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# GOLDEN EAGLE

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January 2026

● Glendale Christian School ●

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Happy New Year 2026

## Mr. Meier: A New Beginning

*By: Flora Kelley*

Mr. Meier, a teacher at Glendale West, has helped many students with academic success. Growing up in Roselle City, New Jersey, Mr. Meier had a strong passion for music. He worked in the music industry, managing concerts and shows for a total of fourteen years in Jersey City. When Mr. Meier became a Christian, he moved to Vero Beach, for a fresh start. He found that the music industry was not the best place for Christians and wanted a new profession. Although the change was difficult, Mr. Meier changed his life for the better and has positively impacted many others by turning his life around. Once Mr. Meier moved to Florida, he began attending a small church and after getting to know the pastor, he began teaching small Bible studies. He then became a tutor for that same church while working towards his teaching degree from Indian River State College. Once he got his associates in teaching from IRSC, he

then applied to teach at Glendale Christian School and began his teaching career as a fourth grade teacher. He later taught fifth grade, middle and high school math and history at Glendale Christian School. He has also taught coding and graphic design at St. Edwards. When being asked about his favorite subject to teach, he said that he has always enjoyed teaching advanced math because of how challenging it is. Mr. Meier, who is currently working towards his master's degree, says that being in college while teaching has helped him relate to students on the stress of having a heavy workload. Mr. Meier has always been a great teacher. Mr. Meier's story is a good example of how someone can change their life for the better and make a big impact on many people's life through teaching.



# Gardenfest 2026

*By: CC Ionnides*

Gardenfest is a fun, family friendly get-together where many people visit, eat, and win prizes. This festival associates garden-themed components with a mix of traditional events such as raffles and crafts. There are many vendors and hardworking volunteers that sponsor Gardenfest, along with teaching seminars that cover a wide variety of topics dealing with gardening. If you are interested, it is held on the first weekend of February at 3260 Riverside Park Drive, Vero Beach, FL 32963. Gardenfest is a great way to meet people and expand your knowledge with intriguing facts as well as having time to yourself to sit down and enjoy the nature around Riverside Park's beautiful landscape. Let your imagination bloom at this family friendly event!

- Plants
- Flowers
- Furniture
- Orchids
- Trees
- Pottery
- Garden Art
- Native Plants



- Raffle Prizes  
(no need to be present)
- Rain or Shine

**FEB 1-2**

Bring Your Wagon!

**Nature's Finest Marketplace**

Hosted by Garden Club of Indian River County

## Martin Luther King Day

*By: Olivia Ardizzone*

Glendale Christian School will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. day on January 19, 2026. We celebrate MLK Jr. day in honor of the sacrificial work he and his family gave for civil rights and equality for all.



## Saint Valentine

*By: Allie Ballard*

Saint Valentine, a 3rd century Roman Saint commonly known as Saint Valentine of Rome, was imprisoned many times in his life for preaching his Christianity. Valentine became close to Claudius Gothicus while he reigned, until he tried to convince Claudius to convert to Christianity. Claudius was sent into a rage and commanded Valentine to renounce his faith or be beheaded and martyred. Therefore, on February 14, 269 AD outside of Famine Gate, Saint Valentine was beheaded. Today we remember Valentine on Valentine's Day for being loving, compassionate, and kind. Valentine's Day was marked on the calendar in 469 AD by Pope Claudius, and we still celebrate today.

# Mel Fisher Treasures

*By: Matthew Riendeau*

Mel Fisher's Treasures is the world leader in historical shipwreck recovery. The museum's founder Mel Fisher, world famous treasure hunter, opened the museum permanently in December of 1992 in Sebastian, Florida. In 1963, Mel Fisher began his treasure hunting career in our city of Vero Beach. Over the course of six years he salvaged the treasure in the 1715 fleet which was found off the coast near Vero Beach. Because of this find, the surrounding areas were named "The Treasure Coast". Later in his career, he spent 16 years in the Keys searching for the main pile of the Nuestra Señora de Atocha, the largest underwater treasure find in history, which he eventually found in July of 1985. The newest treasure in the museum is an amazing mural by Katherine Larson "Legacy of the Treasure Coast". The mural captures the sight of the same 1715 spanish fleet Mel Fisher found. You can find admission details on their website.

[Click here for Website](#)



# Culture Corner: Clase Azul

Mexican food is a blend of the Aztecs and Mayans ancient staples fused with Spanish ingredients and techniques. Many times, Mexican food will include beans, chiles, and maize (corn). As colonizers came to the area, they brought with them their own style of cooking leading to the cultural fusion of flavors that represents Mexican food today. Mexican food will vary depending on the region. One interesting fact is that it was the Aztecs who introduced the Spaniards to chocolate, which they brought back to Europe in 1657. If you like Mexican food or would like to try out a local Mexican restaurant, I suggest Clase Azul. The food is always fresh, the flavors are unique, and the staff are always happy to have guests. Located in the Miracle Mile district of Vero Beach, it is definitely worth checking out!

[Click here for Website](#)





# Environmental Learning Center

*By: Julia Coote*

ELC is a great place where you can participate in hands-on things such as aquariums, touch tanks, and outdoor playscapes. ELC also includes: walking trails, pontoon boat tours, and many educational programs. ELC was founded in 1988 by environmental pioneers, it was meant to be a center where children can learn about our environment with a hands-on approach. Some special community events ELC participates in are Wild Wednesday for homeschoolers and they also have guided kayak excursions. This learning center provides specific programs, ecological field trips, and seasonal day camps. Some activities for all ages include nature volunteer opportunities, summer camp, and wellness programs. You can visit inside to check out the Living Lagoon with aquariums, a 145- gallon touch tank, an indoor active beehive, a full-size manatee skeleton, and so much more! Outdoor activities include walking trails, nature playscapes, boardwalks, and a green house with native plants. You should come check ELC out at 255 Live Oak Drive in Vero Beach. The hours are Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 AM, and on Saturdays and Sundays from 8AM to 4PM. [Click here for Website](#)



*See you on*

**WELCOME  
BACK  
STUDENTS**

*January  
5th!*