

SEMINOLE BEACON

Shepard, Bell star in the action comedy release 'Hit and Run'

Also opening this week is the supernatural thriller 'The Apparition.' ... See page 1B.



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COUNTY

Survey targets education issues

The voice of Parents for Pinellas Students recently released the results of a survey conducted in July by dewey & associates, a Tampa Bay management and strategy consulting practice. The survey canvassed parent and non-parent taxpayers in Pinellas County on key education issues.

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Public safety building OK'd

Pinellas County is closer to the start of construction on a new public safety facility and centralized communication center. Pinellas County Commissioners unanimously approved an amendment to the guaranteed maximum price with Land Lease Construction Inc. of Tampa. The Aug. 7 approval initiates construction of the project, according to a staff report. The price is nearly \$68.5 million. Construction is expected to take 24 months on 40 acres at 10750 Ulmerton Road in Largo.

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OUTDOORS

Social theory may apply to dolphins

Why are some animals smarter than others? It's an awesome question to pose and an even bigger one to try to answer. A man named Nicholas Humphrey tackled the problem and suggested that brainpower comes from social interaction because social interaction is mentally demanding. Dr. Ann Weaver tosses out the idea of the same theory applying to dolphins. See Dolphin Watch.

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Pilchards are no longer small

Pilchard fry too small to use for anything other than chumming mangrove snapper a month ago is now the perfect size for fishing under a weighted float. The juvenile pilchards can be cast-netted along bridge shadow lines at night as well as the swash channel up and down the beach when the winds are offshore. See Fish Tales.

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SPORTS

Lady Bombers wrap up Series

The Clearwater Lady Bombers 14-under girls softball team have won USSSA World Series.

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VIEWPOINTS

Bill Cotterell

Florida's electoral votes absolutely essential for Romney, columnist says.

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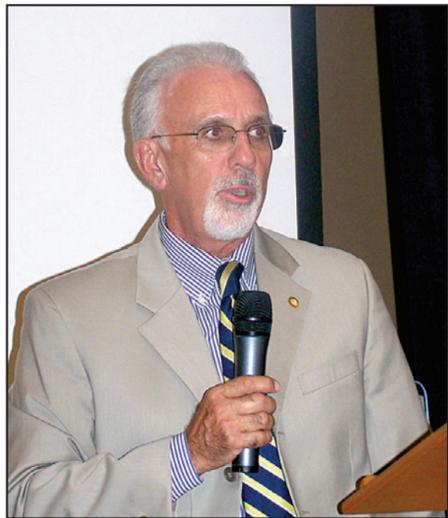


Photo by BOB McCLURE
Seminole City Manager Frank Edmunds addresses members of the Seminole Chamber of Commerce Aug. 16 at Lake Seminole Square.

Mall inquiries up

Edmunds optimistic about 'good news' soon

By BOB McCLURE

SEMINOLE - City Manager Frank Edmunds told members of the Seminole Chamber of Commerce Aug. 16 that the city is beginning to see interest from various developers in the Seminole Mall.

The 38-acre site has been in foreclosure since early 2011. More specifically, the \$26 million debt is going through what Edmunds termed a refinancing process. "We're optimistic of some good news in the near term," Edmunds said during a chamber luncheon at Lake Seminole Square. "It's our understanding that the (mall) debt is in an auction phase."

He said the city has been receiving interest in the site from both state and national redevelopment interests. "From a city perspective, we're encouraged," Edmunds said.

He added that the closing of the Kmart store at the mall in September plays a major role. "The Kmart component is significant," Edmunds said. "Their closing at the same time as this refinancing (of the mall debt) opens up some doors that were not there a year ago."

He said numerous retailers are interested in the city and have made inquiries on various topics. "We're looking forward to some redevelopment activity - some more sooner than others," Edmunds said.

On the subject of the Kitson project on the 60-acre site of the former Bay Pines Mobile Home Park, Edmunds said additional plans for the property might be public soon.

"In 12 months or less, we expect to see some fairly dynamic plans on that property," he said.

Orlando-based Contravest Management Co. recently purchased 20 acres of the site and is building a gated 330-unit apartment complex called The Courtney at Bay Pines.

"Another residential component consisting of townhomes or independent living will be developed on eight acres at the rear of the site," Edmunds said.

Plans also call for a hotel, restaurant and retail. Another portion is reserved for the future construction of a city of Seminole fire station.

Mock casualty drill goes well at Bay Pines

By BOB McCLURE

SEMINOLE - A test of the Bay Pines VA Healthcare System's mass casualty plan last week went off with few glitches.

In a first of its kind at the VA hospital, the Aug. 16 exercise was designed to find any possible weaknesses in mass casualty support operations, the hospital's Emergency Operations Center, along with the combined efforts of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Veterans Administration Police Department, Seminole Fire Rescue and Sunstar Paramedics.

"This is one of the first times we've worked with the local responders and it went very well," said Dean Armstrong, emergency manager at Bay Pines. "There were some minor things we need to adjust, but you expect that with an operation like this."

The exercise involved a mock crash involving a diesel truck and a bus with 31 victims.

According to the scenario, diesel fuel contaminated six passengers, while 24 others were treated for various injuries

and the inhalation of diesel fumes. Another passenger was treated for mental issues by a hospital psychiatrist.

Volunteers from GE Aviation and a handful of students served as the victims. They were treated initially for their "injuries" in a nearby staging area.

Seminole Fire Rescue served as the first responder, providing initial care for the victims, while Sunstar provided transportation to the hospital emergency room.

Upon arrival at the emergency room, those drenched in diesel fuel were pushed through a decontamination unit. All victims were triaged and moved to other areas of the hospital for different levels of care.

"I would say it went fairly smoothly," said decontamination leader Bill Drzech. "There were a few quirks, which we'll discuss later in the day."

Altogether, about 100 Bay Pines staff members, first responders and volunteers participated in the drill.

Seminole Fire Rescue provided nine firefighter/EMTs, two fire engines and

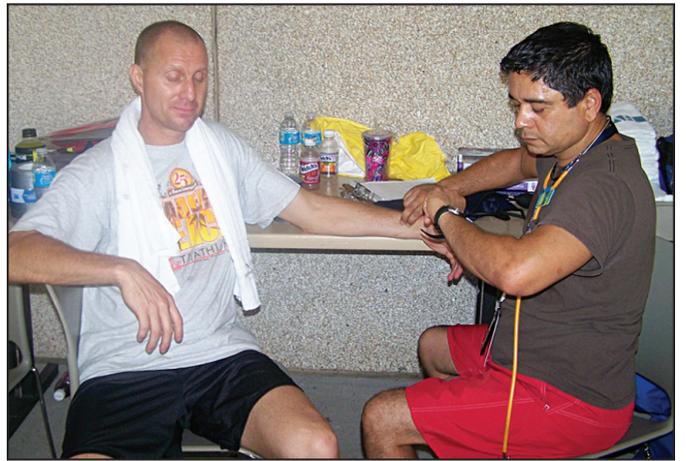


Photo by BOB McCLURE
Tim Heskin, left, a staff member of the Bay Pines Dermatology and Pain Clinic, gets his pulse checked by Angel Diaz, a member of the hospital nursing department during a mock casualty exercise Aug. 16.

three staff vehicles. Sunstar had three units on the scene with six crewmembers and a supervisor.

"I thought things went very well from our perspective," said Thomas Winkler, division chief of training for Seminole Fire Rescue. "This drill has been planned for many months. We've had organiza-

tional meetings for several months here. The first responders had no issues and we had no actual injuries."

Rob Smith, director of communication and emergency management for Sunstar, echoed his remarks.

See BAY PINES, page 4A

SYNTHETIC DRUG ABUSE

Understanding the effects of synthetic drug use

Editor's note: This is the last segment in a series of stories on synthetic drug abuse.

By SUZETTE PORTER

They're addictive. Their effects are unknown. Yet, they're available at the local convenience store and the Internet.

K2, Spice, Ivory White - they're marketed as a legal high. Lots of people are doing them, so what's the problem?

There are many issues with these drugs, according to

Dr. Cynthia R. Lewis-Younger, managing and medical director for the Florida Poison Information Center in Tampa.

"Because people take them for their psychological effects, they all go into the brain," she said. "We know that drug use can change the brain. Particularly with the synthetic cathinones, we've been seeing severe outcomes," including psychotic behaviors, which may persist for the long term.

"We don't know if those are permanent, but I think it will be likely. We have seen seizures and very high temperatures, both of which can be deadly," she said.

But what concerns her most, is the violent acts that have been associated with the users of these drugs. Synthetic cathinones are designer stimulants also known as bath salts.

"This has apparently included suicides, murders and attempted murders. Users may need multiple people to restrain them physically until they can be sedated for behavior control."

Marvin Coleman, vice president of Community and Business Relations at Operation Par, agrees that

See EFFECTS, page 7A

A family lost

Largo couple struggles when their 15-year-old gets addicted

Editor's note: The family's last name is being withheld to maintain some of their privacy.

By ALEXANDRA LUNDAHL

LARGO - It killed one of her close friends. It caused another one to have a severe seizure. But the addiction was too strong. She kept using. But it's "only" synthetic marijuana. It's "legal." It's "no big deal."

At least those are the arguments she told herself and tried to use on her parents.

Jessie's addiction to synthetic drugs has wreaked destruction on her family as her parents try all they can to save their little girl. She is only 15. But Missy and Jeff of Largo won't give up on their daughter.

The turning point

Before all their lives changed, Jessie was a dream kid. She was the first girl to be born in the father's side of the family in more than 80 years. She was sweet, loving, kind and talented.

"Extremely talented," Missy said. "In sports and anything. Anything Jessie did, it was effortless. She was very good at softball, she was really good at school. She always got good grades. She was always the center of attention. Everyone wanted to be like Jessie. She was just always very outgoing, very outspoken, very fun. She was like the life of the family."

"It's so sad to talk about her like 'she was, she was,'" Jeff replied. "It sounds like she's dead."

"I know she's still in there," Missy

said. "Just hopefully someday it will come back out."

Their family has always been close, enjoying activities with both Missy's and Jeff's large extended families and also spending time together as their own little unit - Missy, Jeff, Jessie, and Jessie's 11-year-old brother. Jessie and her family loved doing everything together - roller skating, fishing, camping, beach outings, movies and family dinners. Jessie loved special hunting trips with her dad.

All of a sudden, around eighth grade when Jessie was about 13, she started hanging out with a different crowd. They were much older than her - around 18 to 20. Jessie started to pull away, but at first it just

See JESSIE, page 2A



Photo by ALEXANDRA LUNDAHL
Missy shows a favorite picture of her daughter, Jessie, from back in the "good old days" before Jessie got addicted to synthetic drugs.

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JESSIE, from page 1A

seemed like normal teenage stuff. She was moodier and didn't want to hang out with the family, and at first, Missy and Jeff tried to give her some space and a little bit of freedom since she was growing up.

But as Jessie pulled away more and more, her parents began monitoring her Facebook page. When Jessie unfriended her parents, Missy created an account pretending to be a teenage boy.

"I became friends with her friends so finally she trusted that I could be her friend," Missy said. "And you watch her Facebook page and you kind of figure out what's going on. We were wondering what Spice and K-2 were. I mean, you think it's just kid language. We knew what pot, marijuana and those kinds of things are. But we had no clue what this was."

"On Facebook, all of the friends, they're so stupid," Jeff added. "They talk openly that they have the drugs and to come on over."

Missy and Jeff began finding packages of the synthetic drugs in Jessie's room, purse, and even hidden outside. They did some research, found out what they were. People were calling it "legal pot," and Missy thinks that is how Jessie and her friends got the misconception that it was okay and safe.

"Jessie was never into drugs or smoking or alcohol," Missy said. "She was very against smoking. And she had been in a very good crowd of friends. And then one day it seemed like the table kind of turned and she veered off down the wrong path of friends. And she admitted it was peer pressure. They kept pressuring her and pressuring her and making fun of her, saying that she wasn't cool (if she didn't try the synthetic drugs.)"

'But it's legal'

Missy and Jeff had already talked to Jessie about not doing drugs, alcohol or smoking. They explained why they are bad and talked about the consequences. But they weren't prepared for this new kind of drug.

Neither Missy nor Jeff come from families or backgrounds that involve drug or alcohol abuse, so it was shocking to all of a sudden have to deal with their daughter's addiction. She and her friends did all kinds of synthetic drugs - K-2, Spice, Scooby Snax, Smileys, WTF, Jazz. Jeff hates how the packaging is so colorful with cartoons or "cool" images on it that are made to attract kids. Both parents are shocked that they are so accessible.

"It really boggles the mind that anybody could just walk into a gas station and buy something that makes them hallucinate," Missy said. "It has chemicals in it that scientists don't really know what they are yet. And then they go and change the chemicals as soon as they make them illegal, so it's legal again because they changed a compound in it."

Teens don't tend to think about their mortality or long-term consequences.

"As teenagers, they think they're indestructible," Jeff said. "And like everyone's told them about cigarettes and that they can kill you, but some people smoke cigarettes for 50 years sometimes before anything happens. So they may think this Spice thing will take a long time and they can stop any time they want. But it can cause brain damage."

Unfortunately, sometimes it only takes one time to cause permanent damage. Missy has reached out to numerous other parents online whose teens and young adult children have been affected by synthetic drugs. She recently talked to one mom whose son was very smart and was a student in grad school. One weekend, he decided to party and tried synthetic pot for the first time. After just that one time, he got serious brain damage and is hardly the person he used to be. Missy said she feels grateful that they have not lost their daughter completely, but she still is terrified for what could happen.

Jeff said that it is harder for the kids to get real marijuana, so they do the synthetic kinds instead. Plus, if they are caught with marijuana, they get arrested. But if they are caught with synthetic drugs, they are immune.

"Probably in the back of their mind they think, 'If it hurts us so bad, why make it so available to us?'" Jeff said.

For a good kid like Jessie, the technical legality made it easier for her to justify what she was doing, in the beginning.

"The biggest fight that we would have," Missy said, "is she said, 'I'm not buying real pot. That's illegal.' And that was a lot of it in the beginning. It's legal, it's legal, it's legal.' But we could see that it was destroying her. It took her soul. It took every bit of the sparkle in her eye and it made her dark. She became very hollow and very shallow. And then she would just start staying out because she knew that she'd get in trouble. Instead of listening to us as her parents, trying to ground her or scold her, she would just not come home."

Wild child

Every time Jessie ran away or just wouldn't come home, Jeff had to go out searching for her. He was on call 24 hours a day. It could be 2 a.m. and he and Missy went to sleep just for a few minutes and Jessie would slip out of the house. Jeff would be out until 4, 5, 6 a.m. trying to catch up with her. He might find her again at 8 a.m. as she came strag-

gling down the street by herself, he said, or maybe they wouldn't find her until 3 p.m. the next day. Missy said their friends would call and tell them that they saw Jessie at the local gas station buying spice and was hanging out with her "bad friends," as her parents called them.

"We became very good detectives," Jeff said. "When she wouldn't come home, we had to start calling her friends and we'd have to make the call - is she just out running around, or did somebody grab her and take her? So better safe than sorry, we had to go find her, so we have to call everyone, waking them up, asking, 'Have you seen Jessie?'"

Jeff would go around, knocking on doors in the middle of the night, trying to find his daughter. When he would finally find her and bring her home, she'd be all mad and protest. She would stick around long enough to shower and get something to eat, but as soon as Jeff and Missy were in bed, she would slip out again.

Sometimes Jessie would even leave a note, saying she would be back in 15 minutes. At 8:05 a.m. But then it would be two more days until they found her or she came home on her own.

For a while, Missy and Jeff used a GPS tracker on Jessie's phone to track her down. Missy would be on the computer, talking to Jeff on the phone as she told him which direction to turn as he drove around trying to find their daughter. But eventually Jessie figured out how they were finding her, so she shut off her phone to stay hidden.

Jeff worked as a private contractor, but he lost a lot of clients because whenever Jessie was out of school, he had to watch her.

"It's babysitting a 15-year-old," Missy said. "He would call me at work and all he'd done was go to the bathroom and she would run out the door. 'Well she's gone.' 'What do you mean? You're there with her.' But he goes to the bathroom, she's gone. He goes outside to do something, she's gone. You literally have to follow her around. You can't chain her to a bed. It gets very trying to where some days you just want to throw up your arms and say, 'That's it, I'm done. I'm tired. I'm over it.' But you know what? You can't do that. You can't give up on your child."

Pretty soon they realized that even school was not a safe place. "I would drop her off at school at 7 in the morning, and she walks in the door and walks right back out the back door of the school," Jeff said. "And then I'm there at the end of the day, thinking she went to school all day long."

There was a gas station right across the street from the high school where Jessie and her friends bought the synthetic pot and then go hang out all day. When her parents started getting calls from the school, Jessie said that she was late to class, and that is why the school calls. The parents caught on, though, and were horrified to learn that she and her "bad friends" would spend all day at this "nasty old man's" house who appeared to like the young girls far too much, Jeff said. His granddaughter used to live with him, so that is why the kids started going over there, but then she moved back to Tampa, yet the kids still kept going over there, Missy said.

"Any kid that wanted to could come to his door and hang out there," Jeff said. "So all these kids who wanted to do drugs or spice or whatever would just walk out of school and over to his house. ... I talked to him this one time and told him I don't like Jessie being at his house, but I had to write it all down because he's deaf."

Missy said they have reported the man to the police several times, but they don't know what came of that.

Everything about Jessie changed after she started using synthetic drugs. She was no longer the sweet, kind girl that her parents knew.

"It was like a Jekyll and Hyde kind of thing," Jeff said. "She'd be nice but then if she wanted to go somewhere or do something (and wasn't allowed to) she'd just get irate and mean. I heard that happened a lot with kids (on these drugs.) It makes them very angry and mean and messes up their brain a bit. I'm surprised more crimes haven't been committed because of this."

Interventions

Numerous times, Jessie's family has taken huge measures to try to get her cleaned up. The first was in that first summer Jessie started using synthetic pot.

"In June 2010, she had run away from home one night, and I think it was the first time we ever called the police on her, and I was frantic," Missy said.

Missy called her dad and aunt up in Georgia to talk about the situation. Her aunt offered to take Jessie for the summer. Get her out of the environment. Away from those friends. Let her play with her cousins and maybe she would snap out of it. But that didn't last for long. She wanted to come home. She missed her friends. She put up a fuss.

"It was all because Jessie didn't have the control that she thought that she had and the freedom that she thought she had," Missy said.

But she wasn't home more than a few days before she was smoking the synthetic pot again. At that point, Missy and Jeff researched rehab centers and sent Jessie to Inspirations for Youth in Fort Lauderdale. She remained there from late July until September, missing the first few weeks of high school. She seemed to be doing a lot better, but those same friends were still around, and after a few weeks, Jessie

caved to the pressure and old habits.

"We sent her back (to Inspirations) for a second time," Missy said. "But I think that time Jessie kind of knew what to do to manipulate the system to get out quickly."

