

An Alternative to the Mall



Judy Scott tries her hand at making a home-made luminary at Saturday's Alternative Holiday Market. The market offered an alternative to mall or cyber shopping as well as kids activities, food vendors, and a raffle.

The city of Gulfport co-hosted the event with Peaceful Plate and First Florida Frontiers.

Beach Legal Costs Top \$56,000 for October

By Cathy Salustri

According to city records, St. Pete Beach paid Bryant Miller Olive over \$55,000 in legal fees for work performed in October. Among other items, Bryant Miller Olive billed for the following work and reimbursements:

- \$6,585 for city legal fees (a \$5,000 retainer plus expenses)

- \$20,000 for the Jim Anderson lawsuit

- \$18,457 for legal fees associated with Bruce Kadoura's lawsuits
- \$4,921 for legal fees associated

See *Legal fees*, page 10

Candidates Gear Up For Beach Race

By Cathy Salustri

When the qualifying period ended Wednesday at noon, five St. Pete Beach residents had thrown their hats in the ring to compete for two seats on the city commission.

District One, currently represented by Al Halpern, has three contenders – commissioner Halpern, Lorraine Huhn and Deborah Edney.

Mr. Halpern is a Viet Nam veteran and a retired engineer from Martin Marietta (now Lockheed Martin).

The state of Florida lists Ms. Huhn as the registered agent, president and director for Save Our Little Village, Inc., the group that endorsed the city's comprehensive plan. This group was co-named as a defendant (alongside the city) in several lawsuits.

The third candidate,

See *Candidates*, page 11

More About Proposed Traffic Changes on St. Pete Beach

ST. PETE BEACH – If you want to know more about the city's proposed changes to how traffic flows around the downtown, you'll have your chance at one of two upcoming public workshops.

The city commission voted unanimously Tuesday (November 22) night to pay its contractor, George F. Young, an additional \$25,000 to provide citizens and the commission

See *Traffic*, page 7

Beach Over Budget

ST. PETE BEACH – The commission voted to approve an additional \$143,000 for this year's budget. According to the city's finance director Elaine Edmunds, the extra costs come from three sources. \$38,000 of the fees are associated with the city bringing in more money than it budgeted. The three sources of the budget overages are as follows:

- *Higher than expected legal fees, which were \$105,000 higher than budgeted. The city will transfer money from its reserves to pay these fees.

See *Budget*, page 9

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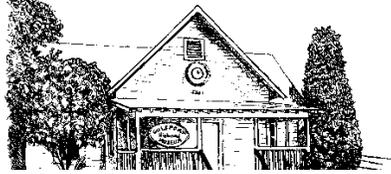


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News from the
Gulfport Historical Society



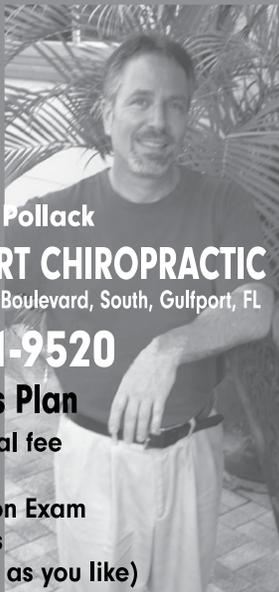
Christmas Potluck Dinner

The Gulfport Historical Society will hold its annual potluck dinner on Thursday, December 15th at 6 p.m. at the Historical Museum, 5301 28th Avenue S. The Society will furnish ham and soft drinks.

Members and guests are requested to bring two items of non-perishable food for donation to the Senior Citizen's Center food bank.

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City of Gulfport, Florida Notice of Municipal General Election and Qualifying Period Opening

Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with Charter provisions, the City of Gulfport will hold a Municipal General Election on Tuesday, March 13, 2012, for the election of two Council members - Ward 1 and Ward 3 and six proposed referendum questions for changes to the Gulfport City Charter.

Qualifying for office will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, December 5, 2011 and will end at Noon, Monday December 12, 2011. Candidates shall be residents of their ward for at least one (1) year prior to the date of qualification in order to be a candidate in that ward.

Please contact the City Clerk for further qualifying information and paperwork, 727-893-1012.



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Planning and Zoning Changes

ST. PETE BEACH – Commissioners approved changes to the comprehensive plan. Here's the bare minimum you need to know about the ordinance changes:

*Ordinance 2010-21 rezones the character districts to keep them consistent with the comprehensive plan.

Additionally, it amends the land development code to establish zoning standards for eight of the 11 districts (Town Center-2 Coquina West and Corey Circle were merged into one district).

"Most of the standards were copied and pasted from the comprehensive plan," Senior Planner Catherine Hartley explains, "such as height, density, intensity, and impervious surface ratios. Some setbacks were established in the plan and carried over but most were established in this ordinance."

*Ordinance 2011-32 repeals and re-adopts the zoning standards for

the Large Resort and Town Center-1 districts.

"I streamlined the language a bit," Hartley explained "but the changes did not change the basic development standards."

*Ordinance 2011-21 establishes minimum standards for applying for variances and conditional use permits.

"We have had problems in the past with applicants not supplying enough information for staff to evaluate the application or for the board or commission to make a decision. This change will put the burden on the applicant to fully describe what they are applying for and make their case with supporting materials such as a survey, a site plan, photos, and elevations," Hartley said.

...

Seniors' Chat Room

Join others as they experience table topics with the Gulfport Senior Center's Chat Room every Friday at 2 p.m. The Center is located at 5501 27 Avenue S. in Gulfport.

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Traffic,

from front page

more information about the one way couplets proposed near Corey. This was not a vote to proceed with the plan; it was, as commissioner Marvin Shavlan pointed out, a way for both the commission, beach businesses and residents to learn more.

The additional \$25,000 will pay for the contractor, George F. Young, Inc., to attend the two public meetings about the proposals, aerial plans of how the affected area will look, and large-scale plans for the couplets.

Under the proposed plan, traffic will enter the beach on the Corey Causeway and become split into one way traffic at Blind Pass. Cars will travel south on Gulf to 73rd; northbound cars traveling the same stretch of beach will do so on Blind Pass. This, traffic engineers say, will eliminate the dogleg "weave" on 75th.

The plan includes diagonal street parking that is self-contained, meaning traffic will not need to back onto the Gulf Boulevard. It also includes a slower speed limit on the affected parts of Gulf Boulevard as well as reducing the number of lanes.

Entrance and exit points for traffic will not change. Cars will still come on to the beach via Corey and leave the same way.

The city commission did not set a date for the two workshops. Watch the Gabber for more information.

...

Operation Santa 2011

It's that time of year again! Santa is putting his list together for this year. If you are a Gulfport resident and could use a little help, the Gulfport Police Department is now accepting applications for Christmas assistance through December 2nd between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday at 2401 53rd Street S. Gulfport. Each family's head of household must bring photo identification, proof of Gulfport residence as well as the name(s) and age(s) of child(ren) living in the home. Operation Santa will collect Christmas gifts for children ages 0 to 10 years of age. There will be no home deliveries and you must pick up your gifts at the Police Department from December 17th through 19th between the hours of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., so it's important that we hear from you right away. For more information on Operation Santa, please call either Francine at 893-1042 or Cindy at 893-1049. A home visit is required.

To assist Operation Santa 2011

For 20 years, Gulfport Police Department employees have sponsored a program called "Operation Santa" in which toys are donated to needy children that live in the City of Gulfport. Operation Santa has always been very successful in part due to the contributions we receive, we would again like to ask you for your help in the form of donations, i.e. monetary, new unwrapped toys, and gift cards. Any help that you can provide would be greatly appreciated. If you have any question, please call either Francine Whitten at 893-1042 or Cynthia Hayes at 893-1049.

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Annual Corey Holiday Craft Festival

The St. Pete Beach Corey Area Craft Festival returns for its 17th anniversary on December 3-4 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. held on Corey Avenue, St Pete Beach. Folk art, pottery, handmade jewelry and paintings, just to name a few, to personalized gifts, handmade clothing, scented soaps and body products will be displayed and available for sale at very affordable prices. The Corey Area Business Association hosts this year's event, as well as three other Howard Alan shows throughout the year.

In order to ensure a great event with quality affordable original crafts, the local and national crafters have been hand-selected from hundreds of applicants by American Craft

Endeavors, producers of the top outdoor craft festivals in the country. All of the crafters will be at the festival with their finest work available. The group's founders personally select unique, culture rich cities for their show locations providing a complete outdoor experience unmatched by other festivals. Corey Avenue has hosted these shows for all most 20 years.

Corey merchants and restaurants will be open during show hours offering their hospitality and providing a relaxing place to shop and dine during both days of the show. The Corey Fresh Market will not run the Sunday of the Holiday Craft Show but will return the following week, Sunday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The Craft Show takes place on Corey Avenue, downtown St Pete Beach, between Boca Ciega Dr and Gulf Blvd.

There is plenty of free parking in the general area. Visit www.artfestival.com or www.coreyave.com or call 727-498-8778.

...

Holiday Break Camps in St. Pete Beach

ST. PETE BEACH- The kids are out of school for the holidays but you have to work. Not sure what to do? Sign the kids up for St. Pete Beach's Holiday Camps. There are two different camp sessions open to kids in grades 1st through 5th. Session I runs from Monday, December 19th to Friday, December 23rd and Session II runs from Tuesday, December 27th to Friday, December 30th. Camp runs from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily except for Friday the 23rd when camp ends at 12:30 p.m. Children will participate in gym games, arts and crafts, park play and a field trip each week. All campers enrolled on Wednesday, December 21st will attend our very special "Breakfast with Santa" event at no extra charge. Cost for the camp is \$100/week or \$30/day for St. Pete Beach residents, \$150/week or \$50/day for non-residents. Enrollment is limited so call them at 363-9245 or drop by the Community Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Drive, to reserve your child's spot.

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Budget, from front page

*Revenue from fire insurance premium tax was \$28,000 higher than the amount budgeted. This is a pass through revenue, which means the city has to transfer the revenue to the firefighter's pension fund.

*Credit card processing fees for parking paystations were higher than budgeted. More people used the paystations than the city anticipated, Edmunds says. This means that the city made more money than it anticipated but it also had to pay an additional \$10,000 in fees.

...

The Debby Bacon Holiday Dream Show

International Concert Pianist and multi-instrumental entertainer Debby Bacon is performing two fundraising shows to benefit the Gulfport Senior Center Foundation on Wednesday, December 7 at the Catherine Hickman Theater at 5501 27th Avenue S. Show times are 1 p.m. and 7p.m.

Debby charms audiences with her combination of first-rate musical abilities and her charismatic personality making her one of the most enjoyable, busiest and well-liked entertainers in show business. Debby was classically trained on organ and piano from the age of four and has since mastered no less than eight different instruments. Debby Bacon now performs worldwide and returns to her home in the United States during the winter months.

Tickets available at the Senior Center are \$10/advance or \$12 at the door for the 1 p.m. performance; \$12/advance or \$14 at the door for the 7 p.m. performance. The evening performance will include a Meet & Greet with Ms. Bacon at 6 p.m. in the Theater lobby. For more information call the Senior Center at 727-893-2237 or check online at www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org.

...

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A Community Thanksgiving

After making sure over 160 dinner guests had enough to eat, Gulfport Senior Center board members and volunteers Joan Barry and Bill Distel hunker down with a turkey at the Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center's turkey dinner Tuesday afternoon.

The Brentwood Senior Community prepared enough food for 200 people for the annual event, which sells out every year, according to Senior Center Supervisor Sue Frank. Volunteers served the dinner, which Brentwood marketing director Marsha Wool said Brentwood provided to their extended family.

"We're part of the Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center Foundation, and we're like family because we're only three blocks down the street," she said.

Ms. Barry and Mr. Distel both serve as Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center Foundation board members; Mr. Distel said Tuesday's dinner was practice for Thursday dinner at his house, where Foundation president Sarah Peel planned to cook for 20 guests.

"Anyone who wants to come," is welcome at his home, Distel said last Tuesday.



Legal Fees,

from front page

with Bill Pyle's lawsuits

\$4,551 for the Coconut Inn lawsuit

\$738 for Ron Holehouse case

\$192 for Bryant Miller

Olive to intervene in a Yankeetown lawsuit

\$49 for the Chmielewski lawsuit

These fees included billable hours, travel to and from St. Pete Beach, meals, and office expenses. Bryant Miller Olive is based in north Florida.

...

SPC Madrigalians to Perform at Library

The St. Petersburg College Madrigalians, directed by Dr. Vernon Taranto, will perform in the auditorium of the Main Library, 3745 Ninth Ave. N. in St. Petersburg on Saturday, December 3, at 2 p.m. Barry Stevens is the piano accompanist.

They will sing old and new music of the season, with an emphasis on carols from around the world. Called "SPC's Musical Ambassadors," the college's premiere performance ensemble has appeared nationally and internationally, most recently on a concert tour of Russia.

The program is free and open to the public. For more information, phone the Main Library at 893-7724.

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Candidates,

from front page

Deborah Edney, shows up regularly at commission meetings.

Two people will compete for District Three – incumbent commissioner Marvin Shavlan will run against Brooke Anderson.

Mr. Shavlan co-owns Bond Diamonds.

Ms. Anderson's husband, Jim, is currently suing the city over comprehensive-plan related issues.

Voters in both those districts will choose their representative on January 31.

The Gabber will provide more coverage on the candidates and the issues in the weeks to come.

Contact Cathy Salustri at
CathySalustri@theGabber.com.

...

Gulfport Lions to serve Pancake Breakfast

The Gulfport Lions Club will be presenting their 2nd Pancake Breakfast of the season on Saturday, December 3rd from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Gulfport Lions Center, 4630 Tifton Drive S. in the Gulfport Marina area.

Pancakes with syrup, scrambled eggs, sausage, with coffee or tea to drink, and all you care to eat at the

donation price of \$5 per person. Bring your family and friends and spend an enjoyable morning overlooking beautiful Boca Ceiga Bay, You might even see a manatee! Children really love these Breakfasts.

