to raise breast cancer awareness, Titusville Fire Department showed their support by going pink for the cause with their 2020 Pink Out campaign.

Department members sold and wore pink-themed T-shirts in October in place of their uniform shirts in observance of breast cancer awareness month.

For the sixth year, Titusville Fire has generously given back to JPMF and supported PMC's cancer care program.

"To say it has been a challenging year would be an understatement," said Gregory Sutton, battalion chief.

"We would like to recognize our amazing community that supported the 'Pink Out' campaign and always steps up in difficult times to champion a worthy cause. We enjoy supporting efforts here at home to give needed care and assistance to those served by the Cancer Care program at Parrish Medical Center. Titusville Fire Department, JPMF and PMC have a long-standing relationship that benefits everyone in our community. We truly are community partners committed to service excellence and helping those in need. We look forward to a new year and giving back once again."

Sutton and members from the Department presented the check to Shannon Luker, PMC breast-health navigator and oncology program coordinator; Alex Gutierrez, PMC oncology/infusion program manager acute care services; Christie Rimsky, JPMF philanthropy officer; Natalie Sellers, JPMF executive director; and Rachel Terry, JPMF board chair.

"Those in our community who selflessly supported the TFD Pink Out campaign fundraiser have our sincere gratitude," said Luker. "Their gifts will provide access to free mammograms and other cancer care services to

those most in need; those that may not have insurance, or such high deductibles that result in a postponed or completely neglected mammogram. I am so proud to be part of a community that provides essential and critical cancer care programs that save lives."

Luker added, "We are grateful to TFD for their continued support in the fight against breast cancer. They are a shining example of how our community is stronger when working together. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of our patients and their families throughout their cancer journey."

"The generous support provided by Titusville Fire will provide the availability of additional resources and opportunities to those we serve in North Brevard that may not otherwise have access to these vital services and care," said Terry. "We are grateful to our community partner, Titusville Fire Department, for their ongoing commitment to PMC's cancer care program and helping to advance PMC's vision of Healing Families — Healing Communities."

For more information on this program, contact JPMF at (321) 269-4066 or visit parrishmedfoundation.com.



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2020 deadliest year for law enforcement in decades; deaths increased 96 percent, with virus leading cause

By Mary Petto
mpetto@nleomf.org
National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund

WASHINGTON — (Jan. 11, 2021) — The number of law enforcement professionals nationwide who died in the line of duty in 2020 increased 96 percent over the previous year, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, a nonprofit group that has long tracked officer fatalities.

The Memorial Fund announced in its proprietary “2020 Law Enforcement Officers Fatalities Report” that as of Dec. 31, 2020, 264 federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial officers died in the line-of-duty (LOD) over the past year, representing a 96 percent increase over the 135 officers who died in the line of duty in 2019. In the category of “Other” causes, which includes COVID-19 deaths, the number of fatalities is up 300 percent over 2019.

“As the leading authority in line-of-duty deaths, this time of year always reminds us of the sacrifice of law enforcement and the importance of our mission to honor the fallen, tell the story of American law enforcement, and make it safer for those who serve. The year 2020 will go down as the year of the most line-of-duty fatalities since 1974 due to the COVID-19 pandemic,” said National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund CEO Marcia Ferranto. “We’ve been tracking LOD fatalities for 30 years, and the loss of even one law enforcement life is difficult. We stand together with the nation in honoring these brave men and women.”

Firearms-related fatalities claimed the lives of 48

officers in 2020, a 6 percent decrease compared to the 51 officers killed in firearms-related incidents in 2019. Of the 48 officer deaths, eleven were investigating a suspicious person or activity, seven were killed responding to domestic disturbance calls, six deaths each were attempting an arrest and ambush attacks on officers, three were in tactical situations, and three others were responding to various disturbance calls.

Four officers died responding to a robbery or burglary in-progress call while three were feloniously killed during traffic stops. Two officers were killed during the year serving warrants, two others were killed by inadvertent gunfire and one officer was killed by firearms responding to a mental health call.

Traffic-related fatalities increased 2 percent with 44 deaths in 2020 compared to 43 deaths in 2019. Of those, 18 were automobile crashes involving a collision with another vehicle, eight were single vehicle crashes, 15 were struck while on the side of the road, and three involved a motorcycle crash.