That rehab center was primarily for alcohol and traditional drugs. It didn't know as much about Spice and the synthetic drugs because they were so new, Missy said. But one of the people at Inspirations helped Missy and Jeff find Wellington Retreat Residential Treatment Center in Palm Beach. There is a specialized adolescent program that has an intensive inpatient program for teens 13 to 18. They treat for both the drug and behavior problems and also help the kids continue their schoolwork through the Florida Virtual School.

The teens at Wellington live a structured life, and participate in the 12-step programs of both Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous. They attend group sessions and one-on-one counseling, and they must live healthy, clean lives.

As time went by, Jessie began to improve. Her attitude got better and she realized she has a problem. She participated in the steps of NA and apologized to her parents and began being truthful. But then insurance began to call. They didn't want to pay for Jessie's rehab anymore, and they wanted to kick her out. Missy was on the phone with their insurance company multiple times a day, begging them to let Jessie stay longer. She couldn't leave. She wasn't ready. Even her doctors and therapists called the insurance company, trying all they could to make them understand the severity of the situation.

"The doctors told my insurance company, 'If this child is released, her death will be on your hands,'" Missy said. "Every day we called the insurance company three or four times a day to say don't let her go. We got to 32 days."

After those 32 days, Missy and Jeff began paying out-of-pocket. But the program costs between \$5,000 and \$6,000 a week. The doctors and owner of Wellington, however, didn't want to see Jessie fail, so Missy and Jeff paid what they could, but even that was about \$800 a week. After a total of 65 days in the residential program, they downgraded Jessie to the non-residential program. She stayed with her grandparents, who live nearby, and they drove Jessie to and from the center each day for 30 more days. But after that, they just couldn't afford it anymore. Their house was already in foreclosure. Jessie had to come home.

"She gets in there and when she's there for a few weeks, she's saying 'I love you,' and 'I miss you,'" Jeff said. And she believes it. She's very sincere about it. But then she gets back and someone sticks spice in front of her and it happens all over again."

The tools Jessie learned in rehab helped her stay clean for a little while, but she left before she was strong enough to be able to fully turn her back on the peer pressure.

"When she came back from rehab, she was amazing," Missy said. "She was like our beautiful little girl again. You could actually see she was like a 15-year-old again. She started going to school again and was actually doing really good. She was trying to control her anger and trying to control her thoughts. She was laughing and smiling again."

Jessie would come sit next to her parents to watch TV with them, and Missy said she didn't even want to breathe. She was so happy that her daughter wanted to spend time with them, that she was afraid to do anything that might scare her off.

But Jessie needed more time in rehab to get stronger before she was strong enough to face her old environment again. She eventually gave into peer pressure and was soon using synthetic drugs again.

Even watching these drugs destroy the friends around her wasn't enough to make her quit. The addiction was too strong.

"One of her friends died, and another one overdosed," Missy said. "One or two of her friends had a seizure," Jeff added. "And the doctor said it was due to Spice. And I'm surprised she hasn't had something like that yet. We just haven't given up on her, you know? That's why we keep trying to find her at night and put her in rehab. I'm sure if we didn't intervene, she'd probably be dead by now."

In early July, her parents sent Jessie back to Wellington, where she remains. Missy and Jeff intend to keep her there as long as they possibly can. She needs enough time to get better. The bills keep rolling in, though, and right at the 30-day mark, insurance started calling again. But they are not going to give up.

Program for success

David Carlyle, is a therapist and school psychologist who works at Wellington Retreat. While he was not at liberty to discuss Jessie's case specifically, he could give insight on how these drugs affect people and how Wellington tries to help.

The drugs commonly cause auditory hallucinations, he said, and sometimes visual hallucinations. People lose their motivation and motor skills as well.

"It affects memory," Carlyle said. "It affects cognitive reasoning. It affects your social relationships, in terms of all skills, cognitive and emotional skills to get along with other people. It has a huge impact on school."

Teens are particularly at risk for getting involved with these drugs, he said, because they are easily accessible and specifically marketed toward youth.

See JESSIE, page 6A

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P4PS survey says early release Wednesday should be abolished

LARGO - The voice of Parents for Pinellas Students recently released the results of a survey conducted in July by dewey & associates, a Tampa Bay management and strategy consulting practice. The survey canvassed parent and non-parent taxpayers in Pinellas County on key education issues.

P4PS, a collaboration between the Pinellas County Council of Parent Teacher Associations and the Pinellas Education Foundation, was created to give parents a voice in Pinellas County public education. One goal of the initiative is to survey parents periodically on education issues and present the findings to the community and school administration.

In the July survey, more than 1,600 responses were recorded online. The questions asked were based off several parent focus groups.

"It is important to note, these survey results and analysis do not necessarily represent the positions or viewpoints of the PCCPTA nor

the Pinellas Education Foundation," said Dewey Caruthers, president of dewey & associates. "Very simply, these results represent the voice of parents and other taxpayers in Pinellas County."

In summary, parents with children currently in Pinellas schools, parents with children formerly in Pinellas and other taxpayers responded to the survey by saying they want to:

- Abolish early release Wednesday
- Decrease money spent on non-classroom operations and increase teacher salaries
- Do more to reward high-performing teachers and to remove under-performing teachers
- Have all parents who choose to send their children to elective schools outside their zoned areas pay for transportation

In addition:

- Based on parents' experiences with their child(ren)'s teachers, they do not believe nearly 99 percent of all teachers are performing

'satisfactory or above' (in 2010-2011, nearly 99 percent of all teachers in Pinellas County Schools received a 'satisfactory or above' performance rating)

- Parents and other taxpayers want to give school board a letter grade (A-F) on their performance
- Middle school and high school students should not ride the same bus.

A full report is available at www.voiceofp4ps.org. Any Pinellas resident can sign up to receive more information and notification when surveys are open.

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The right choice

New recreation director credits college mentor for her career decision

By BOB McCLURE

SEMINOLE – During her senior year at the University of West Florida, Becky Gunter was approached by the college's top recreation official.

After Gunter spent a couple of years working in the Student Recreation Department, Bill Healey, UWF's director of recreation and sports services, suggested a career in recreation might be a good fit.

"He said if I wanted to get a master's degree you can make this a career, if that's your choice," she recalled.

It took her a split-second to make the decision. Recreation would definitely be her future.

Now, after 10 years of moving up the ladder, Gunter reached a longtime goal when she was recently named recreation director for the city of Seminole.

She replaces Jim Sheets who is resigning to run his own business.

"This is a goal I've been working toward since college," said Gunter, a 32-year-old Leesburg native. "I'm sure I'm going to put my own stamp on the program."

Her track record would indicate that.

She brings a history of achievement to the job that began shortly after she graduated from the University of North Texas with a master's degree in kinesiology, health promotion and recreation.

While at North Texas, she gained a multi-

tude of recreation management experience that qualified her for a variety of positions in the administrative side of recreation.

Although she enjoyed the culture and lifestyle of Texas, her heart was in Florida and being closer to the water.

So after applying for positions at the university level, a cruise line and a few resorts, her dad John Gunter, himself a Fruitland Park city councilor, suggested she try the municipal level. A quick look at the Florida Parks and Recreation Association website resulted in an application in the Palm Beach County community of Greenacres for a recreation specialist position.

She was hired in August 2004 and was put in charge of programs for the city's community center. Six months later, she was promoted to recreation supervisor and put in charge of special events for the city.

While in that position, she learned quickly about revenue cuts. About the same time, the city went to a cost recovery stance on all events, which meant if it didn't make money, it didn't stay.

In 2010, she moved on to the city of Palm Coast where she was named recreation superintendent.

"It was the next step for me because my goal has always been to be a director," Gunter said.

At Palm Coast, she was essentially the assistant director and watched over programs, recreation supervisors and facilities.

While there, Gunter gained valuable management experience in the city's Leadership and Training Experience Program. She worked as a team leader for a group of six that was assigned to help the nearby Florida Agricultural Museum.

All the while, she had her mind set on becoming a director.

So when the opportunity to apply in Seminole came about, Gunter didn't hesitate.

"We have it all here," she said. "We have an outstanding facility and very good equipment. We have a good recreation crew and we're known in the community for producing quality events."

"What I would like to do is look at everything and see where we can fill in a need. The opportunity to do things here is great. So I'd like to make this a one-stop shop for recreation."

Among the things she is considering are more senior bus trips and additional marketing of the city's pool and aquatics program.

Gunter is the daughter of John and Dee Gunter of Fruitland Park. She has one brother, Keith, who works as Public Works superintendent for the Volusia County town of Ponce Inlet.

In high school, Gunter was a member of the Key Club and helped organize homecoming activities. She was also a cheerleader from high school through her college years at UWF.



Photo by BOB McCLURE

Becky Gunter took over as the city of Seminole recreation director on Aug. 13. She hopes to make the Seminole Recreation Center a one-stop shop for recreation.

Volunteer's desire to learn never stops

By IRENA MILASINOVIC

Seventy-one-year-old Bill Beattie spends his Fridays at the Pinellas County Watershed Management building just like any other Pinellas County employee.

He moves with ease through-out the building and shifts from one task to the next. If it weren't for his volunteer badge, he could be mistaken for a permanent county employee.

He spends a few hours a week "doing dishes at the lab," said Beattie. It involves cleaning and preparing sample and transport containers to eliminate the possibility of cross-contamination in the field. He has been certified to perform water sample collection field equipment preparation.

"His doing dishes as he says is an important step in water quality analysis," said Natasha Dickrell, Pinellas County Watershed Management section volunteer coordinator.

To Beattie, volunteering is about assisting in any way he can. He lets the trained professionals do their job and he is there to help, he said.

After lunch, he shifts from the lab to the computer area.

Beattie, a retired computer system analyst, enters historical data from field sheets allowing the county to meet the requirements for data documentation. The data he enters is used to support mandatory monitoring and regulatory programs in relation to the Federal Clean Water Act.

"He commented about sweeping floors or fixing things and when we found out about his computer skills, we knew he would be a great fit," recalled

Dickrell.

Shortly after his retirement, the St. Petersburg resident began browsing the Internet to volunteer. "You can only play so much," he said of his short-lived break. Beattie, a Tampa Bay area resident since 1947, said that his love for water led him to Watershed Management at Pinellas County.

"Bill has great stories about his memories of structures, beaches and fishing. He believes in what we do and shares many of our passions for protecting and managing surface waters," said Dickrell. "He inspires us because he supports what we do and gets excited with us."

"I feel that I get more out of volunteering at the county than I give them," Beattie said.

Spending his Fridays at the county broadens his knowledge. "The county is a great place to learn because it's so diversified and you can go into any direction. You are never too old to learn and grow."

This same philosophy followed Beattie through his entire career. His first job was at the city of St. Petersburg in 1959 as a truck serviceman in the Fleet Maintenance Department. In the mid '60s, he was one of the few employees who took two computer classes that were offered at the local college and opportunities grew from there.

He was transferred to the Computer Services Department in 1968 as an operator and eventually worked his way up to operations manager. He continued his career at Progress Energy as a computer programmer and analyst, where he still does part time contracting work.

"I have been fortunate enough

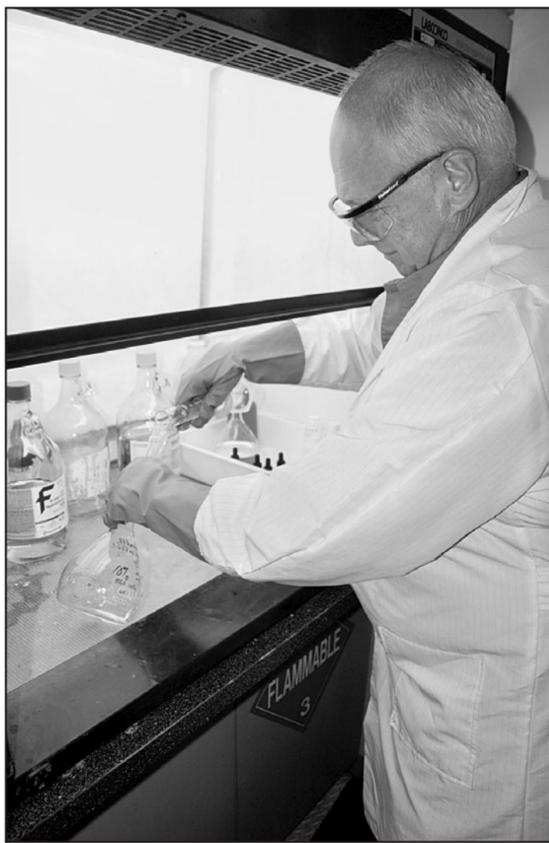


Photo courtesy of PINELLAS COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS

Bill Beattie of Seminole volunteers in the lab for the Pinellas County Watershed Management in the mornings and enters data in the afternoon.

to have a great career and this is my way of paying back."

It hasn't gone unnoticed. "When volunteers are described as assets, Bill would be considered indispensable. He is a pleasure to work with and truly aims to help with whatever we need him to do," said Dickrell.

In the past two years, Beattie has been nominated for the Partners in Public Service award. Each year, volunteers are nominated by their departments for PIPS awards in four categories: individual, group,

youth and retiring. And although he didn't win, Beattie feels like a winner.

"I am just happy to keep working and learning."

Pinellas County volunteers can expect to make a difference in the life of their community, while exploring interests, sharing knowledge, assisting others and making friends.

For more information, visit www.pinellascounty.org/volunteer, email volunteers@pinellascounty.org or call 464-VIPS (8477).

Council OKs additional funds for city manager

By BOB McCLURE

SEMINOLE – In spite of concerns from Councilor Patricia Plantamura, the City Council approved a one-time merit pay bonus of \$3,648 Aug. 14 for City Manager Frank Edmunds.

By a vote of 5-1, the City Council gave Edmunds the additional funds. Plantamura was the lone dissenting vote. Councilor Bob Matthews was absent.

"What I reflect upon is what is happening in our society," Plantamura said. "We all know we're in a recession."

Plantamura went on to note that although the city has not increased its millage rate in a number of years, it is using its reserve fund to balance the budget in fiscal 2013.

"For that reason, I question the awarding of a merit pay increase," Plantamura said. "This is not good for employee morale."

"Frank Edmunds, I more than respect you," Plantamura said, "but you need to let other employees know if they don't get merit pay, you don't get

merit pay. Lead by example." Edmunds said general city employees (those that are not firefighters), are eligible for 3 percent to 3.5 percent merit pay increases.

"Frank is not looking for a pay raise," said Councilor Jim Quinn, "but I believe we should reward him for his work."

"Due to (Edmunds') leadership," said Vice Mayor Leslie Waters, "we have not increased taxes, laid off people or decreased services. He deserves this as a lump sum payment." Edmunds' base salary is \$120,615. His last pay increase was in 2007.

In other action:

- Edmunds said the city has closed on the Jesse's Landing property on Park Boulevard south of Lake Seminole. The city paid \$700,000 for the 8-acre site and plans to develop the land at some point in the future as a park with canoe and kayak launches.

- Edmunds said a power surge early on Aug. 14 damaged the city's email system and webcast capability.

Around Seminole

Sunday Musicales set at library

SEMINOLE – Tenor vocalist Philip Tropea will perform at the next Sunday Musicales Sept. 9, 3 p.m., at the Seminole Community Library. Admission is free.

Tropea is an accomplished radio broadcaster, author, stage-seasoned performer, and crusader for romantic vocal music in the tradition of Mario Lanza, Sergio Franchi, and the Three Tenors.

The Friends of the Library sponsor the event.

Raffle prize on display

SEMINOLE – The Seminole High School band boosters plan Band Spirit Night Monday, Aug. 27, 5 to 8 p.m., at the Cali Shack restaurant, 8595 Seminole Blvd.

The 2012 Cooper Mini that is being raffled off by the boosters will be on display.

Tickets for the raffle also will be available. The restaurant is donating a portion of the profits from 5 to 8 p.m. to the boosters' fundraising efforts.

The SHS band will be marching in the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, Calif., on Jan. 1.

Rehab counselor to address Kiwanis

SEMINOLE – Barbara Hennessy will present a program titled "Finding the Joy Within" at the Kiwanis Club of Seminole Breakfast meeting Tuesday, Sept. 11, 7:15 a.m., at the Seminole Family Restaurant, 6864 Seminole Blvd.

Hennessy has more than 20 years of experience in working with people with disabilities. She earned a master's degree in exceptional education and is a certified rehabilitation counselor.

She is trained and certified as a somatic intuitive practitioner by Lance Ware of Isis Institute. Somatic intuitive training is an extension of the work called autonomic training created by Dr. Phil Walsh in the 1970s. This process in emotional pain relief and emotional trauma recovery was developed by Ware in 1990 after 300 hours of individual sessions. Clients achieve rapid relief and recovery from such chronic conditions as insomnia, panic, anxiety, depression, grief and loss in as few as 10 sessions.

Kiwanis meetings are held every Tuesday morning at 7:15 a.m., and feature informative guest speakers from local business, government and nonprofit organizations on a wide-range of topics.

New members are welcome to join at any time. To reserve a guest spot for an upcoming meeting, contact Lee Walters, secretary of the club, at 319-8343 or e-mail drtslsmn@msn.com.

Bayfront Medical Auxiliary to meet

SEMINOLE – The Bayfront Medical Auxiliary plan a meet-and-greet Monday, Sept. 10, 11 a.m., at Lake Seminole Square, 8333 Seminole Blvd.

A complimentary lunch will follow at 11 a.m. The public is invited. RSVP by Sept. 1. Call JoAnn Mazzei at 545-2409 or Fran Brusini at 525-6863.

Toastmasters meet Tuesdays

SEMINOLE – The Seminole SPC Toastmasters group meets Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m. at the Seminole Community Library, 9200 113th St. All meetings are open to the public.

Toastmasters exists to help folks become successful speakers and leaders. It is a self-paced, time-tested program.

Sheets honored



Photo by BOB McCLURE

Seminole Mayor Jimmy Johnson, left, and Vice Mayor Leslie Waters present outgoing Seminole Recreation Director Jim Sheets with a plaque commemorating his work with the city over the past 12 years. Sheets received the award at the City Council meeting on Aug. 14. He is leaving to begin a youth triathlon consulting and management business.

BAY PINES, from page 1A

"We threw our guys into some elements they weren't used to," said Smith. "They did a good job to respond. They got the patients to the hospital and did a great job."

Mike Cupp, a manufacturing staff engineer at GE Aviation, said his company brought 26 volunteers to act as the victims.

"It was very interesting," Cupp said. "It was so unique from anything we've ever done. We got to see the integration of the emergency services. Clearly, this wasn't the first time they've done this."

Cupp said the victims were given scenario cards with different types of injuries.

"They encouraged us to role play and yell out in pain," he said. The Joint Commission – an independent organization that accredits and certifies more than 19,000 healthcare organizations – requires Bay Pines to complete two emergency exercises per year.

