

# Zoning hearing held

Second public hearing planned for proposal to allow craft breweries in M-1 zoning district. ... Page 6A.

# SEMINOLE BEACON

## 'Grudge Match,' 'The Secret Life of Walter Mitty' to open

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



Volume XXXV, No. 38

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December 26, 2013

### ENTERTAINMENT



Victor Wooten performs at the Largo Cultural Center Friday, Jan. 3. ... Page 2B.

### SEMINOLE

## Rec Center plans Lightning day trip

Join the Seminole Recreation Center for a day trip to see the Tampa Bay Lightning take on the San Jose Sharks Saturday, Jan. 18. The trip leaves from the Holland G. Mangum Recreation Complex, 9100 113th St. N., at 12:15 p.m. and will return at 6 p.m.

... Page 3A.

### BEACHES

## St. Pete Beach OKs sewage pump

City commissioners took a giant step toward fixing the city's crippled sewage system Dec. 19 by approving \$528,000 for the installation of new pumps at Master Pump Station No. 1.

... Page 5A.

### OUTDOORS

## Dolphin Watch

People who have lived in the same town for a long time have an exacting way to acknowledge their long-term friends and acquaintances. Ride with them as a passenger sometime. Watch how, when they drive past a friend going in the opposite direction, they either raise all four fingers off the steering wheel briefly or nod faintly by raising the chin. The pure subtlety of these greeting gestures broadcasts their great familiarity with their community.

... Page 8A.

### COMMUNITY

## Local author

Author and longtime Largo resident Laura L. Sullivan could be described as a children's novelist; her middle school fantasies "Under the Green Hill" and "Guardian of the Green Hill" are among her best-known work. But the description doesn't cover the scope of genres Sullivan writes within.

... Page 14A.

### VIEWPOINTS

## Debra Saunders

Drug offender's sentence was excessive, columnist says.

... Page 15A.



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Photo by BOB McCLURE

The Central Beach Trail in Treasure Island has been plagued by cracks since it first opened in March.

## Results of Beach Trail study due Jan. 21

By BOB McCLURE

TREASURE ISLAND - The attorney for consultant Phil Graham told city commissioners Dec. 17 that he would present results of a study Jan. 21 on the cause of cracks in the city's \$1.2 million Central Beach Trail.

Kent Whittemore said results of a petrographic study, which examines the makeup of the trail concrete, would not be complete until the end of the year. He said between the holidays and the time necessary to present a report, the earliest date he could bring something to the City Commission would be in mid- to late-January.

"We have obtained the needed permits, completed the field work, obtained the core samples and patched the core areas," said Whittemore. "The analysis of the core samples is currently underway. We anticipate the testing for the petrographic analysis of the cores will be complete and the results will be available by the end of the year. At that point, we will review and evaluate results and complete our report on the project."

Mayor Bob Manning asked when the city could anticipate receiving the report.

"I don't think it's going to be much longer than that (end of the year)," Whittemore said. "Unfortunately, we have Christmas and New Year's around the corner. But I'm pushing them (engineering firm). They're aware of how important it is to the city and my client."

Commissioner Phil Collins asked if the first meeting in January would be a possibility. Whittemore said it would be difficult.

Commissioner Alan Bildz said he believed the second meeting of the month (Jan. 21) would be more possible.

"If you want me to be here on the 21st, I'll be here on the 21st," said Whittemore.

"With the report?" Bildz asked.

Whittemore said most likely, but wouldn't guarantee a full report.

"Part of the issue is litigation which has been threatened (by the city)," Whittemore said. "So one of the things we have to evaluate is what the report says. We would like to disclose everything, but because of the threat of litigation I have to wait and see how it is phrased, what it says. I will give you a report by the 21st. I'm not going to tell you right now that I'm going to give you a copy of the report the engineers provide me. I'm just trying

See BEACH TRAIL, page 4A

## Spreading holiday cheer



Photo by JIM LAYFIELD

The Seminole High School Warhawks took first place in the Pinellas Park Holiday Parade's high school marching band competition on Dec. 14. For more parade photos, see Page 10A.

## Watering restrictions start Dec. 26

By SUZETTE PORTER

Beginning Dec. 26, Pinellas County residents must go back to a once-a-week watering schedule.

The Southwest Florida Water Management District's Governing Board declared a Phase II Water Shortage Dec. 17. Due to reduced river levels and increasing water supply concerns, the board voted to implement one-day-per-week watering restrictions in the Tampa Bay area. Hours when watering is allowed also is reduced.

Restrictions for lawn watering will be in effect throughout Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties through at least March 1, 2014.

"We are asking residents to be prudent with their

water use, especially outdoor irrigation, at this time," Swiftmud Chairman Carlos Beruff said. "During the winter months you can often skip a week or more, as most lawns and landscape plants do not need as much water."

Pinellas County Utilities customers using potable, well, lake or pond water may irrigate one day a week (Monday to Friday) before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m. according to the following schedule:

- Addresses ending in 0 or 1 may only water on Mondays
- Addresses ending in 2 or 3 may only water on Tuesdays

See WATER, page 7A

## Council approves funds for roadway resurfacing project

By TIFFANY RAZZANO

SEMINOLE - At its Dec. 17 meeting, the City Council approved the use of approximately \$100,000 in Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funds for the resurfacing of several Seminole roadways in 2014.

Through its pavement management system, the Public Works Department analyzed city streets and identified those in need of maintenance in the new year: 87th Avenue, 108th Street, 110th Street, 111th Street, Temple Terrace, Valencia Terrace, Freedom Boulevard and Temple Avenue.

"Most of them are east and northeast of City Hall," said City Manager Frank Edmunds.

Each year, Public Works physically inspects roadway surfaces throughout the city to determine those in need of work, said Jeremy Hockenbury, Public Works director.

The city of Seminole currently piggybacks on the contract Manatee County has with Asphalt Paving Systems for roadway repair and preservation. APS has submitted a proposal for \$99,999.02 to the city per a pre-determined contract pricing schedule. The city sets aside \$100,000 annually for the resurfacing.

The two-part process will begin in early 2014, either January or February, Hockenbury said. First, cracks in the roads will be sealed. Then, after this work is allowed to set for a couple of months, APS comes back to micro pave the roads, which leaves behind a smooth topcoat.

"This is the more cost-effective way," Hockenbury said. "[Crack sealing] keeps the base from failing from water intrusion and micro paving preserves the road and the base."

In other action items, the council:

- approved the sale of beer and/or wine by a Seminole-based nonprofit organization at the 2014 Pow Wow Festival, which will be held Friday, March 7 through Sunday, March 9.
- authorized the purchase of two 2013 Ford Transit Connect utility vans for Public Works. The vans, purchased from Bartow Ford by way of a city of Tampa competitively solicited bid, will cost \$28,139 each and \$56,278 total, and will be purchased with CIP funds.

## Redington Beach OKs fitness camp

By MELINDA GREENE

REDINGTON BEACH - Town commissioners gave their approval Dec. 17 for the use of Town Hall for a JumpStart Fit Camp.

The camp is an all-day event that begins at 6:30 a.m. and runs until 3 p.m.

Most of the activities will take place on the beach, but event organizer, Jodi Jantomaso, a former Redington Beach resident, came before the commission seeking permission to use Town Hall, in particular its kitchen facilities, for food preparation and storage.

The commission was amenable to the request but had asked that certain requirements be met before agreeing to donate the space.

Although Jantomaso was not present at last week's meeting, she prepared a proposal in which she agreed to pay the town a refundable \$200 cleaning and damage fee and a \$22 per hour staffing fee for a maximum of four hours.

The cost to attend is \$99 and most of the day's proceeds, according to Jantomaso, will go toward the Caregiving Youth Project, a nonprofit organization that offers help and support to teenagers who are the sole caretakers of their terminally ill or disabled, single parents.

Included in the day's events are a beach hike, exercises, games, prizes and a cooking demonstration plus a 45-minute post-event fitness evaluation.

There will be morning energy snacks, an organic brunch and an afternoon smoothie bar.

Dr. Stacey Robinson, a St. Petersburg physician in private practice, will deliver a talk on "Gut Health and Reducing Inflammation."

The itinerary is geared for participants at all levels of physical fitness.

In other matters, Public Works Director Mark Davis informed the commission via memo that he recently contacted additional contractors for bids on replacement of the storm drain near 155th Avenue and Redington Drive.

The current drainpipe is 12 inches wide and 120 feet in length and considered undersized and outdated in design.

Compounding the problem is that it empties into a thicket of mangroves instead of Boca Ciega Bay. The pipe fills with sand and other debris, causing street flooding during heavy rains.

State laws protect mangroves and removing or cutting them often requires going through much red tape.

The new pipe also will need a new seawall for proper support - an additional factor that will be included in the project's overall cost.

Keystone Excavators, last month, tendered a bid of \$34,200 for the project.

In addition, Davis has cited a problematic drain located on Sixth Street, which also will need to be addressed at the same time.

The commission plans to discuss the project and entertain any additional bids after the new year.

Another matter requiring attention, though not as imminent, is the need to replace the north seawall at the 161st Avenue causeway.

For this, the town recently received a bid of \$164,750 from Gibson Marine Construction; this estimate was acquired by happenstance while the company was working nearby on another project.

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## Around Seminole

### Zumba Glow Bash set

SEMINOLE – The Holland G. Mangum Recreation Complex, 9100 113th St. N., is hosting a Zumba Glow Bash on Friday, Dec. 27, 6 to 8 p.m. Join local Zumba instructors and light up the dance floor with a variety of Latin rhythms. Cost is \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. This event is appropriate for all ages and abilities. For additional information, call 391-8345.

### Registration underway for Group Fitness Challenge

SEMINOLE – The city's Recreation Division is registering participants for the second Seminole's Group Fitness Challenge, which runs from Thursday, Jan. 2 through Friday, Jan. 31, at the Holland G. Mangum Recreation Complex, 9100 113th St. N. Cost for the program is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers. Price includes a calendar of free fitness classes, and bingo cards for a T-shirt and other weekly prizes. Call 391-8345 for more information.