Most significant in the 2020 Fatalities Report are the number of officer deaths in the category of “other” causes, which increased 300% over the number of deaths from other causes in 2019, due to officers who died from contracting the coronavirus in the line of duty. Excluding COVID-19 deaths, 27 officers died from other causes. Of the 27 other causes, 22 were health related incidents, including heart attacks and injuries suffered during the 9/11 terrorist attacks, three officers drowned while executing their duties, one died in a helicopter crash, and one was beaten to death.

Texas had the highest number of officer deaths with 48, followed by the state of New York with 19.

Sixteen officers died in Florida and 13 each were killed in the line-of-duty in Georgia and Louisiana. Twelve lost their lives in Pennsylvania while 11 officers in both California and New Jersey made the ultimate sacrifice. Twenty-one federal officers, five territorial officers, three tribal officers and one military officer also died in the line-of-duty during this calendar year. Thirteen states did not lose an officer this year.

Breaking it down further, 246 fallen officers were male and 18 were female. The average age of the fallen officers was 47 years, with 17 years of service. On average, each officer left behind two children.

There are currently 22,217 names of officers killed in the line-of-duty inscribed on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., dating back to the first known death in 1786. The deadliest year on record for law enforcement was 1930 when 307 law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty. The last year officer fatalities dipped below 100 for a single year was 1944.

Go to www.LawMemorial.org/FatalitiesReport for a complete copy of the 2020 Law Enforcement Officers Fatalities Report.

● About the National Law Enforcement Memorial and Museum

Established in 1984, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund is a nonprofit organization dedicated to telling the story of American law enforcement and making it safer for those who serve. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial contains the names of 22,217 officers who have died in the line of duty throughout U.S. history. For information on the Law Enforcement Museum, visit LawEnforcementMuseum.org.



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Community Foundation for Brevard welcomes three directors to its board and announces its 2021 officers

By Lisa D. Davidson
lisad@cfbrevard.org
Community Foundation for Brevard

(Jan. 6, 2021) — The Community Foundation for Brevard has appointed officers and elected three new members to its volunteer board of directors, which creates the organization's strategic vision and propels its progress to build a healthier, more vibrant community through philanthropy and community leadership.

Newly elected Community Foundation directors:

● Keri Donald

Active community volunteer and philanthropist, Donald is the co-chair of Steadytown, a private operating foundation focused on ending homelessness and advancing equity of opportunity. Through innovation, collective action, and strategic philanthropy, she has helped address chronic homelessness; inclusive and affordable housing in Brevard; and the revitalization of South Melbourne. Donald is past president of the South Brevard Sharing Center, where she continues to serve on the board. Along with her husband, she holds the Keith and Keri Donald Brevard Impact Fund with the Community Foundation.

Before her community activism, Donald was a senior developer with Harris Corp., now L3Harris. She holds a bachelor's degree in computer science from the University of Alabama. A longtime Brevard resident, Donald resides in West Melbourne with her family.

● Robin Fisher

A community leader and businessman, Fisher is the owner of the Robin L. Fisher Insurance Agency Inc. and an investor in real estate. Fisher has applied his skills on behalf of the Brevard community, serving on both Palm Bay and Titusville city councils and as a two-term Brevard County Commissioner. Additionally, he has lent his time and resources to nonprofit organizations, including serving for 30 years on the boards of the Central Florida YMCA and Titusville YMCA, as well as on the boards of Junior Achievement of the Space Coast and Eastern Florida State College.

Fisher holds a bachelor's degree in public relations from the University of Florida, where he's recognized as one of the best linemen in Gator history. Fisher and his wife Rhoda are active in the community and reside in Titusville.

● Douglas Holton

U.S. Air Force veteran, community volunteer, and philanthropist, Holton retired from a successful career in information technology that spanned the private sector to the U.S. government. He also taught as an adjunct professor for a decade at Brevard Community College. Holton holds a bachelor's degree from American University and a master's degree in management from Troy State University.

Holton has contributed his time and resources to many organizations in Brevard, focusing on those helping people in need and serving as a full-term board member for Family Promise of Brevard. He and his wife Kathleen hold the Holton Family Fund with the Community Foundation. Longtime Brevard residents, they live in Melbourne.

