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Details on page 12



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Details on page 22

## On your marks, get set, wobble

By B.C. Manion

bcmansion@cnewspubs.com

Runners who enjoy starting their Thanksgiving Day with a Turkey Trot will have a new option this holiday season.

Instead of driving to the Turkey Trot in Clearwater or the FishHawk Turkey Trot, area runners will be able to do a 5-kilometer or a one-miler at the first Wiregrass Wobble Turkey Trot at The Shops at Wiregrass in Wesley Chapel. The race will begin at 7:30 a.m. on Nov. 21.

Brian Brink, the race director, came up with the idea for the Wiregrass Wobble. However, he credits his wife Erica with coming up with the name and dreaming up the prize that winners will receive — an engraved carving board for use at their holiday gatherings later in the day.

Besides giving runners a new race, the



A look at some of the participants of a weekly Thursday night run at The Shops at Wiregrass in Wesley Chapel. The Thursday night runners inspired the idea for the Wiregrass Wobble Turkey Trot, scheduled for the first time this coming Thanksgiving. (Photo by B.C. Manion)

event is raising money for Feeding America Tampa Bay and the New Tampa YMCA.

Brink, who is general manager of Fitniche at The Shops at Wiregrass, said the idea for the event came out of the weekly run he organizes at the mall every Thursday night.

There are two groups of runners who run at the mall with one heading out at 6 p.m., and the second at 6:30 p.m., Brink said.

Since they always meet on Thursdays,

See **WOBBLE**, page 14



### A LakeShore Ranch

Suburban living is the way to go. And thanks to forward thinking by Pasco County leaders to build the necessary roads and infrastructure, communities like LakeShore Ranch will benefit. (Photos by Michael Hinman)



### B Connerton

Connerton has just a few hundred of the proposed 8,000 homes built off U.S. 41, but that will continue to grow, especially as the housing market rebounds. Since its relaunch in May, Connerton has already closed on 40 new homes.



### C WaterGrass

With more than 600 homes already sold, WaterGrass is beginning work on its second phase with more than 350 houses just off Curley Road in Wesley Chapel.



### D Avalon Park West

While job growth is still not as strong as it should be, one thing communities like Avalon Park West are struggling with a bit is finding enough qualified construction workers.

## Sleeping Pasco communities reawakened with new homes

By Michael Hinman

mhinman@cnewspubs.com

Just a few years ago, if you built it, hundreds would come to line up wanting to buy it.

It was a housing boom like no other seen before, a bubble that popped so loudly, it almost took the nation's entire economy with it.

One of the states hit worst by the housing crash was Florida, especially Pasco County, which saw unprecedented new home growth right before the market came to a screeching halt. Suddenly communities that once had to figure out how to build homes fast enough were now trying to fig-

ure out how to sell the homes they already had. Life switched from community developers making huge profits, to just trying to survive.

And it was clear that not everyone was going to make it through — with all eyes on Connerton.

"There were a few times when we thought the market was getting better, only to find it didn't," said Stewart Gibbons, an executive-turned-consultant with Connerton.

The community, which was considered one of Pasco's crown jewel developments when it was first proposed in the 1990s, was designed to eventually bring 8,000



"There were a few times when we thought the market was getting better, only to find it didn't."

—Stewart Gibbons, Connerton

See **HOMES**, page 14

# Local filmmaker finds his own Batman story

Will debut documentary this coming weekend

By Michael Hinman  
mhinman@cnewspubs.com

Just as a movie franchise alone, Batman has grossed more than \$3.7 billion at the box office worldwide, and has touched millions of people.

Yet the character of The Dark Knight is giving back in so many different ways beyond the movie screen and the pages of a comic book. It's making a positive difference in society. Something one Land O' Lakes resident has put together in a new documentary premiering this weekend in Tampa.

"This character has been around since 1939, and multiple generations have experienced Batman," said Brett Culp, a wedding videographer turned independent filmmaker. "I wanted to create a film that expressed how people do things for others, and I was looking for a way to do that. Batman was really an ideal way to do that, with a story that has been a powerful and constant part of our culture for a long, long time."

Culp used his own money mixed with a little more than \$50,000 raised through crowdfunding websites like Indiegogo and Kickstarter to produce "Legends of the Knight." In this film, Culp traveled around the country finding out how the Caped Crusader influenced our culture today with a range of people as young as 5, and as old as retirement age.

The stories surprised him, but the people behind those stories amazed Culp even more.

"This one guy we featured is 19 years old, and is one of a kind," Culp said. "He is a junior college student, and when he puts on his Batman mask, no one knows who he is.



Land O' Lakes filmmaker Brett Culp poses with Kye Sapp, a young boy diagnosed with leukemia who finds strength during his treatments through the character of Batman. (Photo courtesy of Brett Culp)

He raises \$50 here and there for different organizations, and then he'll go downtown and do pretend fights with bad guys just to entertain people. He'll then go to places like the Boys and Girls Club and take pictures with the kids there."

On the other end of the spectrum is a retired businessman who, once he sold his company, decided he was going to live the life of Batman, right down to creating his own \$200,000 replica Batmobile from the 1960s television series. He drives around to children's hospitals, and makes that his full-time mission.

"It is really beautiful, interesting, connectable and inspiring," Culp said. "The

connection that it has to Batman, it's just so fun to watch people interact with the character."

"Legend of the Knight" was a two-year project for Culp, the grandson of former Tampa mayor Lloyd Copeland, and a fourth-generation native of the area. When Culp and his wife Tricia get together with friends for dinner, they spend the time sharing stories with each other, many on how popular culture has impacted the world.

Culp is a lifelong fan of Batman, fascinated by the character's ability to solve problems with only his superior intellect and innovative technology, not through a need for superpowers. Batman also is much more relatable to fans since he was born out of tragedy (his parents being killed in front of him as a young boy), and his commitment to never turn his back on the people of Gotham City.

Movies based on comic books are dominating theaters, but comic books themselves still haven't earned the respect they deserve, Culp said.

"Comic books are perceived as irrelevant, stupid, or something just for kids," he said. "We all had that experience growing up, where nobody takes us seriously and think our ideas are stupid."

Yet, these characters have been a part of many lives for decades, covering generation after generation. And more than 70 years after its creation by Bob Kane, Batman is still finding his way into the hearts of young people. That includes Kye Sapp, a 5-year-old in Arlington, Texas, diagnosed with leukemia. It took a character like Batman to inspire him to continue on.

"He is part of a home with a single mom who has two other kids, all younger than Kye," Culp said. "It was a really difficult time

## If you go ...

'Legends of the Knight' makes its world premiere at Tampa Theatre, 711 N. Franklin St. in Tampa, on Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m.

Proceeds from the event benefit Metropolitan Ministries.

For tickets, visit [tinyurl.com/LegendsKnight](http://tinyurl.com/LegendsKnight).

in their lives, and it was also a time when they felt a lot of weakness and vulnerability. But that was until Kye adopted Batman as part of his own identity."

Kye would check in to the hospital as Batman. He would wear Batman pajamas to his chemotherapy sessions. When he would feel sick, he would stay strong, because he said Batman wouldn't whine, and he won't either.

There have been documentaries about Batman in the past, but never one that explored how Batman has affected the real lives of people who enjoy the character. That made "Legends of the Knight" a passion project for Culp, keeping him going despite the thousands of miles travelling, the long hours planning, and countless sleepless nights stressed about how he can make the project a reality.

But now it is real. After months of talk, film trailers, interviews, and a small promotional tour that included one of the nation's biggest comic book conventions in San Diego, Culp is ready to premiere "Legends of the Knight" at Tampa Theatre. The family-friendly event will take place Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m. at the theater, located at 711 N. Franklin St., in Tampa.

Along with the 12 stories, Culp also conducted more than 60 interviews with Batman "experts," including producer Michael Uslan, the man who owns the Batman movie rights, and is responsible for the Dark Knight's rebirth on the silver screen in 1989.

But what happens to "Legends of the Knight" after this screening is anyone's guess. Culp said he's working with his team to figure out the next step, which most likely will include finding a distributor to take it to theaters, or direct-to-DVD.

"This is a grassroots film," he said. "It was not made with Hollywood connections, or funding from a major studio or anything like that. It doesn't have any big names in it, just everyday people."

So Saturday's event might be the only time in the near future they'll get to see Culp's hard work.

"For the path we have gone down so far, I just feel so overwhelmingly blessed," Culp said. "I don't have any doubt that this whole project is just special, and that something really cool is going to come out of it."

For more information on the film, how to get tickets, and even to watch a teaser trailer, visit [www.WeAreBatman.com](http://www.WeAreBatman.com).

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It took Audrey Pease three years to grow her hair this long, and only seconds for stylist Lucy Rosado of Susan's Mane Tamer in Lutz to cut it off. It's all to support Emily Raymond, background, and Locks of Love. (Photos by Michael Hinman)

# Hair-raising fundraising event planned for Land O' Lakes teen

By Michael Hinman  
mhinman@cnewspubs.com

Emily Raymond was just 1 when her hair first starting falling out. She was diagnosed with an autoimmune form of alopecia, where Emily's immune system attacks hair follicles, preventing new hair from growing.

As a young girl, Emily covered her head with hats or bandanas. But since seventh grade, the now 17-year-old Land O' Lakes High School senior has worn wigs.

"When I got my first wig, I didn't really want to wear it," Raymond said. "I was just afraid to, I guess."

Good wigs, especially those made from natural human hair, are expensive, ranging in price from \$700 to \$2,000, she said. That's why nonprofit groups like Locks of Love are so needed.

"I am definitely grateful," said Raymond, who plans to attend Pasco-Hernando Community College next year to begin studying to become a dental hygienist. "It's wonderful that people want to grow their hair out and donate it to for others to wear."

That's what Audrey Pease, a Mary Kay cosmetics sales consultant, decided to do for Raymond. Pease met her when Raymond was just 12. Her son and Raymond's brother attended Boy Scout meetings together, and Raymond would tag along.

"I didn't really understand what was going on with her," Pease said. "But when I learned what was wrong, and what it costs to buy wigs, I knew I had to help."

Pease tried a fundraiser through Mary Kay, raising \$100 for a wig. But as an encore, Pease decided to add something to this year's fundraiser — she would actually donate some of her hair.

"I'd been growing it for three years, and I

didn't want to get it cut until it was long enough to help Emily," Pease said.

Locks of Love, which started in 1997, requires hair donations to be at least 10 inches long. It has to be bundled in a ponytail or braid, and cannot be bleached. Pease had 12 inches of hair ready to go, and it took just seconds for stylist Lucy Rosado to cut it away.

"I love my new haircut," Pease said afterward. "My hair had been getting in my face a lot, and made it hard for me to turn my head while I was driving. It's shorter now than what it was when I first started to grow it out, so it will take some getting used to."

Pease's hair will not necessarily go to Raymond. However, such donations can save Locks of Love money from acquiring hair from other sources, thus bringing their overall costs down. The nonprofit does sell hair it doesn't or can't use, a controversial practice it says is necessary to help offset manufacturing costs. That includes shorter and gray hair.

While Raymond won't benefit directly from Pease's hair donation, she will benefit from Pease's latest fundraiser. Through Nov. 15, Pease is donating 40 percent of her Mary Kay sales to help Raymond get a new wig.

"That's pretty much everything I make from the sale," Pease said. "But it's absolutely worth it."

Raymond has two wigs custom-made for her right now, but she really only uses one. At one point she had four, but she donated two of hers to a family friend who also was losing her hair.

"I joke around with my friends that I could just get a bunch of different-colored wigs, and wear a different wig each and every day," Raymond said. "I want to do it."

For more information on Audrey Pease's fundraising benefit for Emily Raymond, visit [tinyurl.com/RaymondLocks](http://tinyurl.com/RaymondLocks).