### Sunday Musicales set

SEMINOLE – The Friends of the Seminole Library presents its next Sunday Musicales, Sunday, Jan. 12, 3 p.m., at the Seminole Community Library, 9200 113th St. This month's event will feature The Toy Boat Band with vocalist Linda Jane. This event is free and open to the public.

### Senior luncheon planned

SEMINOLE – The city's "Tropical Oasis" senior luncheon will be held Tuesday, Jan. 14, at the Holland G. Mangum Recreation Complex, 9100 113th St. N. Keith Coleman, "The Beach Guy," will perform. The Clubhouse Restaurant will provide the luncheon's meal, which will consist of ham and all the fixings. Tickets are \$7 and must be purchased by Friday, Jan. 10. Recreation card not needed. Contact Kristyn at 391-8345 for more information.

### Rec Center plans day trip to Lightning game

SEMINOLE – Join the Seminole Recreation Center for a day trip to see the Tampa Bay Lightning take on the San Jose Sharks Saturday, Jan. 18. The trip leaves from the Holland G. Mangum Recreation Complex, 9100 113th St. N., at 12:15 p.m. and will return at 6 p.m. Cost is \$52 for members and \$57 for nonmembers. Price includes transportation, club endzone ticket and parking. Contact Kristyn at 391-8345 for more information.

### Children's martial arts program offered

SEMINOLE – The Holland G. Mangum Recreation Complex, 9100 113th St. N., offers a martial arts program for children ages 5 through 12 on Mondays, 6:45 to 7:30 p.m. Master Ryan Dean, a 7th degree black belt Okinawan instructor who teaches at the Dojo Academy in Largo, leads classes. Cost is \$45 per month for members and \$67.50 per month for nonmembers. For more information, call 391-8345.

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### Free West Coast Swing dance lessons offered

SEMINOLE – Free West Coast Swing dance lessons are offered on Fridays, 6 p.m., at Crystal Blue Ballroom, 10527 Park Blvd. N. Lessons are free for anyone under the age of 30. Call Renee at 698-0171 for more information.

### Youth basketball league registration underway

SEMINOLE – Registration for the City of Seminole Recreation Division's annual youth basketball league will run through the last week of January. Registration is open for boys and girls 9- to 14-years-old. The season runs from January through May. Cost for the league is \$80 for recreation members and \$120 for nonmembers. There also will be a noncompetitive instructional basketball program for children 7- and 8-years-old. The cost for this program is \$40 for recreation members and \$60 for nonmembers. The basketball program is also looking for volunteer basketball coaches. Call 397-6085 or visit www.myseminole.com for more information.

### Seminole Recreation offers new Family Yoga, Hip Hop classes

SEMINOLE – Two new classes are offered at the Holland G. Mangum Recreation Complex, 9100 113th St. N. Family Yoga takes place Fridays, 6 to 7 p.m., and Hip Hop takes place Wednesdays, 6:15 to 7 p.m. Family Yoga is for ages 3 years and older. Strengthen family bonds and cultivate strength with this yoga practice that is especially designed for everyone in the family. Cost for members is \$5 per person per class and \$7.50 for nonmembers. Hip Hop classes are for children ages 6 to 10. Children will develop coordination, balance, and increase self-confidence while learning new and hip dances. Cost for members is \$40 per month and \$60 for nonmembers. For more information, call 391-8345.

### 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 for more information.

## Kiwanis serve Special Olympians



Photo courtesy of KADI TUBBS

The Kiwanis Club of Seminole Breakfast provided lunch for approximately 200 Special Olympians, coaches and parents on Dec. 7. The club members grilled hot dogs and served chips, apples and soft drinks to the Olympians. Since the early 1980s the Kiwanis Club of Seminole Breakfast has been sponsoring this event. In June, Pinellas County Special Olympics presented the club with the Emily Brazeal Award, which recognizes individuals and groups that have supported Special Olympics in the county. Pictured, from left, are club members David Green, event chairman Jim Allen, Loren Price and Bob Root serving lunch to individuals with the Special Olympics

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Follow The Beacon

# Bookstore owner believes in the personal touch

By FRANK DROUZAS

LARGO – In the age of electronic readers, gargantuan chain stores and online retail sites, independent used bookstores are becoming endangered species. Yet Book Bank is one such store that's still managing to keep its head above water.

The store, at 13002 Seminole Blvd., first opened in Largo Mall in 1992 but moved across the street to the Piccadilly Square plaza two and a half years ago. Though about half the size of its original location, it still feels spacious as light floods in through the glass door and windows and fills the 2,000-square-foot shop with Florida sunshine.

Amy Schmaedeke, the owner since 1998, believes her store provides a warm, inviting ambience for her customers.

"It's a very pleasant atmosphere. There's no stress or hassle. People come in because they want to relax and browse," she said.

She admitted that she has noticed a definite decline in business.

"We are the last independent bookstore in this area," she said.

Schmaedeke speculated that the steady rise of e-readers is a big reason why so many used bookstores are disappearing. She also counted the onslaught of Internet retailers over the past several years as another reason why the relatively few small book stores still around are having a tough time staying afloat.

Furthermore, corporate chain stores pose another obstacle for mom-and-pop operations like Book Bank. Often people gravitate to these super stores to not just pick up the latest Dan Brown offering, but to shop for toys, games, music, electronics and DVDs.

So aside from used books, what is it that small stores can offer the consumer that perhaps the big stores like Barnes & Noble and Books-A-Million can't?

"Personal customer service," Schmaedeke replied without hesitation. "We have more time for the customer."

Schmaedeke, with her soft, friendly voice and smiling brown eyes, is a people person who loves her job. Originally from Malaysia, she moved to Europe and lived in Germany for 20 years, but never got used to the cold weather. Seeking a balmy climate, she finally moved to sunny Florida in 1997.

"I love the beach! That's why I came to Florida," she said. "Malaysia and Florida are not that different. I grew up by the ocean. I love swimming."

But as much as she loves the outdoors, she believes that spending so much time surrounded by books has been quite rewarding for her.

"It's like getting a free college education," she said, and laughed. "I'm now probably a Ph.D. I've learned so much from reading, whether it's business, history, cooking, whatever."

She also has an affinity for learning languages.

"I speak fluent German, a little French and a little Spanish," she said.

As for all the genres of books she stocks, Schmaedeke affirmed that romance sells the best, but suspense/mystery novels are not far behind. Though most of Book Bank's roughly 30,000 titles are used, it does carry a sizeable portion of new fiction, nonfiction and children's books that arrive on the release date.

The store issues credit for trade-ins and will offer anywhere from 5



Owner Amy Schmaedeke, left, helps a customer at Book Bank, a used bookstore at 13002 Seminole Blvd., in Largo.

cents to two dollars of credit per book. The staff is also happy to do special orders for new and used books.

Occasionally the store holds events such as book signings, which have included some well-known authors autographing books and spending actual face time with booklovers.

"Tim Dorsey comes once every year," Schmaedeke said cheerfully, and mentioned that his next appearance will be in February 2014.

In an increasingly digital world where readers can summon the Scottish moors of Macbeth, the Mississippi River of Huck Finn and the magical world of Harry Potter just by tapping smartphone screens, Schmaedeke is glad that some folks still seek the human touch.

"I love the fact that we have a lot of repeat customers, very loyal customers that have been coming to see us ever since the store opened over 20 years ago," she said, smiling. "Seeing familiar faces is always nice."

Contact Book Bank at books@bookbankusa.com or 588-0474.

## Here and There

### Countryside hosts biography film series

CLEARWATER – The Countryside Library, 2741 S.R. 580, will host its 2014 Big Screen Biography film series.

The films will be shown every Wednesday at 2 p.m.

The topics and dates are as follows:

- Jan. 8 – Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- Jan. 15 – Rachel Carson
- Jan. 22 – Roberto Clemente
- Jan. 29 – Sir Edmund Hillary
- Feb. 5 – David Bowie
- Feb. 12 – Susan Boyle
- Feb. 19 – Edward R. Murrow
- Feb. 26 – Louis Armstrong
- March 5 – Graham Greene
- March 12 – Zora Neale Hurston
- March 19 – Claude Monet
- March 26 – Elvis Presley
- April 2 – Nefertiti
- April 9 – Whitney Houston
- April 16 – Archimedes
- April 23 – Admiral Chester Nimitz
- April 30 – Nikola Tesla
- May 7 – I.M. Pei
- May 14 – Frederick Olmstead
- May 21 – Aldous Huxley
- May 28 – Agatha Christie
- June 4 – Ben & Jerry's
- June 11 – Will Smith
- June 18 – Arnold Schwarzenegger
- June 25 – Harlem Globetrotters

### Parkinson's support group meets

LARGO – The Starkey Parkies, a Parkinson's Support Group, meets Thursday, Jan. 2, 1:30 to 3 p.m., at Grand Villa, 750 Starkey Road.

The support group is under the direction of Marcy McCall, a patient advocate and education and research writer for the Parkinson's Research Foundation.

The meeting includes a program, refreshments, socialization and fellowship.

### Conference on World Affairs set for Feb. 13-15

ST. PETERSBURG – The second annual St. Petersburg Conference on World Affairs, a cooperative venture of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg together with a group of civic-minded area residents headed by U.S. Ambassador Douglas McElhane, will be held Feb. 13-15 at the University Student Center in downtown St. Petersburg.

Panels of diplomats, military, media, and academic experts, will discuss critical international issues of the day. The public is cordially

See **HERE AND THERE**, page 12A

### BEACH TRAIL, from page 1A

to be candid and straight forward with the Commission."

Collins said litigation is the last thing the city wants.

"We on this board, myself and my colleagues, have a great number of people we need to answer to as well," said Collins. "Hopefully a decision can come on this soon and it's something both sides can live with."

Minning took it a step further and asked Whittemore to be prepared to present resolutions, not just a cause.

"It's one thing to understand the cause but I would hope at the meeting on the 21st that you're prepared to present to the city an alternative that ranges from do nothing to completely tear it up," said Minning. "If there's something in between, I think it's imperative at the meeting on the 21st that you be prepared to present that. That's because we're interested in a solution. You guys are interested in a cause."

