

Gender identity protections approved

Commissioners approve protections in 6-1 vote. ... Page 8A.

SEMINOLE BEACON

'Riddick,' 'A Teacher' set to open this weekend in Pinellas

Get the scoop about all the new movies opening in theaters. See Diversions. ... Page 1B.



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SCHOOLS



St. Petersburg College's Seminole campus, 9200 113th St. N., held a two-day "Welcome Back" event on Aug. 27 and 28. ... Page 6A.

SEMINOLE

Children's author to speak to Kiwanis

Retired principal Sue Kotchman will be the guest speaker on Tuesday, Sept. 10, 7:15 a.m., at the Kiwanis Breakfast Club of Seminole meeting in the third floor card room at Lake Seminole Square, 8333 Seminole Blvd. ... Page 3A.

POLICE

Drug smuggling operation busted

A Trinity woman was arrested Aug. 19 after she concealed suboxone strips behind stamps on envelopes and mailed them to two inmates at the Pinellas County Jail. The inmates in turn distributed and sold the controlled substance to other Pinellas County Jail inmates. Since the investigation began on Aug. 1, 2013, deputies intercepted a total of 11 pieces of mail containing the opiate. ... Page 7A.

COMMUNITY

Used bookstore opens in Largo

By all rights and sense of reason, Jimmy Weyant should never had bought the dozens of boxes of hardback books currently stacked in the back of his new store space in Largo. ... Page 10A.

OUTDOORS

Dolphin Watch

Life at sea does not play out for our benefit, but it is to our benefit to watch it play out. This summer's 2013 birth season of the John's Pass bottlenose dolphins has played out like an Alfred Hitchcock movie, at least for those of us who monitor the health and well-being of the local dolphin community. ... Page 11A.

VIEWPOINTS

Debra Saunders

Doctors take a different look at marijuana. ... Page 13A.



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Council OKs 15-home development

By TIFFANY RAZZANO

SEMINOLE - The City Council unanimously approved a small lakefront development on 4.8 acres at 8003 Seminole Boulevard at its Aug. 27 meeting.

The development agreement with Lake Shore Development LLP and Domain Homes Inc. allows for the construction of 15 single-family detached homes on the site of a former mobile home park located east of Seminole Boulevard and north of Lake Vista Drive.

Before construction begins at the end of the year, the developers will address several concerns in the area, including rodents and rerouting a sewage line. Developers also will construct a 6-foot silt fence in order to curb erosion.

In other action items, the council:

- Approved the donation of \$200 to Mothers Against Drunk Driving for its Oct. 4 Walk Like MADD event in Indian Rocks Beach in a 4-3 vote.

"MADD is a great organization and I appreciate it," said Vice Mayor Thomas Barnhorn.

Councilor Bob Mathews offered to donate the \$200 out of pocket if the council didn't approve the donation.

Mayor Leslie Waters said the council has been focusing on contributing less to nonprofit organizations.

"Very few these days get taxpayer money," she said.

Councilor Chris Burke said that after reviewing the city budget, he saw that the city gave tax money to several nonprofit groups not located in Seminole.

"So this isn't anything out of the ordinary for our budget process," he said.

- Authorized a one-year extension of the city's current Emergency Medical Services ALS First Responder Agreement with Pinellas County.

The agreement, which originally took effect on Oct. 1, 2010, provides ALS First Responder Services to the Seminole Emergency Medical Services District, which covers the City of Seminole, the Seminole Fire District, the portion of the Pinellas Suncoast Fire Rescue District located on mainland and east of the Intracoastal Waterway, and shared responsibilities with the City of Madeira Beach for the Redington Beaches Emergency Medical Services District.

Football fever



Above, Osceola High School's Jamil Morris gains 15 of his 185 yards against the Warhawks Aug. 30 at Seminole. The Warhawks took a 15-8 lead into the locker room at the half but Osceola's smash-mouth running game was more than Seminole's defense could handle in the second half. Osceola defeated Seminole 23-15. Right, Seminole's Justin Coley (1) breaks up a pass intended for Osceola's Wilan Harvey (21). The two teams return to play Sept. 6. Osceola hosts Tarpon Springs and Seminole plays at Dunedin.

Photos by JIM LAYFIELD



SPAN opens Music in the Park at Seminole City Park

By LEE CLARK ZUMPE

SEMINOLE - Kicking off the 17th annual Music in the Park concert series, Waste Management of Pinellas will sponsor the local musical ensemble SPAN, set to perform Friday, Sept. 6, 7 p.m., at Seminole City Park, 7464 Ridge Road.

The two-hour concert is the first of six on consecutive Friday nights at the park. Performances run 7 to 9 p.m.

Admission is free to all performances. Parking, also free, is available in the park and in a larger lot west of the park between Old Oakhurst Road and the Pinellas Trail. Attendees are invited to bring chairs and blankets. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

For information, visit www.myseminole.com.

SPAN will be playing the music of Sinatra and friends.

SPAN is a ministry of Connect2Christ Church, a nondenominational church plant.

"C2C has been meeting on the campus of Seminole's Brookdale Living (Freedom Square Community) in the Roskamp Auditorium for three years," said the Rev. Mary L. Haley in a recent email. Haley is the pastor of Connect2Christ Church. "We just recently purchased our first church home at 9398 Oakhurst Road, Seminole."

Pete Bottichio serves as music director at the church and is a member of SPAN, playing piano and singing. Other SPAN musicians include John Haley (guitar/singer), David Weaver (bass), Bob Hubbard (drums/singer), Frank Guillian (guitar/singer) and Don Lehriani (saxophone). Singers with SPAN include Karan Chisholm, Donna Tessier,

Nancy Knight, Corbi Bottichio and Kathie Hubbard.

"We are truly excited about being the opening act for this year's Music in the Park event," said Haley. "Seminole is a great place to live and we feel privileged to be able to connect and participate in many community events each year. Seminole celebrates and embraces the diversity of its residents, as well as extends opportunities to collaborate in great programming."

SPAN will be sharing a program called "A Night with Sinatra and Friends."

"We will enjoy songs most people associate with Sinatra such as 'My Way,' 'New York New York,' 'That's Life,' 'Fly Me to the Moon' and 'Strangers in the Night,'" said Haley. "As well, we will offer songs some of his friends made famous such as 'Candy Man,' 'Everybody Loves Somebody' and 'Moon River.'"

Now in its 17th year, the Music in the Park concert series began with a few people in the community that wanted an event "for the arts," according to Duane Crandall, recreation program coordinator for the city of Seminole.

"They brought a proposal to the city and were given the OK to begin as a committee-based operation for the city," Crandall said in an email. "Recreation division became more and more involved. We still operate as a committee-based event."

Crandall said members scour the community for performers and then vote on them as a committee.

"We are always looking for new committee members who want to get involved with the Music in the Park committee," Crandall said. "This event is a sponsor driven event. No city tax

See SPAN, page 4A



Photo by JULIANA A. TORRES

Seminole Fire Rescue firefighters block off eastbound Park Boulevard to contain a diesel fuel spill after a Dodge Ram pickup truck rolled over Aug. 29.

Truck rolls over, fuel spilled on Park Boulevard - traffic delays

By JULIANA A. TORRES

SEMINOLE - A construction pickup truck rolled over and spilled diesel fuel on Park Boulevard near Lake Seminole Park Aug. 29, causing traffic delays on both Park and Seminole boulevards while crews cleaned up the spill.

Seminole Fire Rescue responded to the scene of the crash at around 11:20 a.m. The driver of the Dodge Ram, who has not been identified, was transported to Bayfront Medical Center with non-life-threatening injuries via ambulance, according to agency spokesperson Brad Dykens.

Between 20 to 40 gallons of fuel spilled onto Park Boulevard from the pickup truck, which was also carrying construction equipment, Dykens said.

"He must have fueled up this morning," he said. "Crews worked to contain the spill and to keep it from going into the estuary."

Firefighters used hazardous containment products that operated like dams to keep the fuel from spilling down the gutters and into the sewer system. They also laid down a flame-retardant blanket to keep the fuel from catching fire. But the agency called a private contractor to the scene to help clean up the mess, Dykens said.

"It exceeded the capabilities we had," he explained.

Officials had to cordon off eastbound Park Boulevard while the spill was cleaned up. Without an easy detour around the blocked roadway, traffic was severely affected throughout the area.

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Why Do People Delay Addressing Hearing Loss?

President Bush Used Cupped Hand For Better Hearing

In 2004, President George W. Bush's doctors reported that he had "a mild high frequency hearing loss which significantly affected everyday conversation." Here you can see him cupping his right ear, a common technique used by individuals when having difficulty hearing.

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Around Seminole

Cross Bayou Little League announces fall ball registration

SEMINOLE – Registration for Cross Bayou Little League's fall season will take place Thursday, Sept. 5, 6 to 8 p.m., at 10150 98th St. N. Registration is open to boys and girls ages 4 through 16. All skill levels are open. Cost is \$40 per player. Call 397-1894 or visit www.crossbayouLL.com for more information.

Seminole Little League registration dates set

SEMINOLE – Seminole Little League is holding registration for baseball and softball, for ages 5 to 17, at 12100 90th Ave. Players can register Thursdays, Sept. 5, 12 and 19, 6 to 8 p.m., as well as Saturdays, Sept. 7 and 21, 10 a.m. to noon. The cost to play is \$60 and for players who didn't play in the spring, the cost is \$110. The fee includes cap and jersey. For further information, email us at jdokorte@aol.com.

Author to speak at library

SEMINOLE – Lisa Hein, author of "Manifesting God's Love in Your Family," will hold a talk/book signing at Seminole Community Library, 9200 113th St., Thursday, Sept. 5, 7 p.m. Contact Hein at 434-0155 for more information.

City canned food collection set

SEMINOLE – The 5th annual Seminole Citywide Canned Food Drive begins Friday, Sept. 6, at the first concert in the Music in the Park series at City Park, 7464 Ridge Road. Citizens are encouraged to bring canned food items to the free concerts, which take place Fridays, Sept. 6, 13, 20 and 27 and Oct. 4 and 11. Other drop-off locations include Seminole City Hall, 9199 113th St. N.; the Seminole Chamber of Commerce, 7985 113th St. N.; and the Holland G. Mangum Recreation Complex, 9100 113th St. N.

Food will be collected through Oct. 11. Call Mayor Leslie Waters at 391-0204, ext. 102 or Sarah at the Recreation Center, 391-8345, ext. 306, for more information.

Children's author to speak at Kiwanis Breakfast Club

SEMINOLE – Retired principal Sue Kotchman will be the guest speaker on Tuesday, Sept. 10, 7:15 a.m., at the Kiwanis Breakfast Club of Seminole meeting in the third floor card room at Lake Seminole Square, 8333 Seminole Blvd. Kotchman believes strongly in promoting literacy and writing skills in the schools. Since her retirement, she has written several children's books including "With Love, from Grandma" and "With Love, from Grandpa." For more information, visit www.kiwaniseminolebreakfast.com.

SYAA soccer registration set

SEMINOLE – Registration for the Seminole Youth Athletic Association's upcoming soccer season will take place at the SYAA Sport Complex, 12100 90th Ave. Registration is set for Wednesdays, Sept. 11 and 18, 6 to 8 p.m., and Saturday, Sept. 7, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. To register, bring an original birth certificate, a headshot photo for the player's pass, and cash, credit card or check. Early registration is suggested; placement on teams is not guaranteed. For more information, email andycap1@tampabay.rr.com or call 235-3378.

Teen lock-in planned at Seminole Recreation

SEMINOLE – The City of Seminole Recreation Division is holding a lock-in on Friday, Sept. 13, 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. for teens in 6th through 9th grade at the Holland G. Mangum Recreation Complex, 9100 113th St. N. Activities will include sports, games, music, ice cream sundaes and a pancake breakfast.

Registration costs \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers. All participants must have a parent register by Wednesday, Sept. 11. Additional snacks and refreshments will be available for purchase. For more information, contact 391-8345.

Rotary Club to host Brewfest

SEMINOLE – The Rotary Club of Seminole will host a Brewfest on Saturday, Sept. 14, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., at Seminole City Park, 7464 Ridge Road. There will be 12 craft brews on tap, food vendors, music and more. Advance tickets are \$20 and include admission, entertainment and 18 food and drink tickets. Tickets sold the day of the event are \$5 and only include admission. Call 641-6773 for tickets and more information.

Seminole Recreation Division to offer new art programs

SEMINOLE – The Seminole Recreation Division begins offering new art programs at the Holland G. Mangum Recreation Complex, 9100 113th St. N. in

September. Painted Pottery, a ceramic painting class for all ages, is available Mondays from 6 to 8 p.m. and begins Sept. 16. Pin With Us uses ideas from the Internet to create fashionable do-it-yourself crafts on Wednesday evenings, 7 to 8 p.m. This program is suitable for ages 13 and older and begins Sept. 18. Art 4 Kids is a six-week session that stimulates creativity through various arts and crafts projects. This program is suitable for ages 6 to 12 and begins Wednesday, Sept. 18, at 6 p.m. Lil Picassos is six-week toddler art program that runs simultaneous with Art 4 Kids. Acrylic painting, drawing, photography and scrapbooking classes also are available. Call the Seminole Recreation Division at 391-8345 or view the Playzone brochure at www.myseminole.com.

Medicare seminar set at library

SEMINOLE – A trained SHINE volunteer from the See AROUND SEMINOLE, page 5A

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Here and There

Volunteers needed for Clothes to Kids

ST. PETERSBURG – Volunteers are needed at Clothes to Kids at 3251 Third Ave. N., Suite 145, St. Petersburg every Friday morning and the second and fourth Saturday of each month, 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to help with shopping.

CTK is a nonprofit organization that provides free clothing to low-income school-age children in Pinellas County. Call 327-7100 or visit www.clothestokids.org.

CLP to host seminar

ST. PETERSBURG – Community Law Program Inc., a local nonprofit legal services organization, will host a free seminar on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 5 p.m., at the Enoch Davis Recreation Center, 1111 18th Ave. S.

The seminar is designed to educate the general public about tenants' rights and responsibilities. Renters are often taken advantage of by landlords who do not maintain their properties and unlawfully threaten eviction. Also, in today's economy, many landlords are facing foreclosure on properties where tenants are currently residing.

Community Law Program has coordinated a team of volunteer attorneys to inform and educate the general public about their obligations and rights as tenants. This event will include information on how to respond to notices of evictions, the options available to tenants facing eviction, and what to do if a landlord is in foreclosure.

Additionally, participants will be able to speak with attorneys one-on-one about their concerns.

Space is limited. To register, call 582-7480.

Widowed people to meet

LARGO – The New Horizons Club for Widowed People will meet on Saturday, Sept. 7, 2 p.m., at the west clubhouse of the Imperial Palms Rental Apartments, 101 Imperial Palms Drive.

R. Wayne Ayers, reporter and feature writer for Tampa Bay Newspapers, will speak along with photographer Nancy Ayers. Wayne Ayers also serves on the board of directors for the Indian Rocks Beach Historical Museum. He will present a slide show of the beaches entitled "Now and Then," featuring former buildings and ones that replaced them from Pass-A-Grille, St. Pete Beach, Indian Rocks Beach, Sand Key and Clearwater Beach.

Widowed people are always welcome at the club's meetings. For more information and membership, call Betty Baker at 392-5028.

Community invited to join ombudsman program

LARGO – The local council of Florida's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteers to join its corps of dedicated advocates who protect the rights of elders residing in nursing homes, assisted living facilities and adult family care homes.

The local council meets to discuss the program's current activities and give the public a chance to provide comments about long-term care facility issues on the third Thursdays at the Mary Grizzle Building, 11351 Ulmerton Road, Room 136, in Largo. The open session of these meetings begins at 1 p.m.

The next council meeting is Aug. 15. Concerned citizens and those interested in volunteering are welcome to attend.

The local council is seeking additional volunteers to identify, investigate and resolve residents' concerns. Special training and certification is provided.

All interested individuals who care about protecting the health, safety, welfare and rights of long-term care facility residents – who often have no one else to advocate for them – are encouraged to call 888-831-0404 or visit the program's website at ombudsman.myflorida.com.

History lecture set

SAFETY HARBOR – The public is invited to "Viva 500 – Relive Florida's History Lecture Series: Cuban Fishing Ranchos in Tampa Bay" on Thursday, Sept. 19, 6 to 7 p.m., at the Safety Harbor Public Library, 101 Second St. N.

Jeff Moates, part of the Florida Public Archaeology Network, will discuss how important the early Spanish/Cuban fishing camps were to the development of Tampa Bay. The talk also includes demonstrations and artifacts.

Tampa Bay Watch receives \$25,000 grant

TIERRA VERDE – Tampa Bay Watch recently received a grant of \$25,000 from the Coca-Cola Foundation to support the organization's Community Oyster Reef Enhancement project at McKay Bay.

"Tampa Bay Watch is honored to receive this generous support from the Coca-Cola Foundation," said Peter Clark in a press release. Clark is Tampa Bay Watch president. "Especially for such an important, high-impact project."

The goal of the project at McKay Bay is to establish a community-based oyster creation project that will construct approximately 2,900 linear feet of new oyster shell communities on the northern shoreline of McKay Bay. McKay Bay is an ecologically important estuary located in the heart of a heavily industrialized area in the city of Tampa that has suffered from many years of impacts from dredge and fill construction, urban and industrial runoff and dredged material disposal.

Through the creation of 2,900 linear feet of new oyster communities on the northern shoreline of McKay Bay, many new ecological benefits will occur. These benefits include improved water quality that will lead to the reintroduction of sea grasses in McKay Bay, increased water filtration capacity which will directly benefit the McKay Bay estuary and the new oyster reefs will provide habitat, foraging areas and sanctuary for various species of fish and wildlife that frequent coastal and estuarine shorelines. The CORE project at McKay Bay will have a measurable, positive impact on the health of McKay Bay and, ultimately, the Tampa Bay estuary.

"For us, water stewardship begins at home in our own facilities, where process improvements and technologies have allowed us to save more than 3 billion gallons of water since 2005," said Jeff Ortmeier, vice president of sales, Central Florida Market Unit, Coca-Cola Refreshments.

Community-based oyster projects are a cornerstone of Tampa Bay Watch's restoration programs. These projects encourage oyster growth through the construction and installation of oyster domes and oyster shell bars. Oyster shell reefs prevent erosion of bay islands and fragile coastlines and improve water quality through the natural biological filtration of living oysters. Natural water filters, oysters are also a food source for other bay inhabitants. Increasing oyster populations means a reduction in erosion and better overall water quality while restoring vital hard-bottom habitats in the bay.

Tampa Bay Watch is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) stewardship program dedicated exclusively to the charitable and scientific purpose of protecting and restoring the marine and wetland environments of the Tampa Bay estuary encompassing over 400 square miles of open water and 2,300 square miles of highly-developed watershed. Tampa Bay Watch involves more than 10,000 youth and adult volunteers each year in hands on habitat restoration projects.

For information, visit www.tampabaywatch.org, or call 867-8166.

SPAN, from page 1A

funds are used to produce the event."

Food is available for purchase from Fire Fighters Union Local 2896, Crandall said. All funds from sales go right back into the community through their charity.

"One of the new traditions we will be continuing this year is our opening ceremony presentation of colors by our Fire Fighters Union Honor Guard," Crandall said. "This is a very moving presentation and a wonderful way to begin our event."

Following is a list of other scheduled performances in the series:

- Sept. 13 – Yesterdayze
- Sept. 20 – Troy Duncan
- Sept. 27 – Tommy Roxx and the Big Deal
- Oct. 4 – The Sounds of Soul
- Oct. 11 – The Rocket Man Show.

Highland hosts weight loss group

LARGO – Highland Recreation Complex will host a weight loss group starting Monday, Sept. 9, 6 p.m., at 400 Highland Ave.

Damiane Handa, certified health coach from The Balance Branch, leads this program, designed to help participants lose pounds and keep them off without dieting through group and individual support.

The cost is \$30 a month for residents and \$37.50 nonresidents. All materials and giveaways are included in the cost of the program. Call 518-3016.

