

Being Neighborly

By Cathy Salustri

When some members of the Gulfport Neighbors learned how local Mark Grantham's yard had gotten away from him – largely because he has a brain tumor that results in eyesight and balance troubles – they decided to lend a neighborly hand with what they call a “flash cleanup” Saturday morning, April 26.

After a morning's work – and a lunch supplied by Fazio's pizza – Grantham described the difference as “night and day.”

Grantham has lived in the Middle East, worked as a buyer for high-end retail, and taught history. When doctors discovered a brain tumor, his life changed. Gone were the days of traveling to Syria and long workweeks. Grantham now walks with a cane, but still remains active in the community. He volunteers as a mentor at Boca Ciega High School, serves on Gulfport's Historic Preservation Board and also recently accepted a board position with the Gulfport Historical Society.

See *Neighbors*, page 27

Pipo's Wins Top Local Chef



Ramon Hernandez, a previous winner of LocalShops1's Top Local Chef, prepares to accept the honor for a second time Sunday night, April 27, at the Gulfport Casino. Intensity Academy Gourmet's spicy mayo was the common ingredient for the annual competition. Hernandez's Pipo's Cuban Cafe served it as part of a cheesy empanada sauce and mashed plantains. Pipo's won the giant Silver Knife, which Hernandez will display next to his giant Silver Fork from his 2013 Top Local Chef victory. Hernandez will go on to compete in the World Food Championships in Las Vegas, where he will compete for prizes up to \$500,000.

Beach Commission Delays Decision on Bonfield

By Cathy Salustri



Mike Bonfield,
Former
St. Pete Beach
City Manager

The St. Pete Beach City Commission held a special meeting Wednesday, April 23, to discuss the previous evening's 3-2 motion to fire its

city manager, Mike Bonfield. A standing-room-only crowd packed the commission chambers, leaving the only

empty seat in the house the one of the dais, vacated the night before by District Two Commissioner Jim Parent.

“I have fully enjoyed my 12-plus years working in St. Pete Beach and am proud of the many things that have been accomplished,” Bonfield told the commission in an email Wednesday afternoon, “none of which would have been possible without a supportive city commission and dedicated city staff.”

I fully respect your decision to make a change in leadership and wish you and

the community well in all future endeavors.”

Bonfield attached a memo to the email explaining he would waive his legal right to a public hearing if the commission agreed to fulfill the terms of his contract. Bonfield's contract provides for six months' severance, payment for unused sick and vacation days, and retirement contributions. It also provides that the city continue to pay his health and dental insurance premiums for six months.

See *Bonfield*, page 2

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Bonfield, from front page

His payout at termination, should the commission agree to fulfill its contract with him, will fall just short of \$105,000.

The commission, on advice from its attorney Mike Davis, opted not to make a decision Wednesday night. The mayor told the audience because the commission would not vote, it would not hear public comment.

On Wednesday, April 30, the commission will reconvene to decide whether or not it will honor Bonfield's contract. At that time the

city will also discuss the specifics of the special election to replace District Two Commissioner Parent, who resigned after the meeting in which the commission voted to remove Bonfield. The commission must call for a special election within 15 days of the commissioner's resignation.

Administrative Services Director Elaine Edmunds will serve as the acting city manager. The commission will decide at Wednesday night's meeting what to pay her for her added responsibilities.

The commission will hear public comment at the meeting Wednesday,

April 30. Mayor Maria Lowe said the meeting would start at 6:00 p.m., although at press time the meeting was not noticed on the city's web site.

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Affordable Care Act Questions Answered

Did you sign up for the ACA or need to sign up in the future? Come to the Gulfport Public Library on Wednesday, May 7 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. to have your questions answered by an Affordable Care Act representative.

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Last Prom Dress Distribution Date

Belle of the Ball will have its last distribution of the spring prom season this Saturday, May 3. The hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Seminole Mall, 11201 Park Blvd., Seminole. No appointment is necessary. This date and time will be the last time to receive a dress for this prom season. Visit belleoftheballproject.com or call 727-386-4502. For information on donating dresses, contact donatebelle.info@gmail.com.

...

Gulfport Getaways: Pass-A-Grille

Travel to this unique and undeveloped beach with your Gulfport Senior Center friends. Enjoy a laid back, relaxing day on the beach and then stop at the historic Don CeSar Hotel for a personal guided tour on May 13. Don't forget your sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, fishing pole, walking shoes, and water.

Call GEMS at 727-893-2242 for more information and to reserve your seat by May 7. GEMS members pay \$13/non-GEMS members pay \$15. Price includes round trip transportation, parking, tour, and boxed lunch. There is no need to be a GEMS member to enjoy the new monthly Gulfport Getaways.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years of age or older. For more information, call the Senior Center Event Line at 727-893-5657.

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St. Petersburg Releases Short List of Police Chief Candidates

By Cathy Salustri

St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman released a list of the 10 semifinalists for the Chief of Police position. The city used the Mercer consulting group for the national search. Candidates come from as far north as New Haven, CT, whose Assistant Chief has applied, and as far west as Goodyear, AZ, whose Chief of Police (a former Floridian) has applied.

Mayor Kriseman said he expects to narrow the candidates to no more than four in the next month and a half.

"I will invite key constituency groups to city hall to review these semifinalists, subsequently narrow the field to three to four, and then invite each semifinalist to St. Petersburg for in-person interviews and a public forum," the mayor said in an email to city council Friday afternoon.

The mayor does not expect to make this decision without resident input

and promised he would give St. Pete residents the chance to "weigh in online."

In that same email, the mayor reminded council that the city charter prohibited any council member from "requesting the appointment or hiring of any employee of the city or in any manner, whether directly or indirectly, taking part in the appointment or employment of any employee of the city."

"Therefore," he wrote, "the feedback you provide to me or my office must not be in the form of a recommendation. However, I do welcome your thoughts on each candidate's strengths and weaknesses."

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The Gabber has posted the candidate resumes and cover letters online at theGabber.com.

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Seniors' Chat Room

Join others as they experience table topics with the Gulfport Senior Center's Chat Room every Friday at 1:30 p.m. The Center is located at 5501 27th Ave. S. in Gulfport.

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Beginners Digital Camera Class

Need a little help getting started with your digital camera? Sign up for the Beginners Digital Camera Class on Saturday, May 3 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Gulfport Public Library. Local photography expert Cathy Salustri will help get you started and answer all your digital camera questions. The class is always free but registration is required. Call 727-893-1073 to sign up today!

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Pancake, Pedal, Paddle Benefit

A Pancake, Pedal, Paddle Benefit for the newly formed Gulfport Women's Center will be held on May 17 at Pavilion #6 on Gulfport Beach. Pancakes are served from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Bring your own toppings to share; plates and utensils are provided. There will be water, orange juice and coffee provided by Stella's. Bring your kayak and put in on Boca Ciega Bay and/or bring your bike for an after breakfast ride.

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Meet the Author

Gulfport resident Ani Crane will be reading from her new memoir "How I Arrived Here" in May at local venues. On Friday, May 2 Art Walk, she will be at Shiva Dharma, 2838 Beach Blvd. at 5:30 p.m. On May 9 Ani will appear at the Gulfport Library, 5501 28th Ave. S. at 3:30 and at the May 17 Saturday Art Walk she will be at Domain Art

Gallery, 3129 Beach Blvd. at 6 p.m. "How I Arrived Here" is the story of one woman's transformational journey from codependence to empowerment and all the adventures along the way. Hop on for the ride from happiness to sorrow, struggle, recovery and finally victory and joy. An inspiring read for women of all ages and the men who want to know what makes women tick.

Crane was a writing teacher for 20 years in New York City and a daily journal writer.

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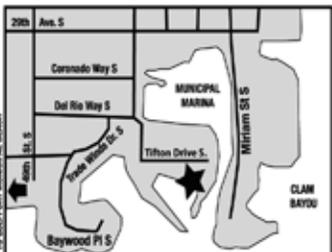
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Third Annual Diggin' the Arts Festival

Visitors can bring the entire family to the Florida Botanical Gardens, 12520 Ulmerton Road in Largo for a wide array of art activities at the third annual Diggin' the Arts festival on Sunday, May 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated.

The Diggin' the Arts event features hands-on activities including both art and gardening demonstrations and a live on-site painting competition,

as well as garden tours, vendors, booths, music and refreshments. Local museums and art centers participating include the Museum of Fine Arts of St. Petersburg, Morean Arts Center for Clay, Florida Craftsmen, Dunedin Fine Art Center, Suntan Art Center and the Beach Art Center.

Visitors will enjoy activities like working with clay, pastels, painting and garden-oriented art projects appropriate for adults and children.

Visitors can also stroll through the gardens as artists compete in the

plein air, or open-air, juried painting competition. Veteran and budding artists alike are invited to capture the beautiful vistas and scenes along the paths of the Florida Botanical Gardens. There is a \$10 fee for each canvas entry, and each entry must be stamped by a Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation staff member. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. with painting beginning at 10 a.m. Judging will start at 3 p.m. Best of show is \$200, first prize \$150, second prize \$100 and two merit award winners will receive gift cards from the Florida Botanical Bounty gift shop.

For more information about the Florida Botanical Gardens, visit fbg.org or call 727-582-2100.

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First Friday Flea: Big End of Season Sale

Everything must go! They have jewelry, art, household items, knick knacks and more, all at bargain prices. Come visit the Gulfport Senior Center at 5501 27th Ave. S. on Friday, May 1 from 9 a.m. to noon to find that perfect item. For more information call 727-893-2242.

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Electronics, Chemical Mobile Collection

Pinellas County Hazardous Waste/ Chemicals and Electronics Mobile Collection will be held on May 3 at Madeira Beach Fundamental Middle School, 591 Tom Stuart Causeway. All events are on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free for Pinellas County residents, businesses pay reduced fees. Call 727-464-7500 or visit pinellascounty.org/utilities.

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Free Movie Day

Don't forget! Tuesday, May 13 at 11 a.m. is free movie day at the Gulfport Senior Center Snack Bar, 5501 27th Ave. S. Come watch a great current movie and grab lunch from the Snack Bar for only \$3.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years of age or older. For more information, call the Senior Center Event Line at 727-893-5657.

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Venue Theatre to Close Their Doors

"A recent downturn of events is the cause," says Executive Director Corinne Broskette. "We had planned our first Summer Season, however an illness in the family of a cast member cancelled our first show planned for May," she explained. "That coupled with a raise in rent and several other issues have made it impossible to continue at Mainlands."

Formed in 1992 as a non-profit corporation dedicated to professional training and performance opportunities for non-Equity professional performers, this ends the third incarnation of Venue Theatre. Originally at 624 1st Ave. S. in St. Petersburg (now part of Studio @620) Venue moved to Gandy Boulevard next to Barney's Yamaha in 1999 as a training studio only, and in 2005 to the Plaza at Mainlands Blvd.

"Obviously," says Broskette, "Venue has risen from the ashes in the past, and this is no indication that it shall not rise again. I shall continue to teach acting, so look for more information in the near future about that part of Venue Theatre." Broskette was trained in acting, directing and teaching by the late Lee Strasberg.

There will be a huge theatre sale through May 26 at Venue Theatre, 9125 US Hwy. 19 N., in the Plaza at Mainlands Boulevard (one light north of the Super Wal-Mart) in Pinellas Park.

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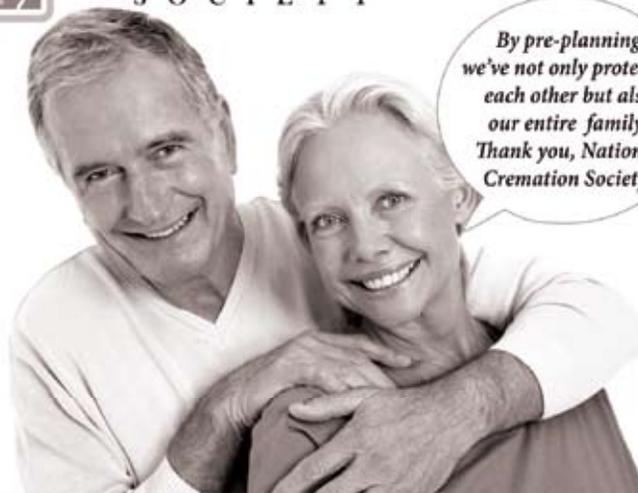
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Fun Day Open House on the Waterfront

On Saturday, May 3 from 1 to 4 p.m., Gulfport's Boca Ciega Yacht Club invites area residents to enjoy a free party at the club and on the bay. Free hot dogs (while supplies last), sailboat rides (first come, first served during event hours), club tours, demonstrations, exhibits, kids coloring contest (ages 1-12) and door prizes. Free trolley will be provided by the City of Gulfport.

"People will learn about the Club's active cruising program and its

challenging racing opportunities," says Chairperson Jean Proach. "Of equal importance is the Club's outreach to the community through its Sail School and Youth Sailing Program. Area teens will learn how they can join the club's Sea Scout Boat 915 to become experienced sailors while having a lot of fun."

During the festivities, a membership team will be on hand to show people how easy and inexpensive it is to become a part of Boca Ciega Yacht Club and enjoy its boating, social and community service activities. Membership is open to sailboat

owners, wannabe sailboat owners and those who have a love of sailing. Rain date is Sunday, May 4th.

Boca Ciega Yacht Club is located one block south of the Gulfport City Marina off 49th St. S. Turn left onto Del Rio Way to 4600 Tifton Drive S.

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Sock Hop to Benefit Local Charities

Knights of Columbus Council 14178 and Cathedral of St. Jude are sponsoring a 50s and 60s Rock 'n Roll Sock Hop featuring the original "Impacs" on May 2 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Gulfport Casino, 5500 Shore Blvd. in Gulfport. Advance tickets are \$15 for general admission, \$20 at the door. You may also reserve a front row table for 10 of your closest friends for \$150. Proceeds will benefit local Knights of Columbus charities. Tickets are available now at Gulfport Casino, Gulfport Beach Bazaar or St. Jude Cathedral office. Visit stjudekoc.org or call Bob Bielicki at 727-560-3389.