Officers and returning board members include: Amanda Smith, Esq., board chair; Myles Wilkinson, vice chair; Elizabeth Shorr, secretary; Juliana Kreul, CPA, treasurer; Robert Naberhaus III, Esq., past chair; Laura Chiesman; Kit Fisher; Shirley Friedland; Jennifer Griffin, CPA; Justin Knox, CPA; Anne McPhee, JD, LL.M.; Arthur Schmitt; Bob Sukolsky, CLU; and James Suplee.

"2021 marks the Community Foundation for Brevard's 40th anniversary of helping to create communities that are safe, vibrant, and inclusive for all," said Amanda Smith. "Our board, fund holders and staff are united in maximizing our impact and addressing the most critical issues here in Brevard and beyond."

"I'm grateful and honored to work with the inspired leaders and philanthropic investors who comprise the Community Foundation for Brevard, and I invite all to join us," said Theresa Grimson, president CEO. "Together, we can build and sustain lasting good, now and for generations to come."

The Community Foundation's for Brevard's mission is to strengthen communities through philanthropy. Visit cfbrevard.org to learn more and join us.

EFSC accepting online applications for its EMT program

The Public Safety Institute at Eastern Florida State College is recruiting for its upcoming Emergency Medical Technician program.

The deadline for applications is March 22. Intake is scheduled for March 29 by invitation. Classes will begin on May 17, 2021, and run for 12 weeks through the summer.

All prospective students must complete the online application for admission to Eastern Florida State College and the separate online application to the Public Safety Institute.

The program is designed to train individuals for entry-level positions in emergency medical and first responder services. Graduates can also gain certification that will allow them to continue their education into fire service or paramedics.

For more information on the program, visit easternflorida.edu/go/emt.

'Robot Love V'

Continued from page 12

Foosaner Art Museum."

All events will be run with "strict COVID-19 protocols in place per local ordinances," said Milliken. Masks are required inside the Foosaner Art Museum.

Robot Love V features more than 75 artists from "the Space Coast, Florida-based artists and some nationally and internationally known artists. We have a big pool of artists and their work is wide ranging," she said.

"It is never the same twice," said Gores. "Imagination of the artists runs wild for this show. It's great to see it back at the Foosaner Art Museum."

Over the years, Gores has played a leadership role in working to promote the Eau Gallie Arts District. He's served on committees and much more.

Gores is celebrated for his innovative work in the art of collage, a montage process by which he creates paper compositions from magazine scraps, song lyrics, and abstract patterns.

A New York native and graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, Gores has pieces in galleries around the world. He has done work for the Orlando Magic, the Kentucky Derby, Prada, and a "Playboy" magazine cover of Hugh Hefner, the late founder of the publication.

Robots have an interesting history. The earliest robots as we know them were created in the early 1950s by George Devol, an inventor from Louisville, Ky.

He invented and patented a reprogrammable manipulator called "Unimate," from "Universal Automation," according to Stanford University research.

For the next decade, he attempted to

sell his product in the industry, but did not succeed. In the late 1960s, businessman and engineer Joseph Engleberger acquired Devol's robot patent and was able to modify it into an industrial robot and form a company named Unimation to produce and market the robots. For his efforts and successes, Engleberger is known in the industry as "the Father of Robotics."

Academia also made much progress in the creation of new robots. In 1958 at the Stanford Research Institute, Charles Rosen led a research team in developing a robot called "Shakey." Shakey was far more advanced than the original Unimate, which was designed for specialized industrial applications.

For the tech portion of Robot Love V, competitive hackathon champion Muntaser Syed, who is studying for his doctorate degree in computer engineering at Florida Tech, will be participating, as will Tim Perkins, who has been running a program called "Mr. Science" in Brevard County for 30 years. Both are taking part in Robot Love for the first time.