Bay Pines VA plans mental health summit

SEMINOLE –The Bay Pines VA Healthcare System plans a mental health summit titled "Working Together to Improve Veterans' Mental Health" on Friday, Sept. 6, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the St. Petersburg College Library Conference Center in Seminole.

Due to limited conference space, event participation is by invitation only.

The purpose is to enhance positive working relationships between the Bay Pines VAHCS and community mental health agencies to better address the broad mental health care needs of veterans and their families. The summit will provide an opportunity for direct dialogue and active engagement between VA and community partners.

"This is a great opportunity for all of us to sit at the same table, to listen and learn from each other," said Suzanne Klinker, director of Bay Pines VAHCS. "We all want the same thing – for veterans and their families to have their needs and expectations met. We know that they cannot receive the quality, coordinated services they need if we are not engaging with our community partners regularly and working together."

The summit will feature VA mental health care presentations and "breakout" sessions intended to address specific collaborative opportunities to include veteran transportation needs, guardianship, suicide prevention and community hospital integration and more. Table displays also will be available for VA and community organizations to provide materials about available programs and services.

The Bay Pines VAHCS event is just one of the more than 100 mental health summits that were scheduled by VA medical centers across the country this summer. For a full list of VA Mental Health Summits by location, please visit www.mentalhealth.va.gov.

Artists invited to apply for mini park project

CLEARWATER – The city of Clearwater is accepting applications from artists, designers, and residents to transform metered parking spaces into temporary public parks, or "parklets," at the Reclaim Your Space Event. On Thursday, Nov. 7, several metered parking spaces along the Cleveland Street District will be transformed for a day into the mini parks.

All parklets must be designed to promote love of Clearwater, recreation, green living, alternative transportation, or a combination of concepts. Applications are due by Friday, Sept. 27, and selected applicants will be notified by Friday, Oct. 18. Download an application at myclearwater.com/info/special_events/pdf/reclaim_your_space_app_1113.pdf.

A sample mini park will be on display at the Clearwater Farmer's Market on Wednesday, Sept. 4, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Cleveland Street.

"This one-day event is a 'love note' from the city to its residents," said Lauren Matzke, planning manager and coordinator of the event. "It's part of the 'For the Love of Clearwater' series, sponsored in part by the Clearwater Downtown Partnership."

For more information, contact Matzke at 562-4547, email lauren.matzke@myclearwater.com or visit www.myclearwater.com.

Ballet presentation set for Sept. 13

CLEARWATER – The Clearwater Main Library, 100 N. Osceola Ave., will host a workshop and presentation Friday, Sept. 13, 2 p.m., on classical ballet.

Children ages 5 to 9 are invited to learn about "Swan Lake," "Coppelia," and "The Nutcracker" with crafts followed by a demonstration of dance and acting out scenes from the three ballets.

Ballet terminology will be covered in conjunction with movement and dance improvisation. Parents and families are invited to the final activity: a short performance. Preregistration is required for the free event.

For more information, call 562-4970 or visit myclearwater.com/cpl.

Rotary donates to Big Brothers Big Sisters

DUNEDIN – The Dunedin North Rotary Club presented a \$3,000 check to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Pinellas County recently, which will help serve children in the Dunedin area.

Bigs and Littles are matched based on location, personalities and preferences and are provided with professional support so the matches can grow into lasting, impactful friendships. As of August 2013, there are 194 kids waiting to be matched with a mentor in Pinellas, Citrus and Hernando counties. On average, it costs about \$1,200 to make and professionally support one match per year.

The money the Dunedin Rotary North Club provided will help recruit new Big Brother Big Sister volunteers, cover the costs of level-2 background screenings and insurance, offer one-on-one supervision and professional support for each match, and provide online interactive training designed to guide Bigs through their role as a mentor.

Air Potato Picking Contest

LARGO – The city of Largo will be holding an Air Potato Picking Contest, aimed at removing the invasive vines from McGough Nature Park Sept. 21, 9 to 11:30 a.m., at 11901 146th St. N.

Help us protect our Largo nature parks from plants that choke out our native vegetation with this free contest. Prizes will be available for winners in various categories, including most potatoes, largest potato and ugliest potato.

Water and gloves will be provided but remember to wear closed-toed shoes.

Call 518-3047.

Community asked to help young students

ST. PETERSBURG – Through Saturday, Sept. 21, the community can help the Boys & Girls Club put thousands of school supplies in the hands of Boys & Girls Club members by donating money or supplies at local Staples' stores.

"While an alarming number of Pinellas youth fail to graduate from high school each year, the truth is that many kids are falling behind in school, and life, before they even get started," said Nita Smith, president and CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Suncoast. "Kids need basic school supplies, and through the Supply Drive, these donations will help us provide the needed supplies for back-to-school to keep kids on track for academic success and a great future."

For details about how to help, visit www.greatfutures.org/backtoschool.

Cupcake decorating demo set

SAFETY HARBOR – The Safety Harbor Library will offer a cupcake decorating demonstration and tasting from Mary K. and Kathy of Sweet Ida Mae's Bakery on Saturday, Sept. 21, 1 p.m., at the library, 101 Second St. N.

All ages are welcome. The program is free and open to the public. Registration is requested. Call 724-1525, ext. 4112.

Teen Read Week set

CLEARWATER – The Clearwater Public Library will host its annual Teen Read Week on Sunday, Oct. 13 through Saturday, Oct. 19. Teens are invited to visit any library branch and pick up a book to participate in the "Break Out of Your Comfort Zone Challenge."

Teens who read books in genres or formats they generally avoid will be eligible to vote for favorites and win prizes for their efforts. Librarians will be on hand to offer suggestions and assistance.

Visit www.myclearwater.com/cpl or call 562-4970.

Women's club to meet

CLEARWATER – The GFWC Clearwater Woman's Club will host its first luncheon meeting of the season on Wednesday, Sept. 11, 11:30 a.m., at the Palms of Largo, Royal Palms, 200 Lake Ave., NE, Largo.

GFWC Clearwater is a nonprofit organization that supports 16 local nonprofit organizations, centered on helping women and children. The meetings are the second Wednesday of each month. Anyone interested in attending the first meeting of the season will get a free lunch, compliments of the GFWC board of directors.

Call Patti at 771-6812 or email patandpatticain@aol.com. Visit www.gfwcclearwater.org.

Education center helps pair find a new career

By BOB COSTIGAN

The Pinellas Technical Education Centers along with its Public Works Academy has been offering students various career and technical education courses since 1962. Today they offer a wide range of programs, everything from accounting and automotive service technology to computer systems technology to dental assistant and practical nursing – more than 60 programs in all.

Their mission is to "provide students the opportunity to develop national workplace competencies to fill the needs of business and industry."

Edward Davidson, 55, of St. Petersburg and Rashard Young, 22, of Clearwater are both currently unemployed and are students in PTEC's Public Works Academy. They volunteer at Pinellas County's South Cross Bayou water reclamation plant as part of the curriculum's volunteer requirement time needed to graduate.



Edward Davidson



Rashard Young

Young said he is interested in someday becoming a wastewater or water treatment plant operator. He discovered that PTEC enabled him an opportunity to get his "foot in the door with a big city or municipality" while going to school and getting his license.

Davidson, who previously worked in construction, said he was looking for a career change when he heard about PTEC. He likes PTEC, saying "it prepares you to get a job with a city or county and it gives you the hands-on training needed. And you get to network with a lot of different people."

Davidson also would like to become a facility operator. While he notes "no one knows for sure what the future holds, this is really going to help us."

While they have only been volunteering at the plant for a few weeks, together they have done and are learning to do a variety of things, such as working with the plant operator to determine how much chemicals, such as chlorine, is in the water. Christina Pellegatti, technical project coordinator at South Cross Bayou, believes Davidson and Young as well as PTEC and the Public Works Academy are very helpful. With the budget shortfalls that county has seen in recent years, they have come to rely on volunteers more and more.

"It's a win-win situation for everyone," she said.

Ray Gorman is a teacher at the Public

Works Academy and agrees with Pellegatti. He notes that for students like Davidson and Young it's a training and education program to help them get entry-level jobs in public works, which has about 14 different career paths. The academy has supplied South Cross Bayou with volunteer students in the past.

"It's a great relationship because without the assistance we have with Pinellas County it would be very difficult for us to do our program," said Gorman. "Our students have to have 195 hours of intern on the job experience so the volunteer program has been a real success in helping our students meet that requirement."

Both Davidson and Young receive financial aid through the school. They offer Federal Pell Grants and other agency scholarships, which are available to eligible students and is used to help students meet their educational expenses.

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).

This article was provided by Pinellas County Communications.

Community gardens can help feed the homeless

In 2008, a 9-year-old student named Katie Stagliano was given a tiny cabbage seedling by her teacher so that she could grow a cabbage at home. With a lot of love and a great deal of care, she grew that seed into a 40-pound cabbage – enormous by any standard. She decided to donate her super cabbage to her local soup kitchen where it helped to feed more than 275 people.

Today, Katie is 14, a high school student, and the proud owner of a company called Katie's Krops (www.katieskrops.com) that donates thousands of pounds of fresh produce from numerous gardens to organizations that help people in need.

When I read this story, I was amazed: first by the gargantuan-sized cabbage Katie grew and second by the fact that these fruits and vegetables could feed so many people. Plus, this wasn't just donated food; these were fresh, organic veggies straight out of the garden. You can't get much better food than that.

My amazement waned with time, and I forgot about Katie's Krops until I was wandering through a wonderful park that the locals call "Turtle Park" but is actually named George C. McGough Nature Park. At the end of the beautiful, scenic nature trail that winds through the majestic woodlands, scrub brush, pine trees and the Intracoastal Waterway, you end up at a park where the young and young-at-heart can play.

Right across from this play park is a fenced piece of land divided up into rectangular plots. There's a brightly decorated rain barrel, tools and a menagerie of fresh vegetables and fo-

liage. This is the McGough Community Garden.

The thing that was the most interesting was that many of the plots were not being used. Suddenly, I remembered Katie. Those unused plots could be used to produce fresh vegetables for people who have no food. Imagine: if one cabbage could feed 275 people, five plots – the number that were vacant when I was walking by – of cabbages could feed thousands.

If you're interested in gardening, want to help feed the hungry and just generally want to help the world become a better place, these community gardens are just the place to start. To find out more about McGough's vegetable garden, visit bit.ly/11atLzA.

If you don't live in Largo, with a quick Google search, you will find that there are multiple community gardens in your area. In fact, Clearwater, Dunedin, and St. Petersburg all have their own community garden clubs. Or build a garden yourself in your own backyard.

Once you have the veggies, then what? Go out and find soup kitchens and food banks that are looking for food donations. Pinellas Hope, formerly known as Tent City, in Pinellas Park, St. Vincent de Paul, RCS (Religious Community Services) Food Bank in Clearwater, and FEAST in Palm Harbor are just a few places that are happy to accept fresh vegetable and fruit donations. Whether you're growing them in your backyard or in a community garden, your veggies can feed hundreds if not thousands. All you have to do is feed your gardening hobby.

Chad Herman, a Largo resident, is a motivational speaker dedicated to inspiring his audiences toward social change, ending violence and affirming others' ability to create a better future. Visit his website at www.motivatingforpositivechange.com.



Inspiring Change

Chad Herman

AROUND SEMINOLE, from page 3A

Florida Department of Elder Affairs and the Pasco-Pinellas Agency on Aging, Inc. will make a presentation on Medicare on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 10 a.m. to noon, at the Seminole Community Library, 9200 113th St.

The presentation, "Medicare 101 - Overview of Medicare Parts A, B, D, and Medicare Advantage Plans (Part C)," is free and open to the public.

Medicare's annual enrollment period begins in October and it's important for seniors and their families to access up-to-date information. Call 394-6909 for more information.

SPC's Village Square to host dinner forum on immigration

SEMINOLE - Immigration reform, one of today's most hotly-debated issues, will be the focus of a forum Thursday, Sept. 19, 6 to 8:15 p.m., at the Seminole campus of St. Petersburg College.

"Immigration: Is the Melting Pot Boiling Over?" will kick off the fall season of The Village Square dinner series sponsored by SPC's Institute for Strategic Policy Solutions. Media sponsors include the Tampa Bay Times and WEDU.

The program is planned as Congress grapples with competing views on how to deal with the problems associated with more than 11 million undocumented immigrants in this country.

A comprehensive reform bill passed the Democratically-controlled Senate in June by a wide margin, but the Republican-controlled House is reluctant to take up the Senate bill.

Many Republicans favor a piecemeal approach, first securing the nation's borders, then addressing the problem of how to deal with the millions of undocumented immigrants already here.

A distinguished panel will discuss the pros and cons of the two approaches to resolving the debate. They include:

- Tim Curtis, chairman of the Tampa 912 Project, representing the anti-immigration point of view
- Edwin Enciso, coordinator for Comprehensive Immigration Reform Now, based in Tampa, representing the pro-immigration point of view
- Tara Newsom, associate professor of social and behavioral sciences, St. Petersburg College.

The moderator will be Rob Lorei, news and public affairs director of WMNF radio and host of the weekly news review show on WEDU-TV

"Florida This Week."

The Village Square is a forum for nonpartisan debate of key state and national issues.

Reservations for this dinner event are required by Friday, Sept. 13. They may be made online at www.spcollege.edu/survey/13844 or by mail: Institute for Strategic Policy Solutions, P.O. Box 13489, St. Petersburg, FL 33733. Admission is \$25 for Village Square members and educators, \$30 for guests and \$20 for students.

SYAA to raise funds for sports complex repairs

LARGO - The Seminole Youth Athletic Association will hold a fundraiser at Buffalo Wild Wings, 10500 Ulmerton Road, on Monday, Sept. 30, 5 to 9 p.m.

Fifteen percent of food sales will be donated to SYAA. The money raised will be used for infrastructure repairs and improvements at the SYAA complex.

For more information, call 324-7324 or visit www.syaasports.com.

Spirit Night fundraiser for SHS football set

SEMINOLE - The Seminole High School Warhawks football team will hold a Spirit Night fundraiser at Dairy Queen Grill and Chill, 10820 Park Blvd., on Friday, Sept. 27 and Tuesday, Oct. 8, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Twenty percent of all proceeds from purchases made during this time period will benefit the football team.

Email fcallee30@hotmail.com for more information.

Recycling and sustainability group to meet

SEMINOLE - The Seminole Discussion Group on Recycling & Sustainability will meet Monday, Oct. 7, 10 a.m. to noon, at the Seminole Community Library Program Room, 9200 113th St.

For more information, email queenofrecycle@hotmail.com.

Aqua Zumba classes held weekly

SEMINOLE - Aqua Zumba classes are held weekly on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 to 10 a.m., at the Holland G. Mangum

Recreation Complex Aquatic Center, 9100 113th St. N.

Aqua Zumba is a Latin-inspired, easy-to-follow, low-impact water-based workout that's cardio-conditioning, body toning and calorie burning.

Those interested in taking the class do not need to be members of the rec center.

Cost for a drop-in class is \$7 for members and \$10.50 for nonmembers. A 10-visit punch pass is \$65 and comes with one free class; a 20-visit punch pass is \$120 and comes with two free classes.

For more information, call 397-6085 or email zumbadownwithmarybrown@gmail.com.

Kiwanis Breakfast Club meets Tuesday mornings

SEMINOLE - The Kiwanis Breakfast Club of Seminole meets Tuesdays at 7:15 a.m. in the third floor card room at Lake Seminole Square, 8333 Seminole Blvd.

On the second, third and fourth Tuesdays of the month, the group features speakers from different organizations.

Visit kiwanisseminolebreakfast.com or call 319-8343.

High schools seek mentors

SEMINOLE - Osceola Fundamental High School and Seminole High School are in need of mentors for students.

Training will be provided by Pinellas County Schools.

A goal of a mentor is to guide, support and empower students as they begin to understand how goals, interests, values, and experiences affect academic success.

For Osceola High, call Debbie Giovo at 547-7717, ext. 2002. To volunteer at Seminole High, call Ann Wilson at 547-7536, ext. 2136.

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National POW / MIA Recognition Day

September 20th is National POW/MIA Recognition Day. To honor these individuals Chapel on the Hill is hosting a Dinner followed by a Patriotic Concert. Tickets must be purchased no later than September 16th so the number of dinners can be planned. Tickets can be purchased by sending in a check or calling the office with your credit card information. Tickets will be held at the door.

Place: **Chapel on the Hill, 12601 Park Blvd.**
Time: **Dinner at 6pm followed by concert**
Date: **September 20th**
Amount: **\$20.00**

Call 391-2919 for tickets and information

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Saturday Sept. 21
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Collection may be delayed or canceled due to severe weather.

What to bring

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ELECTRONICS
Camcorders, CD players, cell phones or smartphones, computers and/or peripherals, copiers, digital cameras, DVD players, fax machines, GPS units, marine depth finders, microwave ovens, pagers, portable players (i.e. MP3, iPod), printer or toner cartridges, radios, stereo equipment, telephones, TVs, VCRs, video game players.

What NOT to bring

A/C units, appliances, biological/infectious waste, empty paint cans, explosives, fire extinguishers, garbage, gas cylinders larger than one pound (i.e. propane tanks), medicine, radioactive waste, tires.

How to Package & Transport Chemicals

- (1) Do NOT mix chemicals together.
- (2) Keep products in original labeled containers if possible.
- (3) Place containers into cardboard boxes. Use crumpled newspaper in boxes to prevent breakage.
- (4) Place leaky containers in CLEAR plastic bags, and transport in boxes with newspaper.
- (5) Put boxes in the trunk or in back of vehicle away from passengers.
- (6) Place individual batteries in separate plastic bags, or cover terminals with heavy tape to prevent short-circuits.

The Household Mobile Collection is **FREE** for residents. Businesses should arrange for drop off and payment by calling Creative Recycling at (813) 621-2319 for electronics or EQ Florida at (813) 319-3400 for chemicals.

Pinellas County

For more information on mobile collections or the permanent hazardous waste facility, HEC3, contact Pinellas County Solid Waste at (727) 464-7500 or visit www.pinellascounty.org/utilities.

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Welcome back

St. Petersburg College's Seminole campus, 9200 113th St. N., welcomed back its students for the start of the fall semester during a two-day "Welcome Back" event on Aug. 27 and 28. During the event, students got to visit tables manned by representatives by different campus organizations and departments to get a better idea of what services are available to them at SPC. Below, members of the campus environmental club were on hand at the event. Pictured from left, Julie Vogel, faculty adviser; Maura Scanlon, lead faculty member in the school's environmental sciences program; and Mateo Aristizabal, club president. Right, Brandon Conyers, left, and Dylan Glassman, right, explain what the SPC Seminole Gamers group is all about to prospective members.



Above, Sandra Janvrin, left, a first-year student at SPC-Seminole, stops to speak with Tori Hunter, a student support adviser in Financial Aid Services. Left, the Student Government Association helped organize the "Welcome Back" event and were on hand to direct students. Pictured from left, Sindy Antonez, vice president; Malena Buck, MS, Student Life and Leadership Coordinator; Peter Kavanagh, student representative; and Lisa Garcia, former SGA leader.

Photos by TIFFANY RAZZANO

Superintendent concerned about student testing plans

By TOM GERMOND

LARGO – Pinellas School Superintendent Michael Grego said Aug. 29 that student testing is the challenging part of new state educational standards that are under fire.

Grego was speaking at a Pinellas Education Foundation event at the foundation's headquarters on Starkey Road.

"We need to be concerned," Grego said. "We cannot test ourselves to excellence."

Grego and other panel members gave their views on Common Core standards, which were established by the state in 2010 for English language arts and mathematics.

Florida is in a group of 19 states called the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers. In the group's plan, Florida students would take PARCC assessments in place of the FCAT by the 2014-2015 school year.

Grego said he is a champion of accountability but was skeptical of the 20 days of assessments that PARCC had initially proposed, saying it equates to a full month of assessments on the school calendar.

"So you are going to take too short of a calendar which is 10 months and really should be 11, and take it down to nine ...," he said.

He also wants to make sure that students are being tested for "the subject content and not the ability to maneuver through a computer test."

