

Business News
Steve Sachkar Column
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Contractors to hold April mixer The North Port Contractors Association will hold an April member mixer at 5:30 p.m. Thursday at Sherwin-Williams, 2970 Commerce Parkway, off Toledo Blade Boulevard, North Port. The event will be sponsored by Bill Ramseur, NPCA second vice president. There will be free food and door prizes. RSVP to 941-255-3770, or e-mail info@northportcontractors.com.

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Patriot Self Storage will hold a grand opening event April 18-19 for its two new North Port facilities. The grand opening for the storage facility at 2245 Bobcat Village Center Road, off Toledo Blade Boulevard (941-429-6866), will be held 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 18. The grand opening for the facility at 6029 Talon Bay Drive, across the street from the Warm Mineral Springs entrance (941-429-6800), will be held at the same time April 19. Stop by and enter to win prizes including a big-screen TV, iPods and free storage rent. There will be free food, music, entertainment, a petting zoo, bounce houses, clowns and games. For more information, go to patriotstorage.com.

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The Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County, Gene Matthews Club, will present the 12th annual Prime Time Dinner and Auction celebrating hometown heroes on April 18. This year the Boys & Girls Clubs will be honoring Hank Chiminiello, Allen-Emrich and Richard Cucchi. Cost is \$55 per person, with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting North Port-area children in need. The dinner will be at the San Pedro Activity Center, 14380 Tamiami Trail. A reception and silent auction will begin at 5:30 p.m., with dinner at 7 p.m. and the awards ceremony at 8 p.m. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 941-423-4405 or e-mail northport@boysandgirlsclub.com.

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Port Charlotte Car Care Center, 111 Tamiami Trail, will be the site of a fundraiser for the North Port Lions Club from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday. Proceeds will provide a scholarship for a needy North Port High School senior. Port Charlotte Car Care Center, east of Cranberry Boulevard and U.S. 41, serves North Port and Port Charlotte, and is a full-service car wash/detail and lube center. Call 941-625-2666 for more details.

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PGT Industries, based in Venice, recently visited Tallahassee to support the Florida Ready to Work program. PGT's Liz Evers, training and development manager, went to the state capitol to meet with lawmakers including Nancy Detert, senator from Sarasota, to urge continued funding for this educational program. Florida Ready to Work is an employee credentialing program that tests and scores job skills and work habits. The program is sponsored by the state, so there is no cost for employers or jobseekers to participate. For more information about PGT, which makes impact-resistant doors and windows, call 305-929-9760.

Finally, I'd like to wish a blessed Passover and happy Easter to all our loyal Sun readers.