"I hear you," said Whittemore. "I don't know what my schedule is for the 21st. I will either be here or have a written report ready for you. We're not going to drop the ball and ignore it. We will do our best to get what you need."

In the meantime, Whittemore said Graham has met with officials at Billmore Construction Co., contractor for the trail, to discuss possible fixes.

The Beach Trail, which extends from the Bilmar Beach Resort north to the Residence Inn by the Marriott, opened in March and within three weeks cracks appeared in the walkway and walls.

Slowly, the number began to increase. Graham said his team's count in October had the number at 265.

Graham, president of Phil Graham Landscape Architecture, provided design services for the trail. Coastal Technology Corp. provided structural engineering services.

### Variance OK'd

City commissioners granted a variance Dec. 17, allowing Britts Pizza, 10709 Gulf Blvd., to continue parking cars in front of the business.

Under terms of the variance, Britts' must give up one parking space on Gulf Boulevard, going from five to four spaces. For safety reasons, the four spaces must be angled at 75 degrees and be used only for compact vehicles.

Last March, the owners of Britts' built a wood deck outside the business, next to the parking area on Gulf Boulevard before receiving approval from the city. The deck forced the move of five parking spaces from near the front door, closer to Gulf Boulevard.

The deck provided additional seating for the restaurant, which increased the number of parking spaces necessary under city code to 38.

In May, the city passed a parking variance cutting that number to 35. In August, the city's Planning and Zoning Board expressed concerns over the safety of having five parking spaces so close to Gulf Boulevard. At that time, the board suggested a switch to four angled spaces and narrowing the deck from 8 to 5 feet.

The board later reversed itself and allowed the 8-foot deck.

### Site plan extension

Commissioners passed a resolution allowing a six-month extension

of a site plan approval for a duplex under construction at 10348 Gulf Blvd.

Margaret Kurpe explained to city staff that her husband, Paul Kurpe, has been traveling quite a bit domestically and internationally for business and the couple has not had time to complete building plans with the designer.

The Kurpes originally received a 12-month site plan approval Dec. 20, 2012.

### Drainage work

Commissioners awarded a contract for \$255,315 to Kamminga and Roodvoets Inc., of Tampa for drainage improvements in Sunset Beach.

The area affected sits between West Gulf Boulevard, Bayshore Boulevard, 81st Avenue and the intersection of West Gulf Boulevard and Bayshore Boulevard to the north.

The city will be responsible for 50 percent of the cost with the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

### Bridge update

The new bridge to the Isle of Palms will be finished in a few days but faulty railing on the south side of the bridge will not be replaced until mid-January. For that reason, the bridge will remain open temporarily to a single lane of traffic.

The work will take about 10 days to complete, said Public Works Director Jim Murphy.

The city is tentatively planning bridge dedications for the Palms and Capri bridges on the same day toward the end of January. No date has been set.

## Beach briefs

### Photo seminar set at Seabird Sanctuary

INDIAN SHORES – Photographers will have an opportunity to learn a few pointers from photographer Michael Leonard Saturday Dec. 28, noon to 4 p.m., at the Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary, 18328 Gulf Blvd.

The event is open to the public – any age. Beginners with new cameras especially welcome.

Those participating will come away understanding important concepts about a digital camera like white balance, image size, lighting, file types and other tips that improve photography.

Suggested donations are \$15 per person and \$25 per family.

Proceeds will go to the Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary need your support. All funds received for this one day event are guaranteed to go exclusively for helping to support the seabird population at the sanctuary.

Leonard is an award winning photographer from Portland, Maine. He has done work for National Geographic Wild and the Weather Channel, is active in photography clubs, the Photographic Society of America, member of North American Photoshop Professionals, leads an Adobe User Group, active in Photo Safaris and his work can be seen calendars, television advertising, annual reports, maps, text books, and in many tourist magazines in Maine.

For more information, contact Mike Leonard at 207-253-2250, 207-846-4897 or 207-615-9250.

### Beaches Chamber plans candidates forum

ST. PETE BEACH – The Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce plans a candidates forum for Congressional District 13 seat Monday, Jan. 6, 8:30 a.m., at the TradeWinds Island Resort.

Republican primary candidates expected are Mark Bircher, David Jolly and Kathleen Peters.

Others candidates include independent Michael Levinson and Libertarian Lucas Overby.

Since this is a primary forum, Democratic candidate Alex Sink will not be present.

The Republican primary is March 11.

RSVP by contacting Doug at 360-6957 or Doug@TampaBayBeaches.com.

### Best of Lights winners named

SOUTH PASADENA –The City of South Pasadena Beautification Committee selected the following winners and runner ups for the 2013 Best of Lights Contest:

- Single Family, first place, Ray and Jamie McPherson 6907 Grande Vista Way S.; Runner-up, Donald Davis, 7057 Sunset Dr. S.
- Multi-dwelling, first place, Shore Crest Condo-

miniums, 1847 Shore Drive S.; runner-up, Shore Plaza Condominiums, 1893 Shore Drive S.

- Commercial, first place, Health & Rehabilitation Centre at Dolphins View, 1820 Shore Drive S.; runner-up, Ten Pin Lanes, 1453 Pasadena Ave. S.

Framed certificates will be presented to the winners and runners-ups at the city's regular commission meeting on Jan. 14, 7 p.m.

### Safe boating class offered in Madeira

MADEIRA BEACH – The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 11-3 plans monthly safe boating classes through the end of the year at its headquarters at 299 Boca Ciega Drive.

Classes meet the first Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost is \$40 per person. The next class meets Saturday, Jan. 4.

Others classes are offered Feb. 1 and March 1.

The classes are open to the public and recommended for anyone who owns a boat, a personal watercraft, anyone interested in purchasing a boat or anyone who wants to learn safe boating practices.

Classes cover subjects such as navigating the waterways, operating a boat safely, legal regulations, what to do in an emergency, getting to know your boat and information you need to know before getting underway.

Anyone born after Jan. 1, 1988 must take a boating safety course and have a valid boating certificate and a photo ID while operating a vessel.

Experienced U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary instructors teach all classes.

For more information, call 391-5185.

### Saltwater fishing class planned

MADEIRA BEACH – Charter boat captain David Zalewski plans a 5-week recreational fishing course beginning Wednesday, Jan. 8, at the Madeira Beach City Marina, 503 150th Ave.

Each session will meet on Wednesday from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Some of the subjects to be covered include selection and use of tackle, electronics, bottom fishing, both live bait and hardware trolling, artificial reefs, and cleaning and cooking fish.

Class size is limited. The fee is \$50.

For reservations, call 397-8815 or email Lucky too2@aol.com.

### Friday market opens in Treasure Island

TREASURE ISLAND – The annual Friday Morning Market is underway at Treasure Island Community Park and will continue through early April.

The event, which features a variety of vendors, is open each Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Admission is free.

### Masters swim program set at Aquatics Center

ST. PETE BEACH – Are you interested in participating in your first triathlon, but have little swimming background? Were you a swimmer in high school, but haven't gotten into the pool since? Are you a top-notch triathlete looking for technique work and stroke analysis? If so, join a diverse group of swimmers for early morning workouts and coaches on deck at every practice.

Try a workout for free your first time. Contact Christie Bruner to reserve a spot at 727-637-7913.

Cost is \$30 pool fee and \$40 coaching fee due on the first of each month. Participants must have current U.S. Masters registration.

Classes are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 5:30 to 7 a.m. at the City of St. Pete Beach Family Aquatic Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Drive.

### Beaches Chamber dinner slated

ST. PETE BEACH – The Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce will host its annual dinner on Thursday, Jan. 9, at the TradeWinds Island Grand Resort, 5500 Gulf Blvd.

The event begins with a cocktail reception and business expo at 4:30 p.m., followed by the program and dinner at 6 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi, who is serving as the state's first female attorney general after serving more than 18 years in the Hillsborough County State Attorney's Office.

The cost is \$65 per member or \$75 per future members. The cost includes a drink ticket and full dinner.

For information or to register, call Jennifer McKenney at 360-6957 or email RSVP@tampabaybeaches.com.

### Madeira Social Club meets monthly

MADEIRA BEACH – Madeira Beach Social Club meets the first Monday each month at 1 p.m. at Madeira Beach City Hall.

Everyone is invited to join the festivities, refreshments and entertainment. In addition to its monthly meetings, club members get together for bridge, canasta and trips to local attractions.

Members do not have to live in Madeira Beach. Membership dues are \$10 a year.

Call Dianne for more information at 397-3434.

### SPB offers BOGO deal on aquatic memberships

ST. PETE BEACH – The St. Pete Beach Aquatic Center is offering a buy-one-get-one free deal on its

six-month memberships.

The offer is valid from Jan. 1 to March 1.

The offer is valid on the purchase of a child, adult, senior or family 6-month pass. Each pass provides access to the heated pool with lap swimming, sun bathing, picnic areas, two tubular water slides, a children's splash zone and much more.

For more information, visit www.spbrec.com or call 363-9264.

### Seabird Sanctuary has volunteer opportunities

INDIAN SHORES – The Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary, 18328 Gulf Blvd., seeks to revamp its volunteer program and is looking for passionate folks to help.

General volunteers are needed for greeting visitors, feeding birds, grounds maintenance, working in the gift shop, answering injured bird calls and fundraising.

A volunteer skills and interests will be matched as best as possible to available opportunities.

For more information, contact Josh Thomas at 391-2473 or email marketing@seabirdsanctuary.com.

### Madeira Beach seeks volunteers

MADEIRA BEACH – The city of Madeira Beach has opportunities for volunteers to assist city staff at City Hall, 300 Municipal Drive.

Volunteer hours are flexible. City Hall hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

After a period of orientation, volunteers will be asked to answer the telephone, respond to walk-in and phone inquiries, disseminate resident and visitor information, help residents register for parking permits, special events and tournaments, give directions and provide help with mailings.

For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Jim Black at 407-831-6034.

### Auxiliary selling personalized bricks

MADEIRA BEACH – The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary in Madeira Beach is selling personalized bricks to honor veterans.