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**President & Publisher**  
Diane Kortus  
dkortus@cnewspubs.com



**MICHAEL HINMAN**  
News Editor  
mhinman@cnewspubs.com



**B.C. MANION**  
Community Editor  
bcmanion@cnewspubs.com



**MARY RATHMAN**  
Editorial Assistant  
mrathman@cnewspubs.com



**TERRI WILLIAMSON**  
williamson@cnewspubs.com  
Lutz, Wesley Chapel



**SUZANNE BEAUCHAINE**  
sbeauchaine@cnewspubs.com  
Sales Assistant



**CAROLYN BENNETT**  
cbennett@cnewspubs.com  
Customer Service



**RACHEL THOMPSON**  
rthompson@cnewspubs.com  
Classified & Directory Sales



**MATTHEW MISTRETTA**  
Art Director  
art@cnewspubs.com



**STEFANIE BURLINGAME**  
Graphic Designer  
art@cnewspubs.com



**MARY EBERHARD**  
meberhard@cnewspubs.com



**KATHY WELTON**  
kwelton@cnewspubs.com

**LOCATION**  
3632 Land O' Lakes Blvd. Suite 102 • Land O' Lakes, FL 34639

**MAIL**  
P. O. Box 479 • Lutz, FL 33548

**PHONE/FAX**  
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# Make a choice to stay alive, speaker says

By B.C. Manion  
bcmansion@cnewspubs.com

"I'd like you to imagine the most important person in your life," Cara Filler told the crowd in Gaither High School's auditorium.

"With your eyes closed, imagine what your life would be without them."

That's how Filler began her talk during a motivational speaking appearance in front of Gaither's senior class.

The most important person in Filler's life was her twin sister, Mairin Johnston. But she died the day after they shared their 18th birthday, not long after they graduated from high school.

It was a car accident just three miles away from the mall where both had just been hired to work at a Disney store. Mairin left the mall with her boyfriend driving, allegedly hitting speeds of 110 mph in a 35-mph zone. He lost control of the car and crashed.

The boyfriend sustained some minor injuries. He paid a \$150 speeding ticket and spent 15 days in jail. Mairin lost her life.

This was Filler's best friend. The person who was going to be her maid of honor. The one who would be hanging out with her when they were in their 80s.

Now Filler shares her story through the "Drive to Save Lives" tour, talking about the importance of making smart choices to stay safe.

She made similar stops at Wharton and Steinbrenner high schools, too, which were among the 10 schools in Florida she visited to spread her message.

Students Against Destructive Decisions, better known as SADD, and the Florida Department of Transportation sponsored Filler's appearances.

"FDOT, for the first time, has put teen safe driving as part of their strategic plan," said Danielle Branciforte, SADD's state coordinator. These kinds of presentations remind



Cara Filler

students "that there are consequences for every action," Branciforte said.

At times during Filler's hour-long talk, one could hear a pin drop in the auditorium. At other times, the place rocked with laughter. In the

end, students gave Filler a standing ovation.

Many said they appreciated her candor, her humor and her practical advice.

Filler, who grew up in Vancouver, B.C., now lives north of Portland, Ore.

She travels around the country, coaxing audience members to keep themselves safe and avoid becoming statistics. She gives about 150 talks a year and has been doing that for 18 years.

"I can tell you the second my sister died," said Filler, who was driving behind her sister and witnessed the crash. She could only watch as emergency workers at the scene were unable to save her. "She died because she made a bad choice."

Filler said she continues to give the talks because she wants her sister's death to have meaning.

"I'm sick and tired of car crashes being the No. 1 killer of youth," Filler said. "I watched them rip the car apart to try to get my sister out. There was nothing they could do for her."

While recounting her sister's death was dramatic and poignant, Filler's talk also painted a portrait of the joys and hassles of life as a twin.

She used self-deprecating humor to build connections with the audience, believing that if she can make the kids laugh, she can also make them listen.

Gaither principal Marie Whelan told students that she is always concerned about their safety, and she encouraged them to

look out for themselves and their friends. She wants to see them walk across the stage on graduation day next June.

"I want you to be able to be that maid of honor or best man in your best friends' weddings," Whelan said. "I want you to be there for them, when their children are born and all of those special moments in life."

Sharon Hall, program manager for Mothers Against Drunk Driving, knows too well the depth of Filler's pain.

State troopers knocked at Hall's door at 11 one night five years ago to tell her that her 26-year-old son, Louis B. Hall, was killed in a wreck on the Lee Roy Selmon Expressway. He was a passenger.

"The driver was speeding, and impaired, and lost control," Hall said.

Some members of Gaither's SADD chapter said they think Filler's comments will hit home with their peers.

"I think she gave great tips on how to prevent accidents," said Autumn Riedy, 17. "Every day teenagers go to parties and you can prevent stuff (from) happening."

Brad Smith, 17, said he thinks Filler's talk "really opened the eyes of a lot of students who think, 'It's not going to happen to me.'"

"We're all going to college next year. This is a good message to keep in the back of your heads, to make good decisions. Sometimes just saying, 'No,' is all you have to say," Smith said.

It's also important to intervene, to help friends avoid foolish actions, Smith said.

"If you don't say something and something happens, you're going to regret it," he said.

Distracted driving is a big issue, said Brittany French, 17.

"My dad is always telling me not to text and drive," she said. "You're looking down. You're not really paying attention."

French connected when Filler asked the

## Tips to stay alive

**There are times when teenagers know it's not safe to get in a car with friends, but might not know how to say no. Motivational speaker Cara Filler offers these four approaches:**

- **Don't get in the car** — There are always other options, Filler said.

- **If you're already in a car, and it's dangerous, get out of the car** — "Speak up for yourself," Filler said. "My sister didn't. That's why she's dead."

- **Lie if you have to** — "Tell the driver you have to pee," Filler said. Or tell the driver "you think you're going to puke."

- **Call your parents** — Not popular, Filler said, but it's a move that can save lives.

**Teenagers not driving** can also volunteer to be the "designated texter," to make sure the driver doesn't do that.

**And if all else fails?** "Hide the car keys," Filler said.

crowd to imagine the person closest to them.

"Personally, mine would be my little sister," French said. "She's my everything. I couldn't imagine my life without her."

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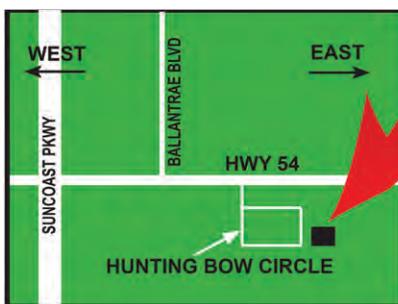


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## Advanced care planning

Gulfside Regional Hospice is hosting a free seminar on end-of-life decisions and advanced care planning on Sept. 26 at 1:30 p.m. at New River Branch Library, 34043 State Road 54 in Wesley Chapel. Complimentary copies of "Aging with Dignity's Five Wishes," a popular living will, will be distributed. For information or to reserve a spot, call Tiffany Snell at (727) 992-7988.

## Hospice names outstanding employee

Gulfside Regional Hospice named Peggy Hess as its Outstanding Employee of the Year at a luncheon at Tampa Bay Golf & Country Club in San Antonio in August. Hess, a crisis intervention specialist, began at Gulfside in November 2006. She works closely with Gulfside's psychosocial staff to help with higher-risk patients and their families. She previously served as a social worker and social worker mentor. Also receiving recognition were Evelyn Adler with the Stewardship Award, Charlene Gill with the Hospice Hero Award, Brandie Story with the Heart of Hospice Award, and Laura Toth with the Leadership Award.

## In-home care for seniors

AARP's Land O' Lakes chapter will meet Sept. 27 at 10:30 a.m. at the Land O' Lakes Community Center, 5401 Land O' Lakes Blvd. Tina Costa will speak about available in-home medical care services for seniors. A potluck lunch will follow the lecture. For information, email pebross@verizon.net.

## Breast cancer fundraiser

Florida Cancer Affiliates will sponsor Bingo to Save the TaTas on Sept. 28 at Aripeka Elks Lodge, 9135 Denton Ave., in Hudson. This is a fundraiser to benefit the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. Tickets are \$20 and includes lunch, 10 bingo games (three cards per game) and one door prize raffle ticket. Extra cards will be available for additional cost. Doors open at 10 a.m. Lunch is served at 11 a.m. For information or tickets, call (727) 514-5646.

## Florida Blue grand opening

Florida Blue is hosting a grand opening celebration at its Carrollwood Commons center, 15030 N. Dale Mabry Highway in Carrollwood, on Sept. 28 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Get information on benefits, coverage,

treatment options and costs while enjoying free massages, food and refreshments.

## Alzheimer's support meetings

Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point's monthly Alzheimer's support group meets Oct. 1 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Shoreline Café conference room. The meeting is open to caregivers and others interested in discussing and exchanging ideas in the care of Alzheimer's patients. The medical center is at 14000 Fivay Road in Hudson. For information, call Laura Arnold at (727) 863-0176.

## Women's health event

Florida Hospital Zephyrhills is hosting a women's health event on Oct. 2 from noon to 2 p.m., at the Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club, 12900 Lake Jovita Blvd., in Dade City. There will be a free lunch, door prizes, giveaways and informative discussions on key health issues for women. Seating is limited. To register, call (877) 534-3108.

## Co-dependence Anonymous group

The Medical Center of Trinity's CoDA group will meet every Thursday from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the center's West Pasco campus, 5637 Marine Parkway in New Port Richey.

Upcoming meetings are Oct. 3, Oct. 10, Oct. 17, Oct. 24 and Oct. 31. The group is a fellowship of men and women whose common purpose is to develop healthy relationships. For information, call Shirley at (727) 816-8678, or Judy at (727) 858-3013.

## Access Health Care lectures

Access Health Care will host the following lectures at 5:15 p.m. at its main office, 5350 Spring Hill Drive in Spring Hill:

- Oct. 3: Diabetes: A preventable disease
- Oct. 17: Weigh Reduction: Awareness is the first step
- Oct. 31: Food of Life: Your choice can change it all

For information or to register, call (352) 688-8116.

## Oasis Pregnancy center benefit

The Fifth Annual Legacy of Life Celebration benefiting Oasis Pregnancy Care Centers is Oct. 4 at Idlewild Baptist Church, 18333 Exciting Idlewild Blvd., in Lutz. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres will be served. The program starts at 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker is David C. Gibbs III, president and general counsel of the National Center for Life and Liberty. For information, call (813) 406-4965.

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# 'Dancing with our Stars' event shines



Dr. John and Melissa Metz finish their performance with a moment of tenderness and love.



Suzanne Beauchaine of The Laker/Lutz News, center, dances a routine with dance professionals Terri Dusek and Gina Marchica during the Central Pasco Chamber of Commerce's 'Dancing with our Stars 2013' on Sept. 21. Proceeds benefit the art of dance in Central Pasco County. (Photos courtesy of Tony Masella, OurTownFla.com)



Brandon and Virgie Pickering of Keystone Presbyterian Church show their moves at the 'Dancing with our Stars' event.



Nearly 50 dancers participated in 'Dancing with our Stars 2013' on Sept. 21, including the Incredible Hulk (second row, at left).