It is one of seven VA healthcare systems in Florida, which along with another in Puerto Rico make up Veterans Integrated Service Network 8, or VISN8.

Bay Pines is one of the nation's leading VA healthcare systems with more than 3,800 medical professionals and support staff.

Briefly

DHSMV plans temporary website outage
TALLAHASSEE – The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles wants customers to be aware of its plans to bring all services offline at 6 p.m. Sept. 7. The Department plans to restore all services by 9 a.m. Sept. 10.

The planned outage is an effect of the agency's data center move from headquarters in Tallahassee to one of the state's primary data centers, also located in Tallahassee. The move is complex and will require a complete shutdown of all DHSMV enterprise systems throughout the weekend. Customers will not be able to access online services, and employees will not have access to work email accounts during the weekend of the move.

Be sure to visit www.GatherGoGet.com to prepare for your next visit to a driver license office.

FEMA helps with insurance settlements
TALLAHASSEE – Even if survivors of Tropical Storm Debby have in-

urance, temporary disaster assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency may still help.

Disaster assistance may be able to fill insurance gaps or help those who have been waiting more than 30 days on a homeowner's insurance claim.

To receive assistance residents must write a letter to FEMA explaining their situation and provide insurance documentation that proves they filed their claim. Any help awarded is considered an advance and may need to be repaid promptly to FEMA once an insurance settlement is received.

Assistance also may be available to those who have exhausted their policy's additional living expenses.

Survivors need to mail their insurance information and their letter requesting help to: FEMA, National Processing Service Center, P.O. Box 10055, Hyattsville, MD 20782-70155. Information also may be faxed to 1-800-827-8112.

The FEMA helpline is 1-800-621-FEMA (3362).



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County moves forward with public safety campus

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – Pinellas County is closer to the start of construction on a new public safety facility and centralized communication center.

Pinellas County Commissioners unanimously approved an amendment to the guaranteed maximum price with Land Lease Construction Inc. of Tampa. The Aug. 7 approval initiates construction of the project, according to a staff report. The price is nearly \$68.5 million. Construction is expected to take 24 months.

The new five-building facility will be located on 40 acres at 10750 Ulmerton Road in Largo. Plans call for construction of a three-story, 218,330-square-foot building hardened to withstand a Category 5 hurricane. The building will be the home of Emergency Management Services, Emergency Operations Center and the Sheriff's Office.

In addition, the campus will include three other hurricane-hardened buildings, a 25,432-square-foot vehicle maintenance building, 2,303-square-foot communications building and a 23,047-square-foot central energy plant.

Plans also call for a four-story, 221,315-square-foot parking garage, 300-foot communications tower and extensive site work.

Operations at facilities currently on the site, including the Sheriff's Office, will continue during the construction. The old buildings will be demolished and a parking lot built after existing services have moved into the new facility.

Paul Sacco, director of real estate management,

said an additional \$1.1 million would be needed for EMS and the new consolidated 911 operation. Another \$1.3 million is needed for work to be done by Business Technology Services.

He said the sheriff helped keep project costs down by agreeing to use 90 percent of current equipment, office furniture and more.

"That saved us millions of dollars," Sacco said.

Sally Bishop with Emergency Management Services also helped save project dollars by agreeing to a plan to combine dining and training facilities into one building.

The project will be paid for with capital improvement funds provided by the Penny for Pinellas tax. Construction is expected to begin this year.

In other business, commissioners:

- Unanimously approved advertising an Aug. 21 public hearing on a proposed ordinance amending county code for residential solid waste collection. The amendment would provide for license requirements and fees for haulers.

- Approved, 5-1, a staff recommendation to negotiate a contract for consultant services with Water Company of America of Oviedo for revenue enhancement opportunities for the Department of Environment and Infrastructure. Commissioner Norm Roche voted no, saying the county should have its own experts available to do the job.

County administrator Bob LaSala explained that the company would be using a proprietary software application. New revenue generated by the company's findings would be split with for three years after the savings were identified. The split would be 52



Plans are moving forward to build new public safety facilities and a centralized communications center on 40 acres at 10750 Ulmerton Road in Largo.

percent to the DEI Utilities Enterprise Fund and 48 percent to WCA.

- Unanimously approved an ordinance creating a street lighting district in the Rexdale Heights II Subdivision in unincorporated Seminole and a resolution for collecting non-ad valorem assessments to pay for the service.

The lighting district includes 17 properties. Sixteen were informed of the petition by property owners to create the district and one could not be reached, according to a staff report. Fifteen property owners agreed to create the district.

Progress Energy estimates the cost will be \$55.50 a month with an additional \$99.90 going to the county for administrative costs. The annual cost for the first year of service is estimated at \$765.90 or \$45.05 per property owner.

- Unanimously approved funding recommendations from the Substance Abuse Advisory Board for distribution of \$293,518 in Edward Bryne Memorial

Justice Assistance Grant funds for fiscal year 2013. The money will be distributed as follows:

- Sheriff's Office, \$82,500 for sexual predator and offender tracking
- Justice and Consumer Services, \$29,352 for planning
- Suncoast Center, 45,000 for jail diversion expansion
- Family Resources, \$33,000 for community placement intake service
- Adult Drug Court, \$30,000 for a treatment expansion
- MORE Health, \$25,000 for firearm safety and injury prevention
- ALPHA House of Pinellas County, \$14,000 for child abuse education and prevention
- Boys and Girls Clubs of the Suncoast, \$10,000 for Street SMART program
- Gulfport Police Department, \$20,000 for in-car video cameras.

JESSIE, from page 2A

"As a teen therapist, what really bothers me is that the packaging is completely designed to get a teenager to buy it," Carlyle said. "The colors, the cartoons. ... It's a juvenile market that these manufacturers are obviously marketing to. It's purposely targeting teens, which is very disturbing because it's deadly. There are some very powerful tranquilizers in these things."

The first step at Wellington is to get the drugs out of the teens' system. At first they seem "completely out of it," Carlyle said, but as the drugs clear out of their systems, they begin to get better.

"And it's almost like they wake up and they turn around and go, 'Oh my gosh, I risked my life for a cheap high,'" Carlyle said.

Synthetic drugs are more dangerous than regular marijuana, Carlyle said, because it can shut down critical centers of the brain, including breathing. The formulas are constantly changing, too, so one never knows exactly what they are putting into their body.

Wellington treats both addictions and psychiatric disorders, using evidence-based treatments like emotional interviewing and the 12-step programs, he said. The kids have an intense schedule full of individual and group therapy, family sessions, and school.

"We try to basically retrain a person's brain so they are not reaching for the pills but instead have coping skills," Carlyle said. "We equip them with these skills so they are able to function in areas of home and school and with friends without resorting to being chemically happy."

The teens also are taught about biology and why they have reacted the way they have to the drugs. They learn about the parts of the brain and how these drugs affect the decision making center of the brain, so they end up making their decisions only based on pleasure and feelings. They are even shown scans of their own brain so they can physically see the damage that has been done.

The teens wake up early and have to shower, have good hygiene and eat a healthy breakfast. They must be dressed appropriately as well. Many of the kids have been on the street, and if they do not dress appropriately, they have to wear scrubs until they can earn their regular clothes back, Carlyle said. Everything there is based on a reward system. If they make achievements and behave well, they earn rewards, such as credits that build up so they can buy things from the center's store.

The center also works closely with the teens' parents, keeping them updated about their children's progress but also teaching them how to not be enablers or codependents. If the therapists see anything "broken" that may contribute to the child's problem, then they work with the family to help the situation. Parents also have the chance to talk to each other, so they can help and get help from other parents who have gone through the same things.

Teens are in a unique place in life, so therapists work with them on things like peer pressure, self-esteem, and how to fit in better with their family and at school, Carlyle said. They are also growing and have a lot of energy, so they are positive outlets for that energy, such as through the gym, ice-skating or at a park. Missy said that Jessie was given a membership to Lifestyles Gym and was thrilled to work out regularly. Jeff said he is glad for this because if she is focusing on healthy living, maybe she will be less inclined to make unhealthy decisions.

Wellington also has its own restaurant where people in its programs can work. That way they feel useful and can learn healthy life skills that can not only help them lead a structured life, but the skills also can help them when they leave Wellington, Carlyle said.

For all of these techniques and therapy to have the best chance for success, people should stay in rehab for no less than 60 days, Carlyle said. And even then, they need to have a gradual transition back into "real life." People should stay close to their psychologist or therapist and continue to attend NA meetings every day – certainly for the first 90 days.

"Those are the kids who make it. Those are the adults who make it," Carlyle said. "You have to work at these things. If you do not work on these things when you get out of rehab, it was all a waste. We can clean you up real good. We can clean up anyone. But you have to use it. You have to face temptation eventually, so we like to let go very gradually. From inpatient to intensive outpatient-to-outpatient and then at home. Stepping down gradually."

Eventually, the addict will face temptation again. At that point, it's a test to see if they have truly learned their coping skills. The addict also must be able to sever ties from harmful friends and start over.

"It's a matter of the ability to latch onto and develop relationships with non-using peers," Carlyle said. "If they can't do that, then there isn't a lot of hope. Because every teenager wants to be accepted so badly. Even if they at least want two or three friends. And if those friends use, it's hard to say no."

Hanging onto hope

So far, Jessie has been able to remain at Wellington. She is showing progress in her therapy and group sessions, Missy said. She has

worked with Carlyle on self-respect and respect for her family, learning to get back her self-confidence, Missy said. Now, instead of yelling and screaming on the phone with her parents, she is learning to stop, take a deep breath and speak appropriately. She is opening up in group, and she is working on honesty. Missy is ecstatic that Jessie has brought her grade up from an F to a B in school.

"She's really been dedicating herself to school down there," Missy said. "And you know, I think she's just really trying. She's really trying to make herself better. And I can just hear it in her voice – the sincerity."

It seems that Jessie wants to get better, Missy said, and she is aware that she still has a lot of work to do before that can fully happen.

"Jessie is very afraid of coming back to Pinellas County," Missy said. "She knows drugs are still available here. She knows the stores that will sell them to her. She's very scared and trying to figure out what her plan will be next. She's starting to come to terms with her addiction. With her behavior. Trying to be honest with her dad and I."

But as soon as she hit the 30-day mark, the insurance company started calling again, Missy said. They want to know the exit plan. They don't want to pay for more treatment.

"You can't discharge a child who still needs so much help," Missy said. "Fighting an insurance company is like fighting a brick wall. You just get nowhere."

Jessie will stay in the residential treatment center for as long as possible, but after that, Wellington has agreed to make an exception in her case and allow her into the transitional housing program. Usually one has to be at least 16 to be in that program, but if Jessie can maintain impeccable behavior and meet the right criteria, she will be allowed to be in that program.

"It's a very intensive outpatient program," Missy said. "It's very expensive – \$1,000 a month. We're looking to get a sponsor to help cover the cost because we are fighting one battle trying to get our house out of foreclosure, trying to pay for Jessie's rehabilitation. So going into transitional housing, she could be there another month or she could be there six months. It all depends on Jessie and how she progresses."

The transitional housing program is a small step down from residential, and it is very structured, Missy said.

Jessie will have to get good grades in school, stay clean and sober and abide by every rule. If she does not, then she must go back to residential or go home.

But she and Jeff have not given up. It will still take more time to learn what damage has been done, and what damage is permanent to Jessie's brain. But they have to believe that they have not lost their little girl for good.

"As a mom and dad, you just cannot ever give up on your kids. Ever," Missy said. "We made a promise the day both our kids were born that we would protect them and guide them through life until the day we die."

Missy has formed a Facebook group called Mothers Against Synthetic Pot, which is a resource for parents who can come together to learn about this issue or discuss their shared experiences about their children's addiction.

It has been helpful for Missy to talk to other parents who have gone through the same things she has, so she wanted to create a safe space for other parents to connect and support each other.

For more information about Wellington, visit www.wellingtonre.treat.com.

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EFFECTS, from page 1A

synthetic drugs are "becoming pretty much a significant issue." About 30 percent of the agency's clients said in a recent poll they had used synthetic drugs or had experienced some issues with the drugs. Operation Par assists families experiencing problems associated with substance abuse and mental health issues. Coleman also talked about the problem of unknown long-term effects.

"It's hard to know the effect it will have on people 10 to 20 years in the future," he said.

Prescription drugs are developed over time, studied and verified as safe for legitimate use. Known side effects are listed. Yet, they are often taken off the shelf after several years of use.

"Five to 10 years later, long-term problems come out that outweigh the benefits of some of these drugs," he said. "Those drugs were researched and regulated. But, without the regulation, the danger sky-rockets."

Coleman also is concerned because the drugs are manufactured in secrecy using unknown and ever-changing formulas.

Treatment is more difficult for those addicted to synthetic drugs because of the lack of control of the manufacturing process, Coleman said.

"You don't know what's in it, so you have to be careful on the medical side of the treatment," he said.

He said the products could contain derivatives of illegal drugs such as heroin, methamphetamines or cocaine, which increases the danger of addiction.

"Treatment is a very tricky thing, because the drug may be an unknown even after drug testing," he said. "Treating synthetic addiction is a very tricky thing."

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, withdrawal symptoms from synthetic cannabinoids, includes elevated blood pressure, restlessness, drug craving, nightmares, sweating, nausea, tremor and headache.

Coleman defines an addict as someone who is losing control or has the inability to control their habit - something in their life that is causing hurt and pain, destroying their family and making them unable to work or go to school.

Teens are highly vulnerable due to the marketing toward that age group. He said marijuana users switch to the synthetic version either because they're trying to quit or because they believe it is safe because it is legal. Synthetics are appealing to other drug users because they're thought to be legal, and they believe the drugs will produce the same effects of the illegals. Synthetic drugs are not detected by drug tests.

The effects of the drugs may vary per person or age group. For example, one of the side effects of bath salts is that once ingested it causes an increase in body temperature "as the body tries to eradicate the foreign thing they ingested," Coleman said.

"Some handle it better," he said. "It depends on the person. We don't know how it will affect everybody."

John Melton, an investigator for Pinellas County Justice and Consumer Services, said bath salts have been known to cause people to hallucinate and have reactions of feeling as if their skin is on fire. They take off their clothes.



This package of Mr. Happy potpourri clearly states that it is for sell only to persons age 18 and older. The warning label says "Not for human consumption."

"There are verifiable reports by authorities of ODs (overdoses) on this stuff," Melton said.

According to William Pellan, director of Investigations for the District Six Medical Examiner Office, only one cause of death has been reported in Pinellas County that involved synthetic cannabinoids.

"That death involved a 19 year old that drowned in Clearwater," he said. "There have been other deaths that we investigated that were determined to have synthetic cannabinoids present in their toxicology results, but did not directly cause or contribute to their death."

Known side effects

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement reports a number of side effects associated with synthetic drugs.

Mild effects from the use of bath salts include:

- Increased heart rate
- Agitation
- Diminished requirement for sleep

- Lack of appetite
- Increased alertness and awareness
- Anxiety
- Fits and delusions
- Nosebleeds

More serious side effects associated with bath salts include:

- Muscle spasms
- Blood circulation problems
- Increased blood pressure
- Kidney failure
- Seizures
- Risk of renal failure
- Hallucinations
- Aggression
- Severe paranoia
- Panic attacks
- Sharp increase in body temperature

Side effects from synthetic marijuana include:

- Agitation
- Vomiting
- Dangerous hallucinations
- Loss of consciousness
- Elevated blood pressure
- Seizures
- Increased heart rate

Help is available

Operation Par provides help with substance abuse problems. Coleman said parents are welcome to call for help if their child is involved in synthetic drugs. He said treatment varies depending on each unique case. The process begins with taking information about the problem followed by a drug test. Then a treatment plan is developed.

Cost depends on the plan; however, Coleman stressed that money should not be a limiting factor as help is available for those on limited incomes. Depending on the type of program, a sliding scale price may be available. Service could even be free for those qualified thanks to state and local funding.

"Operation Par gave away \$4 million in services last year," Coleman said.

He said Operation Par had been successful with treatment of individuals addicted to synthetics. He said treatment programs often mirrored those for other drugs.

"It's not harder to cure," he said. "But it can be harder to overcome." One of the reasons is temptation. For example, a recovering alcoholic knows it is easier to stay sober if they stay out of the bars. But all a synthetic drug addict has to do is walk into the neighborhood convenience store and the temptation is right there behind the counter, he said.

For more information on Operation Par, call the 24-hour hotline at 1-888-727-6398 or visit www.operationpar.org.

Additional resources can be found online at www.pinellascoalition.com.

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Biz notes

Art gallery plans grand opening

MADEIRA BEACH – A Little Local Color, an art gallery and gift shop in John's Pass Village, will celebrate its grand opening Friday, Aug. 31, 4 to 8 p.m. There will be a free drawing for original art. The gallery is located at 12963 Village Blvd. on the second floor.

restoration and preservation business, celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon cutting Wednesday, Aug. 1, 10 a.m., at 7682 49th St. N., Pinellas Park.

JB Effects restores and preserves photos, newspapers, slides and negatives and transfers VHS movies onto DVDs.

If the photos are worn, tattered, faded or any other problem, they will restore it. The company can preserve good pictures as well as bad.

Crafts Gallery, 3112 Pass-a-Grille Way, recently commissioned several American artisans to create souvenirs for attendees of the Republican National Convention.

"It is our hope that those attending the convention, will purchase items that are made in America as remembrances of their trip," said Markoe in a press release. "Monies spent on American made items puts money into American pockets, which in these economic times is really needed. American made – Americans paid!"

The gallery will feature special works with an elephant theme created for the RNC. New Jersey jeweler Jan Palumbo has created elephant cufflinks in sterling silver; Georgia glass artist Paul Bendzunas, famous for his unique technique in hand blown glass, created elephant themed vases and South Carolina glass artist Kenneth Marine was commissioned to create patriotic red, white and blue elephants. Call 360-0729 for details.

sing and dance and enjoy Broadway. Attendees are invited to watch or join in classes of Broadway Showstoppers, Tap and Show-off Time.

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Call Gidget Cross at 515-5380.

Pancheros Mexican Grill to celebrate anniversary

CLEARWATER – Pancheros Mexican Grill will celebrate its 20th anniversary Tuesday, Aug. 28, 4 to 6 p.m., by offering guests burritos for \$1 at its Clearwater location.

The offer is Pancheros Mexican Grill's way of thanking its loyal customers for two successful decades.

Visit www.pancheros.com.

Kalamazoo Olive Company opens

DUNEDIN – Kalamazoo Olive Company opened its doors Aug. 9 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 1232 C.R.1 in the Winn-Dixie Plaza.

Dunedin Mayor Dave Eggers and business owner James Ryan took part in the event along with 60 honored guests. This is the second location for Kalamazoo Olive Company.

The grand opening will take place Saturday, Aug. 25, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be special offers, complimentary bloody marys from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., free food and appetizers, demonstrations and free food samples. Call 216-6288 for details.

