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#### What a croc! P4

Beachsiders still buzzing over rare sighting of massive reptile.

### Road to relief. P26

Replacing tiny joints can yield immense benefits.

### BEAUCOUP YUMMY!

Dining: Jacqueline's Bakery. P. 29



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# LOCAL CADET LEADS WREATHS-FOR-FALLEN-HEROES DRIVE

STORY BY JENNIFER TORRES CORRESPONDENT

On Dec. 19 more than 1,500 people gathered for a ceremony at Cape Canaveral National Cemetery to

honor and remember fallen heroes by placing 8,000 Christmas wreaths on 8,000 grave markers.

It was all part of Wreaths Across America Day, a national movement with the goal of providing a Christmas remembrance wreath on the grave marker of every veteran across the country.

Locally, it's achieved through the efforts of volunteer organizations, schools and individuals, who raise funds to sponsor the wreaths. But in the weeks preceding the ceremony at Cape Canaveral,

Logan Villar, with parents Lisa and Ron Surovec, helped lead a drive to place 8,000 Christmas wreaths on 8,000 grave markers more than 1,000 wreaths still needed working hard with the other cadets in

sponsorship to reach the goal of 8,000. Florida Prep in Melbourne routinely

Florida Prep in Melbourne routinely raises funds each year for the program, and as a cadet there, 17-year-old Logan Villar of Indialantic was already working hard with the other cadets in his unit to sell sponsorships for \$15 a piece. But in December, with little time remaining, they decided to ramp it up even more to meet their goal.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

# New chief is familiar face in Indialantic

STORY BY JENNIFER TORRES CORRESPONDENT

It was standing-room-only in Indialantic's Town Hall on Dec. 18, when Mike Connor was sworn in as Indialantic's newest police chief before a large crowd that included family, friends and dozens of fellow law-enforcement officers – past and present – who came to show their support.

Conner, who has been with the department for over two decades, served as acting chief



Police Chief Mike Connor and wife Mary Ann

#### since July, after the town's previous chief, Michael Casey, was named town manager. His wife, Mary Ann, was given the honor of pinning on his new badge as the crowd cheered.

"I want to thank everyone for being here," Connor said. "I want to thank the town council, the mayor for being here, fellow chiefs, fellow officers."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

# Homeowners worry about new bridge for Virgin Trains

STORY BY GEORGE ANDREASSI STAFF WRITER

Homeowners near the 93-year-old St. Sebastian River Railroad Bridge fear pile driving during the construction of a new bridge for the Virgin Trains USA passenger rail project could damage their homes.

"I'm worried about the foundation," said Maria CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Officials celebrate new service from Melbourne airport to Philadelphia. PHOTO: LEAHDUR

# MELBOURNE AIRPORT HEIGHTENS STATURE WITH PHILLY FLIGHTS

STORIES BY HENRY A. STEPHENS CORRESPONDENT

Satellite Beach condominium owners Joyce Wooden and her daughter, Carley Wooden, have flown to Philadelphia numerous times. It's the closest airport to their home in Burlington, N.J.

But Nov. 19 was different. They were among some 67 Brevard County residents to take American Airlines' first nonstop flight to Philadelphia from the Orlando Melbourne International Airport.

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## 'Swan Lake' effect

Eager anticipation for two shows with National Ballet Theatre of Odessa. **Page 12** 



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