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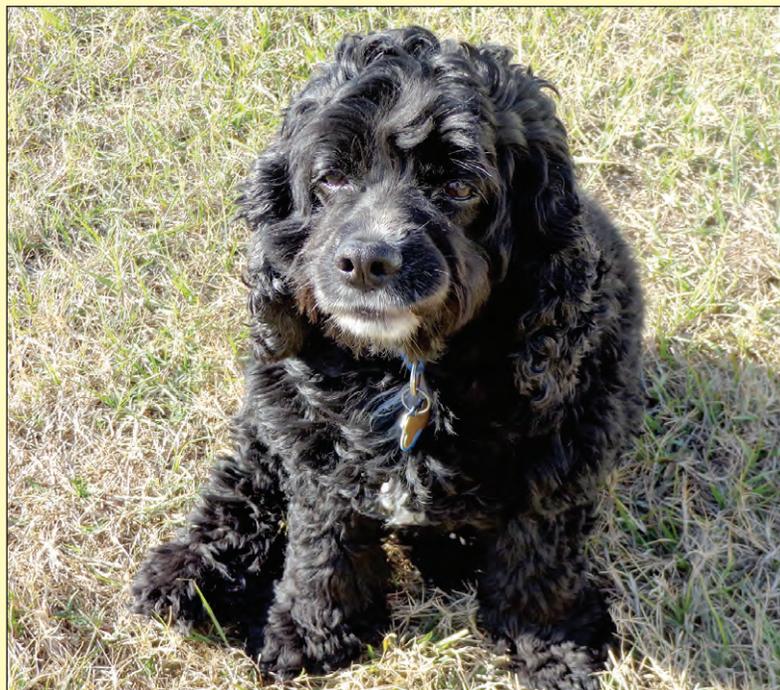
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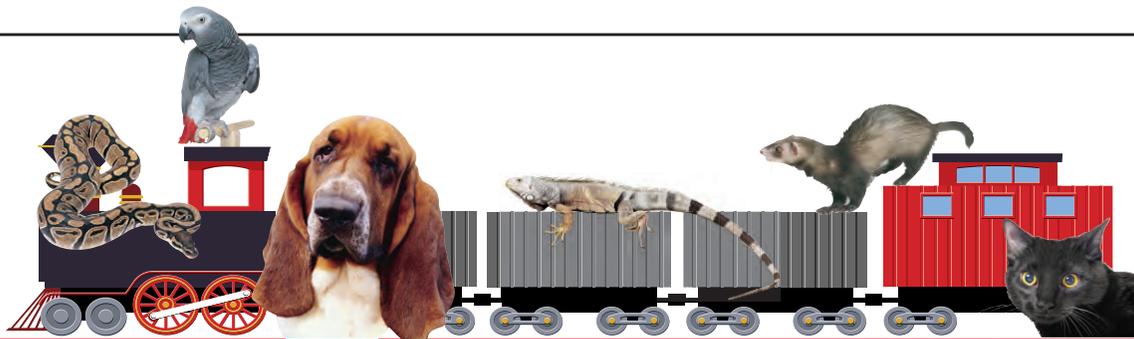
Sitka, a rescued black cocker spaniel, is about 7 years old. She was a companion for P Bear, another black cocker rescue that was lost to cancer, and now to Missy, also a rescued black cocker. Sitka is a spontaneous dog that would probably rather live alone, but accepts her situation with a smile on her face! She loves her walk, hunting for those wonderful 'lizzies' and eating. Sitka, of course, sleeps on the bed and any piece of furniture she chooses and kindly shares her spaces with her proud owners Phil and Cherie Hatlem of Wesley Chapel.

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# Pasco Regional Medical Center celebrates 40 years

By B.C. Manion  
bcmanion@cnewspubs.com

Pasco Regional Medical Center is inviting the public to take a stroll down memory lane, reminiscing about a history in Dade City that stretches back four decades.

The hospital is having its 40th anniversary celebration from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Oct. 1, at the facility's 13100 Fort King Road location. The event will feature hospital tours, a bit of nostalgia and hors d'oeuvres.

Visitors will be able to hear about some of the many advances the hospital has made since it opened on Oct. 1, 1973, as Community General Hospital.

On that first day, the hospital had 14 patients, one surgery, 64 beds, 28 physicians, a five-bed intensive care unit, two operating rooms and a nursery that was large enough to accommodate eight babies. It was Dade City's second hospital.

Over the years, the hospital has changed ownership and names several times.

Recently, the hospital announced its affiliation with Bayfront Health network and soon will change its name to Bayfront Health Dade City. The Bayfront Health network consists of seven hospitals, stretching 150 miles along the Interstate 75 corridor from Brooksville to Punta Gorda.

To put things in perspective, when Pasco Regional Medical Center opened its doors, a postage stamp cost 8 cents, the average household earned \$10,512 a year, and people, on average, lived to slightly more than 71 years old.

In the four decades since the hospital opened its doors, it has gone through enormous change, too. It now is one of Pasco County's biggest economic generators, with an annual payroll of \$23 million.

The nationally accredited hospital is a 120-bed acute care facility providing inpa-



Pasco Regional Medical Center, which is changing its name to Bayfront Health Dade City, has a long history in the East Pasco County area.

## By the numbers

- 20,750:** Emergency room visits
- 4,305:** Surgeries
- 195:** Physicians
- \$23 million:** Annual payroll
- 120:** Licensed beds

tient, outpatient and emergency care.

The hospital serves as a Designated Primary Stroke Center, and specializes in advanced minimally invasive surgical techniques including single-incision laparoscopic surgery, robotic surgery and incision-less procedures.

The hospital is now under new ownership following a \$7.6 billion buyout of its parent company, Health Management Associates Inc., the Largo-based company that owns Pasco Regional and 22 other hospitals in Florida, was sold to Community Health Systems Inc., in a deal announced July 30. The sale is not expected to affect the hospital's name change.

For more information about the hospital, visit [PascoRegionalMC.com](http://PascoRegionalMC.com).

## Highlights through the years

**1973:** Hospital has a ribbon cutting on Sept. 30, drawing a crowd of more than 2,000. The 65-bed Community General Hospital opens officially on Oct. 1, with 14 patients.

**1997:** Named one of the nation's top 100 hospitals

**2002:** Conducts first lap-band surgery in the Tampa Bay area

**2006:** First East Pasco hospital to offer 64-slice computerized tomography technology

**2009:** First hospital in Pasco to offer single-incision laparoscopic surgery for hernia repair and gallbladder removal

**2010:** First hospital in East Pasco to acquire a da Vinci Surgical System SI

**2010:** Earned designation as a Primary Stroke Center from the Agency for Health Care Administration

**2011:** Acquired 4-D ultrasound technology

**2012:** Had grand opening for expanded emergency room

**2012:** Partnered with Gulfside Regional Hospice to offer hospice services on the hospital's second floor.

**2013:** Created and introduced Bayfront Health network of seven hospitals stretching 150 miles along the Interstate 75 corridor between Brooksville and Punta Gorda



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# The Laker Food Drive

## HELP FIGHT HUNGER LOCALLY

The need is especially great during the summer months because those children that rely on getting adequate meals while attending school will need help when school is not in session. In general, 1 out of 4 children in the Tampa Bay area do not have enough to eat.

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Items needed most are:

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No glass please. Pop-top items preferred.

No donation is too big or small.

We appreciate our readers' efforts in helping in this mission.

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# What's Happening

Your Community Calendar • Submit 2 weeks in advance to: [whathappening@cnewspubs.com](mailto:whathappening@cnewspubs.com) • All listings free of charge

## JOB FAIR AT WIREGRASS

The Shops at Wiregrass is hosting a job fair on Sept. 25 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Center Court, next to Pottery Barn. Community members can showcase their resume and network with store managers looking to hire part-time and full-time positions. Employment opportunities are year-round and are available at guest services in Center Court as well as online at the [shopsatwiregrass.com](http://shopsatwiregrass.com).

## BROWNING AT REPUBLICAN CLUB

The Republican Club of Central Pasco will feature Pasco County Schools superintendent Kurt Browning at its meeting on Sept. 25 at 6 p.m. at the Copperstone Executive Suites, 3632 Land O' Lakes Blvd., in Land O' Lakes. Browning will appear with Amelia Van Larsen, the assistant superintendent for student achievement, and discuss the Common Core State Standards. They will also answer questions. For more information, call Steve Graves at (813) 996-3011.

## WOMAN'S CLUB MEETS

The GFWC Lutz-Land O' Lakes Woman's Club will meet on Sept. 26 at 9:30 a.m. at the Land O' Lakes Community Center, 5401 Land O' Lakes Blvd. Newcomers are welcome, and membership applications will be accepted. For information, call Cathy at (813) 961-7038.

## GIVE BACK NIGHT

Tijuana Flats, 23100 State Road 54 in Lutz, is having a Give Back Night on Sept. 27 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Fifteen percent of all sales will go to the American Cancer Society. For information, email Kristie Newsome at [krisslee0013@yahoo.com](mailto:krisslee0013@yahoo.com).

## WOMEN AND MONEY LUNCH

Cooper Financial Services in Land O' Lakes will host a Women and Money Networking Lunch on Sept. 27 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Rasmussen College-East Pasco Campus, 18600 Fernview St., in Land O' Lakes. For information, email Chris Cooper at [chrismm4u@gmail.com](mailto:chrismm4u@gmail.com), or call (813) 996-6100.

## SUPER BOAT CHAMPIONSHIP

The Bright House 2013 Super Boat National Championship is Sept. 27-29 in downtown Clearwater. Boats will race at speeds up to 180 mph in the Gulf of Mexico. Races start from Pier 60. Nearby Coachmen Park will host a block party, seafood festival and live entertainment. Spectators can see the boats and teams up close and get autographs at the park. For details, visit [clearwatersuperboat.com](http://clearwatersuperboat.com).

## PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

MOSI's education department is offering a night out for parents on Sept. 27 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. The museum's staff will care for and entertain children with age-appropriate video games, museum treasure hunts, creative play and more. Kids will dine on pizza and drinks. This event is for children ages 5 and older. Program fee is \$25 per child, and advance registration is required. For information, call (813) 987-6000.

## FREE MUSEUM DAY

Tickets are now available for Smithsonian Magazine's annual Museum Day Live. This is a nationwide event on Sept. 28. Those interested can download a free ticket, which grants admission to the ticket holder plus a guest at participating museums across all 50 states. To download tickets and see a full list of museums, visit [Smithsonianmag.com/museumdaylive](http://Smithsonianmag.com/museumdaylive).

## BARBECUE AND YARD SALE

Sonrise Worship Center in Lutz will have a yard sale with a barbecue on Sept. 28 from

## HONEY TASTING AT USF

The University of South Florida Botanical Gardens is hosting a Taste of Honey fundraiser Sept. 28 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Visitors can taste more than 100 honeys from all over the world and participate in beekeeping workshops. There will be honey-inspired food, door prizes and live music. Tickets are \$20 each. All proceeds benefit the beekeeping program at the gardens. For information, visit [gardens.usf.edu](http://gardens.usf.edu).



9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A barbecue lunch can be purchased for \$7. All proceeds will benefit the church's men's ministry, The Rock. Sonrise is at 18310 U.S. 41, just south of Sunset Lane and McDonald's. For information, call Jim Marquiss at (813) 928-9539, or call the church office at (813) 388-6435.

## GREYHOUND DOGS

Greyhound Rescue and Adoptions of Tampa Bay will have a meet and greet with greyhounds and their adoptive or foster parents Sept. 28 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Port Richey Petco, 9638 U.S. 19 N., in Port Richey. For information, call (813) 971-4732, or visit [great-greyhound.org](http://great-greyhound.org).

## PAGEANT PREP CLASS

There will be a beauty pageant prep class to get young ladies ready for the upcoming pageant season on Sept. 29 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Dance & Gymnastics Academy of Tampa, 23633 Venezia Drive in Land O' Lakes. For information, visit [pageantwithapurpose.com](http://pageantwithapurpose.com).