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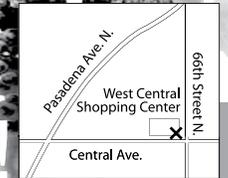


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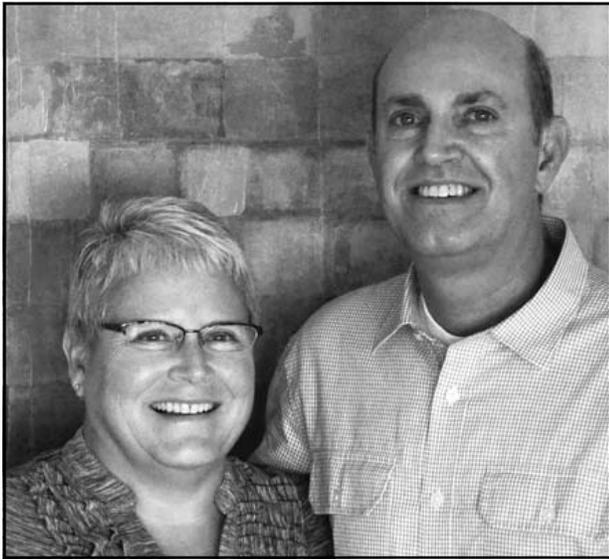
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Selling Town Shores as one of the Century 21 Real Estate Champions

By Cathy Salustri



When John and Jan Ritz fell in love with Gulfport seven years ago, they already had several years' experience selling real estate.

"We would come down to Florida for a week or two for vacation, and somebody recommended O'Maddy's for a good grouper sandwich," Jan remembers. After lunch, they took a drive down Shore Boulevard where they saw the downtown community, the beach, and Town Shores.

"We just loved this quaint little area tucked away on Boca Ciega Bay," John adds.

When they returned to Peoria, Illinois, they started researching Gulfport, and then they focused on Town Shores. "We found that Town Shores was undervalued and the best price per square foot," he says. "We always want the best deal – just as we do for our clients – and we finally discovered it!" With that, John gestures around his 9th-floor condo in the Diplomat building.

Jan oversaw their condo remodeling project, and today the broad, bleached wood floors soak up the sun streaking in from the length of windows facing the sailboat-dotted Boca Ciega Bay.

Although it wasn't their initial intent to focus on selling Town Shores' homes, the active social lifestyle has captivated them.

"Even though you're retired – not that we are – Town Shores has so much to offer aside from a home," John says. "We have an investment in this community, and I think the Town Shores' prices can improve. I'm hoping to 'add value' by selling buyers on the great lifestyle people can have here."

"You can be as busy as you want to be," Jan says, "or you can lounge by the pool."

The twosome complement one another in their enthusiasm, and one can only imagine what a dynamic duo they make on the real estate front. Jan has retired her Realtor license, but she still serves as John's assistant and helps market their enthusiasm and Gulfport, as only real estate agents can do.

Because they've chosen to hitch to the Century 21 wagon, they have national marketing for their clients, which is important since most people who buy here are from some other geographic location. The broker/owner of Century 21's Real Estate Champions, Ruth Cabella, sold John on her brokerage as the place to work with her focus on customer experience rather than volume.

"You can't be a part of the Gulfport community without caring about the customer experience," John says. "I want to help sellers feel good about selling their homes, and, as a seller's agent, I, of course, want them to get the top value for their homes in the shortest amount of time."

Both John and Jan understand, too, how challenging it can be for a senior to close up their home if they choose instead to move closer to family or want to make the transition to a community with lifestyle assistance. In those cases, they will help you through the transition and make sure they safeguard your real estate interests as you make life-changing decisions.

"Most of our clients become our friends," Jan says as she fondly recalls one lady they helped sell her home where she'd lived for more than 50 years in order to move close to her daughter.

They are passionate about Town Shores, Gulfport, and taking care of their customers. They may be the new kid on the block at Town Shores, but they've been around the block with real estate, and the needs specific to seniors, selling and buying real estate for 10 years!

John Ritz
727-599-9393 (cell)
800-866-6032
theritzteam@yahoo.com
TheRitzTeam.com

The Gabber Features "The Ritz Team" Real Estate

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Letters

Setting the Record Straight

Dear Editor: In your recent articles about vacation rentals and ownership, you site that one of the owners is from Texas. I suspect you are referring to me. I live in San Antonio, *Florida*, 33576, in Pasco County, near Dade City. I use my home in Gulfport and I am the acting manager for the property.

The city code violation was sent to me as San Antonio, Texas but with the correct zip code, 33576.

By using this wrong information the article implies we are "outsiders," not concerned with Gulfport's welfare. Nothing could be further from the truth. I plan to move back to Gulfport, to my home, at a later date.

Nancy Heusted

...

Vacation Rentals

Dear Editor: Landlords and government are the only ones who benefit from having vacation rentals in your neighborhood. Officials here look the other way, do not fine the owners and instead fine the tenants, who come in every Friday like clockwork to destroy your life all over again. Ban vacation rentals from residential neighborhoods, period. It's truly like living next door to a hotel.

Robert Stiles, Estate Agent

...

Censorship of Public Comment

Dear Mayor Lowe: I was shocked to read in the *Tampa Bay Times* on Sunday that you intend to restrict and limit audience comments at the upcoming Special Commission meeting this Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at 6 p.m. to the topic of Mike

Bonfield's severance package/contract and "not challenge the commission's action." Unless the *Times* misquoted you, your intended restriction of public comment on the commission's recent surprise and unnoticed decision to fire the city manager flies in the face of your own statements made earlier at that same commission meeting on April 22, 2014.

To refresh your memory, you may want to watch the discussion concerning the rules and procedures for the commission meetings that took place on April 22, 2014 – just one week ago. At the 2:59 mark, Deborah Schechner comes to the podium and speaks against Jim Parent's suggestion to limit the time of the meetings. After that, City Attorney Churuti says that comments should be in response to what is on the resolution. You ask for clarification. Churuti says that limiting the time of the meeting was not in the final form of the resolution therefore not relevant.

You, Mayor Lowe respond, "I am not censuring audience comments" then you say it again, "I am not censuring audience comments period!" (clap by audience).

Then you have a brief discussion with the city attorney about sunshine training the commission just completed. After that you say, "I will hold the time, but if they feel that what they are saying is applicable... *I am not stopping them whether I like it or not, that is not for me to dictate.*"

If you were misquoted in the *Times*, just say so and the residents will expect a full and open opportunity to voice their opinions regarding Mr. Bonfield's terms of termination as well as the termination itself. If you were not misquoted in the *Times* newspaper, then I believe you may

have yet another issue you need to explain to your constituents as your call for censorship not only violates Resolution 2014-04 just passed by the St. Pete Beach Commission on April 22, 2014, it neither squares with your statements quoted above nor your call for transparent and open government during your very recent campaign.

Deborah Martohue

...

A Heartfelt and Big Thank You

Dear Editor: This past Saturday over a dozen volunteers, workers from the City of Gulfport and the Gulfport Neighbors were at my house. Because of my physical limitations/disabilities, many of the bushes, trees and such had become out of control. Each of the volunteers knew what their talent was, they jumped in and made a huge difference. Some volunteers weeded, some were more than elated to use a chain saw, some raked and bagged, in no time, an overwhelming job to me, was completed and the result is beautiful!

The city provided a table and chairs, a large trash dumpster, the dumpster was especially needed. Fazio's Pizza provided pizzas and a case of water. A shining example of one person helping another, not because they were told to do so, but because they wanted to do so.

There are times when I, and many others, like to portray our current society negatively; the coming together of the volunteers, the city and the Gulfport Neighbors says to me that we live in a society that truly cares about one another.

A heartfelt and big thank you goes out to all that made this possible. A large job was made small by the hands of many.

Mark Grantham

...

Letters to the Editor

Please keep letters to the editor as brief and to the point as possible. Letters must be typed in upper and lower case on plain white paper or emailed to publisher@thegabber.com.

One letter per author every four weeks.

All letters are printed and edited for length and content at the discretion of the editors.

The Gabber encourages and welcomes all letters.

The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the publishers, staff or advertisers.

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Bocce Trivial Pursuit at Town Shores

Join them at Town Shores clubhouse auditorium on Sunday, May 4 for the Bocce Trivial Pursuit night. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the game begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are a \$5 donation. Set ups and coffee provided and their famous dessert buffet will be provided by Bocce Club. Small groups can see Edie in the office. For 8-10 players contact any Bocce Board member. Call Judy at 727-344-7558 for any other information.

...

Lincoln Club Car Show in St. Pete Beach

The Lincoln and Continental Owners Club will hold their Eastern National Meet beginning April 30 at the Sirata Beach Resort. The Club consists of owners of both classic and modern Lincolns from the 1930s to the present. Everyone is invited to attend the car show on Saturday, May 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pavilion 2 at Fort DeSoto Park, 3500

Pinellas Bayway S., St. Petersburg, where all Lincolns registered for the meet will be on display.

...

Give Day Tampa Bay

Give Day Tampa Bay on May 6 is a one-day online giving challenge led by the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay and the Florida Next Foundation to raise support for local nonprofits and grow philanthropy in the region. It is a community-wide event to show off Tampa Bay's spirit of giving, raise awareness about local nonprofits, and celebrate the

collective effort of the area. Find out more at givedaytampabay.org.

My Hope Chest is proud and excited to be a part of the first Give Day Tampa Bay.

Despite the support that hundreds of breast cancer organizations offer to survivors around the country, there is a lack of advocacy and funding for those who are left without reconstructive surgery as an option. For more information about My Hope Chest, call 727-488-0320 or visit their website at myhopechest.org.

...



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WOMEN'S CHALLENGE REGATTA



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Classes: Uncoached boat and Coached boat (coach may be male or female)

Boats and crews may be from any yacht club, or may be available from BCYC.

Triangular course, PHRF scored, no spinnakers. If the boat does not have a current or past copy of PHRF certificate, a rating will be appointed. Dockage will be available on first come, first served basis. Pot-luck dinner and awards after the race.



Contact Dave Burnham
Race Committee Chair
racing@sailbcyc.org

Yawl come !

Finally, answers to your Medicaid questions.

USF Health Byrd Alzheimer's Institute Presents
Alzheimer's Disease: What Family Caregivers Need To Know

Sponsored by Sean W. Scott, Esq., Elder Law Attorney

DATE: May 22, 2014
TIME: 9:45am ~ 3:00pm
LUNCH: will be provided

PLACE: East Bay Country Club

702 Country Club Drive, Largo FL 33771

COST: free to the public (pre-registration required)

For more info or to register, call 813-974-4357

Free Medicaid Information Seminar

Thursday, May 8th, at 2pm

Arbor Oaks Assisted Living

1701 68th St. N.

St. Petersburg, FL. 33710

(Near Tryrone Mall behind Chili's)

Sean W. Scott

Elder Law Attorney

3233 East Bay Drive • Largo • Florida • 33771

Please call for more information
about the seminar at

727-539-0181

or visit our website at FLMedicaid.com

- Find out the legal way to avoid being impoverished by nursing home costs.
- Learn how to save your assets, your house, car, and way of life and still obtain long-term nursing care.
- Easy to understand explanations of how Medicaid works by elder law attorney Sean W. Scott, Esq.
- New, up-to-date information for 2014, includes the most recent federal Medicaid law changes.

The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Before you decide, ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience. Also visit us at FLMedicaid.com.

0002630105-01



Sunshine Center is “Puttin’ on the Ritz”

Friends of the Sunshine Center invites you to “Putting on the Ritz” on May 3 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Mirror Lake Shuffleboard Complex, 559 Mirror Lake N., St. Petersburg. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door and include silent auction, hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, wine/ beverages and entertainment. Please RSVP to 727-821-2323.

...

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta

Grab your sombreros and head on down to the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Ave. S., for a taco bar, dancing, and a night of fun at the Cinco de Mayo Fiesta on Monday, May 5 at 5:30 p.m. for only \$8 per ticket. You must purchase your ticket in advance, no tickets will be sold at the door. All proceeds from this event are donated to the Gulfport Senior Center Foundation. For more information, please contact Rachel at 727-893-1231.

...

Band Gives Final Concert of the Season

A fun concert, “Light and Lively,” will be the theme of the May 8 concert of the South Pasadena Community Band. This final free concert of the season will take place in the beautiful Galatea Garden at 7001 Sunset Dr. in South Pasadena at 7:30 p.m. in the evening. Come join them as they throw in a little Gershwin and a trombone feature to complement the light and lively music. Bring your friends and your lawn chairs and let them entertain you with selections you will enjoy!

...

Check Your Blood Sugar

It is important to know your numbers. Come out to the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Ave. S. Gulfport, on the second Thursday of every month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and have your blood sugar checked. Blood sugar screenings are provided by The Springs at Boca Ciega Bay.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years
Gabber May 1 - May 7, 2014

of age or older. For more information, please contact Rachel at 727-893-1231.

...

Gulf Beaches Relay for Life

The 2014 Gulf Beaches American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life will be held at Archibald Park on Madeira Beach, beginning Saturday, May 3 at 2 p.m. The ceremonial Relay will run through the night with closing ceremonies the following morning, Sunday, May 4. The event will be one of the only Relay fundraisers held

on the beach, wherein Relayers and volunteers will have the amazing opportunity to sleep in tents on beautiful Madeira Beach.

Archibald Park is located at 15100 Gulf Blvd. with easy access on and off the beach, a wide open area, and lots of additional parking both on and across from the beach.

Many events throughout the area are being held as well to help raise funds for the Gulf Beaches Relay. For information on upcoming public events or to contribute or sign up as an individual or a team, please visit: 2014 Relay for Life Events.

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Hop on the Gulfport Rays Trolley

Promotional tickets for the May 8th Rays home game are available at the Gulfport Casino until Friday, May 2nd at 1 p.m. A \$25.00 promotional ticket purchased at the Gulfport Casino Ballroom will get you a ride to Tropicana Field, a lower box seat and a complimentary Ray's baseball hat, redeemable at the redemption desk inside Tropicana Field.

If you already have a Rays ticket for the May 8 game, show your ticket to the trolley driver, and you will receive a complimentary ride on the Gulfport-Rays Trolley. Departure times are 5 p.m. for batting practice, 6 p.m. for

pre-game and 7 p.m. for game time. The Gulfport Trolley will be leaving from the Gulfport Casino Ballroom, 5500 Shore Blvd. S., Gulfport.