The presenting sponsors of Robot Love V are Northboro Builders, Mercedes-Benz, Porsche, Audi of Melbourne, and Dr. Nanialei Golden. Additional sponsors include: Kristen Romandetti of Keller Williams Brevard, Engle Group of Brevard/EXP Realty, Jim and Jacie Stivers, Dave Settgaest of ONE Sotheby's International Realty, Bud and Dr. Kim Deffebach, Intracoastal Brewery, Dan and Keena Schwinn, American Fence, Larry and Mary Derosé, Tricon Real Estate, John Kurowski and Jeff Oliver, Barbara Wall, Melanie Schrader, Aimee Balda, Frank Schrader, Susan Hopkins, Dr. Vinni and Ashma Luthra,

John and Christy Hemms, Mustard's Last Stand, Susan Day, Dr. Chris Prusinski, and Mike and Elizabeth Stamper.

"Robot Love V features a lot of great tech-based things. It's how technology can relate to everyday life versus how we can visually present it," said Milliken.

Robot Love V will close with a fashion show on Feb. 27 at Eau Gallie Square Park. The event will feature local designers. "There will be a break-dance battle too. That's been a traditional event for Robot Love," she said.

The dance part of the show is curated by award-winning dancer and choreographer Marty Mercado. The show will feature a mix of dance styles from street to classical. "It's going to be a spectacular event, a great way to close Robot Love V," said Milliken.

Mercado has more than 30 years' dance experience in Brevard. Originally from Pinellas County, she trained with Angus Phillips, dance master for the Royal Ballet in England, and teachers from the University of Utah, the University of South Florida, the American Ballet Theatre, and the Kirov School of Leningrad. She has also worked as a teaching artist for the Brevard Cultural Alliance, and youth-at-risk organizations.

Robot Love V will be one of the last exhibitions at Florida Tech's Foosaner Art Museum. The facility will be closing and making way for a hotel complex to be developed on the property.

"Beginning March 20, we will be hosting our last show at the Foosaner Art Museum. 'It's titled 'Abstractions' and will feature several artists. We're currently planning the show and will have more details later," said Milliken.

The Foosaner Art Museum was established March 8, 1978, as the Brevard Art Center and Museum Inc. The first building was acquired during the summer of 1978, and was modified to meet the needs of a visual arts museum. The museum was then a 4,500-square-foot exhibition space consisting of three galleries.

In June 1980, a major gift from Cocoa Beach philanthropist Samuel Foosaner made possible the purchase of a 6,000-square-foot building near the existing museum. The building was subsequently remodeled to accommodate an extensive program of studio classes.

In 2011, the museum merged into Florida Tech. Later, in 2018, the Florida Tech Board of Trustees voted to close the museum and sell the property. Northboro Builders, with an office in Melbourne, purchased the property last year and plans to build a boutique hotel. The hotel will showcase local art. The company is run by businessman Larry Jarnes.

"Larry has great interest in art and culture, and he loves the Eau Gallie Arts District," said Gores. "He lives in Eau Gallie. We're upbeat about EGAD. We're looking to the future. I believe it's going to be exciting."

"I know the art world here will figure out a way to fill the void," added Milliken.

"I have been speaking to several people who are interested in establishing a new contemporary art institution in the area, and some people I've talked to are interested in a ceramic center. Nothing is official. But I'm optimistic because Brevard County has a vibrant art scene. Art is a vital component of the community."



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Hopebridge plans to hire 2,700 employees in 2021 as the autism service provider continues expanding access to care

By Mikaela Malott
mmalott@hopebridge.com
Hopebridge

INDIANAPOLIS (Jan. 12, 2021) — One of the largest autism therapy health-care providers in the nation, Hopebridge Autism Therapy Centers, plans to hire more than 2,700 employees in 2021 to meet the growing need for ABA therapy in six states: Arizona, Colorado, Indiana, Georgia, Kentucky and Ohio.

The company also plans to add up to 20 additional locations within the next 12 months, starting with three Colorado locations in January 2021.

"Our mission remains to provide support and essential therapy services to as many children with autism spectrum disorder as possible," said Hopebridge CEO Dennis May. "In order to provide the absolute best care to these children and their families, we are continuously seeking top talent in behavioral health. Each hire ensures that every child at Hopebridge receives the one-on-one therapy they deserve."

New positions will open for Board Certified Behavioral Analysts (BCBA), registered behavior technicians (RBT), clinical psychologists, occupational therapists, speech and language pathologists and other industry professionals.