"Is the student knowledgeable about mathematics or is he knowledgeable about solving a math problem on a computer? Two different things," Grego said.

Grego, who was appointed superintendent in September 2012 and has held several administrative positions in his 28-year career, received applause from the audience of civic and school leaders as he made his final remarks on the issue.

"Florida needs a sound assessment that works, that is balanced with instruction as we just can't keep testing ourselves to some

kind of glorified state."

Gus Bilirakis, a Republican U.S. representative of Palm Harbor, also had some concerns about Common Core standards and said he would listen to local school officials.

"I'm worried about too much testing now," he said.

He said that Common Core is not a national mandate, and Congress passed legislation to make sure the federal government does not force this on our states.

Regarding Common Core as a whole, State Rep. Larry Ahern, R-Seminole, said he thinks the bottom line for Florida is that the standards described "are what the student should know or learn."

Senate President Don Gaetz and House Speaker Will Weatherford "said let's stop and take a longer look at how Florida goes about writing its own set of standards. Again, that's our prerogative. There's been no federal mandate for that," he said.

Gaetz and Weatherford have recommended that the state don't participate in PARCC's testing plan that is in conjunction with the new Common Core State Standards.

School Board chairwoman Carol Cook said the district has to reach the standards set by the state, and the board and superintendent will determine curriculum. School Board members had a lot of training in Common Core over the summer, she said.

"So you as citizens have the opportunity to have input through your school board members as well as the employees of the school district will have an opportunity to have input. And how we do it and what we choose as far as books and curriculum, that is still a local decision," Cook said.

Common Core internationally benchmarked standards define what students in kindergarten through 12th grade should know in English language arts and mathematics. The standards include changes in how teachers teach to help children succeed in the areas that matter most, the school district's website says.

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Police beat

One injured in motorcycle crash

ST. PETE BEACH – Pinellas County Sheriff's deputies assigned to the Major Accident Investigation Team are investigating a single motorcycle crash in St. Pete Beach.

According to the sheriff's report, the crash occurred about 11:21 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 28, on Blind Pass Road near 76th Avenue.

Deputies said the driver of a 2000 Harley-Davidson, Earl W. Pruitt Sr., 60, of Pinellas Park exited a nearby parking lot and pulled onto Blind Pass Road and then began to drive northbound in the southbound lanes.

When attempting to change lanes, Pruitt hit the median and was thrown from the motorcycle. He was transported to a local hospital with life-threatening injuries. Pruitt was not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash.

No other vehicles were involved. Deputies said it is not known if alcohol was a factor.

Pinellas Park man arrested for child abuse

PINELLAS PARK – A Pinellas Park man was arrested Aug. 28 and charged with one count of aggravated child abuse against a 6-month-old female.

According to a report from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, the incident occurred Aug. 15 at a private residence in St. Petersburg.

Detectives assigned to the Crimes Against Children Unit said Derek Lee Adams, 24, was changing the child's diaper when he became frustrated and began to squeeze the victim's legs. He applied excessive pressure and pushed down on the victim's legs causing fractures below both knees.

The child was in Adams' care at the time the injuries occurred and were discovered when the mother took the child to the hospital due to "her being fussy," the report said.

During an interview with detectives on Aug. 18, Adams allegedly admitted to the allegations. He was transported to the Pinellas County Jail and bond was set at \$50,000.



Derek Lee Adams

Man arrested after deputy-involved shooting

LARGO – Pinellas County Sheriff's detectives are investigating a deputy-involved shooting that occurred about 12:12 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 27, in Largo.

According to detectives, Deputy Ethan Taylor was on routine patrol when he ran the tag of a gray 1994 Acura. The vehicle came back as a stolen vehicle reported out of St. Petersburg Police Department's jurisdiction. Taylor requested backup and began to follow the vehicle.

The suspect's vehicle pulled into a gas station located on the corner of 142nd Avenue North and S. Belcher Road. The suspect then exited the vehicle, went into the gas station and then returned to his vehicle to pump gas.

Taylor and Deputy Lorie Fagan entered the gas station parking lot and began to approach the suspect near the gas pumps. The suspect noticed the deputies approaching him and put his vehicle in reverse.



Bryant Collins

He then accelerated the gas, causing his vehicle to hit the unmarked car driven by Fagan.

The suspect then put the car in drive and attempted to exit the parking lot. Out of concern for officer safety and the safety of those in the area, Taylor began to fire shots at the suspect's vehicle, the sheriff's report said. The suspect's vehicle then hit the curb and drove into a retention pond where it came to a stop.

The suspect, Bryant Collins, 32, of Clearwater was taken into custody and transported to the Pinellas County Jail where he was charged with aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer and driving while license was suspended/revoked.

No injuries were reported. Deputies Taylor, 47, and Fagan, 52, are on routine paid administrative leave. Taylor has been employed with the Sheriff's Office since June 1997 and Fagan since December 1986.

St. Petersburg police are investigating the stolen vehicle.

Jail drug smuggling operation busted

CLEARWATER – A Trinity woman was arrested Aug. 19 after she concealed suboxone strips behind stamps on envelopes and mailed them to two inmates at the Pinellas County Jail.

The inmates in turn distributed and sold the controlled substance to other Pinellas County Jail inmates. Since the investigation began on Aug. 1, 2013, deputies intercepted a total of 11 pieces of mail containing the opiate.

Kaitlyn Pergola, 29, was charged with two counts of introducing/possession of contraband into a county detention facility. Bond was set at \$10,000. She also is being held without bond on charges of violation of probation on doctor shopping charges.

Pergola's boyfriend, Michael David Gavin, 29, was arrested for introduction/possession of contraband in a county detention facility. He was transferred to Jefferson County Jail on Aug. 1 on burglary and grand theft charges.

Gavin's cellmate, Jermonte Russell Rushing, 30, of St. Petersburg also was arrested for introduction/possession of contraband into a county detention facility. He was last booked into the Pinellas County Jail on March 7 on a charge of carjacking without a weapon. Bond was set at \$50,000.

According to the sheriff's report, on Aug. 1, Gavin was being prepared for transport and transfer to the Jefferson County Jail. Investigators said detention deputies began to grow suspicious when Gavin began to ask every deputy and jail employee he saw or passed to help him get his mail.

Mailroom clerks were asked to examine Gavin's mail more closely. Four pieces of stamped mail were initially found addressed to Gavin and closer examination of the pieces revealed small square



Kaitlyn Pergola



Michael David Gavin



Jermonte Russell Rushing

pieces of orange paper concealed behind each of the stamps.

The contents of the envelopes were provided to the inmate for his transport to Jefferson County; and detectives retained the envelope and began their investigation to identify the substance behind the stamps.

Through their subsequent investigation, detectives discovered additional pieces of mail addressed to Gavin; as well as other pieces of mail addressed to Rushing, which had the same type of orange paper concealed behind the stamps and appeared to have similar handwriting to the letters addressed to Gavin.

Research and testing of the "orange paper" determined the substance to be suboxone or "heroin in a breath strip." Detectives further described the substance to be an opiate in the form of a sublingual film.

The investigation further revealed that Gavin recruited his cell mate Rushing to have the mail sent to him in exchange for payment; and that the two sold and distributed the contraband to other inmates at the Pinellas County Jail. Investigators say that each stamp was sold for \$20; and that each stamp was five dosage units if cut into five individual strips.

Through their investigation, detectives were able to identify Pergola as the source of supply of suboxone to Gavin and Rushing. Detectives said she used two fictitious return addresses that were later connected to her.

During her interview with detectives Aug. 19, Pergola allegedly admitted to the crime. She was transported to the Pinellas County Jail without further incident.

Two adults use child to help them steal

CLEARWATER – St. Petersburg police arrested a man and woman Aug. 21 wanted in connection with the theft of purses from Hooters in Clearwater.

Clearwater police released videos Aug. 20, showing the man and woman stealing items aided by a young child – perhaps a 10-year-old boy. One video showed the man taking items, passing them to the child, who deposited them inside a cart being pushed by the woman. The second video showed the adults waiting while the child stole purses from a back room at Hooters.

The next day, Clearwater Police issued a thank you to the public, media and the St. Petersburg Police Department for their assistance in finding the couple. The two Kissimmee residents were arrested in a bowling alley in St. Petersburg. Their son and 2-year-old daughter were handed over to the Department of Children and Families.

Clearwater police said an anonymous tipster called St. Petersburg police after they saw the couple's images on television.

Julio Angel Torres, 31, of Kissimmee, was charged with two counts of grand theft, neglect of a child, burglary of an unoccupied structure and fraudulent use of a credit card. Bond was set at \$25,150. He also is being held without bail on a warrant from Orange County for a charge of grand theft while on probation.

Janet Soto, 37, also of Kissimmee was charged with two counts of grand theft, burglary of an unoccupied structure, fraudulent use of a credit card and neglect of a child. Bond was set at \$30,150.

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Pinellas approves protection for gender identity rights

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER - Despite a wall of opposition, the Pinellas County Commission added protection from discrimination for gender identity Aug. 20 via an amendment to its Human Rights code.

Commissioners listened to those for and against the amendment for nearly three hours before discussing the matter amongst themselves. In the end, the vote was 6-1 to approve. Commissioner Norm Roche voted no.

Chapter 70 of Pinellas County's codes relating to human relations gives protection against discrimination for race, color, religion, national origin, marital status, familial status, pregnancy, gender, sexual orientation, sexual harassment, age, disability and now gender identity as well.

The county's Office of Human Rights is responsible to protect all citizens from discrimination in the areas of fair housing, employment, public accommodations and government programs and assistance. The amendment prohibiting discrimination due to gender identity and gender expression applies in three of those areas: fair housing, employment and public accommodations.

Paul Valenti, director of the Human Rights Office, said 17 states have already passed laws prohibiting discrimination based on a person's gender identity. Florida is not one of those states; however, several of its counties and municipalities have such protections, including Gulfport and Dunedin in Pinellas County. Legislation is pending in the U.S. Senate.

Roche made it clear that he was not voting against the amendment because he did not believe discrimination should be prohibited. He is unhappy with changes to the ordinance that redefine gender. He prefers providing the protections using different words.

Supporters of the amendment were given first chance at the podium to tell commissioners why they should approve it. Susan McGrath, president of the Stonewall Democrats of Pinellas County, and other members of that organization, pointed to a missed opportunity in 2008 when the commission voted against adding protection for gender identity to the human rights code.

"We support the T's (transgendered) in our community and applaud your efforts today," she said.

She said approving the amendment would create "greater equality and inclusiveness."

Kate Tully, Equality Florida board member and member of the St. Petersburg Chamber, said both organizations supported the amendment, which she called an "appropriate right for everyone."

Andrew Santino, a transgendered man, and his wife Sasha, who are business owners in St. Petersburg, also asked for the commissions' support to stop discrimination "because people don't fit."

"Not all can accept people who look different," he said.

He said people who identify with a gender other than the one they were born become homeless and unemployed simply because of who they are.

His wife told commissioners that before she met her husband she didn't even know what transgendered was. She talked about "rights for human beings."

"It's disturbing that people are discriminated against for what they are and that they don't fit," she said.

Several women talked about being bullied and being pushed out of restrooms because they don't like to wear dresses and high heels. The underlying theme was a desire to be protected from discrimination.

Those opposing the amendment outnumbered supporters about two to one, and they were by far more vocal. One woman traveled from Tampa to speak against the change.

They objected to exemptions in the law for religious organizations and the school district. They objected because the amendment would give protections not available under state or federal law. They objected to the code's definition of gender, saying it was different from the one found in the dictionary or medical books.

Some cited Biblical scripture. Local pastors tried to persuade commissioners to vote no. People said it was wrong to change the gender a person is born with, as that was strictly an act of God. They said a person's gender should be decided by fact not feelings. A few said gender identity was a mental disorder.

Others warned that the amendment would open the door to lawsuits with more than one person saying it would open Pandora's Box. They said businesses would leave the county due to fear of lawsuits. Some said creating protection for a small sub-class of people created more victims.

Regina Brown, speaking for herself and four others, talked about reverse discrimination and the hate she has been shown due to her opposition. Brown said she has been called names because she opposes same-sex marriage. She pointed out that just because she opposes the amendment doesn't mean she approves of discrimination.

Brown is against more government regulation. She said government should not step in to protect people who are unhappy with their assigned sex.

"I used to be so skinny and people made fun of me," she said. "Are you going to put in your ordinance that people can't call me skinny and point at me and make me cry?"

However, the most pressing concern of most of the objectors was about the restroom.

"I don't want a man who because of his gender identity has become a female to use the same restroom that I do," said Dorothy Bonds of Palm Harbor.

Several objectors talked about voyeurism and sexual abuse. Nancy Davis of Seminole said she didn't want to go to the shower in the gym



Screenshot by SUZETTE PORTER
Paul Valenti, director of Pinellas County Human Rights Office, answers questions about an amendment to the human rights code that adds protection from discrimination for gender identity during an Aug. 20 public hearing.

and find it occupied by men and women.

"I'm very concerned," she said. "I have certain values."

She said she had a right to her privacy.

Others talked about the danger to young children who might encounter a pedophile posing as a transgendered person. They were afraid providing protections for people expressing themselves as a different gender would be confusing to children and cause problems.

Several people said the amendment would not be needed at all if people would just be kind to one another. They pointed out that the commission could not require people to be kind to each other.

"You can't legislate against discrimination," said Rex Brown of Largo. "I was taught to love everyone and I think you should."

Commissioner Charlie Justice made the motion for approval as soon as the public was done speaking. He said while he "understood and empathized" with the speakers, it was possible to legislate against discrimination, although it was not possible "to legislate what is in people's hearts and minds."

"But we can set a policy to not discriminate against a group of people whether it is 2 percent, 20 percent or 40 percent."

He referred to statements by the public to the right of life, liberty and

See GENDER RIGHTS, page 9A

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GENDER RIGHTS, from page 8A

the pursuit of happiness. He said many had talked about faith, which is what he uses as his moral compass. He said his faith was the "rock I am standing upon to vote in favor of this tonight."

In an interview after the meeting, Valenti clarified which public restrooms would be covered under the definition of public accommodation, including public lodging, motels and hotels; restaurants, eateries, places where food is sold and ate on premises; businesses where drinks - alcoholic and nonalcoholic - are sold and consumed on premises. In addition, the law applies to establishments that sell goods and services; clinics and hospitals; bathhouses and swimming pools; entertainment and sports venues; all public places on land or water - essentially most places of public business.

A complete list is provided in the code. The amendment does not apply to private clubs.

Valenti said the amendment in no way changes the law to allow improper behavior in public restrooms, including touching or display of genitalia, which was a fear of a few of the female speakers at the Aug. 20 meeting.

Commissioner Janet Long received several emails asking her how as a parent she could support the amendment.

"I have children and grandchildren," Long said. "It is not good public policy to make decisions based on fear."

She said she too uses her faith as a moral compass to make decisions.

"I'm very proud to support this ordinance tonight," Long said.

"I've labored over this beyond," Roche said. "I've talked to people all over this county."



Screenshot by SUZETTE PORTER

Katee Tully, Equality Florida board member and member of the St. Petersburg Chamber, tells commissioners Aug. 20 why passing the amendment to the human rights ordinance is the right thing to do.

In the end, he voted against the amendment due to the way the language was changed in the ordinance.

"I believe people who are transgendered should not be discriminated against and those who do that should be punished swiftly and publicly," he said. ... "I don't have the authority to give or take away a right. It is not our role to redefine a word."

He preferred leaving the ordinance as it was and adding the term transgender with a definition. He said just as same-sex marriage, gender identity rights was a state and federal issue that should be not be decided on by local jurisdictions.

Commission Chair Ken Welch said it was within the commission's responsibility to protect the minority and to protect all people, including the gay and lesbian people in the community.

"Other places have this and there have been nightmare scenarios," he said.

"Change is never easy," said Commissioner John Morroni. He talked about the changes

made in the county over the past 100 years.

"Blacks were kept out of the bathrooms. We had black and white restrooms," he said. "Not long ago, women weren't allowed to vote, but now they can. The seven of us think a lot about how we vote. It affects us. We want to listen to you, then make our decisions. But we may not always agree."

Commissioner Karen Seel said it would be nice if we could all live by the Golden Rule, "treat others as we wish to be treated."

"People tonight said, 'be nice and kind to each other,' we can't legislate that," she said. "This is trying to cover all human beings in the county. Many of our lives are dictated by the circumstances of our birth."

She said people most likely would continue to use the restroom of their choice, as they do today. She said the amendment could help promote more use of unisex restrooms.

"Pass on the Golden Rule. Live it every day," Seel said.

Pinellas Bayway Commuter Pass renewal period ends Sept. 30

ST. PETERSBURG - September is renewal month for all Pinellas Bayway Commuter Pass transponders.

The \$50 yearly Commuter Pass transponder, which allows two-axle vehicles unlimited passage through all three Pinellas Bayway toll plazas without stopping, expires every year on Sept. 30, regardless of date of purchase. Bayway Commuter Pass customers are not eligible for other SunPass discounted toll rates.

During September, Commuter Pass holders who use the three Pinellas Bayway toll plazas should take advantage of three renewal options:

- You may renew your existing Commuter Pass online at www.sunpass.com with either your account number, user name, or transponder number along with your Personal Identification

Number (PIN). You also may sign up for the Automatic Renewal feature, which will alleviate the need for you to manually renew your pass each year.

- Call the SunPass toll-free customer service number, at 1-888-TOLL-FLA (1-888-865-5352) to renew by telephone between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. Customers will need the transponder number, which is located on the back of the transponder, and a major credit card.

- Visit the Pinellas Bayway SunPass Customer Service Center in person, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday and 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday. The Customer Service Center is located at 4501 54th Ave. S., St. Petersburg at the rear of the toll plaza building.

County news

Education workshop free to homebuyers

For those thinking about buying a home but unsure of where to start, a free homebuyer education workshop is a good place to begin. The workshop is being offered on Saturday, Sept. 14, 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., at the Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County, 600 Cleveland St., Suite 800, Clearwater.

Attendees will learn the basics of the home buying process, including helpful resource information on down payment assistance and homes for sale. The workshop is especially helpful for those who are working with a lender and need a homebuyer education class certificate or have owned a home before and are considering a new purchase.

Course materials from NeighborWorks America will be available for purchase by check or cash. The books feature comprehensive materials, helpful in navigating the home buying process. The cost is \$17. Those who complete the class also will have the opportunity to win door prizes.

The class size is limited so those interested should call 464-8210 or email housingfinanceauthority@pinellascounty.org to register. The Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County and the Pinellas Community Housing Foundation sponsor the workshop.

Master Food & Nutrition Volunteer program beginning soon

The Pinellas County Extension Master Volunteer University is looking for volunteers to help whip up a healthier community. Scheduled to begin in October, the Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer program allows persons to share with county residents valuable lessons about nutrition, fitness, wellness and culinary arts in a fun environment.

Volunteers reach a variety of citizens including seniors, children and families through faith-based organizations, family centers, schools, recreation centers and other organizations. Prior training, education and nutrition knowledge are not needed. What is required is a personal commitment to volunteer and a sincere desire to learn and help others along the way.

To rise to the level of a Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer, participants will take a 40-hour training course developed by Extension experts. The classes will run from Tuesday, Oct. 1 through Tuesday, Dec. 3. Classes will be spiced up with lectures, workshops, demonstrations and field trips to give volunteers all the tools necessary for success.

Applications for the program must be submitted by Friday, Sept. 20. A \$50 training fee covers course materials. For an application, email NanJensen@pinellascounty.org or call 582-2104.

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5,500 old books

Unable to resist the discovery, retired bookseller takes one last business venture: The Scribe's Perch in Largo

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO - By all rights and sense of reason, Jimmy Weyant should never have bought the dozens of boxes of hardback books currently stacked in the back of his new store space in Largo.

This he admits freely. Weyant is retired. He suffers from multiple sclerosis and walks with a cane. He had no space for the books in the mobile home where he lives. The Vietnam veteran lost his last used book business in a divorce and was content to let it end there.

But the collection a fellow seller at the Mustang Flea Market offered was enticing: about 5,500 books, many of them hardback, and all of them in reported good condition. Still, Weyant said he checked out the collection out of a courtesy.

