

Community News

Helping another wish come true on time and on budget

Christina Tascon
Special to Treasure Coast Newspapers
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

It's not all material costs, logistics and room dimensions over at the Proctor Construction Company. Just like all solidly constructed facilities, the interior holds the hearts and minds of each person who works their magic to make dreams come true.

Donald C. Proctor Sr., "Don" to everyone who knows him, has been fulfilling wishes since he first came to Vero Beach to work for Lloyd Ecclestone on a little project they called John's Island. His climb to be the owner of one of the most prominent construction companies in Indian River County is due to his work ethic and proven record of being trustworthy and straight forward.

When the Gifford Youth Achievement Center (GYAC) needed construction of a new 14,000-square-foot expansion next to its current building, they turned to Proctor.

"Don Proctor and Proctor Construction Company has been so easy to work with," said GYAC executive director Angelia Perry. "We are blessed to have had such an incredible partnership with them and also Edlund, Dritenbas, Binkley Architects and Associates. Everything has gone so smoothly and they have always shown us such concern and courtesy to get the construction stages complete just when they say they would."

The groundbreaking took place less than a year ago on June 2 and the ribbon cutting is coming up on May 15 at 4:30 p.m. — on time and on budget. His crew members said for them, it was one of the most expedited project sites they had worked.

"I don't like to make non-profits wait long to open their projects because I know they really have a need to be up and running, every day is added expense for them," said Proctor. "We want to do whatever we can to help save them money."



Logan Dritenbas, Joe Flescher, Don Proctor and Patrick O'Neill at the hard hat tour in January. CHRISTINA TASCAN

Every agency is special, but Proctor has a genuine fondness for the GYAC.

"I knew Dan K. Richardson for many years when I developed The Moorings," said Proctor. "In fact, I remember when he had his first meeting with Dr. Nigh, Dr. Hudson and Freddie Woolfork."

In 1998, Dr. A. Ron Hudson and Dr. William Nigh first met with Richardson to discuss building a place which could serve as a community center and offer Gifford students after-school programs to help increase graduation rates.

"I have been involved with GYAC off and on over the years and it makes me feel good knowing that Dan's family is still connected to the center," he said. "And of course, Fred-

die is still there. He is one of the real citizens of Vero Beach."

Proctor attended the Hard Hat Tour of the building in January with donors, board members and county commissioner Joe Flescher — a rare event for Proctor since the business keeps him so busy.

He was obviously moved when speaking about GYAC on the phone for this interview.

"We're only here for a short period of time," Proctor said. "I feel so fortunate in what I have been given, I just want to show that. You know, in Webster's dictionary, if you look up the word 'gratitude,' it says repayment for what we receive. God has been very good to me and my family and I want to show how grateful I am."



Apply now for the part-time Practical Nursing program at the IRSC Mueller Campus in Vero. MOLLY BARTELS/SPECIAL TO TCPALM

IRSC will be accepting LPN applications thru May 2

Kelly Hogan
Special to Treasure Coast Newspapers
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

VERO BEACH -- Indian River State College is accepting applications for the part-time Licensed Practical Nursing program at the Mueller Campus.

Students in the Practical Nursing program at IRSC are trained to perform both simple and complex treatments. LPNs help care for sick, injured and handicapped individuals in hospitals, clinics, doctor's offices and private homes.

Working under the direction of doctors and registered nurses, LPNs provide bedside patient care and help examine and treat patients. Students complete this part-time program in two-years, attending class on Monday and Wednesday evenings and gaining clinical experience on Friday or Saturday.

Classes begin Wednesday, June 26. The deadline to apply is May 2.

Graduates of the IRSC Practical Nursing program are well prepared for the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN), and all begin rewarding careers within six months of graduating.

Financial aid and IRSC scholarships are available for those who qualify.

"There are many great job opportunities for LPN's in a variety of healthcare settings," said Dr. Ann Hubbard, IRSC Dean of Health Science. "This is the perfect time to prepare for a nursing career."

To learn more about the Practical Nursing program at IRSC, visit www.irsc.edu/programs/practical-nursing.html or contact Diana Camacho at dcamacho@irsc.edu or 772-462-7570.



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