The expansion will also make Hopebridge's unique, interdisciplinary approach to autism therapy, Hopebridge 360Care, more accessible to families and children in the states Hopebridge serves. This approach allows the team to create personalized plans of care aimed at meeting the needs of each child through diagnostics, applied behavioral analysis (ABA) therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy.

Despite the pandemic, Hopebridge continued to provide essential care to the families it serves and hired more than 2,500 employees in 2020.

Hopebridge also recently announced expansions in Colorado, which alone are on track to create more than 325 new jobs in the state.

All new BCBAs embark on a four-week journey through an exclusive BCBA Onboarding Program, which covers everything a BCBA would need to know when starting a job at Hopebridge (beyond the ABA coursework). The onboarding program includes mentorship, dedicated time for job shadowing and facetime with company leadership. In addition, Hopebridge offers sign-on and monthly bonuses as well as continuing education stipends for BCBAs.

Hopebridge aims to provide employees with the tools they need to deepen their knowledge in behavioral analysis by providing opportunities to meet their university and certification requirements, development programs, behavior analysis fellowship programs, and continued education. In addition, Hopebridge offers full-time employment including competitive health insurance, 401K, vacation and holiday benefits.

"Hopebridge provides a unique experience for both experienced behavioral health professionals and students hoping to advance their career in the industry," said Hopebridge Vice President of Human Resources Leigh Crick. "We ensure that our employees are given the resources to thrive in our center-based model's collaborative culture, surrounded by other experts working across disciplines to enhance treatment for kids as well as their own skillset."

● About Hopebridge

Hopebridge was founded in 2005 to serve the growing need for autism treatment services and to improve the lives of affected children and families. Hopebridge is committed to providing personalized outpatient ABA, occupational, speech and feeding therapies for children touched by autism spectrum disorder and behavioral, physical, social, communication and sensory challenges. Hopebridge provides a trusted place where they can receive the care, support, and hope they deserve.

Visit hopebridge.com/centers for a complete list of Hopebridge centers and services.

Visit hopebridge.com/jobs to learn more about job opportunities with Hopebridge.

Firefighters Chili Cookoff set for Jan. 31 at the Cocoa Village Park

The Brevard County Firefighters Local 2969 will be hosting its fifth annual Firefighters Chili Cookoff from 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 31, at Cocoa Village Park.

This event is inviting cooks (firefighters) from all municipalities within Brevard County. Proceeds and sponsorship contributions will be shared between The Brevard County Firefighters Benevolent Association (<http://www.iaff2969.com>) and Family Promise of Brevard Inc. (<https://familypromiseofbrevard.org>).

Both charities aid and support citizens in the community.

The Brevard County Firefighter Benevolent Association (BCFBA) works to support local firefighters and family members who need assistance because of sickness, injury or catastrophic events. BCFBA also provides financial resources to charitable associations that aid and assist within our community.

Family Promise of Brevard works to end family homelessness in the county by collaborating with the community to provide families the support and resources they need to put themselves on a path toward long-term housing stability.

Parrish Medical Center's Stars of the Space Coast

Continued from page 13

"In 2020, we served roughly 1,900 children in some way, either through eligibility evaluation, providing resources, or actually providing services, for example," said Puzio. "The program is growing. We average about 120 referrals a month."

Puzio said her organization was "grateful" to have won a Stars of the Space Coast Award.

"That award was a shining star for us during this time of challenge for everyone. We really appreciate 2-1-1 Brevard and Help Me Grow." Space Coast Early Steps is a Help Me Grow partner.

2-1-1 Brevard has programs that are specifically designed to help different segments of the Brevard population. One of its programs is Help Me Grow, which provides free childhood screenings.

"It's a state-funded program to promote healthy childhood development," said Stewart.

A nonprofit since the early 1960s, 2-1-1 Brevard operates a 24-hour helpline offering crisis and suicide intervention as well as information and referral to human services. People reach the helpline specialists by dialing 2-1-1 or texting a ZIP code to 898211.

Specialists at 2-1-1 Brevard answered and managed more than 40,000 calls from mid-March to November, an increase of roughly 50 percent year-over-year, and

call volume reached more than four times its normal level on some days in that period.