DQ proceeds to benefit son of fallen soldier

SEMINOLE – Dairy Queen, 10820 Park Blvd., will donate all proceeds from sales of Tuesday, Aug. 28 to a special fund for the son of fallen U.S. soldier Matthew Sitton of Largo.

The store is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Pizazz to host open house

ST. PETERSBURG – Pizazz Song and Dance Troupe will host an open house Saturday, Sept. 8, 1:30 p.m., at the Academy of St. Petersburg City Theatre, 4025 31st St. S.

The troupe is seeking kids ages 7 to 14 who love to

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Real estate news

Coldwell names top associates

SEMINOLE – The Coldwell Banker Bayou/Bardmoor office recently recognized its top associates for the month of July.

Debi Balogh and the Balogh Team, who specializes in the Bayou/Bardmoor area, were recognized as the top-listing and top-selling agent.



Debi Balogh

RE/MAX names top agents

MADEIRA BEACH – RE/MAX All Star recently announced its top agents for July 2012.

The recipients of the All Star Agent Awards were the Basler Team, Steve Busse, Jan Adams and Nancy Scott. All Star Agents must display expertise and success in several areas of real estate professionalism and achievement throughout the calendar month.



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<p>Home In Largo 3BR/2BA/2CG w/1,433 Sq. Ft. Meticulously Maintained Barrel Tile Roof Screened Pool \$175,000</p>	<p>Clearwater Townhouse 3BR/2.5BA/2CG w/1,566 Sq. Ft. Townhouse w/pond view Fresh paint & carpet Bonus enclosed FL room \$115,900</p>	<p>Somerset Lakes 3BR/2BA w/1,472 Sq. Ft. Swimming Pool Updates throughout Screened Patio \$129,900</p>

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What's Selling in Pinellas County

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 4 Bedrooms/1.5 Baths

SOLD

Wonderful light filled home on a quiet tree-lined cul-de-sac. Large kitchen has marble flooring, wood cabinets, new countertops and looks out over your spacious fenced backyard. Includes new half bath, new roof, updated full bath, new carpet, new laminate flooring, updated windows and doors and inside laundry room.

Mike Murphy
 Realty Executives - Adamo

LARGO **\$134,000**
 3 Bedroom/2 Bath

SOLD

Corner lot in a great neighborhood. Courtyard entry. Laminate flooring throughout living spaces. Vaulted ceiling in LR with stone fireplace. Updated kitchen w/breakfast bar, travertine floor, granite counter and stainless appliances. Garage partially converted to extra living space.

Tom Cato
 Realty Executives - Adamo

SEMINOLE **\$128,500**
 2BR/1.5BA/2CG/1CP

SOLD

Great location offers easy access to Park Blvd., beaches, shopping and restaurants. Large utility shed, plus a bonus full bath in the garage. Spacious Florida room that leads out to the patio area. Fully fenced backyard and beautifully landscaped front yard.

Sandy Hartmann & Associates
 Realty Executives - Adamo

LARGO **\$288,000**
 4 Bedrooms/3 Baths

SOLD

Open split plan with both formal living/dining areas plus a spacious family room. Screen enclosed pool and above ground spa. The kitchen is remodeled with many new appliances. It offers a breakfast bar and pass-through window/snack bar to patio. Hurricane shutters and much more!

Mary "K" Kottich
 Century 21 Top Sales

Exceptional Commercial & Residential Properties

<p>Jefferson Ave. Apartments Offered at \$534,900 12 unit apartment building with strong rental history 4-two bedroom and 8-one bedroom apartments newer roof and many recent improvements sellers are retiring after many years of ownership</p>	<p>Starkey Road in Largo Offered at \$1,639,000 Well located with 346 feet of frontage on busy Starkey Road in Mid-Pinellas, this 16,420 sq. ft. building is ideal for showroom, retail, or light industrial use. Warehouse space in back totals about 6,000 sq. ft., and the buildings sit on approximately 2.96 acres.</p>	<p>Clearwater Beach Motel For Sale Offered at \$1,650,000 Excellent opportunity to purchase a 14 unit motel in the heart of the redeveloping South Clearwater Beach market – lot size of 17,000 square feet will allow for a 5 story, 20 unit building, as per the Seller that offers both gulf and intra-coastal views - 13 rental units plus owners apt..</p>	<p>The Preserve Offered at \$199,500 2 bedroom, 2 bath condominium located in a beautiful golf course community. Built in 1999, features include high ceilings, breakfast bar and a master walk-in closet.</p>
<p>Redington Shores Offered at \$199,000 Excellent opportunity to purchase a waterfront commercial condominium in beautiful Redington Shores, and on busy Gulf Blvd. Complex is anchored by BB&T bank, this unit is 1,675 sq. ft., and is available for sale, lease, or owner will hold financing.</p>	<p>Madeira Beach Reduced to \$849,999 9 unit waterfront inn, directly across the street from the Gulf of Mexico. Includes 6 boat slips, 3 docks, large heated pool, owner's apartment and 8 studio guest rooms with full kitchen</p>	<p>8 Unit Apartment Complex Offered at \$399,000 Sale consists of a 6 unit apartment building located at 909 Pine St, and a duplex at 911 Pine St. The duplex has a 2br/1ba apartment, and a large 1br/1ba with den. The apartment building has 3 efficiencies, 2 1br/1ba apts, and a 2br/1ba unit. All units have been remodeled. Excellent Clearwater rental area</p>	<p>Bayou West Offered at \$389,900 4 Bedroom, 3 bath home built in 2001 with 3 car garage and 3,500 heated sq. feet. Bonus room or 5th Bedroom, heated pool, and so much more.</p>

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Dolphins provide example of Humphrey's hypothesis

Why are some animals smarter than others? It's an awesome question to pose and an even bigger one to try to answer.

A man named Nicholas Humphrey tackled the problem and suggested that brainpower comes from social interaction because social interaction is mentally demanding. In turn, social interaction increases brainpower, the increased brainpower permits more complex social interaction, more complex social interaction requires more brains, and on and on it goes. Humphrey's proposed "social arms race" is not unlike two Olympic athletes training to out-compete each other, a perfect metaphor on the heels of America's triumph at the recent Olympic games in London.

Whenever one athlete makes progress, the other athlete must train to progress even further. Incremental improvements ultimately produce a very capable species.

One of the most capable mental abilities of bottlenose dolphins is their memory. I'd always liked Humphrey's explanation but was recently treated to absolutely elegant evidence of John's Pass dolphins' awesome memories and Humphrey's explanation in action.

It was a splendid summer morning to spend at sea. The deep blue sky was dotted with fluffy white clouds. Gently green seas were calm and warm. In the northern part of our study area, big bull Nose checked out sleepy mother-calf pair Valiant and Vidalia before heading south to a cove to join four other dolphins. Two of these four dolphins, Nose's buddy Brick and female Student, joined him directly; one even leaned against him affectionately. The other two, Face and her tiny 4-month-old calf Facet, rushed over as well. Together they surfed the wake of a passing boat and, surging out the other side, ambled convivially back to the waters

where we'd first found Nose.

I thought it was odd that Face sought their company because two bulls with a babe have a very different agenda than a protective mom tending a tiny calf, and none of these three dolphins are clearly Face's close friends. But experience has taught me that John's Pass dolphins rarely act arbitrarily and in fact manage impressively complex social networks, which takes brains.

Face, so-called because the tatters on the trailing edge of her dorsal fin form a faintly surprised expression, is one of the dolphins we see most often. We generally find her in our local waters two or three times a month across the year. She's fairly sociable with a select social circle. So far this year, she's been with 44 different dolphins. Counting repeat observations, that's a total of 129 dolphins. That's a lot of social interaction to remember.

But Face obviously has enough brainpower to remember much more distant relationships, which I discovered when I got off the water and checked our dolphin database to see her history with Nose, Brick and Student.

The reason Face surfed and ambled so companionably with them the other day is because she's known them for years. She doesn't see them often but she sees them regularly. Nose and Brick are members of a group of bull dolphins we call the Punch Buddies who visit our local waters in the warm months; each year, we've found them swimming with Face once or twice during that time. Student is an adult female born to Club in 2004. Like the Punch Buddies, Student cruises through our local waters during the spring months and when she does, we'll find her periodically swimming with Face.

The only exception was 2011 when Face kept exclusive company with local bulls N, Riptab and BB. One of those three bulls probably produced the tiny calf Facet currently at her side and all of them probably helped.

Face's statistics provide staggering evidence that even the relationships she expresses once or twice



Photo by ANN WEAVER

Bottlenose dolphin bulls N, foreground, and Riptab dogged female Face, background in 2011, probably accounting for the tiny new calf she shepherds around in 2012, young Facet.

a year are very real and require great memory.

They suggest that the need to keep the details of dozens of relationships in mind could produce, over time, the amazing social memory of bottlenose dolphins.

I wonder. If you spent just one month of your life recording every social interaction you have, what would your patterns look like? How stable is your social life over the years?

Dr. Weaver studies wild dolphins under federal permit 16299, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Send her an email at dazzled@tampabay.rr.com or visit her website www.dolphinssuperstore.com. Read her award-winning Dolphin Watch column weekly at www.TBNweekly.com. NOAA advises anyone who sees a stranded dolphin in the Gulf of Mexico to call 877-942-5343 or 877-433-8299.

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Pilchards now the right size for snapper

The natural progression of summer baitfish stocks seems to be on track.

Pilchard fry too small to use for anything other than chumming mangrove snapper a month ago is now the perfect size for fishing under a weighted float. The juvenile pilchards can be cast-netted along bridge shadow lines at night as well as the swash channel up and down the beach when the winds are offshore. Be careful not to overcrowd your live well, which is an easy thing to do with the abundance of bait and water temperatures close to 90 degrees. It's making it tough to keep the small baits alive for very long.

Upon exiting the passes each morning the past few days it was easy to see the changes taking place. Flocks of terns and pelicans are working the tide lines just a short distance from shore. The water they're dipping and diving on is cloudy and churned up, not from rough seas but from the masses of bait fish and the predatory fish gorging themselves on them.

These muds have been producing fast fishing for the Spanish mackerel and ladyfish, but be on the lookout for the arrival of schools of bull redfish. These giants, often 20 pounds or better, make their way near shore this month and are a blast to catch on light tackle.

Target the fish with live pinfish or grunts as well as fresh cut ladyfish on the bottom.

Pompano schools are around right now and some of the fish have been pretty big. Keep your eyes out for pompano skipping out of the water when you're idling around deep grass flats and sand shoals near the passes. Bounce crazy jigs in bright colors off the bottom with a fast retrieve to trigger the strike, a teaser fly above the jig will add some flare, as well as increase your odds for a hook up.

Tyson Wallerstein can be reached at capt.tyson@hotmail.com. To get a fish photo in the paper, send the photo along with your name, when and where it was caught to editorial@TBNweekly.com or mail it to Tampa Bay Newspapers, 9911 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772.



Fish Tales
Capt. Tyson Wallerstein

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LETTERS

A world stage to stir things up

Editor:

Freedom of speech offers us the right to agree or disagree. It does not offer us the right to be disobedient, disrespectful or destructive.

It is not freedom of attitude. It is not freedom of anger. It is not freedom of anarchy. The saying "actions speak louder than words" is not constitutional law. Freedom of speech is about civil discourse not civil disobedience.

The average citizen would not carry a stick, brick, chains, etc. with intent to cause harm, damage or destruction to another person or property. The average citizen would not throw a projectile knowing and intending for it to cause harm or destruction to another person or property. The average citizen would not push, shove, trip, spit or pull the hair of another person without the intent to cause harm, damage or destruction.

With any world stage, such as the Republican National Convention in Tampa, there are going to be actors or posers if you will that are not going to be conducting themselves in a reasonable and responsible citizen manner. Their intentions are to cause immediate mayhem to property that does not belong to them. To others such as our police, firefighters, military and any and all persons in positions of authority or anyone who attempts to rein in their destruction.

These actors, these posers are very well paid professional protesters trained and schooled in creating mass mayhem. They market their skills to the highest bidder. I believe that if they could get paid enough they would walk the streets proclaiming the second coming.

Rest assured, they do not live in our city. They do not live in our state and quite possibly they do not even live in the United States. Again this RNC event in Tampa will provide them with an enormous world stage. They are not going to miss any opportunity to stir things up. They are out to win the OSCAR of protester acclaim. Getting beaten, "bring it on," because cameras are rolling. Getting arrested, all the better, because now their name and fame will up their asking price.

Unfortunately for you and me and our city and our taxpayer resources, we are the ones who will pay for their performance. We are the ones who will pay for their staged anger. We are the ones who will pay for their staged anarchy. Our city could quite possibly be left with billions of dollars of damage, while they are on their way out of town to their next big gig.

Remember, it is freedom of speech only, not a free-for-all.

Laura D. Zahn
Dunedin

Getting somewhere on Gulf Boulevard

Editor:

I read with some interest an article in the August 9 issue of Tampa Bay Newspapers written by Executive Editor Tom Germond entitled, "Lakeland takes safety a step further."

In his article, Mr. Germond suggests that he would "like for our local governments to embrace Lakeland's idea," which in essence is to add additional Ped Xings to our roads, with fines clearly posted for motorists who fail to stop when "flagged." His example of a road needing these added security measures is Gulf Boulevard.

As someone with a slightly differing opinion and a detail-oriented personality (to put it mildly) I would like to hold sway. A resident of Redington Beach for quite a few years now, I believe myself qualified to point out a few other facts for consideration.

One - Gulf Boulevard has no end of crosswalks! The other day, as I was driving from 107th (Treasure Island) to 161st (Redington Beach), I counted the number of zebra stripes between the two locations. They numbered twenty-three. When I searched how many miles were in between, my computer came up with 4.62 miles. That means there are crosswalks every two-tenths of a mile, which equates to one every 1,056 feet.

Two: The speed limits on Gulf Boulevard don't need to be messed with. I will offer as proof my ability to actually count the PED Xings while navigating my vehicle up the road. With limits ranging from a heady 30 to 35 MPH and Xings every 1,056 feet, it's easy to describe the goings that stand as "slow." What will happen to the speeds on the road if the distance between signs shrinks even further - might have to put up more warnings - "Caution, snail crossing."

Three: Even when drivers are attentive, PED walkways can be dangerous. Ever in a situation when you were driving north up Gulf Boulevard inches behind but to the right of a large truck or SUV when it came to a dead halt in the middle of the road? Note: the situation is the same if you are travelling south and you are slightly behind to the left. With the larger vehicle blocking your view, you can't see why it stopped, but you hit the brakes as a precaution. All of a sudden a hat or an umbrella pops up in front of you indicating that a pedestrian just got very lucky. What about drivers who are not as cautious, or may have developed an immunity to the amount of signs they see? I've witnessed quite a few close calls!

Rather than adding more signage perhaps we should adopt a European flair. Let the poor guy trying to cross the road dodge speed-crazed motorists who have no regard for vehicular protocol - let alone a pedestrian waving a red or yellow flag. Just kidding and don't take offense if you're European. Forget about it. I have a large family in Italy. I love youse guys.

If a change needs to be made, post the fines on existing signs but please, for the sake of anyone actually wanting to get somewhere on Gulf Boulevard, don't add any more Xings!

Jo Iannotti

Redington Beach

Clean up the beach mess

Editor:

I could not believe my eyes when I saw all the debris and dead algae on a recent Sunday on Clearwater Beach. In all of my 15 years living here I have not seen the beach as dirty and smelly as I found it this past weekend. This is absolutely unacceptable ... and something should be done now to correct this.

If the dead algae are coming from the dredging they are doing to replenish Belleair Beach they should be billed for the clean up, but it should have been cleaned up in the first place anyway. Tropical storm Debbie passed this way more than three weeks ago and there's no excuse for the beach being so nasty. I found the same situation at the Seminole street boat ramp when I went to see the 4th of July fireworks. If it's a matter of not having the necessary funds to have the beach cleaned up then, we should consider doing away with one of the commissioner's positions. This should free up enough funds to clean up the mess. I kept thinking when I was at the beach and I was a tourist visiting that I would never have come back. This is just plain stupid!

Michael Maribona

Clearwater

Consider history in Biltmore decision

Re: "Suggestions for the Biltmore project," by Ken Keating, Aug. 9

Editor:

As a resident of Belleair, I couldn't agree more with Ken Keating's analysis of the dance moves being handed out to us. What is so hard to understand? It is a win/ win situation. Not only will this project put hundreds of people back to work, it will restore this magnificent historical building that will make a very proud statement for years to come. I feel that I speak for all of the believers that we can make this happen. Please consider the history when making your final decision.

Joan Friel

Belleair

A business executive as president?



Driver's Seat

Bob Driver

Next January after Mitt Romney is inaugurated as president and the GOP controls both houses of Congress, we may see a movement to pass a new amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

It will add another requirement - beyond being at least age 35 and having been born in the USA - for becoming president. The amendment will make it mandatory that any chief executive will have spent at least five years working in business.

From what I'm reading recently, Gov. Romney would favor such a change. And so would millions of voters who believe, for various reasons, that government can and should be run as a business. Some wise person once said, "The business of America IS business." Case closed.

However, a look at presidential history reveals that businessmen presidents (of which there have been only a few) have been disasters, nincompoops or somewhere in between. Beginning in the 1970s and working backwards, we have Jimmy Carter. He did well at growing and selling peanuts, but his administration will be chiefly remembered for his use of the word "malaise" and for his presiding over Iran's holding 52 Americans hostage for 444 days, during which Carter authorized a rescue operation that was royally botched by the U.S. military.

Before Carter, the next business type president who comes to mind is Herbert Hoover, our first millionaire president. He was financially successful as a mining engineer and investor, but he failed to anticipate the 1929 stock market crash and Great Depression until it was too late to do anything about them. A few years earlier, Ohio newspaper publisher Warren G. Harding won the presidency by promising a "return to normalcy," following the close of World War I. In the three years before he suddenly died, Harding

was tarred by the Teapot Dome scandal, brought on by bribes taken by Harding's secretary of the interior. Although Harding was guiltless, his name and administration will always bear the Teapot Dome as their chief memory.

If you can think of a business-trained U.S. president who has generally been regarded as great or near-great, please let me know. I'm always open to persuasion.

On the other side of the ledger, let's look at some outstanding presidents who were abject failures when it came to running a business. George Washington was a planter and distillery-owner, but the demands of conducting a revolutionary war and helping to found the greatest nation on earth only served to screw up his finances to a fare-thee-well. Abraham Lincoln's chief talent as an Illinois storekeeper was to get in debt and stay there for much of his life. Harry Truman steered his men's clothing store into bankruptcy, and was paying off his creditors well into his career as a U.S. senator.

The aristocratic Franklin D. Roosevelt might be looked on as something of a businessman if we only took notice of his total assets. In truth, except for a short period as a Wall Street lawyer, FDR hardly worked at all until he got swept up in politics.