"Frankly, I didn't go in thinking it would be anything," he said. "On the way to her house, I mused I'd be seeing broken sets of encyclopedias, Readers Digest condensed, etc."

He was wrong. The woman, who Weyant would not name, once was a very active collector who has "very, very good taste," he said. The books were mostly nonfiction titles on interesting topics and in good shape. He checked out the books on three different occasions, just to make sure he wasn't about to make a mistake

"Every time, I was more impressed," he said.

He decided he couldn't resist.

It took a couple of months to negotiate the deal when he finally made up his mind. He began renting out a business space in mid-July and moved all the boxes of books to a back room.

"It's like Christmas, every time I open a new box," he said.

He opened too many boxes, faster than he can process and sort them, he said.

"I love selling books. I love talking books. I love people who read books." - Jimmy Weyant

Many of the books have slips of paper stuck between their pages. Those are ones he's ready to list online, just as soon as he figures out some technical issues with the website he's working with, he said. They'll go on his shelves too, and sell in-person for half the listed price.

The vast majority of the books are still in their boxes. Weyant's eyes, peering bright blue over reading glasses, were enlivened rather than overwhelmed by the scope of his task. His tastes are very specific.

"If it ain't a book or a book-end, I'm not interested," he admitted.

His new business, named The Scribe's Perch, is an updated version of a successful used bookstore and rare book auction operation he ran in Rhode Is-

land for more than 10 years. He's been in the business for a long time. But Weyant said he didn't read a book of his own volition until he was drafted into the Army. While he was stationed in Vietnam, his passion for books sparked after realized that "you couldn't go down and get drunk every night." Instead, the company clerk, who was a reader, got him interested in the books supplied by the Red Cross.

"It was wonderful when a box of books came because we got first pickings," Weyant said.

After he was discharged, he lived in Australia, working as a traveling salesman for three years. He returned to get an education through the G.I. Bill, enrolling in Roger Williams University in Rhode Island.

"My granddad passed away and left me a barrel of money," he explained. "At that stage, I thought, 'Well gee, I'd rather not do anything but this.' So I opened my store."

He opened The Scribe's Perch's predecessor in 1984, in Newport, R.I. The business started out as a simple used bookstore. But Weyant had a brilliant idea: why not advertise the business and an associated 800 number as a used book search service in major newspapers in other parts of the coun-

try?

The idea was too quickly a success.

"My phone wouldn't stop ringing," Weyant said. "We couldn't keep up."

He later used the skills he had learned as a traveling salesman to become a used book dealer, visiting bookstores within a 1,500-mile circuit and collecting rare books the owners "were sick of looking at." He then sold the books on their behalf in an auction. His niche operation began to grow a solid reputation and was very successful, he said.

But all that fell apart in the divorce, he said. Weyant has been a casual seller since moving to Florida. Sometimes he helps nonprofit thrift stores sort through their book collection. It takes a long time, but he has the expertise to help them earn money off books, he said.

For his own business, he doesn't keep bestsellers or mass-market paperbacks on his shelves, nothing that hasn't been around for a while.

"If you're still talking about it 50 years later, OK, I want it on my shelf," he said.

He can provide or find books on "anything people have a passion for: growing a perfect rose or building a boat from scratch," he said. As shopkeeper, his job is to keep interesting titles on the shelves and keep his customers' spouses occupied with conversation while the bibliophile gets lost searching for the perfect book.

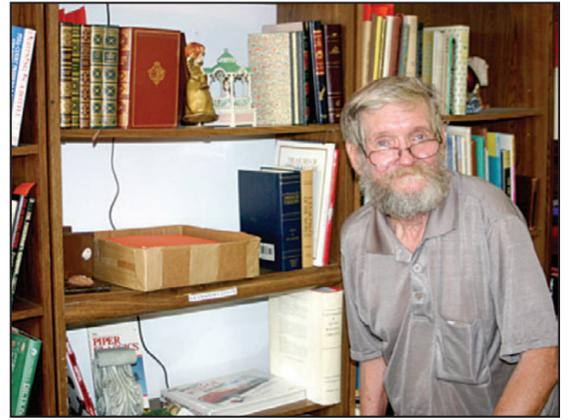


Photo by JULIANA A. TORRES

Jimmy Weyant's used bookstore in Largo, The Scribe's Perch, is a new version of a successful business he once owned in Newport, R.I.

Weyant expects that about 40 percent of the books he has will be listed online and sold in his store. The books have to be valued at least \$12 to be worth his time. All others he will sell for cheap in the parking lot in front of his store on the weekends. Any not sold in those yard sales will be donated to charities.

By sorting out the chaff in this way, Weyant will slowly go through all the boxes of books. Every week, the sale in front of his store will be a new collection, he said. The books on his shelves will be constantly changing.

It will take at least a year to go through his new collection, but Weyant doesn't expect his busi-

ness to be a long-term venture. "I'm too old to expand," he said. "I'm too old to do this."

But the business is a passion he hasn't been able to quit. "I love selling books. I love talking books. I love people who read books," he said.

For now, The Scribe's Perch is a hidden niche, quite off the beaten path and without a typical storefront, located in suite 200 of the American Business Center, at 8340 Ulmerton Road in Largo. But Weyant thinks that will change.

"Once bibliophiles find me, they're going to be delighted," he said.

Email him at kingweyant1@yahoo.com.

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Dolphin 2013 baby season ends on a high note

Life at sea does not play out for our benefit, but it is to our benefit to watch it play out.

This summer's 2013 birth season of the John's Pass bottlenose dolphins has played out like an Alfred Hitchcock movie, at least for those of us who monitor the health and well-being of the local dolphin community. The suspense has been nothing like the terrible dolphin die-off on the east coast of Florida, however.

We have much to celebrate, though only one newborn bottlenose dolphin has appeared each month between April and July, two of whom perished. The lack of newborns was eased this week with the appearance of two new babies at the end of August, delivered on par with Hitchcock-like suspense.

Eight dolphin subgroups recently assembled near a tidy little causeway and included all of the calves born to local moms this year, some calves from previous years and the two new bonus babies.

Dolphin-like, the best action was a combination of fantastic and frustrating. The fantastic part was watching Stick's brand-new baby attempt its first hours of life. So new that its dorsal fin had not quite stiffened and its baby mouth still bore the traces of mammalian whiskers that would vanish that day, it revealed one of the first challenges of learning to swim like a dolphin.

This challenge involved the glistening newborn's tailstock, which apparently has a mind of its own, or rather a musculature of its own. The dolphin tailstock is the back half of the dolphin's body that serves as the propeller that pushes the dolphin forward via up-and-down strokes (in contrast, fish and shark propellers move side-to-side). This biological propeller is fitted with an efficient muscular mechanism that conserves energy: A dolphin has to create the down stroke through muscular effort but the up stroke is accomplished with a spring-like mechanism that bounces the tailstock up and ready for the next down stroke.

This mechanism was amusingly obvious as Stick's new baby jiggled clumsily to the surface. Perhaps the down stroke is instinctive because the newborn surfaced alongside Stick's measured strokes with fair success. But the newborn was clearly thrown off, literally, by the up stroke.

Every time it surfaced at Stick's side, its miniature tail-

stock seemed to bounce up without restraint, pitching the tiny shiny baby forward uncontrollably into a headlong smash landing on its chin, the fresh new



Dolphin Watch
Ann Weaver

tailstock trailing innocently behind in its best ready-for-the-down-stroke position.

Stick's little nursery group included two other moms but also one of our local bull giants, Schnoz. For years, Schnoz' gender was a mystery due in part to his habit of swimming with a group of mom dolphins with newborns like this. This is unusual bull behavior; bulls are usually seen with moms when the calf is older.

The frustrating action was the other mom with a tiny shiny newborn. She was frustrating because, with a second larger dolphin nearby, she moved away from us so concertedly that we were only able to see her from behind. This meant that the vital dorsal fin pattern we use to identify individual dolphins was never clearly visible. After a handful of such surfaces, we backed off to avoid harassing her. There are two possibilities as to the identity of the new mom, but a Hitchcock-like suspense continues until that part of the movie unfolds.

There were two other little dramas with our slightly older calves of the season.

One drama was striking. Front Slash's 6-week-old baby was busy with behavior associated with the 'tail stage.' The tail stage is characterized by a tiny dolphin that

has acquired a modicum of control over its tail and fluke movements and is now better able to move smoothly between water and air for breathing. But the baby in the tail stage is now subject to sudden accelerations; as if its propeller operates at will, abruptly thrusting the little one forward from mom's side in an uncontrolled spurt that sometimes pitches the baby into a headstand or forward somersault!

The other drama was melodramatic. It involved first-time mom Sharkey's calf. Born by the Memorial Day weekend, it is our oldest local calf. Now that it is 3 months old, it is old enough to get a name. But it was far too young and unlearned to be embroiled in an enthusiastic but disorderly social exchange between three teens and big bull Xiphos.

This exchange was so vigorous that all you saw with lots of splashing, punctuated by tauntingly sporadic glimpses of a tiny baby, which we finally figured out was Sharkey's calf. Sharkey haunted the sidelines, as many moms do when their baby is caught up with other dolphins.

Ultimately, we glimpsed Sharkey swimming away with her baby while the wild splashing continued. The suspense about whether the calf is OK continues until that part of the movie unfolds.

Life at sea play does not play out for our benefit, but knowing the stages of growth and development in young lives and the entire dolphin community is ecologically essential.

Dr. Weaver studies wild dolphins under federal permit 16299, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Send her an email at annstats54@gmail.com or visit her website www.goodnatureddstatistics.com.



Photo by ANN WEAVER
Newborn baby bottlenose dolphins like Jelly's newborn typically pop up at the surface with their eyes closed, either snoozing or cringing against the sudden bright light above the sea. In contrast, mother keeps a close [open] eye on her baby.

Nice catch



Photo courtesy of FLORIDA GULF COAST CENTER FOR FISHING
Riley Ferrell, 11, of Seminole shows off a 6-pound bass she caught at Walsingham Park in Largo Aug. 8 on the last day of the Florida Gulf Coast Center for Fishing's summer camp.

Send us your news, photos

The Seminole Beacon publishes news and photographs about people and groups.

Send items about registration, upcoming games and special events to Seminole Beacon Editor Tiffany Razzano, Tampa Bay Newspapers, 9911 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772. Email trazano@TBNweekly.com or call 397-5563, ext. 306.

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Real estate news

Organization reports real estate statistics

The Pinellas County Realtor Organization recently reported statistics for July 2013.

According to the accompanying press release, the summer months are typically a slow time in the market but market activity has remained steady.

The report indicates that a slow climb in housing prices is expected in future months due to the following conditions:

- Low inventory - 4.4 months supply of inventory for single-family homes and 4.9 months supply of inventory for condo/townhomes
- Cash sales for single-family homes dropped slightly but is a positive increase from last year
- Cash sales for condo/townhomes increased slightly and is a positive increase from last year
- New listings for single-family homes continue to increase slowly month over month
- New listings for condo/townhomes has increased each month since May of 2013
- Increase in traditional closed sales by 24.9 percent for single-family homes and 46.1 percent for condo/townhomes.

The median days on market decreased 18.5 percent for single-family homes and 10.4 percent for condo/townhomes. The absorption rate is at 36 percent for single-family homes and 25.3 percent for condo/townhomes. According to the organization, these numbers are reflective of a market with low inventory and an increased number of buyers.

The organization explains that recent changes to FHA requirements may bring additional buyers to the market increasing the demand for housing even further.

Networking groups

Networking groups, also known as leads groups, meet on a regular basis at various locations in the area. Some groups charge a fee to attend, and most require reservations. Persons considering attending any group for the first time are encouraged to make contact in advance.

The upcoming schedule is as follows:

- Thursday, Sept. 5 - Network Professionals Inc. Networking Leads Club, 7:30 a.m., 3 Oaks Cafe, 1575 S Ft. Harrison Ave., Clearwater. Call Liz at 424-8995.
- Thursday, Sept. 5 - Seminole Business Masters, 7:30 a.m., Mama's Kitchen, 5885 Seminole Blvd., Seminole. Call Thom Barnhorn at 623-9955.
- Thursday, Sept. 5 - Network Professionals Inc. Networking Leads Club, 7:30 a.m., Panera Bread in the Bardmoor Shopping Center at the corner of Bryan Dairy and Starkey roads, Largo. Call Barbara at 573-1935, ext. 402.
- Thursday, Sept. 5 - Executive Business Network, 7:30 a.m., Perkins Family Restaurant, 8841 Park Blvd. N., Largo. For reservations, call Mike Moore at 586-1111 or visit www.execbusnet.com.
- Thursday, Sept. 5 - BNI Grand Slam Network Exchange, 7:30 a.m., Heritage Holiday Inn, 234 Third Ave. N., St. Petersburg. Visit www.bni.com.
- Thursday, Sept. 5 - Network Professionals of St. Pete, 7:30 a.m. For information and meeting location, call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Thursday, Sept. 5 - Referral Exchange BNI, 7:30 a.m., at Holiday Inn Express, 2580 Gulf to Bay Blvd., Clearwater. Networking meeting includes continental breakfast. Cost is \$10. Call Denise Murphy at 725-8101 or email denise@denisemurphy.com.
- Thursday, Sept. 5 - Professional Leads Network, Patriots Chapter, 8 a.m., Boris Family Restaurant, 11411 Ulmerton Road, Largo. Visit www.pro-leads.net.
- Thursday, Sept. 5 - Suncoast Free Networking International, 8:30 to 10 a.m., at Park Station Building, 5851 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park. This networking meeting includes brainstorming a business, a gratitude session and networking tips. Call Walt Morey at 647-8242.
- Thursday, Sept. 5 - Network Professionals of St. Pete, 11:30 a.m. For information and meeting location, call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.

- Friday, Sept. 6 - BNI Referral Masters, 7 a.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Call Bill Mantooth at 639-6690 or visit www.bnireferralmasters.com.
- Friday, Sept. 6 - Network Professionals of St. Pete, 7:30 a.m. For information and meeting location, call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Friday, Sept. 6 - Professional Leads Network, Upper Pinellas Chapter, 7:45 a.m., at R & G Cafe, 1565 Highland Ave., Clearwater. Visit www.pro-leads.net.
- Friday, Sept. 6 - Professional Leads Network, Bay Area Executives Chapter, 11:45 a.m., at Tum Rub Thai, 32716 U.S. 19 N., Palm Harbor. Visit www.pro-leads.net.
- Monday, Sept. 9 - Network Professionals Inc., 7:30 a.m., at Perkins Restaurant, 8841 Park Blvd. N., Largo. Call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Monday, Sept. 9 - Professional Leads Network, St. Petersburg Chapter, 7:45 a.m., at Ricky P's, 6521 Fourth St. N., St. Petersburg. Visit www.pro-leads.net.
- Monday, Sept. 9 - Ready Set Grow Group, 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., at Hometown Family Restaurant, 10395 Seminole Blvd., Largo. Call Jamie Limbaugh at 831-2450 or email jamieL@freenetworkinginternational.com.
- Monday, Sept. 9 - Free Networking International, Clearwater Two Cups Connect Group, 2:30 to 4 p.m., at Bay Coast Coffee Market, 2525 Gulf to Bay Blvd., Clearwater. Call Wayne Porter at 642-6173, email waynep@freenetworkinginternational.com or visit twocupsconnect.com.
- Tuesday, Sept. 10 - BNI Success Alliance, 7:30 to 9 a.m., at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in the Dubois Center Building, 750 San Salvador, Dunedin. Call Art Dryce at 786-3667 or visit www.BNISuccessAlliance.com.
- Tuesday, Sept. 10 - Professional Leads Network, First Watch Chapter, 7:30 a.m., First Watch, 2569 Village Drive, Clearwater. Visit www.pro-leads.net.
- Tuesday, Sept. 10 - The Board, Network Professionals, 7:30 a.m., at Panera Bread, Bardmoor Shopping Center, corner of Bryan Dairy and Starkey roads, Largo. Call 742-6343.
- Tuesday, Sept. 10 - Business Network International, Winners Circle, 7:30 to 9 a.m., Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Call Dave Proffitt at 230-9240.
- Tuesday, Sept. 10 - Network Professionals Inc., Seminole Chapter, 7:30 a.m., Perkins Family Restaurant, 8841 Park Blvd., Largo. Call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Tuesday, Sept. 10 - Yacht Club Breakfast, sponsored by Creative Business Connections, 7:30 a.m., St. Petersburg Yacht Club, 11 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. Call Darrell Baker, area director, at 586-4999 or visit www.cbnet.biz.
- Tuesday, Sept. 10 - Network Professionals of St. Pete, 7:30 a.m. For information and meeting location, call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Tuesday, Sept. 10 - Free Networking International, Bayside Group, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Bay Pines Sports Bar, 9685 Bay Pines Blvd., St. Petersburg. Call Janet Landt at 455-7510, email jplady1@hotmail.com or visit www.freenetworkinginternational.com.
- Tuesday, Sept. 10 - Network Professionals Inc., ICOT Lunch Chapter, 11:45 a.m., at Tucson's Southwest Grill, 13563 Icot Blvd., Clearwater. Call Eddie Montoya at 813-477-3533.
- Tuesday, Sept. 10 - Tri-City Network Professionals, 11:45 a.m., at Applebee's Restaurant, 5110 East Bay Drive, Clearwater. First visit is free. Call 492-7921.
- Wednesday, Sept. 11 - Business Network International, Financial Freedom, 7:15 a.m., at Bardmoor Country Club, 8001 Cumberland Road, Largo. Call Phil at 409-1609 or visit www.BNIFinancialFreedom.com.
- Wednesday, Sept. 11 - Pinellas Executives' Association, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., at Cove Cay Country Club, 2612 Cove Cay Drive, Clearwater. Call Donna Perry at 784-6507 or visit www.peall.com.
- Wednesday, Sept. 11 - BNI Business Connections Countryside, 7:30 a.m., at Grillsmith, 2539 Countryside Blvd., Suite 6, Clearwater. Cost is \$11. Call Renee Jones at 813-749-2780, email bnwifc@gmail.com or visit www.bnibusinessconnections.com.
- Wednesday, Sept. 11 - Network Professionals Inc., East Lake Breakfast Chapter, 7:30 a.m., at Daddy's Grill, 3682 Tampa Road, Oldsmar. Call Jenny Stone at 776-2829.
- Wednesday, Sept. 11 - Local Business Network Seminole, 7:30 a.m., Perkins Family Restaurant, 8841 Park Blvd. N., Largo. Call 804-6359.
- Wednesday, Sept. 11 - BNI Referral Net, 7:30 a.m., The Centre of Palm Harbor, 1500 16th St., Palm Harbor. Visit www.bnwifc.com.
- Wednesday, Sept. 11 - BNI Power Team, 7:30 a.m., East Lake Woodlands Country Club, 1055 East Lake Woodlands Pkwy., Oldsmar. Visit www.bni.com.
- Wednesday, Sept. 11 - Network Professionals Inc., Downtown Clearwater Breakfast Chapter, 7:30 a.m., at the Residence Inn, 940 Court St., Clearwater. Call Kim Anton at 539-7110.
- Wednesday, Sept. 11 - Network Professionals of St. Pete, 7:30 a.m. For information and meeting location, call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Wednesday, Sept. 11 - Free Networking International, Seminole Christian Hope Team, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Palace of the Orient, 10425 Park Blvd., Seminole. Call Dave Harden at 458-6890 or email daveh@freenetworkinginternational.com.



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Nice 3 bedroom 3 bath split bedroom plan home. Skylights in the kitchen give the home an open, spacious appeal. "Bonus" room could potentially be made into an inside laundry room or home office. New tile roof put on in 1991. Located near a few parks that offer walking trails and dog parks. Also close by is Walter Fuller recreational center, swimming pool, and one of St. Pete's hidden secrets... "Abercrombie Park" which has direct access to Boca Ciega Bay. Perfect for kayaking and paddle boarding! MLS#U7584843. Gaskin. \$238,000.

