

VERO BEACH 32963

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**My Vero: Why I drove north
for Thanksgiving. P6**

**Shores cell tower
moving forward. P10**

**Developer buys Avalon
just south of Round Island. P9**

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Photos taken at high tide last Sunday at Sexton Plaza, Conn Beach boardwalk, and northern part of island.

PHOTOS BY PHIL SUNKEL

Nor'easters hit beaches harder than Vero has seen for years

BY LISA ZAHNER
Staff Writer

Local beaches have not had time to recover from a rapid succession of Nor'easters, leaving steep drop-offs, and laying bare wooden dune crossovers

after this past week's rough seas.

County Coastal Engineer James Gray surveyed the damage Monday afternoon from the storms' war of attrition against the shoreline, and said after his tour that there was no need for drastic repair measures. He did say a couple of spots need to be closely monitored to make sure there is no further erosion.

"In general I observed moderate dune erosion and beach profile lowering to the majority of the county's shoreline. The most recent strong northeast wind and high surf resulted in two- to three-foot escarpment formation along the upper portion of the berm and in some areas erosion extended several feet into the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Creeping vine from Japan threatens to take over beaches

BY LISA ZAHNER
Staff Writer

It's being called the "Kudzu of the Coast." Japanese beach vitex, an invasive, salt-tolerant and fast-growing plant that has plagued the Caro-

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Hundreds attend mass for 'Joey,' the face of Bobby's

BY RAY MCNULTY
Staff Writer

No one who knew Joe Kazen, the general manager at Bobby's Restaurant for 34 years, was surprised at the standing-room-only turnout for his funeral mass at St. Helen Catholic Church two Mondays ago.

"There were people at the church I hadn't

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Two Joeys: Joseph Kazen and his son.

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**Vero Book Center
gets appearance
by Santa. P20**

PEOPLE

John's Island Service League: Beyond fundraising

BY MARY SCHENKEL
Staff Writer

At the 36th annual John's Island Community Service League Opening Luncheon, board President Pat Thompson said that since its 1980 founding, the league has enriched the community with more than \$10 million in local grants and scholarships. In 2015 the league granted \$780,000 to help fund the operating expenses of 34 local nonprofit agencies, awarded \$42,000 in academic scholarships to 10 children of John's Island employees, and made a \$50,000 donation to the County Commissioner's Children's Services Matching Fund Challenge.

"However, over the last few years we have become so much more than a fundraising vehicle," said Thompson. "The Service League has truly become a powerhouse in this community. We are leaders who are driving change, we collaborate with agencies and other funders, and we are in the trenches working on strategic initiatives to help revise a child's future."



Karen Drury and Diane Feeley. PHOTOS BY DENISE RITCHIE

To better reflect those actions, she revealed that the board created a new JICSL mission statement: "Transforming lives in Indian River County through leadership, collaboration and dedicated philanthropy."

The luncheon was co-chaired by Karen Drury and Diane Feeley, who created colorful table décor featuring stacks of books with spines representing JICSL grant groupings:



Pat Thompson, Marlynn Scully, Phoebe Boyer and Hope Woodhouse.

Adult/Senior Care, Counseling/Mental Health, Crisis/Foster Care, After-School & Summer Camp Education, Other Education, Food, Health & Welfare, Homeless Housing, Nurturing Children, and John's Island Employees' Children Scholarships.

Hope Woodhouse, JICSL vice president, introduced the inspirational guest speaker, Children's Aid Society President/CEO Phoebe Boyer, who operates a \$120 budget providing services to more than 70,000 of New York's neediest children.

Children's Aid was founded in NYC by Charles Loring Brace in 1853 – pre-social welfare, children's services or foster care – when between 10,000 and 30,000 homeless children lived in the streets. The orphan train, its first program, placed more than 100,000 children in stable homes across the nation, and he later founded Newsboy/Newsgirl Lodging Houses, children's convalescent homes and Children's Aid Industrial Schools to teach



orphaned children a trade.

"We help children and their families in some of New York's highest-needs neighborhoods, by offering comprehensive supports at every stage of a child's life," said Boyer. "Our goal is lofty but simple; we want children living in poverty to graduate college and reach their fullest potential. They understood then, like we do today, that poverty is extraordinarily complicated."

In 1992 Children's Aid opened its first Community School with a Collective Impact strategy – a school and

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PEOPLE



Edie Dubord, Liz Schroeder and Nancy Lynch.



Mollie Steinwald, Tauna Donaldson and Wheatie Gibb.



Sallie Brooke, Mimi Dimeling and Susie Kasten.

community resource partnership with an integrated focus on academics, health care, family engagement and support services.

ment and school safety. In 2013 a Collective Impact initiative was launched in the South Bronx, one of the poorest congressional dis-

tricts in the country, joining nonprofits, businesses, government agencies, parents and schools around a common agenda. Its goal is to build a vi-



Jane Wittmann, Connie Wood, Cass Mennen and Kathy Hayes.

young people, Boyer added, “We know that poverty hurts. It hurts families and it particularly hurts children; and that hurt is traumatic. It


can most certainly have an impact on a child’s brain development. And poverty can scar a person’s psyche for years and years to come.” ■



Debbie Weise and Anne Blatherwick.

work is laid to foster the growth of the whole child,” added Boyer. More than 5 million children are now enrolled in roughly 5,000 Community Schools nationwide, resulting in a marked improvement in academic achievement, student and teacher attendance, parental engage-

brant community through a continuum of services and guide children on a path toward college and opportunity. “A cross-section of the community needs to be authentically engaged in the process, paving the way for broad ownership and mutual accountability.” Stressing the impact of poverty on



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