



My name is Oliver. I'm a two and a half year-old toy Yorkie. I have something to share with all my furry friends out there: My mom, Rosemarie Annicchiarico, is taking special precautions to keep me safe during this pandemic. Besides going shopping with her, I love sitting in her lap and cruising the neighborhood on her mobility scooter!

Is your pet worthy of the spotlight?

Hometown News will be the judge of that. We are asking our readers to submit photos of their beloved pets, as part of our “Pet of the Week” Contest. The winner for the week will have his or her pet displayed in our newspaper, while also being qualified to become the Hometown News “Pet of the Year!” Email a photo of your pet (one entry per owner) that is at least 1 MB in size to brevnews@hometownnewsmediagroup.com Write “PET OF THE WEEK CONTEST” in the subject line, and in the body of the email, please include the following information:

- Name of pet
- Age
- Breed
- Three of your pet’s favorite things to do
- Pet owner’s full name and hometown
- Phone number (in case we have questions)

Seniors, don’t be left vulnerable

Lately I have been reading various articles about seniors on fixed incomes who are out living their savings. To those of us who have reached a generous age, the mention of saving money in conjunction with senior services gets our attention. One article in particular, written by Brittany Mulligan, caught my eye because I thought the content sounded too good to be true. So, I decided to do some checking.

The article to which I am referring was published in the August 7th edition of *Hometown News* and titled “Brevard County Seniors Are Left Vulnerable”. Indeed they are. Brevard County is the 10th most populous county in Florida, which is the third most populous state in America. Furthermore, we have over 165,000 seniors – so we need to be concerned about anything relating to us.

Brittany’s article talked about programs promoted by the Senior Resource Alliance, such as Meals of Love delivered by the Brevard Alzheimer’s Foundation and PEARLS, which reduces depression in seniors through phone appointments. Although these are good programs, it shows an ongoing problem with how funding is allocated: millions of dollars are directed for care, yet not one penny



HELPING SENIORS OF BREVARD
JOE STECKLER

goes to promoting the availability of services. Meanwhile, Florida’s Medicaid program is woefully underfunded, and affordable housing is scarce.

When I first started working with SRA on the inadequacy of funding for Medicaid, my words fell on seemingly deaf ears. At that time (around 1995), I remember there were about 50,000 on the waiting list for service, and my recent check two months ago showed some 52,000 on the waiting list. We really are not making progress. It is election time now, with those in office and those running for reelection touting how much they have done to help us. If such were true, it would seem that programs such as Medicaid would have shorter waiting lists.

A few days ago Helping Seniors received a call from two elderly ladies who desperately needed affordable housing. When we reached out to find See STECKLER, page 7



Ask About Our
FREE RENT
Limited Time Offer!

LAMPLIGHTER VILLAGE
Active 55+ Community in Melbourne
Just a few minutes from the beach

Pickleball • Bocce Ball • Mini Golf • Shuffleboard • Parties & more

New, MOVE-IN READY HOMES from the low
\$100's
★ EASY Financing Available ★

(833) 280-1648
www.LamplighterHomesFL.com

AFFORDABLE DENTURES & IMPLANTS®

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!

Your Health & Well-Being are Our #1 Priority.



GO AHEAD & SMILE!

- Affordable Dentures
- Extractions
- Affordable Implants®
- Relines & Repairs
- Free Consult & X-Ray for New Denture Patients*

BEST PRICE GUARANTEE**

LOUIS J. TRACI, DDS | GENERAL DENTIST

AFFORDABLE DENTURES & IMPLANTS - TITUSVILLE, P.A.
686 CHENEY HWY.
TITUSVILLE, FL 32780

*Free Consult & X-ray offer has a minimum value of \$75 and covers a consult & a traditional 2-D X-Ray at initial visit.
** Bring in a treatment plan from any competitor and we will beat the total treatment plan for comparable services. Treatment plan must come from a licensed dentist within the past six months for comparable services and is subject to verification. Some plans are excluded. Full details of the Best Price Guarantee are available from our web site or at this practice. [Valid until December 31, 2020.]