## JAZZ QUARTET IN YBOR

The Tampa Jazz Club is presenting The Michael Ross Quartet on Sept. 29 at 3 p.m. at the HCC/Ybor Mainstage Theatre, at the corner of Palm Avenue and 14th Street, in Ybor City. Tickets are \$10 for students and complimentary for Hillsborough Community College staff and students. For information on club member tickets, or tickets at the door, call Keith Arsenault at (813) 253-7695.

## GARDEN CLUB DISCUSSES HERBS

The Land O' Lakes Garden Club will have a meeting at Villa Verde Café, 12634 U.S. 41, just north of State Road 52, on Oct. 1. Carpoolers can meet at the Land O' Lakes Community Center, 5401 Land O' Lakes Blvd., at 10:30 a.m. Guest speaker is Ebrahim Mehrani on growing herbs and vegetables. There also will be a tour of the butterfly and herb garden at the restaurant. For information, call Marie Woody at (813) 961-2697.

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SPEAK

The Pasco Federated Republican Women's Club will host Pasco County Administrator Michele Baker at a luncheon on Oct. 4 at 11:30 a.m. at the Fox Hollow Golf Club, 10050 Robert Trent Jones Parkway in Trinity. Cost is \$15. To RSVP before Oct. 1, call Fran Scerbo at (727) 597-3727.

## TOP SHOT COMPETITION

SuperGroup Tampa is hosting Tampa's Top Shot, a competition to benefit a local fallen officer's family, at Shooters World, 116 E.

Fletcher Ave., in Tampa. Qualifying dates are Oct. 1, Oct. 8, Oct. 15 and Oct. 22 from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The final shoot-out is Oct. 29 at 6 p.m. Those interested must buy a \$100 ticket to shoot and qualify, and those tickets are limited. For information, call James Harris at (813) 352-7332, or email [james@truckrepairtampa.com](mailto:james@truckrepairtampa.com).

## ORANGE BLOSSOM GARDEN CLUB

The Orange Blossom Garden Club of Lutz will meet at the civic center, 98 First Ave., in Lutz, on Oct. 2 at 10 a.m. Paint and brushes will be provided for building a birdhouse, but builders may bring decorative items. Refreshments will be served prior to the meeting. For information, call Lee Brown at (813) 949-1301.

## HISPANIC OUTREACH MEETING

Club Politico, a Hispanic Republican Outreach Club, will meet on Oct. 3 at Wesley Chapel Nissan on State Road 54. Social hour begins at 6 p.m., and the meeting begins at 7 p.m. Guest speaker is Pasco County Supervisor of Elections Brian Corley, who will provide election updates. For information, call Julia at (954) 304-2730.

## PORT RICHEY FALL FESTIVAL

Gulfside Regional Hospice and JSA Medical Group of Port Richey are hosting a fall festival on Oct. 4 from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at JSA's office, 104335 U.S. 19 in Port Richey. There will be autumn-inspired food and drinks, cotton candy, popcorn, snow cones, games for kids, prizes, raffles and giveaways. Those interested must RSVP by Oct. 1 to (877) 261-9597.

## FOOD TRUCK MADNESS

MOSI, 4810 E. Fowler Ave., in Tampa, will host Food Truck Madness and kick off World Space Week on Oct. 4 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. The event features some of Tampa's biggest and best food trucks, games, and music. The exhibit galleries will be open at a discounted rate. Admission is free.

## OUTDOOR ART SALE

The East Hillsborough Art Guild's annual outdoor art sale is on Oct. 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at The Cottage, 1308 S. Collins St., in Plant City. There also will be food and baked goods for sale. Admission is free. The guild is seeking exhibitors for the sale, with booth space available at \$10. For information, go to [tinyurl.com/k5npd3v](http://tinyurl.com/k5npd3v), email [ehag2010@gmail.com](mailto:ehag2010@gmail.com), or call (813) 757-6356.

## PASCO PET FEST

Florida Estates Winery and Doggie Cakes will host the Pasco Pet Fest on Oct. 5 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Winery, 25241 State Road 52 in Land O' Lakes. The event

includes wine tasting, music, food, vendors and adoptable pets. Proceeds will benefit Pit Bull Happenings, a local nonprofit dog rescue group. Wine tasting is \$15 per person. For information, visit [pascopefest.com](http://pascopefest.com).

## KEYSTONE SEEKING CRAFTERS

Keystone United Methodist Church is looking for vendors for its Holiday Craft Fair on Oct. 12. The fair will be open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., offering a variety of crafts, plants, home-baked goods, and gift baskets. Breakfast and lunch will also be offered. Outdoor booth space is \$30. Keystone is at 16301 Race Track Road in Odessa. For an application or information, email [kumccraftfair@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:kumccraftfair@tampabay.rr.com), or call the church office at (813) 920-5153.

## WOMEN'S CLUB NEEDS VENDORS

The Lexington Oaks Women's Club is looking for vendors and sellers to participate in its annual community-wide yard sale fundraising event at the Lexington Oaks Community Center, 26304 Lexington Oaks Blvd., in Wesley Chapel, on Oct. 26 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Spaces are available for \$15. For applications and information, call Mary at (813) 746-1405.

## CATHOLIC BUSINESS NETWORK

Catholic Business Networking meets every Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 2348 Collier Parkway in Land O' Lakes. Minimum attendance is two meetings a month. Annual dues are \$50. For information, call (813) 842-7064.

## TRASH CAN COLLECTION

In anticipation of automated trash collection, Hillsborough County residents can dispose of their unwanted garbage cans during the week of Sept. 23 by placing unwanted cans curbside (with a note), placing the cans inside the gray garbage cart, or taking them to a community collection center. For questions or information, call (813) 272-5680.

## CAR SHOW ENTRIES NEEDED

There will be a classic car show in Lutz on Nov. 2 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with cash prizes and trophies awarded. There are three categories: classic cars 25 years or older, exotic cars, and motorcycles. For information, send an email to [bigwoofers@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:bigwoofers@tampabay.rr.com).

## SPONSOR THE JINGLE BELL RUN

The Pasco County Sheriff's Office will host its annual Jingle Bell Run beginning at 8 a.m. on Dec. 8. The event features a 5k race, a one-mile fun run and family activities. It begins and ends at the New Port Richey Rec Center. The event benefits Toys for Tots. Sponsorships begin at \$100. For information and to register, visit [tinyurl.com/pulu5kl](http://tinyurl.com/pulu5kl), or email [gucchiara@pascosheriff.org](mailto:gucchiara@pascosheriff.org).

## HELP FIGHT HUNGER IN THE COMMUNITY

The Laker/Lutz News is joining the ongoing fight to help feed community members in need through a food drive. We have a collection box in our office for our readers to drop off donations for Feeding America Tampa Bay-Suncoast Branch in Land O' Lakes, just one of the more than 200 food banks in the Feeding America network. The Laker/Lutz News office is in the Copperstone Executive Suites, 3632 U.S. 41, Suite 102, in Land O' Lakes. The most needed items are: Canned meats (tuna, chicken, ham, sausage); Canned fruits and vegetables; Canned and boxed meals (soup, chili, stew, macaroni & cheese); Pasta and rice; Peanut butter. No glass please. Pop-top items preferred. No donation is too big or small. We appreciate our readers' efforts in helping in this mission.



## Woman's club serves it up at cleanup

The GFWC Lutz-Land O' Lakes Woman's Club joined 47 other teams, making up a total of 550 volunteers, at this year's Land O' Lakes Coastal Cleanup 2013. The woman's club registered the volunteers and served a barbecue lunch provided by Hungry Harry's. From left are Pat Serio, Peggy Cooper, Ciel Birkett, Rosie Heim, Lonna Vizzari and Chair Allie Peterman. Seated, from left, are Gloria Kasouf and Gloria Dale. (Photo courtesy of the GFWC Lutz-Land O' Lakes Woman's Club)

## Public is invited to peace-building program

*The Laker/Lutz News Staff Report*

A peace-building program, sponsored by Saint Leo University and some other organizations, will be offered at two locations on Sept. 30.

The event will feature Rabbi Ron Kronish, director of the Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel, and Qadi (Judge) Iyad Zahalka, head of the Muslim Sharia Court in Jerusalem. They will discuss "The Other Peace Process-Interreligious Dialogue in the Service of Peace."

The speakers will share their thinking on grassroots efforts at peace building. The event will be hosted by Saint Leo's Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies.

The program will be presented twice. The first session is scheduled from 3 p.m. to

4:30 p.m., in the Student Community Center, Greenfelder-Denlinger, 33701 State Road 52 in Saint Leo, four miles east of Interstate 75.

An evening session is scheduled from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Congregation Beth Am, 2030 W. Fletcher Ave. in Tampa.

The event is free and open to the public, but space is limited so admission will be first-come, first-serve.

Besides Saint Leo, other sponsors of the event are Congregation Beth Am, University Ministry and West Central Florida Pathology Associates/Harvey Feld M.D.

For more information and to register, contact Abraham Peck, executive director of Saint Leo University's Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies, at (352) 588-7298 or [abraham.peck@saintleo.edu](mailto:abraham.peck@saintleo.edu).

## Wilderness Café Hershey's Ice Cream & Live Bluegrass Music

"Everyone enjoyed such a nice evening event last month when the Bluegrass band played here, that we decided to add more fun, introducing our newest addition to the Café and Market, Hershey's Ice Cream," Tiffany smiled, as she added, "we only display 12 flavors, but can serve the entire 120 flavors offered from Hershey's."



Tiffany said she was pleasantly surprised to see that the addition of Ice Cream has not affected the Gelato sales. "Gelato and Ice Cream are uniquely different in taste, texture and content. Both are going to be featured on our new evening Menu, along with Specialty Coffees, Frappe Drinks and Desserts," Tiffany added.

Tiffany went on to explain, "we are developing three distinct product offering periods daily, and soon will be offering special menus for each group."

The Morning menu will offer our fabulous KAHWA coffee selections along with fresh baked bagels and pastries and a variety of egg sandwich styles.

The Luncheon menu will offer our unique Multi-Grain Panini and Spinach Wrap sandwiches. Chris offers daily specials in addition to the everyday menu variety.

The Evening menu will be focused on relaxing Specialty Coffee Drinks, Ice Cream, Gelato, Desserts and Fresh Baked Pastries.

*The Wilderness Café is located at the north entrance to Wilderness Commons Shopping Center.*

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# Closer Look

AN ADVERTISER PROFILE

## New Town, New Homes, New Life

If you've been driving by Connerton recently, Central Pasco's "New Town," and you were wondering what sounds you were hearing, it's not just the honking of the sandhill cranes - you will hear hammers pounding, saws buzzing, power tools whirring and contractor trucks driving in and out, as the New Town awakens to a fresh economy. Connerton's developer, Hayman Woods, a Dallas-based development company, promised to bring this community back to life after the housing bust, and they are keeping their promise. Since their grand reopening in May of this year,

almost 40 homes are under contract with four outstanding builders, Taylor Morrison, Ryland, M/I Homes and Homes by WestBay. These builders offer innovative floor plans from 1,481 to over 6,300 sq. ft. with prices from the low \$100s to over \$700,000.

The residents are excited to see all of the activity. Connerton was given the New Town designation by the State of Florida and Pasco County. To be designated as a "New Town," a community must include certain uses. In addition to residential home building, a New Town offers education, recreation, retail and commercial development. When they say, "timing is everything," the phrase certainly applied to the opening of Connerton during the real estate boom, and the slowdown during the bust. However, Connerton is now well-positioned for the economic recovery because its amenities, parks, trails and an \$8 million dollar clubhouse are already in place. The 10,000 sq. ft. clubhouse offers a state-of-the-art fitness center, super pool with a unique aquatic playground and children's wading pool. A café, meeting rooms for resident and community use, plus tennis and basketball courts are all available as part of the Connerton lifestyle. The annual Labor Day ice cream social was recently coordinated by Amy Gallogly, the onsite activities director, and her staff. She keeps residents busy with holiday parties, nature walks, scavenger hunts, wine tasting events, and is always willing to listen to other suggestions. In addition to the clubhouse, an extensive trail and boardwalk system runs throughout the com-



munity, and will eventually connect all of the villages. These trails and walkways help to promote a more sociable, pedestrian culture.