Rays promotional ticket sales, out of the Casinos Box office, will close Friday, May 2 at 1 p.m. For ticket information, contact 727-893-1070 or visit the Gulfport Casino at 5500 Shore Boulevard. S.

...

Chamber of Commerce 2014 Tourism Lunch

Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce will host its 6th Annual Tourism Lunch on Thursday, May 8. The luncheon will be held at the Loews Don CeSar Hotel (3400 Gulf

Blvd. in St. Pete Beach. The 2014 panel discussion "Beyond the Beach: Florida's Not So Sandy Attractions" will highlight all aspects of the Tampa Bay area's tourism market in addition to its world famous beaches, featuring the following guest speakers: John Doonan, Manager of Mazda North American Operations; Peter Miller, BASS2BILLFISH, LLC; Theresa McCann, Director, Strategic Partnerships of NBC News & Sports Group and Bill Lupfer, President & CEO of Florida Attractions Association.

The event begins with check in and networking at 11 a.m. followed by the program and lunch at noon. Cost is \$40 per member or \$50 per non-member; table sponsorships are available.

For more information or to register, please contact Jennifer McKenney at 727-360-6957 or RSVP@tampabaybeaches.com.

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Garden Club of St. Petersburg News

The Garden Club of St. Petersburg announces their calendar for May. Both events are held at 500 Sunset Dr. S., St. Petersburg. Call 727-381-8920.

On Monday, May 5, at 10 a.m. get your artistic juices flowing and make one of a kind glass magnet sets or cases. Cost of materials is \$4.50.

On Tuesday, May 13, learn Earth Box Gardening System Tips.

...

Healthy Aging: Disaster Preparedness

Do you have a checklist to use during emergencies? Do you have an emergency kit in your home with medications and supplies if needed?

Come to the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Ave. S. on Wednesday, May 7 at 1:30 p.m. to learn about the steps you should take in order to prepare yourself and your home for a natural disaster. Using interactive exercises and humor, they will come up with a plan together to keep you safe.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years of age or older. Call Rachel at 727-893-1231.

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Gabber May 1 - May 7, 2014



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Sunsation Show Chorus To Perform the "Blues"

"Singin' the Blues for You" wraps up the 10th season for the Sunsation Show Chorus. Performance is May 3, 2 p.m. at the Catherine Hickman Theater in Gulfport, 5501 27th Ave. S. Tickets are \$15, group tickets are \$12. Tickets are available at the Casino, 5500 Shore Blvd., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday or purchase through PayPal at sunsationshowchorus.com.

...

Cell Phone Class 101

On Thursday, May 8 at 2 p.m., bring your cell phone to the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Ave. S. and ask your questions. Christine and Tony from The Cell Phone Solution will be there to answer all your questions about how to use your cell phone or smart phone, how to download apps, how to take pictures and send them, how to add contacts, and more.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years

of age or older. For more information, please contact Rachel at 727-893-1231.

...

Hit the Links for Stroke Survivors

Voices of Hope for Aphasia, a non-profit serving people with aphasia, is hosting their second annual golf tournament on May 3 at Seminole Lake Country Club in Seminole. The format is best ball, so anyone can play regardless of skill level. To register, go to www.vohaphasia.com or call Mike Caputo at 727-249-1953.

Voices of Hope for Aphasia is a 501(c)3 non-profit dedicated to helping stroke survivors and others afflicted with aphasia find hope that progress can be made, and in the meantime to find ways to live a happy and fulfilling life. Aphasia is an acquired communication disorder that impairs a person's ability to process language, but does not affect their intelligence. VOHA group meetings are held in St. Petersburg on Mondays and Wednesdays. For more information, go to www.vohaphasia.com or call Mike Caputo at 727-249-1953.

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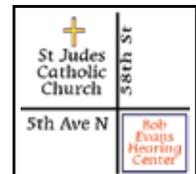
 <p>"Ice cream with a healthy twist"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low Calories • Low Fat • Low Sugar • Low Carbs • Cholesterol Free • No Artificial Sweeteners • Diabetic Friendly • D'Licious <p>\$1 OFF ANY ice cream or yogurt purchase over \$5 <small>May not be combined with other offer. No cash value. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. Expires 5/17/14</small></p> 	<p>Disston Plaza Corner of 38th AVE N & 49th ST N 727-525-0400</p> <p>St. Pete Beach Corner of Gulf Blvd & Gulf Winds 727-592-1934</p> <p>Also featuring Europe's most popular Segafredo Espresso Cafe!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frozen Yogurt (at beach) • Fruit Smoothies (both locations) <p>TRY OUR NEW STEAKBURGERS, DOGS, & FRIES AT BEACH STORE Air Fried... Great Taste With No Trans Fat and Up To 60% Lower Calories!</p> <p>TampaBayDlites.com</p> 
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First Friday Art Walk

On Friday, May 2 from 6 to 10 p.m., visitors can meet and purchase the works of talented independent artisans, craftsmen, authors and entertainers, stretched over a half-mile up and down scenic Beach Boulevard. The event features new artists every week and includes several different sculpture and paint mediums, jewelry, photography, fish

rubbings, upcycled items, handmade/ designed clothing and accessories, body products and more. Most recently, Art Walk has added a new component called Collective Soulz. Collective Soulz brings to Gulfport new and emerging artists, whose talents range from photography to pottery and from drawing to music, giving them the opportunity to see if they can succeed as a working artist at street fairs. Live musicians

appear at several venues throughout the waterfront district, including Stephanie, Jay Pritchard, and Paul Anthony to name a few. The Industrial Art Center of Gulfport offers step-by-step classes and instruction in specialized areas such as glass casting, glass fusing, sculptural welding and forged steel for students age 5-85.

While browsing the art and craft booths, don't miss Gulfport's unique shops, boutiques and galleries and enjoy dinner at one of over a dozen fine restaurants within the area.

There is no admission fee for visitors and complimentary parking is available nearby with courtesy trolley rides available from off-site parking areas. Gulfport events are pet and family friendly. Experience a dining, shopping and cultural experience unlike any other. The event is located near the surrounding area of 3129 Beach Blvd. S., Gulfport.

Vendor information can be found at SIKpromotions.com. Call 727-322-5217.

Free IQuit Smoking Now Program

Would you like to finally quit smoking and improve your health? You can do it! IQuit is a personalized six week program. Participants will be provided with a supply of nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) including patches, gum, lozenges and a workbook while supplies last. This program is sponsored by Gulfcoast North AHEC and by the Florida Department of Health and will take place on Thursday, May 15, at Enoch Davis Center, 1111 18th Ave. S. from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Seating is limited. Must be 18 to participate. To register and find out more information, please contact Nicole Kelly 813-929-1000 ext. 204 or email nkelly@gnahec.org. For other classes and locations, visit ahectobacco.com/calendar.

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~ or ~
Veal Parmesan w/ Spaghetti, Roll/Butter, Dessert ~ \$8.00

Saturday, May 3, 4:30-6:30pm

Legion Dinner

Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Veggie, Roll/Butter, Dessert ~ \$8.50

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8:30am-11:00am
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Gulfport Democratic Club to Meet

The Gulfport Democratic Club meets the first Monday of each month at Neptune Grill, 5501 Shore Blvd. S. from 7 till 8:30 p.m. Contact Meagan Salisbury at info.gulfportdems@gmail.com or call 401- 639-6131.

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Chamber Seeks Donations for School

By Lynda Shehan

Gulfport Area Chamber of Commerce will once again partner with member America's Office Source to raise money to purchase school supplies for Gulfport Elementary School. Last year "A Gift For Learning" brought together the business and private community, collected \$2,500 and, through America's Office Source wholesale buying power, the Chamber delivered \$5,000 worth of school supplies. Our goal is to double this effort for the 2014-2015 school season. To do this, we need the support of each person in Gulfport.

Please deliver or mail your donation checks, payable to the Gulfport Area Chamber of Commerce, subject school supplies, to 4926 Gulfport Blvd. S., Gulfport, FL 33707. The deadline date for delivery of supplies is Friday, August 15.

This program is very important to the school as your donation, no matter the size, will place simple things such as erasers, colored pencils and more into the hands of children who otherwise would not have them.

Thank you for helping us make a difference. If you have any questions please phone Lynda at 727-323-3892 or America's Office Source at 727-331-1934.

...

National Adoption Weekend

Come by and pick out a great kitten or cat this weekend at PetSmart. PetSmart Charities National

Adoption Weekend is this Friday through Sunday, May 2 to 4 at PetSmart® stores throughout the country. Save Our Strays, a no-kill cat rescue organization, will be at the following PetSmart stores: in St. Petersburg, Tyrone (Tyrone Boulevard and Park Street) from 10:30 to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday; and in the Gateway area (7777 9th St. N.) from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday.

All felines are spayed/neutered, current on vaccines and are microchipped. It is time to add a new companion to your home for unconditional love. To learn more, call an SOS volunteer at 727-481-5262 or visit saveourstraysinc.com to see other beautiful SOS cats.

...

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3	1	7	6	9	4	5	8	2
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Gulfport Garden & Bird Club

For the final meeting of the 2013-14 year, the Gulfport Garden & Bird Club will meet on May 15 at 1 p.m. at the Gulfport Library Meeting Room to hear Mr. James Stephenson (from UF/IFAS Pinellas County Extension at Brooker Creek Preserve) discuss Orchids and Epiphytes as found at Brooker Creek Preserve in Tarpon Springs. This should be a very informative meeting! Plan to attend, enjoy some light refreshments, and participate in the short business meeting afterward. This will be their last gathering for the 2013-14 year.

...

Open House at Maximo Resource Center

Maximo Resource Center located at 4815 34th St. S. in St. Petersburg is hosting an open house from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, May 2. See what services they offer and find out how you can be a part of their volunteer team.

...

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The Gabs

Last week, the St. Pete Beach commission held a special meeting about firing the city manager. After the meeting – during which the commission took no action – we asked four attendees how they felt and how they thought the commission was handling the issue.



Michael Lehman: “Based on my experience – I used to work for local government and elected officials – is that it was done professionally and with respect for everybody involved.”

...



Steve McFarlin, former mayor of St. Pete Beach: “Naively. Someone came in here, and before a month in a position she’s never held in her life...”

...



Al Halpern, former SPB commissioner, District One: “Shocked. Stunned. Without much forethought, and will result in a substantial cost to the taxpayer.”

...



Dave Benfield: “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it. We’re pulling ourselves out of the swamp... the word is integrity. Did we have a conversation with some of the commissioners but not all of the commissioners?”

...

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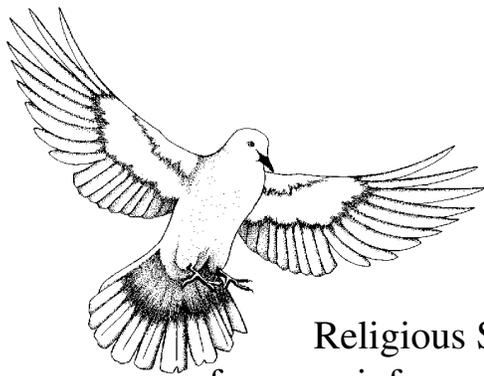
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www.Jewishheritage.net

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Friday 7pm

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...

Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ

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Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am

Nursery Available

Adult Sunday School

9:30 am

Bible Study

Wednesday 11am

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www.pilgrimcongregationuccstpeteflorida.com

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Program - 11:00 AM

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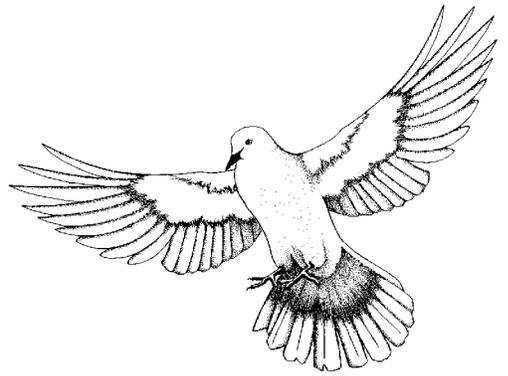
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Worship



Sign Up for Vacation Bible School

A week of fun and learning awaits the youngsters who take part in this year's Vacation Bible School (VBS) at Pass-A-Grille Beach Community Church. Sue Prather, Director of Christian Education, said, "Our VBS continues to thrive and serve the community as more families become aware of its recreational and educational opportunities. All children, age four through grade 5, are welcome. This year's professionally developed curriculum, 'Weird Animals' blends a mixture of fun-filled activities with learning experiences that explore God's creations. Healthy snacks will be provided during the day."

The week-long VBS will be held from Monday, June 16 through Friday, June 20 from 9 a.m. to noon. PAGBCC is located at 107 16th Ave. in St. Pete Beach.

The June registration fee is \$45 per child or \$75 per family. However, early registration and reduced rates are available. The rates from now through May 13, are \$35 per child or \$55 per family, while the rates from May 14 through May 31 are \$40 per child or \$65 per family.

For more registration information, please call the church office at 727-360-5508 or visit pagchurch.org.

...



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 Morning Prayer Wednesdays at 9:15am
 in Pastor's Office

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 Traditional Service..... 10:30am

Wednesday evening:
 Supper and Bible Study..... 6:00pm

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www.gulfportumc.org

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Pass-A-Grille Beach Community Church
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 727-360-5508

Sunday Worship Services:
 Alternative Worship with Communion at 8:45am
 Traditional Worship & Church School at 10:00am
 Coffee, Cookies & Fellowship at 11:00am
 View services LIVE or download sermons at:
WWW.PAGCHURCH.ORG

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 11:00am Traditional Service

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St. Petersburg FL 33707
PasadenaCommunityChurch.org

Get a Vessel Safety Check of Your Boat

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 7-8 headquartered at Pass-A-Grille, St. Pete Beach area has certified vessel examiners who will perform a free Vessel Safety Check ("VSC") of your boat at a time of mutual convenience. There is no charge, and no consequences if you don't pass. Their goal is simply to help make boating as safe as possible for you, your family and your friends through education.

You can contact the USCG Auxiliary by filling out an electronic form that can be found at web address wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=V-DEPT&category=i-want-a-vsc. Please fill out the form, completing every field. Note that they typically can perform the VSC wherever your boat is located or by mutual arrangement you may bring your boat to their examiner. Note: The correct street address of the boat or marina's location is required to find the nearest examiner(s). Do not use a PO Box for the address as it cannot

be used to calculate the distance to our volunteers.