The bricks will be used in its military memorial wall and mural.

Bricks are available in 4-inch by 8-inch and 8-inch by 8-inch sizes.

They will be engraved by laser and permanently mounted to the entire wall surrounding the mural. The bricks will display the name, highest rank, branch of service and dates of service of the veteran.

The Auxiliary is located at 299 Boca Ciega Drive.

Call 391-5185 for prices and to place an order.

### 11-up champs



Photo courtesy of MADEIRA BEACH RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Tikanis knocked off the No. 1 1-0 in the finals to win the 11-older division of the Madeira Beach youth soccer league. The game finished scoreless in regulation and came down to shootouts. Hunter Scheffsky kicked the go-ahead goal in shootouts and then made the game winning save in goal. The team roster consists of Scheffsky, Allison Richards, Shawn Bastow, Lauren Bastow, Daniel Buckbee, Derek King, Josh Graves, DJ Lane, Brooke Spriggs, Alexa Pilz, Alana Franklin, and Julie McCoy. Coaches are Robert Richards and Clayton Richards.

### St. Pete Beach approves pump installation

By BOB McCLURE

ST. PETE BEACH – City commissioners took a giant step toward fixing the city's crippled sewage system Dec. 19 by approving \$528,000 for the installation of new pumps at Master Pump Station No. 1.

The work will be done by TLC Diversified of Palmetto, which has done work for the city previously on Lift Station No. 4 in Pass-A-Grille.

In mid-November, commissioners approved \$337,757 for the four pumps from Xylem Water Solutions USA of Apopka, bringing the total project cost to \$865,757, which is \$218,700 under the estimated \$1.08 million for the job.

The city has \$446,010 currently budgeted for pump replacement at Pump Station No. 1 and will use \$419,747 from the Wastewater Reserve Fund to pay for the balance.

Public Services Director Steve Hallock said the pumps would be delivered in March and work would start as soon as they are on site. According to terms of its contract with the city, TLC Diversified has until Sept. 1 to complete the project.

A bid for new pumps and installation at Pump Station No. 2 is under review and will be considered at the Jan. 14 meeting. Hallock estimated the price tag at about \$1.5 million.

The city has been operating its sewage transfer system with

a portable by-pass system since late October when the pumps at Pump Station No. 1 and Pump Station No. 2 failed.

#### Parking permits

City parking permits are available in the Community Development Department on the first floor of City Hall, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

When applying, residents are advised to bring their vehicle registration, driver's license and proof of St. Pete Beach residence.

The Community Development Department also issues stickers for the operation of golf

carts. The cost is \$10.

#### Pool closed

The city swimming pool will be closed Dec. 30 to Jan. 5 for maintenance.

It will reopen Monday, Jan. 6.

#### Yard sale set

Spaces for the city's Jan. 25 community yard sale are available.

The cost for a 10-foot by 10-foot space is \$15 for city residents and \$17.50 for nonresidents.

The sale will be held at the Community Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Drive, 8 a.m. to noon. Call 363-9245.

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# Popularity of craft beer may lead to code change

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – No one commented during the first public hearing Dec. 10 on a proposal to amend county code to allow dispensing of alcoholic beverages in an M-1 zoning district.

A second public hearing is scheduled on Jan. 14, 9:30 a.m., in the Fifth Floor Assembly Room of the Pinellas County Courthouse, 315 Court St.

According to a staff report, the county has received many inquiries about the manufacturing and dispensing of alcoholic beverages from the craft beer industry. A report from the Local Planning Agency, which voted 4-0, Nov. 14, in favor of an amendment, said the county's current zoning code "does not adequately address the range of activities that can be associated with local breweries/manufacturers."

Examples include breweries with tasting rooms and operations that would like to sell and dispense their product for onsite and offsite consumption as permitted by state law.

## Tips for Target customers Experts give advice on protecting financial information

By SUZETTE PORTER

Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi urges Floridians to be vigilant in monitoring their financial activity in light of the latest security breach at Target stores nationwide.

Those who swiped debit or credit cards at Target stores between Nov. 27 and Dec. 15 should be especially cautious, Bondi said in a press release.

Target confirmed the security breach in a statement released Dec. 19.

"We began investigating the incident as soon as we learned of it," according to a statement posted at Target.com. "We have determined that the information involved in this incident included customer name, credit or debit card number, and the card's expiration date and CVV."

Target said it was working with "a leading third-party forensics firm" to investigate the incident and examine additional measures to help prevent incidents in the future.

Target informed the public that it had alerted authorities and financial institutions immediately after the unauthorized access was confirmed.

"We are putting our full resources behind these efforts," Target said in its statement.

Target recommends that consumers closely review account statements and take advantage of free credit reports. Consumers who discover any suspicious or unusual activity on their accounts or suspect fraud should report it immediately to their financial institutions.

Better Business Bureau also offered some advice for Target customers.

"First of all, if you used a credit card at Target in the past few weeks, don't panic," said Carrie Hurt, president and CEO of the Council of Better Business Bureaus. "You are not liable for any fraudulent charges on your account, and there are some simple things you can do to make sure your card was not used fraudulently."

Target has already issued a warning for consumers and is working with banks and credit card issuers to alert them to which numbers were stolen," Hurt added. "You can expect to hear from your bank if your card information is identified as having been compromised, and you can always call the customer service number on your card if you have a question."

Bondi and BBB offer the following tips to help keep financial information safe.

- Closely monitor credit and banking activity to identify any potential unauthorized transactions. If such transactions are found, contact your financial institution immediately.
- Keep all receipts so you can cross-reference them with your credit and banking statements.
- To place a fraud alert or check a credit report, call one of the three credit bureaus: Equifax, 1-800-525-6285; Experian, 1-888-397-3742; or Transunion, 1-800-680-7289.
- If you suspect you are the victim of identity theft, call your local law enforcement agency.

For more information about identity theft, visit [www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft), or call the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338).

"These activities can be important marketing elements for a manufacturing/distribution operation," the LPA said.

Currently, county code only allows dispensing of alcoholic beverages within zoning districts C-1 (neighborhood commercial district), C-2 (general retail commercial and limited services district), C-3 (commercial, wholesale, warehousing and limited services district), CP (commercial parkway district) and IPD (industrial, planned development district), but not M-1 (light manufacturing and industry district).

However, code does allow manufacturers in M-1 zones to sell their products on a retail basis as long as the retail use is an accessory to the primary use and does not exceed 25 percent of the building area.

The LPA and the county's Planning and Development Services staff recommend amending the code to allow retail sale and dispensing of alcoholic beverages in the M-1 zoning district.

A report from the LPA states that allowing dispensing for on-premises and off-premises consumption could "enhance market potential and offer community vitality" and contribute to the local economy. Stan-

dards within the code address noise and traffic concerns and should not be a problem, the LPA said.

County staff and the LPA agree that the amendment is consistent with the county's Comprehensive Plan and its goals and policies, including the Planning to Stay Element, Future Land Use and Quality Communities Element and the Economic Element.

The Planning to Stay Element seeks to improve the county's appeal as a place to live and work and targets improving the quality of the urban and natural environment, while protecting community character, supporting economic development and enhancing the lives of all segments of the county's population.

Future Land Use and Quality Communities Element targets improving the quality of life by creating diverse and walkable destinations with choices in housing, services, workplaces and travel modes.

The Economic Element focuses on achieving a business climate that promotes and supports local business retention, expansion and diversity.

## Commissioners' action may avert condominium war

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – Residents of Kalmia Condominium No. 5, a 55-plus facility in Clearwater, petitioned Pinellas County in October for a vacation of a portion of right-of-way on Ottawa Road and Skyview Avenue in the Gates Knoll subdivision.

The residents say prostitutes and drug dealers are using their parking lot. For safety's sake, they want to put up a gate and restrict access.

But the neighbors, residents of Kalmia Condos, 1-4, object to the plan. They want the road left open. They prefer using the "back way" on Ottawa Road to the main entrance on Highland Avenue due to heavy traffic. They are concerned about access for emergency response. And they say that others, including people living on Ottawa, use the access to cut through to Highland.

But, Kalmia No. 5 says people using the access are trespassing on their property. They say they should be able to close the access to provide better security in the parking lot.

Residents of each condominium own their building. There is no joint ownership. Roadways are shared by an agreement put in place when the buildings were constructed in the late 1960s and early 1970s, except for the parking lot owned by Kalmia No. 5. The buildings also have separate ownership associations. They share responsibility for recreation space.

Peter Graham, an attorney representing Kalmia No. 5, told commissioners that problems were continuing in the parking lot. He said strangers were using the secluded area day and night for drug and sexual activities and then throwing trash from such activities out the window. He said attempts to work with Clearwater police to solve the problem had been unsuccessful.

The county commission first heard the case Oct. 8, but decided to continue it until December to give time for the parties to talk and come to an agreement. Both sides also had said that many of the residents were snowbirds and not yet back for the season.

Graham reported that the parties had met Dec. 2 but were unable to agree. The other condominium owners are trespassing on Kalmia No. 5's property, "which is the basis of our opposition," he said. Approval of the vacation would allow Kalmia No. 5 to have control over their property to help with its security problem.

Twenty-year Kalmia No. 5 resident Judy De Vries said the problem had been ongoing for the past three to four years.

"But it has really multiplied," she said.

De Vries and other women from Kalmia #5 met with Clearwater police, but she said it didn't result in many answers. The police recommended that the condominium owners put up signs. De Vries said they put up three, which say trespassers would be arrested if they didn't leave the parking lot when told. However, police advised them it was not safe to approach the vehicles.

Kalmia No. 5 put in a speed bump to try to alleviate the problem. While they were gone over the summer it was removed, she said.

"We're the only one of four buildings with a parking lot," she said. "The rest have parking in front of their buildings and easy access out the main entrance."

James Proud, president of Kalmia No. 5's homeowners association, said there had been problems with the parking lot for the 14 years he had lived there.

"It's always been a problem and we've done several things to coun-

teract it," he said.

They put in lights, installed the speed bump, which was removed, and installed signs.