This year as in the past, they ask you to bring a toy unwrapped to put into their Christmas Toy Box. They will be making their annual Christmas toys and food distribution soon.

When you come and support their fund raising activities, you are doing much to help those in need. Gulfport Lions is a service organization, meeting the needs of those less fortunate, especially at this time of the year.

...

Players to Hold Membership Meeting

The Gulfport Community Players will be holding a Membership Meeting on Friday, December 2nd at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Players' Back Door Theater, located at 1619 49th St. S. in Gulfport. All members are invited to attend, as well as non-members who just want to find out more about the Gulfport Community Players. You'll also be able to find out a little about their next production, "The Curious Savage". It will be opening at the Hickman Theater on Jan. 5th, 2012. Visit: <http://www.gulfportcommunityplayers.org>

...

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Gabber December 1 - December 7, 2011

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Pilates Mat Class December 9, 2011 at 2:00pm

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Chair Yoga December 9, 2011 at 2:00pm

St. Pete Yoga presents stretching techniques that can be done at your desk or any chair. \$5 donation suggested towards St. Pete Yoga.

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Garden Club of St. Petersburg

The Garden Club of St. Petersburg, 500 Sunset Drive S., St. Petersburg will present a crafts program on Monday, December 5th at 10 a.m. The program is to create a winter coat lapel pin of velvet leaves and yarn. Cost is \$3.50 for GCSP members and \$4 for guests.

...

Tree Lighting at Carter G. Woodson Museum

The Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American Museum will host its

annual Tree Lighting celebration in their Legacy Garden, 2240 Ninth Ave. S. in St. Petersburg, on Sunday, December 4, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Carols will be performed by local artists and jolly old St. Nick will be on hand to provide special treats for tots. The museum will glisten with the adornment of Christmas trees and lights to include a spectacular collection of Black Santas and Angels.

The gallery has been magically transformed by St. Petersburg's own Celeste Davis. Celeste attained her MFA degree from George Washington University and has dedicated her

time and talents to enhancing the museum's decor for the holidays.

Free and open to the public. For additional information please call 727-323-1104.

...

"Sea La Bration" at Historical Museum

Volunteer elves have been very busy this year at the Gulf Beaches Historical Museum preparing a "SEAsonal" lighting display that "reflects" the beach location of the museum. Come by at 5 p.m. for the "first" lighting on Sunday, December 4th, or any evening throughout the holiday season. This will be a pot luck dinner for \$5. Turkey and ham will be served. Bring a dish to share. BYOB. The museum is located at 115 10th Avenue, Pass-a-Grille, St. Pete Beach. Visit www.gulfbeachmuseum.com.

...

Santa is Coming to Newton Avenue

The neighbors of the 5600 Block of Newton Avenue are having their Annual Christmas Walk & Bake Sale. Enjoy the decorations that include scenes from some of your favorite Christmas classic movies, visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus, enjoy goodies from the Bake Sale, and make free, fun, kids crafts from 7-8:30 p.m. on December 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 16th, 17th, & 23rd. They are collecting new and used toys and books for the Christmas Toy Workshop of St. Pete. Call 727-798-2901 or 727-557-6349.

...

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2011 City of Gulfport Holiday Tree Lighting

The Gulfport Holiday Tree Lighting is on Monday, December 5th starting at 7 p.m. in Clymer Park located at Gulfport Blvd. S. and Beach Blvd. S. Bundle up for an evening of festive music by the Gulfport Recreation division, and join the Mayor, Council and Yvonne Johnson in caroling, a true Gulfport tradition. There will be refreshments and festive cheer as the Mayor lights the tree for another holiday season. He will be looking for a few helpers this year, so kids get ready. This is a free admission event and all are welcome!

There just may be a visit from the big man in red himself to listen to your little ones Holiday wishes.

Beta Sigma Phi

Laureate Epsilon Theta members and guests will be attending the Sunshine City Council's Annual Christmas Brunch on Saturday, December 3 at the Bilmar Resort on Treasure Island. Members have been requested to bring a non-perishable item for the St. Giles Food Pantry. This is always a wonderful way to begin the Christmas holidays.

LET's executive board will meet on Tuesday, December 6 at the Hangar Restaurant for their holiday meeting at 6:30 p.m. They will have a gift exchange and celebrate the holiday season.

For more information, please contact Sharon Ingram at 321-2849.

Christmas Open House at Sophie's Attic

Stop by Sophie's Attic Thrift Store for all your Christmas decorations and gifts at low thrift store prices. Sophie's wants to thank everyone on Saturday with free gift wrapping and a free ornament.

Sophie's is always accepting donations which may be dropped off at the church office M-F, 9 a.m. to noon at 2728 53rd Street S. or the Thrift Store Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon, or call the church at 321-3620 for pick up at your convenience.

Sophie's Attic is a mission outreach of the First United Methodist Church of Gulfport.

Support the PTA Yard Sale

The PTA at Azalea Middle School will hold a fundraising yard sale on Saturday, December 3 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Azalea Middle School parking lot (7855 22nd Avenue N.). Funds raised will support field trips, cultural arts, class room supplies, educational materials, programs, rewards and more.

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Excerpts heard at the November 29, 2011

St. Pete Beach City Commission Meeting Public Comment & Council Quotes

"I'm concerned about anything that would reduce traffic in front of my business." – Mark Asperon, who expressed concerns that re-routing traffic may not be beneficial to his business. He owns Don't Tell Momma.

"The bottom line, all of us want to have more information." – Commissioner Marvin Shavlan, who assured Mr. Asperon that the commission wanted to gather more information before it made a decision.

"If I had an iPad, I wouldn't be juggling all these books." – Senior Planner Catherine Hartley, when looking through large binders to answer a commission question. Many commission members use iPads during the meeting.

"I just walk out if you're getting into something..." – Mayor Steve McFarlin, in response to a Sunshine law question from commissioner Shavlan about an event they might both attend.

"I never shopped much on Corey, but... I have found you can do Christmas shopping down there. They have some beautiful stores. I assumed it was tourist stuff." – Mayor Steve McFarlin

No Meeting on December 27

ST. PETE BEACH – The city commission will not have a meeting on December 27.

...

Holiday Gift Wrapping to Help Animal Shelter

Get an early start on holiday gift wrapping this Sunday, December 4 at Sears Family & Friends Night. Save Our Strays volunteers will be on hand from 5-9 p.m. to decorate presents for donations. The group's creative wrappers will be set up inside Sears near the store's escalators at Tyrone Mall in St. Petersburg. Monies raised will go to benefit the Save Our Strays animal shelter.

...

Stetson Wins Regional Round in Competition

GULFPORT- Stetson University College of Law won the regional round of the New York City Bar's 62nd Annual National Moot Court Competition in Atlanta on November 19. Stetson also won the best brief award in the competition. The team of Ryan Leuthauser, Julia Richmond, and Scott Stevenson will advance to the national rounds in January in New York.

Stetson Law professors Michael Allen and Louis Virelli coached the team. The competition is hosted by the New York City Bar Committee on Young Lawyers and the American College of Trial Lawyers.

...

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Town Shores Red Hatters

Their holiday luncheon will be held on Monday, December 5 at the Bil Mar Resort in Treasure Island. It was decided not to have a gift exchange this year. The cost for lunch is \$20 payable to Bev Finnerty. Call Bev at 381-2122 or Carol at 345-2303 for reservations.

The December Bunko will be held in the clubhouse lounge on Friday, December 16. If you would like to come at 12 noon and bring a sandwich they can enjoy lunch together. Drinks will be provided.

...

Rummage Sale at Beth Shalom

Congregation Beth Shalom will hold a rummage sale on Thursday, December 8th, Friday, December 9th and Sunday, December 11th beginning at 8 a.m. Everything from clothing, collectibles, toys, books, furniture, housewares, tools, art work, decorative items and more. They are located at 1844 54th Street S. in Gulfport.

...

Boca Ciega Yacht Club to Hold Lighted Parade

Boca Ciega Yacht Club, a not for profit organization of over 200 family memberships, is holding its 26th Annual Lighted Christmas Boat Parade on Saturday, December 10th. Members spend many hours planning and then decorating their boats in hopes of sharing the holiday spirit with the surrounding communities. Residents of Gulfport, South Pasadena, and St. Petersburg frequently contact the club for the date so holiday parties can be planned around the event.

The parade will begin by entering the Gulfport Municipal Marina at approximately 6 p.m. It will then travel past the William's Pier in Gulfport and into the canals of Town Shores Condominiums and Pasadena Yacht Club Estates. This year Isla Del Sol Yacht and Country Club will be included on the route. The parade

will cross the bay and pass by the club docks before returning to BCYC. For those non-members who do not wish to return to your home port, please feel free to use the club's T-Docks so you can easily join them for the post parade celebration party.

There is an entry fee of two unwrapped toys or a donation can be made. Each year toys are collected for "Operation Santa," and presented to Gulfport's Police Department for distributing to needy children.

Sail and power boats are welcome to join in the fun. There is a sign up

board posted at the club, 4600 Tifton Drive S. in Gulfport. Entry forms will be available the night of the parade. Donated prizes are awarded to the participants during the post parade party, always to a clubhouse filled with family and friends.

For information regarding participation or to sponsor this parade, please contact Barb Meyer at 727-430-7241 or visit sailbcyc.org or .com The BCYC family wishes you a joyous holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

...

City of Gulfport's
Tree Lighting
Ceremony
&
Santa Visit
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2nd Annual Northwest Baseball Camp

The 2nd Annual Northwest Baseball Camp will be held from December 19th through the 23rd at Northwest Park, 5801 22nd Avenue N. in St. Petersburg. Come be a part of a great week of fun and learning while working with pro players and camp directors Wally Backman, Jr. and David Espinosa. Also on hand will be Guillermo Martinez and the Figueroa brothers along with some very special guests during the week.

The camp will start each day at 8:30 a.m. and run till 4 p.m. Players may be dropped off starting at 7:30 a.m. and picked up by 5 p.m. Lunch along with sports drinks and water will be provided each day.

This is a camp for ages 10 through 18 years and all skill levels. Players will be put in groups to work on hitting, fielding, base running, lead offs, stealing, hitting the cut offs, and the proper and most effective way to perform these skills for each player. They also will work and explain the proper ways to stretch and warm-up to best avoid injury.

Students will learn areas of the game that most camps do not work on along with sportsmanship, and the proper way to play the game to best use the talents they have for the game to become a better player and teammate.

They will also be working with each player one-on-one at times and if parents would like to come to the camp and watch or talk with the camp instructors they will be glad to do this for you and let you know how your player is doing along with the strong skills or what might need to be worked on in the future to be the best player they can be.

They would like to have the parents attend the camp on Friday afternoon

starting at 2:30 as they will be giving out awards for the week along with some special surprises that they will want to be a part of.

The cost of the camp is \$175 until the camp is filled so call 727-688-3925 to sign up. Payment arrangements can also be made so call early as this is a camp you will not want to miss.

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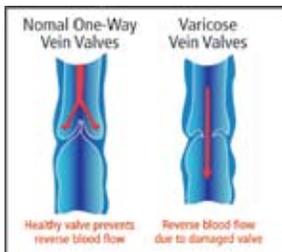
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Gulfport Garden & Bird Club

The Christmas luncheon will be held on December 8th at 12 noon at the Backfin Blue Cafe, 2913 Beach Boulevard S. in Gulfport. Members can choose from three items from a special menu so there is no need to pay in advance; however, please let Joyce McMahon at 321-9029 know by December 5th if you are planning to attend so the restaurant can prepare the tables.

This is also the time to remember residents at the Boca Ciega Center. Please bring your gift-wrapped presents to the luncheon marked for a gentleman or lady. Gifts may include lotion, small stuffed animals, stationery, stamps, slippers, socks, candy, t-shirts, deodorant, liquid bath soap, large print books, games, etc.

On January 12th a bus trip is planned to the Morse Museum in Winter Park to view the Tiffany Glass collection. The bus holds 32 people and club members will be given priority; a wait-list will be established for guests. The cost is \$20 (bus, entrance fee, taxes and tip for the driver). Checks should be made out to the Gulfport Garden and Bird Club and sent to Barbara Dye, 2613 Beach Blvd. S., Gulfport, FL 33707 by December 8th. The bus will leave from the Senior Center at 9 a.m. Please park in the library parking lot.

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Shirley Calamari, Event Volunteer: "I volunteer because it's fun. Usually I do the events."
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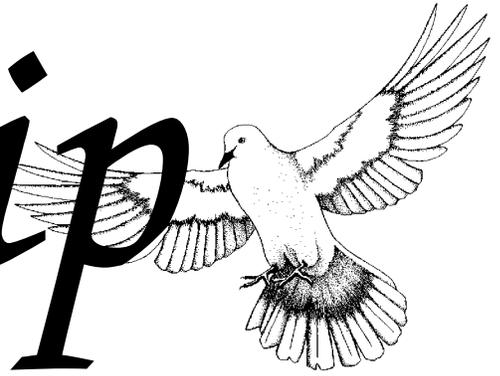
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 Daily: Mon-Fri 8am, Fri 6pm & Sat 9am

BINGO every Monday (October-April)
 6:15-9:30pm in the Maria Center



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 Episcopal Church
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Day School Pinellas Co. C044365

Join Us For These December Events

- Christmas Concert, December 10, 7:00 pm
- Cookies & Carols Sing-Along, December 21, 6:30 pm
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 10:00 pm
- Christmas Day Service, 10:00 am

Ring in 2012 at our New Year's Eve Casino Night, 8:00 pm - 12:30 pm
 (tickets: \$25)

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Wednesday evening
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11:00 am Traditional Service

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CTK Needs Jeans, Shoes

Can You Help? Clothes To Kids (CTK) will provide more than a thousand wardrobes to low-income, school age children during the holiday season, free of charge. Cooler weather means children are grabbing long pants, jackets, and sneakers. CTK has immediate need for donations of little boy and girl jeans tops and jeans (Sizes 6-16) and shoes (Sizes 3-6) and little boy

jackets (Size M/L). Cash donations always welcome to purchase other needed clothing items. Donations accepted M-F, 9-5, at 3251 3rd Ave N, Ste. 145, St. Petersburg or 1059 N. Hercules Ave, Clearwater, or call 727-441-5050.