Connerton Elementary School opened in 2010, providing students with updated technology, such as rolling laptops filled with new MacBooks and interactive whiteboards for classroom use. Connerton Elementary is an "A" rated school, along with Pineview Middle and Land O' Lakes High School, which Connerton residents attend. The staff leadership is provided by Principal Aimee Boltze and Assistant Principal Claudia Steinacker. Together they uphold the school's mission to provide a nurturing environment for both students and teachers. The school also provides learning opportunities for 55 intellectually disabled students in five self-contained classrooms. These students are also integrated into the traditional classroom environment, helping to provide disability awareness for all grade levels. If you have an opportunity to visit the school, you will be welcomed by a friendly staff who will be happy to provide you with a tour of this state-of-the-art education center.

The "New Town" of Connerton is back on its feet with a wonderful lifestyle to offer its residents. So, if you haven't been there lately, stop by, visit the clubhouse, walk the trails, and be sure to visit the new models. It could be your new home!

Connerton is located in Land O'Lakes, approximately 7 miles north of the intersection of SR 54 & US 41.

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# Chalk Talk

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### RED RIBBON WEEK KICK-OFF

Red Ribbon Week is a national drug prevention program used by the Pasco County school system to teach drug prevention in schools. The kickoff for this year's event is Oct. 28 from 2 p.m. to dusk at the historic courthouse in Dade City.

For the past four years, Office Friendly has decorated the courthouse with red ribbons. It also hosted a pep rally to spread the anti-drug message.

Cpl. David Hink is in need of red ribbon material to decorate the courthouse. He is asking local businesses to decorate their storefronts as well.

Anyone who can help with donations should call Cpl. Hink at (352) 424-4827.

### OPEN HOUSE AT CDS

Carrollwood Day School is hosting two open houses at its campus at 1515 W. Bears Ave.

There will be an open house for middle and high school students on Oct. 6 at 1 p.m., and another for high school students only on Nov. 5 at 7 p.m.

To RSVP, contact Michelle Caceres at (813) 920-2288, or email Caceres at mcaceres@CarrollwoodDaySchool.org.

### PHCC PEACE WEEK

Pasco-Hernando Community College will host keynote speakers, guest lecturers, exhibits, presentations, interactive workshops, peace and religion festivals, and musical performances throughout Peace Week Oct. 7-11.

All events are on the West Campus in New Port Richey, East Campus in Dade City,

North Campus in Brooksville, and the Spring Hill campus.

For a daily agenda of activities, times and locations, visit [www.phcc.edu/peace](http://www.phcc.edu/peace), or call (877) 879-7422.

### JOHN LONG MIDDLE WALKATHON

In an effort to raise money to replace photography equipment stolen from Dr. John Long Middle School last year, the school's PTSA is coordinating a Go-Take-A-Hike Walkathon on Oct. 18.

Pledge packets for this pre-collection walkathon will be sent home with students on Oct. 7.

Students will have opportunities to receive a "get out of class" pass, join a "minute to win it" party, get a T-shirt, grab cash and prizes in a cash machine, or win gift cards.

Visit [Facebook.com/JohnLongPTSA](http://Facebook.com/JohnLongPTSA).

### OPEN HOUSE AT CORBETT PREP

Corbett Preparatory School, 12015 Orange Grove Drive, in Tampa, will host admission open houses Oct. 9 and Nov. 20 for students in prekindergarten through eighth grade. It begins at 8:30 a.m.

Each date includes an overview of the school, tour of the campus and a light breakfast. Personal tours can be scheduled at any time.

For information, call admissions director Jennifer Morrow at (813) 961-3087.

### PHCC COLLECTS CANNED FOOD

Pasco-Hernando Community College Human Services Club members will compete in The Volunteer Way's fundraising competition "Construction" on Oct. 18 at the Pasco Government Center, 7535 Little Road, in New Port Richey.

The exhibit will be open to the public Oct. 21-25 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

PHCC has a goal to collect more than 1,000 cans of food for the event. All food collected will be donated to The Volunteer Way Food Bank after the competition.

Collection barrels are located on the West Campus, 10230 Ridge Road, in the library through Oct. 17.

### LOCAL STUDENTS MAKE SEMIFINALIST LIST

The National Merit Scholarship Corp. has announced the names of approximately 16,000 semifinalists in the 59th annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

Hillsborough County Public Schools led the state in the number of National Merit semifinalists, with 60 students earning the honor. Local students include:

- Rachael Hargrove and Shahob Miltenberger, Land O' Lakes High School
- Bridget Weber, Sunlake High School
- Stephen Hurley, Steinbrenner High School
- Rohith Ravi, Freedom High School
- Jorge Rodriguez, Sickles High School
- Kiana Outen, Wharton High School
- Chelsea Chitty, Wiregrass Ranch High School

### JUNIOR VARSITY CHEERS GATORS

The junior varsity cheerleaders at Land O' Lakes High School represented the Gators after the football team won its first game of the year against Gulf High School, 28-0 on Aug. 29. The group's new coach is Heather Rulison.

### DEVON DOMINGUEZ GRADUATES FROM CORNELL

Devon Dominguez of Odessa has graduated from Cornell University's summer college program.

The summer program invites talented high school sophomores, juniors and seniors to spend three or six weeks on the Cornell campus in Ithaca, N.Y., experiencing what it's like to live and learn at an Ivy League university.

Students take official courses, earn college credits and explore majors and career options.



### LOCAL SIXTH-GRADER CROWNED AT PAGEANT

Ashlynn Nicole Diaz, a sixth-grader at John Long Middle School in Wesley Chapel, was crowned the new 2013 Miss American MAC Florida Citrus Preteen at a pageant Sept. 1 at Downtown Disney.

MAC is more formally known as Miss American Coed.

Diaz volunteers for the Fill-a-Heart Project, a program that makes pillows for breast cancer survivors. She also participates in Relay For Life, Autism Walks and volunteers at Metropolitan Ministries in Tampa.

At the competition, Diaz received the highest awards for best academic achievement and best interview. She will represent Florida at nationals during Thanksgiving week in Orlando.

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# Wesley Chapel hospital, Focus on Fitness win top awards

The Laker/Lutz News Staff Report

There were smiles and tears as the Greater Wesley Chapel Chamber of Commerce honored businesses and volunteers at its annual banquet Sept. 14.

The awards acknowledge the accomplishments of small businesses, larger businesses, volunteers, civic organizations and business leaders for the contributions they make to the regional economy. They are nominated and voted on by their peers.

**This year's winners were:**

- **Small Business of the Year:** A Focus on Fitness
- **Large Business of the Year:** Florida Hospital Wesley Chapel

- **Business Leader of the Year:** Greg Lenners, The Shops at Wiregrass
- **Volunteer of the Year:** Cathy Bickham, Chapel Home Health
- **Civic or Non-Profit of the Year:** Oasis Pregnancy Care Centers
- **President's Award:** Dean Smith, Quest National Services
- **Board Member of the Year:** Maureen Moore, Saint Leo University

Bickham of Chapel Home Health was elected the 2014 honorary mayor of Wesley Chapel, and won through a fundraising competition. Mary Ann Yaney will serve as the deputy honorary mayor.

The Greater Wesley Chapel Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1998, and now has nearly 500 members.



Peter Castellani, left, and wife Ellen, accept the award for Civic or Non-Profit of the Year from Grow Financial's Charles Davis on behalf of Oasis Pregnancy Care Centers.



Maureen Moore of Saint Leo University accepts her award as Board Member of the Year from master of ceremonies Eric Johnson of Wesley Chapel Toyota during the Greater Wesley Chapel Chamber of Commerce awards banquet.



Kelly Mothershead, the owner of A Focus on Fitness, accepts the Small Business of the Year award at the Greater Wesley Chapel Chamber of Commerce annual banquet at Hunter's Green.



Cathy Bickham of Chapel Home Health is awarded Volunteer of the Year by Charles Davis, area manager for Grow Financial. Bickham would also win the fundraising election for honorary mayor during the Sept. 14 awards banquet.



Among the winners at the recent Greater Wesley Chapel Chamber of Commerce awards banquet were, from left, Greg Lenners from The Shops at Wiregrass, Peter Castellani from Oasis Pregnancy Care Centers, Maureen Moore from Saint Leo University, Kelly Mothershead from A Focus on Fitness, Cathy Bickham of Chapel Home Health, Brian Adams from Florida Hospital Wesley Chapel, and chamber president Jeff Novotny. (Photos courtesy of Tony Masella, OurTownFla.com)

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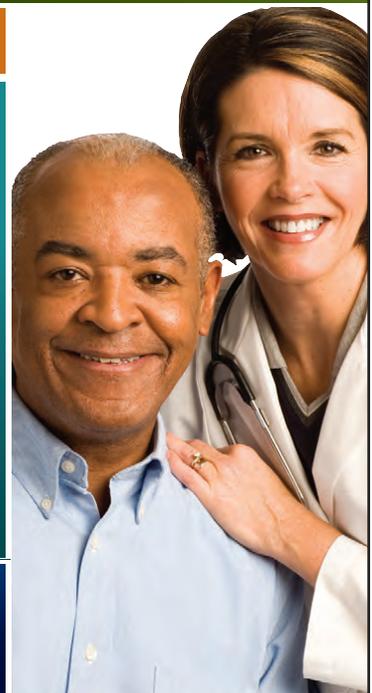
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Heartland

they decided to do a morning run last Thanksgiving.

They announced that plan about a week before Thanksgiving, Brink said. Much to his surprise, roughly 150 people showed up.

Brink figured if that many people turned out with just a week's notice, the event could draw substantially more runners with more lead time. Thus began the planning for this year's event, which Brink believes will attract at least 1,000 runners.

"We have Seven Oaks and Meadow Pointe and all of these giant neighborhoods within a few miles of here that are (homes to) young families," Brink said.

He expects runners to come from such communities as Wesley Chapel, New Tampa, Zephyrhills, Dade City, Land O' Lakes and Lutz.

Lutz resident Jonathan Bosque, 18, said he plans to be there. The Freedom High student has run at the Turkey Trot in Clearwater for the past three years.

"I just love running," Bosque said. "This is a great community place for running."

Brink said he expects the Wiregrass Wobble to become a premier event for the area because the other Turkey Trots are so far away.

"The Clearwater one is the biggest one. They have about 15,000 people doing four different races," Brink said. "To get down there, to get parking, to get registered, everything like that, it's going to take over an hour to do all that."

"There's so many people in the North Tampa area that have no desire to wake up that early on Thanksgiving morning. So, really the area needed something like this. I

think we're going to have a huge turnout," Brink said.

He also noted that once the county gets a planned park built on adjacent land in Wiregrass Ranch, organizers can add a 10k run.

The route of the Wiregrass Wobble's 5k will go around the mall and Florida Hospital Wesley Chapel, ending to the top of the mall's parking garage.

"Doing 3.1 miles takes some maneuvering," Brink said, noting the idea is to keep the race off busy roads. "Luckily we have a really big parking garage over there — that will give us some distance."

The race director thinks the event will be a popular choice for families who want to take a walk or run before settling down later to their Thanksgiving meals. He also thinks it will be a nice option for people who are having family in for the holiday.

"People are traveling on Thanksgiving to be with family. They're looking for something to do together," Brink said.

Runners who register early enough will receive a T-shirt that's designed to keep them dry and cool while they race. The 5k will also be a chip-timed event, Brink said. The chip ensures that racers are timed from the start line to the finish.