"Nothing worked," he said.

He said he observes cars pulling up side-by-side and exchanging packages. He said prostitutes bring their customers to the parking lot.

"I think we have the right to protect our property," he said. "We've tried to work with the other buildings with no cooperation whatsoever."

Attorney Brandon Huffman, representing Kalmia Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, said the residents were opposed due to safety issues. He said putting up a barricade to block entrance through the back of the complex would hamper access by emergency personnel, who often frequent the facilities due to the population of elderly residents.

He said most likely the prostitutes and drug dealers are coming to Kalmia #5's property via Highland Avenue, not Ottawa Road. He said the parking lot was attractive to them because it was secluded.

He reminded the commission that a vacation should be granted only if it was in the best interest of the public. He added that this vacation was not in the best interest of everyone who lives in Kalmia and others who use Ottawa Road to travel through the complex to get to Highland Avenue.

"This has created a divide in the community," he said. Huffman said the only contact between the condominium associations was the Dec. 2 meeting "hurriedly called before this meeting after you told them to work it out in October."

He said the only proposal presented was to split the costs, estimated at \$15,000, to install an electric gate, approximately \$3,000 to \$5,000 per building. He said there was no talk about the cost of maintenance or other costs.

Huffman presented one solution and that was to deed the road to Kalmia's Recreation Association with shared membership.

Doug Friend, who lives in Kalmia No. 4, said residents had used the exit on Ottawa Road for years. He said many preferred to use it as opposed to the main entrance.

"We're always had egress," he said.

Graham agreed that the road had probably been used since "day one," but said it has never been designed to provide access to buildings 1 through 4. He said his clients had not designed the complex, but owned the parking lot and the area west of the parking lot.

He said it wasn't fair for everyone to use property that only Building 5 is responsible to maintain.

"I don't want to start a real neighborhood war," Commissioner Karen Seel said after all the homeowners had their say.

A motion by Commissioner Janet Long to approve the vacation died without a second. Commissioner Norm Roche then suggested vacation of only a portion of the area – "the northern triangle" located in the parking lot outside the access road. His concern is for a fire hydrant located within the area.

Commissioner Susan Latvala said she would support the motion but asked that the condominium owners continue talking to see if something could be worked out to keep the area safer and maintain egress.

"And can we communicate to Clearwater police the concerns expressed by our citizens," Commissioner Charlie Justice added.

County Administrator Bob LaSala agreed to do so.

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## County news

### Pinellas County tackles flood insurance

CLEARWATER – Pinellas County is creating a coalition of community leaders to work on issues surrounding changes made to the National Flood Insurance Program.

In a letter from County Commission chairman Ken Welch, written on behalf of the Pinellas County Commission, he states that the group effort is to develop a cooperative, broad-based and data driven approach to dealing with the issues.

"A key part of the strategy is to enlist the active engagement of every city in Pinellas County and develop an accurate portrayal of the nature and magnitude of the impacts our communities will face, dispelling the myth that this only affects the rich living on the beach," said Welch. "It is a much different and pervasive problem."

Changes made to the program is expected to affect more families and businesses in Pinellas County than in any other community in the nation and the effects of rising insurance rates are being felt in the local real estate market.

Wendy Nero, Pinellas County's manager of intergovernmental relations, will be leading the effort for Pinellas County in coordination with Pam Dubov, Pinellas County property appraiser. The plan is set to begin in January.

### PSTA rolls out eight new SmartBuses

ST. PETERSBURG – Elected officials, PSTA board members and agency staff gathered outside the PSTA Administrative Headquarters Dec. 18 for a "virtual ribbon cutting" to mark the roll out of eight brand-new diesel-electric hybrid SmartBuses, some of which are being used in a new Wi-Fi test program.

"We're not only celebrating the addition of new buses to our growing fleet of hybrids, but we're also celebrating a new test program for providing free Wi-Fi service for our passengers," said PSTA CEO Brad Miller. "We have outfitted 10 vehicles with Wi-Fi systems and so far the project is going very well."

The pilot Wi-Fi vehicles are running along six different routes and officials say that if the initial successes continue, they could have the entire fleet outfitted with free Wi-Fi access within the next six months.

Miller said the Wi-Fi service is just one of many improvements planned for the transit system to help give the community a better, more productive and more enjoyable riding experience. To demonstrate the Wi-Fi system, officials downloaded a video of a ribbon being cut and played it on a big-screen TV in lieu of cutting an actual ribbon.

With the addition of the eight new hybrids, PSTA now has 40 of the fuel efficient buses out of a fleet

total of 188 full sized vehicles. Additionally, eight more hybrids are on order and scheduled for delivery in late 2014.

The diesel-electric vehicles average a 56 percent increase in fuel economy over standard diesel models and the new buses will be replacing older non-hybrid vehicles that have reached the end of their 12-year life span.

### Don't trash the holidays: Reduce, reuse and recycle

CLEARWATER – The holidays are a season for giving but we often end up giving too much to the landfill. Holiday gift wrap, cardboard and party goods add up to truckloads of extra garbage.

Pinellas County Utilities urges residents to start "reduce, reuse and recycle" traditions to trim holiday waste.

Green holiday tips:

- Give an eco-friendly present such as a gift card, zoo pass, event ticket or fishing license instead of items that will ultimately be thrown away.
- Give the gift of time, such as a lunch invitation or a picnic at the beach.
- Bring a reusable bag, or skip the bag, when you shop for the holidays.
- Look for recycled content when buying items such as greeting cards.
- Consider buying items with less packaging.
- Make room for new items by collecting clothes, toys or household items to donate to charity.
- Buy rechargeable batteries, instead of disposable, for electronic holiday gifts.
- Reuse holiday wrappings such as gift bags, ribbons and bows.
- Reuse packing materials such as boxes or plastic peanuts.
- Set up a recycling bin for cans and bottles at holiday parties.
- Entertain with reusable dishes, silverware and cloth napkins instead of disposable items.
- Replace incandescent Christmas lights with energy-efficient LED lights.
- Recycle cardboard and holiday papers (used gift wrap, tissue paper or greeting cards) with "mixed paper" at curbside or drop-off. For a list of local recycling programs, visit [www.pinellascounty.org/recycle](http://www.pinellascounty.org/recycle).
- Find a new home for usable items that have been replaced by visiting our A to Z Guide at [www.pinellascounty.org/utilities/getridofit](http://www.pinellascounty.org/utilities/getridofit).
- Recycle your Christmas tree. Most cities in Pinellas County collect trees for recycling either at curbside or drop-off sites. For information about Christmas tree recycling in Pinellas County visit [www.pinellascounty.org/utilities/getridofit/xmas\\_tree\\_recycling.pdf](http://www.pinellascounty.org/utilities/getridofit/xmas_tree_recycling.pdf).

### WATER, from page 1A

- Addresses ending in 4 or 5 may only water on Wednesdays
- Addresses ending in 6 or 7 may only water on Thursdays
- Addresses ending in 8 or 9 may only water on Fridays
- Rights-of-way, common areas and other "no address" locations may only water on Fridays

The water shortage declaration also places the restrictions for the following:

- Watering of new lawns and plants must follow an establishment period exemption schedule
- Sprinkler-like devices used on a lawn for recreational purposes shall be limited to the lawn and landscape restrictions
- Recreational devices such as wading pools, water slides, etc. shall discharge or empty onto a lawn or landscape area that requires irrigation
- Homeowners associations and other entities must suspend any requirement to replace lawns or engage in other activity that increases water use

Residents who water by hand or use micro-irrigation can still water any day within the allowed hours.

Swiftmud said that the tighter watering restrictions take into account that the C.W. Bill Young Regional Reservoir is currently under renovation, meaning that water from the Alafia River was not able to be stored during the summer rainy season for use during the subsequent dry season. The C.W. Bill Young Reservoir is a major water supply source for Hillsbor-



Starting Dec. 26, Pinellas County residents can water their lawns and landscape plants only once a week according to a set schedule based on address.

ough, Pasco and Pinellas counties.

Pinellas County officials say if conditions do not improve, more aggressive conservation action may become necessary, including stringent enforcement, such as issuing citations or fines.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Control Center predicts that precipitation will be below normal in much of Tampa Bay including Pinellas County through at least the end of March with a chance of a more normal rain pattern beginning in April or May.

Swiftmud can change water restrictions at any time and with little notice. Utilities customers are responsible for staying up to date

on restrictions and watering schedules. Violations may result in a \$193 fine.

Pinellas County Utilities can sign up to receive email notifications to subscribed customers when schedules change as a courtesy. Don't miss these important notifications. Customers are encouraged to go to [www.pinellascounty.org/utilities](http://www.pinellascounty.org/utilities) and click on the Utilities My eAccount button to add or update their email address. For more information, contact Customer Service at 464-4000.

County residents who are not customers of Pinellas County Utilities should check with their water provider for watering schedules and other information.

## 7 Things You Must Know Before Putting Your Home Up For Sale

### SEMINOLE

A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 step system that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers

don't get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and—worse—financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "The 9 step System to Get Your Home

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Riders climb aboard a diesel-electric hybrid SmartBus.

Photo courtesy of PSTA

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# Nice seeing you again, Stick ... sorta

People who have lived in the same town for a long time have an exacting way to acknowledge their long-term friends and acquaintances.



**Dolphin Watch**  
Ann Weaver

Ride with them as a passenger sometime. Watch how, when they drive past a friend going in the opposite direction, they either raise all four fingers off the steering wheel briefly or nod faintly by raising the chin. The pure subtlety of these greeting gestures broadcasts their great familiarity with their community.

I do not have any counterpart greeting gestures for the dolphins of my acquaintance that I "pass on the street" out at sea. I love that feeling of familiarity, though it is still a bit of a shock for a kid from Wisconsin. I recently ran into local dolphin lady Stick and her 3-month-old calf Twig four different times, each time in passing.

Most recently was at our house. I was inside and heard a dolphin exhale. I rushed outside to see it. Stick and her little Twig were in our canal with bull DD2 and mom-calf pair Sharkey and Echo. Stick launched a fish into the air in a long high arc, which landed 15 feet away with a stunning smack.