Clothes To Kids is 501c3, nonprofit organization that provides school clothing to low-income, school-age children in Pinellas County, free of charge. For more information, 727-441-5050 or visit www.clothestokids.org.

...

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Treasure Island



The Treasure Island Art Guild will accept paintings for its December show on Thursday, December 1 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the The Treasure Island City Hall, 120 108th Avenue. Members may enter up to two paintings. If you are not a member, you are invited to become one and enter the show. A reception for the winners and potluck Christmas party will be on Saturday, December 10 at 12 noon at the same place. They will be selling cards hand painted by their artists to help support their scholarship fund. For more information call Fred at 360-8390.

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Crossword Puzzle

Solution on Page 18

ACROSS

- 1 ___ Jessica Parker
- 6 Luggage fastener
- 10 Point of entry
- 14 *That's ___*
- 15 Cyma recta
- 16 Novelist Wiesel
- 17 Song of mixed emotions
- 20 *Ash Wednesday* monogram
- 21 Italian stringed instrument
- 22 Julia's old beau
- 23 Indigo product
- 24 The O'Haras' place
- 25 Weight
- 28 Moses' spy in Canaan
- 30 Diamond, of gangdom
- 34 Kiss-off
- 36 Spiny-leaved plant
- 38 Dairy line
- 39 Song of mixed emotions
- 43 Kind of badge or horn
- 44 Ernie's TV partner
- 45 Gone, a la *Jaws*
- 46 Kisses off
- 48 Honeymoon, e.g.

DOWN

- 51 ___ *Warm for May*
- 52 *Into the Woods* role
- 54 Japanned metal
- 56 ___ *del Sarto*
- 59 Horse or gum
- 60 Line from *Annie*
- 63 Presley's TV debut number
- 66 Kind of naut
- 67 Bank concern
- 68 Dining enticement
- 69 Concoct
- 70 Facility
- 71 Settle a debt

DOWN

- 1 Nelson crew member
- 2 Freeman Gosden role
- 3 Tour around
- 4 Part of to be
- 5 Mr. Macho
- 6 Ballyhoo
- 7 Pearl Mosque site
- 8 D jeuner seasoning
- 9 Baby's game
- 10 Make public
- 11 A as in ___
- 12 Copycat
- 13 Parliamentarian
- 18 Playwright Bogosian
- 19 Mien

DOWN

- 23 Suit to ___
- 24 See 10 Down
- 25 Impatience
- 26 Booth, the actor
- 27 Wicked one
- 29 Joins the bucket brigade
- 31 Ham it up
- 32 Champion, of dance
- 33 Liston, in the ring
- 35 All-around truck
- 37 Ram's inamorata
- 40 *You're ___*
- 41 Padres or Braves
- 42 Talk show host
- 47 Down feeling
- 49 Petroleum by-product
- 50 Didn't swing, at Fenway
- 53 Snare, on TV
- 55 *Merry Widow* composer
- 56 Jezebel's husband
- 57 No way! to Burns
- 58 Go for it
- 59 Answers a raise
- 60 ___ smasher
- 61 Scale syllables
- 62 Dorchester digs
- 64 River inlet
- 65 Comstock find

Mixed Emotions

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20				21					22					
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34				35			36			37		38		
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56	57	58					59					60	61	62
63						64					65			
66					67					68				
69					70					71				



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 Patron Tequila \$36.99 <small>750 ml</small>	 Captain Morgan Spiced Rum \$20.99 <small>1.75 Ltr</small>	 Crown Royal \$39.99 <small>1.75 Ltr</small>	 Seagrams 7 \$18.99 <small>1.75 Ltr</small>	 Canadian Club Whiskey \$19.99 <small>1.75 Ltr</small>	 Dewars Scotch \$29.99 <small>1.75 Ltr</small>
 Absolut Vodka \$29.99 <small>1.75 Ltr</small>	 Jose Cuervo Tequila \$29.99 <small>1.75 Ltr</small>	 Seagram's Gin \$19.99 <small>1.75 Ltr</small>	 Piper Heidsieck Champagne \$29.99 <small>750 ml</small>	 Jim Beam Bourbon \$22.99 <small>1.75 Ltr</small>	 Bud, Bud Light, Miller, & Miller Lite \$12.99 <small>18pk - 12oz. Cans & Bottles</small>
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 Skyy Vodka \$22.99 <small>1.75 Ltr</small>	 Karkov Vodka \$10.99 <small>1.75 Ltr</small>	 Pinnacle Whipped Cream Vodka \$17.99 <small>1.75 Ltr</small>			

Pet Pal Animal Shelter



Toters is a 3-1/2 year old male Poodle-Schnauzer mix. He is a very smart boy that likes to play with toys and is eager to learn. Toters does well with other dogs his size and especially enjoys the company of women. He likes to be their 'center of attention.' Toters would do best in an active home without small children. To meet the cute canine Toters, visit him today at Pet Pal Animal Shelter at 405 22nd Street S., St. Petersburg, 727-328-7738 or www.petpalanimalshelter.com.

Save Our Strays

Monkey, a Save Our Strays cat, won Best Household Pet Kitten award at the recent The International Cat Association (TICA) show. As you might imagine, this gorgeous tuxedo cat, 8 months old, is a real show cat with a great personality. We're guessing that some lucky person will be giving him a forever home very soon! It could be you! For more information about Monkey, please call 727-481-5262 for details or email us at sos@saveourstraysinc.com.



Holiday Luncheon for West Virginia State Club

Christmas has arrived at the West Virginia State Club and all Mountaineers, either living or visiting in St. Pete, are encouraged to attend the festive luncheon on Monday, December 5 at the Piccadilly Cafeteria, 1900 34th Street N. in St. Pete. The "Dutch Treat" luncheon begins 11:15 a.m. with the holiday program starting about noon.

John Cronin, from Wheeling, will begin his term as president with a program of many surprises, gifts and lots Christmas music. The tables will be decorated, the gifts wrapped, all just waiting for West Virginians to join their friends in St. Pete for a great luncheon party. This is a "come as you are" affair. Call John Cronin at 727-541-4201.

...



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<p style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">SAVE! SAVE! SAVE!</p>		
<p style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">1449 49th Street South Gulfport FL 727-323-0155</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Gulfport Store Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. · Sat. 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em; margin: 0;">Prices Good 12-1-11 thru 12-7-11</p>		

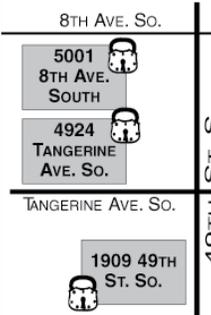
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or visit our website at FLMedicaid.com

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Horoscope Guide

By Holiday Mathis

Mercury moving retrograde in Sagittarius will square off with Mars at the start of the week, sparking intense and possibly regrettable exchanges. Venus in Capricorn will try to grease the wheels on Monday, and it may be enough to restore the peace. The full moon of the total lunar eclipse in communicative Gemini at the end of the week will bring one more opportunity to talk -- or hug -- it out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). What you do is never as important as how you do it. The spirit you bring to your activities will speak volumes about who you are and how you see life now. Your beliefs will be apparent to anyone willing to study you in detail as you carry out the most mundane tasks, such as shopping for groceries or sitting in traffic.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll strike a chord that few are able to effectively carry off. You'll manage to be simultaneously honest and kind. The way you deliver the truth makes people open up to you. You'll be asked to lead a small group this week, and more followers will be added next week after you've done a stellar job.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll have a greater ability to stretch yourself into the world of another person. You'll understand your loved ones better this week, and this understanding will make you feel closer to them. What first struck you as an absurd idea will now seem to have a solid place in a certain line of logic.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll get people talking, partly because you'll be doing the kind of novel and interesting activities that lead to questions from the outside world, but mostly because you ask some pretty astute questions yourself. Your curiosity will open new parts of the world to you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It will be a challenge to stay open to the possibilities. It is all too easy to resist the ideas that don't come from you and that don't fit with your notion of

how the world is or should be. But one such idea will be your key to accomplishing something meaningful in the next six weeks and entering a new stage of life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your impossibly high standards were forged in the hours of practice and work you put into refining your talent. Now you expect the same level of commitment from others. And you just might get what you're looking for this week. When this happens, realize and celebrate the rarity of the occasion.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your tendency to mind your own business will come in handy. What people think of you falls under the category of "none of your business," as well. Furthermore, anyone intent on pointing out your flaws has big problems that have nothing to do with you. You'll stay on track with your own interests and prevail.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). As a rule, you are an extremely tolerant, patient person, though this week you may decide that too much tolerance is hindering a person's growth -- maybe your own. By Thursday, you'll likely feel ready to put your foot down, to lay out new rules or to simply move on from a stagnant situation. Enough is enough.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You see it when people pretend at happiness. You notice the tiny breaks in voices that give away the emotion underneath. You see the behavioral patterns and tendencies that go unnoticed by the people enacting them. You will use this ability for good this week, giving caring tenderness to the ones who sorely need it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You know that change is possible. You have a different and unpopular view of what can be changed and what can't. You see the mobility in seemingly fixed institutions, beliefs and structures. You understand how temporary states can seem permanent to the untrained eye, but there is always a way.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your mind will go to great lengths to

lead you away from the suffering of your past. But sometimes it's better to remember. The pain will lessen each time you do. Touching the raw emotion will release it, little by little, until it has no charge left. This week, you'll bravely be willing to go back in the name of moving forward.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Before Wednesday, you'll see the first signs that you actually could be getting what you want. You'll be faced with the kind of challenging situation that inspires you to play the "what if" game. Try to play this game in a positive way. For instance, instead of asking "What if I fail?" ask "What if I succeed?"

This Week's Birthdays: 2012 shows you using your talents and intuitive abilities to make others happy. That might not be your aim; you'll likely be too busy experimenting with ways to make yourself happy. But because you'll have so much fun, you'll lift the spirits of those around you. January brings people who are eager to put your vision in motion. Loving exchanges happen in March. The purchase of joint property will be lucky. Your mind will be open and absorbent in the spring.

...

Music at Gulfport Beach Pavilion

Monday, 1-3:00 p.m.

Karaoke by The Toonsters, "J" & Lolita

Tuesday, 1-2:30 p.m.

Entertainment by Bongo Bob & Suzanne

Wednesday, 1-3:00 p.m.

Karaoke by Arlene & Len - The Melody Tunes

Thursday, 1-3:00 p.m.

Karaoke by Cookie and Dave

Friday, 2-4:00 p.m.

Entertainment by "Geno"

Saturday, 1-3:00 p.m.

Music for listening & dancing by Rich or by Overdue Bill

Sunday, 1-3:00 p.m.

Entertainment for dancing by Woody & his accordion

Weather permitting

It's a Wonderful Life Arrives!

The Gulfport Community Players, in cooperation with the West Coast Players, will present Joe Landry's "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play", at the Players' Back Door Theater on Friday, December 9th and Saturday, December 10th. Curtain time will be 8 p.m. and tickets are just \$10 each, available only at the door just before curtain. The Back Door Theater is located in Gulfport at 1619 49th St. S. Parking is plentiful and free.

This classic play is being directed by David Smith and is presented in the form of a live radio show, circa 1946.

The play comes complete with sound effects and the flashing "Applause" sign that invites audience participation. For those of you who remember radio dramas (before TV), you'll even find the radio commercials fun!

The cast includes a few actors that you may remember from plays that the Players performed in past years: Mike Bruno, Jason Freeman, Bill Harber, Rita Kitemplon, Alan Mohny, Rhiannon Mooney, Samantha Parisi, Ron Rotondo, and Rosalyn Savel.

...

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Foreclosed Python

When the bank foreclosed on a Bradenton home four years ago, bank representatives found something waiting inside for them – an abandoned, young Burmese python. They wasted no time calling Justin Matthews of Matthews Wildlife Rescue in Manatee county. Matthews took in the snake – now quite larger – and now takes her with him when he gives presentations about wildlife rescue and rehabilitation.

This Sunday he brought his lengthy friend to the Sunday market on Corey Avenue, where Skaneateles, New York snowbird Chris Bilet volunteered to hold her.

"I've always been fascinated with snakes," she said "since my brother brought home a garter snake."



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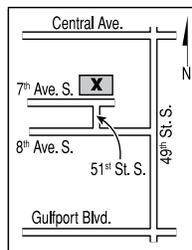
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TUESDAY - FRIDAY 9-5

SATURDAY 9 - 2



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RECREATION WEBSITE-www.mygulfport.us and follow the links: City Departments, Leisure services, Rec. Center.

ACTIVITIES

Open Gym- Tues., 6-9 p.m. and Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Annual reg. \$2 res./\$22 non-resident

The Game Room- Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Annual reg. \$2 res./\$20 non-res.

PROGRAMS

2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR CHILD CARE PROGRAM - The School Year Child Care Program is for children entering Kindergarten thru age 14. It is also a quality program which provides a nurturing atmosphere where each child has the opportunity to experience many recreational, social, creative and enriching activities at a cost affordable to families. The program is licensed by the Pinellas County License Board. Non-refundable annual registration fee is \$17 for residents and \$110 for non-residents. Program hours are until 5:30 p.m. with extended hours available until 6 p.m. for an extra charge. Hours of registration are Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

2011-2012 TEEN NIGHT PROGRAM - The Teen Night Program is a great hang out for teens in middle school to age 18 (if still in high school). It provides recreation and social activities. It also offers monthly field trips, cooking projects, guest speakers and service projects. The teens utilize the

gymnasium, gameroom and outdoor area. Program hours are Mon., Wed. & Fri. 6-9 p.m. Annual reg. \$2 res./\$22 non-res.