877.912.0066 | AFFORDABLEDENTURES.COM

Transit

From page 1

said Lance Parker, SCAT manager of operations and maintenance.

"If you multiply that by how many other people those riders come in contact with throughout the day that number shoots up tremendously," Mr. Parker continued. "We wanted to make sure we do the best we could possibly do to disinfect and clean our buses."

After researching cleaning products, Gencie 200GDC came recommended by the Brevard County Fire Rescue Community Health Resource Coordinator Mark Weiss. BCFR is also using this product to clean its fire stations, fire engines and rescues.

Previously, janitorial staff would sanitize SCAT buses while drivers were at lunch. The main problem, however, was that for the disinfectant to be effective, Mr. Parker explained that you had to clean, disinfect and clean again.

"We worried about what we left behind if we missed a spot because we have all different types of people that work here and the public that comes and goes," Mr.

Parker said. "It just wasn't working for us."

With ridership beginning to increase again, the health of SCAT personnel and its riders remains to be a top priority.

"To be a true disinfectant cleaner, they had to have high alcohol content," Mr. Parker said. "Like hand sanitizer, when it dries, the protection is gone. We found we had to clean as many times a day as we can because we were essentially wiping the buses down with hand sanitizer. The Gencie product has a nano-spike technology, and it's not going to get anyone sick or have that strong chemical odor."

In the meantime, bus riders are encouraged to wear masks, use hand sanitizer and social distance when possible. Those riding on small buses are required to wear a mask.

Gencie LLC is preparing to offer ready to use products and wipes for purchase. Currently, a concentrate is available for businesses and residential homes.

A 16-ounce bottle of Gencie concentrate can cover between 21,000 to 42,000 square feet.

Gencie 200GDC is available for purchase as a concentrate through www.biobegone.com.



Staff photo by Brittany Mulligan

Space Coast Area Transit is using Gencie 200GDC to sanitize its buses and terminals. SCAT Manager of Operations and Maintenance Lance Parker demonstrates a cleaning on a bus.

Steckler

From page 4

them help, the agency we called admitted they were not aware of the desperate need experienced by some people. These are people who have

lived within the system but now simply can not find the resources they need.

Articles such as the one Brittany wrote are a step in the right direction but it would really be helpful if the Senior Resource Alliance would work toward building affordable housing and getting dollars to organizations that promote the availability of

resources; in other words, help seniors before they become depressed or need delivered meals.

Seniors must be willing to advocate for seniors. Our elected officials know the needs and what is available, they just need to hitch the horse to the right cart. How much progress have we really made in developing affordable

housing and reducing those on Medicaid waiting lists? We can and must do better.

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



Cocoa Veterinary Hospital
(321) 636-2230
www.cocoaveterinary.com





Port St. John Veterinary Hospital
(321) 636-7001
www.caringforlifeinc.com

Pet care is our Passion!
We Love Your Pets!

Microchip your pets!

- physical exams
- vaccinations
- digital radiology
- endoscopy
- ultrasound
- dental cleaning
- dental x-ray

- EKG
- intensive care
- fluid therapy
- nutritional therapy
- avian medicine and surgery
- exotic medicine and surgery

- laser surgery
- orthopedics
- laboratory testing
- DNA testing
- boarding
- grooming

New Customer Special
Save 50% Off
Our Regular Consultation Fee with appointment and this coupon.
Treatment costs & medications not included. Not valid for after-hours emergency services.



GLENDAL MALONE
Realtor® CPE

If you are thinking about selling your home, now is the time! Make sure you are getting the best price possible.

Call 407-632-0880
for a free home price evaluation.



glendaleemalone.brevardpremiumproperties.com





BREVARD MEDICAL DERMATOLOGY

We specialize in Medical Dermatology

CALL AHEAD

3 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

Viera 321-428-4737

We've moved our Viera location to 7960 N. Wickham, Suite 103

Merritt Island 321-453-3360
Titusville 321-567-7530

If It's On Your Skin, We'll Get You In!

www.BrevardMD.com