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Fantastic 3BR/2.5BA/1 car garage home in this family friendly resort. Fully furnished with fully equipped kitchen, dining table and sofa. Amenities include in-ground community pool, shuffleboard and laundry room. Management on site for your convenience. Low maintenance fees make this a great investment property. Property is located on the Gulf of Mexico. Don't miss your opportunity to own this little Piece of Paradise at a Great Price! MLS#U7592669. Bowman. \$149,900.

PEBBLE CREEK POOL HOME

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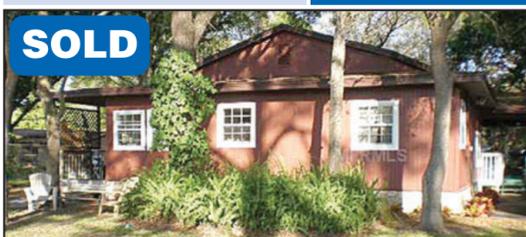
What's Selling in Pinellas County

Pinellas Park

3BR/2BA

\$240,000

SOLD



Country charmer on almost an acre of low maintenance grounds. Newer windows, gas fireplace, updated bathrooms & laminate wood floors. Two large workshops w/electric & water. Shaded pool area w/no neighbors in sight.

Gene Lofgren & Steve Ruhland
Century 21 Real Estate Champions

St. Petersburg

2BR/2.5BA/2CG

\$149,000

SOLD



Large family room, remodeled kitchen, large open living area, spacious bedrooms and lots of storage.

Caroleanne Vorac
Realty Executives - Adamo & Associates

Madeira Beach

2BR/2BA & 2BR/1BA

\$340,000

SOLD



Waterfront Duplex w/pool, dock & boat lift. Listed for \$349,900 Sold for \$340,000. 2/2 on the waterfront side and 2/1 on the backside.

Rich Rippetoe
Coldwell Banker Sun Vista Realty

Clearwater

2BR/2BA/1CG

\$115,000

SOLD



Pride of ownership in this Clearwater home. Master bedroom with private bath, dining area, light and bright kitchen & screened enclosed patio. Patio leads out to 2 fenced yards, one on each side of the patio.

Sandy Hartmann
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The Beacon. A tradition in your neighborhood.

Public helps keep classroom supply cabinets stocked

When public schools opened earlier this month, classroom supply cabinets were well stocked.

It wasn't because of some great windfall of tax dollars. Rather, it was the willingness of teachers and parents to dig deeper into their own pockets for the common good – general classroom supplies. Hand sanitizers, tissue boxes, and paper towels, for example, along with the usual stash of crayons, pencils, pens and paper fill these cabinets.

It's a given that classroom supplies will be fronted by teachers and the parents. A nationwide survey of 800 teachers for the National School Supply and Equipment Association (www.nssea.org) found that teachers annually spend \$1.6 billion of their own money on classroom supplies. On average, teachers said they spent \$485 of their own money on school supplies, instructional materials and other classroom materials during the 2012-2013 school year. Ten percent said they annually spend \$1,000 or more out of their own pockets.

Another finding was that 25 percent of teachers surveyed required parents to purchase general classroom supplies but that was down from 47 percent surveyed in recent years. There did not seem to be an explanation of the drop.

Since 1998, Florida has allocated a public school teacher stipend for classroom supplies and materials. This year, the Florida Teachers Classroom Supply Assistance Program will provide up to \$250 per teacher. Gov. Rick Scott initiated a debit card for teachers for that amount to ease the process. But the Tampa Bay Times reported last week that only seven districts out of 67 had enrolled – Miami-Dade, Orange, Hamilton, Hendry, Jefferson, Lafayette and Levy.

But that's not to say other districts' teachers won't see the money. Most districts for years have provided the state funding directly to teachers by check. Districts also are concerned that the state debit system doesn't take effect until late September, six weeks after most schools opened. We look for improvements in the system next year.

Community response to the classroom supply dilemma is growing. Civic groups and businesses organize drives for students in need and teachers. Tax dollars will only stretch so far.

Margo C. Pope is a former opinion editor of The St. Augustine Record.



As I See It
Margo Pope

The treasure of popular songs

In my next life I hope I can be a songwriter. I can think of few achievements more satisfying than to compose the lyrics of a beautiful song that captures love, courage, heartbreak, sweet memories, struggle, regret, revenge, faith or other emotions.

I can't recite more than a few lines of the Gettysburg Address or Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech. But I can give you every word of "This Land Is Your Land," "Don't Fence Me In" and dozens – maybe hundreds – of other popular songs. I bet that you can, too.

How do song lyrics get so deeply embedded in our brains? Repetition, probably. In the cradle we are treated to lullabies. By age 3 we're exposed to nursery rhymes. Unless we're hearing-impaired or living in a mine shaft, at every stage of our lives the songs keep coming at us – from radios, TV, iPods, computers, movies, our own children. The best songs, and some of the worst ones, will be repeated so often in an average lifetime that the words and melodies become pinned to the corkboards of our minds.

The first songs I can recall were "The Way You Look Tonight" and "The Music Goes Round and Round." Our nation's entry into WWII brought "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition" and "Der Fuehrer's Face." I entered my teens in the company of Sinatra, Como and Nat Cole. I must confess that after the advent of rock music in the 1950s I memorized many fewer lyrics. Today I'm an illiterate when the conversation turns to rap, hip hop and other noise-ridden varieties of music.

For an intriguing exercise, try listing 20 or so events of your own personal life, and then name the pop hits that were current at that time. It shouldn't be hard to do. I go into nostalgic shock each time I hear Jo Stafford sing "You Belong to Me," at the top of the charts in September 1952, when I entered college and life was greener than it's ever been for me. Before or since. Can you name the tune that's triggered in your mind when you remember the first time you kissed your true love? Or the love that got away?

I'm a sucker for love songs with happy endings. Maybe some day the Pew Research Center will launch a study to determine how many love songs have a happy theme vs. those that deal with romances that ended badly. Among the upbeat titles might be "You'd Be So Nice to Come Home To," "When Your Hair Has Turned to Silver," "Till There Was You," "Our Love Is Here to Stay," "Just in Time," and "Long Ago and Far Away."

The sad songs might include "Are You Lonesome Tonight?," "I Cried for You," "Autumn Leaves," "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," and one of the most poignant tunes in all of song-writing history, "Yesterday." Legend has it that Paul McCartney produced that song in about 10 minutes. Examples like that pretty well demolish the notion that great works of art must, or should, be the product of years of suffering.

Other countries and cultures have rich his-



Driver's Seat
Bob Driver

Pop music has changed in other ways. Too often, dignified performance has given way to tawdry exhibitionism.

Other countries and cultures have rich his-

ories of songwriting and memorable ballads, but offhand I can't name any other nation that has churned out the volume of popular music that the USA has. A history of America could be written based on the songs that reflected the struggles, triumphs, madneses and enthusiasms of our country and its people.

Although the USA has steadily become more citified, I recently heard that country-western songs are the music category most requested and played on American radio stations.

Despite my lifelong admiration for many music performers, I've had personal contact with only two people in the music business. One was the late Helen O'Connell, who sang with the Jimmy Dorsey band and alongside Bob Eberle during the 1940s. My wife had known Helen in Los Angeles, and when Helen performed in the Tampa-Orlando region in the '70s and '80s we would sometimes hook up with her for a visit.

My other musical acquaintance was my Bucknell University fraternity brother Bruce Lundvall, whose skill at discovering and developing talent led him to become the head of the prestigious Blue Note label. In recent years Bruce has lamented the radical changes in the music industry. People used to pay cash for song records and take them home to play. In today's digital era, you can just switch on a radio or computer and download songs, free of charge.

Pop music has changed in other ways. Too often, dignified performance has given way to tawdry exhibitionism. Can you picture Ella Fitzgerald or Rosemary Clooney displaying their pudenda the way Miley Cyrus did a week or two ago at the video music awards? I can't, and I don't want to.

Bob Driver is a former columnist for the Clearwater Sun. His email address is tralee71@comcast.net.

LETTERS

Lackeys of big insurance

Editor:

News reports say Citizens insurance will raise rates again? This despite the fact that Citizens already charges three times the national average for insurance. It is now time to put an end to Citizens' price gouging by constitutional amendment.

If the state Legislature actually represented the people of Florida, overcharging to the level of extortion by Citizens would have been stopped years ago.

However, as everyone knows our state legislators are nothing but lackeys for big insurance and the price gouging by Citizens will continue.

It therefore looks like the only way for the hurricane lashed property owners of this state to have reasonable insurance rates is a constitutional amendment that would not allow Citizens to ever charge more than the national average for insurance.

Bob Snow

Clearwater

Other views

From Florida newspapers' opinion pages

The Lakeland Ledger

Florida sinkholes: Lawmakers act against residents

Florida has more sinkholes than anywhere in the country, so residents typically treat them like the state's other inconveniences of nature, such as hurricanes and alligators – we learn to live with them.

But the sinkhole that opened near Clermont this month and swallowed a condo resort building should alarm state and local officials into getting serious about addressing what is a growing threat to homes and businesses, not to mention Floridians' pocketbooks.

The Miami Herald

Punish Syria for crossing 'red line'

The United States should not waste time seeking U.N. support for a retaliatory strike. It would be blocked by Russia. Forming a coalition with Britain, France and other countries that have condemned Syria's government would amply demonstrate international resolve.

Deepening American involvement in yet another Middle East conflict goes against President Obama's instincts – and ours. Unemployment should be his principal focus. But events have a way of intruding on presidential agendas. In this instance, it's unavoidable. Syria's brazen disregard for humanitarian norms cannot go unanswered.

Florida Today

Ailing vets' wait a national disgrace

Since 2001, the government has trained, equipped and deployed more than 2.5 million men and women to serve in Iraq and Afghanistan. But those who came home with brain injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder or other serious afflictions have too often found that the military's efficiency ended abruptly when they filed a disability claim with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Veterans filing a new disability claim can wait a year or more to get an answer from the VA, potentially costing them thousands of dollars a month in disability payments, even as they get VA medical treatment.

What do you think?

We are proud to offer a forum to our readers. Please type letters to the editor (or print legibly) and include your name, town of residence, phone number and signature and mail to Tampa Bay Newspapers, 9911 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772. Emails should include town of residence and telephone and be sent to tgermond@TBNweekly.com. We will not print the letter writer's phone number.

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.
- Letters should address issues or current events. Please refrain from making unsubstantiated allegations. The newspaper will not print letters that contain slanderous or racial statements.
- Please do not use profanity.
- We do not publish poetry or songs in letters to the editor.
- Each writer may submit one letter per month.
- We can't return letters to the editor.
- Please allow two weeks from the time you submitted your letter for it to be published before inquiring as to its status.
- We won't print anonymous letters.
- We won't print letters that are submitted merely to promote a business.
- Thank you letters are accepted.



About weed: Listen to the doctor

CNN's Dr. Sanjay Gupta admitted earlier this month that he had been wrong in his opposition to medical marijuana during the rollout for his documentary "Weed." Gupta reported on research that demonstrated the proven benefits of marijuana in treating neuropathic pain. Medical marijuana was the only drug that helped a 5-year-old girl with Dravet syndrome live without constant seizures. It calmed the constant hiccupping of a 19-year-old. Israelis use it to treat Parkinson's disease and other ailments.

Gupta took on the federal government's classification of marijuana as a Schedule I drug, which has no accepted medical use but has a high potential for abuse. (Heroin also is a Schedule I drug. Methamphetamine is Schedule II.) Gupta now believes that classification is an outrage.

The doctor didn't say marijuana is all good. He cited research that found that regular use by teens can lead to a permanent decrease in IQ. But Gupta could find no documented case of a death from a marijuana overdose, whereas someone dies every 19 minutes from a prescription-drug overdose. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 80,000 Americans die each year from excessive alcohol use.

Last week, Gupta's sentiments were echoed on the right when columnist Charles Krauthammer, a former psychiatrist, told Fox News that alcohol is much more harmful than marijuana. Quote Krauthammer: "If I were



Debra Saunders

Medical marijuana was the only drug that helped a 5-year-old girl with Dravet syndrome live without constant seizures.

starting a society from scratch and had to choose the intoxicant, I would outlaw alcohol and I'd allow marijuana." (Side note: But seeing as he can't reset the world, Krauthammer said he wouldn't legalize pot.)

Gupta's about-face might well signal a sea change in how this country looks at marijuana. Gupta told CNN's Erin Burnett that he used to look at medical marijuana advocates as "malingerers" who are "just looking to get high." But he came to see that cannabis not only helps severely ill people but also averts the dangerous side effects of more potent pharmaceuticals.

Senate Judiciary Chairman Pat Leahy an-

nounced Monday that his committee will hold a hearing Sept. 10 about the correct federal response to state laws legalizing the use of medical marijuana and, in the cases of Washington and Colorado, recreational use of marijuana.

Is President Barack Obama paying attention? Reporter Jessica Yellin asked White House spokesman Josh Earnest last week whether the administration was considering changing marijuana's Schedule I designation. Earnest responded with a long-winded no.

Before the American Bar Association recently, Attorney General Eric Holder delivered a speech that was supposed to signal big changes in the administration's approach to nonviolent drug offenders.

But he didn't mention marijuana enforcement, even though his Department of Justice has waged a ruthless war against medical marijuana dispensaries. Federal prosecutors have not only sent registered California dispensary operators to prison but has also gone after their landlords, their bankers and contractors.

Listen to Gupta and Krauthammer and it's fair to surmise that marijuana is the least harmful of all controlled substances. It's less toxic than alcohol, which is legal. It's less lethal than prescription drugs.

So why is Washington still waging a war on weed?

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@schronicle.com.

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Publisher/President: Dan Autrey
dautrey@tbnweekly.com

Accounting Manager: Andrea Marcarelli
fbriandy@yahoo.com

Advertising Director: Jay Rey
jrey@tbnweekly.com

Classified Advertising Manager: Wendy Edwards
wedwards@tbnweekly.com

Executive Editor: Tom Germond
tgermond@tbnweekly.com

Production Manager: David Brown
production@tbnweekly.com

Internet Services Manager: Suzette Porter
webmaster@tbnweekly.com

Beach Beacon: Bob McClure
bmccclure@tbnweekly.com

Belleair/Beach Bee: Tom Germond
tgermond@tbnweekly.com

Clearwater Beacon: Alexandra Lundahl
alundahl@tbnweekly.com

Dunedin Beacon: Tom Germond
tgermond@tbnweekly.com

Largo Leader: Juliana A. Torres
jttores@tbnweekly.com

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

Palm Harbor/East Lake Beacon: Bob McClure
bmccclure@tbnweekly.com

Pinellas Park Beacon: Tiffany Razzano
trazzano@tbnweekly.com

Seminole Beacon: Tiffany Razzano
trazzano@tbnweekly.com

General Editorial
editorial@tbnweekly.com

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Health news

Foundation to host One Step Closer

ST. PETERSBURG – The Celma Mastry Ovarian Cancer Foundation will host the third annual One Step Closer to the Cure 5K Run/Walk, set for Saturday, Sept. 14, at Albert Whitted Park, 480 Bayshore Drive SE.

The event will kick off at 7 a.m. Proceeds will benefit the Celma Mastry Ovarian Cancer Foundation.

This community event will feature several types of challenges in which any age can participate and help find a cure.

There will be a 5K Run/Walk, a 1-Mile Fun Run, and the Overcoming Obstacles Challenge. More than 1,400 participants are expected.

"One in 70 women in Tampa Bay will develop ovarian cancer," said Claudette Carlan in a press release. Carlan is foundation chairperson.

"Our goal is to fight this disease through early detection, treatment and research. Bring your family and come out and join the fun while supporting a worthy cause."

Proceeds go toward the goals of the Celma Mastry Ovarian Cancer Foundation. The foundation sponsors research, assists in the development of an early detection test and in prevention efforts, educates the community and offers financial assistance to patients fighting ovarian cancer.

Visit www.CMOCF.org/OneStep or www.facebook.com/cmocf, or call 863-381-2034.

HealthSouth to celebrate rehabilitation week

LARGO – HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Largo will join rehabilitation providers across the

nation Sept. 15-21, in celebration of National Rehabilitation Week.

During National Rehabilitation Week, HealthSouth hospitals provide the roadmap to recovery for patients overcoming challenges after an illness or injury.

True stories of inspiration are made possible through HealthSouth Largo's dedicated team approach to patient care, offering personalized programs and advanced technologies.

The week will be highlighted by various events and activities at the hospital. Community members are invited by personal invitation to attend a Celebration Reunion on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

For information, visit www.healthsouthlargo.com.

Sam's Club to host health screenings

Sam's Club will host free diabetes awareness health screenings to promote early detection and prevention of diabetes and prediabetes, and to help with blood sugar measurement.

The screenings will take place Saturday, Sept. 14, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the following Sam's Club locations:

- 7001 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park
- 2575 Gulf-to-Bay Blvd., Clearwater
- 1725 34th St. N., St. Petersburg

The screenings will offer free A1c blood tests and glucose screenings. The full screenings also include:

- Blood pressure
- Body mass index
- Vision screening

For information or to locate an area club, visit www.SamsClub.com.

Are you stressed for success?

All humans have a personal relationship with stress, but most of us don't understand how prolonged stress can damage our bodies to the point of death. Do you remember watching Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom on TV when you were a kid? Almost every episode involved some critter getting into trouble and ultimately facing the fight of their life or running like the dickens to get away. When the deer escaped, her stress response shut down.

Humans are designed with the same kind of fight or flight system, which was meant to be a momentary event until we are out of harm's way. It's not meant for the long haul. Our bodies go through amazing changes when we are in tremendous fear. The blood pressure goes up, while our immune system goes down, the good cholesterol is decreased while the bad goes up and we get a power packed surge of adrenaline that gives us the feeling we can handle anything. The problem I am seeing more often is that many of us can't seem to find our "off" switch, and we have a strong tendency to switch on our fight or flight system for only psychological reasons. Thinking about global warming, job security, traffic, politics, impressing other people, family problems and death, we turn on the same stress response. The important difference is that we're not doing it for real physical reasons and we're doing it non-stop. When we don't turn off our stress reaction, we unwittingly do harm by overexposing ourselves to hormones that are only meant to kick in when we are in dire straits. That's one of the reasons why so many Americans have "fuzzy brain," weight gain, heart and stomach problems and suffer from anxiety and depression.

So, if we witness a small child running toward traffic, this beautifully designed alert system will kick into high gear and move us into taking fast action now! The not-so-wonderful thing is that a large percentage of illnesses are caused by mental and emotional stress, and we, as a society, are no longer experiencing fearful thoughts "every now and then." Many of us are getting sicker and sicker because we are living in constant fear and struggling with uncontrollable worry and doubt. We're wearing ourselves out.

I recently visited the National Institute of Mental

Health website where I read that "Anxiety disorders are the most common mental illnesses in America." In essence, 19 million people suffer from mental illnesses that involve irrational fear responses. These disorders include generalized anxiety disorder, panic disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Most stress, anxiety and depression is caused by imaginary challenges or by falsely believing that we have no choice or possibility to succeed or win, to be healed or be financially independent or create and keep private or professional relationships. Did you know that most healthy successful, strong people do not have fewer challenges in life? They simply have learned how to deal with the daily tasks and challenges more effectively, so they don't even create stress. If you talk with highly successful folks, many will tell you that they actually enjoy overcoming challenges and difficult tasks in life and to do this on a daily basis.

You may want to try some of these ideas:

- Our thoughts can create illness and if they are strong enough to make us sick, then they are strong enough to make us healthy. Pay attention to what you allow in your mind. Keep it positive.
- Talk about your fears with someone you trust as this will help make the problem appear smaller and more manageable.
- Develop an understanding of what you're afraid of and this will help you to begin to learn how to erase it.
- If you're afraid to try something, start working in small steps. When you become familiar with a scary thing slowly, it can be more manageable.
- Stop trying to figure out why you're afraid. Knowing why you developed a particular fear probably won't help you in overcoming it and may actually delay your progress.
- Notice if you hold your breath. Sounds funny, but good, regular breathing is vital.
- Don't underestimate the importance of sleep. Your body and mind require rest.

Prolonged stress negatively impacts our performance. Learn to take control of your thoughts, emotions, and surroundings and how you deal with problems.