2011-2012 TOT TIME & VPK PROGRAMS - The Tot Time & VPK Program is a pre-school, hands-on program for children ages 3-5. VPK is FREE for children who live in Florida and who have turned 4 years of age by September 1st. Both programs aim to make learning fun for children and help prepare them for Kindergarten. The Tot Time Program cost is a non-refundable annual registration fee of \$17 for residents and \$110 for non-residents with two, three and five-day monthly options available. Proof of residency is required for Gulfport residents. The VPK Program is FREE but parents must apply at Coordinated Child Care to receive a Certificate of Eligibility. Both programs are limited to 10 children each. Program hours are from 8:30a.m.-12:30p.m. Hours for registration are from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday. Call 893-1068 for more information.

NEW CLASSES- Interested in teaching a class? Call John at 727-893-1079 for more info

CLASSES - Call instructor for more information.

- Cheerleading- Starts November 3rd. 5:45-6:30 p.m. Call Alison at 410-2227.
- Fencing - Wed., 4:30 p.m. Call Jim Campoli at 813-855-3112.

- Gymnastics-Fri. 5:30-6:15 p.m. Call Barbara at 804-9400.
- Karate - Mon. & Thurs., 6:30 p.m. Call Diane at 459-1399.
- Stretch N Tone Returns in January. Call John at 893-1079
- Tai Chi - Tues. & Thurs., 9-10:15 a.m. Call Marge at 345-6708.
- Tennis - Tues., 5 p.m. & 6 p.m. Call Jack at 280-4276.
- Walking Club Returns Thur., Jan. 5th. Call John at 893-1079
- Watercolor with Patsi - Beginners/Intermediate - Thurs., 6:30 p.m. Call Patsi at 501-3559.
- Yoga in the A. M. - Wed., from 9-10 a.m. Call Valerie at 557-4258.
- Yoga-Wed., 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Call Tamara at 512-2763.
- Zumba- Call Valerie at 557-4258.

TOMLINSON SKATE PARK

Effective October 1st, all skaters/bicyclists MUST purchase a new City of Gulfport Skate Park sticker to use the City of Gulfport's Tomlinson Lake Skate Park. Stickers MUST be visibly placed on the helmet. Annual fee for stickers is \$5 for residents and \$10 for non-residents. Also, all skaters/bicyclists 17 years of age or younger MUST have a signed parental consent form filed at the Gulfport Recreation Center which is located at 5730 Shore Blvd. S. Availability to register: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Stickers valid from October 1, 2011 - September 30, 2012. Bicycles permitted on SUNDAYS only.



Gulfport Library

5501 28th Ave. So. 893-1074
or fax 893-1072

Crafts Club for All Ages: Saturday, December 10, 2:00-3:00 pm. Pat helps you make DIY Christmas ornaments, candles that don't burn, and sticker calendars.

Coffee/Talk Book Club: Thursday, December 15, 10:00 am. Discussion of Tara Road, by Maeve Binchy, over coffee & light refreshments. Stop by the Reference Desk to pick up a discussion guide and a copy of the book. Please call 893-1073 FMI.

Free Family Movie Day: Saturday, December 17, starting at 11:00 am, The Grinch Who Stole Christmas [G]; 11:30am Rango [PG]; 2:00 pm Cowboys and Aliens [PG-13]. Enjoy with free popcorn provided by the Library! FMI, call 893-1074.

Suncoast Hospice: Tuesday, January 10, 10 am - 2 pm. Recruiting new volunteers in this area. FMI, call 773-7124.

Kill-a-Watt Energy Saving Program: Saturday, January 28, 10 - 11 am. James Stevenson of Pinellas County Extension Service will instruct on use of the devices, which will also be available for loan from the Library.

Read to Linda, one of our staff members: Mondays, 2:00-3:00pm. Sign up for a 15-minute time slot at the Circulation Desk. All ages welcome.

One-on-One Computer Instruction: Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:30 am-1:00 pm. First come, first served.

Free Thinkers Open AA (Twelve Step) Meeting: Tuesdays, 5:45-6:45 pm. FMI: Call 727-323-7660.

Gulfport Creative Short Story Writers: Wednesdays at 10:00 am.

Game on! Teen Board Game Afternoons: Wednesdays from 2:30-4:30pm. Stop by after school to challenge your opponents!

"World Harmony" Art Exhibit: Display of artworks by Sri Chimnoy. The late artist was renowned worldwide for his colorful paintings promoting peace. Frances Purdy Friends Room Gallery Walls.

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED,
ALL PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS ARE
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PROGRAMS AND DATES ARE
SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Services *City Sponsored Activities* in the Community

Senior Center 5501 27 Ave. So. 893-1231

SPECIAL EVENTS

Thank you, Brentwood: Patrons, volunteers and staff would like to give public thanks to Brentwood Senior Living Community for sponsoring the Senior Center's annual Thanksgiving Dinner Party that was held on Tues. Nov. 22. There were 175 guests and 20 volunteers. Brentwood provided the complete meal with all the trimmings and helped serve the food. Everyone enjoyed the delicious meal and Brentwood's warm hospitality.

Gulfport Historical Calendars for 2012 are now on sale for \$5 at the Senior Center.

Flea Market: Lots of bargains will be found at the Senior Center Flea Market on Fri. Dec. 1 from 9am to noon. Don't miss out.

Coupon Club: Join us for our first Coupon Club meeting on Fri. Dec. 9 at 11am. Bring your coupons with you for a coupon exchange. Learn how to better prepare for shopping and save extra money. Denise Lowe will facilitate this program. Call more info.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

Senior Trips: This holiday why not treat yourself to some special day trips: Tony Orlando Christmas Show at Ruth Eckerd Hall (box lunch included) at 1pm, \$69; Disney's Wilderness Lodge & Grand Floridian Resort with a meal at the Gaylord Palms Hotel's premier restaurant Villa De Flora, \$72; Hard Rock Casino on Dec. 5 & 18. Call Carolyn at 347-0806 for details and info on other upcoming trips.

Senior Center Flea Market: Mark your calendar for our next Flea Market on Fri. Dec. 2, 9am-noon.

The Debby Bacon Holiday Dream Show: International Concert Pianist and Entertainer Debby Bacon is performing two fundraising shows to benefit the Gulfport Senior Center Foundation on Wed. Dec. 7 at the Catherine Hickman Theater. Show Times are 1pm and 7pm. Tickets available in advance at the Senior Center: \$10/advance or \$12 at the door for the 1pm performance; \$12/advance or \$14 at the door for the 7pm performance. The evening performance will include a Meet & Greet with Ms. Bacon at 6pm in the Theater lobby. For more info call the Senior Center at (727) 893-2237 or check online at [HYPERLINK "http://www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org"](http://www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org) www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org

Line Dancing resumes at 9:30am on Thurs. Dec. 8 at Scout Hall (5315 28th Ave. S.)

World War II Presentation: A presentation will be offered by Bob Hanson, Sr. on Fri. Dec. 9 at 1pm on his experiences serving as an American Air Force pilot in Italy during World War II. A question and answer period will follow.

Trolley Night Light Tour: Gulfport seniors are invited to participate in an open trolley tour of Gulfport's holiday light displays on Mon. Dec. 19. Meet in the Senior Center lobby at 6pm for hot chocolate and cookies. The trolley tour starts at 6:30pm. Call the Senior Center if you would like to join us! Bring your hats & sweaters!

Holiday Senior Follies: The Joe Koehler Senior Follies Holiday Show will be held in the Hickman Theater on Wed. Dec. 21 at 1pm. Tickets are only \$5.00 and can be purchased in advance at the Senior Center. Refreshments will follow in the Senior Center Dining Hall.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Transportation Service: GEMS Door-to-door transportation service for Gulfport seniors 55 and over is available Mon. thru Fri. 8:15am to 4pm. Annual registration fee is \$55 and each one way ride is \$1. Call GEMS at 893-2242 for more info.

AARP Driving Class: are offered on the first two Tuesdays of every month at 12:45pm. Must attend both days. Call 727-341-0130 to register for November.

Elder Law Clinic: Volunteer attorneys will assist clients 60 and over with wills, living wills, powers of attorney, and health care surrogates on Fri. Dec. 16 at 9:30am. Must meet income criteria. Call for more info.

Phones for Hearing Impaired: Phones will be distributed at no cost to Floridians who are hearing impaired on Tues. Dec. 20 at 9:30am. Courtesy of Deaf & Hearing Connection.

Support Groups

Diabetic Support on Mondays at 9:30am
Hearing Support 1st & 3rd Mon. at 2pm
Visually Impaired Support, 2nd & 4th Mon. at 2pm.

Caregivers: Every Wed. at 2pm

More Activities: To view the Senior Center calendar in its entirety, please log onto [HYPERLINK "http://www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org"](http://www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org) www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org

Neighborhood Center

1617 49th St. So./893-1070
Faith Cathedral International Church:
9:30am, 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays;
4th Sunday Bible Study
Overeaters Anonymous: Sun.
6:15-8:15pm



**5501 27th Ave. So.
893-1070**

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Fri., Dec. 2nd, 6-8 pm
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MARIO DELEON'S BAND Social & Ballroom Dancing

Sun., Dec. 4, 6-10pm, \$7

WEEKLY DANCES

Every Tuesday

Ballroom Lessons 12-3pm, \$7

12-1 Intermediate

1-2 Beginner

2-3 Dancing

Argentine Tango 6:30-10:30pm, \$7

6:30-8pm Lesson,

8-10:30pm Dance

Thursday, Dec. 1

Salsa Dance

6:30-8pm Beg. & Inter. Lessons

8-10pm Dance, \$7

GULF BAY

18 pc. BIG BAND

HOLIDAY DANCE

Sun., Dec. 11, 6-10pm, \$12

Black Tie Optional

Gulfport's First Friday Art Walk

Gulfport's First Friday Art Walk takes place on December 2nd from 6-10 p.m. Purchase works from talented independent artists and crafters along Beach and Shore Boulevards, as well as the works of local authors and entertainers stretched over a half-mile up and down scenic Beach Boulevard. Live musicians will be appearing at venues throughout the Village. The Industrial Art Center continues

to offer "Blow Your Own Glass Masterpiece" mini classes by master glass blower Jackie Ballard and the IAC team. Visitors can view the stars through St. Pete Astronomy Club's state of the art telescopes, weather permitting, every first Friday. While browsing the art and craft booths, don't miss Gulfport's unique shops, boutiques and galleries. Enjoy dinner at one of over a dozen fine restaurants within the Art District, now one of the foremost dining destinations in the bay area and one of six small-town finalists from across the country in

the 2011 Rand McNally/USA Today "Best of the Road" competition in the "Best Food" category.

Gulfport Art Walk takes place on the First Friday and Third Saturday of every month, year-round. Parking is always free and free trolley rides are available from off-site parking areas. Pet and family friendly! Experience a new dining, shopping and cultural experience unlike any other. Once you discover Gulfport's Waterfront Art District, Tampa Bay's "best kept secret to a really cool summer", you'll want to come back for more.

For information on the Gulfport Merchants Association and Gulfport events, please visit www.GulfportMA.com. The Gulfport Art Walk and event recorded information line is 866-ART-WALK. Artists and Crafters interested in participating can find more information and download an application at www.SIKPromotions.com>Vendor Info. 3007 Beach Blvd. S., Gulfport.

...

Shop Thrift Boutique and Gift Shops

Pasadena Community Church has three stores at one location (Pasadena Ave. and Second Ave. S.). Come see their large assortment of Christmas decorations and many other gift items for sale. Thrift and Boutique are open 9-12 Wednesday and Saturday. Gift Store is open Wednesday and Saturday 10-2.

...

Holiday Bazaar at Sons of Italy

The Sons of Italy, 2500 34th Street S. in St. Petersburg, will hold a Holiday Bazaar on December 3rd and 4th from 9-4. They will be serving Italian specialties for lunch and you will find great varieties of homemade baked Italian cookies, cakes, breads and desserts. You will see their best work in crafts, decorations and baking. If you need a gift for a hard-to-shop-for friend, you will find exactly what you want.

Come try your luck at the spinning wine wheel or just enjoy the festivities.

...

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10 am - 2 pm

Hibiscus Hall, City of South Pasadena • 7047 Sunset Drive S., South Pasadena

Bring the kids to sit on Santa's lap and receive free photos

Explore South Pasadena's fire engines

Learn safety tips for the holidays

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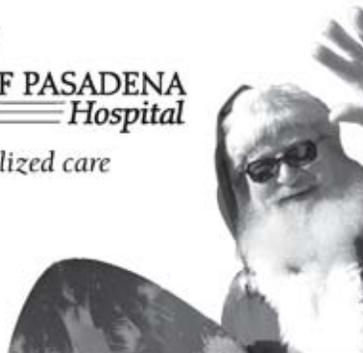
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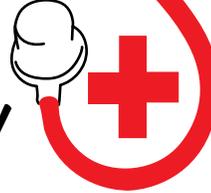


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PALMS DOC TALKS

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Hip & Knee Arthritis Treatment Options Including Joint Replacement Surgery

Kurt Hirshorn, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery, Fellowship-Trained Orthopaedic Surgeon

DECEMBER 9 • Lunch: 11:30pm - Seminar: 12:00 noon

Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building, Boca Ciega Room, 1609 Pasadena Avenue South



Spinal Stenosis: Causes, Symptoms and Treatment

John Malloy IV, DO, Orthopaedic and Spine Surgery, Fellowship-Trained Spine Surgeon

DECEMBER 12 • Dinner: 4:30pm - Seminar: 5:00pm

Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building, Boca Ciega Room, 1609 Pasadena Avenue South



Stroke Series III – Neurological Diseases Affecting Both The Young and Old

Alberto Vasquez, MD, Board-Certified in Neurology and Neuromuscular Diseases

DECEMBER 13 • 12:00 noon - A light lunch will be served

Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building, Boca Ciega Room, 1609 Pasadena Avenue South

HOLIDAY HEALTH FAIR

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 - 10 AM - 2 PM

Hibiscus Hall, City of South Pasadena • 7047 Sunset Drive S., South Pasadena

Bring the kids to sit on Santa's lap and receive free photos

Explore South Pasadena's fire engines Learn safety tips for the holidays

HEALTH SCREENINGS

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Call 1-800-667-4576 for an appointment or reservations.

Space is limited so please reserve early. For a physician referral please call 1-800-667-4576.