A recent article by Todd Purdum in "Vanity Fair" magazine asked this question: If a business background does little or nothing to guarantee high achievement in the White

House, what sort of preparation does? Is there a common denominator in the lives of our great or near-great presidents that helped them attain and deserve top ranking in our nation's Hall of Fame?

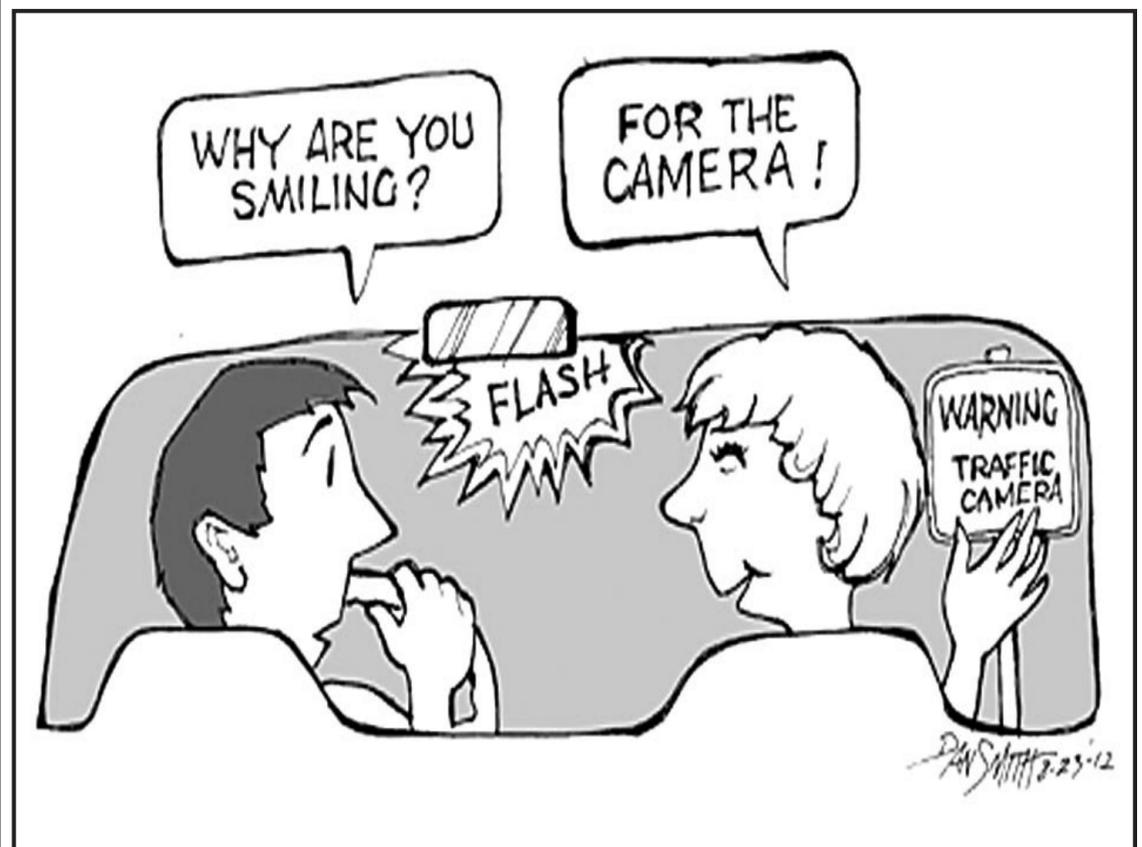
A possible answer: facing and overcoming great adversity in early life. All the great presidents experienced handicaps or struggles, but somehow got through them. Toughened and disciplined by their ordeals, our outstanding leaders were better able to withstand the constant hell that every Oval Office occupant faces.

Has Mitt Romney's personal and business career forced him to undergo suffering and privation? It doesn't seem so. In fact, his undisputed success in the business world may actually hamper him if and when he reaches the White House, just as it has done with other business-background presidents. That's because - contrary to what so many people believe - politics and business are such vastly different worlds.

If I'm a corporate CEO and want something done, I snap my fingers and a loyal subordinate makes it happen. There is no legislature to oppose me, no Supreme Court to overrule me, and - in most cases - no news media wolves lurking at my door to trumpet my every mistake.

But in the political jungle, few proposals move in a straight line to completion. What awaits every U.S. president is opposition, second-guessing, treachery, compromise, public opinion, and the ever-present threat of war-like actions by any of a dozen foreign governments. Such pressures seldom exist in a corporate boardroom. If Mitt wins on Nov. 6, he may soon wish he were back captaining the good ship Bain.

Bob Driver is a former columnist and editorial page editor for the Clearwater Sun. Send Driver an email at tralee71@comcast.net.



On Paul Ryan and other VP picks

Random thoughts on Mitt Romney's selection of Paul Ryan for vice president:

Have you ever voted for a candidate because of his running mate? Me neither.

No president has significantly helped himself with a vice presidential pick since 1960, when Lyndon Johnson delivered much of the South for John F. Kennedy.

Far more often, the second banana hurts the ticket. Consider Sarah Palin four years ago and Dan Quayle in 1988. But John McCain was going to lose anyway, and hoped Palin would be a "game changer." And the first President Bush was going to beat Michael Dukakis anyway, despite the arrival of Quayle.

That said, with his pick, Romney helped himself with the most conservative element of the Republican Party.

Because of his record as Massachusetts governor - the state health care plan, his support of abortion as a U.S. Senate candidate, advocacy of an assault-weapons ban - a large segment of the GOP still considers Romney too moderate, or worse, squishy. They would have liked Sen. Marco Rubio more, but 18 months in statewide office does not imbue veep-level gravitas (see: Palin, Sarah.)

Speaking of Florida, our 29 electoral votes are certainly needed by President Obama, but absolutely essential for Romney. That's why the Democrats might actually stop talking about Romney's taxes and start reminding voters here about Ryan's work as budget chairman. Expect the words "Medicare vouchers" in Obama television spots and mailings, particularly in retirement enclaves. Scaring old people is a time-tested tactic for Florida Democrats, and the Republicans keep giving them ammunition. Even if Rom-



Florida Voices

Bill Cotterell

ney had put Betty White on his ticket, Democrats would have said that under his economic-recovery plan, your grandma is a "shovel-ready project."

Ryan does nothing for Romney among women, black and Hispanic voters, three voting segments in which Republicans badly need to show improvement.

Condoleezza Rice might have helped Romney with blacks and women - and brought the foreign-policy credentials that Romney lacks - but it wouldn't have been nearly enough, against Obama.

Rubio would have fired up the far-right part of the party, and could have spoken Spanish at campaign events in Arizona and New Mexico. Almost certainly, he would have moved Florida into the red column.

But the Republican record on immigration isn't going down well with Hispanics - certainly not in contrast to Obama's recent actions regarding children of undocumented immigrants. Any relaxing of the rhetoric would be labeled "amnesty" by the Reluctant Romney-ites of the Right, causing many to stay home. Besides, any conciliatory message would have to come from the top guy, not his understudy.

When introducing him in Norfolk, Romney made a point of mentioning Ryan's anti-abortion Catholicism and his Midwestern family values. That's probably as close as the

campaign wants to get to the "culture wars," which fires up conservative GOP voters but makes independents uneasy.

During the Republican primaries, Obama and the Democrats were decrying a supposed "war on women." Now, we're sure to see reminders from both sides about the coverage of birth control services under Obama's national health-care plan, which appeals particularly to students and young working women. But the law's provision that employer-provided health insurance cover contraceptive services alienates devout Catholics.

Then there are style points. Ryan brings 14 years of Washington experience, of which Romney has none, and some strong - if controversial - credentials on fiscal policy. If any powerful congressional committee chairman can run as an "outsider," it will be Ryan, and the contrast to Joe Biden will be obvious.

And before Democrats dismiss him as a youthful upstart, they might want to consider that, at 42, he's only a year younger than Kennedy was in 1960 - and he's been in Congress five years longer than Obama was when he ran for president.

A bit of trivia: Who was the last sitting House member elected vice president?

In 1932, Franklin Roosevelt needed a Southerner to balance the ticket and chose House Speaker John Nance Garner of Texas. "Cactus Jack" is mainly remembered for saying the vice presidency "ain't worth a pitcher of warm spit," although many historians agree he actually referred to another bodily fluid and the polite press of the era cleaned up the quote.

Bill Cotterell is a retired Capitol reporter who worked for United Press International and the Tallahassee Democrat. He can be contacted at bcotterell@gmail.com

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Publisher/President: Dan Autrey
dautrey@tbnweekly.com

Accounting Manager: Andrea Marcarelli
tbriandy@yahoo.com

Retail Advertising Manager: Jay Rey
rey@tbnweekly.com

Classified Advertising Manager: Shelly Fournier
sfournier@tbnweekly.com

Executive Editor: Tom Germond
tgermond@tbnweekly.com

Production Manager: David Brown
production@tbnweekly.com

Internet Services Manager: Suzette Porter
webmaster@tbnweekly.com

Seminole/Beach Beacon: Bob McClure
bmccclure@tbnweekly.com

Largo Leader/Dunedin Beacon: Tom Germond
tgermond@tbnweekly.com

Belleair/Beach Bee: Chary Southmayd
csouthmayd@tbnweekly.com

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727-397-5563 • Fax: 727-397-5900 • www.TBNweekly.com

Clearwater Beacon: Alexandra Lundahl
alundahl@tbnweekly.com

Pinellas Park Beacon: Juliana A. Torres
jttores@tbnweekly.com

General Editorial
editorial@tbnweekly.com

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What do you think?

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Here are some more guidelines for letters:

- Letters are printed on a first-come, first-served basis. They may be edited to correct grammar, spelling and factual errors. They also may be edited for clarity.

- Please keep letters to editor to 500 words. Longer letters may be cut due to space limitations.

Shooting Stars soccer signups set

SEMINOLE – The Seminole Shooting Stars soccer program is registering players for its fall-winter season.

Registration is Saturday, Aug. 25, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and Wednesday, Aug. 29, 6 to 8 p.m., at the Seminole Recreation Center, 9100 113th St. N.

The fees are under-6, \$100; and under-8 to under-19, \$110 (\$10 sibling discount).

Practice will start the week of Oct. 1. Games begin Nov. 3 and run until February.

A birth certificate is required to register new players. Non-Seminole residents must show a

valid Seminole Recreation membership card.

To download forms and more information, visit www.SeminoleShootingStars.com.

For more information, email SeminoleShootingStars@gmail.com.

SYAA soccer signups slated

SEMINOLE – The Seminole Youth Athletic Association soccer program is registering players for the upcoming season through Sept. 15.

Boys and girls ages 4-18 are eligible to play.

The registration fee is \$135 for U6 and U8; and \$140 for U10 to

U19, plus a \$50 facility fee per family.

Registration dates are: Wednesday, Aug. 22 and 29, 6 to 8 p.m.; and Saturdays, Aug. 25, Sept. 8 and Sept. 15, 10 a.m. to noon, at SYAA, 12100 90th Ave.

Registration online is also possible at www.syaa-soccer.com.

For more information, email andycap1@tampabay.rr.com or call 235-3378.

Madeira Beach plans soccer registration

MADEIRA BEACH – Registration for the Madeira Beach youth soccer program is planned through Sept. 4 at the Madeira Beach Recreation Center, 200 Rex Place.

Registration dates are: Saturday, Aug. 25, 9 to 11 a.m.; Tuesday, Aug. 28, 6 to 8 p.m.; and Tuesday, Sept. 4, 6 to 8 p.m.

The registration fee is \$70 for city residents and \$85 for non-residents. The fee includes shirt, shorts, socks and a trophy.

The league plays an 8-game schedule and tournament, September through December.

The league is also in need of coaches.

For further information, call Colin Shaw at 392-0665.

Gulf Beaches LL plans registration

MADEIRA BEACH – Registration for Gulf Beaches Little League Baseball and Softball is planned through Sept. 8 at Madeira Beach Recreation Center, 200 Rex Place.

Registration dates and times are:

- Saturday, Sept. 1, 10 a.m. to noon.
- Tuesday, Sept. 4, 6 to 8 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 6, 6 to 8 p.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 8, 10 a.m. to noon.

Ages 5 to 18, all skill levels, are eligible. The fee is \$50 and includes jersey and cap.

Call 753-8616 or visit www.eteamz.com/GBLL, or find the league on Facebook: Gulf Beaches Little League for more information.

Cross Bayou LL plans registration

SEMINOLE – Cross Bayou Little League, 10150 98th St. N., plans fall baseball and softball registration through Sept. 8.

The registration dates and times are:

- Saturday, Aug. 25, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Monday, Aug. 27, 6 to 8 p.m.
- Thursday, Aug. 30, 6 to 8 p.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 5, 6 to 8 p.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 8, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

2 p.m. Ages 4 to 16, all skill levels are eligible.

Call 397-1894 or visit www.crossbayoull.com for more information.

Ski club plans kickoff meeting

LARGO – The Clearwater/St. Petersburg Ski and Sports Club plans its 29th annual kickoff meeting Friday, Aug. 24, 6:30 p.m., at East Bay Country Club, 702 Country Club Drive, Largo.

The event will showcase the club's five winter ski trips for the upcoming season; and kick off its fundraising efforts for the Bay Pines disabled veterans.

The club has trips planned to Big Sky, Mont.; Lake Tahoe, Nev.; Vail, Colo.; Breckenridge, Colo.; and Steamboat Springs, Colo.

It is also the first of several planned fundraising events for the Bay Pines disabled veterans. Funds raised will help these veterans attend the Winter Sports Clinic in Snowmass, Colo., in March. The rehab clinic is held every year but due to the cost of travel only a handful of the veterans have been able to attend.

For further details, visit www.sbnovshark.org.

Rotary plans Run Around Pier

ST. PETERSBURG – The inaugural Rotary Run Around The Pier is Saturday, Sept. 29, 6 p.m.

The 5K event, which is sponsored by the St. Petersburg Sun-

shine Rotary Club, will start and finish at Albert Whitted Park, 480 Bayshore Drive SE.

Participants will receive wristbands good for entry into a post-race party with plenty of free beer and music.

The early entry fee is \$25 and \$30 after Sept. 9.

Sponsorships also are available for \$750, \$450 and \$250.

For more information, contact John Brock at jcbrock7@hotmail.com.

Run 4 the Fish 5K set at Walsingham Park

LARGO – The Florida Gulf Coast Center for Fishing Foundation plans the Run 4 the Fish 5K and 1-mile fun run Saturday, Sept. 15, at Walsingham Park, Shelter 8.

The 5K race will start at 7:30 a.m., the 1-mile run at 8:45. Awards and a post-race party will begin at 9 a.m.

The registration fee is \$20 for the 5K before Sept. 8 and \$25 afterward. The fun run is \$12.

Participants will receive a T-shirt and post-race party. Awards will be given to male and female overall, age groups and masters. The race is part of Pinellas County's Centennial Celebration Weekend Sept. 14-17. A pancake breakfast at the Center For Fishing will be available for \$5.

A link to the registration form can be found at www.centerforfishing.org/pinellas-county-centennial-celebration.

For additional information, contact Jim at 687-6948.

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Obituary information should include: full name, age, city and date of death. You may also choose to include the names of living and/or predeceased relatives, work history, clubs and/or activities that they participated in. If you wish to include the name of the funeral home handling arrangements keep in mind that we are a weekly publication and the paper may publish **after** the services have taken place.

For further information, including cost, please call Tampa Bay Newspapers at 727-397-5563, or you can submit your information through our Web site, www.TBNweekly.com, or by e-mail at: obits@TBNweekly.com.

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In front, from left, are Kourtney Gracie, Sammi Grat, Savanna Rumore, Brooke McEntire, Lizzie Mason, and Carolyn O'Neil. In the middle row are Emily Hollenbeck, Kara Wilson, Brittney Pressler, Dani Morris and Kayla Sanchez. In the top row are coaches Diane Gracie and John Pressler, manager Karl Mason and coach Rick O'Neil.

Lady Bombers win World Series

CLEARWATER – The Clearwater Lady Bombers 14-under girls softball team won 13 of 14 games over a one-week span to capture the 2012 USSSA World Series at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Lake Buena Vista.

The team wrapped up the title on Aug. 4 by working its way back through the loser's bracket for a pair of victories over the Orlando Aftershock.

The Bombers took the first game 5-1 and nailed down the championship with an 8-0 shutout.

Members of the team are Kourtney Gracie, Sammi Grat, Savanna Rumore, Brooke McEntire, Lizzie Mason, Carolyn O'Neil, Emily Hollenbeck, Kara Wilson, Brittney Pressler, Dani Morris and Kayla Sanchez. Diane Gracie, John Pressler, manager Karl Mason and Rick O'Neil coach them.

In addition to winning the title, the pitching staff – Pressler, Grat and McEntire – was awarded the tournament pitching MVP award. The three pitchers gave up an average of just 1.78 runs per game.

The Lady Bombers scored 83 runs in the 14 games for an average of nearly six runs per game.



The Lady Bombers' pitching staff was awarded the pitching MVP award. From left are Brittney Pressler, Sammi Grat and Brooke McEntire.

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Diversions

Things to do around Pinellas County



- Classifieds
- Events
- Movies

Beacon
Section B
August 23, 2012
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This week's top 5

• **"The Importance of Being Earnest,"** by Oscar Wilde, through Sept. 2, at West Coast Players Theatre, 21905 U.S. 19 N., Clearwater. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m. Matinees are Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$16. Call 437-2363 or visit www.wcplayers.org. Two gentlemen living in 1890s England use the same pseudonym, Ernest. All is fine until they both fall in love with women using that name, leading to a comedy of mistaken identities. This trivial comedy for serious people is directed by Rand Smith.

• **Damon Fowler**, Friday, Aug. 24, 9 p.m.; and Saturday, Aug. 25, 8 p.m., at the Palladium at St. Petersburg College, 253 Fifth Ave. N., St. Petersburg. Tickets are \$13 in advance or \$15 the day of the show. Call 822-3590 or visit www.spcollege.edu/palladium/. With his hybrid of roots rock, blues and sacred steel, plus songwriting and vocal skills, it's no wonder critics are extolling Fowler's originality and technical guitar expertise which has been compared to Johnny Winter and Jeff Beck, while his slide guitar hints of Duane Allman. He can play fiery guitar runs with the best of them, but it's his lyrical



Damon Fowler

work on lap steel and Dobro that makes him stand out among the legions of guitar heroes. Fowler's sparkling original compositions pair perfectly with well-chosen cover tunes from Billy Joe Shaver, Merle Haggard and the Amazing Rhythm Aces. Because of his versatility, Fowler has been called upon to work with Jeff Beck, Buddy Guy, Johnny and Edgar Winter, Robin Trower, Gregg Allman, Jimmy Vaughn, Junior Brown, Rick Derringer, Little Feat, The Radiators, Chris Duarte and Delbert McClinton. A Tampa Bay musician who's made good, Fowler is one of the most original and seasoned artists on the national circuit.