If you want a longer, healthier life full of success, learning to manage your stress is of paramount importance. My wish for you is a life of balance, with time for work and relaxation and fun.

A staff member at the Bay Pines VA Hospital from 2006-2013, Dina Meitner, LCSW, is currently in private practice at 2081 Indian Rocks Road.



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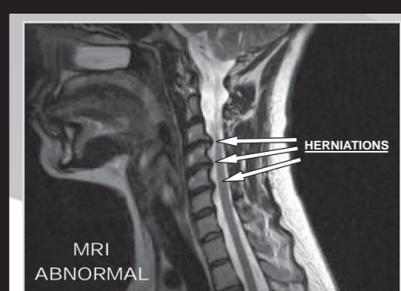


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Biz notes

Flying Needles relocates

BELLEAIR BLUFFS – Flying Needles recently moved to 432 Indian Rocks Road.

Since 1961, Flying Needles has been serving the needs of knitting and needlepoint enthusiasts in the area. They stock a large selection of knitting yarn, hand painted canvases, fibers and needlework supplies. They also sell knitted garments and offer custom finishing services.

Flying Needles hosts weekly knitting classes and stitching groups, which are educational as well as social.

For information, call Dianne Colitz at 581-8691.

Satellite Guy moves to Indian Rocks Beach

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH – The Satellite Guy, a DirecTV dealer who has been in business more than nine years, is relocating from Upstate New York to Indian Rocks Beach.

According to a press release announcing the relocation, owner and veteran technician Dean Rock has completed more than 3,000 installations, upgrades and service calls.

"I believe in doing the job right the first time, and avoiding repeat visits," Rock said in the press release.

"There is no substitute for experience and DirecTV has thoroughly trained me to be a content expert."

For information, call 347-3288.

Chamber to host leadership roundtable

TREASURE ISLAND – The Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce will host a roundtable discussion with Florida State Representative Kathleen Peters and beach leaders on Tuesday, Sept. 10, 8:30 a.m., at the Bilmar Beach Resort, 10650 Gulf Blvd.

This forum will be open to the public with a question-and-answer section at the closing. Peters will accept inquiries about any issues constituents may have and address topics to be brought up at the upcoming legislative session.

To register, call Doug at 360-6957 or visit www.tampabaybeaches.com

Largo franchise earns 'Gold Standard'

LARGO – Once Upon A Child in Largo recently was recognized for achieving a "Gold Standard" measurement.

The distinction is reached when a store achieves a set of standards set forth by the franchisor during the evaluation process. The Largo store achieved the customer experience, store operations and consistent brand identity to earn Gold Standard recognition in 2013.

"Being recognized as a Gold Standard store is a very significant accomplishment, but even more, it means we're succeeding in providing our customers the best shopping experience possible," said Ben Rosa in a press release. Rosa is owner of Once Upon A Child in Largo. "Portraying a standardized look and maintaining a high level of experience for my customers helps ensure a consistent brand appearance, which in turn contributes to a more positive shopping experience. By reaching the Gold Standard, we're helping create an identity that customers recognize and value."

The Gold Standard seal at the store can identify a Once Upon A Child Gold Standard store. Shoppers also may visit www.onceuponachild.com to locate Gold Standard stores.

"Once Upon A Child provides a place for parents to buy and sell their quality, gently used kids stuff for their ever-growing children – saving them time and money," Rosa said. The Largo location sells a wide selection of new and used kids stuff, such as apparel, furniture, equipment and toys.

Business coaching network chapter opens

GULFPORT – The Global Hugs Network is currently forming a new chapter in Gulfport and will be conducting bi-monthly meetings beginning Oct. 2.

Meetings in the Gulfport area are currently scheduled to be conducted first and third Wednesdays, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., at Mangia Gourmet, 2930 Beach Blvd. The meetings, which are tailored each week to address key learning points, will include networking, collaborative team building, brainstorming, masterminding and homework. Trainers for each module and event may vary and will include some of the best and brightest business minds from a myriad of fields. Meetings are highly interactive and "personal work is expected" per Global Hugs guidelines. Participants will be provided with a course workbook and handouts.

Founded in 2007, Global Hugs is a worldwide small business coaching, brainstorming and mastermind network based, in part, upon the success principles made popular by Jack Canfield. Embracing a collaborative coaching model, the modules presented during meetings are geared toward supporting business and personal growth in a compassionate, cooperative and safe learning and growing environment.

The meetings are geared for those in business for themselves. All are welcome. Preregistration is required. Available spaces are very limited. For information, visit www.global-hugs.com.

Jefferson Bank relocates

OLDSMAR – Jefferson Bank recently relocated its Palm Harbor branch to a newly renovated freestanding building in Alderman Plaza at 35320 U.S. 19.

The 3,400-square-foot branch is located at the southwest corner of U.S. 19 N. and Alderman Road in the Alderman Plaza and offers a covered, drive-up ATM and two drive-in lanes. Rose Fasano, branch manager, and her team will continue to provide professional, friendly service at the new location.

"Jefferson Bank is a local institution committed to the communities we serve," said Bob McGivney in a press release. McGivney is chairman/CEO. "Our goal is to keep customer needs at the forefront of all our business decisions. The new Palm Harbor location provides enhanced accessibility and the covered, drive up ATM is much more convenient."

Jersey Mike's Subs opens

LARGO – Jersey Mike's Subs officially opened its doors Sept. 4 at 2687 Roosevelt Blvd.

Franchise owner James Connolly is hosting a grand opening and free sub fundraiser through Sunday, Sept. 15, to support the Abilities Foundation.

The new restaurant will circulate 10,000 coupons throughout the community offering a free regular sub for a minimum \$1 contribution to the Abilities Foundation. Half of these 10,000 coupons will be valid through Sept. 8, with the other half being valid through Sept. 15.

Started at the Jersey Shore in 1956, Jersey Mike's continued its steady growth in 2012 opening 92 new restaurants throughout the country, a 33 percent increase in new store growth over 2011.

Connolly exemplifies Jersey Mike's quest for excellence as it selects franchise owners who share the company's commitment to quality products and exceptional customer service and who are dedicated to giving back to the local community. Since 2010, locations throughout the country have raised almost \$7 million for worthy local charities and distributed more than 500,000 free sub sandwiches to help numerous causes.

"For our grand opening fundraiser we have the opportunity to partner with the Abilities Foundation," said Connolly in a press release. "Specifically, we will be raising money for the Veterans Mall. This branch of the organization helps provide household essentials for veterans who are transitioning back to life at home. We are grateful for this chance to give back to our veterans and support them through the work of the Abilities Foundation."

Airport receives safety distinction

CLEARWATER – The Federal Aviation Administration Southern Region recently awarded the Airport Safety Mark of Distinction Award to St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport.

The airport's assigned FAA Southern Region Airport Certification Inspector who recently completed our annual inspection made the nomination for this distinction.

The FAA developed this award to promote safety among the Southern Region certificated airports and to recognize any action, effort, or event involving an airport that deserves praise for its intended or demonstrated effect on the advancement of safety. PIE was noted for its "safe and successful oversight of the rehabilitation of Runway 4/22 which took place October 2011 through August 2012, the drainage improvements with Pinellas County, and 35,000 linear feet of crack sealing on Runway 18/36."

"Through professional action and fervent effort the staff and management of the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport have improved safety for the traveling public," said Winsome Lenfert in the award certificate. Lenfert is FAA Airports division manager. "Their dedicated efforts are deserving of praise and are indicative of their professionalism and commitment to safety."

Noah Lagos, airport director, accepted the award in a presentation from Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners Chairman Ken Welch at the August 20 BCC meeting.

Gendusa earns award

CLEARWATER – Joy Gendusa, CEO of PostcardMania, recently was named the winner in the Entrepreneur category for the Tampa Bay Business Journal's 2013 BusinessWoman of the Year.

Gendusa beat out more than 250 applicants to earn the honor, yet says that she wasn't expecting to take home the top prize for entrepreneur.

"I still can't believe I won," said Gendusa in a press release. "It's such an unexpected and amazing honor. I'm just so grateful that I've had the help of such a strong and innovative team from the very beginning. They've been instrumental in helping me grow PostcardMania from just a little shop with a phone and computer 15 years ago into what it is today – a \$20 million company that employs around 200 people locally."

Wild Birds opens

CLEARWATER – Wild Birds Unlimited of Safety Harbor/Clearwater opened Aug. 15, at 2454 N. McMullen Booth Road.

Local entrepreneur Carl Albritton turned his 20-year hobby into a business. The 56-year-old has always had a passion for bird watching, and after he retired last year, he decided it was the perfect opportunity to open a business and introduce others to a hobby that he cares about dearly.

Wild Birds Unlimited is the original and largest franchise system of backyard bird feeding and nature specialty stores in North America and specializes in bringing people and nature together with bird feeding and nature products, expert advice and educational events. The new Clearwater location will feature a new look as the company rebrands their new locations to enhance the customer experience.

Little Greek Restaurant to open

LARGO – Little Greek Restaurant will open its 11th Tampa Bay area location by the end of August in the former Mo' Ziki restaurant, at 10801 Starkey Road, across from Morton Plant Mease Bardmoor Emergency Center.

Little Greek Restaurant will offer many similar menu items, in addition to traditional Greek items such as dolmades (stuffed grape leaves), spanakopita (spinach pie), falafel (fried chickpeas served in a pita or on the side) and Greek potatoes.

"We're very excited about our newest location," said Nick Vojnovic in a press release. Vojnovic is president of Little Greek Restaurants.

"Bringing new jobs and fresh Greek food to a community that is rebuilding itself will be a perfect fit for the Largo area, we are happy to be a part of that."

For information about the grand opening, visit MyLittleGreek.com.

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Seminole Beacon, Section B, September 5, 2013 • Visit www.TBNweekly.com

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Top Five Diversions

• **"Seven Brides for Seven Brothers,"** with book by Lawrence Kasha and David Landay, music by Gene de Paul, Al Kasha, Joel Hirschhorn, and lyrics by Johnny Mercer, Al Kasha and Joel Hirschhorn; Sept. 5-22, at Francis Wilson Playhouse, 302 Seminole St., Clearwater. Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays, 8 p.m.; and Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$26 for adults and \$13 for students. Call 446-1360 or visit www.franciswilson-playhouse.org. Goin' courtin' has never been as much fun as in this rip-roaring stage production. It tells the story of Millie, married and living in the Oregon wilderness in 1850, who plans to civilize and marry off her six rowdy brothers-in-law.

• **"South Pacific,"** with book by Oscar Hammerstein II and Joshua Logan, music by Richard Rodgers and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II; presented by Eight O'Clock Theatre, Sept. 6-22, at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays, 8 p.m.; and Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25.50 for adults and \$12.50 for children 19 and younger with identification. A city of Largo handling charge of \$3.50 will be added to each ticket. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. Set on a tropical island during World War II, the musical tells the sweeping romantic story of two couples and how their happiness is threatened by the realities of war and by their own prejudices. Considered by many the finest musical ever written, the score's songs include such classics as "Some Enchanted Evening," "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outa My Hair," "Younger Than Springtime," "Bali Ha'i," "There is Nothin' Like A Dame," "This Nearly Was Mine" and "A Wonderful Guy." Its portrayal of Americans stationed in an alien culture in wartime is as relevant today as when it first thrilled audiences in 1949. The original Broadway production won 10 Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Best Score and Best Libretto. The 2008 Broadway revival won seven Tonys including Best Musical Revival. This production will be directed by Linda Weir and will feature Amy Phillips as music director and James Grenelle as choreographer.

• **Music in the Park,** featuring a performance by SPAN, Friday, Sept. 6, 7 p.m., at Seminole City Park, 7464 Ridge Road. SPAN will be playing the music of Sinatra and friends. The two-hour concert is the first of six on consecutive Friday nights at the park. Performances run 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is free to all performances. Parking, also free, is available in the park and in a larger lot west of the park between Old Oakhurst Road and the Pinellas Trail. Attendees are invited to bring chairs and blankets. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. For information, visit www.myseminole.com.

• **The Starlight Concert Series,** featuring Fast Lane, Friday, Sept. 6, at Highlander Park, 903 Michigan Blvd., Dunedin. The series will feature free music under the stars through September on Fridays, 7 to 9 p.m. Concessions will be available, or attendees may bring a picnic basket, blanket or lawn chair. For information, call 812-4531. Fast Lane features Scott "Skyntyte" Free on lead vocals and guitar, Michelle "Velvet" Banfield on lead vocals, Larissa "Lacy Lou" Gifford on lead and background vocals, Vernon "Dr. Rockenstien" Montoya on keyboards, Keith "Mr. Ladd" Ladd, Josh Hoffenberg on drums and David "DB" Baggageley on background vocals and guitar. This six-piece band plays a blend of R&B, funk, soul and rock and roll.

• **John Mayer,** Saturday, Sept. 7, 7:30 p.m., at the Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheatre at the Florida State Fairgrounds, 4802 U.S. 301 N., Tampa. Tickets start at \$36. Call 813-740-2446 or visit www.livenation.com. The consistency with which Mayer combines word craft and melody has earned him rarefied status as a respected songwriter and musician. As one of few musicians to achieve both critical acclaim and popular appeal, the seven-time Grammy Award winner has earned accolades for each album release while selling in excess of 17 million albums worldwide. Known as a musician who defies genre boundaries, Mayer is well known for collaborations with a range of artists. From rock to blues, hip-hop to jazz to country, Mayer has performed and/or recorded with Eric Clapton, BB King, Buddy Guy, T-Bone Burnett, Herbie Hancock, Dixie Chicks, Jay Z and Alicia Keys.



Lindsay Burdge stars in "A Teacher," from Oscilloscope Laboratories.

Photo courtesy of OSCILLOSCOPE LABORATORIES

Opening this weekend

Diesel reprises antihero role as ex-con, mercenary in 'Riddick'

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

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

'Riddick'

Genre: Action and science fiction
Cast: Vin Diesel, Karl Urban, Jordi Molla, Matt Nable, Katee Sackhoff, Bokeem Woodbine, Dave Bautista, Conrad Pla, Raoul Trujillo, Nolan Funk and Keri Hilson
Director: David Twohy
Rated: R

Riddick, the latest chapter of the groundbreaking saga that began with 2000's hit sci-fi film "Pitch Black" and continued with 2004's "The Chronicles of Riddick" reunites writer/director David Twohy and star Vin Diesel.

Diesel reprises his role as the antihero Riddick, a dangerous, escaped convict wanted by every bounty hunter in the known galaxy.

The infamous Riddick has been left for dead on a sun-scorched planet that appears to be lifeless. Soon, however, he finds himself fighting for survival against alien predators more lethal than any human he's encountered. The only way off is for Riddick to activate an emergency beacon and alert mercenaries who rapidly descend to the planet in search of their bounty.

The first ship to arrive carries a new breed of merc, more lethal and violent, while the second is captained by a man whose pursuit of Riddick is more personal. With time running out and a storm on the horizon that no one could survive, his hunters won't leave the planet without Riddick's head as their trophy.

The following will open in limited release. It may be several weeks before these films appear in local movie theaters.

'A Teacher'

Genre: Drama
Cast: Lindsay Burdge, Will Brittain, Jennifer Prediger, Julie Dell Phillips, Jonny Mars and Chris Doubek
Director: Hannah Fidell
Not rated
Part psychological thriller and part provocative character study, "A



Photo courtesy of MAGNOLIA PICTURES

Freda Kelly is the subject of "Good Ol' Freda," a Magnolia Pictures release.

"Teacher" explores the unraveling of a young high school teacher, Diana (Lindsay Burdge), after she begins an affair with one of her teenage students, Eric (Will Brittain). What starts as a seemingly innocent fling becomes increasingly complex and dangerous as the beautiful and confident Diana gets fully consumed by her emotions, crossing boundaries and acting out in progressively startling ways. Lindsay Burdge delivers a deeply compelling and seamlessly naturalistic performance that brings us into the mind of an adult driven to taboo against her better judgment.

See OPENING, page 2B

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<p>Move in ready Canterbury Chase home! Split floor plan features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and a family room. The gorgeous kitchen is great for entertaining and opens up to the living room & dining area.</p> <p>\$274,900</p>	<p>"It was an excellent experience. (Sandy Hartmann & Associates) made it simple- you were open to my ideas- you kept me informed and stayed in touch every week! Thank You!" - N. Walsh</p>	<p>Perfectly situated on 2.5 private acres. Meticulously crafted in 2010 this home offers 6,500 sq ft with exceptional attention to detail. Amazing ambiance brings this showcase home to life.</p> <p>\$2,750,000</p>
<p>Enjoy the water views from this lovely condo. Floor plan has 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a great room and an enclosed patio to enjoy the boats and water view. Plus, there is a 1 car carport.</p> <p>\$125,000</p>	<p>Great St Pete home with a bonus room! The bonus room would be great as a 3rd bedroom, in-law suite or workshop since it has a private bathroom and separate entrance.</p> <p>\$130,000</p>	<p>Affordable Lake Seminole living! Townhome offers 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, enclosed patio and 2 outdoor living areas: front patio with a privacy fence & fenced outdoor patio overlooking the lake.</p> <p>\$129,900</p>

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OPENING, from page 1B

'Adore'

Genre: Drama
 Cast: Naomi Watts, Robin Wright, Xavier Samuel, James Frecheville and Ben Mendelsohn
 Director: Anne Fontaine
 Not rated
 Naomi Watts and Robin Wright deliver riveting performances in "Adore," a sensual and provocative drama about two lifelong friends who find unexpected happiness in relationships that cross the bounds of convention.

An unpredictable tale of misguided love and a heartfelt celebration of the enduring nature of female friendship, the film is the English-speaking directorial debut of distinguished filmmaker Anne Fontaine. It is adapted for the screen by Academy Award-winning writer Christopher Hampton, from a novella by Nobel Prize winner for Literature Doris Lessing.

'Good Ol' Freda'

Genre: Documentary
 Director: Ryan White
 Rated: PG
 Freda Kelly was just a shy Liverpooldian teenager when she was asked to work for a local band hoping to make it big. Though she had no concept of how far they would go, Freda had faith in The Beatles from the beginning, and The Beatles had faith in her.
 History notes that The Beatles were together for 10 years, but Freda worked for them for 11. Many people came in and out of the band's circle as they grew to international stardom, but Freda remained a staple because of her unfaltering loyalty and dedication. As the Beatles' devoted secretary and friend, Freda was there as history unfolded; she was witness to the evolution - advances and setbacks, breakthroughs and challenges - of the greatest band in history.
 In "Good Ol' Freda," Freda tells her stories for the first time in 50

years. One of few films with the support of the living Beatles and featuring original Beatles music, the film offers an insider perspective on the beloved band that changed the music industry.

'Populaire'

Genre: Comedy and drama
 Cast: Romain Duris, Deborah François, Bérénice Bejo, Shaun Benson, Mélanie Bernier, Nicolas Bedos and Miou-Miou
 Director: Régis Roinsard
 Rated: R
 Spring, 1958.
 Rose Pamphyle, a 21-year-old, lives with her grouchy widower father who runs the village store. Engaged to the son of the local mechanic, she seems destined for the quiet, drudgery-filled life of a housewife. But that's not the life Rose longs for. When she travels to Lisieux in Normandy, where charismatic insurance agency boss Louis Echarid is advertising for a secretary, the ensuing interview is a disaster. But Rose reveals a special gift - she can type at extraordinary speed.

Unwittingly, the young woman awakens the dormant sports fan in Louis. If she wants the job she'll have to compete in a speed typing competition. Whatever sacrifices Rose must make to reach the top, Louis declares himself her trainer. He'll turn her into the fastest girl not only in the country, but also in the world! But a love of sport doesn't always mix well with love itself.

'Salinger'

Genre: Documentary
 Cast: Régis Roinsard Philip Seymour Hoffman, Edward Norton, John Cusack, Danny DeVito, John Guare, Martin Sheen, David Milch, Robert Towne, Tom Wolfe, E.L. Doctorow, Gore Vidal, A. Scott Berg and Elizabeth Frank
 Director: Shane Salerno
 Rated: PG-13
 For more than 50 years, J.D. Salinger, the elusive author of "The



Photo courtesy of MAGNOLIA PICTURES
 Josh Pais and Allison Janney star in "Touchy Feely," a Magnolia Pictures release.