The USCG Auxiliary will be at the Fort Desoto Boat Ramp at 8:30 a.m. on May 4 until noon offering free vessel inspection. If you can make that date please feel free to bring your vessel to the ramp.

More information on National Safe Boating and what you can do can be found at safeboatingcampaign.com. More information on boater safety training can be found at wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=070-07-08.

...

MOWC to Meet

Military Officers Wives Club will meet for luncheon May 13 at Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park. Social hour will be 11:30 with lunch at 12:15 p.m. The program will be installation of officers. They will also have a crazy hat contest. All former, retired or active duty military spouses, their widows and former, retired or active duty female officers are invited to attend. Call 727-397-4146 or 727-399-1272 for reservations.

...

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Crossword Puzzle

Solution on Page 18

ACROSS

- 1 Celerity
- 6 Sleeper director
- 11 Rod
- 14 Bruin's rival
- 15 Shiner
- 16 Eggs
- 17 Vote holders
- 19 Nettle
- 20 *The Rights of Man* author
- 21 Over ____
- 23 Exile
- 26 Readies
- 27 Take cover
- 28 Now
- 30 Clear
- 31 Hit the roof
- 32 Cote call
- 35 Following
- 36 Popular bags
- 37 Croat's neighbor
- 38 Droop-nosed flier
- 39 Furious
- 40 Belted blouse
- 41 Cold-shoulder
- 43 Trunk lines
- 44 Woodstock's pal
- 46 Emergence
- 47 Poem division

- 48 An apostle
- 50 Keatsean effort
- 51 Polis
- 57 Arikara
- 58 Diminish
- 59 Comaneci
- 60 Miscue
- 61 M*A*S*H role
- 62 See 28 Across

DOWN

- 1 Utterance from Niobe
- 2 Entertainer Zadora
- 3 Building extension
- 4 Conger
- 5 Academic escapee
- 6 Limits
- 7 Diving bird
- 8 De ____
- 9 Vane reading
- 10 Got comfy
- 11 Ruling bodies
- 12 Prevent
- 13 Annual giving
- 18 Shea cover
- 22 ____ *Cardboard Lover*
- 23 Cooing birds
- 24 Work for votes
- 25 Saucy

- 26 Picnic drinks
- 27 Bonanza role
- 28 Dull finish
- 29 Cyma reversal
- 31 Pride's call
- 33 Peace Prize winner
- 34 Basics
- 36 *Apple of Discord* city
- 37 You bet!
- 39 Holding office
- 40 Flood
- 42 Obtained
- 43 Crooked
- 44 Succeed
- 45 Consumerist
- 46 Heaven
- 48 Nudge
- 49 Snorri story
- 52 Palm cockatoo
- 53 Indo-Chinese
- 54 Roush of baseball fame
- 55 Creek
- 56 Opinion

Cast Your Vote

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Call to Artists for Annual Gecko Creations

Local artists are invited to submit a proposal for the creation of a larger-than-life gecko to be auctioned during the annual Gecko Ball in Gulfport on August 23. Artists selected will be supplied with a steel form in the shape of a gecko, either large (approximately 36 inches long by 18 inches wide) or small (approximately 24 inches long by 13 inches wide). Up to 10 artists will be selected to participate this year. Each gecko may be embellished, re-shaped, formed and/or re-imagined in any

form and using any media by the participating artist. Except for the steel form, artists are responsible for purchasing any materials needed to create their designs. Each artist selected will receive two tickets to the Gecko Ball and will be acknowledged during the event.

Participating artists should live in or near Gulfport or have personal, familial or working ties to the city. If interested, artists should send a written summary and photos of some of their art work. It is not necessary for the artist to predetermine or express how he or she would create the gecko if chosen.

The deadline to submit an expression of interest will be June 1. Send submissions to: Owen Pach, Gulfport Merchants Association, P.O. Box 531914, St. Petersburg, FL 33747. The deadline for completion of geckos will be July 1.

For more information, contact Owen Pach at 727-623-4920 or email owenpachglass@gmail.com. Each of the geckos will be displayed in a shop, gallery or restaurant in the waterfront district in the weeks leading up to Gecko Ball.

This is the fifth year that artists will be selected to create geckos to be auctioned at the Gecko Ball and the popularity of the gecko auction grows each year. Nearly 30 geckos have been created in previous years, each becoming a collector's item. A portion of proceeds from the Gecko Ball, as well as GeckoFest and the Gecko Pub Crawl is donated to local charities each year, and also funds the commission of public art projects in the Gulfport waterfront district.

The theme of this year's Gecko Ball is "Roaring Geckos!" a 1920s motif evoking flappers, "The Great Gatsby," gangsters, "Guys and Dolls," and other 20s touchstones. Costumes are encouraged! The event includes a dinner buffet, cash bar, live music and dancing, costume contest, silent auctions and the live auction of artist-created geckos. Tickets for Gecko Ball go on sale a few weeks prior to the event, and it is known to sell out every year. To receive updates on Gecko Ball, including announcements of ticket sales and locations, visit and like the Facebook page for Gecko Ball at facebook.com/geckoball. Ticket sales announcements will also be published in local media. For more information, please contact Daniel Hodge at 727-366-4086 or email dan@igc.org.

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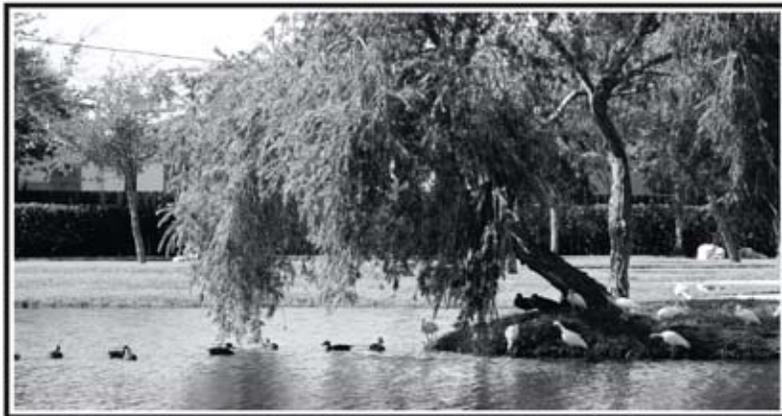
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“**Y**ou could say my motto is ‘been there, done that,’” says Keith Sanders, from Sanders Law, P.A.

He says that for two reasons. First, he says his more than 20 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 personal injury.

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Horoscope Guide

By Holiday Mathis

Mercury is a cosmic mischief-maker, fast and defiant. His latest antics have been games of “hurry up and wait.” A quick vacation in Aries seemed to speed up time, leading us to believe we had to rush around to pack everything into the day. In Taurus, Mercury convinced us to slow it down. On Wednesday, Mercury will slip into Gemini, his favorite sign, and finally things will seem to occur in the proper time frame.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You don't set out to bend rules. You respect the systems people create and the boundaries they erect. You honor the preferences of others whenever possible. You also note that there is often more leeway than most people notice. If it doesn't seem to harm anyone, you'll take advantage of this.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You like to be near the people you feel closest to, but you also see great value in the objective mirror provided by strangers. This week you will bravely embark on a mission that will take you into foreign territory. As you negotiate among the general public, you'll learn something important about yourself.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Maybe this is self-help 101, but it bears repeating this week: The word “don't” puts people on the defensive and reinforces the negative aspects of behavior you're trying to avoid. There is usually a much better way of putting things. Focus on the desired result, and ask for it in as many ways as you can think of.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Wonderful and weird experiences defy categorization. When you don't know where to mentally log it, you will be tempted to reject the memory as unreal. But just because an experience is unreasonable, fanciful or uncommon doesn't make it less real. Believe in the unbelievable things that happen to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your favorite part of a long journey will be the first and the last miles. The middle offers all kinds of challenges,

including worry, boredom and other tests. You'll overcome them all by remembering why you wanted to do this in the first place. With your purpose in mind, your destination will greet you with open arms.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The saying goes, “No good deed goes unpunished.” It is indeed likely that your kindness will lead you through trials and challenges, though you should not think of this as punishment. Rather, it is the stuff that makes you a broader, wiser and more knowledgeable person able to understand life's rich rewards.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Many will condemn the person who is all talk and no walk, and yet you can see the validity of this person's gifts. Maybe talk isn't so cheap, after all. If the words paint mental pictures that inspire action, they really are worth something. You are a doer. Colorful words will fuel new ambitions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Beauty comes in many forms. You appreciate the forms that are not so obvious to others. Maybe it's a stretch to say you'll open their eyes, but you'll definitely relax their eyes enough so that future exposure to this new concept of beauty might creak those peepers open.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Because life is throwing you several things at once, you're not in the mood for surprises -- the effect will be lost. Even pleasant surprises can be off-putting if you're not in the right frame of mind. What pleases you now is stability. A person who can help you manage your expectations will be most appreciated.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The secret to your success is that you show up consistently. Because you can be counted on, good things will happen. It also helps that you bring an elusive quality to your work. Though no one will name it, and it can't easily be described, it will distinguish you from the others.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The loved ones who are supposed to know you best will fail to understand what you need this week, but there

is a grand opportunity in this. The answer is “out there.” If you're bold enough to go after it, you'll not only find what you need, but you'll also discover a new purpose worthy of your attention.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Some advise that we should face our fears; others suggest abandoning them. Graceful, active and lithe, you are more inclined to dance with your fear and may even let it lead. By accepting your apprehensions and agreeing to work with them in this way, you eventually will develop effective coping skills.

This Week's Birthdays: You're not afraid of confrontation or conflict, and so you'll deal with obstacles and quickly claim a prize this month. In June, you will bond with like-minded people who share in your hobby or will buy what you are selling or otherwise help you with your business. July brings a much-needed change of scenery. The volunteering you do in August helps your personal life in unexpected ways. You'll travel with friends in August, too. In September, a large purchase will mark the start of a new chapter.

Music at Gulfport Beach Pavilion #6

Monday, 1-3:30 p.m.

Harold & Donna alternating weeks with Len & Arlene

Tuesday, 1-3:30 p.m.

Open

Wednesday, 1-3:30 p.m.

Karaoke Mike Furman

Thursday, 1-3:30 p.m.

Dancing & Karaoke with Dave & Cookie

1st & 3rd Friday, 1-3:00 p.m.

Entertainment Dorothy & Jim

Saturday, 1-3 p.m.

Ray & Ann, Entertainment

Sunday, 1-3:00 p.m.

Woody & his accordion, Music for listening & dancing

Weather permitting

Want Some Laughter with Your Yoga?

World Laughter Day was created in 1998 by Dr. Madan Kataria of the worldwide Laughter Yoga movement. Join the Gulfport Laughter Yoga Club this Sunday, May 4 for a free event at a pavillion on Gulfport Beach. They will have a Laughter Yoga session, fun games and Conga line parade, music (bring your instruments to join in), banner making and a light brunch pot luck. Bring a dish to share. All ages and abilities are welcome. No prior yoga experience is necessary.

The Gulfport Laughter Yoga Club meets on Fresh Market Tuesdays at 1 p.m. and Saturdays at 10 a.m. in Veterans Park, 5350 31st Ave. S. in Gulfport. Contact Rhonda Machado laugh2dayyoga@gmail.com.

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Community to Discuss Historic Preservation

The City of St. Pete Beach seeks to protect the architectural and historic integrity of the Pass-a-Grille Historic District and is hosting a Community Workshop Series to share information and obtain general public input on creating design standards for Pass-a-Grille. Community Workshop 1 will be on Wednesday, May 7, from 6 to 8 p.m. and will obtain public input and discuss ideas and strategies to preserve the ambiance and historic character of the community. Community Workshop 2 will follow on Wednesday, May 21, from 6 to 8 p.m. There they will share the community input received at Workshop 1, obtain public feedback on the general framework, and discuss design standards to preserve Pass-a-Grille's historic character. Both workshops will be held at the Warren Webster Building, 1500 Pass-a-Grille Way in St. Pete Beach.

Contact Chelsey Welden at 727-363-9266 or cwelden@stpetebeach.org.

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Gabber May 1 - May 7, 2014

Neighbors,

from front page

He can no longer drive; instead, he walks or takes busses to where he needs to go.

Even as volunteers used chainsaws to remove dead branches and stumps, adding to the mountain of yard waste awaiting pickup, Grantham carried yard waste to the curb, his cane in one hand and a pile of vines in the other.

"Our first 'flash cleanup' was great," Gulfport Neighbors Vice President Margarete Tober said. "The amount of work accomplished by the 19 volunteers, in a few short hours, was amazing."

Different than prior cleanups, the flash cleanups should take no more than a few hours, according to Tober.

"The idea is to complete the project in a 'flash,'" she said, adding that "part of the notion of the flash clean-up is to get immediate neighbors involved." These cleanups do not require as much planning or as many resources as the larger projects.

Although the cleanup didn't take place on as grand a scale as others, to Grantham, it mattered just as much.

"The actions of the volunteers and Fazio's show us why we are lucky to live in such a town that truly cares about the residents," Grantham wrote on the *Gabber's* "Gulfport Ideas and Opinions" Facebook page Saturday afternoon.



Mark Grantham was the beneficiary of Saturday Morning's flash cleanup.

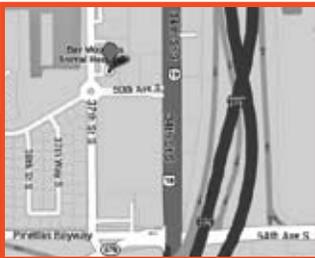


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About Dr. Trefz

- From St. Pete; graduate, Canterbury H.S.
- Graduate, UF College of Veterinary Medicine (top 5% with honors)
- Recently sold a thriving, three doctor, AAHA Vet Hospital in Clearwater to relocate back to his roots



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Democratic Club to Meet

The Greater Pinellas Democratic Club will meet on May 8 at Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park. The meeting will start with cocktails (cash bar) and social time at 6 p.m., followed by a buffet dinner (\$15) at 6:30, followed by the speakers' presentation.