How she launched it was perplexing because no part of her body was visible at the water surface. You just saw a surge of water as if something substantial sped below it and then the silver-yellow fellow flying through the air.

Stick's schoolmates were doing other things. DD2 fed with a hunting style I call "wave-making." He surged along the seawall invisibly, pushing a rounded mound of water in front of him and undoubtedly showing his quarry too.

Sharkey babysat the two miniature dolphins. Echo and Twig's excited baby leaps created endearing little silhouettes like the ceramic dolphins sold at beach stores.

I wished they would hunt along our seawall all morning and I watched them swim away with disappointment. Nice to see ya, Stick!

Twice we ran into Stick when she was surfing. First, a week before Thanksgiving, Stick hunted near a little bridge while her age-mates Bet and Slightwin babysat her young calf. A handsome craft from the community of Punta Gorda accelerated as it went past, and the dolphins leapt without hesitation into its frothing opportunity. They surfed for two miles to the next no-wake zone. Though her schoolmates leapt re-

peatedly, Stick and her little Twig slid down the waves without fancy aerobatics. Nice to see ya, Stick, sorta.

Three weeks later, we ran into Stick the Surfer again. But this was different because she made a surprise appearance. It was yet another lesson in paying very close attention if you want to get it right!

Four mother-calf pairs were near the little bridge. The older dolphins hunted. The three youngest were calves of the year. Still nursing with no need to hunt, they zipped and zoomed around as their mothers searched for food for two.

By and by, the mothers gathered their calves and headed north. The adults formed a general playpen around the calves, who continued their wiggling wrestling match. Mom Sharkey is a first-time mom and may have been romping with her 6-month-old Echo. Mom J is an experienced mother and was not romping. Instead, it seemed to me that she stayed close enough to intervene for her 2-month-old newborn if need be.

Part of the play, as if often the case with calves, is that J's calf had a remora. These cleaner fish antagonize baby dolphins, propelling the latter into numerous gyrations to dislodge their antagonists. J's calf was propelled into numerous shudders, tail flips and sudden accelerations. Either the older calves thought these conspicuous moves were play invitations or just treated them that way. Either way, the kids spilled and tumbled with enough suddenness to drive the cameraman (me) crazy.

Then the group of eight paused and milled around as the regal Rickapeg headed their way. They turned and rushed to the approaching yacht to surf it. I saw a distant dolphin also rushing to the yacht but did not at the time, expect to see nearly twice as many dolphins surfing the yacht than we watched rushing over to it. Ya gotta pay attention.

Capt. John Heidemann piloted us safely parallel to the majestic yacht and its contingent of surfers. Some launched out of the bow waves and others out of the wake. I snapped pictures zealously, expecting only the original eight dolphins and curious if the entire octet was indeed surfing.

Taking photo-identification pictures of active dolphins takes timing and concentration. If I pause that split second to identify the dolphin fin in the frame before snapping the picture, I often miss the shot. So I focused on photography first and identification second as we all thundered down this stretch of watery road.



Photo by ANN WEAVER

Stick the dolphin is no angel but her halo image is certainly seasonal.

At one point, I thought one of the dorsal fins did not match those of the original eight. But that is why we collect photographic data - documentation against the unreliable human brain. Then I glimpsed another dorsal fin that definitely did not match the original eight. Back at the lab, my suspicions were more than verified. Five additional dolphins had rushed "out of nowhere" to surf with the original eight, including Stick and her little Twig! Nice seeing you, Stick. Sort of.

A couple of days later, dozens of pelicans dove madly on a seafood festival just outside John's Pass. A mom and baby dolphin headed over, and we followed them briefly before they vanished into the tumult: Stick and her little Twig.

Nice seeing you again, Stick! Sort of!

Dr. Weaver studies wild dolphins under federal permit 16299, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Send her an email at [annstats54@gmail.com](mailto:annstats54@gmail.com) or visit her website [www.goodnatureddolphins.com](http://www.goodnatureddolphins.com). NOAA advises anyone who sees a stranded dolphin in the Gulf of Mexico to call 877-942-5343 or 877-433-8299.

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# Police beat

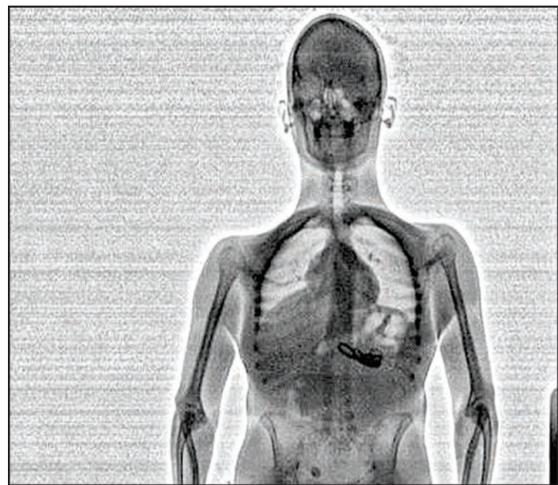


Photo courtesy of PCSO

A dark mass visible near the stomach is two necklaces from a Dec. 10 burglary in Safety Harbor. They were revealed when Joseph Bravo Ramos, 20, passed through The RAD PRO SecurPass Whole Body X-Ray Scanner at the Pinellas County Jail. The system can detect metals, pills, plastics, drugs and other unusually shaped items that may be concealed on the inmate's person.

## Burglary suspect swallows evidence

CLEARWATER – A Clearwater man was charged with one count of burglary and one count of tampering of physical evidence after a scan at the Pinellas County Jail detected necklaces near his stomach.



Joseph Bravo Ramos

Joseph Bravo Ramos, 20, was arrested Dec. 11 in connection with the Dec. 10 burglary of a private residence in Safety Harbor. Various items were taken including the victim's vehicle. Clearwater police made the arrest after learning that the vehicle Ramos was driving had been stolen.

According to Pinellas County Sheriff's detectives, during the booking process, Ramos was asked to step on to the SecurPass Scanner. During the scan, the X-ray photo revealed a large dark mass near the suspect's stomach area. Upon further investigation, the object was identified as necklaces that Ramos had swallowed prior to entering the jail.

Ramos was transported to a local hospital and underwent surgery to remove the two necklaces from his stomach. Once the necklaces were removed, detectives took them to the victim who positively identified them as her own.

## No children injured in school bus crash

PALM HARBOR – No children were injured Monday afternoon during a school bus crash on Innisbrook Drive east of Curbside Court in Palm Harbor.

Nelson Roberts, 67, of Palm Harbor was ticketed for improper passing.

According to the Florida High-

clerk and demanded money.

The suspect then left the store on foot with an undisclosed amount of money that he placed in a small bag. The suspect was last seen walking northeast toward Sunset Point Road.

The suspect is described as a black male with a slender build. He was last seen wearing a dark colored long sleeved shirt, dark pants and dark colored shoes.

Anyone with information on this robbery is asked to contact Detective J. Syers of the Robbery/Homicide Unit at 582-6200 or to remain anonymous and be eligible for a reward contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-873-TIPS or www.crimestoppersofpinellas.org.

## Largo man arrested for child molestation

LARGO – Detectives assigned to Pinellas County Sheriff's Crimes Against Children Unit arrested a Largo man Tuesday, Dec. 17, for lewd and lascivious molestation of a 6-year-old female.



Johnathan Ray Jones

Detectives began to investigate Adam Bollenback, 28, after it was reported that he inappropriately touched the 6-year-old victim as she was sitting on his lap while he "sexually gratified himself," the sheriff's report said. The incident occurred on Sunday, Dec. 15, at a private residence in Largo.

Bollenback was charged with one count of lewd and lascivious molestation, one count of lewd and lascivious exhibition, one count of battery of a child by throw/expel certain fluids and one count of resisting an officer without violence (obstruction).

## Detectives investigate West Lealman fire

LEALMAN – Detectives assigned to the Pinellas County Sheriff's Arson and Auto Theft Unit are investigating a residential fire in west Lealman.

At approximately 7:30 a.m. Dec. 17, emergency personnel responded to the home of Edal Fernandez, 44, at 7140 50th Ave. N. Lealman Fire Rescue extinguished



Photo courtesy of PCSO

Pinellas County Sheriff's detectives need help to ID this man who robbed a Chevron Gas Station in Clearwater Dec. 11.

the fire, which is believed to have started in the attic of the residence.

Nobody was injured and the cause of the fire does not appear suspicious in nature at this time. The investigation continues.

## AWOL inmate returned to jail

CLEARWATER – Pinellas County Sheriff's deputies arrested an inmate about noon Dec. 18 after he walked away from a work crew detail on Tuesday, Dec. 17.

According to a report from the sheriff's office Johnathan Ray Jones, 29, of St. Petersburg was assigned to an inmate work crew conducting a clean-up detail at the baseball field at 4145 34th St. N. in St. Petersburg (behind the VFW), when he walked away from the work detail that was being supervised by jail staff.

The next day, deputies received a tip that led them to make a traffic stop on a vehicle in which Jones was a passenger on 58th Street just north of 54th Avenue in Kenneth City. Jones was arrested on a warrant for escape and transported to the Pinellas County Jail.

Jones was booked into the Pinellas County Jail on drug related charges Dec. 3, 2013 and was in the process of serving a 364-day sentence. Records show he is a nonviolent offender and had no prior history of discipline at the jail. His arrest record shows multiple drug related charges dating back to 2003.

## Police place man into protective custody

PINELLAS PARK – Pinellas Park Police officers responded to a domestic disturbance Dec. 16 at a residence on 66th Street North in Pinellas Park that led to a man being taken into protective custody.

While en route to the home, reports were received that Terry Chestnut, 37, was armed with a handgun and may have shot himself inside of his vehicle. Upon arrival, officers found the vehicle empty and Chestnut nowhere in sight.

Fearing that Chestnut was armed and unstable more resources were called in and area schools were placed on lockdown. Pinellas Park Police Department deployed a K-9 team to find Chestnut. The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office was asked to assist with aviation support.