Catcher in the Rye," has been the subject of a relentless stream of newspaper and magazine articles as well as several biographies.

Yet all of these attempts have been hampered by lack of access and the recycling of inaccurate information. Thus, Salinger has largely remained an enigma to the public and media alike. During the nine years in which "Salinger" was in production - including the six years while the project was being shot under wraps - filmmaker Shane Salerno interviewed hundreds of people the world over, many of whom had previously declined to go on the record about their relationship with the iconic author.

Salerno's much speculated-upon documentary, which has made front page news since 2010, offers direct eyewitness accounts from Salinger's World War II brothers-in-arms, his family members, his close friends, his lovers, his classmates, his neighbors, his editors, his publishers, his "New Yorker" colleagues, and people with whom he had relationships that were unknown even to his own family.

Providing unparalleled access to never-before-published photographs, diaries, letters, legal records, and documents, the highly anticipated "Salinger" paints a definitive portrait of one of the most fascinating figures of the 20th century. Particularly illuminating the last 56 years of the writer's life - a period that, until now, had remained completely dark to biographers - Salerno has, for the first time, gotten beyond Salinger's meticulously built-up wall.

'Touchy Feely'

Genre: Comedy
 Cast: Rosemarie DeWitt, Ellen Page, Allison Janney, Josh Pais, Scoot McNairy, Ron Livingston and Tomo Nakayama
 Director: Lynn Shelton
 Rated: R

"Touch Feely" is a closely observed examination of a family whose delicate psychic balance suddenly unravels.

Abby (Rosemarie DeWitt), is a sought after massage therapist and a free spirit, while her brother Paul (Josh Pais) thrives on routine and convention, running a flagging dental practice and co-dependently enlisting the assistance of his emotionally stunted daughter Jenny (Ellen Page).

Suddenly, transformation touches everyone. Abby develops an uncontrollable aversion to bodily contact, which not only makes her occupation impossible but severely hinders the passionate love life between her and her boyfriend (Scoot McNairy).

Meanwhile, rumors of Paul's "healing touch" begin to miraculously invigorate his practice as well as his life outside the office. As Abby navigates her way through a soul-searching identity crisis, her formerly skeptical brother discovers a whole new side of himself. "Touch Feely" is about the experience of living in one's own skin, both literally and figuratively. The film, written and directed by Shelton, and co-starring Allison Janney, Ron Livingston, and newcomer Tomo Nakayama (of the indie rock band Grand Hallway), is filmed on location in Shelton's hometown and urban muse of Seattle.

For more movie news including what's playing at local theaters and trailers, visit www.TBWeekly.com. Click on the "Movie News & Reviews" link on the left-side menu.

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	29				29		30			31		
32				33			34		35			36	
37			29			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**
- Computer info
 - Write a shared online journal
 - Kind of approval
 - Candidate's concern
 - Morocco's capital
 - Carbonium, e.g.
 - Reminder of mortality (2 wds)
 - "Baloney!"
 - Smoke out
 - Members of Parliament
 - Bergman in "Casablanca"
 - Flight data, briefly
 - Officers' quarters on a warship
 - Moisture-absorbing body powders
 - A pint, maybe
 - Representative
 - Marine ___
 - Bohemian, e.g.
 - Victorian, for one
 - Arid
 - Ridge of land forced upwards between two faults
 - Go over
 - Moray, e.g.
 - Slap target, sometimes
 - Exploded artillery shell fragments
 - Eastern pooh-bah
 - Bolted
 - Manitoba's capital
 - Kind of seat
 - Monopolize
 - Expressing profound respect
 - Absorbed, as a cost
 - Father, Son and Holy Ghost
 - One of the Barbary States
 - Bit
 - Coaster
 - Whimper

- Down**
- Kind of store
 - Financial page heading
 - Pack (down)
 - Ancient (hyphenated)
 - "My man!"
 - Follower of Mary
 - "O" in old radio lingo
 - January's birthstone
 - Decorative, protective object on a hearth (2 wds)
 - It may get into a jamb
 - Aardvark fare
 - Check
 - It's always sold in mint condition (2 wds)
 - Join securely
 - Meteorological effects
 - White Cliffs of ___
 - Cleanse with water
 - Grant
 - Put into a new order
 - Conventions
 - Bender
 - Marina sight
 - Unload, as stock
 - Gesture made with index and middle fingers (2 wds)
 - Casual top (2 wds)
 - Ascended
 - Bring up
 - Slender candles
 - Repressed (hyphenated)
 - "Come again?"
 - Bit
 - "... there is no ___ angel but Love": Shakespeare
 - Characteristic carrier
 - Hokkaido native
 - Detective, at times
 - "... or ___!"
 - Cabernet, e.g.

Sudoku

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

Sudoku 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

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
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Horoscopes
September 5, 2013

Capricorn
December 22 - January 19
 A letter of intent gets the conversation going at work. Listen and learn. Capricorn. Last-ditch efforts to clear away the clutter at home work.

Aquarius
January 20 - February 18
 All hands on deck, Aquarius. The to-do list grows, and many projects remain unfinished. A job offer entails much more than described. Dig a little deeper.

Pisces
February 19 - March 20
 Impulse shopping uncovers many good deals. Seize only what you can use, Pisces, or prepare for your pocketbook to be empty and your house full.

Aries
March 21 - April 19
 A relative's ignorance is not bliss, Aries. You could get exasperated and throw up your hands, or you could view the situation as a teaching opportunity.

Taurus
April 20 - May 20
 Watch it, Taurus. You don't want to be the sole holdout. Re-examine the situation from the perspective of others. You just might change your mind.

Gemini
May 21 - June 21
 A major cleanup at home uncovers many cherished mementos. Put them where they belong, Gemini. You may soon need one for reference.

Cancer
June 22 - July 22
 Uh-uh-uh, Cancer. This is not the time for a lackluster performance. Give it your all, and you will come out smiling. An email is just the tip of the iceberg.

Leo
July 23 - August 22
 Congrats, Leo. You made a suggestion, it was received well and now all you have left to do is see it through. Make sure you choose the right team.

Virgo
August 23 - September 22
 Romance burns bright and makes for an easy week at home. A reunion of friends over the weekend provides impetus for change. Move, Virgo, move.

Libra
September 23 - October 22
 Libra growing listless? No problem. A familiar face will breathe new life into an old project, and you'll soon have more on your plate than you have time for.

Scorpio
October 23 - November 21
 The colors of fall inspire you to make some changes to your decor, Scorpio. Start with that neglected corner. It could soon become a popular hangout.

Sagittarius
November 22 - December 21
 Doggone it, Sagittarius. A pesky friend strikes again, and you find yourself helping them out once more. Settle down. This will be the last time.

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STARs nominees named

Eight O'Clock, Francis Wilson and West Coast among area theaters vying for awards

By LEE CLARK ZUMPE

Nominees for the 2013 STARs Awards – formerly known as the Lary Awards – recently were announced in "The Theatre Grapevine," a non-profit news magazine serving the community theaters of Florida's Sun-coast.

This year's awards ceremony will be Sunday, Sept. 29, in Matheos Hall at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 409 S. Old Coachman Road, Clearwater. Doors will open at 6 p.m.

"Fiddler on the Roof," presented by Tarpon Springs Performing Arts, earned 12 nominations this year, making it the most recognized production. It is nominated for Best Musical, Best Director, Best Choreographer and Best Costume Design.

Other top musical contenders for awards this year include St. Petersburg City Theatre's "9 to 5," with eight nominations; Eight O'Clock Theatre's "The Producers," with seven nominations; Francis Wilson Playhouse's "Fiddler on the Roof," with six nominations.

"Hollywood Arms," produced by Francis Wilson Playhouse, leads the drama category with seven nominations. "The Runner Stumbles," presented by West Coast Players; "Playboy of the Western World," presented by Gulfport Community Players; and "To Kill a Mockingbird," presented by St. Petersburg City Theatre, each earned six nominations.

In comedy, St. Petersburg City Theatre's production of "The Sensuous Senator" garnered a total of five nominations, including Best Comedy.

Subscribers of "The Theatre Grapevine" have cast votes based on the slate of nominees. Voting ended Aug. 30.

Cost to attend the award ceremony is \$35 a person. Cost includes a social hour with hors d'oeuvres. There will be a full cash bar. Reservations may be made through participating local theaters.

A list of this year's nominees follows.

Favorite Actor – Musical

- Ben Taylor, "The Producers," Eight O'Clock Theatre
- Rand Smith, "Fiddler on the Roof," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Jay Morgan, "9 to 5," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Coleman Reaboi, "Fiddler on the Roof," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts

Favorite Actor – Drama

- Kurt Gawlik, "Hollywood Arms," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Joseph Alan Johnson, "The Woman in Black," Gulfport Community Players
- Stephen Riordan, "Doubt," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Drew Lundquist, "Fourposter," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Rand Smith, "The Runner Stumbles," West Coast Players

Favorite Actor – Comedy

- Jason Fortner, "Is He Dead?," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Sam DePriest, "The Sensuous Senator," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Rick Butcher, "Murder at the Howard Johnson's," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Michael Menszycy, "The Importance of Being Earnest," West Coast Players

Favorite Actress – Musical

- Amy Dobbert, "Forbidden Broadway," Eight O'Clock Theatre
- Cherie Albury, "Pippin," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Jessica Ulbrich, "9 to 5," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Tara Hilderbrandt, "Fiddler on the Roof," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts

Favorite Actress – Drama

- Kathleen Goelz, "Hollywood Arms," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Heidi Pitts, "Playboy of the Western World," Gulfport Community Players
- Nonie White, "Doubt," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Evin Pennington, "Fourposter," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Ashlie Johnson, "The Runner Stumbles," West Coast Players

Favorite Actress – Comedy

- Susan Demers, "Plaza Suite," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Elizabeth Bell, "A Flea in her Ear," Gulfport Community Players
- Velda Gauthier, "The Sensuous Senator," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Lauren Leech, "No Sex Please, We're British," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Janice Creneti, "The Red Velvet Cake War," West Coast Players

Favorite Supporting Actor – Musical

- George Cahill, "The Producers," Eight O'Clock Theatre

- Stu Sanford, "The Fiddler on the Roof," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Jonathan Pouliot, "9 to 5," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Jason Ensor, "Fiddler on the Roof," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts

Favorite Supporting Actor – Drama

- Rick Osorio, "Hollywood Arms," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Stephen Bell, "Playboy of the Western World," Gulfport Community Players
- Leon Goins, "To Kill a Mockingbird," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- John Clark, "The Runner Stumbles," West Coast Players

Favorite Supporting Actor – Comedy

- Kurt Gawlik, "Is He Dead?," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Eddy Ganim, "Sordid Lives," Gulfport Community Players
- Ian Smith, "The Sensuous Senator," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Keith Seger, "Lend Me a Tenor," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Sam DePriest, "The Boys in the Band," West Coast Players

Favorite Supporting Actress – Musical

- Christina Capehart, "Legally Blonde," Eight O'Clock Theatre
- Kristen Rowell, "Damn Yankees," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Sadra Bostick, "9 to 5," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Brianna Filippelli, "Fiddler on the Roof," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts

forming Arts

Favorite Supporting Actress – Drama

- Julia Rudgers, "Hollywood Arms," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Eileen Navarro, "Playboy of the Western World," Gulfport Community Players
- Tammy Dalton, "Doubt," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Donna Donnelly, "The Runner Stumbles," West Coast Players

Favorite Supporting Actress – Comedy

- Colleen Boylan, "You Can't Take it With You," Francis Wilson Play

See STARs NOMINEES, page 4B

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Movie review

Cage, Cusack spar in unexceptional serial killer drama 'The Frozen Ground'

Not every movie can be an Oscar contender.

It also stands to reason that actors who have previously won Academy Awards can't wait around for the perfect script – and another shot at critical acclaim.



Reel Time
Lee Clark Zumpe

Nicholas Cage is a perfect example. Back in the 1990s, he scored Oscar gold with his performance in "Leaving Las Vegas." In that era, he was amassing a huge list of award wins and nominations, for everything from "Moonstruck" to "Adaptation." More recently, he has been less choosy about his films. A string of lackluster performances – "Season of the Witch," "Drive Angry," "Trespass," "Seeking Justice" and "Stolen" – have damaged his once distinguished reputation. Personal problems – broadcast and undoubtedly exaggerated by the tabloids – have further tarnished the actor's standing.

Cage shows a glimpse of his enduring potential in Lionsgate's new thriller "The Frozen Ground." His performance is relatively minimalist, and the brooding, conscientious character he portrays – Jack Halcombe – suits his demeanor.

In "The Frozen Ground," Halcombe – an Alaskan State Trooper – is assigned a daunting case, tracking a serial killer who has virtually gone unnoticed for 13 years. When one of the killer's victims manages to escape, she reports her abduction and rape to authorities. Due to her background as a runaway and prostitute, investigators initially discount her account.

Eventually, the 17-year-old escapee – Cindy Paulson, played capably by Disney alum Vanessa Hudgens – provides enough details to Halcombe to allow him to start connecting the dots.

John Cusack portrays the killer, Robert Hansen. Cusack gives a consistently chilling performance throughout, painting the murderer as a coldly sadistic predator. Cusack's Hansen is meticulous and manipulative – outwardly reserved and retiring until cornered.

This very adult role for Hudgens proves the "High School Musical" actress is serious about her career. Her depiction of Paulson is surprisingly multifaceted. She showcases the character's cynicism, underscores the tragedy of her past experiences and delivers some particularly unsettling moments in the backrooms of an Alaskan strip club. Whenever the film achieves a certain level of

gritty realism, "The Frozen Ground" is actually difficult to watch.

These solid performances unfortunately don't fully compensate for the film's flaws.

"The Frozen Ground" is based on a true story. Director Scott Walker spends too much time exhibiting the formulaic police procedural sequences that have become monotonously common on television crime dramas. He asks the audience to follow three separate story arcs but fails to fully develop any one of the central characters. He further fails to fully exploit the talent of the supporting cast, which includes 50 Cent as Clate Johnson, Katherine LaNasa as Fran Hansen, Dean Norris as Sgt. Lyle Haugsvan and Jodi Lyn O'Keefe as Chelle Ringell.

There's nothing particularly inspired or innovative about "The Frozen Ground" – it's filled with genre clichés, from bureaucratic bickering and ready-to-retire heroes to moral certitude and a bulky textual epilogue. Walker tried to make a story based on actual events conform to the generic police procedural motif – in this case, the square peg did not fit the round hole.

There have been a number of exceptional films based on authentic serial killer cases, such as "Monster" and "Citizen X." "The Frozen Ground" lacks the psychological depth of "Monster," about real-life serial killer Aileen Wuornos. While "Citizen X" – a made-for-TV film about Soviet serial killer Andrei Chikatilo – spends a great deal of time examining bureaucratic hurdles and demoralizing procedural obstacles, it delivers a brilliant and thorough study of its central character, forensic specialist Viktor Burakov. Both "Monster" and "Citizen X" are masterpieces in this distinct crime drama subgenre dominated by sensationalistic and subpar filmmaking.

Not every movie can be a masterpiece. "The Frozen Ground" isn't a complete failure, but it could have been much better. The subject matter is engrossing, and the acting is exceptional: It is arguably Cage's best performance in years. The breakdown is all in the execution. The fine cast makes the film compelling and watchable. The unfocused script and failure to fully develop the characters make it regrettably unmemorable.

"The Frozen Ground" was released theatrically Aug. 23 to a select few markets. To date, the film hasn't been featured at any Tampa Bay area locations. "The Frozen Ground" is currently available for rental viewing on Bright House On Demand, iTunes and Amazon Instant Video.

A&E News

South Pasadena band prepares for season

SOUTH PASADENA – After nine years of directing the South Pasadena Community Band, Max Millsbaugh recently announced his retirement.

The new man on the podium will be John Hoover. Hoover received his degrees from the University of Louisville and taught instrumental music in the Jefferson County School System in Louisville, Ky., for 27 years from elementary through high school. He also held the position of director of bands at the University of Louisville for four years and was the bandmaster of the 202nd Army Band of the Kentucky National Guard for 25 years.

Before leaving Louisville, Hoover directed the River Cities Community Band, a position he held for nine years. He played the French horn professionally in the Louisville Philharmonic Orchestra for several years and until recently has been playing in several groups here in the Tampa Bay area.

The first concert of the season will be Thursday, Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m., at Galettea Garden, 7001 Sunset Drive, South Pasadena. The concert will feature show tunes, marches and music for all ages.

Rehearsals will start on Thursday, Sept. 5. Rehearsals take place Thursday evenings at the South Pasadena City Hall. Those interested in joining should call Hoover at 398-9639.

TI Art Guild to host September show

TREASURE ISLAND – The Treasure Island Art Guild will kick off the new season with its September art show.

Members may enter up to three pictures. Cash prizes and ribbons will be awarded at the September reception, scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 14, 1 p.m., at the City Hall Auditorium, 120 108th Ave.

Members may submit paintings on Thursday, Sept. 5, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the City Hall Auditorium. Nonmembers wishing to hang paintings are invited to join at that time.

For information, call Pat Van Leuvan at 328-2342.

Venue Theatre to host open house

PINELLAS PARK – Venue Theatre will host open house events Friday, Sept. 20, 7 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 21, 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Sept. 22, 3 p.m., at 9125 U.S. 19 N.

The open house events will celebrate Venue Theatre's upcoming 2013-14 theater season. The celebration will allow attendees to become better acquainted with the exciting things happening at Venue Theatre.

The event is free, however reservations are required. For reservations, call 822-6194 or email to VenueActorStudio@gmail.com.

STARS NOMINEES, from page 3B

house

- Karyn Lorenzetti, "Sordid Lives," Gulfport Community Players
- Velda Gauthier, "The Dixie Swim Club," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Michelle Procida, "Lend Me a Tenor," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Tara Fuller, "The Importance of Being Earnest," West Coast Players

Favorite Director – Musical

- Rocco Morabito, "The Producers," Eight O'Clock Theatre
- Jason Fortner, "Crazy for You," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- James Grenelle, "9 to 5," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Jamie Bierchen, "Fiddler on the Roof," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts

Favorite Director – Drama

- Gary L. Smith, "Hollywood Arms," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Olga Kruse, "Playboy of the Western World," Gulfport Community Players
- Ron Zietz, "Doubt," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Rick Bronson, "Fourposter," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Linda Woodruff Weir, "The Runner Stumbles," West Coast Players

Favorite Director – Comedy

- Susan Demers, "You Can't Take It With You," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Jim Cartwright, "Sordid Lives," Gulfport Community Players
- Jim Russell, "The Sensuous Senator," St. Petersburg City Theatre

tersburg City Theatre

- Rick Hite, "Lend Me a Tenor," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Tom Costello, "The Boys in the Band," West Coast Players

Favorite Musical Production

- "The Producers," Eight O'Clock Theatre
- "Fiddler on the Roof," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- "9 to 5," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- "Fiddler on the Roof," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts

Favorite Dramatic Production

- "Hollywood Arms," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- "Playboy of the Western World," Gulfport Community Players
- "Doubt," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- "Fourposter," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- "The Runner Stumbles," West Coast Players

Favorite Comedy Production

- "Is He Dead?," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- "Sordid Lives," Gulfport Community Players
- "The Sensuous Senator," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- "Lend Me a Tenor," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- "The Red Velvet Cake Wars," West Coast Players

Favorite Choral/Orchestra Director

- Emi Stefanov, "The Producers," Eight O'Clock Theatre
- Jason Tucker, "Fiddler on the Roof," Francis Wilson Playhouse

- Latoya McCormick, "9 to 5," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Constantine Graham, "Fiddler on the Roof," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts

Favorite Choreographer

- Ronnie DeMarco, "The Producers," Eight O'Clock Theatre
- Amy Phillips, "Crazy for You," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- James Grenelle, "9 to 5," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Jane Russell Geddings, "Fiddler on the Roof," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts

Favorite Set Design

- Dalton Hamilton, "Lost at Sea," Eight O'Clock Theatre
- Jason Fortner, "Fiddler on the Roof," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Siobhan Archard, "To Kill a Mockingbird," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Warren Sodd, "No Sex Please, We're British," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Tom Costello, "The Boys in the Band," West Coast Players

Favorite Costume Design

- Shawn Ryan, "Lost at Sea," Eight O'Clock Theatre
- Terri Rick, "Crazy for You," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Jacquie Padgett, "Playboy of the Western World," Gulfport Community Players
- Gillian Bertrand, "To Kill a Mockingbird," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Micki Bronson, "Fiddler on the Roof," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Rosalyn Savel, "The Importance of Being Earnest," West Coast Players

Favorite Lighting Design

- Dalton Hamilton, "The Producers," Eight O'Clock Theatre
- Dalton Hamilton, "Fiddler on the Roof," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Wes Reid, "To Kill a Mockingbird," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Marc Jump, "Fiddler on the Roof," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Mike Arnold, "Luv," West Coast Players

Favorite Back Stage Person

- Betsy Byrd, Eight O'Clock Theatre
- Liz Werlin, Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Sabrina Hamilton, St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Helene MacNeal, Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Rosalyn Savel, West Coast Players

Favorite Young Actor

- Ashton Sarlo, "Lost at Sea," Eight O'Clock Theatre
- Thomas Rowell, "Pippin," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Ashton Sarlo, "To Kill a Mockingbird," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Andrew Larson, "Fiddler on the Roof," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts

Favorite Young Actress

- Maggie Musco, "Lost at Sea," Eight O'Clock Theatre
- Paige Crockett, "Hollywood Arms," Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Carlita Bodimer, "To Kill a Mockingbird," St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Melanie Rusoff, "Fiddler on the Roof," Tarpon Springs Performing Arts

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month!