"We have just updated those statistics as the year closed," said Stewart. "We were close to 50,000 calls since March for Brevard alone, which is about 50 percent higher for that period (March-December) than a normal year. The week of Christmas was 100 percent higher in 2020 call volume compared to the previous year during that time."

Brevard County was the first in Florida and seventh nationally to adopt the 2-1-1 dial code after it was approved by the Federal Communications Commission in 2000.

Before the rollout of that dial code in Brevard, people typically placed multiple calls to various agencies in hopes of finding the services they needed. Today, just one call does it all.

Another 2-1-1 Brevard initiative is MyFLVet, which is dedicated to helping veterans. The Sunshine State has the third highest veteran population in America (1.7 million vets). There are an estimated 80,000 veterans in Brevard.

"We have a team of veterans who work with other veterans," said Donoghue, whose organization works in conjunction with the Florida Department of Veteran Affairs, and other entities.

By calling the Florida Veterans Support Line at 1-844-MyFLVet (693-5838), or 2-1-1, veterans are able to talk with someone who can help them through the difficulties they are experiencing.

Other finalists for the 2020 Stars of the Space Coast Awards were:

- Mentors for Brevard Veterans Treatment Center and the Veterans Memorial Center for the CBRE/Imperial Plaza Superstar Award.

- Brevard Health Alliance and Early Learning Coalition of Brevard for the Publix Super Market Charities All-Star Award.

- Eckerd Connects Family Support Services and South Brevard Sharing Center for the Florida Power & Light Community Star Award.

"For this year's event, we borrowed an idea from the Oscars," said Stewart. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences delivers boxes to every nominee in advance of the announcement of the Oscar winners.

"We did that. Every nominee received a box but no one knew if it had the Stars Award in it — the Oscar — until they opened it. The nominees also received some of the goodies that we normally have at the live event."

The Stars of the Space Coast event sponsors, at various levels, included:

Parrish Healthcare, CBRE, Publix Super Market Charities, Health First, Florida Power & Light, Joyce Boudrie, St. Francis Reflections Lifestage Care, United Way of Brevard, Artemis/The IT Company, The Viera Co., Carr Riggs & Ingram/CPAs and Advisors, SunTrust, Space Coast Credit Union, Brevard Federation of Teachers, Community Credit Union of Florida, and Eisenmenger, Robinson, Blaue & Peters, P.A.

2-1-1 Brevard started as a grassroots organization dedicated to providing support and assistance to individuals and families affected by mental illness.

Innovation and responsiveness to community need have been the hallmarks of the organization since its inception.

The agency was instrumental in starting one of Florida's first teen and suicide hotlines, which soon expanded in scope in response to community needs. Recognizing that callers frequently needed ongoing services, phone counselors began collecting and maintaining information on local social service organizations and programs.

In the early 1980s, the information became part of the area's first comprehensive database of community services.

"Our organization works to improve the lives of people who need help at a critical time in their lives," said Donoghue.

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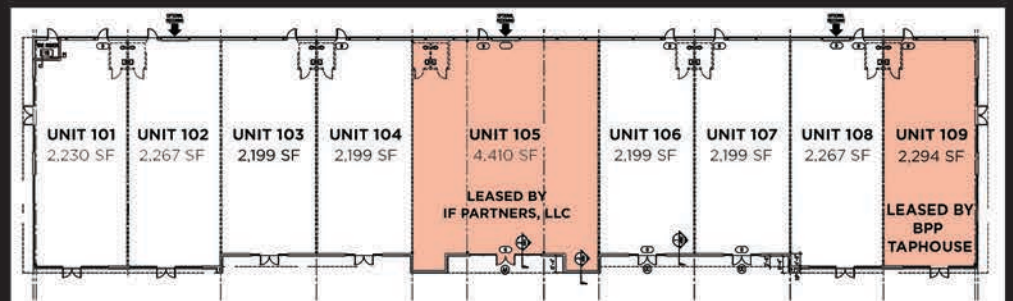
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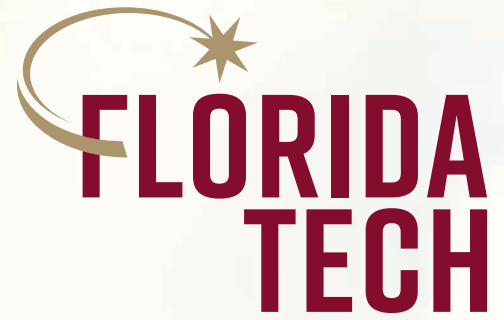


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Artemis/The IT Company

Continued from page 1

Proctor started the company as a college student studying computer science information systems at Florida Institute of Technology, where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1998. He not only built the future foundation for his business working out of his dormitory at Florida Tech, but he also went on to graduate first in his class. Computer science is one of the hardest college majors for because of its combination of theoretical and technical material.