At 2:17 p.m., the K-9 team as well as other officers located Chestnut. Chestnut was still believed to be armed and was challenged to show his hands. Chestnut refused to follow the lawful commands of the officers and a Taser was deployed to take Chestnut into custody. Chestnut did not resist officers after the Taser was deployed, according to the police report.

Chestnut was taken into protective custody for involuntary mental health evaluation. Charges of resisting arrest without violence and violation of a domestic violence injunction will be routed to the states attorney of-

ficie. Area schools were notified that the subject was in custody. No injuries were reported.

## Man arrested after brandishing knife

PINELLAS PARK – Pinellas Park Police officers responded to the Walmart store at 8001 U.S. 19 N. Dec. 18 in reference to a theft in progress.

According to the police report, the officers were responding to a report that a man suspected of theft had brandished a knife and threatened the staff while he was attempting to flee from them.

Officers observed the fleeing subject and ordered him to stop. The subject continued to flee while officers gave chase. The subject fled into the wooded area in the 8800 block of U.S. 19, traveling west.

A Pinellas Park Police Department K-9 unit was called to assist in the search for the subject. The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office was contacted and provided aerial support. The suspect was located by a Pinellas Park Police Department K-9 unit and Scott Allan Lyelee, 30, of St. Petersburg was taken into custody without further incident.

Lyelee was charged with aggravated assault, felony petit theft and resisting an officer without violence. Lyelee was transported to Pinellas County Jail.

Lyelee was released from Marion Correctional Institution Dec. 10, 2012, where he served less than two years for grand theft.

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This holiday season, Bright House Networks invited more than 150 charities throughout all of its service areas that help our military, seniors, the homeless, the hungry, and even our four-legged friends to participate in the 12 Days of Giving. Between December 3rd and 17th, we invited our customers, our partners, their friends and family to vote daily for their favorite charities. Thank you to all of our friends who voted and helped us during our 12 Days of Giving.

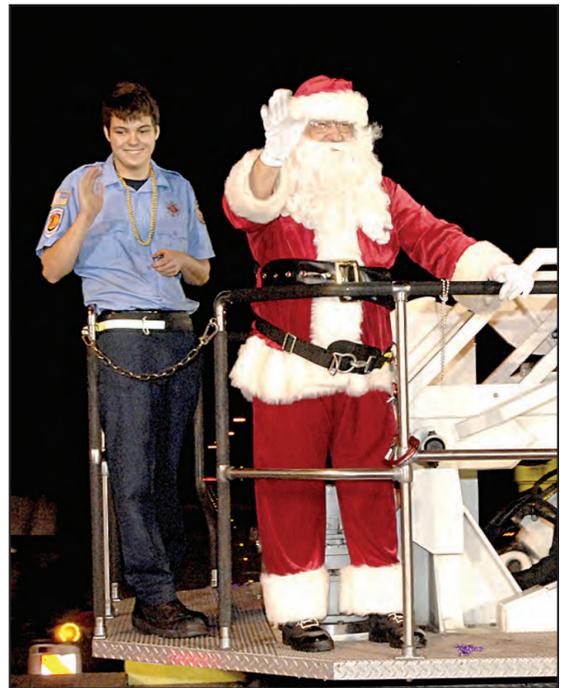
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# Pinellas Park Holiday Parade



Left, Florida English Bulldog Rescue marched with some bulldogs in need of a home.

Above, the Pinellas Park City Council and several city staff members ride aboard the WQYK pirate ship in the Pinellas Park Holiday Parade on Dec. 14. Right, Pinellas Park T-Birds football cheerleaders call out to the crowd during the parade.



Above, Santa Claus came to town on the back of a fire truck. Left, antique cars were well represented at the Dec. 14 Pinellas Park Holiday Parade.

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# SHS Hall of Fame inductions



Curt Geer was a longtime educator with Pinellas County Schools before coming to Seminole High School as principal in 1983. He served as principal until 1991, and during this period the school experienced unprecedented success in sports, with numerous district, regional and state titles.



Above, Seminole High School's 1976 boys golf team, which included members Mark Blackburn, Dennis Deja, Kevin Heinicka, Dave Sironen, Kevin Walsh and Coach Steve Crosby, was inducted into the school's Hall of Fame on Dec. 13. Theirs was the first Warhawk team to win a team title. The team finished a perfect 9-0 in dual meets and won the Pinellas County Athletic Conference title.



Above, Jody Mevers Mann was a four-year letter winner for the Warhawks swim team from 1982 to 1985. She was a school record holder in two events, the 200-meter medley relay and the 400-meter free relay. She was a four-year state meet finalist in three events and earned first team, all county mentions two years in a row. Left, Amy Cameron Grimes was also a four-year letter winner for the Warhawks swim team from 1982 to 1985, and co-captained the 1985 girls' state championship swim team. She was a school record holder in the 100-meter freestyle, 100-meter breaststroke and was a member of the 400-meter freestyle relay. She earned first team, all county mentions and was a state meet finalist in both individual and relay events all four years.



Bill Grey served as the Warhawks' head track coach from 1971 to 1978. During this time, Seminole beat its arch rival Largo High School, which had won 10 straight conference titles, to win the conference championship in 1973 and 1974. The team also won the district title in 1974 and finished fifth at the state championships in 1972 and 1973. During his tenure, the team won 12 major meet championships, produced three individual state champions and won over 30 district and regional individual/relay championships.



Photos courtesy of TOM HAIGHT

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## The Gift of Time

Christmas 2013 is just around the corner. The stores are busy with shoppers looking for the perfect gifts for family and friends, feeling the pressure as they count down how many shopping days are left! Many are feeling another kind of pressure, that being how to purchase these gifts on a strict budget. There is a precious gift like no other that is free of monetary cost and that is the "Gift of Time."

Most of us remember as children that it seemed days went on forever. We had so much time to play, go to school, then play some more. You may remember hearing your parents say time flies by so quickly and there are not enough hours in the day! As a child, I could not understand this at all. Now as an adult it clearly hits home that time is truly a "gift" and if we can share some of our time with a senior that lives alone, the heart of that person is rewarded as well as ours.

Seniors who have lost spouses or beloved friends may experience increased loneliness during the holidays. Others may become mildly depressed for the same reasons, which can lead to isolation. Offer to take them to holiday events. Have fun baking holiday goodies together. Addressing Christmas and Hanukah cards and chatting over a cup of coffee can lift everyone's spirits.

The holiday season is the perfect time to consider hiring a temporary caregiver to help with all elements of holiday preparations. Comfort Keepers® offer seniors assistance in areas of light housekeeping (including putting up decorations), meal preparation, accompanying seniors to social functions or taking them shopping. As caregivers who specialize in understanding and working with seniors, Comfort Keepers® can provide help and company to help your loved one have a happy holiday season.

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# Largo author tackles a variety of genres

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO – Author and longtime Largo resident Laura L. Sullivan could be described as a children's novelist; her middle school fantasies "Under the Green Hill" and "Guardian of the Green Hill" are among her best-known work.

But the description doesn't cover the scope of genres Sullivan writes within. The Florida native has written science fiction and horror stories. Under the pseudonym Sullivan Lee, she's published adult thrillers, including "Brightwing," a criminal love story set in the Everglades. She describes her latest book, "Love by the Morning Star," as a romantic comedy, set in pre-World War II Germany.

The ability to write about anything is a big reason why Sullivan is a writer in the first place.

"Writing lets me do everything in the world," she explained in an email interview. "I've never been able to specialize – I jump from one interest to another – so writing is the best way to be a generalist. I'm always researching something new."

If there's a thread that ties her stories together, it could be her use of the godlike narrator, who can see into all of her characters' heads. In fact, "The Omniscient Third Person" serves as the title of her blog, at lauralsullivan.blogspot.com.

"I love my characters – even the minor ones, the wicked ones – and I feel like if I invent them, I owe it to them to let the reader get as close to all of them as they can, see the innermost recesses of their hearts," she said.

Another element to Sullivan's writing is the usual lack of a happy ending. Sullivan credits this tendency to the fact that she's a realist at heart.

"Characters can achieve their goals, but there is always at least one thread of unhappiness that isn't neatly tied up, one little moral quail that is never resolved," she said.

She tried hard to make "Love by the Morning Star," the exception. The novel, to be released June 3, ended in disaster and separation in an early draft, but Sullivan rewrote it to give everyone a happy ending.

"Of course, in the end of that book, WWII is just starting, so I suppose there is still unhappiness brewing," she admitted.

Sullivan is a lifelong Florida resident – aside from a few years when she claimed Kentucky as her legal address, and spent about half of each year in Florida besides. She has lived in Largo since she was 3 years old.

Her most popular children's titles are set in England, but the adult novel Brightwing is set "entirely and intimately in Florida, in a lightly fictionalized west coast,

and the Everglades," she explained.

"It is my homage to my state – Florida is as much a character in it as the human characters," she said.

Two other children's books that haven't been published yet are set in a fictionalized version of Pinellas County's barrier islands.

Just this year, "Under the Green Hill" made the Sunshine State Young Readers Award list, which Sullivan takes as a personal compliment.

"As a native Floridian, it amazes me to think that thousands of middle school kids around the state are having my book specifically recommended to them," she said.

Sullivan said she writes children's stories because there is nothing more profound than first discoveries.

"I want to be there, vicariously, in book form, when a child has little epiphanies about life," she explained. "Childhood books form us almost as much as our parents do. Their words stay with us, their lessons guide us, sometimes subtly, true, without us realizing it. But they linger."

Recently, Sullivan launched a holiday e-book promotion on Amazon.com. Several of her short stories were available to download for free during specific weeks of the season.

Sullivan said she was pleased

with the success. During the campaign, the story, "The Ideal Household Appliance" rose to No. 3 in Kindle's short story list and No. 9 in science fiction.

"I hope these stories can bring in a new audience to my traditionally published books," she said.

Building readership for short stories is tricky, especially with fewer literary magazines publishing to smaller and smaller audiences, she explained. Alternatively, an author might publish a collection of short stories.

"But most of my stories are in such wildly different genres that they probably wouldn't work in a collection," Sullivan said. "Putting them out individually at a low price seemed like a perfect solution."



