

# Bright Lights Red Carpets Aug. 17, 2009

By Tania Ortega-Cowan

Monday, August 17, 2009

## Cultural Council

We hear from Mary Jayne Kelly that the Cultural Council is cutting back on its hours through September in order to meet budgetary goals. The office staff will be there four days per week instead of five for the months of August and September, only. If you call the office at (772) 770-4857 and don't get an answer, leave a message, and they will get back to you as soon as possible.

### Patrick Loftus honored

Patrick J. Loftus, former owner of Gator Lumber, was honored earlier this month by Croom Construction Co., Barth Construction, Hale Construction, Inc., Jones & Jones, Inc. and Will Craft (Patrick's former partner in Gator Lumber Company), as they joined together to make a donation to the United Way of Indian River County to honor Patrick. The result of the contribution was that United Way dedicated its Community Room to Patrick for his many years of work and service to the community. Last year alone, the room was used 240 times by area health and human service nonprofits. David Croom, president and CEO of Croom Construction Co., had the idea for the room naming as a gesture of support while Patrick was recovering from cancer. "This is a well-deserved honor," says David. "Pat has cultivated many positive relationships in the community and this is a great way for his peers to recognize and thank him."

### Kicking for kids

For 17 years now, the Vero Beach Karate Association (VBKA) has held a “Kicking for Kids Who Can’t” event to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). During these years, the VBKA and its students have raised almost \$136,000. This year alone they raised more than \$8,100. Kyle Arango, who raised \$650, was recognized as the highest fundraiser. “The Muscular Dystrophy Association is the right charity for our school,” said Bill Willis, head instructor of VBKA. “Our students are fortunate that they can do the things they do physically, and we work to help them recognize this blessing and use it to help others in their community who can’t do what they do.” For more information, call the school at (772) 567-9899 and the local MDA office at (772) 873-9422.

### Mentor mixer

Youth Guidance will be at The Links at Pointe West at noon on Sept. 13 for the first game of the NFL season. You are invited to come out and support your favorite Florida NFL team and learn more about Youth Guidance and its mentoring and activities programs. From noon-1 p.m., you can check out the 2009-10 Youth Guidance draft picks, hear current mentor testimonies and buy raffle tickets for the 50/50 and other raffle items. These include a night at Caribbean Court, paintings and gift certificates. At 1 p.m., watch the Miami Dolphins battle the Atlanta Falcons on the big screen and Tampa Bay Buccaneers go up against the Dallas Cowboys on the muted tube. The \$10 admission includes an exclusive NFL buffet prepared by Pointe West. We hear this includes buffalo wings, cocktail weenies, spinach and artichoke dip, fruits, cheeses and more. Yum! Sounds like you don’t even need to like football to have a good time. Adult beverages will be available for purchase. RSVP to [apeeler@ircgov.com](mailto:apeeler@ircgov.com) or call (772) 226-3092.

### Freedom Run

Volunteers Susie Beale, Joyce Gorman, Lyn Smith, JoAnn Schubel and Dawn Hopkins put together a great event for the Senior Resource Association this past May, as 276 people ran or walked in SRA’s 2nd Annual Freedom 5K Run and Walk at

Riverside Park. Sponsors included Amerigas, Best Buy, Champion Home Health Care and Christian FM. Seen on scene were Christian Patrick, Nathan Zamerski, Ted Zamerski, Jennie Vafiades, Rob Vafiades and Sue Mayntz. All proceeds the SRA, which provides activities, education and services for seniors, their families and caregivers in the community. Jennifer Johnson says, "Events like these help SRA support our goal of keeping seniors in their homes and independent as long as possible." SRA offers adult day care, senior center activities, Meals on Wheels for the county's homebound residents and transportation via the Community Coach service. For more information about SRA's programs and services, call (772) 569-0760.

### 9th Annual Charity Classic

The Law Enforcement Agencies of Indian River County will hold its 9th Annual Law Enforcement Charity Classic on Sept. 26 at Grand Harbor Golf Club in Vero Beach. Proceeds of the tournament will benefit the many prevention education programs supported by the Substance Abuse Council of Indian River County. The tournament is a scramble format with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Entry is \$125 per golfer. For better details, call Beverly Norris at (772) 770-4811.



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