Registration is \$25 for the 5k and \$20 for the one-miler.

Runners who sign up in person at any Fitniche location or the New Tampa YMCA can get a \$5 discount if they donate five nonperishable goods for the food bank, Brink said.

Registrations are also being accepted online at signmeup.com.

Runners will also be able to register on race day.

homes just off U.S. 41 just south of State Road 52. By the time of the crash, however, just 300 homes had been built, and there was tremendous concern by some there wouldn't be any more. Especially when Terrabrook, Connerton's original developer, pulled out in 2009.

"There was a lot of information out there, frankly some information that was incorrect and slanted, and naturally, when you're a large community, people are going to focus on you," Gibbons said. "We certainly saw the effects of that to some degree."

However, Connerton may be emerging from dark times. The construction industry, dormant for years, has now returned. And since relaunching under a new owner last May — CoastOak Group and Hayman Woods LLC — Connerton has sold some 40 homes, and is poised to do even more before the year is out.

And Connerton is not alone. Some of Pasco's other large communities, which suffered during the downturn, are starting to come back. And the timing couldn't be better to see more people calling this part of the county home.

**Bright future?**

"We love the Tampa market," said Barbara Kininmonth, sales and marketing director for Crown Community Development, which owns the WaterGrass development off Curley Road. "We love it so much that we sold out all our single-family lots at WaterGrass."

The community, designed for just under 1,200 homes, has more than 600 in the books already. With the first phase complete, Crown now has plans to start 356 additional homes using five builders — Standard Pacific Homes, Ryland Homes, Homes by WestBay, Bakerfield Luxury Homes and Arthur Rutenberg Homes.

Sales picked up briskly once the housing market returned because WaterGrass spent the money needed to maintain common areas, and to keep it attractive for any potential buyers who wandered in.

"We develop communities across the country, and our standards never decreased," Kininmonth said. "The level of upkeep for the community never changed. We worked to make sure lots were ready for builders, and we continued on plans for parks and other amenities, all as they were originally planned" during the boom.

The spring quarter has made many builders optimistic. Metrostudy, a company that tracks housing data across the country, said the Tampa Bay area experienced 1,838 housing starts during that time period, up nearly 48 percent from a year ago. However, actual closings are down a bit compared to the same time in 2012, off by just less than 6

percent. That may be because of the lukewarm job growth in the area.

"We're very bullish on the whole Tampa market," said David Caillouette, the owner's representative for LakeShore Ranch off U.S. 41, not far from Connerton. "I would love to see job growth come back because housing is dependent on job growth."

Last spring, 33,300 new jobs were reported in the Tampa Bay region, according to the same Metrostudy report, up nearly 3 percent. However, unemployment rates are still fluctuating between 6.9 percent and 7.2 percent. Yet, it's a far cry from more than 9 percent unemployment, which is where Florida was a year ago.

**Help wanted**

Some of the jobs coming back are construction. In fact, the only reason why the construction industry hasn't grown faster is because there aren't enough skilled people in the area to fill the jobs.

And that could slow housing growth in Pasco.

"We lost an awful lot of the labor force" after the crash, said Connerton's Gibbons, who also speaks on behalf of the Tampa Bay Builders Association. "They just wanted jobs, so many people moved on to other geographic areas like Texas, and others left the industry altogether, and probably won't be coming back."

Also possibly hurting some communities is the Pasco County Commission's recent failure to pass a gas tax hike. Such money could've been used to maintain worn roads, like those found in communities trying to get back on their feet. Connerton, for example, built its roads several years ago, but depends on the county to maintain them.

"If you don't maintain potholes, they only get bigger and more expensive to fix," Gibbons said. "The tax would've cost people an additional \$2 or \$3 a month, which seemed like a fairly modest number. The county has such a strong emphasis on economic development, but it's hard to do if the roads are bad."

Since the housing crash of 2008, there have been several starts and stops in the market that only teased a recovery. That has resulted in a cautious approach by builders, even as Pasco's demand for homes continue to grow.

"We don't want a repeat of a few years ago where everyone built far more homes than people were actually able to buy," LakeShore Ranch's Caillouette.

"People wanted to move to the suburbs before the economy went south, and Pasco was the next spot they were all going to. We expect we'll be picking up right where we left off."

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# Not all saturated fat is bad

**Editor's Note:** Eating out is a staple of American life, but it is also one reason why we are heavier than ever before. The challenge is to determine the calorie and fat content of menu items and make healthy choices. Samantha Taylor offers her tips on how you can make responsible choices while dining out.

By **Samantha Taylor**  
Pure Health Studios

If you have been looking for a family-friendly, yet upscale, casual restaurant with some of the best prepared food you have set your taste buds on, dining at Stonewood Tavern & Grill in Tampa Palms is a must.

Stonewood offers excellent food choices to complement a healthy lifestyle with outstanding service and a "private" restaurant feel — a perfect opportunity to enjoy a great experience in your neighborhood.

This restaurant does not cut corners when it comes to the preparation of their food. They use only local seafood, the produce comes right from Land O' Lakes, and the new menu takes it one step further by only using the top 15 percent of steak cuts in the country — USDA Certified Private Reserve Angus.

The food is always prepared fresh from scratch in their kitchen, and can be tailored to your specific needs for any order. Believe me, you will know it is fresh.

May I suggest the oak-fired wings for a starter? Unlike most wings, they are grilled — so a big "Yea!" from your personal trainer. The perfect blend of sweetness, juiciness and crunch makes it hard to save room for the main dish after you have enjoyed this appetizer.

For those who prefer, there were other inviting appetizers on the menu as well. A few examples: calamari, smoked salmon, seared ahi tuna and crab cakes.

For my entrée, I chose the special offered that evening: Beef & Reef, which included a perfectly cooked-to-order filet mignon, buttery lobster tail and a side of your choice. When you do not need a steak knife to cut your steak, wow, you know it is perfect. I am a firm believer that saturated fat is actually good for you; it's

*Samantha Taylor is a weight loss expert, personal trainer and owner of Pure Health Studios in Lutz.*



Oak-fired wings



Beef & Reef

what people ate for thousands of years and didn't really get heart disease.

If you want to learn more about this, watch a movie called "Fat Head."

We also tried the cedar plank roasted salmon, and the flavors in this dish were also outstanding. The quality of the meat, fish and produce were evident in every bite. Just as with this meal and having a few wings to start with, I had plenty of leftovers to practice that self-control.

Stonewood has 15 locations in Florida. However, we have one local at 17050 Palm Pointe Drive in Tampa, less than a mile southwest of Interstate 75 off Bruce B. Downs Boulevard.

Stonewood Grill & Tavern is a memorable dining experience and provides genuine service every time. They always go beyond my expectations, and each time I cannot wait to go back.



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## Local Republican club celebrates a birthday

The Pasco Federated Republican Women's Club celebrated its first anniversary during a luncheon Sept. 6 at Fox Hollow Golf and Country Club. Those gathered around the cake include, in front from left, Dixie Sells and Pat Orella. In the back are Lucy Albury, Kathryn Starkey, Meg Merritt, Annette Kelm, Mary Alice Travers, Nancy Gross, Audrey Clegg and Fran Scerbo. The group is a chapter of the Florida Federation of Republican Women, a state chapter of the National Federation of Republican Women. For more information about the local chapter, email Dixie Sells at [sells1@yahoo.com](mailto:sells1@yahoo.com). (Photo courtesy of Pasco Federated Republican Women's Club)

## T-shirt sales will help Pasco Sheriff's SWAT team

*The Laker/Lutz News Staff Report*

The Pasco Sheriff's Office has partnered with Logo Outfitters to create and sell a variety of T-shirts to raise money for the department's SWAT team.

The Special Weapons and Tactics team will attend the international SWAT Roundup competition in Orlando in November, and proceeds from the T-shirt sales will help fund the trip and training ahead of it. Excess proceeds will be used for additional training and equipment needs.

The sheriff's office estimates that \$8,000 is needed to fund the unified SWAT team, including a \$900 fee to register five of the eight-member team, as well as costs for the hotel, per diem and team uniforms.

This would be Pasco's first appearance at the competition since 2008. The current SWAT team was created in 2011 with deputies from the sheriff's office as well as officers from the New Port Richey Police Department. It consists of 55 members who respond to high-risk situations

in the county. They also assist other departments that don't have SWAT teams like in Zephyrhills, Dade City and Port Richey.

The Orlando competition is the premier SWAT competition, last year featuring 51 teams from Brazil, Sweden, Hungary, Romania, Switzerland, Jamaica and more.

The weeklong event consists of training offered in morning sessions followed by an evening or afternoon competitive event. Those events include hostage rescue, team

obstacle and firing course, tower scramble, and an officer rescue.

The T-shirts, featuring the design work of Cpl. Keith Krapfl, cost \$18 each, and are available at [www.logoutfitters.net/pas-coswat](http://www.logoutfitters.net/pas-coswat).

Donations outside the T-shirt sale can be made by sending a check or money order to Pasco Sheriff's Charities, P.O. Box 1746, Land O' Lakes, FL 34639.

More information on the Orlando competition can be found by visiting [www.swatroundup.net](http://www.swatroundup.net).

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Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point is preparing to offer the first internal medicine residency program in Pasco County. (Photo courtesy Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point)

## Internal medicine residency program to start at Bayonet Point

By B.C. Manion  
bcmansion@cnewspubs.com

As the nation grapples with a physician shortage, Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point is gearing up to offer the first internal medicine residency program in Pasco County.

The hospital has received approval from the American Osteopathic Association for the program that is scheduled to begin with six residents in July 2014.

This program is the hospital's first step in developing graduate medical education residency programs. It also intends to add Allopathic Graduate Medical Education Programs in general surgery and internal medicine in 2015.

The hospital is honored to extend an opportunity to participate in the hospital's post-graduate medical education program, Shayne George, the hospital's chief executive officer, said in a news release.

"Our program will be dedicated to providing the highest quality graduate medical education for those who come to Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point from the nation's medical schools," he said.

The program will help address a growing need for doctors, according to the 2012 Physician Workforce Annual Report issued by the Florida Department of Health.

"Florida has added undergraduate medical education capacity by opening new medical schools, but lags in creating corresponding graduate medical education opportunities," the report states.

"Preventing the annual export of quali-

fied GME (residency) candidates to other states is the first step toward shaping the physician workforce of the future," the report adds.

Statistics contained in the report reveal that nearly 12 percent of Pasco's active doctors plan to retire within the next five years, and nearly 4 percent plan to relocate. Next door, in Hillsborough County, 10 percent of doctors plan to retire within five years and 3 percent plan to relocate.

Those figures compound the problems of an expected increase in health care demands, as more people are insured to meet requirements of the nation's changing health care laws, and as the state's population ages.

Planning for the residency program began more than a year ago, said Kurt Conover, spokesman for Regional Medical Center Bayonet, a 290-bed acute care hospital at 14000 Fivay Road in Hudson. It will take internal medicine residents three years to complete the residency program.

Students from Osteopathic Medical Schools from around the country will be eligible to apply, Conover said. The information will also be posted on the hospital's website.

"Florida is a popular state for training," he said, adding that the hospital anticipated filling six positions beginning next July.

Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point has a nationally acclaimed heart institute, more than 350 physicians, 900 employees and 500 volunteers on its integrated health care delivery team.

For more information about the hospital, visit [www.rmchealth.com](http://www.rmchealth.com).

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# Seifert cultivates gar dens, artistic talent

By B.C. Manion  
bcmanion@cnewspubs.com

It doesn't take long to see that something unusual is going on at this 5-acre spread in Dade City.

The topiaries at the front of the property are a dead giveaway that creativity has found a home here.