• **Hippiefest**, Saturday, Aug. 25, 7 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets range from \$45 to \$79. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhal.com. Hippiefest will present five well-known players who were initially inspired to pick up their instruments due to their love for rock and blues: Johnny Winter, Edgar Winter, Rick Derringer, Leslie West and Kim Simmonds. Audiences will have an opportunity to hear five great musicians all in one incredible tour of rock and blues music. Ruth Eckerd Hall will again feature a Hippiefest marketplace offering beads, tie dyes and other iconic reminders of Woodstock, San Francisco and a generation that brought a whole new outlook to life.

• **Moxy Concert - Believe in Miracles**, Friday, Aug. 24, 8 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets are \$27 in advance and \$32 the day of the show. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. This concert and variety show will feature the area's most talented performers, vocalists and musicians including singer/songwriter and musician Jayne Kelli, award winning performer Rebecca Zapen, American Idol Experience Dream Ticket winner Vanessa Quillao, actress and singer Becca McCoy and singer/songwriter and musician A.J. Swearingen. There also will be a special performance by Moving Arts of Tampa Bay, and the talented vocalists Jennifer Real, Rossana Spallino, Chantelle Ashby and Reggie Dockens.

• **Santana**, Sunday, Aug. 26, 8 p.m., at 1-800-ASK-GARY Amphitheatre, 4802 U.S. 301 N., Tampa. Tickets start at \$39.50. Call 813-740-2446 or visit www.livenation.com. Santana takes to the road this summer, launching the Shape Shifter Tour 2012. Since Santana emerged from the San Francisco Bay area music scene in the 1960s, the group has sold more than 100 million records, reached more than 100 million fans at concerts worldwide, and been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Santana has won 10 Grammy Awards, including a record-tying nine for a single project, 1999's "Supernatural." Among other honors, Carlos Santana is No. 20 on Rolling Stone's list of 100 Greatest Guitarists.



From left, Ashley Greene stars as Kelly, Sebastian Stan as Ben and Tom Felton as Patrick in Warner Bros. Pictures' and Dark Castle Entertainment's supernatural thriller "The Apparition," a Warner Bros. Pictures release.

Opening this week

Shepard, Bell team up for 'Hit and Run;' Felton tackles 'The Apparition'

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

A number of new movies will hit theaters this week, including the following films opening in wide release:

'Hit and Run'

Genre: Action, comedy and romance
Cast: Dax Shepard, Kristen Bell, Bradley Cooper, Tom Arnold, Beau Bridges, Kristin Chenoweth, David Koechner, Michael Rosenbaum, Joy Bryant and Ryan Hansen
Director: Dax Shepard and David Palmer
Rated: R

From the producer of "Wedding Crashers" - written by and co-directed by and starring comic talent Dax Shepard - "Hit and Run" is the story of Charlie Bronson (Shepard), a nice guy with a questionable past who risks everything when he busts out of the witness protection program to deliver his fiancé (Kristen Bell) to Los Angeles to seize a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Their road trip grows awkwardly complicated, when they are chased by the feds (led by Tom Arnold) ... and increasingly dangerous, when Charlie's former pals, a band of gangsters (led by Bradley Cooper), enter the fray.

'The Apparition'

Genre: Supernatural thriller
Cast: Ashley Greene, Sebastian Stan, Tom Felton, Julianna Guill, Luke Pasqualino and Suzanne Ford
Director: Todd Lincoln
Rated: PG-13

When frightening events start to occur in their home, young couple Kelly (Ashley Greene) and Ben (Sebastian Stan) discover they are being haunted by a presence that was accidentally conjured during a university parapsychology experiment.

The horrifying apparition feeds on their fear and torments them no matter where they try to run. Their last hope is an expert in the supernatural, Patrick (Tom Felton), but even with his help they may already be too late to save themselves from this terrifying force.



Kristen Bell and Dax Shepard hit the road in the romantic action comedy "Hit and Run."

'Premium Rush'

Genre: Action
Cast: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Michael Shannon, Dania Ramirez and Jamie Chung
Director: David Koepp
Rated: PG-13

Dodging speeding cars, crazed cabbies and 8 million cranky pedestrians is all in a day's work for Wilee (Joseph Gordon-Levitt), the best of New York's agile and aggressive bicycle messengers. It takes a

See **OPENING**, page 2B

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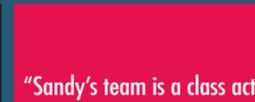
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'Robot & Frank'
Genre: Comedy and family
Cast: Frank Langella, Susan Sarandon, James Marsden, Liv Tyler, Peter Sarsgaard, Jeremy Sisto and Jeremy Strong
Director: Jake Schreier
Not rated
Set in the near future, Frank, a retired cat burglar, has two grown kids who are concerned he can no longer live alone. They are tempted to place him in a nursing home until Frank's son chooses a different option: against the old man's wishes, he buys Frank a walking, talking humanoid robot programmed to improve his physical and mental health. What follows is an often hilarious and heartwarming story about finding friends and family in the most unexpected places. "Robot

Crossword

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17				18						19				
20				21						22				
	23				24		25	26			27			
28				29		30					31			
32					33		34				35			
36							37				38	39	40	41
				42					43					
44	45	46	47		48			49		50				
51					52				53		54			
55				56				57		58				59
60						61	62					63		
64						65						66		
67						68						69		

- Across**
- Backstabber
 - Filled
 - Church song
 - "Much ___ About Nothing"
 - Shower fresh
 - Embryonic sacs
 - Beauty
 - Gravitational forces
 - Drool
 - Viral disease
 - "___ we having fun yet?"
 - Browning's Ben Ezra, e.g.
 - Cattle
 - Like the flu
 - A-line line
 - Back talk
 - Beloved of Aphrodite
 - Barely gets, with "out"
 - Press interviews of politicians (2 wds)
 - Give off, as light
 - Artemis' twin
 - Blunted end
 - Fencing sword
 - Aligned
 - ___ Sorvino, actress
 - 1970 World's Fair site
 - Cooking meas.
 - Prayer
 - Octaves
 - Cuspid (2 wds)
 - "Dig in!"
 - Toll
 - Bring out
 - Biochemistry abbr.
 - Flip, in a way
 - Oblivion
 - Chester White's home
- Down**
- "From ___ to riches"
 - State capital of South Australia
 - End of the quip
 - Fink
 - Adjust
 - Bright fish
 - Ring bearer, maybe
 - ___ lab (acronym)
 - Cracker spread
 - Smug smiles
 - Blindness
 - Department store section
 - Some services
 - Idle fancy
 - Pork and ___
 - Bovril (2 wds)
 - Sit in the sun
 - Delivery vehicle
 - Vermin
 - V.I.P.
 - Aug. follower
 - Barely beats
 - Civil War side
 - Bunches
 - Kind of ears
 - Ground cover
 - Artist's garments
 - European capital
 - Kidney waste product (pl.)
 - Italian herb (pl.)
 - Barely make do (2 wds)
 - Common aspiration
 - The "O" in S.R.O.
 - Clarified butter
 - "Don't go!"
 - ___ el Amarna, Egypt
 - ___ to Billie Joe"

Horoscopes August 23, 2012

Capricorn
December 22 - January 19
Smile, Capricorn. Great things are in store. A chance encounter proves very lucrative indeed. A work issue is resolved with a bit of ingenuity.

Aquarius
January 20 - February 18
Passion ignites, and love is in the air. Make plans to reconnect with that special someone, Aquarius. A home improvement project hits a snag.

Pisces
February 19 - March 20
Thoughts of yesteryear inspire you to start a new tradition. Get the family involved, Pisces, so it will truly be yours. A deadline approaches with fury.

Aries
March 21 - April 19
A project gets off to a rocky start, but lucky for you, Aries, there will be no further snags. A family recipe brings people together and turns dinnertime into a smash.

Taurus
April 20 - May 20
Troubled times come to an end and free you up for some real fun, Taurus. Travel, hobbies, sports and so much more could be on the agenda.

Gemini
May 21 - June 21
Face it, Gemini. Hopes are dashed for now, but all is not lost. A better opportunity will present itself. A houseguest brings harmony to your home.

Cancer
June 22 - July 22
Your fortitude is put to the test with a friend. Don't give in, Cancer. You are on the right page. Revving up your fitness routine is a good idea.

Leo
July 23 - August 22
Make no mistake, Leo. One slip of the tongue could cause the whole thing to come crashing down. Be careful what you say and in how you approach it.

Virgo
August 23 - September 22
A principle is challenged. Stand your ground, Virgo. A financial dilemma is resolved with help from a pro. An avenue of opportunity opens up.

Libra
September 23 - October 22
Career goals are easily attained with the right training, but you're looking for it in all the wrong places, Libra. A young friend owes you one—payback time.

Scorpio
October 23 - November 21
Sunny days are here again, as old friends and new drop by for a visit. So many adventures await, Scorpio. A shopping trip uncovers quite the find!

Sagittarius
November 22 - December 21
The to-do list grows out of hand, and you must seek the help of others. Start with those who owe you a favor, Sagittarius, and don't let them weasel out of it.

Sudoku

5	9	1	4		3			
6					5			1
	4							9
3	1		6					9
		6				8		
	7				2		4	3
4								5
	2		3					7
			5		8	1	2	4

Place a Number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Sudoku answers from last week

5	9	2	7	1	3	4	6	8
4	6	8	2	9	5	3	1	7
7	3	1	8	4	6	2	9	5
2	1	7	3	5	8	9	4	6
6	4	5	1	2	9	7	8	3
9	8	3	6	7	4	5	2	1
3	5	4	9	8	1	6	7	2
1	2	9	5	6	7	8	3	4
8	7	6	4	3	2	1	5	9

Crossword answers from last week

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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England Brothers Park set for September shows

PINELLAS PARK - The city will attract music aficionados from around the Tampa Bay region in September with two concerts at England Brothers Park, 5010 81st Ave. N.

First up will be Sublime with Rome on Saturday, Sept. 1. Gates will open at 2 p.m. Tickets start at \$27. Visit ticketfly.com.

The original ska-punk outfit Sublime split up following the death of lead singer and guitarist Bradley Nowell in 1996. In 2009, surviving members Eric Wilson, bass guitar, and Bud Gaugh, drums, partnered with Rome Ramirez to form Sublime with Rome. Initially, the new lineup concentrated on performing songs by Sublime. In 2011, Sublime with Rome released "Yours Truly," which included the U.S. Alternative hit "Panic."

When Gaugh left the band in late 2011 to focus on his family, he was replaced by Josh Freese. DJ Rocky Rock also will join the band.

The show also will feature performances by Matisyahu, Cypress Hill, Dirty Heads and Pepper.

According to his artist bio, since first emerging on the international stage in 2005, Matisyahu has established a reputation for following his muse - from the stripped-down roots reggae of the gold-certified Live at Stubb's to the trippy ministrations of Youth to the polished pop eclecticism of Light. In 2010, he returned to the venerable Austin venue that introduced him for Live at Stubb's II, demonstrating that all those travels had somehow only strengthened his connection to his musical bedrock. It was a whirlwind half-decade journey, one that earned Matisyahu a place in pop culture at large.

Currently based in Los Angeles, Matisyahu recently released



Photo courtesy of PRESS HERE PUBLICITY
New wave icon Blondie brings its Whip It to Shreds Tour to England Brothers Park in Pinellas Park on Sept. 23.

"Spark Seeker," a new studio album. The vocalist and songwriter explores uncharted territory on his fourth studio effort, partnering with a number of collaborators along the way.

"It just felt good to sort of restart everything," Matisyahu says in a press release promoting the new album.

He considers the impermanence of the physical form one of the central themes of "Spark Seeker."

"We live in a world where

people tend to think in extremes and categorize with ultimate statements," Matisyahu says. "While it's true that at one point it would've been pretty accurate to describe me as Ha-sidic reggae, for most of my career my music has been a blend, a mixture."

Cypress Hill has long represented the will of the people according to the band's management group, Velvet Hammer Music.

The Los Angeles-based trio of



Photo courtesy of DOVE SHORE PHOTOGRAPHY/ABC PUBLIC RELATIONS
The Dirty Heads join the lineup Sept. 1 at England Brothers Park in Pinellas Park.

rappers B-Real and Sen Dog and producer DJ Muggs provided distinctive insight into the harsh realities of ghetto life, championed marijuana before it became fashionable and made it acceptable for rappers to use Spanish in their rhymes.

Given its visionary bent, it makes sense that the group wanted to call its new album - and its first under the Snoop Dogg administration at Priority Records - "Rise Up."

"The term itself is pretty strong, like a call to action for people to stand up for what they believe in," B-Real says in a press release promoting the album. "With this album, we tried to take an aggressive approach on pretty much the whole thing. I wanted to focus on making some raw, aggressive, in your face hip-hop as well as still touch on that alternative base that we have."

The Southern California SoCal rock/reggae/hip-hop band The Dirty Heads was called one of Rolling Stone's

Best New Bands of 2010.

The band features Dustin Bushnell, vocals/guitar; Jared Watson, vocals; Jon Olazabal, percussion; Matt Ochoa, drums; and David Foral, bass.

The Dirty Heads' new album "Cabin by the Sea" debuted on Billboard's Top 200 Albums chart at No. 18, Independent

Albums chart at No. 3, Alternative Albums chart at No. 4, and the Current

Digital chart at No. 9.

Later in the month, New Wave icons will play the park.

The Whip It to Shreds Tour comes to England Brothers Park on Sunday, Sept. 23.

Gates will open at 3 p.m. Tickets start at \$14. Visit ticketfly.com.

Blondie and Devo will co-headline the show.

Blondie veterans Debbie Harry, Clem Burke and Chris Stein, along with newer band members Leigh Foxx, Tommy Kessler and Matt Katz-Bohen will be playing the acclaimed songs from their most recent album "Panic of Girls" as well as the biggest hits from their storied four-decade career.

Devo, which released its first studio album in two decades with 2010's highly praised "Something for Everybody" and have been touring since.

Devo will mix up its set with newer material and the classics. Original members Mark and Bob Mothersbaugh and Gerald and Bob Casale will take the stage with tour drummer Jeff Friedl rounding out the lineup.

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2008 AMERICAN LEAGUE EAST CHAMPIONS ♦ 2008 AMERICAN LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Looking ahead

Clearwater

• **Hernando's Hideaway Speakeasy & Casino Night**, Saturday, Aug. 25, 7 to 10 p.m., at Winter's Dolphin Tale Adventure located at Harborview Center, 300 Cleveland St., Clearwater. The Regional Chamber of Commerce and Clearwater Jazz Holiday will partner to host the event, which will raise funds for the annual Clearwater Jazz Holiday festival. The themed event will feature a night built around the 1920s illusion of a smoky backroom setting of gambling, dancing and (pretend) illegal spirits as seen in the movies. Open to the general public, the event is black-tie optional. The event will include hors d'oeuvres and beverages provided by BayStar Restaurants. Tickets are \$65 in advance or \$75 at the door. Visit www.clearwaterflorida.org or call 461-0011.

• **"Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory,"** Saturday, Aug. 25, 3 p.m., at Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St. Tickets are \$5. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. Part of the Capitol Classics Family Movie Series sponsored by Tampa Bay Parenting Magazine, the film stars Gene Wilder. Having proven itself as a favorite film of children, "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" has transcended the family genre becoming a worldwide cult film phenomenon. There's a timeless appeal to Roald Dahl's classic novel, which was playfully preserved in this charming musical, originally released in 1971, from the colorful carnival-like splendor of its production design to the infectious melody of the Oompah-Loompah songs that punctuate the story.

• **Bill Maher**, Saturday, Sept. 1, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$50. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. Host of the Emmy nominated "HBO's Real Time with Bill Maher," the comedian and political commentator will bring his notoriously candid stand-up comedy to Ruth Eckerd Hall. With more than 18 years in television, Maher has earned more than 20 Emmy nominations for his hit TV shows and specials. Maher's first creation, the late night talk show "Politically Incorrect," ran from 1993 to 2002 and featured a roundtable discussion of current events with four guests coming from pop culture, politics and news. "Politically Incorrect" and "Real Time with Bill Maher" have featured many well known guests including Ben Affleck, Robin Williams, Chris Rock, John Edwards, the Rev. Al Sharpton, Larry King, and Ann Coulter. Along with his two hit shows, Maher also has written four bestsellers.

• **"Moon Over Buffalo,"** Sept. 6 through Oct. 27, at Early Bird Dinner Theatre, 200 S. McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Doors open at 4 p.m. for performances Friday through Sunday. Doors open at 11 a.m. for matinees Thursday and Saturday. Tickets are \$29.90 for buffet and show. For reservations, call 446-5898 or visit www.earlybirddinnertheatre.com. In this screwball comedy set in 1953, traveling actors receive the opportunity of a lifetime when the famous film director Frank Capra wants them to be in his latest film. Hilarity ensues with a whirlwind of mistaken identities and a cast of off-beat but lovable characters.

• **"Pulp Fiction,"** Friday, Sept. 7, 8 p.m., at Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St. Tickets are \$5. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. Tickets are \$5. Call 791-7400 or visit www.athecap.com. "Pulp Fiction" is widely considered one of the most

influential films of the 1990s. Director and co-screenwriter Quentin Tarantino intertwines the lives of two mob hit men, a boxer, a gangster's wife and a pair of diner bandits in four tales of violence and redemption. With an all-star cast featuring John Travolta, Samuel L. Jackson, Uma Thurman and Bruce Willis with cameos by Christopher Walken and Steve Buscemi this Oscar winning film pays homage to the traditions of many genres including film noir, campy B-horror flicks and American gangster and crime thrillers.

• **"Aurora Borealis,"** Sunday, Sept. 9, 3 p.m., at Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St. Tickets are \$5. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. Presented by the American Alzheimer's Association, "Aurora Borealis" stars Joshua Jackson, Donald Sutherland and Juliette Lewis. The film follows a troubled young man struggling to right himself after the premature death of his father. This moving coming-of-age story is set against the frigid backdrop of a Minnesota winter where love begins to grow.

Largo

• **Swing Dance**, Saturday, Sept. 1, 7 to 11 p.m., at Largo Community Center, 400 Alt. Keene Road, Largo. This recurring event features dancing and socializing. Attendees will enjoy a free lesson from 7 to 8 p.m. and a DJ dance from 8 to 11 p.m. Savoy Swing is the resident DJ. The center boasts a 5,600-square-foot sprung hardwood floor. Visit LargoCom.munityCenter.com or call 518-3131. Cost is \$6 with a recreation card and \$7 with no recreation card.

• **Train Weekend**, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 1-2, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Largo Central Park, 101 Central Park Drive, Largo. Attendees may ride the miniature trains of Largo Central Railroad on the first full weekend of every month in Largo Central Park. For a schedule of dates visit LargoEvents.com. Admission is free but donations are accepted.