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September 19, 2013

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- Networking Information
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1. House Sales

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Property Values Are Up
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Davis Suncoast Realty
(727)595-7592

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Seminole Schools, \$189,900.
\$9,500 Down, \$942/Month.
Beautiful 3BR/2BA/2CG.
New Roof and wood flooring.
Drive by 8730 140th St, N.
Then call (727)392-5063.

NORTH ST. PETERSBURG LAKEFRONT
3BR/1BA, needs updating.
Great opportunity! \$75,000!
Owner financing!
6148 58th Avenue N.
(727)599-9209

ST PETERSBURG
3BR/2BA, Only one owner. Looks brand new. 3750 57th Avenue North. \$175,000. Owner financing.
(727)599-9209

DUNEDIN BARRINGTON HILLS
Custom Built 3BR/BA/2CG
2,133SF, Big Yard, Room for Pool.
Equity Pro Realty, Rosalyn Carlton
(727)644-0400

CLEARWATER, 1138 HOWARD ST.
2BR/1BA, Single Family. Short Distance From Beach. Lease or Sell.
\$1,250 Down. \$673/Mo.
(877)500-9517.

10. Waterfront Sales

ON LAKE SEMINOLE PENINSULA
2BR/2BA Condo. Water View From Every Room & Party Deck. Fireplace, Garage & Gated. \$115,000. Virgil Sweet, Charles Rutenberg Realty,
(727)410-1205.

TARA CAY SOUND
Seminole Waterfront Community Townhome w/Upgrades. 3BR/4BA, Family Room. \$204,900.
(727)560-5626
Charles Rutenberg Realty
Open House Sat-Sun, 11-3.
14649 Seminole Trail

15. Beach Property

DAN'S ISLAND
2BR/2BA, Direct Gulf Front Corner Unit. Small Pets OK. 1,610SF. Equity Pro Realty, Rosalyn Carlton
(727)644-0400

20. Condo Sales

SEMINOLE GARDENS!
Sales & Rentals
Robert G. Castles, P.A. Broker
(727)319-8229
www.seminolegardens.com

SHIPWATCH: 2BR/2BA
With Many Updates & View of Intracoastal & Gulf. Won't Last Long! \$199,900. Call For Private Showing. Shipwatch Realty,
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(727)596-6508.

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SHIPWATCH: 2BR/2BA
With Many Updates & View of Intracoastal & Gulf. Won't Last Long! \$199,900. Call For Private Showing. Shipwatch Realty,
www.ShipwatchRealty.com
(727)596-6508.

20. Condo Sales

SEMINOLE
5/Minutes from Beach. For sale. Refurbished 1BR/1BA, One Story, 55+, Pool, Rec. Room. No Pets \$35,900.
(727)515-5871.

55+ SEMINOLE VILLA, 1BR/1BA,
Carport, 4 Minutes To Beach, Low Fees. No Pets or Leasing. \$38,900.
Rebecka Calhoun,
Smith & Associates, (727)204-8891.

LARGO, 55+ 2BR/2BA
w/Florida Room. 1st Floor, Carport, Furnished. Clubhouse & Pool. Recently Painted, Upgraded. No Pets. \$65,000. (252)222-5732, (508)688-7932.

BELLEAIR GARDENS, BELLEAIR Bluffs. Large 1BR/1BA, Model Type Condo. 750SF. Over \$30k in Upscale Upgrades. New: Custom Kitchen Cabinets, Appliances, Tile, Bath, Lanai. Move-In Ready. Covered Parking. No Age Restrictions. Photos Are Available. \$62k. Can Be Sold Furnished. Call (908)358-3950.

SEMINOLE, 2BR/2BA, 55+
Seminole Lake Country Club Area. Attached Garage, Large Lanai, 1,350SF Under Air. \$155,000. Shown By Appointment.
(727)492-5732

35. Mobile Home Sales

SEMINOLE. CLEAN? QUIET? CONVENIENT? EASY TO OWN? YES! Several Homes To Choose From. Starting At \$2,000. Background Check Required. \$60.
Call Now! (727)393-0151

TWELVE OAKS MHP
Great Deals On Prewired Mobile Homes. Priced To Sell! Located In The Heart of Beautiful Seminole. Close To Beaches & Shopping. All Residents 55+. No Pets. No Rentals. Call Mon-Fri, 9AM-4PM. (727)391-6268.

Affordable 55+ Living GLENWOOD ESTATES:
5 Star, Land Owned. All 2-3BR/2BA/2CP, Furnished \$175/Mo. Maint.
12501 Ulmerton Rd., Largo. Brochures Available At Clubhouse.
#5 - 2/2/2, Lake View, \$65,888.
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#85 - 2/2/2, \$65,888.
#109 - 2/2/2 Completely Refurbished, \$89,888.

#123 - 2/2/1 Car Garage & Carport, '93 Jacobsen. New Roof & A/C, \$89,888.
#129 - 2/2/1 w/Extra Drive, \$52,888.

For Viewing Call
IMMAPP Realty Group
John Doles, 727-510-3331

85. Commercial Sales

TAMPA, NEAR FOWLER & FLETCHER
Commercial or Residential

811 127th Avenue East
Lot Size: 125' x 89'
Suitable for
8-Unit Apartment Building
\$85,000

1906 136th Avenue East
Large Lot.
Suitable for
12-Unit Apartment Building
\$125,000

727-599-9209

95. Property Mgmt.

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 dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-639-8777. The Toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

105. Lots & Acreage

LOT IN INGLIS, FLORIDA
Nice lot w/house that needs finishing. Canal in back leads to Gulf. 210 Palm Street, Inglis, Florida \$42,000. (727)599-9209

120. Out of Town Sales

LAKE PANASOFFKEE
Weekender/ Vacation Great Fishing With Dock, Double-Wide On Double Lot, Great For Vacation & Weekends. New Air Conditioner. \$65,000 Firm.
(727)667-1647.

RENTALS

145. Unfurnished Houses

NEAR BAY PINES VA & Madeira Beach. 3BR/2BA/1CG. Includes Trash Service & Cable. Pets OK. \$1,075/Mo. +\$1,075 Security.
(727)393-1628.

3BR/2BA/2CG, Seminole/ Largo
+Office, Screened-in Pool, Shaded, Quiet Area, No Dogs. \$1,950/month. First, Last, Deposit. (727)542-6578

155. Furnished Condos

SEMINOLE GARDENS
2BR/1BA, 1,012SF, 55+, 3rd Floor Elevator. \$800/Month-Yearly. Ridge Seminole Mgmt. Corp.
(727)397-2534

IMMACULATE CONDO STUDIO
Walk to Indian Rocks Beach! Pool, C/H/A, Nonsmoking, Petless. Annual/Season/Vacation. Starts At \$800/mo, Furnished, Utilities Included. (727)742-6455.

SEMINOLE, VILLA MILAN
2BR/2BA, Rear Screened Porch, 3rd Floor Pool View. No Pets. Annual lease. \$800/Month.
Guetzlaff Realty
(727)204-0829, (727)392-233

160. Unfurnished Condos

INDIAN ROCKS, INTRACOASTAL
Water View 2BR/2BA. FREE Cable. Pool, Petless, Non-smoking. \$1,100/Month. 2 Minutes to IRB. (305)354-6830, (727)596-9656

BARDMOOR, 1BR/1BA CONDO
\$695/Month
Guetzlaff Realty
(727)204-0829

2BR/1.5BA TOWNHOUSE
Magnolia Square by Largo Cultural Center. \$750/Mo, Yearly Lease. John Doran Realty, (727)447-9579.

FIVE TOWNS, 55+, 2BR/2BA
1,360SF, end unit with balcony overlooking lake. Carport, W/D in unit, Cable, Pool, Clubhouse. \$875/month + security. Annual Lease. (727)480-0793

SEMINOLE, WILLOWS CONDO,
2BR/2BA, Everything New! Overlooking Pond. Elevator. Pool, Clubhouse. \$900/Mo. (727)804-9174.

BELLEAIR BLUFFS, IMMACULATE
2BR/1BA, 3rd Floor, Elevator, Carport. Near Shopping/ Beach. No Smoking/Pets. \$800/month + security. (727)834-8620

SEMINOLE, THE GARDENS 55+
Next to Seminole Lake Park. 2BR/2BA, 1,250SF, 2 parking spots. Renovated, all new appliances. Cable, pool, clubhouse & tennis court. Nonsmoking, no pets. \$895/mo. annual lease. Call (727)319-6818.

170. Furnished Apts.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING
for OEF/OIF Veterans. No Pets Space is limited. Contact Michelle Patrick (727)442-9041, Ext. 161. michellep@ethop.org

MADEIRA BEACH: 1BRs & Efficiencyes. Fully Equipped. Weekly. No Pets. Includes Utilities. (727)397-4130.

175. Unfurnished Apts.

SEMINOLE GARDENS, 55+.
1BR Standard, Unfurnished, Annual. No Pets. Nonsmokers Only. Robert G. Castles, P.A. Broker. (727)319-8229
www.SeminoleGarden.com

BELLEAIR BLUFFS
Deluxe 1-2BRs, 1st-2nd Floor. Overlooking Non-smoking Center Courtyard w/Beautiful Pool. Great Location 1 Block From Shopping & Intracoastal. 2942 West Bay Dr. Res. Mgr. #1 (727)483-4853.

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AUTUMN CHASE
1 & 2 Bedroom Apartment Homes Starting From \$575 One Month Free with a 14-Month Lease.

Minutes From Beach
(727)586-1473

BELLEAIR GREENS APTS.
2BR/2BA units on Biltmore Golf Course. Newly renovated. Across from police, rec center. (727)365-6821.

BELLEAIR BLUFFS, 2BR/2BA,
Carport. Recently Remodeled. Pool. Close to everything. No Pets. \$800/Month. (727)593-9212

175. Unfurnished Apts.

BELLEAIR BLUFFS
2BR/1BA, Carport, W/D Hook-up, Clean, Quiet, Updated. Cat OK. Includes W/S/G. \$750/Mo.
(727)455-2260.

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

185. Beach Rentals

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH
Cozy, Clean, Furnished Cottages. 1-2BRs starting at \$329/week +tax Steps to Gulf Beach. Pet Friendly. (727)595-3000. www.SunshineCozyCottages.com

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

FURNISHED/UNFURNISHED
1-5 Bedrooms Condos, Houses, Duplexes Weekly/ Monthly/ Annual Bob Schmidt, (727)580-9797 Tropical Isles Realty, Inc. (727)593-0744, (800)655-0744.

SAND KEY: DAN'S ISLAND
Furnished, 2BR/2BA Condo. Beautiful Intracoastal View! \$1,800/Month. Annual. (404)723-5690.

IRB 2BR/1BA CORNER
Condo. 1st Floor On Intracoastal. Close To Beach & Park. Front Door Parking. Pets Okay. \$1,100/Mo. (727)488-1111.

190. Waterfront Rentals

SAND KEY: 3BR/2BA CONDO
\$2,700/Mo. Waterfront, Unfurnished, Balcony, W/D, 2,100SF, Parking, Pool. Annual. Call (727)686-2554

ISLAND ESTATES 2BR/2BA
Condo, Fantastic Water Views, Many Amenities. \$1,350/Month, Annual Rental Vangie (727)501-3268, Pappas Realty & Mgmt

PRESTIGIOUS BELLEAIR STREET
3BR/2BA, updated 1,600SF home w/dock. Small pets, OK. Available now! \$2,000/month. (727)432-2258

195. Seasonal Rentals

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

SAND KEY Clearwater Beach,
Furnished, Large 1BR or 2BR Condo, Pool, Seasonal/ Annual. Monthly Available. Equity Pro Realty, Rosalyn Carlton (727)644-0400.

BELLEAIR, 1BR/1BA, GROUND
Floor, W/D, Recently Updated, Pool, Close to Shopping, Golf. 10/Minutes to Beach. \$1,000/Month. Available January-April. (905)847-7780

200. Vacation Rentals

CLEARWATER BEACH/ BELLEAIR BEACH
2700 Gulf Blvd. Gulf Front 1BR/1BA, 2nd Floor, Corner, Overlooks Pool. Beautifully Furnished, King & Pull Out Couch. Weekly/ Monthly Flat Rate, \$700/ \$2,500. Call Mark, (727)449-9292 (Office).

210. Mobile Hm. Rentals

NEAR BAY PINES VA & Madeira Beach. 1BR w/Florida Room. \$555/Month +\$300 Security. Includes W/S/G, Cable. Pets OK (727)393-1628.

215. Efficiency Rentals

BEAUTIFUL EFFICIENCY
Good area in Dunedin. Furnished. Includes: electric, water, TV/Cable, Internet. Monthly/Weekly Great for family vacation. Up to 3 people-extra. (727)741-8116

225. Duplex/Triplex Rentals

CLEARWATER BEACH 2BR/1BA
\$995/Month +Security. Walk to Beach, Fenced Backyard, Newly Remodeled. Includes Water, Pest Control, Parking. (813)417-6777.

245. Room For Rent

SEEKING FEMALE
Room, Bath, Privileges. Nonsmoker. Largo Area. Must Have Car/ Job. References. \$400/Mo. (727)584-0826.

SAFE, CLEAN, QUIET.
Fully Furnished. Utilities, Cable Included. Deposit, References, ID Required. From \$150/Week. (727)547-1199.

ROOM FOR RENT LARGO
3BR/1.5/BA Townhouse, W/D, All Utilities Included, Pet OK, Fenced Yard. \$450/Month. (727)238-8977.

265. Commercial Rentals

STORAGE GARAGES, 12'X23
and 23'X23' Boat, Trailer, RV Storage. Office/ Warehouse Combo. 1784 N Hercules Ave, Clearwater. (727)422-4995.

OFFICE & RETAIL SPACE
From \$441 Per Month. Ample Parking. Madeira Beach. (727)641-6465.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE: Noon Monday Call 397-5563

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265. Commercial Rentals

LOOKING FOR ACCOUNTANT, CPA, EA, LAWYER OR OTHER
who needs small, private, upstairs office in newly refurbished pristine building, 500' area, two separate offices, outside open deck, private rest room and break room area, small conference room downstairs for clients. \$750/mo. 36 Tropic Blvd. West, Largo, FL 33770. (727)585-0156, Cell (727)804-5860, Craig M. Cotterman, Fiduciary

ST. PETERSBURG RESTAURANT FOR LEASE
Over 5,000 sq. ft., Good for Restaurant, Bar, Club or Bank. 8901 4th Street North. \$10,500/month. Triple net. **727-599-9209**

MISCELLANEOUS

300. Notices

FUNDRAISER
Please pray for my mother, a local Dunedin resident, diagnosed with Lung Cancer. Please read our story & consider supporting our fundraiser for this most remarkable woman at: gofundme.com/manierandazzo

READY, GET SET, GO!
January 25, 2014, five Pinellas County Neighborhood Family Centers will be hosting a 5K and 1K run/walk to raise funds for Healthy Kid Programs. Website for details: www.poundthepavement5k.org

301. Clinical Study

IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME (IBS)
Are Diarrhea and Abdominal Discomfort putting a cramp in your lifestyle? Diarrhea, abdominal discomfort and bloating may be signs of irritable bowel syndrome (IBS). If you have IBS, you may be eligible for a research study enrolling now. If you qualify for this study, you may receive at no cost: Investigational medication for IBS; study related care from a local doctor; compensation for time and travel. Contact Joann at: Florida Center for Gastroenterology (727) 544-1600 or email clinicalstudies@tampabaygi.com for more information. 8250 Bryan Dairy Road, Suite 200, Largo

305. Fun Things To Do

GROUP CRUISE FROM TAMPA
6 Day, 5 Night, Feb. 17-22, 2014 Inside Cabin \$290 +Port Taxes, Outside Cabin \$340 +Port Taxes. Contact Dick, (727)345-4323 or dicklaneau05@gmail.com

AT YOUR SERVICE

355. Adoption

ARE YOU PREGNANT?
A Childless, Married Couple, (in our 30s) seeks to adopt. Will be hands on Mom and devoted Dad. Financially secure. Expenses paid. Nicole & Frank. 1(888)969-6134. FL BAR #0150789.

360. Legal Service

ALL DIVORCES \$150
Plus Filing Fee & Costs (727)768-2283

435. Adult Care & Svcs.

CAREGIVER/ CNA: RELIABLE
Home Health Care. 28 years experience. Excellent local references. (727)434-1324

Great Deals Are In The Classifieds!!

485. Help Wanted

PT RECEPTIONIST NEEDED
for Investment Firm in Seminole. Approximately 25 hours per week. Duties include answering telephone, booking appointments & miscellaneous other duties. \$11/hour. Email resume to: admin@qbenware.com

PHARMACIST, LARGO, FL
Review phys orders; prep compounds/dispense meds; eval patient med/rec/med hist to dispense appropr drugs/dosages. Req: Doctor of Pharmacy deg (or foreign equiv. deg.) in Pharmacy, Pharm. Sci., or related + have knowledge of dispensing and drug dosage formulation. FL Pharmacist license required. Send resume/cover letter to Edwards Pharmacy of Indian Rocks, LLC, 12071 Indian Rocks Road, Largo, FL 33774

BELLEAIR BLUFFS BARBER
Shop Has Booth Available For Rent. Must Have Following. Call (727)584-8181.

SENIORS NEEDED EXTRA CASH?
Part-time Sales Work, Choice of Various Items. Call (727)798-7834

505. Part-Time Help

P/T LIBRARY ASSISTANT I
Immediate position available for specialized technical and clerical support duties within our City Library. Exceptional customer service skills required, along with cataloging and circulation systems experience. Must be computer proficient and available to work evenings and Saturdays. For additional information visit our website at www.mylgulfport.us. Min. Req.: H.S. Diploma, supplemented by 2 years of specific experience in library automation systems. Entry: \$9.77 P/H. Background, drug screen, and physical will be conducted. Apply to: City Hall, 2401 53rd Street So., Gulfport, FL or via fax at (727)893-1005. E.O.E.

520. Sales Help

WANTED
Real Estate Sales Mgr needed for a busy beach office. Must be an experienced licensed real estate broker. Prefer non smoker. Send resume confidentially to todd@plumleeproperties.com

plumlee
gulf beach realty

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