"The first services we offered were IT support. We were doing some work for Florida Tech," he said. Today, Proctor is chairman of the Florida Tech Board of Trustees, an entity that provides oversight and direction for the private university. He has been a member of the Florida Tech Board of Trustees since 2012 and just stepped into the role of chairman.

"It's an honor to serve as chairman of the Board of Trustees. When I was the student body president at Florida Tech, I was always anxious to go and interact with the Board of Trustees. So it's now nice to be able to support the school and the community in this role," he said.

One of Proctor's first customers was local homebuilder Joyal Construction, a family business founded in 1974 by brothers Bob, Danny and Paul Joyal. Paul Joyal is a Florida Tech graduate.

"That's how I met Paul, through Florida Tech. His company was a customer when I was a student at Florida Tech, and is still a customer today. We have customers approaching 20 years and a handful that have been aboard for more than 20 years, if not the full 25 years. Probably the average tenure of our customers is 10 or more years," said Proctor, who cofounded his first company, a computer-support business, while a high school junior in his home community of Montrose, Colo.

Community service has been a cornerstone of Proctor's career. He has been active volunteering with all types of organizations holding leadership positions. His company also has provided financial support to area nonprofits.

Over the years, the list includes the Brevard Zoo, Melbourne Regional Chamber, Brevard Symphony Orchestra, Brevard Heart Foundation, Founders Forum, Career Source Brevard, Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber, Business Voice of Florida's Space Coast, Florida Tech Sporting Affair, Brevard Achievement Center, Junior Achievement of the Space Coast, and the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast.

In 2019, he was a finalist for "Citizen of the Year" honors in "Florida Today's" Volunteer Recognition Awards. In a "Florida Today" article he talked about the importance of giving back to a community. "At every stage of my development, there's been a person, mentor, or group that pulled me up or helped me along."

He has used his life experiences and entrepreneurial skills to grow Artemis. The company is built around a handful of core values. "It's been a lot of hard work through the years by a lot of employees. They are the ones making it happen."

He added, "We have five core values that we established for the organization, starting with 'raving fans,' our approach to customer service. If we don't have customers, we are not going to be here. So we have to make our customers feel important and we have to do a good job for them every time."

2. A great place to work. "We have to provide our employees with an opportunity to build their careers. That's becoming increasingly important today because people have a lot of options, especially information technology professionals."

3. Technical excellence. "We present our core values in the shape of a circle. Technical excellence is at the bottom of that circle, sort of where the 'rubber meets the road,' if

you look at it as a wheel. The reason companies are engaging us is because they are looking for expertise to help them leverage their technology investments and keep their information secure. We want to make sure everybody at our company understands the significance of that."

4. Building trusted business partner relationships. "We feel like if we are hitting on our first three core values, then the fourth value will round itself into place. We want to build long-term relationships with customers. We think the best way to build long-term business relationships is by delivering what you promise, over and over again. If you make a mistake — and we all make mistakes — own up to it and make it right."

5. Innovative growth. "We focus on helping our customers grow by leveraging technology, which allows us to grow as an organization. We want our employees to advance their skill sets and advance their careers. If the employees are successful doing those things, we can communicate that to our customers and, ultimately, our organization will grow outside of that."

Artemis has received a number of recognitions for its growth by various originations.

Proctor's company, for instance, was just selected as one of the 2020 GrowFI's "Top 50 Companies to Watch," a statewide competition that identifies businesses expected to see significant growth over the next several years.

Companies to Watch was developed by the Edward Lowe Foundation as a unique way to recognize and honor second-stage businesses that "demonstrate high performance in the marketplace with innovative strategies and processes." GrowFI received more than 400 nominations for the 2020 award.