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St. Petersburg, Florida
1-800-667-4576
www.palmspasedena.com



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Give to the Food Drive

The Sons of Italy wishes to thank all those who helped the John Paul Lodge in raising funds for the many charities we support. Our thanks go out in particular to Bealls Department Store and Save on Seafood distributing for their assistance and support.

The Sons of Italy is now heading a food drive for the needy that will culminate on December 16th. To date they have collected 550 lbs. of non-perishable food. Please help. Bring your non-perishable food to 2500 34th Street S. and leave those items with the barber or hairdresser in the event that they are not there. Thank you and have a Merry Christmas. Visit sonsofitalysp.org.

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Deadline Nears for Town Shores Golf

The deadline to sign up for the Town Shores Golf Scramble is December 5th! The scramble is December 10th at Terra Ceia Country Club, Palmetto. Fee of \$40 includes 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch, beverage and prizes, captain and crew format. Registration is 7:45 a.m. with an 8:30 a.m. start. Submit a foursome or they will pair you up. Cash or check payable to Terra Ceia Country Club can be submitted to Ellen Johnson, Manchester Bldg, #207 by December 5th. Call Ellen at 727-345-2109, email elenajota@hotmail.com or Natalie Reardon, Diplomat #107, at 813-343-8918, email natreardon@gmail.com.

...

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Jeff DeNight is changing the way people feel about their insurance company. Jeff co-owns two insurance agencies, Bentley-DeNight Insurance Services, a full service, independent, Trusted Choice agency that offers business, auto, home, commercial, life, boat, motorcycle, RV & umbrella policies. He also owns Premier Choice Rebate Flood Insurance, a flood insurance agency that only sells flood insurance.

"We're a flood insurance agency that offers cash rebates back to all our customers," Jeff explains. So if you buy your flood insurance through Premier Choice, you'll get at least seven percent of your annual premium (before fees & taxes) back in the form of a rebate check. "We give the money back to our customers 60 days after the effective month and subsequent renewals" Jeff says.

Here's how the rebate works: You get seven percent of your policy back the first year. Every subsequent year for the next five years you receive one percent more back until you get to the sixth year. In the sixth year and every year following, customers will get 12 percent back as a rebate. This rebate can add up to thousands of dollars for the life of your home or business policy. The company sends you a check rather than taking the money off the premium so you can spend it on whatever you choose.

Do Premier Choice Flood Insurance policies cost more than other flood insurance policies? Nope, Jeff says. FEMA is the only flood insurance provider, so the cost is the same no matter what flood insurance company you use. The policies written by his agency are supported by the federal government through FEMA. FEMA pays a commission to the agencies that write their policies. Jeff and his agency are sharing that commission with their customers. Jeff says, things are tough for everyone, and if his company has a little to share with the community, it's happy to do so. "With the economy the way it is, we thought it would be nice to give something back, especially since insurance has such a negative connotation," Jeff says. Maybe not anymore.



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Local Obituaries



FITCH, ALICE B., 88, of Gulfport, FL, formerly of Bloomfield, Michigan, passed away on Thursday, November 24th on Thanksgiving Day.

Alice was born on August 24, 1923 in Detroit, Michigan. She was the daughter of Frank and Rose Worel, Czech immigrants, and was the youngest of four children. She attended Wayne State University where she earned her degree in special education. She specialized in teaching the deaf and went on to obtain her Master's degree at Purdue University where she helped pioneer a testing program for hearing. She met her husband, attorney Vernon M. Fitch at Wayne State University. For Vern it was love at first sight and when Alice was admitted as a freshman to the infirmary with the flu, Vern was photographed outside the infirmary in the school paper with a sign picketing the school to let him in to visit her. He won her heart and they were married on July 23, 1948. They were a perfect pair and Alice helped Vern in his run for Circuit Judge in Oakland County, Michigan and in his election to founding Treasurer at Oakland Community College. They were active in Oakland County Republican politics. Alice was always very proud of her Fitch family connection, which included Thomas Fitch, "Yankee Doodle" and Baron Richard De Montfitchet, a signer of Magna Carta, and in 1997 she traveled to England to give her daughter away in marriage at the Fitch Church in Bocking, Essex England, with a reception at Leeds Castle. Alice was a devoted wife to Vern and cared for him for many years after he contracted multiple sclerosis. Vern predeceased Alice in 1995. Alice was a devoted and loving mother and grandmother and is survived by her two children, Debra Fitch Caldwell of Sarasota and her son Vernon M. Fitch II, both attorneys, her son-in-law Richard Caldwell, her daughter-in-law Dorothy Fitch, and her beloved grandson Richard Vernon Fitch Caldwell. Alice was active in the

St. Petersburg Garden Club and the AAUW and was a member of the Pasadena Community Church. Her favorite poem was William Wordsworth's "Daffodils" and we hope that now united again with Vern that her "heart with pleasure fills and dances with the daffodils". A viewing will be held Thursday, December 1st at 1 p.m., service at 2:30 p.m. at ALife Tribute-5601 Gulfport Blvd. South, Gulfport.

...

LONG, CHRISTINE, 48, of Gulfport, died Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2011 at home. She is survived by a loving family. ALife Tribute-Gulfport.

...

PERKINS, EVA, 98, of South Pasadena died Nov. 25. Survived by her loving family. Private cremation. Guestbook at davidcgross.com. David C. Gross Funeral Homes, 6366 Central Ave., 727 381-4911.

...

POLOGEORGIS, GEORGE, of St. Pete Beach, passed away Nov. 11, 2011. He is survived by his loving family. Funeral services will be in New York. www.curlewhills.com.

...

SAPIENZA, BARBARA ANN, 81, of St. Pete Beach, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2011, in South Pasadena. She is survived by her loving husband, Santo of 54 years; son; Philip; daughter Ellen Amerault and husband Edward; granddaughters Kerrienne and Kelley, Sisire; Patricia Pennell. Beach Memorial Chapel, St. Pete Beach. 727-360-5577.

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In Memoriam



HOWARD E. GOOD
4-14-23 - 12-8-90

Dad, It is so hard to believe you have been gone 21 years. You are, of course, missed so much. We will be eternally grateful for your generosity and thoughtfulness. Hope you liked the Candy and Brandy we put on your headstone at Bay Pines on Thanksgiving, lol.

Love, Karen and Norm

...

Care Givers Support Groups

Do you find yourself "caring" for the health concerns of another? If so, consider coming to one of Pasadena Community Church's Care Giver Support Groups in the Life Enrichment Center at 227 70 Street S. One group meets on Tuesday evenings from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and the other meets on Wednesdays from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Both groups are open to the public and provide a confidential setting for those attending to share with others who are in like situations their experiences, joys and concerns of "care giving". The person may be a relative or just a good friend. It is not necessary that the individual reside in the same house with you or even the same state.

Call Pam Lanning at 347-2809 or Barbara Posey at 381-2499, ext. 214.

...

Join the "Lift Up Andy" Campaign

Join the Treasure Island Chamber of Commerce community campaign to raise funds to purchase a stand up wheelchair for 16 year old resident, Andy Brettner. Medical benefits aside, Andy's wish is to "stand up like everyone else." Lifftoff fundraisers with all proceeds to "Lifting Up Andy" will be held at Duke's Island Bar & Grill, 145 107th Ave. on Sunday, December 4th starting at 1 p.m. There will be live music all day featuring: Horses Wild, Pete Dorian, Boston Bob and Mike O. Admission of \$5 includes one free drink. There will also be a 50/50 raffle, prizes and a silent auction. Raffle tickets are now on sale for \$25 each or 5/\$100. 1st Prize: Sport fishing trip for 5 (\$600 value); 2nd Prize: Sailing trip for 4 including dinner (\$500 value); and 3rd Prize: 2 night stay at The Windjammer plus a \$100 Duke's gift certificate. Silent Auction preview will be held on Saturday, December 3, from 5-8 p.m. at Benjamin's Studios, 200 104th Avenue.

Please make all checks payable to Edwards Family Foundation "Lifting Up Andy" Campaign.

...

Drive through Christmas Story

St. Luke's United Methodist Church located at 4444 Fifth Avenue N., St. Petersburg, is celebrating this Christmas season by sharing a drive-through "Christmas Story" live nativity production to take place on Saturday, December 10, beginning at 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. As you drive through in the comfort of your car, you will view five live scenes depicting the story of the birth of Jesus and the events that were taking place during that time. Free admission, donations are accepted. In hopes to keep the traffic moving, please follow the signs to turn off of Fifth Avenue N. onto 46th Street (southward) then left on Dartmouth.

...

Holiday Event to Benefit St. Pete Pride

Come out for the 2nd Annual Red & Green, a Holiday Affair to benefit St. Pete Pride on Saturday, December 10 from 6-10 p.m. at Sunken Gardens, 1825 Fourth Street N. in St. Petersburg. Tickets include private access to the gardens all night, open bar, heavy gourmet hors d'oeuvres by Orange Blossom Catering, Live Entertainment by Al Downing Tampa Bay Jazz Association featuring Rose Bilal and Friends and valet parking.

Enter to win two free tickets to Patti Labelle in concert on February 1st at Ruth Eckerd Hall when you buy tickets to Red and Green. Each ticket purchase automatically gives the buyer one free entry into the drawing. Drawing will be on December 10 during the 2nd Annual Red & Green. You must be present to win.

...

See "A Christmas Carol: A New Musical"

freeFall Theatre Company will present "A Christmas Carol: A New Musical" through December 30th with a special preview on Thursday, December 8 at 7 p.m. Book and lyrics are by Keith Ferguson and music is by Bruce Greer.

This enchanting new musical adaptation of the Dickens classic

is destined to become a Bay area holiday tradition. With a soaring and inspirational score, and faithful incarnations of all of the memorable characters, Dickens' ghost story leaps from the page and delights with stunning theatricality, lush scenery and costumes, and surprising special effects.

For the first two weeks Dec. 8-18, show times are Thursday 7 p.m., Friday 8 p.m., Saturday 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. Show times vary for Christmas week and the week after with a final

performance on Friday, December 30 at 8 p.m.

Tickets to each performance are \$37-\$44 with \$20 (non-premium) tickets available for those under 18. Teachers, senior citizens, and members of the military enjoy a \$3 discount. A ticketing fee may apply. For more information and tickets visit www.freefalltheatre.com or call 727-498-5205.

freeFall Studio Theatre is located at 6099 Central Avenue in St. Petersburg.

...

Attorney Keith Sanders, Handles Foreclosure Defense and Bankruptcies with Experience and Sensitivity

You could say my motto is 'been there, done that,'" says Keith Sanders, from Sanders Law, P.A.

He says that for two reasons. First, he says his more than 18 years of experience as an attorney specializing in handling "literally thousands" of bankruptcies means that he has dealt with virtually any kind of problem or issue that might arise with them. And, secondly, he had to file a Chapter 13 bankruptcy himself. He says that experience makes him very sensitive to the kinds of things people face when making the difficult decision to file.

"Most attorneys have never been in a situation where they have been worried about how to keep the lights on, but I have been there myself so I can really relate to what people are going through," said Sanders. "Plus, many people are very embarrassed when they come to me, but when I tell them how embarrassing it was for me to have to stand in front of judges and colleagues who knew me

and go through the process myself, that usually helps to put people more at ease and understand that I have been there and done that MYSELF."

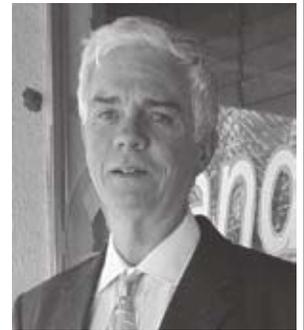
"You know, in 99 percent of bankruptcy cases the situation is that bad things happen to good people. They have gone through an expensive health crisis or a divorce or just got in over their head with debt."

He began his career as a staff attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice in Atlanta. He is licensed to practice law in both Florida and Georgia.

"I like what I do because I feel like I can help people get a fresh start," said Sanders.

"Since the initial consultation is free, you really don't have anything to lose to meet with me and we can assess your situation and see how it might be best for you to proceed. **Bankruptcy can be one solution to getting back on your feet financially, but it may not be the best or only solution for you.**

Sanders has held a number of seminars and



written professional papers concerning bankruptcy law in general, ECF requirements and new issues. He is a former director of the Bankruptcy Section of the State Bar of Georgia. **The firm also handles Short Sale negotiations, defense against foreclosures, wills & trusts, civil litigation and loan modification.**

Outside of the courtroom, Sanders lives in an unusual home in Gulfport that was one of the featured properties in a recent Pink Flamingo Tour of Homes. It has a tree growing right up through the floor and up through the ceiling of his kitchen. He has four dogs and a cat.

Keith Sanders, Esq.
Sanders Law, P.A.

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Tis the Season... for Shuffleboard



The fall Townshores Shuffleboard Club has started. So far 33 Townshores residents have joined in on the fun. Bob O'Brien (photo) leads the friendly competition with the most points through Nov. 22nd. New participants are joining each session. The club plays on Tuesday mornings and Friday afternoons. All Townshores residents are invited to come out and enjoy the fun. No experience is necessary.

Pancake Breakfast With Santa

Gulfport Little League presents a Pancake Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 10th from 8-10 a.m. at the Gulfport Little League Field. The first seating will be from 8-9 a.m. and the second seating will be from 9-10 a.m. Cost is \$3 per child and \$5 per adult. Space is limited. Go to www.gulfportlittleleague.net, click on Santa Breakfast and fill out the reservation page. Elves are standing by waiting to hear from you!

...

SPCREA to Meet

The South Pinellas Retired Teachers Association (SPCREA) meets at 11 a.m. the second Thursday of each month from October through May at the Piccadilly Cafeteria, 19th Ave. and 34th St. N. Meetings are open to all who have worked in the field of education whether here in Florida or elsewhere, including teachers, support personnel and administrators. The meeting begins at 12 noon with an activity planned by the hospitality committee.