Claire Conner, author of "Wrapped in the Flag" will speak along with Kim Black, who recently resigned as President of the Pinellas County Teacher's Union. For reservations

call Betty Morgenstein at 727-360-3971.

The club's upcoming picnic is scheduled for May 18 at pavilion 14 at Fort Desoto Park, 3500 Pinellas Bayway S., St. Petersburg. Busy local candidates may drop by as well.

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Apply for Arts and Cultural Grant

The City of St. Petersburg is offering grants to eligible nonprofit arts and cultural organizations for the next budget year. Applications and guidelines to receive funds are now

available online at stpete.org/grants/internal_grants_program.asp; grants are due on or before Friday, June 13.

Organizations interested in applying for these grant funds are encouraged to attend an informational workshop, which will be held Wednesday, May 21 at 11 a.m. at St. Petersburg City Hall, 175 5th Street N., Room 100.

It is anticipated that for next year, St. Petersburg City Council will allocate approximately \$175,000 to eligible arts and cultural organizations to assist them in underwriting their operating expenses. The city's Arts Advisory Committee will evaluate the applications and make recommendations to city council in October. To be eligible, a nonprofit cultural organization must serve the residents of St. Petersburg. The amount provided to each organization depends on the merit of the application and the operating budget of the organization.

This current budget year, the city funded local organizations including American Stage, the Morean Arts Center, St. Petersburg Opera Company and more.

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Annual Bromeliad Auction

Come out and join the Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society in its annual Bromeliad auction on Tuesday, May 6, at 7 p.m. at Good Samaritan Church, 6805 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park. FWCBS celebrates its 60th Anniversary this year. Bromeliads include Neoregelia, Aechmea, Billbergia, Tillandsia, Cryptanthus (earth stars), Guzmania, Vriesea, etc. Plants auctioned are from commercial Florida Bromeliad nurseries, local nurseries, and member-growers. Grow them in the trees, on the ground, in sun/shade. These plants are low maintenance and provide color 24/7. Doors open at 7 p.m. and refreshments are provided. Contact franne@fbgbamboo.com.

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American Legion Post 305

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WEEKLY EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENTS

MONDAYS: Bucky Burgers 5-8pm • Karaoke 6:30-9:30pm

TUESDAYS: Pizza ALL DAY • Auxillary Dinner - Meatloaf

WEDNESDAYS: Trivia Night + All-You-Can-Eat Spaghetti 6-8pm

THURSDAYS: Bar Bingo 7pm • Food available

FRIDAYS: Fish & Shrimp 6-8pm • Geno 6:30-9:30pm

SATURDAYS: Steak Dinner 6-8pm • Lee Jay Nelson 6:30-9:30pm

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Law of Attraction: “The Emotion Code”

Are you experiencing some form of pain, physically or emotionally? Pain is an indicator that something within us is out of balance. Join Life Coach, Kathy Lane, Wednesday, May 14 at 1:30 p.m. at the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Ave. S., while she talks more about the relationship between our thoughts, beliefs and emotions and how to process and release emotional baggage which will allow you to create a better life experience.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years of age or older. For more information, call the Senior Center Event Line at 727-893-5657.

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Thrift Shop to Hold Month-Long Sale

For the entire month of May, the Thrift Shop of Pass-A-Grille Beach Community Church will conduct a rack and shelf clearing sale. The already low priced men's and women's clothing will be cut by 75% while all other items will be reduced by 50%. The shop stocks quality items such as jewelry, dishes, knick-knacks, books and linens. Proceeds support community charities such as Habitat for Humanity, Salvation Army, AmiKids Pinellas and church missions.

The shop is open every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon and is located at 17th Ave. and Pass-a-Grille Way, St. Pete Beach. Call 727-329-8617.

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Open House to Feature Authors

Gulfport Toastmasters club is hosting an open house on Wednesday, May 7, at the Community Room of the Gulfport Library, 5501 28th Ave. S. in Gulfport. The featured speaker will be Gulfport author Wesley A. Whittaker, the co-author of “Economic Warfare” and “The Little Book of Venture Capital Investing,” both published by John Wiley & Sons. The theme of the evening will be “Motivating People” and Whittaker will be discussing

proven techniques for creating and maintaining an environment in which team members are easily motivated.

Karin Wisniewski, another Gulfport author, will be conducting the Table Topics portion of the evening. Table Topics is where audience members are asked a question and have two minutes to answer extemporaneously or “off the cuff.” Many Toastmasters attribute this exercise with improving their conversational and presentation skills.

Open houses give anyone curious about the organization an opportunity to experience a typical

Toastmaster meeting and have their questions answered. Toastmasters meetings are held weekly and anyone over the age of 18 is welcome to visit and apply for membership.

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Live in Color Meditation

Live in color meditations is the art of breathing in color. A new meditation class is held at the Gulfport Recreation Center on Thursdays. The class will be from 10:30-11:30 a.m. The cost is \$10 per class and \$5 for seniors. For more information and questions, please call Rasheedah at 850-339-4668.

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Save Our Strays



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Locals Take Advantage of Free Cancer Screenings



At Gulfport's sixth annual cancer screening, Dr. James Spencer examines a woman's arm for suspect moles and other irregularities that could signal the start of skin cancer.

Saturday morning, April 26, South Pinellas locals queued to get checked for varied types of cancer in the Gulfport Walgreens parking lot. The event started several years ago as the brainchild of David Hastings, an oral cancer survivor and advocate. The screening started at 10 a.m. and lasted four hours; during that time, doctors checked people for oral, skin and prostate cancer. The screening also included hearing, vision and diabetes checks.

Republican Club to Meet

State Representative Kathleen Peters (R-69), will address the members and friends of the St. Petersburg Republican Club on Wednesday, May 14 at 7 p.m. at the St. Petersburg Community Church, 4501 30th Ave. N. in St. Petersburg. Rep. Peters will discuss the accomplishments of the recently concluded legislative session and provide an insight into issues that are expected to be raised in the next session. Following her presentation, Rep. Peters will answer questions from the audience. Everyone is invited to attend and participate in the question and answer session. There is no charge for this event.

For more information on this event and other club activities, please call Gus Pries at 727-864-0312.

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Pet Pal Animal Shelter



Paris is a one year and five month old, female Pit Bull Terrier mix. Paris is dog friendly. She is a gentle girl who only wants to please. You must own your home to adopt Paris. To learn more about Paris and other adoptable animals, visit Pet Pal Animal Shelter located at 405 22nd St. S., St. Pete, or call 727-328-7738.

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Submit your Writing to Literary Journal

The Gulfport Review Literary Journal, a planned new annual publication, is accepting submissions from all genre of writing, poetry, fiction, nonfiction, etc., for its first publication planned for late December. The theme is community. Deadline for submissions is July 31. Word limit is 4000.

You do not need to be a local. Anyone can submit via email to TraceTaylorPublishing@gmail.com. Proceeds from journal sales will support fee-free writing workshops for youth grades 1-12.

For more information call Trace at 813-486-5437.

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Alumni Singers Spring Concert

The Alumni Singers of St. Petersburg will present its annual Spring Concert on Sunday, May 18 at 4 p.m. at Lakewood United Methodist Church, 5995 MLK St. S. in St. Petersburg.

The concert will be under the direction of Janice Hogan and will be accompanied by Dorothy Jenkins.

The concert features the group's African American spirituals, the music of several composers including various music forms such as hymns, anthems and gospel.

Call 727-323-7004.

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Join the Coffee Club

You are invited to join the Coffee Club that meets at the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Ave. S. on the first Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. Discussing current events, the economy and investing, in a relaxed, informal setting, is a great way to get to know one another as you learn from Edward Jones financial advisor, Scott O'Berry. Coffee and doughnuts are provided.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years of age or older. For more information, please contact Rachel at 727-893-1231.

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Excerpts heard at the April 23, 2014

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

"You should not approve this draft agreement that was sent to you tonight because [the firm had not had the opportunity to review it]." — City Attorney Mike Davis

"This room is full, and it's wonderful to see the room full. I wish that this were the case on every meeting." — Mayor Maria Lowe

"Mr. Bonfield has shown himself to be a consummate professional... Out of regard for him and in effort to maintain his dignity... [the commission will hear no public comment]" — Mayor Maria Lowe

"This city will continue to function; it will continue to function well." — Mayor Maria Lowe

"[You] will not hear all of the details of why... The motion brought forth last night was about change, it was about bringing a fresh perspective." — Mayor Maria Lowe

"We are in need of change, we need new eyes, we need someone to come in here who has energy." — District One Commissioner Terri Finnerty

"We've have some difficulty with employee morale here, which is why we've had turnover." — District One Commissioner Terri Finnerty

"It was a difficult meeting last night to say the least. I was not in favor of what transpired last night and especially the way it was transpired last night." — District Three Commissioner Greg Premer

"Tonight likely does not look like the time to point fingers. I too want to move forward as a city, as a commission." — District Three Commissioner Greg Premer

"Something stinks in paradise; I don't like the direction this city is moving' — that is the bulk of what I heard." — District Three Commissioner Greg Premer

"I will ask from this point forward that you do not clap." — Mayor Maria Lowe, who said the applause made it hard for the city clerk to hear and reminded the audience to "continue to respect how the commission is moving forward."

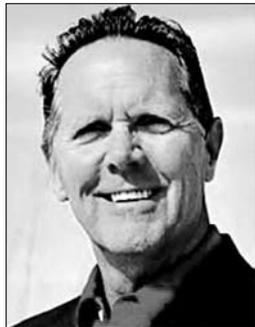
"I will forever be grateful to Mike Bonfield's service to our city." — District Four Commissioner Melinda Pletcher

"It is time to recollect where we are and where we want to be... Where we are is not in a good place." — District Four Commissioner Melinda Pletcher, who cited budget, infrastructure and "morale" issues among city staff as problems in city hall

Introducing Greg Premer: St. Pete Beach Commissioner District Three

By Cathy Salustri

This is the last of the Gabber's three-part series introducing the newest St. Pete Beach commissioners.



St. Pete Beach
Commissioner District
Three Greg Premer

Greg Premer sells scoreboards. In between business trips that take him across Florida, he and his wife, Melisa, are raising their threeteenage daughters in their Belle

Vista home.

The vice president (and former president) of the Belle Vista Civic Association says he talked to his friends at length before deciding to run for the District Three seat.

"I'm a family guy. I think I'm the only non-retired person on the commission, except for Melinda [Pletcher]. I thought it would be nice having a point of view for those many, many people who live here who have kids," he says.

"What I ran on was 'family guy, trying to make a difference,'" he says. "From playing softball, I got to know the inside part of it, and with the kids at Gulf Beaches, I got to know the locals. It seemed like the logical next step."

"I have no political ambition whatsoever," he said of a higher office. "I thought it would be a good thing to do to help the city."

The District Three councilman found St. Pete Beach because of a snowstorm. In February 1983, his car got stuck in the snow in Milwaukee. That was all it took; on the same day the series finale of M*A*S*H aired, he moved to Orlando. He met his wife, a fourth-generation Floridian, and when she enrolled in Stetson Law School they moved to St. Pete Beach after scouring St. Petersburg for a home.

"We found a really cool fixer-upper in Roser Park, then we found a 1925 home on 49th Street North," Premer says. But the same day they found the 1925 home, he took a

drive around Belle Vista to see what St. Pete Beach had to offer, and he saw someone hammering a "For Sale" sign into what would become his home.

His teenagers went to Gulf Beaches Elementary and, he says, because he had a good sound system, he handled the annual fish broil's entertainment. He played softball on Egan Field, which is where he says he met many locals.

Now that he's off the ball field and on the dais?

"I want to end the lawsuits," he says, adding that he felt he and Jim Anderson, a plaintiff in a series of lawsuits and appeals against the city and his opponent in this last election, have always gotten along.

"I thought the comprehensive plan was well-intentioned," he says, "and the people who fought against it make the proper checks and balances so everybody wins."

He hopes, too, to make St. Pete Beach a destination that can compete with places like John's Pass and Dunedin, and he thinks two things can make that happen: Corey Avenue redevelopment and "one or two" larger hotels that would shoulder the financial burden of the improvements.

"I want to move forward on beautifying the city. I want Corey Avenue completely redone, end-to-end, just like it's been envisioned. Make it a destination point instead of people going up to John's Pass Village. We have tens, if not hundreds, of thousands of visitors on our beaches, in our hotels. Make Corey Avenue a destination, make it like downtown Dunedin," he says.

As for the hotels? Premer stresses he doesn't want to see St. Pete Beach turn into Sand Key, but he does believe that the city could use something like "a 12-story Radisson."

"Everybody knows that one or two big hotels would go a big way with impact fees," he says.

How? If an impact study reports, for example, that the sewer system couldn't support a new hotel, the

hotel could still be built – if it paid to upgrade the sewer system.

"Reasonable development will help pay for all these things," he says. "Everybody wins. Property values go up, taxes go down."

As for the types of hotels?

"One thing this city lacks is [a place where people] can use their airline miles," he says. "We don't have a Hilton, we don't have a Marriott."

One or two, he stresses again, would suffice. He says he does not want to see an abundance of hotels up and down his beach.

"I don't want condos on the beach, I don't want Clearwater Beach. I want a beautiful downtown, and keep the flavor that made me move here that everybody seems to want," he says, adding, "We have a blank canvas, but it takes cooperation from everybody. It takes compromise. It is going to take an extremely strong individual to get this done."

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CathySalustri@theGabber.com.

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Gabber May 1 - May 7, 2014

Heart Healthy Cooking Class

You are invited to a Heart Healthy Cooking Class at the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Ave. S. on Thursday, May 8 at 2:30 p.m. The chef from The Health and Rehabilitation Centre at Dolphins View will show you how to put together a delicious and healthy meal.

Space is limited. You must reserve your spot by calling the Senior Center at 727-893-5657.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years of age or older. For more information, please contact Rachel at 727-893-1231.

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A Fresh Taste of Pinellas

Taste of Pinellas brings an updated combination of local food, celebrity headliners, phenomenal music and family fun to an all-new venue this spring. Taste of Pinellas 2014 will take place on Friday and Saturday, May 9 and 10, in downtown St. Petersburg's beautiful Albert Whitted Park, 480 Bayshore Dr. SE. in St. Petersburg with proceeds benefitting All Children's Hospital.