• **Labor Day Poolside Picnic**, Monday, Sept. 3, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Highland Family Aquatic Center, 400 Highland Ave. Attendees may bring the family and a blanket to enjoy their own picnic basket by the pool during the center's extended four-hour session. The event will include free chair massages in addition to family and friends discount admission. This will be the last public session of the season. Alcohol and glass will not be permitted. The snack bar will be open. Cost for a family (five person minimum) is \$12 with a recreation card and \$23 without a recreation card. Call 518-3018.

• **Square Dancing**, Friday, Sept. 7, 7:30 to 9:45 p.m., at the Largo Community Center, 400 Alt. Keene Road, Largo. Attendees will spend the evening dancing to professional caller Allen Snell. Call 518-3131. Cost is \$6.

• **Swing Dance**, Saturday, Sept. 8, 7 to 11 p.m., at Largo Community Center, 400 Alt. Keene Road, Largo. This recurring event features dancing and socializing. Attendees will enjoy a free lesson from 7 to 8 p.m. and a DJ dance from 8 to 11 p.m. Savoy Swing is the resident DJ. The center boasts a 5,600-square-foot sprung hardwood floor. Visit LargoCom.munityCenter.com or call 518-3131. Cost is \$6 with a recreation card and \$7 with no recreation card.

Madeira Beach

• **"Catch Me If You Can,"** Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2:30 p.m., at Gulf Beaches Public Library, 200 Mu-

nicipal Drive, Madeira Beach. Part of the Summer Film Series, this 2002 comedy-drama directed by Steven Spielberg stars Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hanks, Christopher Walken and Amy Adams.

• **"My Sister's Keeper,"** Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2:30 p.m., at Gulf Beaches Public Library, 200 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach. Part of the Summer Film Series, this 2009 drama stars Cameron Diaz, Abigail Breslin, Sofia Vassilieva and Alec Baldwin.

Oldsmar

• **Pastel Society of Tampa Bay's Summer Art Show**, through Aug. 31, at Oldsmar City Hall, 100 State St. W., Oldsmar. Original pastel paintings will be on display and for sale throughout the building showing some of the finest work of its over 60 members. Formed in 2006, members represent not only Pinellas but also Pasco and Hillsborough counties. The exhibit may be viewed Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call Lorraine Potocki at 466-8791.

• **Celebrate Oldsmar**, Friday and Saturday, Aug. 31 and Sept. 1, at R.E. Olds Park, 107 Shore Drive West, Oldsmar. Hours will be Friday, 6 to 9 p.m.; and Saturday, 5 to 9 p.m. Oldsmar's annual extravaganza is the city's way of saying thank you to residents, businesses, visitors and event sponsors for making Oldsmar a great place. This year, the action will start Friday with a carnival of rides and games. The celebration will continue Saturday, with the carnival, inflatables, pony rides, Touch-a-Truck, food concessions and live music. Parking and admission are free. The Black Honkeys will perform on the amphitheater stage. There will be a fireworks display. For more details, call 813-749-1260 or visit www.MyOldsmar.com.

Pinellas Park

• **Sublime with Rome**, Saturday, Sept. 1, at England Brothers Park, 5010 81st Ave. N., Pinellas Park. Gates will open at 2 p.m. Tickets start at \$27. Visit tucketly.com. The show will also feature performances by Matsuyahu, Cypress Hill, Dirty Heads and Pepper. Sublime with Rome is a collaboration between Eric Wilson and Bud Gaugh of Sublime and Rome Ramirez. Vocalist and guitarist Ramirez had previously performed with Wilson and Gaugh occasionally, including YouTube's Raw Session and an attempted Sublime reunion. It became clear that Ramirez would not be replacing Sublime's lead singer and guitarist, Bradley Nowell, who died in 1996. He would simply be "featured with" former Sublime members. Sublime with Rome performed their first gig together in February 2009 in Nevada, followed by Cypress Hill's Smokeout Festival that October.

• **"Once Upon a Time in Central Park,"** by Gil Perlroth, Sept. 7-23, at Venue Theatre, 9125 U.S. 19 N., Pinellas Park. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m. Matinees are Sundays, 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20. For reservations, call 822-6194 or email venueactorstudio@gmail.com. Venue Theatre is proud to present the world premiere of the new musical by Perlroth, who penned the hit musical "Ain't Retirement Grand". "Once Upon a Time in Central Park," a warm delightful musical about love in the middle years, features Nancy Wright and Bob Hines and is directed by Daniel Harris. The production includes 14 new songs.

Safety Harbor

• **Premiere Harbor Cinema**, Thursday, Aug. 30, 6:30 p.m., at Safety Harbor Public Library, 101 Second St. N., Safety Harbor. The Premiere Harbor Cinema film series presents the newest film releases on the big screen in the library. The featured presentation will be "The Lucky One," starring Zac Efron and Taylor Schilling. Free popcorn and lemonade will be served. Call 724-1525, ext. 112.

St. Petersburg

• **Global + Local: Studio and Contemporary Glass on Florida's West Coast**, through Oct. 14, at the Museum of Fine Arts, 255 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg. The exhibit will feature 60 works from approximately 10 collections, including the MFA's own. Recent MFA acquisitions of major works by Therman Statom and Michael Glancy are high points, as well as objects by internationally renowned artists Harvey Littleton, Lino Tagliapietra, Dale Chihuly, Richard Ritter, William Morris, Sonja Blomdahl, Dante Marioni, Toots Zinsky and Yoichi Ohira. Exceptional works by area artists Duncan McClellan, Owen Pach, and Chuck Boux also enhance the exhibition. McClellan's new studio/gallery in downtown St. Petersburg is attracting artists from around the globe. The Chihuly Collection and the Hot Shop at The Morean Arts Center and the Zen Glass Studio likewise reflect the city's emergence as a center for the display and creation of glass art. Museum hours are Monday through Wednesday and Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Regular admission is \$17 for adults, \$15 for those 65 and older, and \$10 for students 7 and older, including college students with current identification. Children 6 and younger and museum members are admitted free. For information, call 896-2667 or visit www.fine-arts.org.

• **The Art of Music summer jazz series**, Friday, Aug. 24, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., at the Museum of Fine Arts, 255 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg. The featured artist will be New York Guitar Cats. The series presents some of the best jazz in the area. Admission is \$5 for museum members and \$10 for nonmembers. Cost includes admission to the entire museum. Call 896-2667. The musicians perform in the glass conservatory. Listeners can mingle on the terrace overlooking the bay. The MFA Café is open and a cash bar is available.

• **"My Time Will Come,"** Tuesday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m., at Studio@620, 620 First Ave. S., St. Petersburg. General admission is \$8 for adults and \$5 for students with identification. Visit www.tampabayfilmfest.com. Part of the Global Film Initiative sponsored by Tampa Bay International Film Festival and Studio@620, the film was directed by Victor Arregui. A pre-dawn murder sets in motion a series of interlocking tragedies that eventually find their way to the city morgue's brooding Dr. Arturo Fernandez. Physically and emotionally isolated from the world around him, Arturo develops an oddly intimate relationship with the personal lives of his cases, gradually forcing him to confront his connection to the living, and the dead. Adapted from the novel "De Que Nada Se Sabe," Arregui's serpentine tale is a

See LOOKING AHEAD, page 8B



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<p>ADOPTION: 888-812-3678 All expenses paid. Choose a loving, financially secure family for your child. (24/7). Caring & confidential. Attorney Amy Hickman, FL Lic. #832340. (C)</p>	<p>ATTENTION DIABETICS WITH Medicare. Get a Free Talking Meds and diabetic testing supplies at No Cost, plus Free home delivery! Best of all, this meter eliminates painful finger pricking! Call (888)377-3536. (C)</p>	<p>CASH FOR CARS: ALL CARS & Trucks Wanted, Running or Not! Top Dollar Paid. We Come to You! Any Make/Model. Call for Instant Offer. (800)871-9638. (C)</p>	<p>DIVORCE, REFRIGERATED & Dry Van Freight. Daily or Weekly pay! \$0.01 raise per mile after 6 months. CLD-A, 3 months current OTR exp. (800)414-9569. www.driveknight.com. (F)</p>	<p>HUGE DISCOUNTS WHEN YOU buy 2 types of advertising! 120 weekly newspapers, 32 websites, 26 daily newspapers. Call now to diversify your advertising. (727)397-5563. classifieds@tbnweekly.com. (F)</p>	<p>NC MOUNTAINS: Custom built 1,288SF log cabin on 1.72 acres, only \$89,900. Private wooded setting, covered porches, cathedral ceilings, paved access and easy to finish. (828)286-1666. (C)</p>	<p>SWIM SPA LOADED! BRAND new with Warranty. 3 Pumps, LED lighting, Ozon Deluxe Cover, maintenance-free cabinet. Retailers for \$18,900, Sacrifice \$8,995. Can deliver. (727)851-3217. (C)</p>
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<p>ADoption: 888-812-3678 All expenses paid. Choose a loving, financially secure family for your child. (24/7). Caring & confidential. Attorney Amy Hickman, FL Lic. #832340. (C)</p>	<p>ATTENTION DIABETICS WITH Medicare. Get a Free Talking Meds and diabetic testing supplies at No Cost, plus Free home delivery! Best of all, this meter eliminates painful finger pricking! Call (888)377-3536. (C)</p>	<p>FREE Discount Prescription Card. Save 10% to 85% on your prescriptions. Call (888)284-7364 and start saving now! (C)</p>	<p>DRIVERS: 100% Owner Operator Co. Regional & Dedicated, Home Weekly, Class A CDL, 1 yr. exp. in last 3. (800)695-9643. (F)</p>	<p>LAWSUIT CASH Auto Accident? All Cases Quality. Get CASH before your case settles! Fast Approval. Low Fees. (866) 709-1100 or www.glofin.com. (C)</p>	<p>PREGNANT? Considering Adoption? Talk with a caring adoption expert. You choose from families nationwide. Living expenses paid. Call 24/7. Abby's One True Gift Adoptions. (866)413-6298, 24/7. FL Lic. #100013125. (C)</p>	<p>WE SOLVE TAX PROBLEMS! Call (800)557-4048. Stop Levies and Seizures, Stop Wage Garnishment, Reduction of Taxes, Abatement of Penalties, IRS Compliance, Tax Return Preparation. www.keytaxgroup.com. (C)</p>
<p>ADoption: 888-812-3678 All expenses paid. Choose a loving, financially secure family for your child. (24/7). Caring & confidential. Attorney Amy Hickman, FL Lic. #832340. (C)</p>	<p>ATTENTION DIABETICS WITH Medicare. Get a Free Talking Meds and diabetic testing supplies at No Cost, plus Free home delivery! Best of all, this meter eliminates painful finger pricking! Call (888)377-3536. (C)</p>	<p>FREE Discount Prescription Card. Save 10% to 85% on your prescriptions. Call (888)284-7364 and start saving now! (C)</p>	<p>DRIVERS: 100% Owner Operator Co. Regional & Dedicated, Home Weekly, Class A CDL, 1 yr. exp. in last 3. (800)695-9643. (F)</p>	<p>LAWSUIT CASH Auto Accident? All Cases Quality. Get CASH before your case settles! Fast Approval. Low Fees. (866) 709-1100 or www.glofin.com. (C)</p>	<p>PREGNANT? Considering Adoption? Talk with a caring adoption expert. You choose from families nationwide. Living expenses paid. Call 24/7. Abby's One True Gift Adoptions. (866)413-6298, 24/7. FL Lic. #100013125. (C)</p>	<p>WESTERN CAROLINA REAL ESTATE. Offering unbelievable deals on home and land in the beautiful NC mountains. Call for free brochures, foreclosures & area info. (800)924-2635. (C)</p>

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1. House Sales

BELLEAIR BEACH, 3BR/3BA,
1+Garage, FSBO \$349K.
Call Joan (727) 455-4090
for an appointment.
See on YouTube: 0XKSc7FcyVM

BEST OAKHURST LOCATION,
Owner Financing Seminole
Schools, \$25,000/Down
+\$1,195/Month, \$189,900.
Beautiful 3BR/2BA/2CG, Move-in
Today. Drive by 8730 140th St., N.
Then call (727)392-5063.
www.oakhurst.comule.com

CLEARVIEW LAKE ESTATES
2BR/2BA, 1736 Algonquin,
\$127,900. John Doran Realty
(727)447-9579.



DUNEDIN EXECUTIVE HOME
5BR/4BA/2CG, 3,753SF,
In Golf Course Community,
Green compliant, completely
rebuilt, mother-in-law's quarters.
New A/C, roof, electric, windows.
\$435K.
(727)531-9520; (727)458-6897.

HOME FOR SALE BY OWNER
Imperial Point Community,
10312 Majestic Dr., Largo.
Gorgeous, remodeled inside
and out. Newly painted inside
and out. 4BR/3BA/2CG, plus
extra bonus room/office,
2,738SF. Highlights Include
Corian counters, tile floors, hur-
ricane windows and plantation
shutters on all windows. Popu-
lar split plan, extra large indoor
utility room with plenty of
storage and extra counter
space. Newly built large walk-in
closet in master bedroom.
Great neighborhood offers a
heated pool, picnic/BBQ area,
tennis courts, shuffleboard,
volleyball, playground and
boat ramp/launch w/fishing
pier. \$348,000. By appt. only:
(727)612-0745.

First Time Homebuyer Program*
Low Interest Rate Mortgage
Down Payment Assistance at 0% Interest
Housing Finance Authority
of Pinellas County
1-800-806-5154
www.pinellascounty.org/community/hfa
Programs available in Pinellas, Polk
and Pasco counties.
* If you have not owned a home
in the last 3 years

5. Real Estate Sales

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
All real estate advertising in this
newspaper is subject to the Fair
Housing Act which makes it illegal to
advertise "any preference, limitation or
discrimination based on race, color,
religion, sex, handicap, familial status,
or national origin, or an intention, to
make such preference, limitation or
discrimination." Familial status includes
children under the age of 18 living with
parents or legal custodians; pregnant
women and people securing custody of
children under 18.
This newspaper will not knowingly
accept any advertising for real estate
which is in violation of the law. Our
readers are hereby informed that all
advertisements in this newspaper
are available on an equal opportunity
basis. To complain of discrimination call
HUD Toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The
Toll-free telephone number for the
hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

20. Condo Sales

SEMINOLE GARDENS!
Sales & Rentals
Robert C. Castles, P.A., Broker
(727)595-8229
www.seminolegarden.com

TWIN OAKS, SEMINOLE,
Nice, spacious 2BR/2BA Villa,
55+, End Unit, 1,355SF, Pool,
Clubhouse. Great Location!
\$59,000. Oakhurst Realty
(727)397-6656

20. Condo Sales

SEMINOLE GARDENS
BUY WHILE PRICES ARE AT
AN ALL-TIME LOW!
BEAUTIFUL 56-ACRE
COMPLEX

1BR/1BA 608 sq. ft.
Ground floor, 55+
Furnished, Many Updates
Near Pool. \$24,900

1BR/1BA, 874 sq. ft.
3rd floor, Elevator, 55+
Furnished, Updated Bath,
Park View. \$25,900

Ridge Seminole Mgmt. Corp.
Cassius L. Peacock, Realtor
Your ON-SITE Specialist
(727)397-2534
MySeminoleGardens.com

RANDOLPH FARMS
Updated Townhouse,
3BR/2.5/BA/2CG, Charming Front
Courtyard, Large Back Deck,
Fireplace, Tennis, Pool, Dock/
Slips. Ten Minutes to Beach!
\$269,900. Owner/ Realtor.
Troy Robinson, The Seaside Real
Estate Store. (727)595-4918

35. Mobile Home Sales

Affordable 55+ Living
GLENWOOD ESTATES:
5 Star, Land Owned.
All 2-3BR/2BA/2CP, Furnished
\$170/Mo. Maint.
12501 Ulmerton Rd., Largo.
Brochures Available.
#8 - 2/2/2, Water View, \$89,888.
#54 - 2/2, Carport, \$65,888.
#91 - 2/2/2, \$59,888.
#100 - 3/2/2, \$65,888.
#116 - 2/2/2, \$55,888.
#130 - 2/2/2, \$79,888.
#237 - 2/2/2, Water View, \$97,888.
For Viewing Call
IMapp Realty Group
John Doles, 727-510-3331

We Buy Sell & FINANCE Used
Mobile Homes.
Affordable Prices, Flexible
Terms, No Banks.
Mike (727) 452-3033

85. Commercial Sales

MULTI-FAMILY, MADEIRA BCH.
Two-story unit overlooking Intra-
coastal. Large 2/2 upstairs, 4 units
downstairs. Laundry, 2 boat slips,
C/H/A. Just behind John's Pass.
Asking \$495K. (727)398-3916.

100. Real Estate Wanted

LOOKING TO BUY A 2BR
Condo, on the Beach Gulf side,
balcony view, Madeira Beach,
Treasure Island, St Pete Beach.
marb@copeco.ca

125. Out of State

Cost-Effective Statewide Advertising
Place Your Ad Of 25 Words
or Less In More Than 100
Newspapers Across Florida
For Only \$475/week.
You Can Reach Over 5
Million Readers Through Our
Network Of Daily & Weekly
Florida Newspapers.
**Contact Tampa Bay
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RENTALS

135. Rentals
LARGO DUPLEX Side-by-Side
3BR/1.5BA/1CG, Newly
Renovated, Tile Floors,
C/H/A, W/D Hook-ups, Approved
Pet OK. JUST REDUCED RENT!!!
Bob, (727)686-8973.

145. Unfurnished Houses

BAY PINES BEAUTY, 2BR/1BA,
Remodeled. \$950/Month, 1st.
Last, Security. (727)394-2795.
10236 51st Avenue.

145. Unfurnished Houses

LARGO: 3BR/2BA/1CG, GREAT
Condition, Nice Neighborhood.
Close to Trail/ Schools. Private
Fenced Yard. \$1,100/Month. No
Big Dogs. Fred, (727)776-2799

SEMINOLE 2BR/1BA +FLORIDA
& Laundry Room, Large Backyard,
Walk To Mall, Pets Okay, Quiet
Neighborhood, Tiled Floors.
\$995/Mo. Annual (727)488-1111.

ST. PETERSBURG 3/Bedroom,
2 Bath, Fenced Backyard,
Storage Shed. 4005 40th Ave. N.
\$895/Month. (727)253-0523.

155. Furnished Condos

LARGO, 2BR/1BA, 1ST FLOOR,
Minutes To Beach, Shopping.
Heated Pool, Clubhouse. Non-
smoking, Petless. (727)535-8251,
(727)512-5431.

LARGO, 55+, LARGE 1BR/1BA,
\$775/Month Annual. Pool, Water-
front, W/D, Enclosed Porch. 1/Mile
from Beach. (727)542-8164.

160. Unfurnished Condos

BARDMOOR AREA, 1BR/1BA,
Ground Floor, New Flooring,
Fresh Paint, New Appliances. No
Covered Parking or Pool.
\$650/Month +Deposit. Call Dean
(727)465-3075.