There's a horse with a mane made of vines. Three mushrooms squat beneath giant oaks. A dolphin leaps in mid-flight. And a baby elephant, complete with a water-hose trunk, serves as a giant planter.

These are just a few tangible examples of Cindy Seifert's imagination at work.

Walk out behind the artist's home and you'll find a butterfly garden with plenty of winged creatures hanging out.

She'll show you where the herbs used to be, before the butterflies gobbled them up. And, she'll guide you to a bush, where caterpillars are munching away — preparing for the time when they'll become cocoons and later emerge as winged beauties.

Glance to the rear of her yard and you'll see a garden shed that looks like an old-fashioned wood-plank building.

Ah, but appearances are deceiving — Seifert's shed is made of plywood, painted to look like planks.

Step inside her office and you'll find more examples of Seifert's works of whimsy. There's a carousel figure and some caricature sculptures.

And, poke your head into the basement and you'll find a classroom, where Seifert has begun offering classes for women and children.

"What they learn to do is think like artists. They learn to identify shapes," she said.

Her students learn to recognize how ob-



Continued on next page Cindy Seifert poses with her topiary horse, one of many pieces she plans to have at her home in Dade City. (Photos by B.C. Manion)



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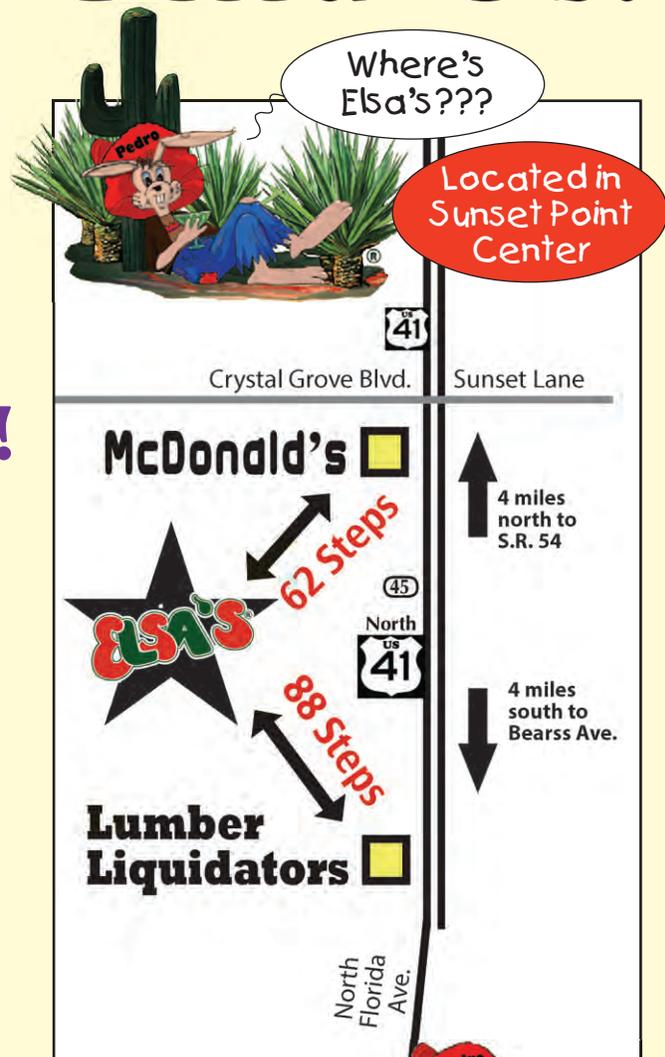
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This garden shed demonstrates Seifert's creative talents. The shed is made of plywood, painted to resemble wood planks.

**Continued from previous page**

jects of everyday life are made up of various shapes."

"Everything," according to Seifert, "is made of shapes."

The artist is also passionate about nature and teaches people how to design their own butterfly gardens.

Her classes are \$20 an hour. It typically takes four one-hour classes to learn how to design a butterfly garden, said Seifert, who is actually self-taught.

"I've been creating art ever since I was a very small child," said the woman who grew up in Ohio. "My first paying job, I was in third-grade. My girlfriend's father commissioned me to paint a picture for their dairy farm, a cow's picture. After that, the dairy farmers hired me to paint pictures.

"I was able to make a sizable side income."

She later worked as a commercial artist. Now, she creates sculptures, murals, portraits and other works. She does much of her business online.

Seifert became interested in creating topiaries after making carousel figures about 15 years ago.

"There was an art show at the Northdale Library, the original location down in Tampa, and I brought one of my carousel figures in," she said. "The response was overwhelming."

As a result of that show, Seifert was commissioned to build some carousel figures for the children's area at the library.

"The topiaries are actually built off the blueprints I created to build the carousel figures," Seifert said, adding she doesn't use



Seifert holds a caterpillar that one day will form a cocoon and will later emerge as a butterfly. Seifert loves to show others the life cycle of butterflies, and teach them how they can create butterfly gardens of their own.

pressed molds or prefabricate her works. "Everything is handcrafted. I design everything, blueprint everything."

Seifert decided to start offering lessons so she could share her knowledge and her love for art and gardening. She calls her classes "Lessons from Cindy Seifert Art Gardens."

At the moment, she has just five students, but she believes she's been called to create the program.

"I think that God puts us here for a reason — to share our knowledge, and I think that it is a privilege," Seifert said. "God has given me stewardship of all of these things here in my life, to be able to not just cultivate a garden, but to cultivate minds."

For more information about Cindy Seifert, her art and her classes, visit [www.CindySeifertArt.com](http://www.CindySeifertArt.com), or call (352) 588-3832.



Seifert's yard has an assortment of flowers, and butterflies love to hang out there.



This wagon wheel is just one of the circles contained within Seifert's garden. She uses the circle as a theme, representing the circle of life.

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## Freshmen golfers on course to exceed expectations

By Michael Murillo

The Laker/Lutz News Correspondent

When your high school golf team is mostly made up of freshmen, it's probably a rebuilding year.

The team at Wesley Chapel High School had a couple of players from the golf team graduate last year, and even lost some talent to other sports this season. Because of that, Coach Mike Rogers was expecting his team to learn from this year and build up experience for the future.

Instead, his golfers earned a 6-4 record in September and have already eclipsed last year's win total of four victories.

"It's been quite refreshing to see how we've come through," Rogers said. "To beat some of the teams we've beaten, I've been pretty impressed."

Wesley Chapel opened the season with a victory over Wiregrass Ranch, a team that beat them in 2012. Rogers said they even had respectable showings in losses to perennial powerhouses Plant and Jesuit.

Having a lot of young players to go along with a few sophomores and upperclassmen might be a frustrating challenge for some coaches, but Rogers enjoys it. Now in his third year coaching boys golf, he sees a team with a lot of talent and athleticism, and he appreciates the individual attitudes and personalities on it.

And those players are responding with good play on the courses — especially some of the freshmen. In fact, Rogers said his top athlete, Tyler Rover, is one of his many players who are new to the high school sport experience.

"He's my No. 1 golfer at this moment," Rogers said of the freshman. "He's just been outstanding for his first year in high school golf."

While Rover is new to the high school format (he's never played golf as a team competition before), he's no stranger to the sport itself: He's been playing in amateur golf tournaments since he was 9. And his en-



The Wesley Chapel High School golf team has already surpassed last year's victory total with a 6-4 record in September. That's despite having a team made up primarily of freshman. Helping in that winning effort are, from left, Aaron Hoyte, Zack Marquadt, Zack Lemmens, Tyler Rover, Alex Nay, David Lee and Ben Wolfman. (Photo courtesy of Randy Rover)

thusiasm runs in the family. His father, Randy, is a PGA Club Pro at the Avila Golf & Country Club in Tampa. He also volunteers with his son's golf team and offers tips and advice to both the newer and experienced golfers.

With his father and a new coach guiding him in high school, Tyler has learned to appreciate having a team component to an individual sport.

"I think it's definitely a little relieving since you have a few teammates behind you to pick you up if you're down," he said. "You go up and play the best you can for each shot, and if your friends play well, it's even better."

Tyler explained that golf can be mentally

and physically draining — that's what he enjoys about the sport — so it's a positive experience to participate with other students and have a coach help him.

Even though the team is still working its way through the season (with individual competitions at the district, regional and state levels to follow), Tyler said he's already seen benefits from working with Rogers.

"Coach Rogers has definitely given us lots of opportunities," he said. "I think it's good to get some different knowledge about my game."

For his part, Rogers believes that his team's success lies mostly with the ones who are making the tough shots.

"They've put a lot of work and time and

effort into it," Rogers said. "I don't think it's necessarily anything I've done. I think it's what they've put into it, and some good old-fashioned talent as well."

Whoever deserves the credit for the team's success, both the players and coaches know that the team's prospects look even better down the road, as freshmen turn into experienced upperclassmen. Rogers is excited to see the team grow together, and Rover knows they have a bright future as well.

"That's what we've been talking about all year," he said. "If we get our new players to keep improving and learning new things, we'll definitely be good for the next three years."

## CHECK HIS OUT

### Locals do well at Clearwater Christian College

Two area natives have found their way on the Clearwater Christian College women's volleyball team for the 2013 season.

Sisters Devan Dampier and Karly Dampier will play for the Cougars. Devan is a transfer student from Trinity College of Florida, while Karly is a graduate of Mitchell High School in New Port Richey.

Both are the daughters of Drew and Jane Ann Dampier of Odessa.

Clearwater Christian has also added a Lutz resident to its men's soccer team.

Brandon Shefcyk will be on the field for the 2013 season. He is a global nursing ministries major, and a graduate of Lake Orion High School in Lake Orion. He is the son of Paul and Stephanie Shefcyk of Lutz.

Clearwater Christian College is home to more than 500 undergraduate and graduate students pursuing a distinct Christian education in a traditional liberal arts environment.

### WCAA soccer readying winter season

The Wesley Chapel Athletic Association is accepting online registration for its upcoming 2013-14 season for both boys and girls.

The cost to play is \$90 for children ages 3 and 4, and \$135 for kids between 5 and 11. Players receive a game jersey, game socks, soccer shorts and a practice shirt. They will have a chance to participate in eight regular season games, as well as an end-of-season tournament.

Those wishing to play will have evaluations scheduled for the week of Sept. 30 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Wesley Chapel District Park, 7727 Boyette Road.

For more information, visit [www.WesleyChapelSoccerClub.com](http://www.WesleyChapelSoccerClub.com).

### Soccer Gemz registration

Soccer Gemz, which provides year-round, noncompetitive programming for kids between the ages of 18 months to 8 years, is currently registering both boys and girls for the new season, which starts Oct. 26.

Games are over a seven-week period at the Lutz First Baptist Church, 18116 U.S. 41. Registration ends Oct. 21, and fees range from \$110 to \$130.

For more information, call Jerome Smalls at (813) 421-5203, or visit [www.SoccerGemz.com](http://www.SoccerGemz.com).

### Zephyrhills Daybreak hosts golf tourney

Rotary Club of Zephyrhills Daybreak is hosting its 21st annual Fall Break Away Golf Tournament Oct. 5 at 1 p.m. at Scotland Yards Golf Course.

The tournament will be a scramble format with skills challenges and a putting contest.

Proceeds from the event are used to benefit projects of Rotary International, the Women's Care Center of Zephyrhills, college scholarships for local high school students, the Zephyrhills City Water Park, the local Eastside 7 Rotary food drive, the Literacy Project, and other projects inside Zephyrhills.



### Spartans runners-up in Labor Day Classic

The Pasco Spartans started their season with a strong performance at the Global Sports Authority Labor Day Classic, earning a berth in the championship game before being edged by Sebring 7-6. Members of the team include, in front from left, Marcus Gonzalaz, Remington Walls, Cherokee Hagans, Hunter Brown and Carter Garlitz. Back row, Coach Donny Hagans, Ryan Ricardo, Colton Bierly, Charlie Vari, Coach Frank Vari, Khalib Bayona, Matthew Byars, Matthew Severson, Manager Jeff Severson and Nick Poore.