In addition to some of Tampa Bay's top regional bands, the 2014 musical headliners will feature:

Friday, May 9 – Four-time Grammy winner and legendary "Heart Breaker" Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo, three-time Grammy winner Bruce Hornsby and The Noisemakers, plus Arena Rock icons Loverboy!

Saturday, May 10 – The incomparable Blues Brothers starring Dan Aykroyd and Jim Belushi, plus "The World's Greatest Party Band" with more than 100 million records sold, KC & the Sunshine Band!

Produced by Bill Edwards Presents Inc., the 2014 festival will also feature a selection of the area's favorite restaurants serving tastes of their most sought-after dishes and signature creations. Fireworks, a free "Family Fun Zone" at the Mahaffey Plaza and other family-friendly activities will also be included at this year's event. Although it has been a mainstay on the must-do calendar for years, modern touches will be evident to the 2014 festival-goer.

Gabber May 1 - May 7, 2014

Tickets are available at: Ticketmaster (via ticketmaster.com or by calling 800-745-3000), all local Rally stores, All Children's Hospital Main Lobby Gift Shop, in person at The Mahaffey Theater Box Office, 400 1st St. S. Box Office hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and at least 90 minutes prior to any ticketed event at the theater.

VIP seating is \$75 per person, per day and includes premier seating in the VIP area, a VIP Hospitality area with complimentary beverages, snacks and samplings from

participating restaurants and access to VIP restrooms. Limited tickets, available for advance purchase only.

General admission tickets are \$22.50 per person in advance or \$25 at the gate. Gates open at 3:30 p.m. Friday and 3 p.m. Saturday.

Tickets purchased by phone or online are subject to applicable service charges. Children under 12 are free when accompanied by a paying adult.

For more information and updates about Taste of Pinellas, please visit TasteofPinellas.com.

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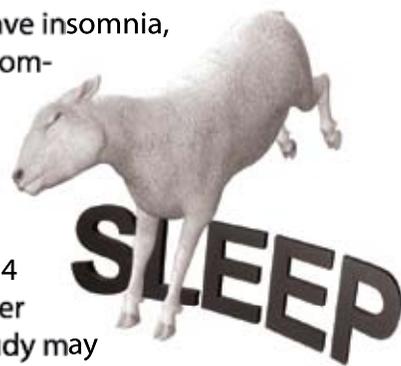
If you are 22 years of age or older, have insomnia, do not take medications for your insomnia and are otherwise healthy, you may qualify to participate.

You will undergo a phone screen to see if you qualify. If you qualify, the study requires you to have a total of 4 overnight sleep studies and two other clinical visits. Participation in this study may be up to 5 weeks.

This study does not involve drugs. This study does involve an investigational device.

You may be compensated for your time and travel up to \$800.00

If you are interested in learning more about this clinical trial, please contact 727-360-0853.



Clinical Research Group of St. Petersburg
2525 Pasadena Ave. S., Suite S
St. Petersburg, FL 33707

Lithuanian-American Club Lunch

The Lithuanian-American Club at 4880 46th Ave. N. in St. Petersburg is serving lunch every Thursday at 1 p.m. The spring schedule of luncheons is one week koldunai and the other week cepelinai.

The cost is \$7 for entree, side, dessert and coffee. This Thursday's menu is koldunai (meat dumplings) served with bacon and/or sour cream, dessert and coffee. As usual, they

have Lithuanian beer and fresh baked bread to buy every Thursday.

Call Vida at 866-7936 for more information. Everyone is welcome.

...

Center Offers Computer Classes

Register now for a Basic Computer class starting on Tuesday, May 6 at 2 p.m. at the Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center at 5501 27th Ave. S. in Gulfport.

If you think you've got the basics under your belt, maybe you're ready

for the Intermediate class that starts on Wednesday, May 7. Each class will meet once a week on either Tuesday or Wednesday for a total of four classes. Retired NASA Systems Engineer Anne Pemberton will be your instructor. She teaches in a down-to-earth way that won't make you see stars as you learn how to navigate the unknown territory of the Windows 7 world. Each student will use new Toshiba laptops to help ensure a quality learning experience.

All students must be registered and have tuition paid by one week before class starts. Classes are restricted to 10 students so more individual instruction assistance is available.

The fee for the series of four classes for Gulfport residents is \$40. The non-resident fee for the series is \$50 with cash or checks preferred. Credit cards are accepted online through www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org. You may also register and pay in person at the Senior Center Foundation office Monday through Friday from 8 to 11 a.m. For further information, please call 727-592-1933.

...

Overcome Your Fear of Public Speaking

Downtown St. Pete Toastmasters is having an open house on Thursday, May 8 from 5:45 to 7:15 p.m. with special guest speaker, Jim Bussey. Jim has earned his Distinguished Toastmaster award and has won more than 60 club, area, division, district and regional speech contests. Jim will teach the audience how Table Topics, an impromptu speaking exercise popular at Toastmasters for its one to two minute responses, can help you overcome your fear of public speaking.

At local weekly meetings, Toastmasters helps its members improve their communication skills through planned presentations, impromptu speaking and feedback.

Downtown St. Pete Toastmasters meets at the Education & Conference Center at All Children's Hospital, 701 4th St. S., St. Petersburg. For more information, please visit DTSPToastmasters.com. There is no charge to attend this event. The public is invited.

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Gabber May 1 - May 7, 2014



CHANGE TODAY FOR A HEALTHIER YOU AT NO COST TO QUALIFYING SENIORS

Our Y has joined forces with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Medicare to offer this incredible opportunity just in time for the new year. In the program you will learn healthier eating habits and ways to increase physical activity through a series of small group one-hour classes. The goal is to lose weight in order to reduce your health risks and improve your quality of life.

To qualify, you must have a few pounds or more to lose and have slightly elevated blood sugar levels. Those individuals who have already been diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes cannot participate; those with a borderline diagnosis are welcome to attend.

To find out if you can participate (at no cost), contact:
Kieran Gabel
YMCA Diabetes Prevention Program Director
727-895-9622 ext. 219
YMCA of Greater St. Petersburg | www.stpeteymca.org



Organize Your Papers in Case of Emergency

Beth of Redefined Living will be at the Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center, 5501 27th Ave. S., on May 12 at 2:30 p.m. to present a program that deals with organizing all your paperwork that is needed in the event of a major crisis. They will discuss the types of paperwork that you need to have ready to "grab and go," as well as systems to keep these documents organized. Don't miss out on this important information.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years of age or older. Call 727-893-5657.

...

Gulfport Lions Pancake Breakfast

The Gulfport Lions will be presenting their final pancake breakfast of the season from 7 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 10. Please note these serving hours.

Breakfast will be served at the Gulfport Lions Center, 4630 Tifton Dr. S. in the Gulfport Marina Area. Ask anybody! Pancakes with syrup, scrambled eggs and sausage with coffee or tea to drink, and all you care to eat at the donation price of \$5 per person. Bring your entire family and friends and spend an enjoyable morning overlooking beautiful Boca Ciega Bay. You might even see some manatees. Children really love these breakfasts.

All of their net activity proceeds go into their community help programs, especially sight related activities plus their Annual Christmas toys and food distributions.

...

Final Concert for Choral Music Director

The Eckerd College Concert Choir presents its annual Mother's Day concert on Sunday, May 11 at 3 p.m. at the Wireman Chapel on campus, 4200 54th Ave. S. This will be the last concert led by Eckerd Choral Music Director Marion Smith, Ph.D., who is retiring after 27 years.

The annual spring concert is titled "Come Let's Be Merry" and will feature Mozart's Coronation Mass in C, which the choir recently performed at Carnegie Hall with other groups

Gabber May 1 - May 7, 2014

from across the country.

The Mozart piece and several other works will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra, many of whose members are in the Florida Orchestra. Spirituals, secular songs and a medley from "Ragtime" round out the program.

The concert will celebrate not only mothers and families but also Dr. Smith, who has contributed significantly to the cultural life of the community for nearly three decades. Choral alumni and other long-time supporters of the Eckerd music program will be on hand to express their appreciation

to Marion Smith. Call 727-864-7979.

...

Family Yoga at the Library

Bring the kids to the Gulfport Public Library Thursday, May 22 at 3 p.m. for an hour long family yoga class. Family yoga is a great way to promote health, wellness, and family bonding. Spots are limited so please call Cailey at 727-893-1133 or email cklasson@mygulfport.us to reserve a spot for you and your little one today!

...

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Somethin' on my mind

By Bill Northrop

B_Northrop@theGabber.com

Cede the States Back to Mexico

Maybe it is time to give or sell California (California has a big debt), New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, parts of Oklahoma and Arizona back to Mexico. I leave Texas out of the mix because it has a separate history and won't go anyway. This move would solve lots of our current immigration problems although admittedly the immigration issue in this country, though perceived to be, is not totally about Mexicans or Latinos.

This thought occurred to me as the world – that is, the western world of Europe and the U.S. – is conceding at least eastern Ukraine, if not all of the Ukraine to Russia on the basis that there are already lots of Russians there and that there are long historic ties.

For instance, Russia already has sucked up the Crimea which has a 53

percent Russian population. They've got the army and the political and economic power to do what they want. Extending the premise of representing a large, though minority, percent age of the population, Russia should also probably reacquire Estonia and Latvia. That the latter are part of the North American Treaty Organization (NATO) is complicating, but given the pacifist and isolationist nature of the west that shouldn't be too much of a complication.

So, let's look at the percentage of Russian populations in those regions. Quick research shows that eastern Ukraine provinces range between 24 and 39 percent Russian. The western provinces run from 10 percent down to 2 percent. Estonia is nearly 28 percent Russian or Belorus; Latvia, 30 percent. They all have historic connections to Russia or the Soviet Union.

Now, take a look our western states: California is 38 percent Hispanic/Latino; New Mexico is

47 percent; Arizona 30 percent; Nevada, 27 percent; Oklahoma, 9 percent; Colorado, 21 percent; Texas, 38 percent; and Utah only 13 percent. As I wrote earlier, Texas is a separate case winning a war for its independence from Mexico in the mid 1830s. The rest, excluding Colorado, were ceded to the U.S. after the 1846-48 Mexican war. California and New Mexico were bought for \$15 million plus \$3.25 in debt.

Interestingly, part of Mexico's problem with the U.S. started when the Mexican government, fresh from its independence from Spain in 1821, encouraged immigration to its northwestern areas. Immigrants soon became the driving and controlling force particularly when the central government couldn't protect settlers from Comanche and Apache raiders. The backdrop to all of this was the Louisiana Purchase of 1803 (\$15 million) from France which brought the U.S. borders out to those western states. A policy of Manifest Destiny did the rest. Of course, it was the Spanish Conquistadors who conquered the highly advanced (except for warfare) Aztec civilization that extended as far north as Colorado. What goes around comes around, I guess.

The likelihood of cessation of territory happening is slim, of course, unless there is a separatist movement and the last secession movement in 1860 ended badly for the secessionists. However, cessation would relieve the political pressure of the moment where one side is seeking to soak up power controlling votes with an amnesty and open borders policy and the other trying to retain some political control as well as border control. Theoretically, comprehensive immigration reform would achieve goals for both sides – if the yet-to-be-enacted legislation is enforced. By the way, it was President George W. Bush, a Spanish-speaking ex-two term Texas governor who proposed a comprehensive plan that was promptly shot down by both parties.

In the meantime, in the absence of real and realistic progress toward solving the problem, I offer my solution and it has its precedence in the arguments for the Russification of the Ukraine.

...

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American Legion Activities

Post 125 6440 - 5th Ave. S., St. Petersburg 347-6085

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Lunch Served 11am-3pm Ron's Karaoke 7pm	Kitchen Open 11-2pm Dinner 4:30-6:30pm Southern Knights Band 7-11pm	Southern Knights Band 7-11pm Dinner 4:30-6:30pm	Breakfast Buffet 8:30-11am S.A.L. hamburgers and hot dogs 12-3pm Steakums 1-3pm	No Lunch Served	Lunch 11-3 Ron's Karaoke 7pm	Lunch Served 11am-3pm Euchre 1pm Bingo 6pm Kitchen Open for Bingo

Junior Auxiliary meets Saturday, May 3 at 10:30 (first Saturday of each month)
 Legion Riders meet 7 pm first Monday of each month
 Auxiliary meets 7 pm 2nd Tuesday each month
 Legionnaires meet 7 pm 3rd Monday of each month
 S.A.L. meets 7 pm last Monday of each month
 Service Officer Bob Cannon is available at the Post Thursdays from 9am – 12 noon to offer assistance.

Post 305

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

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Bar Bingo 7pm Food Served	Fish & Shrimp 6-8pm Music by Geno 6:30-9:30pm	Steak Dinner 6-8pm Lee Jay Nelson 6:30-9:30pm	Sports & Pizza 12-6pm	Bucky Burgers 5-8pm Dee Karaoke 6:30-9:30pm	House Com. Mtg.- 6pm Pizza available all day	Wednesday Dinner Special 6-8pm Trivia

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AMVETS Post 0001

421 45th Ave. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33705 727-896-4122

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

Sunday-Friday 12pm, Saturday 11am til. Electronic bar games every day. 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

AmVets Post 8

4681 W. County Rd. 16, St. Petersburg 727-544-6810

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Happy Hour 9-11am & 4-7pm Jam Session 6-10pm Food available 6-8pm	Tiki open 4pm Dinner 5-7:30pm Karaoke 7-11pm	Tiki open 12noon Grill open 1-5pm Live Music 1-5pm Steak-O 4-6pm	Breakfast 8-10:30am Tiki open 12noon Grill open 1-5pm Live Music 1-5pm	Euchre 1pm Happy Hour 9-11am & 4-7pm Drink specials 8pm-Close	Happy Hour 9-11am & 4-7pm Karaoke 7-11pm Drink specials 8pm-Close	Tiki open 5pm Karaoke 7-11pm Bingo 7pm Food Available

Ladies Auxiliary meet 1st Sunday each month at 11:30am
 Sons of AmVets meet 1st Monday each month at 7pm
 AmVets meet 2nd Sunday each month at 11:30am
 Steak-O every Saturday at 4pm



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

Friday 4/18

Animal Call(s)- Several Locations
Vandalism- 1900 Blk 55th St. S.
Domestic- 4900 Blk 29th Ave. S.