Eighty-two finalists were announced and 50 honorees were selected after a final round of judging. The independent panel was comprised of past honorees, economic development leaders, and corporate partners of GrowFI. Companies were judged on a number of criteria including: employee growth; impact of the business in the job market; increase in sales or unit volume; current and past financial records; innovativeness of the product or service; response to adversity; and contributions to aid community-oriented projects.

Second-stage GrowFI companies are defined as those with six to 150 full-time employees and between \$750,000 and \$100 million in annual revenue. Companies named to the list will be officially recognized at the 10th annual GrowFI celebration on Feb. 18 at the Hammock Beach Resort and Spa in Palm Coast. The event will also be broadcast live. To purchase tickets for the event or to see the full list of 2020 honorees, visit GrowFI.com.

"These standout companies are all led by entrepreneurs and have demonstrated not only their willingness to grow, but also their capacity to do it successfully," said Dr. Tom O'Neal, GrowFI founder. "They are positioned to make a significant impact on Florida's economy with their products, services, critical intellectual property, or a niche position that gives them a competitive edge in their markets. These businessowners demonstrate strong leadership, philanthropic involvement, perseverance, and all it means to be an entrepreneur."

Artemis, which has 50 employees, is seeing strong growth in a number of information technology areas, including with Voice over Internet Protocol business customers. Voice over IP is an alternative communications service that allows business to make calls over the internet, rather than through traditional phone lines. One of the biggest benefits of implementing VoIP capabilities is cost savings, as these services are significantly cheaper than physical phone lines.

"By the end of 2021, we will have signed agreements

with customers in at least 30 if not 35 states for VoIP services," said Proctor. "And we have a niche because of our background in networking. We are able to help customers manage their networks and the quality of service they are getting through that voice solution. So we have seen some real positive growth in VoIP services."

The VoIP market is projected to grow from around \$20 billion today to \$55 billion by 2025, according to Global Market Insights.

Proctor's company was also recently honored by Channel Futures. Artemis holds the 32nd spot on its new "Managed Service Providers Hot 101" list. That list showcases the top small business managed-service providers in the United States. Channel Futures is comprised of reporters, editors, analysts, and channel-industry professionals who cover the technology industry.

Artemis was also named to Cloutango's 2020 top "100 MSPs in the United States." Cloutango honors MSPs that are "leading the sector by offering premium information technology and cloud services that help customers drive innovation." The Cloutango awards serve as an important industry reference by providing a "fully independent" ranking of the top-performing MSPs.

"Cloud is king and will be even more so as businesses consider integrating physical office space and remote environments," said Proctor. "Customers will be looking to us to continue to support that effort."

IBM Security recently released findings from a study focused on the behaviors and security risks of those new to working from home during the pandemic.

The study shows more than 80 percent of respondents either rarely worked from home or not at all before the pandemic. This shift to working from home "has exposed new security risks."

According to the "10 Trends to Watch in 2021" released by the Computing Technology Industry Association, organizations will adopt a "cloud-first mentality" when it comes to building or upgrading information technology infrastructure.

"Security will be in that mix as businesses add home networks and other components. We work within the security realm. It's an area where we have been providing services as an overlay," said Proctor.

The Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) compliance arena is creating new opportunity for Artemis. The CMMC framework developed by the U.S. Department of Defense measures a defense contractor's ability to safeguard federal contract information and "controlled unclassified" information. The model is a set of mandatory cybersecurity requirements all Department of Defense contractors must implement and then have validated by an independent third party before being awarded a contract.

CMMC is designed to ensure that any business working for the government can demonstrate it can defend its computer networks against cyberattacks.

There are a lot of businesses in Brevard County that bid on federal government contracts.

"With the new regulation, the government is requiring an outside audit to certify that the business is actually meeting all of the CMMC requirements," said Proctor. "We are doing quite a bit of work helping businesses get ready to self-test."

Proctor is upbeat about his company's prospects for growth in 2021.

"There is a lot of positive activity going on in Brevard County, a lot of investment dollars flowing into projects. We have been adding new customers throughout Central Florida. It's giving us a broader footprint. We see a strong year ahead."

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