

# HAIL DAMAGE INSPECTIONS

# FREE Estimates

**\$250 OFF**

**INSURANCE CLAIMS WELCOMED**

**TILE, METAL & SHINGLE ROOF REPLACEMENTS**

**IMMEDIATE APPOINTMENTS BY ESTABLISHED LOCAL CONTRACTOR**

**CALL NOW**

## Dangers of the wrong decision

In my last column I talked about protecting our ability to age well. I mentioned some ways to support nonprofits that assist us with low cost services. Since we are a community with a large number of aging people, we need to consider where we live and what we can do to ensure our quality of life. In Florida, that entails a healthy respect for severe weather, especially when we can no longer do what we could when we were younger.

Hurricanes should always be taken seriously. As we were preparing for hurricane Dorian, I read a comment on the Internet disparaging all the media hype and insisting we were perfectly safe from hurricanes. After all, the government put the space program at the Cape because hurricanes always miss us. This may be, but I prefer to err on the side of caution, following recommended preparation and evacuation guidelines.

I say the foregoing because I have been at sea and experienced the full force of major storms. As a Naval Officer I spent many years on surface ships and submarines, riding out two typhoons in the Pacific on submarines. These events taught me the dangers of water force and the importance of smart decision-making.

My first hurricane experience occurred as a young officer on my second subma-



**HELPING SENIORS OF BREVARD**  
**JOE STECKLER**

rine. We were en route to Yokosuka, Japan, and had to maintain our position as reported to our command at Pearl Harbor. Not wanting to slow our speed of advance, the Captain elected to remain on the surface and snorkel – running our engines as though we were submerged – so we could go faster and save our battery.

The thinking was good but the force of the water on our steel deck was disastrous. I watched through the periscope as the water pulled about 32 steel bolts (1” in diameter and 3” long) out of the steel rails in which they were bolted, then washed away a large section of the main deck. We made repairs in Yokosuka, but the decision to snorkel on the surface was to remain forever etched on my mind.

Ten years later I encountered another typhoon, this time as the Commanding Officer of a submarine. I changed my course, avoided the major effects of the storm, and arrived at Yokosuka a day late with no damage to my ship. Three other

See SENIORS, page 11

### Providing Service Locally To the Space Coast



**JDog® Junk Removal & Hauling**  
Veteran and Military Family Owned and Operated

From A Single Item to An Entire Clean-out\*

# Calendar

From page 8

every Sunday night from 6-7 p.m. at their church located on 1665 Malabar Road in Malabar. FBC is a Christ centered church serving a diverse population in South Brevard, including Malabar, Grant-Valkaria, Palm Bay, Barefoot Bay, Micco and surrounding areas. For more information, call (321) 723-1602 or visit [www.malabarbaptist.com](http://www.malabarbaptist.com)

**Horseshoe Club:** The Brevard County Horseshoe Club meets three times a week. The league plays at Wickham Park, located at 2500 Parkway Drive in Melbourne, every Sunday at 9 a.m. Cost for league play is \$4, children can play for free. The club is a member of the National Horseshoe Pitcher's Association and all the pitching activities are sanctioned by the NHPA. Dues for club membership at \$15 per year. For more information, contact Jerry Michalek at 321-632-2527 or John Peplinski at 321-725-0171 or visit

<http://brevardhc.9f.com>

## Monday, Sep. 16

**Shuffleboard Club:** The Shuffleboard Club of Brevard County meets every Monday at Wickham Park, located at 2500 Parkway Drive in Melbourne at 6:30 p.m. There are over 40 members of the club who play on 12 lighted courts at the park. No supplies are needed. Membership fee is \$20 annually and \$1 for play days. Yearly tournaments are played as well. Participants are required to be 50 years of age or older, but anyone from 20-50 years of age can participate for \$2. For more information, contact Barry at 321-610-7914.

## Tuesday, Sep. 17

**Bingo at Italian Club:** The Italian American Club of Brevard located at 1471 Cypress Avenue in Melbourne hosts bingo every Tuesday from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. Complimentary snacks with coffee and cake are served. For more information, call 321-242-8044 or visit [www.italianacsb.com](http://www.italianacsb.com).

# Seniors

From page 10

Commanding Officers did not avoid the storm and arrived at Yokosuka with major damage.

Life is a constant cycle of changing events and decision-making. Making the wrong decision about staying in the path of a hurricane can have severe conse-

quences. While the winds may diminish, if you are in a location prone to flooding or if you encounter a water surge, you may be left with no safe haven. Riding out a storm is a matter of choice, but it is always better to ensure you have options to remain safe. In this case it is your call to protect your ability to age well by making the right decision.

Contact Helping Seniors at 321-473-7770 or at P.O. Box 372936, Satellite Beach, FL 32937.



## Sit & Stroll LLC

Your Fairy Dog Mother

Mac Cannon



Certified Professional Pet Caregiver

# Personalities of the Past

## YOUR STYLE AWAITS

Sponsor of



Father and son duo, Johnny and Zach Stambough caught these big 7.31 pound bass with a winning tournament weight of 22.12 pounds for the Indian River Bass Anglers. The anglers meet every first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Marsh Landing in Fellsmere.

## Nice Catch!

Help us celebrate one of the Space Coast's most popular pastimes by submitting a photo of your most recent catch – straight from Brevard's waters.

Email a photo of you with your fish that is at least 1MB or 300 DPI in size to: [yourphotos@hometownnewsmediagroup.com](mailto:yourphotos@hometownnewsmediagroup.com)

Write "CATCH OF THE WEEK" in the subject line, and in the body of the email, please include the following information:

- Your name • City you live in • Age (if 18 or younger)
- Type of fish • Approximate size of fish
- Area you caught the fish
- Phone number in case we have questions (will not be printed)