Saturday 4/19

Domestic- 5500 Blk Shore Blvd. S.
Reckless Driver- 4800 Blk Coronado Way S.
Armed Person- 4900 Blk Gulfport Blvd. S.
Burglary- 2700 Blk 47th St. S.
Neighbor Problem- 2500 Blk 50th St. S.

Theft- 6000 Blk Shore Blvd. S.
Abandoned Vehicle- 2900 Blk Beach Blvd. S.
Robbery- 5300 Blk Tangerine Ave. S.
Burglary- 1300 Blk Freemont St. S.
Theft- 1800 Blk 50th St. S.
Sunday 4/20
Animal Call- 6200 Blk 10th Ave. S.
Person Under Influence- 1000 Blk 59th St. S.
Burglary- 6100 Blk 8th Ave. S.
Burglary- 800 Blk 61st St. S.
Burglary- 5100 Blk 8th Ave. S.
Disorderly Conduct- 2200 Blk 49th St. S.
Animal Call- 5500 Blk Shore Blvd. S.
Neighbor Problem- 3000 Blk 56th St. S.
Monday 4/21
Vandalism- 600 Blk 54th St. S.
Domestic- 5600 Blk 17th Ave. S.
Animal Call(s)- Several Locations
Tuesday 4/22
Vehicle Accident- 64th St. & 9th Ave. S.
Drug Call- 900 Blk 58th St. S.

Theft- 900 Blk 58th St. S.
Vehicle Abandoned- 5300 Blk 31st Ave. S.
Assault/Battery- 1900 Blk 49th St. S.
Disorderly Conduct- 5600 Blk 19th Ave. S.
Burglary- 5100 Blk 12th Ave. S.
Animal Call(s)- Several Locations
Theft- 5000 Blk Gulfport Blvd. S.
Wednesday 4/23
Assault/Battery- 1400 Blk York St. S.
Vehicle Accident- 2700 Blk 50th St. S.
Theft- 3100 Blk Beach Blvd. S.
Person Under Influence- 5000 Blk Gulfport Blvd.
Vehicle Accident- 5300 Blk Gulfport Blvd. S.
Disorderly Conduct- 3000 Blk Beach Blvd. S.
Disorderly Conduct- 3100 Blk Beach Blvd. S.
Thursday 4/24
Domestic- 53rd St. & 18th Ave. S.
Prowler- 5300 Blk 20th Ave. S.
Domestic- 5000 Blk 17th Ave. S.
Burglary- 4900 Blk 10th Ave. S.
Theft- 900 Blk 58th St. S.
Vandalism- 5600 Blk Shore Blvd. S.
Assault/Battery- 2700 Blk 53rd St. S.
Theft- 900 Blk 58th St. S.
Neighbor Problem- 5300 Blk 20th Ave. S.
Neighbor Problem- 1200 Blk 53rd St. S.
Theft- 1000 Blk 49th St. S.
 ...

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2014 Gulfport Hurricane Seminar

Join Todd Barron, Emergency Response Meteorologist from the National Weather Service, hurricane related vendors and the City of Gulfport for the 2014 Hurricane Seminar, Thursday, May 29 at 7 p.m. at the Catherine Hickman Theater (5501 27th Ave. S., Gulfport). Todd will cover the local Tampa Bay area and how to prepare for the upcoming season.

Hurricane-related vendors scheduled for this conference at this time are The American Red Cross, Gulfport's Community Emergency Response Team, Gulfport Fire Department, Gulfport Police Department, Gulfport Community Development Department, Solar Energy Systems, Morgan Exteriors, Whitco Insurance, PSTA, and more to follow. If you are a business or organization with hurricane-related information, please email gbron@mygulfport.com to inquire about a free spot. Spots are limited.

So you won't miss dinner, the Theater lobby will open at 6 p.m. for two slices of pizza and a drink for \$3 so you can come early to view the vendors before the seminar begins. Vendors open at 6 p.m. and the seminar starts at 7 p.m.

Admission to this event is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Gail Biron, Technical Events Specialist for the City of Gulfport, at 727-893-1118.

...

Take a Safe Boating Class

There will be an About Boating Safety (ABS) class on Saturday, May 10 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. (approx.) at the USCG Auxiliary Training Center Building, 3120 Miriam Street S. in Gulfport (use the side entrance). Cost is \$40 per student and includes all books and materials. Upon completion of the course the student will receive an 8x10 framing certificate, a wallet card from the USCG Auxiliary and the "bobber card" from the State of Florida. For reservations or questions call 727-399-7986.

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Polish American Society News

The Polish American Society, 1343 Beach Drive SE (next to Coast Guard commissary) is open with live bands on Sundays through May. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. with music, 3 to 6 p.m. Please RSVP for dinner to Bev at 727-526-6835. Dance is \$5 for members, \$7 for non-members. Become a member! Dinner is \$7 or a free pot luck. They will reopen November 9. Please RSVP for dinner to Bev at 727-526-6835.

This is a smoke-free facility with the best wood dance floor for ballroom dancing.

Bring family and friends and support Polish heritage. You will meet all nationalities. Kids are

welcome!

For more information call Bev at 727-526-6835 or visit polishamericansociety.org.

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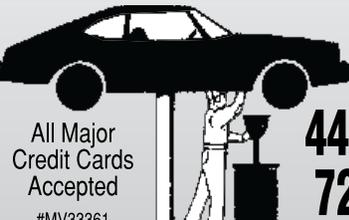
Bay Pines Toastmasters to Hold Open House

Bay Pines Toastmasters will host an open house on May 7 from 5:15 to 6:45 p.m. at Bldg. 20, (use side entrance) 10,000 Bay Pines Blvd. in St. Petersburg. Food and refreshments will be served. Guest speaker is Anne Bardsley, author of newly published "How I Earned My Wrinkles." Come, enjoy and learn to become a polished speaker. Contact NursePhilip@aol.com or call 488-4941.

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Local Obituaries

CROWDER, GWENDA M., "Gwen" 71, of Land O' Lakes and Gulfport, passed away Friday, April 25, 2014. She was born in Nottingham, England and moved to Florida from Kentucky in 1990. Gwen is survived by her husband of 26 years, Don and her son, David Trowbridge. Words of comfort may be expressed at: Loylessfuneralhome.com Loyless Funeral Home, 813-996-6610.

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SHIBLEY, JEANNE H., 89, St. Pete Beach, died April 25, 2014. Survived by three children; sister; seven grands; two great-grands. Abbey Affordable Cremation & Funeral Services 727-517-2340.

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TAYLOR, BENJAMIN JOHN, 76, of South Pasadena and Oak Ridge, NJ, peacefully passed away on March 15, 2014. Happily married for 57 years to his childhood sweetheart, Patricia Meneely Taylor, they have three wonderful children; Brad Taylor of South Pasadena, Bruce and his wife JoAnn Taylor of Sparta, NJ; their children, Jessica, Andrew and Daniel, and great-granddaughter, Olivia; Susan Taylor Corona of St. Petersburg, and her children, Alexandria and Joseph. Ben served in the US Navy, worked for and retired from Sears and Home Depot, was a volunteer fireman in Jefferson Township, NJ, and a member of the Elks. His amazing work ethic was only out-shined by his generosity. He loved fishing,

bowling and enjoyed traveling with his family. His favorite place to be was with his wife Trish. A memorial service will be held Saturday, April 26 at 10 a.m.; St. Vincent's Episcopal Church, 5441 9th Ave. N., St. Petersburg.

...

VERDICCHIO, JOSEPH ANTHONY, 96, of Gulfport passed away April 23, 2014. Memorial Park Funeral Home, 727-527-1196.

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In Memory of STEVIE RAY GODFREY

It has been ten years since our "ruby-throated sparrow" flew away to join a band with other singing angels in Heaven. Left behind was so large of an empty space for all of us to fill with our own special memories of you. You were one unique person blessed with rare gifts of a great mind, a sensitive soul, a charismatic personality, along with a tremendous musical talent and a true love of life. If I close my eyes, I can still hear you singing "Brown-Eyed Girl". We will always love and miss you. I speak for all of us ... your brothers, your children and grandchildren, your first and true love, all forty of your cousins, and the countless volumes of friendships you formed here in Florida and home in Minnesota throughout your lifetime. Keep the music alive. Happy Cinco de Mayo, Steve.

Beth Holsten-Godfrey

...

Get Ready for Summer Reading

The Summer Reading Program is right around the corner at Gulfport Library. The kick-off party for kids will be held on Monday, June 9 at 3 p.m. and will run until Friday, July 25. They've got something planned for all ages. For more details on the summer reading program contact Cailey at 727-893-1133.

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Players to Hold Auditions

The Gulfport Community Players will be holding auditions for their "14th Annual Summer One Act Festival" soon. The auditions will be held on Monday, May 19 and Tuesday, May 20 at 7 p.m. at their Back Door Theater, 1619 49th St. S. in Gulfport. Auditions will begin at 7 p.m., but you should plan on showing up earlier to fill out an audition form and get a name tag.

The Players welcome all people from 18 to 70 to try out for a part in their Festival. This year's Festival will consist of 13 short plays, with a minimum of props and blocking. This makes the Festival a great way for people new to theater to get their feet wet in community theater. There will not be a lot of lines to memorize since the plays will only run from five to 20 minutes in length each.

The Festival will run at the Catherine A. Hickman Theater of Gulfport for a total of eight performances from July 10 through 20. There will be various directors of the plays, and some of the cast may be selected for more than just one of the plays.

So, liven up your summer a bit! Pull yourself away from the beach, try out for a part, and become a real part of community theater!

...

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Learn to Swim

The St. Pete Beach Aquatic Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr., is offering "Learn to Swim Classes" for all ages through the American Red Cross. From infants six months of age to seniors, classes will teach proper technique and tips for safety in any water environment. Classes are held Monday through Thursday and run in two-week sessions of 30-minute classes. Classes are available morning and evening to fit every schedule. A two-week session is only \$40 for residents of St. Pete Beach and \$45 for non-residents. For more information visit spbrec.com or call 727-363-9264.

...

Junk in the Trunk or on a Truck

Gulfport residents, are you looking to get rid of your old stuff and don't know where to start? Join the Gulfport Neighbors and the City of Gulfport at the community "Junk in the Trunk or on a Truck" event on Saturday, May 17 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. behind the Neighborhood Center, 1617 49th St. S. in Gulfport. Bring proof of Gulfport residency (driver's license or utility bill) and your items to the Neighborhood Center and either swap it, give it away or junk it for free.

Gulfport residents may bring furniture, appliances, tires and other bulk items for free disposal, however, please no firearms, drugs, liquor, plants, paints, chemicals, or batteries. Enjoy a cup of coffee during "Java with Josh and Zack" (Lieutenant Josh Stone, and Community Resource Officer Zack Mills). Parents can register your child's bike with the Gulfport Police Department and receive a free children's bike helmet.

Share your civic spirit by bringing non-perishable items for the less fortunate seniors in the community. The donations will be distributed locally through the Gulfport Senior Center Pantry. The Gulfport Neighbors will have a collection bin available for your kind donations.

Join the Gulfport Neighbors network of volunteers: inspiring, motivating and uniting neighbors to improve the quality of life in Gulfport. Call 727-893-1118.

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Gabber May 1 - May 7, 2014

Never Too Much Mulch



At St. Petersburg's annual Green Thumb Festival, Mike Reid and Eric Boyd shovel mulch into paper bags. Because it violates Florida law to put yard waste in a landfill, St. Petersburg recycles it into mulch. St. Petersburg has five yard waste collection/mulch pickup sites inside city limits where residents may take free mulch. At the Walter Fuller Recreation Center this past weekend, residents enjoyed the luxury of city workers bagging and delivering the mulch curbside as part of the festival.

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Gulfport Rec Summer Program

Get ready to splash into summer as registrations for the 2014 Summer Program begins Thursday, May 1st for Gulfport residents. Registration is for children who have completed kindergarten through age 14. Hours of registration are Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registrations for non-residents not enrolled in the School Year Child Care Program will begin Monday, May 19th for 30 children maximum. Annual registration fees are \$17 for residents

and \$22 for non-residents. The eight-week program (June 16th to August 8th) cost is \$275 for residents and \$550 for non-residents, which does not include field trips. Pre-Camp (June 9th to 13th) and Post-Camp (August 11th to 15th) cost is \$77 for each week, which includes field trips. Pre- and Post-Camps are limited to 60 Gulfport residents only. Summer camp hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. with extended hours available until 6 p.m. for an extra charge. Detailed pricing is currently available at the Recreation Center, 5730 Shore Blvd. S. or on-line

(mygulfport.us and follow the links: City Departments, Leisure Services, Rec Center). Packets now available. Call 727-893-1068 for any questions.

...

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. 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.

On May 8 they will meet at the Teppanyaki Grill and Supreme Buffet at 391 34th St. N. in St. Petersburg. The meeting begins at noon and the topic is Military Art with Greg Crumbly. They will be collecting for our armed services.

Email Joyce Walters at jellen1943@yahoo.com for more information.

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Mother's Day Tea in the Garden

Come celebrate Mother's Day in the beautiful Gulfport Library reading garden! They will have a craft for the kids to make something special for Mom and will be serving tea (both hot and iced, and light refreshments). Come enjoy the community's new space and celebrate Mom, Saturday, May 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration is recommended. Please call Cailey at 727-893-1133 for more information and to sign up.

...

Gulfport Women's Softball League

The City of Gulfport Recreation Division will have open registration for teams to participate in the 2014 Women's Summer Softball League on May 12 through May 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Gulfport Recreation Center. The 10-game season will be played on Friday nights beginning June 6 with a six-team minimum/maximum. It is on a first come sign up basis. League fees are \$385 due at registration. For more information please call John at 727-893-1079.

...

Daddy Daughter Date Night

The pleasure of your and your daughter's company is requested at the first annual Daddy Daughter Date Night! Come enjoy a candy-coated evening of dancing, photos, sweets and giveaways. Join them at the St. Pete Beach Community Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr. on Saturday, May 10 from 6 to 9 p.m. The cost is only \$25 per couple and \$5 for each additional daughter. Preregistration is required by Wednesday, May 7th. For more information call 727-363-9245 or visit spbrec.com.