At their December 8th meeting they will be having a volunteer fair with many local organizations having booths to explain what they do and how the Association can help. Among those present will be Clothes to Kids, Hospice, Neighborly Senior Services, CASA, SPCA, Meals on Wheels, Friends of Strays and others. They will also have a Silent Auction to raise money for scholarships. The meeting adjourns by 1 p.m. SPCREA often plans fun field trips of interest to the group. Email Joyce Walters at jellen1943@yahoo.com for more information.

...

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Chamber of Commerce Holiday Evening Mixer

The Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its annual Holiday Mixer at the Hurricane Restaurant in Pass-a-Grille (809 Gulf Way, Pass-a-Grille) on Tuesday, December 13. This year they will be asking for donations to support PARC's wish list and to make it fun a local business, The Rocketship Car, will be parked out in front of the Hurricane collecting those donations. Please donate a gift and help them "Fill the Rocketship"! Their sponsor for this event is Commercial Electrical Contracting, Inc.

The event will run from 5:30-8 p.m. and the cost to attend is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Donations can be dropped off at the Chamber headquarters and will be accepted until Monday, December 12th. Contact Amanda Page at 727-360-6957 or RSVP@tampabaybeaches.com.

...

Dr. Seuss Christmas Breakfast

The GFWC St. Petersburg Woman's Club at 40 Snell Isle Boulevard N.E. will hold the first Dr. Seuss Christmas Breakfast on Saturday, December 10th. There are two seatings, one at 9 a.m. and the other at 10:30 a.m. Cost is \$6 ages 11 and under and \$12 ages 12 years and older.

Green eggs and ham (plain egg and add green sprinkles) and more. Event features games, prizes and music. Dress as your favorite Seuss character for their fun fashion show! Help this fund raising event provide books to needy children. Reservations are made by calling 822-4982 or Joanne Walker at 525-2914.

...

Retired Officers Wives Club to Meet

The Retired Officers Wives Club of St. Petersburg will meet for luncheon on December 13 at Isla Del Sol Country Club, 6000 Sun Blvd, St. Petersburg. Social hour will be 11:30 with lunch at 12:15 p.m. The program will be Christmas music by Steve Middents. Call for reservations to 347-7976 or 399-1272.

...

City Whys?

Have you got a question for your city government?

Email your request to News@theGabber.com

By Cathy Salustri

City of St. Pete Beach: Elections

Q: Who votes for who in the January election? Since it's the Republican presidential primary, does that mean I have to be a Republican to vote for my city commissioner?

A: Any registered voter, regardless of their political affiliation, in districts one and three can vote for a commissioner, according to city clerk Rebecca Haynes. While the election coincides with the Republican primary, that only means that people who are registered Republican will have an additional item to consider on their ballot. Anyone in those two districts can vote.

If you are registered to vote in District One, you may vote for a candidate in that district.

If you are registered to vote in District Three, you may vote for a candidate in that district.

The deadline to register to vote is January 3, 2012. To view the city's district maps, please visit the HYPERLINK "<http://www.stpetebeach.org/images/stories/city-clerk/pdfs/Election/voting%20districts.pdf>" cityHYPERLINK "<http://www.stpetebeach.org/images/stories/city-clerk/pdfs/Election/voting%20districts.pdf>" HYPERLINK "<http://www.stpetebeach.org/images/stories/city-clerk/pdfs/Election/voting%20districts.pdf>" sHYPERLINK "<http://www.stpetebeach.org/images/stories/city-clerk/pdfs/Election/voting%20districts.pdf>" HYPERLINK "<http://www.stpetebeach.org/images/stories/city-clerk/pdfs/Election/voting%20districts.pdf>" webHYPERLINK "<http://www.stpetebeach.org/images/stories/city-clerk/pdfs/Election/voting%20districts.pdf>" HYPERLINK "<http://www.stpetebeach.org/images/stories/city-clerk/pdfs/Election/voting%20districts.pdf>" site or read this article online.

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Somethin' on my mind

By Bill Northrop

B_Northrop@theGabber.com

The Allure of Gambling

The good thing about gambling is that I don't gamble. That means that those who do (legally) pay taxes that I don't have to pay. I don't mean that I haven't or won't gamble at all. It just means that it isn't something that draws me. And, when I have gambled, I don't get excited when winning, but would prefer not to lose. So, I treat it like entertainment with a dollar cap. However, the big thing is someone else pays the taxes.

Some of those are people who don't pay much taxes. I know, I know. Gambling, as in casino gambling, isn't a poor man's sport. However, whoever is gambling will pay more taxes than he would have otherwise. That is, if he hasn't blown his money and can't buy normal goods and services. As for gambling in general, it is likely that the lottery attracts a broader clientele

that includes the less affluent. Those are taxes I don't have to pay.

Of course, there are still illegal gambling such as numbers and heavy duty card games. In Florida, I think it's illegal to have more than \$10 in the pot at a private game in your home. Whatever the circumstances, the illegal operations don't create revenue for the government. Money is what it's all about, and the "about" being whether to permit casino gambling outside of Indian reservations.

The state needs money, or, at least, wants more money. For the state, there is money in gambling; for the gambling operations there is money in gambling; for the employees there is money in gambling; for the players more will lose than will win or there wouldn't be all that money for everyone else. Three out of four is pretty good. The bet is that casino gambling is coming.

There are all sorts of arguments

against it, many of them good. The moral issue is probably dead, however. We already have greyhound and horse race gambling and the state lottery is a big thing. The state loves it because the money, supposedly, goes to help seniors. A good cause will justify anything. People seem to like it because it only takes a buck or so to get into the game, and someone wins sometimes. All in all, however, gambling is here. It's just a matter of more. It's not going to be less. That's a sure bet.

That's a competitive thing. If Florida doesn't have it, it can't compete with other states (and the islands) to be a destination for tourists. It's all about new money. The question is will it draw new money? Other states have started smaller - slots only - then moved on to table games, entertainment, restaurants. The problem is that more and more states are doing it. At what point will there be parity? When will having "it" all, will become the norm? Or, will there always be a new gimmick to draw customers?

Then there's the other issue about money. How much gets put into the political system? There will be more money poured into a system with too much money already. Persuasion money is already there, you can bet. Money for licenses, money for regulations or non-regulations, how much and how to tax. You get the picture. Not saying anything is criminal. It's the way it is.

Of course, the concern is whether all-out gambling will be a net positive for the state. Will crime increase? Will there be infrastructure requirements the state will have to cover? How costly will gambling addiction be? There's plenty of material out there to study. I've always been surprised by those who say "it will be different here". No it won't. The same elements are at work: human nature, money, politics, government.

It's always nice to find someone else to pay your bills, or taxes, as in this case. If the project goes through, money will undoubtedly pour into the state coffers. Surely, there will be new social projects on which to spend it. What happens, though when the music stops?

..

What's on your mind?

Email your opinion to:

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...

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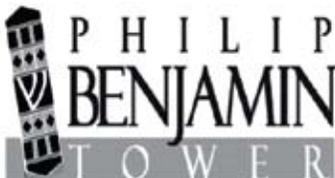
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American Legion Activities

Post 125

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Lunch Served 11am-3pm Ron's Karaoke 7pm	Kitchen Open 11-2pm Dinner 5-7pm Southern Knights Band 7-11pm	Dinner 5-7pm Southern Knights Band 7-11pm	Breakfast 8:30-11am Kitchen Open 2-5pm	No Lunch Served	Ron's Karaoke 7pm	Lunch Served 11am-3pm Euchre 1pm Bingo 6pm Kitchen Open for Bingo

We invite Auxiliary members to attend our meetings the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. We welcome your ideas. Please plan to join us on Sunday's starting at 1p.m. for Steak-Ums games. Have fun and win great food! Service Officer, Bob Cannon is at the Post on Thursday's from 9a.m. till noon to offer assistance. The bake sale was delicious. Another one upcoming in December.

Post 305

6999 Gulf Blvd., St. Pete Beach 367-1596

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Bar Bingo 7 pm Food served	Fish & Chicken 6-8pm Barry Karaoke 6:30-9:30pm	Steak Dinner 6-8pm Dave K 6:30-9:30pm	Sports & Pizza 12-6pm	Bucky Burgers 5-8pm Dee Karaoke 6:30-9:30pm	House Committee Meeting 6pm Harry 7-10pm	Legion Dinner 6-8pm

New Years Eve Party: Steak & Lobster Dinner, Appetizers, Champagne Toast. Music by Barry. Tickets available at the bar, \$32.50 each.

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	Baringo 7pm	Karaoke 9pm-12am				

Hours Sunday-Friday 12pm, Saturday 11am til. Electronic bar games everyday. Fish fry last Friday of the month 5-7pm.

We're always looking for new members to join our family - \$30 yearly or \$250 Lifetime. Gil Davis 1st VC

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Following are some of the calls that Gulfport Police responded to during the past week.

Friday 11/18

- Call for Officer-** 5600 Blk 15th Ave. S.
 - Drunk Person-** 5300 Blk 8th Ave. S.
 - Narcotics/Drugs-** 5200 Blk Gulfport Blvd. S.
 - Civil Matter-** 5300 Blk 7th Ave. S.
 - Domestic Verbal-** 2800 Blk 51st St. S.
 - Suspicious Circumstances-** 5100 Blk Preston Ave. S.
 - Theft-** 5000 Blk Gulfport Blvd. S.
 - Trouble with Individual-** 4600 Blk 26th Ave. S.
 - Suspicious Vehicle-** Osgood Point.
 - Trouble with Individual-** 2800 Blk 51st St. S.
- Saturday 11/19**
- Noise Complaint-** 6000 Blk Shore Blvd. S.
 - Suspicious Circumstances-** 5100 Blk Gulfport Blvd. S.
 - Suspicious Person-** 1700 Blk 53rd St. S.

- Call for Officer-** 2800 Blk Beach Blvd. S.
 - Traffic Stop Failed to Stop-** 4900 Blk 20th Ave. S.
 - Theft-** 2500 Blk York St. S.
 - Animal Complaint-** 2200 Blk 53rd St. S.
 - Trouble with Individual-** 5000 Blk Newton Ave. S.
- Sunday 11/20**
- Suspicious Vehicle-** 900 Blk 58th St. S.
 - Trouble with Individual-** 4900 Blk 20th Ave. S.
 - DUI Investigation-** 1000 Blk 52nd St. S.
 - Suspicious Activity-** 1400 Blk 49th St. S.
 - Criminal Mischief-** 1500 Blk 52nd St. S.
 - Theft-** 5000 Blk Gulfport Blvd. S.
 - Cruelty to Animal(s)-** 5300 Blk 7th Ave. S.
 - Animal Complaint-** 700 Blk 60th St. S.
 - Suspicious Person-** 5900 Blk 17th Ave. S.
 - Arrest on Warrant-** 2900 Blk 59th St. S.
- Monday 11/21**
- Drunk Driver-** 4900 Blk Gulfport Blvd. S.
 - Animal Complaint-** 1200 Blk 63rd St. S.
 - Trouble with Individual-** Tomlinson Park.
 - Civil Matter-** 2800 Blk 51st St. S.

- Theft-** 2700 Blk 53rd St. S.
 - Burglary-** 5100 Blk 14th Ave. S.
 - Suspicious Person-** 5100 Blk Gulfport Blvd. S.
 - Domestic Verbal-** 5100 Blk 17th Ave. S.
 - Suspicious Person-** 5500 Blk Shore Blvd. S.
 - Suspicious Activity-** 4900 Blk 14th Ave. S.
 - Noise Complaint-** 5500 Blk 12th Ave. S.
 - Domestic Battery-** 5100 Blk Tangerine Ave. S.
- Tuesday 11/22**
- Domestic Verbal-** 5300 Blk Newton Ave. S.
 - Soliciting-** 5100 Blk 15th Ave. S.
 - Burglary-** 6100 Blk 9th Ave. S.
 - Theft-** 5700 Blk Shore Blvd. S.
 - Burglary-** 5000 Blk 24th Ave. S.
 - Trouble with Individual-** 2500 Blk Premier Dr. S.
 - Theft-** 2600 Blk 47th St. S.
 - Trouble with Individual-** 5500 Blk 28th Ave. S.
 - Violation of Court Order-** 5100 Blk Tangerine Ave. S.
 - Call for Officer-** 4900 Blk 14th Ave. S.
 - Suspicious Circumstances-** 1900 Blk 54th St. S.
- Wednesday 11/23**
- Domestic Battery-** 5300 Blk Newton Ave. S.
 - Burglary-** 2600 Blk 46th St. S.
 - Animal Complaint-** 2600 Blk Miriam St. S.
 - Theft-** 5300 Blk 17th Ave. S.
 - Theft-** 5000 Blk 24th Ave. S.
 - Theft-** 6300 Blk Pasadena Pt. Blvd. S.
 - Domestic Verbal-** 2900 Blk 57th St. S.
 - Animal Complaint-** 5000 Blk Newton Ave. S.
- Thursday 11/24**
- Suspicious Vehicle-** 5700 Blk Gulfport Blvd. S.
 - Suspicious Vehicle-** 5700 Blk Gulfport Blvd. S.
 - Noise Complaint-** 4900 Blk Newton Ave. S.
 - Burglary-** 1900 Blk 60th St. S.
 - Domestic Verbal-** 4900 Blk 28th Ave. S.
 - Drunk Driver-** 2000 Blk 54th St. S.
 - Suspicious Person-** 2500 Blk 53rd St. S.
 - Domestic Verbal-** 5400 Blk 14th Ave. S.
 - Narcotics/Drugs-** 2200 Blk 49th St. S.



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Help Clean Up Lincoln Cemetery

There will be a clean-up at the Lincoln Cemetery in Gulfport on December 10th from 8 a.m. to noon. 600 58th Street S., next to Boca Ciega High School. This mainly African American cemetery, dating from 1926, is suffering from a lack of care because of a lack of funds. There was one clean-up already, but there is still plenty of work to do. So, come on out and lend a hand!

...

December Jazz Concerts

The Suncoast Dixieland Jazz Society will sponsor two December concerts. On Thursday, December 15th, Bobby Tess and the Dixie Chaps will play from 7-9:30 p.m. at the Bilmar Beach Resort in Treasure Island. Admission is \$7. Call 727-522-6877.