For more information, call Chris Robin at (813) 715-0565, or Theresa Sommers at (813) 788-3369.

### Holes For Hope seeks sponsors

The Holes For Hope golf tournament, planned for Oct. 7 at Lake Jovita Golf and Country Club, is looking for sponsorships ranging from \$125 to \$2,500.

The event benefits the Boys and Girls Club

as well as the domestic violence group Sunrise of Pasco County. Prizes include a \$10,000 hole-in-one cash prize, two chances to win a car, and a \$1,000 closest-to-the-pin prize.

For information on how to sponsor, call Linda at (352) 521-3358, or visit [www.sunrisepasco.org](http://www.sunrisepasco.org).

—Submit your sports updates to [mhinman@cnewspubs.com](mailto:mhinman@cnewspubs.com).

# NFLer wants to help kids who trashed his home

The Laker/Lutz News Staff Report

A retired professional football player who makes his home in Lutz is receiving national attention this past week after some 300 teenagers allegedly trashed his vacation home in New York.

Brian Holloway, an offensive lineman for the New England Patriots and later the Los Angeles Raiders in the 1980s, learned about the destruction happening at his home in Stephentown, N.Y., as it was happening through Twitter. Now he is working to track down all the teenagers that damaged his home, and is working to get their help in cleaning up.

Holloway's launched a website to accomplish that. There he says that while broken things can be fixed and stolen things can be returned, the 300 or so people who attended this party are "in peril."

"I know one thing, if my child was involved, I would want to know everything now," Holloway said on his website. "We are old school disciplinarians, we do not sit back, we take action. We step in and take charge. It's so easy for kids to get off track if we let them."

Holloway bought the house soon after joining the NFL, but now spends most of his time in Florida because of his football injuries. He would host community gatherings



Graffiti litters the walls of Brian Holloway's barn in New York after a party there allegedly involved some 300 teenagers. Holloway was at his home in Lutz while the party was taking place. (Photo courtesy of Brian Holloway)

at the home when he lived there full-time, which included guests like civil rights activist Rosa Parks and football star William "The Refrigerator" Perry.

The former NFL player is now trying to bring some of the people involved in the party together to help them take a different path.

He called them "the future leaders, each who possess tremendous potential if they choose to do the right thing, make the right choices, and take the first steps."

For more on Holloway's efforts, visit [www.HelpMeSave300.com](http://www.HelpMeSave300.com).



The Laker/Lutz News is looking for photos at football games, whether they are of the cheerleaders, crowds, or even game play if you can zoom in well enough. We'll publish our favorite ones right in this section. (File photo)

# Wanted: Your best football photos

The Laker/Lutz News Staff Report

Think you have the best eye when it comes to prep football pictures? Then your work could end up in this very section, complete with your own photo credit.

The Laker/Lutz News wants your pictures from local gridiron games. Whether it's of a special play, a new routine from the cheerleaders, or even screaming fans from the grandstands — we want you to send it.

Each week, we'll select the best pictures and post them to our Facebook page at

[Facebook.com/TheLakerLutzNews](https://www.facebook.com/TheLakerLutzNews), and our favorite could actually end up in print in the paper's sports section.

Pictures should be submitted by email, but only one picture per email. Each entry must include the full name and address of the photographer, which game the photo was shot at, and identify all the prominent people in the photo.

They should be submitted by 10 a.m. each Monday to [news@cnewspubs.com](mailto:news@cnewspubs.com).

Anything can happen on any given Friday, and here's your chance to be a part of it.

## PREP SPORTS BOARD

### FRIDAY, SEPT. 20 FOOTBALL

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- Hudson 15, Wesley Chapel 6
- Land O' Lakes 45, Mitchell 21
- Wharton 47, Riverview 14
- Sickles 44, Steinbrenner 17
- Tampa Bay Tech 36, Wiregrass Ranch 0
- Springstead 14, Sunlake 13
- South Sumter 38, Zephyrhills 15

### FRIDAY, SEPT. 27 FOOTBALL

- East Bay at Wharton, 7:30 p.m.
- Freedom at Strawberry Crest, 7:30 p.m.
- Land O' Lakes at Gulf, 7:30 p.m.
- Nature Coast Tech at Pasco, 7:30 p.m.
- Sunlake at Ridgewood, 7:30 p.m.
- Weeki Wachee at Zephyrhills, 7:30 p.m.



# Closer Look

AN ADVERTISER PROFILE

## These pediatricians provide personalized care

By Mike Matthew

Special to The Laker/Lutz News

When your child is sick, you don't want to wade through automated prompts, voice mail menus or negotiate with an answering service. You want a live person to help answer your concerns and a physician's office, who knows you by name, not medical record number. Being mothers themselves, the staff at Dr. Nina's Pediatrics places great emphasis on answering family concerns. These physicians founded their practice around the premise of patient-centered care and accessibility. Patients are always able to reach the staff quickly and easily during office hours and they strive to personally answer phone calls after hours.

Dr. Yanina Abaunza-Fiallos has been practicing in the Tampa area for 17 years, and opened her own practice in Lutz in November 2003. Dr. Luisa Gomez McElroy has been practicing in the Tampa area for 15 years, joining Dr. Nina in May 2012. Both doctors are board certified by the American Board of Pediatrics.

"We're a small practice," says Dr. Nina. "There are only two doctors. This allows us to get to know our patients well."

"We love our patients and their families," says Dr. Luisa. "We don't just provide a diagnosis and move on. Dr. Nina and Dr. Luisa always take the time to answer questions and educate their patients and their parents."

Dr. Nina and Dr. Luisa pay close attention to each child's development and provide parents with tools to recognize development issues early on. Topics such as nutrition and growth are discussed during wellness visits to identify any issues or concerns before they become a problem. They give parents ample opportunity to ask questions to optimize the child's path to wellness.

"We follow recommended check-up schedules and place a strong emphasis on prevention and vaccinations, says Dr. Luisa." We firmly believe vaccinations are a part of keeping our children healthy. Our recommendations are based on the American Academy of Pediatric guidelines.

Both doctors have many patients in their practice that they cared for from the day they were born, with many continu-



Dr. Yanina Abaunza-Fiallos, left and Dr. Luisa Gomez McElroy are board certified pediatricians practicing at Dr. Nina's Pediatrics in Lutz.

ing to see them into their 20s. As their former patients become parents themselves, they are returning to bring their own children. Doctors and nurses also trust their children's care to Dr. Nina and Dr. Luisa which is very heartwarming for them and their staff.

"We're not just for babies," says Dr. Nina. "We also provide vaccinations for college, and perform high school and college physical examinations. We deliver 24-hour emergency service and can normally accommodate same-day appointments."

Dr. Nina and Dr. Luisa are affiliated with three area hospitals: Florida Hospital Tampa, St. Joseph's Women's Hospital and St. Joseph's Hospital North, where they are available to provide newborn care. Free prenatal consultations are also offered so that parents can get to know their baby's doctor prior to delivery.

As a student, Dr. Nina was initially interested in teaching children with special needs. Because of this early exposure to children with medical disabilities, she changed career paths to medicine in order to further impact their outcome. Pediatrics was definitely the right path for Dr. Nina and it is a passion that is ignited every time she comes to work.

Dr. Luisa decided on a career in pediatrics during medical school. She developed a passion for caring for children. She feels pediatrics has one of the greatest impacts on patients' lives, as she can educate and teach prevention starting in early life.

Dr. Nina and Dr. Luisa are currently accepting new patients at Dr. Nina's Pediatrics, and welcome the opportunity to be a part of your child's life. Accessibility, quality and personalized care are just a few of the core values of Dr. Nina's Pediatrics.

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| Cats       | Ears  | Go    | Names    |
| Choirs     | Easel | Half  | National |
| Cube       | Egg   | Hi    | Nose     |

**WORD SCRAMBLE**

Rearrange the letters in each word to spell something pertaining to Labor Day. (Hint: a person)

**ERPTE UCGIMER**

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

ANSWER: Peter McGuire

- |             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| Oak         | Soft   |
| Ocean       | States |
| Off         | Sun    |
| Orders      | The    |
| Out         | Too    |
| Paws        | Ugly   |
| Pig         | Up     |
| Plan        | Urge   |
| Pray        | Uses   |
| Preparation | Verses |
| Ran         | Wall   |
| Read        | War    |
| Red         | We     |
| Rid         | Wit    |
| Sad         | Worlds |
| Saw         | You    |
| Slot        | Zips   |

**CRYPTOQUIZ**

Each of the following cryptograms is a clue to the identity of a sports legend. Using the hints D=R and E=A, decipher the clues to name the athlete.

- 1 XNA MURTAC EDB \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 PIEDXADHEVY \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 VURXG \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 GXAARADG \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 VNEDMADG \_\_\_\_\_

This football great was named NFL MVP in 1959, 1964 and 1967. \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: 1) The Golden Arm, 2) Quarterback, 3) Colts, 4) Steelers, 5) Chargers, Johnny Unitas

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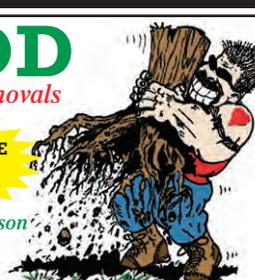
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**AUCTIONS - ROOFING** Company Liquidation, Online Auction Only, Bid September 17 thru September 26. Items Located in Maryland & Florida. Motley's Auction & Realty Group, 804-232-3300, [www.motleys.com](http://www.motleys.com), VAAL #16. (x)

**BOAT MFG CO.** Auction 9-28-13 On Site: 9am, 122 N Cedarview Terrace Inverness, FL 34453. New & antique, boats & motors, tools & equip. For details go to: [www.dudleysauction.com](http://www.dudleysauction.com) ab1667 10%bp (x)

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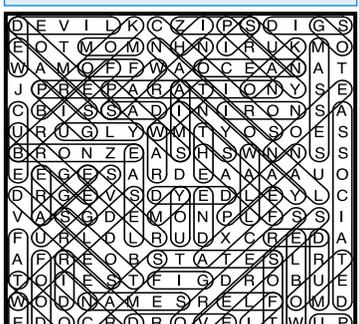
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### NOTICE OF ACTION BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

IN RE: The Teacher's Certificate of:

**Julio Alberto Machuca**  
8521 Northton Groves Blvd.  
Odessa, Florida 33556

Notice is hereby given to Julio Alberto Machuca, Respondent, of the prosecution of an Administrative Complaint seeking the revocation or suspension of his teacher's certificate.

If Respondent, Julio Alberto Machuca, wishes to schedule an informal conference under the provisions of Section 120.60(6), Florida Statutes, with all requirements for the retention of the certificate, he should contact Marian Lambeth, Office of Professional Practices Services, Florida Education Center, 325 West Gaines Street, Room 224-E, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, (850) 245-0438.

If such a conference is not requested, this notice shall constitute service of the Administrative Complaint, which shall be filed with the Education Practices Commission.

Failure to file a response to the complaint with the Education Practices Commission, Florida Education Center, 325 West Gaines Street, Room 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399 by November 20, 2013 shall constitute holding the Respondent in default. The Complaint will then be considered by the Education Practices Commission for final action to impose disciplinary sanctions, including revocation or suspension, under the terms of Section 120.57, 120.60, 1012.79, 1012.795, and 1012.796, Florida Statutes.

PLEASE BE GOVERNED ACCORDINGLY.

Dated this 9th day of September, 2013

*Pam Stewart*

Pam Stewart  
Commissioner of Education

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**WANTED**

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