BEAUTIFUL PENNWOOD Manor
Largo, 1BR/1BA, Sunroom, 55+
Ground Floor. No Pets, Includes:
Cable, W/S/T, Heated Pool.
\$625/Month. (727)585-9492.

CORDOVA GREENS, 2BR/2BA
In Bardmoor, 2nd Floor end unit,
W/D, carport, elevator, pool,
\$950/mo. Glen Webb,
(727)515-4443

COUNTRY CLUB GOLF CONDO,
1BR/1.5BA, 850SF. Recently
Remodeled, Near Shopping.
\$750/Month. (727)826-0344,
(727)288-8557.

FIVE TOWNS, 55+, ST. PETE.
Spic-And-Span 1BR/1BA,
Screened Deck w/Water View.
Friendly Adult Living! Gym, Pools,
Community Centers, Cable,
W/S/T Included. \$689/Mo.
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SEMINOLE GARDENS
1BR/1BA, 608SF, 55+
Unit. Second Floor.
WOW! \$500/Month-Yearly.
Ridge Seminole Mgmt. Corp.
(727)397-2534

SEMINOLE GARDENS
2BR/2BA, 912SF, 55+
Corner Unit, Great Water View
\$800/Month-Yearly.
Ridge Seminole Mgmt. Corp.
(727)397-2534

SEMINOLE GARDENS 55+
(Two 2 Bedroom Units)
Newly Remodeled, No pets,
Non-smokers Only. Bill
(727)397-5512, (727)641-6681.

SEMINOLE, VILLA MILAN
1BR/1BA, on West side of Lake
Seminole, Pool, Dock, No Pets.
\$595/Month Annual.
Guetzlaff Realty
(727)204-0829, (727)392-2339.

SOUTH PASADENA, 2BR/2BA,
Spacious Corner Unit. Small Pet
okay. W/D. Walk To Stores.
\$1,000/Mo. (727)424-4376.

170. Furn. Apartments

CLEARWATER: STUDIOS
Starting at \$179/Week. No
security, No credit check. No
WiFi access. Pets OK. MOVE IN
TODAY!! (727)445-7134.
precisionpropertymanagement.net

FACING EVICTION?
Move in today! Studio apartments
starting @ \$179/week. Open 24/7.
No credit check. No security de-
posit. Free local phone calls, WiFi.
Pets okay. (727)446-6560.
precisionpropertymanagement.net

MADEIRA BEACH: 1BRs
& Efficiencies. Fully Equipped.
Weekly. No Pets. Includes Utili-
ties. (727)397-4130.

66TH STREET/ 46TH AVE. N.
Apt. Or Mobile, Nice 1BR, Clean,
\$525/Mo. Move-In Special!
Petless. (727)546-3776.

175. Unfurn. Apartments

SEMINOLE GARDENS, 55+.
1BR Standard. No Pets. Non-
smokers Only. Robert C. Castles,
P.A., Broker. (727)595-8229
www.SeminoleGarden.com

BELLEAIR BLUFFS
Deluxe 1-2BRs, 1st-2nd Floor.
New Carpet. Overlooking Pool &
Courtyard, 1 block from shopping
& Intracoastal. 2942 West Bay Dr.
(727)483-4853.

BELLEAIR GREENS APTS., 55+.
2BR/2BA units on Biltmore Golf
Course. Newly renovated. Across
from police, rec center. Starting
\$925/month. (727)365-6821.

LARGO: 1BR Apartment
145/Wkly. House \$595/Mo.
DUNEDIN: Room \$75/Wkly.
Studio/ Efficiency \$155/Wkly.
Call or Click www.586-2412.com

265. Commercial Rentals

LARGO: 220 13TH ST. SW.
Near Diagnostic Clinic.
Office/ Workshop/ Storage.
(727)584-6283.

NEWLY RENOVATED, TWO
offices/ connecting door.
Includes shared signage,
parking lot, lobby, kitchen,
restrooms, and server/ phone
room. \$750 plus electric.
John (727)631-5900.

175. Unfurn. Apartments

DOWNTOWN CLEARWATER,
1BR. Close To Bus Terminal.
\$490/Month. Cal Bob,
(727)515-0994.

EAST BAY/ BELCHER 2BR/1BA,
Spacious, W/D Hook-up. Small
fenced yard. Close to shopping.
Small dog OK. \$820/Mo.
(727)530-0335.

LARGO
AUTUMN CHASE
1 & 2 Bedroom
Apartment Homes
Starting From \$550
One Month Free with a
13-Month Lease.
Minutes From Beach
(727)586-1473

LARGO DUPLEX
2BR/1BA, \$675/Mo. +Utilities;
Great Neighborhood. Petless,
Yearly Lease, Credit Check.
(727)584-6952.

LARGO: VERY CLOSE TO
Transportation, Shopping,
Hospital. Move-in Special!
1BR/1BA, \$600/month, 2BR/1BA,
\$650/month, 2BR/2BA,
\$700/month. (727)280-6001.

MOVE IN SPECIAL
LARGO PINELLAS VILLAGE
NOW ACCEPTING FAMILIES
1ST MONTH FREE!!
2/BED \$625, 3/BED \$747
CALL TODAY!!! (727)399-2500

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH
Cozy, Clean, Furnished Cottages.
1-2BRs starting at \$315/wk. +tax.
Steps to Gulf Beach. Pet Friendly.
(727)595-8013.
www.UncleMillsCottages.com.

BELLEAIR BEACH
Gulf Condo, 2BR/2BA,
furnished, non-smoking,
no pets. Annual/ long term,
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CLEARWATER/ SAND KEY
Beach, Ulterior II, Gulf Front, Intra-
coastal Views. Large 2BR/2BA,
Dining Room +Nook/ Office.
Wrap-Around Balconies. Nicely
Furnished. All Amenities Including
Fitness Center. Available Short/
Long Term. Owner,
(813)431-9381.

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Condos, Houses, Duplexes
Weekly/ Monthly/ Annual
Bob Schmidt, (727)580-9797
Tropical Isles Realty, Inc.
(727)593-0744, (800)655-0744

GULL HARBOR
THE BEST VALUE
ON THE BEACHES!
We have MORE Amenities, Fun Activities
& include more Services.
Spacious, Clean 1, 2 & 3 bdrm Condos
Starting at \$915
Call us today and start your move
home to Gull Harbor!! 55+
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17105 Gulf Blvd., NRB
727-392-0753

MADEIRA BEACH: EFFICIENCY
w/Kitchen, Furnished, Phone,
Cable, Laundry, Pool
Across From Beach. No Pets.
From \$280/month, FL Residents.
14711 Gulf Blvd. (727)394-0751.

MADEIRA BEACH
WATER VIEW
Large 1BR/1BA
apartment • 1,060SF
*** Intracoastal ***
No pets, no smoking.
\$945/mo. First + Security.
Annual. (727) 398-1965.

MADEIRA BEACH: EFFICIENCY
w/Kitchen, Furnished, Phone,
Cable, Laundry, Pool
Across From Beach. No Pets.
From \$280/month, FL Residents.
14711 Gulf Blvd. (727)394-0751.

SAFE, CLEAN, QUIET.
Fully Furnished. Utilities, Cable
Included. Deposit, References,
ID Required. From \$135/Week.
(727)547-1199.

SEMINOLE, LIVE-IN \$500,000
home, furnished room includes
cable, W/D. Deposit required w/2
references/ background check.
\$115/week or \$400/month.
(727)595-0727.

265. Commercial Rentals

LARGO: 220 13TH ST. SW.
Near Diagnostic Clinic.
Office/ Workshop/ Storage.
(727)584-6283.

NEWLY RENOVATED, TWO
offices/ connecting door.
Includes shared signage,
parking lot, lobby, kitchen,
restrooms, and server/ phone
room. \$750 plus electric.
John (727)631-5900.

MULTI-FAMILY, MADEIRA BCH.
Two-story unit overlooking
Intracoastal. Large 2/2 upstairs,
4 units downstairs. Laundry,
2 boat slips, C/H/A,
Just behind John's Pass.
Asking \$495K. (727)398-3916.

OFFICE & RETAIL SPACE
From \$429 Per Month. Ample
Parking. Madeira Beach.
(727)641-6465.

SEMINOLE/Beach Beacon
Largo Leader – Belleair Bee
Clearwater Beacon:
Thursday, Aug. 30
5 p.m.

Pinellas Park Beacon:
Friday, Aug. 31
3 p.m.

Tampa Bay NEWSPAPERS
BEACON • LEADER • BEE
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185. Beach Rentals

REDINGTON SHORES
Furnished Efficiency. Block To
Beach. Petless, Nonsmoking. Utili-
ties Included. \$695/Mo. +Security,
Annual. (727)580-8819.

REDINGTON SHORES: 1BR/1BA
Walk To Beach/ Park. Unfurn.
Storage Area, Petless. \$625/Mo.
+Security. W/S/G Incl. Annual.
(727)347-0887.

SAND KEY: 2BR/2BA/2CG,
Beautiful sunsets w/ panoramic
view. Corner unit on the beach.
Terrace, Pool, Security,
\$1,690/month, annual.
(727)599-1239.

WELCOME RNC DELEGATES
Reserve your Gulf-Front condo for
the 2013 season.
Studio efficiency, 1BR/1BA,
2BR/2BA. For details, call
(813)973-7105.

190. Waterfront Rentals

2/3BR BEACH-FRONT CONDOS
Redington Shrs. Fantastic Views!
Renovated 1,350-2,000SF.
Furn./Unfurn. Pool. Pets OK.
1-YEAR or more lease.
\$1,475-\$2400/month.
(727)424-2945.

IMPERIAL POINT, LARGO,
1BR/1.5BA/Carport, 1st floor,
no pets/ smoking. Utilities
Included. \$800/month +deposit,
yearly. (727)504-4135.

SEMINOLE 2BR/2BA, POOL,
W/D. Cable Included. Balcony,
Great Water View. New Interior.
Quiet. Elevators. \$950/Month.
(727)439-4739.

BEACHFRONT, Ground Floor,
2BR/2BA Furnished Condo. Pool
& Porch. 30 Day Minimum. No
Pets. (727)423-6958.

TREASURE ISLAND 2BR/2BA,
Condo, Furnished/ Unfurnished,
Adults, No Pets, Pool, Dock.
Fantastic Water Views. One
Block to Beach. 1/Yr Lease.
(763)458-7401.

TREASURE ISLAND,
105 110th Ave. 1BR/1BA, Dock,
Laundry, \$695/Mo. Walk To
Beach. Credit Check. Pets OK.
(727)367-9474.

195. Seasonal Rentals

DEC. - JAN. 2BR TOWNHOUSE,
Magnolia Square, Largo, Realtor
owned. No smoking,
(727)447-9579.

SAND KEY, CLEARWATER BCH
Furnished 2BR/2BA Condos
Available 1-12 Months.
Florida Dreams RE Sales &
Rentals, Inc. (727)595-5774.

210. M.H. Rentals

1 & 2BR HOMES FOR RENT
in a quiet community. Unfurnished.
Any age. Starting at \$650/month.
Background check required.
First month & security deposit.
Call Indian Rocks Estates,
(727)593-7796

NEAR BAY PINES VA & Madeira
Beach, 1BR, \$545/Month +\$300
Security. Includes W/S/G, Cable.
Pets OK. (727)393-1628.

225. Duplex-Triplex Rental

IRB, 1BR/1BA, UNFURNISHED,
W/S/T included, Small Pet OK.
\$725/Month Annual. Best Beach
Rentals, (727)398-1200.

LARGO: 2BR/1BA, UNFURN.
New Tile, Large Kitchen, W/D
Hook-Up, Petless. \$775/Month,
Annual. Best Beach Rentals.
(727)398-1200.

245. Room For Rent

SAFE, CLEAN, QUIET.
Fully Furnished. Utilities, Cable
Included. Deposit, References,
ID Required. From \$135/Week.
(727)547-1199.

SEMINOLE, LIVE-IN \$500,000
home, furnished room includes
cable, W/D. Deposit required w/2
references/ background check.
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Remodeling

LOOKING AHEAD, from page 4B

dark but sympathetic portrait of one man's solitude set against a richly textured rendering of Quito, Ecuador's capital city. The film is in Spanish, with subtitles in English.

• **Super Summer Fun Night Season Finale: Tacky Prom.** Friday, Aug. 31, 7:30 p.m., at The Studio@620, 620 First Ave. S., St. Petersburg. Attendees are encouraged to get their favorite dress, cumber-bund and matching dancing shoes for the tackiest prom night ever. The party will feature dance music with DJ Rob Morey. Suggested donation is \$5 at the door. Call 895-6620 or visit www.studio620.org.

• **The Art of Music summer jazz series.** Friday, Aug. 31, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., at the Museum of Fine Arts, 255 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg. The featured artist will be Stolen Idols. The series presents some of the best jazz in the area. Admission is \$5 for museum members and \$10 for nonmembers. Cost includes admission to the entire museum. Call 896-2667. The musicians perform in the glass conservatory. Listeners can mingle on the terrace overlooking the bay. The MFA Café is open and a cash bar is available.

• **Grand Funk Railroad.** Saturday, Sept. 15, 8 p.m., at The Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg. Tickets range from \$30 to \$50. Call 892-5798 or visit www.themahaffey.com. Originating from Flint, Mich., in 1969, this top selling American rock group of the '70s is a high-energy five-piece group in the midst of a 40-city tour. Grand Funk Railroad includes original founding members Don Brewer (vocals and drums, writer and singer of the multi-million selling hit, "We're An American Band") and bassist

Mel Schacher, "The God Of Thunder." Joining them are true "all stars," including singer Max Carl, a rock veteran from 38 Special; lead guitarist Bruce Kulick, best known for his 12 years with KISS also with Michael Bolton, Meatloaf and Billy Squier; keyboardist Tim Cashion, whose career has included stints with Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band and English soul man Robert Palmer.

• **Chris Isaak.** Sunday, Sept. 16, 7 p.m., at The Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg. Call 892-5798 or visit www.themahaffey.com. "Beyond the Sun," Isaak's recent Vanguard Records release, is truly a labor of love. As a child spinning his parents 45s in their Stockton, Calif., home, this deeply committed artist has been obsessed with the glory days of Memphis' Sun Studio and the visionary artists who got their starts there including Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison, Carl Perkins and Jerry Lee Lewis all of them discovered and nurtured by the late, great Sun Records founder Sam Phillips. Isaak has acted on this lifelong obsession, magically recapturing the transformative hep cat brilliance of the classic sides cut by these greats at Sun with Phillips during the mid-1950s, while also getting down to the heart and soul of his own deeply rooted musical identity. Isaak is touring in support of the album.

• **The Go-Gos.** Wednesday, Sept. 19, 7:30 p.m., at Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg. Tickets range from \$35 to \$60. Call 893-7832 or visit www.themahaffey.com. The high pop priestesses of the '80s, The Go-Go's came, saw and conquered the world of pop culture and now they're bringing their internationally loved kicky kitsch appeal and original lineup to

The Mahaffey.

• **"Nothing More,"** Tuesday, Sept. 25, 7 p.m., at Studio@620, 620 First Ave. S., St. Petersburg. General admission is \$8 for adults and \$5 for students with identification. Visit www.tampabayfilmfest.com. Part of the Global Film Initiative sponsored by Tampa Bay International Film Festival and Studio@620, the film was directed by Juan Carlos Cremata Malberti.

• **Preservation Hall Jazz Band and The Del McCoury Band.** Wednesday, Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m., at the Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S. Tickets start at \$45.50. Call 892-5767 or visit www.themahaffey.com. Together in concert, the Preservation Hall Jazz Band and the Del McCoury Band create a seamless blend of soul-lifting traditional harmonies as the high and lonesome sound of the Appalachians meets the hot and lively jazz of New Orleans. Fresh off a fruitful recording collaboration, as well as a joint performance at Pete Seeger's 90th birthday celebration in Madison Square Garden, these American Musical Legacies are taking their show on the road.

Seminole

• **Musicfest 2012,** Saturday, Sept. 29, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Seminole City Park, 7464 Ridge Road. The Seminole High School band boosters will host Musicfest 2012, a one-day fundraiser for the band. Admission is free with \$5 wristbands available for games. Food items will be available for purchase. The day will feature performances by members of the Seminole Warhawk Marching Band with the President of the Tournament of Roses Parade in attendance. All proceeds will benefit the band's trip to Pasadena, Calif., for the

2013 Tournament of Roses Parade on Jan. 1. For more information, call 254-9556.

Tampa

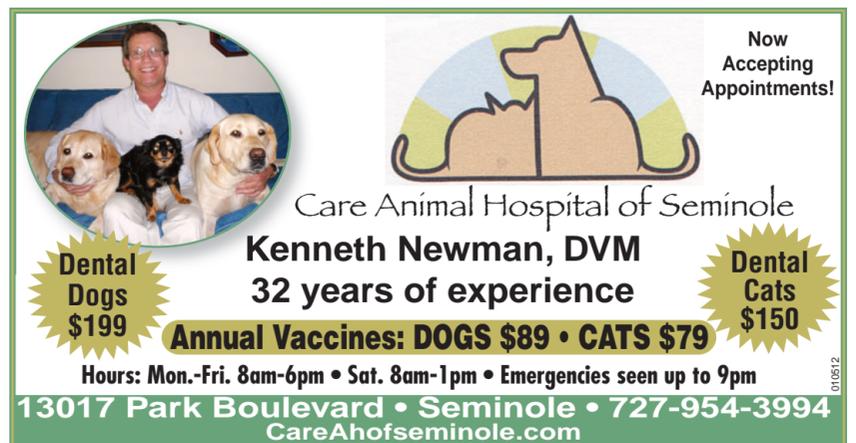
• **Lee Greenwood,** Monday, Aug. 27, 9 p.m., at Hard Rock Café, in Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino off I-4 at North Orient Road and Hillsborough Avenue, in Tampa. Tickets are \$30, standing room only. Call 813-627-7625, 1-800-937-0010 or visit www.seminolehardrocktampa.com. Attendees must be 21 or older. Doors will open at 8:30 p.m. The Grammy-winning singer will perform. Greenwood's "God Bless the U.S.A." has been voted the most recognizable patriotic song in America. It reached the Billboard charts and earned Song of the Year honors from the Country Music Association. It is performed at military and patriotic events throughout the year all across America. Greenwood's string of hits include "Ring on Her

• **"Menopause the Musical,"** Oct. 18 through Dec. 9, at the Straz Center for the Performing Arts, 1010 N. W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa. Performances will be Tuesday through Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Matinees will be Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$45. Call 813-229-7827. Four women at a lingerie sale have nothing in common but a black lace bra and memory loss, hot flashes, night sweats, not enough sex, too much sex and more. This musical parody set to classic tunes from the '60s, '70s and '80s will audiences cheering and dancing in the aisles. Visit www.menopausemusical.com.

• **The Tampa Bay Symphony: From the New World;** Sunday, Nov. 18, 4 p.m., in Ferguson Hall at the David A. Straz Jr. Center for the Performing Arts, 1010 N. W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa.



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