On Sunday, December 18th, The Dixie Chaps will play from 6-8:30 p.m. at the Florida Botanical Gardens in Largo in conjunction with the Gardens Light Show. Park admission is \$2, concert is free.

...

Market Offers Non-Profits Free Space

GULFPORT- The Gulfport Tuesday Fresh Market has announced it will set aside one free vendor space each week for community non-profit organizations. Groups may use the space to offer free information, promote upcoming events and community outreach, to raise funds, or to sell items for fund-raising. Any items to be sold must be pre-approved by Market managers. All funds raised in any manner must be for the benefit of the non-profit organization, rather than any individual(s).

The free space for non-profits is currently being scheduled and any interested and qualified non-profit groups may apply to use the space as available in upcoming weeks and months.

For more information and to apply, call Daniel Hodge, Fresh Market Coordinator, at 727-366-4086 or dan@igc.org.

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Crime Awareness Meeting

The next City Wide Gulfport Crime Awareness & Prevention Meeting will be held on Monday, December 12 at 7 p.m. at the Neighborhood Center located at 1617 49 Street S. Topic will be the outgoing police dispatch after midnight on 12/31/11. Any concerned citizens need to attend this meeting. Now is the time to get your questions answered. Guest speakers invited are Chief Rob Vincent and Lt. Bordner of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office. For more information, contact Jeri Reed at 727-548-5566 days and 727-327-3509 evenings or at Jrvolunteer@aol.com.



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By Robert J. Myers, Esq.

Are Trusts Only for the Super-Rich?

While it is true that you should have a fair amount of assets before you consider setting up a trust, a trust is no longer the province of the “super-rich.”

Simply stated, a trust is a legal document that makes it possible for you to put aside some of your money and direct how it will be used upon your death or in some form of trust,

while you’re alive. A trust may also ease your tax bite.

A trust generally offers several advantages: among them, the assets don’t have to go through probate, which saves time and money. Additionally, you may be able to maintain control over the trust assets while you’re alive and capable; sick and incapable; or as part of an estate plan at your death.

Many individuals and families have found that trusts offer a number of interesting financial planning opportunities. Even where your estate plan calls for all the assets of the first-to-die spouse to pass to the surviving spouse under the unlimited marital estate tax deduction, significant estate tax may be due on the death of the surviving spouse. Proper use of carefully drafted non-

marital trusts for the benefit of the surviving spouse and/or children may keep these assets out of the surviving spouse’s estate and reduce the overall tax bite on the estate plan.

So-called “living trusts” have become very popular with those interested in avoiding the expense, delay and publicity of probate; while allowing the grantor to maintain control over the trust assets during his or her lifetime, if capable and competent.

The type of trust you use depends on your personal situation and the advice you receive from a legal expert. Since there are many types of trusts, only a complete evaluation of your family’s needs will determine which trust should be used.

Mr. Myers is the owner of Akerson Law Offices which is located at 1135 Pasadena Avenue South, Suite 140, St. Petersburg, Florida. The telephone number is 727-347-5131. Mr. Myers welcomes calls regarding this article and other related legal topics. This column outlines general legal principles and is not intended to give you legal advice. If you have a specific question about the law, please consult an attorney.

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The War to End All Wars – WW1

How did the United States’ involvement help bring an end to the most brutal war of modern times and how did it impact America’s foreign policy? Join this free class by Sterling University’s Professor Phil Leto to learn more.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27TH | 1:30PM

Trials of The Century: Bruno Richard Hauptmann and the Lindbergh Baby

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Full of Light



Helen Mullins, Gulfport, takes advantage of the waterside location to practice her plein aire painting technique at Horan Park on St. Pete Beach. Ms. Mullins, who works with the Treasure Island Art Guild and the Suntan Art Center, works with oil paints. "Plein aire" is a French term meaning "in the open air" or "full of light."

Community Band Announces Free Holiday Concert

The very popular South Pasadena Community Band holiday concert will be December 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the Gulfport Casino. The annual concert celebrating the festive time of the year has become a staple in the area's holiday fare and this year features a wide variety of music of the season. The concert is free.

Max Millspaugh, Musical Director of the band said "We have titled this concert 'Holiday Time is Here' and the band will present a program including everything from the holiday standards like 'A Christmas Festival' by Leroy Anderson to a unique little arrangement called 'Stars and Stripes Christmas'. Along the way we will play a very nice chart entitled 'A Chanukah Celebration' and 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas'. Truly we have something for everyone in this concert", he concluded.

Mike Yakes, Mayor of Gulfport, noted that the Casino venue provides adequate free parking and handicapped accessibility. The Mayor also said that refreshments will be available throughout the concert. "The City of Gulfport is pleased to host this holiday concert for our city residents and the neighboring communities. The Casino as well as the entire downtown will be decorated to reflect the celebration of the holiday season. All of the area restaurants will be open for everyone to have dinner on their way to the concert or to stop for refreshment following the event. The band always presents an outstanding concert and this concert is one of the highlights of the season in Gulfport," he concluded.

Seating capacity has been increased for the concerts at the Casino. The City of Gulfport and the Gulfport Chamber of Commerce sponsor the concerts by The South Pasadena Band which is a community relations initiative of the City of South Pasadena.

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Antique Vendors Sought for Gulfport Fresh Market & Art Walks

GULFPORT- Two of Gulfport's popular regular events will be expanding in the coming weeks. An area devoted to antique vendors will be added on the first and third Tuesday of each month during the popular weekly Tuesday Fresh Market on Beach Blvd. in Gulfport from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Antique vendors will also be added to Gulfport's popular Art Walk, held on the first Friday and third Saturday of each month from 6-10 p.m.

If you would like the opportunity to offer vintage, retro, and Floridiana items in a beautiful outdoor setting designated for antiques only, please send an email describing the type of items you would like to sell along with your contact information to Sandy Duffy at sdfree2b@yahoo.com, who will be handling this expansion of the events. Upon receipt of your information, she will contact you to discuss details.

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The 101st Artist

Perhaps inspired by the "100 artists" gathered at last weekend's 100 Artists at Horan Park in St. Pete Beach, nine-year-old Nathan Shackleton concentrates on making his own art at the event.

While most of the booths sold art created by local artists, one booth allowed budding artists to choose from a selection of bottles and fill them with colored sand.

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<p>Friday, Dec 2nd, 5-7pm Baked or Battered White Fish, French Fries, Slaw, roll & butter \$7.75 or Vegetarian Lasagna, Cole Slaw \$6.50</p>	<p>Saturday, Dec 3rd, 5-7pm Legion Dinner Pork Loin w/Stuffing, Au gratin Potatoes, Vegetable, Roll & Butter, Dessert \$7.00</p>	<p>SUNDAY BREAKFAST 8:30am - 11:00am Breakfast Buffet Complimentary Bloody Mary or Mimosa \$4.75</p>
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A Letter To Santa

The Gabber will feature a letter to Santa each Thursday until Christmas.

Congratulations 12 year old Dashawn Walker
Dashawn will receive a \$30 gift certificate to
Toys-R-Us courtesy of the Gabber



Dear Santa,

I am a 12 year old who has a guardian that is 69 years old. My parents are in jail. My guardian is very ill. We would like to make this Christmas a success. Me and my guardian would like to make Christmas joyful this year. This is why we are trying to win.

Sincerely
Dashawn Walker





Hard Candy

By Cathy Salustri

Mr. Murrow Wept

“*Just because your voice reaches halfway around the world doesn't mean you are wiser than when it reached only to the end of the bar.*” – Edward R. Murrow

“The speed of communications is wondrous to behold. It is also true that speed can multiply the distribution of information that we know to be untrue.” – also Edward R. Murrow

My very favorite reader insult ever came from a lady who told me I was a disgrace to Edward R. Murrow. Obviously, I disagree, but I loved the insult, which showed both intelligence and respect for the craft. For a week after she said that my Facebook profile picture was that of Mr. Murrow.

The Gabber matters to you; I've learned over the past eight years how very seriously you all take the words in front of the classified ads. I love that about this paper, and I love that about all of you. We make mistakes, just like every other paper in the world, and, like every other paper, we cringe when we do, because we take our responsibility to our community seriously. We want you to trust that we've checked the facts, asked the right questions, and tried our best to recognize and eliminate our bias from what we write.

But what if we couldn't? What would the world be like if we had no way of telling what was real and what was made up? What would our lives be like if we didn't know who we were quoting?

What would our opinions be if we couldn't trust where we got the facts?

Welcome to the Internet.

Yes, yes, I know, it's not exactly a new invention, but lately it seems that things have ramped up on certain social media sites – that's right, Facebook, I'm looking at you – and we are suffering from a marked lack of accountability and a noticeable decrease in civility.

I'm tired of the people who use the web as an excuse to be nasty. I'm exhausted from the sheer amount of opinion masquerading as fact online. I'm over the cowards.

Last week I received a letter calling me an overpaid Wop. On the regular, my readers either tell me I'm going to hell or give me instructions on how to get there. That doesn't bother me; mostly, I can laugh it off. Plus, I'm putting myself out there – I can't tell 15,000 readers that I think at least a few of you may be “cherry crusted nutbars” and not expect some sort of reaction, right?

But here's the thing. While newspaper folk – columnists doubly so – have long received nasty letters, the Internet makes it easier than ever for regular people to bring their A-game of nasty to the rest of the world, whether or not the rest of the world deserves it.

I'm referring most heartily to the pusillanimous miscreants who are too cowardly to sign their name to their version of the facts, insults and, in some cases libelous statements. I have no respect for these people, much less anything they post online.

There are a wealth of pages popping up on Facebook – Gulfport Good Girls, Heard in Gulfport, Gulfport Live, Visually Polluted and Blighted Homes of Gulfport – and every one of these sites exists, it seems, solely to pick at other people behind a white-livered veil of secrecy. They throw stones at people, post photos of homes and make fun of them, spread rumors and, as far as I can tell, generally act like bullies who never quite graduated eighth grade. Big words from small people, it seems. They're quick to insult the community, but who are they? Are they people out there, working for what they believe and trying to effect a change, or are they simply cherry-crusted nutbars, posting from their back room at 3 a.m. in a Wild Turkey-induced stupor?

Before these secret groups accuse me of whining, let me assure you I can take anything you can dish out – about me. You are not the great and powerful Oz you think you are; you're little more than a scared little man behind the curtain. You do not matter.

Of course, for our readers whose homes have been plastered on Facebook and identified as blighted,

or for a member of the community who had seen their name dragged through the mud by some anonymous group, it matters.

I don't know why or how these things became acceptable, but somehow it seems that people think if they don't have to show their face or sign their names they can show the ugliness in their soul. The assumed anonymity of the web somehow makes these people think it's OK to insult each other. This isn't just about those faceless groups, either: people I know in real life who appear to be decent and kind morph into these hideous cyber-people who act like they're back at the junior high lunch table.

It wouldn't be so bad, I suppose, if people didn't read these exchanges and give them the same weight as they do reported news items from credible sources. By this I mean that I can spend the bulk of my work week researching an article, talking to sources, making sure I've quoted them accurately and reported the available facts. It gets published in print and online. Some anonymous person can then post on Facebook that President Obama was born in East Germany and is the child of Nazi communists who don't put their trash cans away after the garbage man comes. For far too many people, since both of these things are online, they are both equally true.

There is no way to change people. There will always be ugliness in some. People will always lie to make their point and further their agenda. The only power you have – the only power – is not to read. Remember that a real news source isn't afraid to show itself. A real news source will tell you where it heard what it just said. A real news source doesn't need to hide.

That chicken-hearted crap is not real. It's the Internet. Real life is your neighbor, the people you see, the places you visit. No matter what we think we know about what we're told online, we don't know it. We don't know who's behind these “secret” web sites. We don't know who anyone is at all online. We don't know who's talking about the latest rumor heard at O'Maddy's and who's doing their best to maintain the standards of the fourth estate.

It's enough to make Edward R. Murrow weep.

Fido's Florida Yappy Hour

The New Barker Magazine and the TradeWinds Island Grand present Fido's Florida Yappy Hour on Sunday, Dec. 11 from 1-4 p.m. Event is an afternoon featuring the grand finale of PetWorking's PawJect Runway pet fashion show, pet-centric exhibits, animal-themed gifts and a book signing.

The PawJect Runway fashion show, scheduled for 3 p.m., will

feature the top 10 finalists from a pet photo contest. Pet owners can submit photos of their chic canines at pawjectrunway@thenewbarker.com by December 3. All photos will be posted on The New Barker Magazine Facebook page and the finalists will be selected by a panel of judges. The grand prize winner, which will be announced at the fashion show, will receive a two-night stay at the TradeWinds Island Grand, plus an authentic Mood (just like on the show) shopping bag filled with posh

pooch treats from Gone to the Dogs boutique and more. There is no charge to enter.

Ginger Warder, author of Fido's Florida travel guide will also be on-hand to personally sign copies of the new book. All proceeds from the books will be donated to PetWorking Animal Shelter, which will be the largest animal shelter in South Pinellas. In addition to its mission to place animals in loving homes, PetWorking will feature a number of unique programs including a one-of-a-kind senior sanctuary and pet hospice. The shelter is scheduled to open in early 2012.

Event and parking are free and open to the public. TradeWinds Island Grand Resort – Garden Courtyard is located at 5500 Gulf Boulevard, St. Pete Beach. Contact Ginger Warder at 727-388-1514 or email pawjectrunway@thenewbarker.com.

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City of Gulfport Holiday Decorations Contest

Gulfport residents, are you ready to get in the holiday spirit and brighten up our City for the holiday season? Then it's time to enter the City of Gulfport's Holiday Decorations Contest. Stop by the Gulfport Recreation Center or City Hall to pick up an application to enter your home or business. "Santa and his Elves" will be judging on Monday evening, Dec. 19th. No one knows what time the big red sleigh will travel through the City of Gulfport, but please be ready by 6 p.m. Deadline to enter the contest is noon, Monday, Dec. 19th. There are two theme categories: general and commercial. The general theme is for single/joint home only and the commercial theme is for single/joint business and professional locations, including home occupations. Winners will be announced in the Dec. 22nd edition of the Gulfport Gabber. Winners will be recognized and presented plaques at the Gulfport's City Council meeting (televised) on Tuesday, January 3rd at 7 p.m. It's time to show off your fantastic holiday creation! Call 893-1068 for further information.