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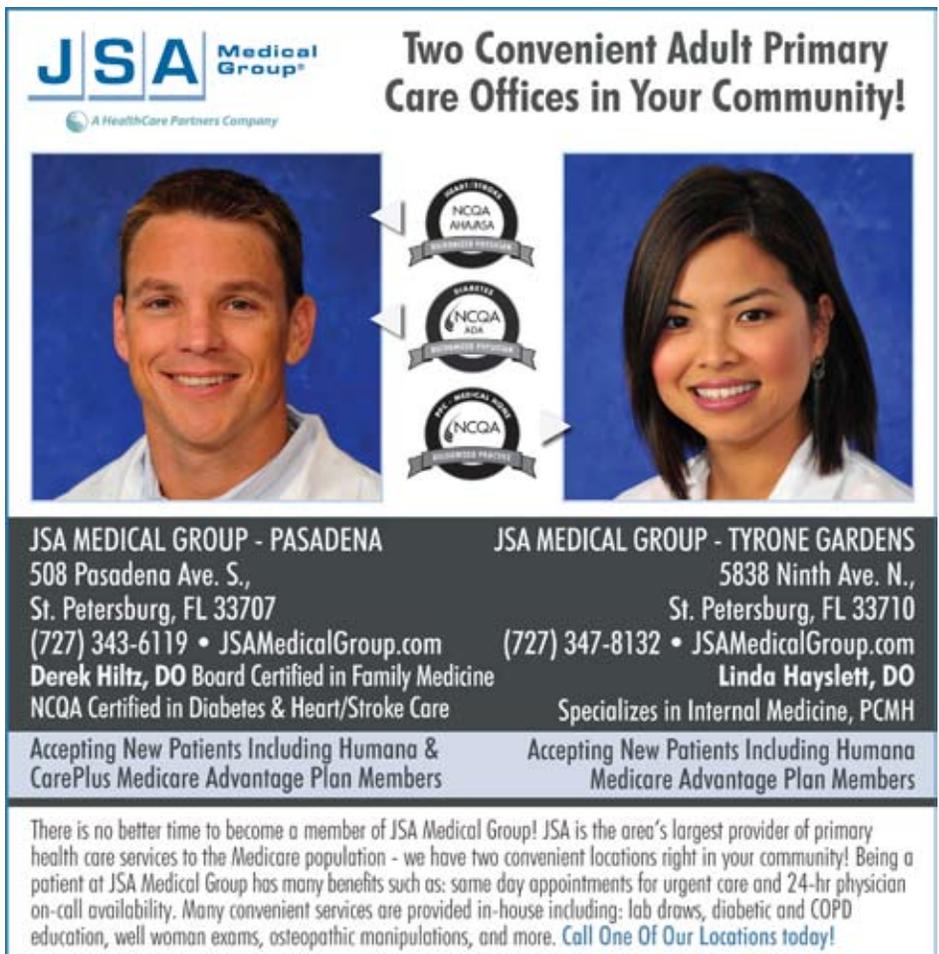
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Yard Sale to Benefit Teens

Join them on Saturday, May 10 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Spring Community Yard Sale at Crescent Lake, located on the corner of 22nd Ave. N. and Fifth St. N. This popular community yard sale has more than 100 vendors. To participate in the sale, reserve your 10' x 10' space for only \$15 with cash or a check at 1320 Fifth St. N. Proceeds benefit Teen Arts, Sports, and Cultural Opportunities (TASCO) Teen Programs. For more information, call 727-893-7813.

...

MOAA to Meet

The Military Officers Association meets for lunch on the third Friday of each month. The next luncheon will be on May 16 at Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park. Social hour starts at 11 a.m. followed by lunch. The program will be a memorial service led by Maj. Ed Lillich. Military officers who are retired, active duty or former officers and their spouses or widows are invited to attend. For reservations call CDR Bill Bolin at 727-584-1595.

...

Help for Alzheimer's Caregivers

USF Health Byrd Alzheimer's Institute presents "Alzheimer's Disease: What Family Caregivers Need to Know" on May 22 from 9:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Pete College Library Conference Room located at 9200 113th St. N. in Seminole. Lunch will be provided. The event is sponsored by Sean W. Scott, Esq., Elder Law Attorney and is free to the public, but pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, call 813-974-4357.

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Attention Young Environmentalists!

Earth Scouts will be meeting at the Gulfport Public Library the first Tuesday of every month. The next meeting is Tuesday, May 6 from 3 to 4 p.m. Earth Scouts aims to raise awareness of environmental issues, take action through hands on activities, and adopt new environmentally friendly behaviors. Open to all school age children and their parents. Contact Ashly Bargman at 727-320-5497.

...

Be a Part of the Clymer Art Project

Susanne Vernon, one of five local artists working on the Clymer Park Project for the City of Gulfport, is wondering if local residents might be interested in taking part in this project by donating a piece of history. Susanne is a mosaic artist who uses found objects, china, pottery, mirror, metal, tile and glass as the 'tessera', or small pieces, to construct her mosaics. This ancient art affords the opportunity to involve the whole community in the making of art by using something meaningful or of historic value to create a piece. Susanne is inviting residents to drop off materials at the Gulfport Public Library beginning Monday, April 28. Items that can be used are: china, pottery, tile, glass shapes, cups, figurines, metal broaches/pendants, marbles, etc. No plastic or wood items, please. As the design for a piece evolves while Susanne works, some of the donated pieces may not be needed. If you would like to have an unused item returned to you, please include contact information with your donation. As well, if your donation has a wonderful story to accompany the item, please share it! You can view Susanne's work at susannevernon.com.

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City of South Pasadena \$2,000 Scholarship

South Pasadena residents and high school graduating students of the City of South Pasadena have until May 30, 2014 to apply for the city's annual scholarship award. Applicants must have been city residents for the past year, and been accepted at an accredited college, university, trade or technical school.

Applications are available at City Hall, 7047 Sunset Drive South, South Pasadena and at ci.south-pasadena.fl.us. For more information, call the City Clerk's office at 727-347-4171.

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45



By Robert J. Myers, Esq.

What is a Living Trust?

A Living Trust is created while you are alive. The use of Living Trusts has been effective for maintaining personal privacy and control outside of the court system. A Living Trust is also very useful for reducing estate taxes and for probate avoidance.

LIVING TRUST BASICS

A separate legal entity is created upon the formation of a Living Trust.

This entity can own and hold both real estate and personal property. Every Living Trust has a Settlor or Grantor, a Trustee and Beneficiaries. A basic understanding of what these terms mean is important to understanding how Living Trusts work and how they are different from other types of trusts.

WHO IS THE SETTLOR OF THE TRUST?

The Settlor of a Living Trust establishes the Living Trust and signs the document creating the Living Trust. The Settlor controls what the Living Trust says and does. Living Trusts are revocable, that is, the Settlor can change or cancel a Living Trust at any time in her/his discretion. A Settlor is sometimes

also referred to as the Grantor of the Living Trust. When you set up a Living Trust, you are considered to be the Settlor or Grantor.

WHO IS THE TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST?

A Trustee of a Living Trust manages the trust assets. When a Living Trust is created, assets should then be transferred into the trust. Decisions concerning what property to buy, sell, mortgage, transfer or lease are made by a Trustee. The Trustee has a special duty to beneficiaries of a Living Trust which is called a fiduciary duty. What this means is that the Trustee has a legal obligation to perform her/his duties properly and in accordance with the law while keeping the best interests of the beneficiaries in mind. In a Living Trust, you act as your own Trustee as long as you are able to or desire to act in this capacity. Upon your death or disability, a Successor Trustee will take over management of the trust assets.

WHO IS THE BENEFICIARY OF THE TRUST?

A Beneficiary of a Living Trust is someone who benefits from the assets in the trust. Income and earnings are used for the benefit of the Beneficiaries. Trust assets cannot be used for any other purpose. You will initially be the Beneficiary of your Living Trust. Upon your death, the people you have named (normally family members) will become the Beneficiaries.

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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City Whys? Have you got a question for your city government?

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By Cathy Salustri

City of Gulfport: Big Trash Cans

Q: Have you been getting an earful about the giant trash cans that are too heavy for most Gulfport residents to move? A lady on my street wanted to know if anyone was getting fired because we don't need people to pick up the trash anymore.

A: The Gabber hasn't received any complaints about the larger trash cans Gulfport's giving some neighborhoods to use (instead of the user-provided ones of varying shapes and sizes), but Public Works Director Don Sopak tells us people can request two 40-gallon trash containers instead of the 90 gallon ones, which he says a few people have done.

The automated trucks do require fewer workers per truck.

"These employees are being used to perform extra picks, stormwater and street work," Sopak says. While the city hasn't fired anyone because of the need for fewer sanitation workers on these routes, since Gulfport started these automated trash pickups in 2009, "we have reduced the work force by three positions due to attrition," says Sopak.

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German-American Society News

Manni is back in town. Those five words should bring all those who appreciate good dance music to the German-American Society, located at 8098 66th St., N. in Pinellas Park on Saturday, May 3 for their "Maibaum Dance". Not only will manni Daum provide the music for your dancing and listening pleasure but you will also be entertained by the Gulf Coast Enzianer Schuplatteler Verein who will perform authentic German folk dances. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the music begins at 7 p.m. The kitchen is open from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. and their full service bar is open from 6 p.m. until closing time at 11 p.m. Their dress code is Florida semi-formal (no shorts, other than lederhosen). The entrance fee is \$8. For further information contact Bob at 727-238-8201.

...

Library Seeks LGBTQ Donations

The non-profit Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Public Library has announced its intention to create a new Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer (LGBTQ) Resource Center at the library, bringing together books, periodicals and other media in a special collection that will serve as a community resource for Pinellas County and Florida. The Resource Center would be the first of its kind for a public library in the State of Florida.

A subcommittee of the Circle of Friends has been formed to chart a course toward developing and maintaining the LGBTQ collection. The committee is now actively seeking donations of books, CDs,

DVDs, periodicals and other media which may be useful additions to the new collection. Donated items should be in new or gently used condition. Members of the public interested in donating materials may bring or send them to the front desk of the Gulfport Public Library, 5501 28 Ave. S., Gulfport, FL 33707. Please label your donations accordingly if they are specifically intended for the LGBTQ collection. Committee members reserve the right to add donated items to their book sales

inventory for fundraising if items are not suitable for the collection.

Monetary donations are also welcome and are tax-deductible. For this purpose, please make any checks payable to the Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Public Library and note that the donation is intended for the LGBTQ Collection. For more information, please contact Committee Chairperson Roger Turner, 727-698-7657 or RLTurner39@tampabay.rr.com.

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MOVING SALE- 6970 9th Ave. N. Saturday, May 3, 7a.m.-1p.m. Donations Only.

MOVING SALE- 5618 21st Ave. S. Furniture, garden tools, air compressor, Fri., Sat 9-3pm.

2625 QUINCY ST. S.- Power tools, wood-working tools, household, music, misc galore!!! Help put Grandpa through beauth school. Sat. & sun, 9-3pm.

Card of Thanks

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE - This novena has never been known to fail. This novena must be said for 9 consecutive days. Publication must be promised. Oh Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present urgent petition. In return, I promise to make your name known and call you to be invoked. St. Jude, pray for us all who invoke your aid. Amen. Say 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Marys & 3 Glorias. V.A.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN (Never Known to Fail) - Oh, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven. Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me here you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me into my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3) times. Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (3) times. Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you. V.A.

POWERFUL PRAYER TO Holy Spirit - Holy Spirit, you who solves all problems, who lights all roads so that I can attain my goal, you who give me the divine gifts to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances of my life you are with me, I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things and confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you, even in spite of all material illusions. I wish to be with you, in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine.

The person must say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. After 3 days the favor requested will be granted, even if it may appear difficult. This prayer must be published immediately after the favor is granted, without mentioning the favor, only your initials should appear at the bottom. V.A.

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE - This novena has never been known to fail. This novena must be said for 9 consecutive days. Publication must be promised. Oh Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present urgent petition. In return, I promise to make your name known and call you to be invoked. St. Jude, pray for us all who invoke your aid. Amen. Say 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Marys & 3 Gloria's. R.S.

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Card of Thanks

NEVER FAILING PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL - St. Michael, the Archangel, Defend Us In Battle; Be Our Defense Against the Wickedness and Snares of the Devil. May God Rebuke Him We Humbly Pray; and Do You Oh Prince of the Heavenly Host, By the Power of God, Thrust Into Hell Satan and the Other Evil Spirits Who Prowl About the World For the Ruin of Souls. Amen. St. Michael, I Resort to Your Protection and in My Faith, Offer This Light Which Shall Burn Every Tuesday. Comfort Me in My Difficulties and While Lodging in the House of Our Savior Intercede for Me and My Family That We Will Be Able to Hold God Close to Our Hearts and Be Provided for in All of Our Necessities. I Beseech You, to Have Infinite Pity in Regard to Favors I ask of You (Name Them) So That I May Be Able To Overcome All Difficulties as You Did the Dragons at Your Feet. Our Father (Say 3 Times). Hail Mary (Say 3 Times). Glory Be (Say 3 Times). This Prayer is to be Said 9 Tuesdays, in Succession and Each Tuesday a Candle Shall Be Lighted and a Copy of This Prayer Lft in the Church to Help Another Soul in Distress and Support the Devotion to St. Michael. This Miraculous Saint Grants Everything, No Matter How Difficult, Before the Termination of 9 Tuesdays. V.A.

MAY THE SACRED Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. Blessed Mother, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. Say this prayer for nine days, nine times a day. Then publish this prayer. Thank You, Jesus. V.A.

MAY THE SACRED Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. Blessed Mother, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. Say this prayer for nine days, nine times a day. Then publish this prayer. Thank You, Jesus. G.F.

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CITY OF GULFPORT MEETINGS

City Clerk's Office
May 2014

May 6, 2014	City Council Meeting 7:00 pm
May 7, 2014	Planning & Zoning Board NO MEETING
May 9, 2014	Teen Council 3:00 pm
May 14, 2014	Board of Adjustment 6:30pm
May 20, 2014	City Council Meeting 7:00 pm
May 26, 2014	City Hall Closed Memorial Day

All meetings are open to the public and are held in City Hall Council Chambers, located at 2401 53rd St. S., unless otherwise noted. Meetings may occasionally be added, cancelled or rescheduled after this list is published.

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