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The Second Annual

J. West Prostate Cancer 5K Run & Walk For Awareness

Saturday - January 7, 2012

Starting at 8:00 AM Location – The Gulfport Casino 5500 Shore Blvd. South Gulfport Florida
USATF Certified Course # FL04058DL

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REGISTRATION – www.active.com –

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Sign up for Sculptural Welding Series at IAC

Registration is open for the next Sculptural Welding series at the Industrial Arts Center in Gulfport beginning on Thursday, December 15 at 7 p.m. Sculptural Welding is a terrific way to cultivate creativity. This beginning course is designed as an introduction to the techniques necessary to explore this medium. Sessions 2 and 3 will be held on Saturday, December 17, 10-2 p.m. and Sunday, December 18, 12-4 p.m. The instructor is Jonathan Schork, of Gulfport and Key West.

This beginner class will be exploring basic cold-fabrication techniques in steel to create small-scale sculptural steel ornaments for the home or garden. Students are encouraged to bring scrap steel they would like to incorporate into their finished sculpture. Jeans and boots are preferred (no sandals please). The course is limited to four students, ages 12 to adult, so early registration is suggested.

For more information and registration, visit www.IndustrialArtsCenter.org or call 727-289-9365.

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Carols by Candlelight

By Lion Jim Minder

Our Gulfport Lion Club invites you to join us on Friday, December 16 for our Carols by Candlelight from 7-9 p.m. at our Den located at 4630 Tifton Drive S. in Gulfport. We will sing 15 Christmas carols, some religious and some secular, divided into five sets of three carols. After each set we are treated to tales about past memorable Christmases. After the first set, I will tell you about one of my memorable Christmases. After each of the next four sets we ask that you tell us about one of yours. It will be fun so come prepared to share.

Norman Xanders, Lions Past District Governor, plays our Christmas carols on his many musical instruments. Many of you who have attended one of our many pancake breakfast fundraisers have heard Norman before and you know how good he is. For those of you who have never heard Norman Xander's music before, allow me to tell you that you are in for a treat.

After our third set, you will be able to enjoy some of our baked goods prepared by our Gulfport Lions Club members. We will have

complimentary cookies, cakes, pies and other pastry goodies. We will also serve coffee and punch.

We at the Gulfport Lions Club want you to know about our services to help the visually impaired before this need presents itself so that if and when it does, you know that our help is available to you.

We look forward to you joining us for our Carols by Candlelight. Call me with any questions at 866-0316. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2012.

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The J.West Prostate Cancer 5K Run & Walk 2nd. Annual 5K Run & Walk For Awareness Benefiting Education - Detection - Counseling For Prostate Cancer

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Date/Location

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Entry Fee

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FL04058DL

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Registration

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On line at WWW.Active.Com J.West Prostate Cancer 5K Run & Walk

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Registration Form - Prostate Cancer 5 K for Awareness, Shirt Size - S M L XL - I am a Runner Walker. I would also like to donate \$_____ to the Above Charity.

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Address _____ Phone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Age _____ Sex _____

In consideration of this entry, I, for myself, my heirs, devisees, executors, administrators and assigns hereby waive, release and discharge any and all claims against RPM promotions, Race Place Magazine, Gulfport Police Department, The City of Gulfport and The Gulfport Chamber of Commerce, JWest Foundation sponsors conducting this event, or the employees, representatives, or successors, for any and all damages or injuries I may suffer. I hereby grant permission for the free use of my name and picture in any broadcast, brochure or account of this event. **Insurance does not cover these activities, Bikes, Skateboards, Roller Blades, Multi-Sport event, Animals & Radio Headsets.**

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The Flamingo Resort

By Cathy Salustri



The Name is All That's the Same at the Flamingo

A few years ago a major gay resort closed down and new one opened just down the street. The new resort, called the Flamingo, had a great outdoor bar. I also loved the lights over the pool at night and the relaxed atmosphere, but I had only visited the Flamingo's outside bar, called the Cabana Bar. I liked it but I never ventured to the inside bars because I assumed they were just like the old bars at the other resort. Actually, I assumed most of the Flamingo was a lot like that other resort and, quite honestly, while I liked the people I went there with, I didn't care for the condition of the resort itself. The Flamingo is close enough to where the other resort used to be that I assumed that the Flamingo perhaps shared owners.

I was totally and completely wrong: the Flamingo is totally not what I expected. I spent an afternoon there a few weeks ago, and I really enjoyed myself. One of the bartenders, Jake, showed me around the resort and I quickly realized that this is unlike the old resort (with which they are not affiliated).

The inside bars – a sports bar, the main bar, the restaurant, and the Blu Room all have a different vibe, as do the outside bars – the Hurricane, leather and Cabana bars. The Blu Room is where the Flamingo has their Saturday drag show; the dining room's rattan and bamboo decor gives the restaurant an intimate safari-type vibe.

The Leather bar, called the Code Bar, and has a back-alley industrial feel that's pretty much perfect for a leather bar. The space used to be a laundry room, and there's really nothing more appropriate for the Code Bar – it feels a bit like a hardened set from Rent. The Hurricane Bar is a popular watering hole during the Sunday tea dance, although the ever-popular Cabana Bar just beyond the pool is always open and attending to a crowd of all ages and orientations (as is the rest of the resort).

I hadn't thought about the food much, but the new head chef, Jared, made sure I was well fed. Jake and I sampled our way through chicken Cordon Bleu Balls with a spicy boom sauce and sweet and spicy Asian chicken tenders. The tenders were a special the night I visited, but I understand they're thinking of adding the dish to the new menu. Jared is

creating new dishes for the menu, like the Fire Island Taco Salad served in a hard flour tortilla shell, although they're keeping old favorites, too. One of the things they're keeping is their classic club sandwich, which comes with crispy sweet potato fries (or another side) and a more-than-generous helping of turkey breast.

We finished by sharing a pound of amazingly tender prime rib, garlic mashed potatoes, and steamed and seasoned fresh vegetables.

The kitchen opens Monday through Thursday at 4 p.m., but Friday through Sunday they open at 11 a.m. to serve brunch.

Lest you think it's all about food, take a look at the weekly specials that don't relate to food. Tuesday nights the bar packs out with people singing karaoke; people show up in stetson hats and cowboy boots for line dancing on Outlaw Fridays. Saturday afternoon's Glass Pool Party is for the girls, and it's actually in the main dining room with special guest bartenders – but make sure to stay for the 11 p.m. Cabaret in the Blu Room. Wednesday nights from 8 until midnight, you can play free poker for prizes.

For \$10 on Thursday nights after 9 p.m. you can drink all the wells you can handle (if you're fussy about your vodka or have another favorite liquor, don't worry – you can get all-you-can-drink calls for \$15). Not a night owl but still enjoy a couple of drinks? All the Flamingo bars have two-for-one drinks from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. Monday through Friday.

On Sunday the Flamingo continues the tradition of the ever-popular tea dance. Sundays get busy around three, so get there early for \$10 Southern Comfort bucket or \$1.50 draft beer.

We've talked a lot about the food and drink, but the resort includes shops and hotel rooms on par with any travel accommodation in the area – as the third largest gay resort in the country, the Flamingo gets plenty of out-of-town traffic, and they're a solid choice for lodging if you have holiday company and no extra bed. Of course, if you find you've enjoyed the bars a bit too much, they're affordable enough to grab a room for the night.

The pool lights up with every color the rainbow, and even if you're not staying you can use it until the bars close at 3 in the morning.

The shops include a hair salon, a free, ASAP-sponsored HIV testing, jewelry shop, art gallery and a Touch of Oz gift shop. Stop by the Flamingo for lunch, a drink with friends, shopping, or to meet new friends.

The Flamingo Resort

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FRIDAY & SATURDAY- 8:30am-3:30pm. 5925 4th Ave. So. 2 Family Sale. Lots of Good Stuff!

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GULFRONT ST. PETE BEACH- Lido Condo. Large 2 or 3BR, 2Ba. Balcony, Heated pool, Seasonal rental, 90 day min. Starts at \$3000/mo plus. Ralston's Realty 727-367-6702

STUDIO APT. FOR RENT-\$600/Mo. Includes Utilities. Completely Remodeled. Nice Neighborhood near Stetson. 1st/last & Security. 727-415-2992 or 727-424-9269.

1BR -Mobile Home \$450/Mo. Looking for Good Tenants. 727-410-6599.

Accommodations to Share

UPSTAIRS LARGE BDR'S - Furnished. Share Kitchen & Bath, Close to Bus & Shopping. Backyard use. 727-434-2161.

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\$214,900

POINT BRITTANY #803
2/2 Great Water Views!
Waiting to be remodeled

PINELLAS PARK
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BUILDABLE LOT
Close to Gulfport & Pasadena
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727-430-7148
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2 br/1 .5 ba, New upgraded windows, 1 year old stove & refrigerator, easy care light wood laminate flooring, 2 large walk in closets, bath has been remodeled, covered parking. Walk to Eagles Park shops, restaurants, and Publix. Many amenities

Please call Frank @ Helene's Realty
452-8008 Anytime

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE-55+. 2BR/1.5BA Corner Lot with Large Porch. New Floors. Central Air. \$7000. 66th St. N. St. Petersburg. 727-744-3500.

MOBILE HOME 12'X40'-1/1 w/Florida Room, 55+ Park, 1375 Pasadena Ave. S. Lot 113. furnished, Open Fri. & Sat. 8am-? \$6500. 727-498-8308 or 218-780-0159.

TOWN SHORES 55+ OPEN HOUSES SUNDAY, DEC 4th 1 - 3pm



Rita M. Stutzman Realtor
727-723-4164

MANCHESTER 603 - 2/2 Deluxe beautifully done with open concept floor plan. Kitchen and bath have been tastefully updated. This condo has picturesque water views. Truly move in ready. Covered parking. Small cat accepted. **\$139,900**

FAIRFAX 311 - 1 BR Deluxe featuring all new tinted hurricane windows throughout. Laminate and tile flooring. Newer appliances and countertops. Pride of ownership reflected, Fabulous water views, immaculate, covered parking, pet friendly. **\$82,500**

JAMISON 515 - West end unit overlooking marina. 2/2 Deluxe, newer kitchen and baths, storm shutters, gorgeous wood flooring and tiles. Panoramic water views, covered parking. Must see to appreciate! **\$139,900**



Ricka Nassikas Realtor
727-866-7720

DIPLOMAT 1006 - TOP FLOOR views all the way to the Gulf. Unique 1 BR with built out private den/office - must see to appreciate. FULL open water views, magnificent renovated/updated 1.5 baths, open countertop kitchen **\$139,900**



Bill & DeAnn Meredith Realtors
727-224-5129

DOVER #107 - 1 br/1 ba, Pet friendly, washer and dryer, furnished, nearly new A/C, dishwasher, Murphy Bed in Florida room, many upgrades.



Sally Wilkinson Realtor
727-204-6767

DIPLOMAT #211 - 2 br/2 ba, Deluxe, gorgeous open water views, remodeled kitchen, newer A/C and windows, storm shutters all around, covered parking, great west end location, short sale, make offer! **\$135,000**

GROTON #115 - 2 br/2 ba, Deluxe, waterfront, first floor, corner unit, very scarce, may have patio. Full size washer/dryer, covered parking, must see! **\$139,000**

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1 Bed/1 Bath 600 sq. ft.
4902 31st Avenue S.
Unit #115

Charming waterfront condo located right on Boca Ciega Bay. Beautiful ceramic tile floors, newly painted, newer AC, new roof on building, new ceiling fans, renovated bathroom with new sink and tile, walk in closet in bedroom, quiet lanai in back that opens up to a well manicured courtyard with beautiful landscaping, only blocks away from Beach Blvd. Close to all the restaurants, shopping, festivals, Gulfport Casino, and Gulfport Beach. A must see!!! Maintenance fee \$210 per month.

Century 21 Suncoast Realty.

Call Amy Struble, Agent/Owner at 727-278-5182

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Annie
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Realtor
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Embassy #607 - 1 bed 1.5 bath deluxe, updated, Bay Views	\$138,000 - Call Darren Owens 727-448-9174
Embassy #308 - 1 bed 1.5 bath deluxe, open floor plan, Bay Views	\$138,500
Diplomat #412 - 3 bed 2.5 bath, west corner, 2210 square feet, fabulous kitchen, baths, carport.....	\$239,000
Diplomat #905 - 2 bed, 2 bath, superior water views, split plan with bedroom on water. Well priced at.....	\$152,000
Diplomat #107 - 1 bed, 1 bath, custom interior, move in ready, come and see.....	\$158,000



Scott Samuels Realtor 727-639-0017

1 bed 1.5 bath, great water views, well maintained unit, appears larger than square footage..... \$124,900

Town Shores Beauty 55+ Waterfront community. Remodeled 2/2 with mouth watering kitchen and Big Bay View! \$164,900

Call Lubin Team Realty 727-410-5707 or 727-410-5696



RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE, LLC



Call Jo Newberg
727-455-3404

Diplomat #812 - Completely renovated, OPEN WATER!, 3 br/2.5 ba, corner unit, let's make a deal! Reduced..... \$249,900



Bill Sampson Jr. Realtor
727-776-7280
Gulfport Born & Raised

Windsor #609 - Beautifully up-dated 1br/1.5ba on the open water w/prime assigned covered parking. Pet friendly too!! Furnishings available. Opportunity knocks .. \$134,900

Windsor #509 - Nicely maintained 1br/1.5ba w/amazing open water views. Assigned covered parking. Pet friendly and ready to go..... \$120,000

Diplomat #108 - Rare opportunity to have a ground floor 1br/1.5ba unit on the open water. This is what waterfront living should feel like at.....\$125,000

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