Photo courtesy of LAURA L. SULLIVAN  
Author Laura L. Sullivan of Largo is author of the children's fantasy novels "Under the Green Hill" and "Guardian of the Green Hill."

## HERE AND THERE, from page 4A

invited to attend the three-day conference free of charge. Hundreds of local residents and students attended each of the panels at last year's conferences. Participants showed their support through their overwhelmingly positive comments on the presentations.

In its second year, the conference will again welcome a large number of foreign affairs specialists for a larger conference, including more than a dozen panels, on topical international issues. Visit [www.stpetersburghintheworld.com](http://www.stpetersburghintheworld.com) for specific times and panel topics. The objective of the conference is to make available to the people of the Tampa Bay area information and insights on foreign affairs issues that are critical to our lives and well-being.

## Belleair plans community garage sale

BELLEAIR – The public is invited to Belleair's multi-family, community garage sale Jan. 11-12, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Belleair residents can be a part of the sale by filling out the garage sale registration form and turning it into the Parks and Recreation Department. Non-residents can rent a space for \$25 in the Belleair Town

Hall parking lot. The garage sale registration form can be found at [www.belleairrec.com](http://www.belleairrec.com).

Garage sale addresses will be listed on the website as the date gets closer. For more information or to get your address listed as part of the community garage sale, call 518-3728.

## Safe boating seminar set

ST. PETERSBURG – The St. Petersburg Sail and Power Squadron will present its safe boating program, Emergencies on Board, to the public on Wednesday, Jan. 15, 7 to 9 p.m., at the St. Petersburg Sailing Center, 250 Second Ave. SE, Demens Landing.

The St. Petersburg Sail and Power Squadron's two-hour seminar will help acquaint boaters with the actions necessary to cope with the most common difficulties. Available to anyone 12 or older, it deals with both preparing for and managing emergencies such as accident prevention, emergency calls and signals, running aground, man overboard, fire, loss of power, medical conditions, steering failure and getting lost.

Instruction is free. Materials cost \$30 per family. The seminar is open to a maximum of 20 students. Preregistration is required. Visit [www.boating-stpete.org](http://www.boating-stpete.org).

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**Arbor Oaks Assisted Living**  
Thursday January 9, 2014 at 2 pm  
1701 68th Street North, St. Petersburg (Near Tyrone Mall behind Chili's)

**Largo Library**  
Friday January 10, 2014 at 2 pm  
120 Central Park Drive, Largo (Jenkins Room (Just across from The Largo Cultural Arts Center))

**South Shore Regional Library**  
Wednesday January 15, 2014 at 2 pm  
15816 Beth Shields Way, Ruskin, Florida. (Off 19th Ave. N.E.) (813-273-3652)

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# Healthy Living with



Edward White Hospital  
Largo Medical Center  
Northside Hospital  
Palms of Pasadena Hospital  
St. Petersburg General Hospital



## Put Your Trust in Our Knee Surgeons!

presented by Pat Kosiba, RN  
Florida Knee & Orthopedic Pavilion – Largo Medical Center

Thursday, January 2 • 11:00 a.m.  
Gulf Public Beaches Library • 200 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach

Wednesday, January 8 • 11:00 a.m.  
Holiday Inn Express • 975 Broadway Street, Dunedin

Wednesday, January 15 • 11:00 a.m.  
Largo Medical Center • 201 14th St. SW, Largo

Wednesday, January 29 • 11:00 a.m.  
Hampton Inn • 1200 34th Street N, St. Petersburg



## Spine Care You Can Trust!

presented by Paula Jewell  
Florida Spine & Neuro Center – Largo Medical Center

Friday, January 3 • 10:00 a.m.  
Largo Medical Center • 201 14th St. SW, Largo

Friday, January 17 • 10:00 a.m.  
Hampton Inn • 1200 34th Street N, St. Petersburg

Thursday, January 23 • 11:00 a.m.  
Gulf Public Beaches Library • 200 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach

Friday, January 24 • 10:00 a.m.  
Holiday Inn Express • 975 Broadway St. Dunedin



## Solutions for Difficult Hearing Situations: Your Time To Ask The Expert

Tuesday, January 7 • 11:30 a.m.  
presented by Mary Burton, AuD, FAAA, CCC-A – Doctor of Audiology  
Brentwood Senior Living Community – The Community Room  
6280 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg  
presented by Palms of Pasadena Hospital



## Injections to Surgery: Know Your Options for Joint Pain

Tuesday, January 7 • 12:00 Noon  
presented by Anthony Albert, MD – Orthopedic Surgeon  
Northside Hospital Auditorium  
(located in the Medical Office Plaza on the North end of campus)  
6006 49th Street N., Suite 230, St. Petersburg



## Shingles: Treatment, Causes, Symptoms, Vaccine

Wednesday, January 8 • 10:30 a.m.  
presented by Suzanne Johnson, DO – Family Practitioner  
Freedom Square • 7800 Liberty Lane, Seminole  
presented by St. Petersburg General Hospital



## A New Year, A New You – Healthy Living & Weight Management

Wednesday, January 8 • 12:00 Noon  
presented by Giovanni Baula, MD – Internal Medicine Specialist  
Edward White Hospital Auditorium  
2299 9th Ave. N., suite 1-G, St. Petersburg  
(one-story office building on the east side of hospital)



## Sports & Nutrition: The Winning Connection

Wednesday, January 8 • 6:00 p.m.  
presented by Andrea Sprankel, MS, ATC, LAT – Certified Athletic Trainer  
Florida Sports Medicine Center at Largo Medical Center  
Largo Medical Center • 201 14th St. SW, Largo



## The Skinny On Cholesterol

Monday, January 13 • 12:00 Noon  
presented by Jeffrey Steinhoff, MD – Cardiologist  
Largo Medical Center • 201 14th St. SW, Largo



## Cholesterol and Peripheral Artery Disease

Wednesday, January 15 • 11:30 a.m.  
presented by Obinna Nowobi, MD, MPH – General Surgeon  
St. Alban's Episcopal Church Parish Hall • 330 85th Avenue  
(Corner of 85th Avenue and Boca Ciega Drive), St. Pete Beach  
presented by Palms of Pasadena Hospital



## Atrial Fibrillation

Wednesday, January 15 • 12:00 Noon  
presented by Dennis Cassidy, MD – Cardiac Electrophysiologist  
Northside Hospital Auditorium • 6006 49th St. N., Suite 230, St. Petersburg  
(located in the Medical Office Plaza on the north end of campus)



## Solutions for Common Sports Injuries

Wednesday, January 15 • 12:00 Noon  
presented by David Braun, MD  
Orthopedic Surgeon & Sports Medicine Specialist  
Edward White Hospital Auditorium  
2299 9th Ave. N., suite 1-G, St. Petersburg  
(one-story office building on the east side of hospital)



## Stroke Series V: Speech Therapy After Stroke

Tuesday, January 21 • 12:00 Noon

presented by  
Andi Hunsinger, MA, CCC-SLP – Speech Language Pathologist  
Wendy Criswell, MS, CCC-SLP – Speech Language Pathologist  
Aeron Zamecnik, MS, CCC-SLP – Speech Language Pathologist  
Palms of Pasadena Hospital

Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building  
Boca Ciega Room • 1609 Pasadena Ave. South, St. Petersburg



## Arthritis, Knee or Hip Problems

Wednesday, January 22 • 5:00 p.m.

presented by Stephen B. Warren, MD – Orthopedic Surgeon  
Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building  
Boca Ciega Room • 1609 Pasadena Ave. South, St. Petersburg



## Stroke 101

Thursday, January 23 • 12:00 Noon

presented by Creed Rucker, MD – Interventional Neuroradiologist  
Northside Hospital Auditorium  
(located in the Medical Office Plaza on the North end of campus)  
6006 49th Street N., Suite 230, St. Petersburg



## Relief for Chronic Sinus & Allergy Sufferers

Thursday, January 23 • 12:00 Noon

presented by Patricia Gilroy, MD – Ear, Nose, Throat & Neck Surgeon  
Edward White Hospital Auditorium  
2299 9th Ave. N., suite 1-G, St. Petersburg  
(one-story office building on the east side of hospital)



## Chat With A Pharmacist – Frequently Asked Drug Questions

Monday, January 27 • 2:30 p.m.

presented by Carla Evans, PharmD – Pharmacist  
Gulfport Senior Center • 5501 27th Avenue S., Gulfport  
presented by St. Petersburg General Hospital



## What To Do If A Family Member Is Affected By Dependence/Addiction

Monday, January 27 • 6:00 p.m.

presented by Oswald Williams, MD, Internal Medicine Specialist  
and Christie Nichols, Retired RN & Sober Life Coach  
St Petersburg General Hospital Auditorium  
6500 38th Avenue North, St Petersburg



## Surgical Weight Loss: Getting Back To A Healthier, Happier You!

presented by Ernest Rehnke, MD – Bariatric & Vascular Surgeon  
Florida Bariatric Centers at Palms of Pasadena Hospital

Wednesday, January 8 • 12:30 p.m.  
Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building  
Boca Ciega Room • 1609 Pasadena Ave. South, St. Petersburg

Saturday, January 18 • 9:30 a.m.  
Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building  
Boca Ciega Room • 1609 Pasadena Ave. South, St. Petersburg

Monday, January 27 • 6:30 p.m.  
Holiday Inn Express • 2171 54th Ave. North, St. Petersburg



presented by Robyn Ache, DO – Bariatric & General Surgeon  
Florida Bariatric Centers at Largo Medical Center & Palms of Pasadena Hospital

Saturday, January 11 • 10:00 a.m.  
Quality Inn & Suites • 38724 U.S. Hwy 19 North, Tarpon Springs

Thursday, January 30 • 6:00 p.m.  
Safety Harbor Resort and Spa • 105 N Bayshore Dr., Safety Harbor



presented by Richard Gordon, MD – Bariatric & General Surgeon  
Florida Bariatric Centers at Largo Medical Center & Palms of Pasadena Hospital

Tuesday, January 14 • 6:00 p.m.  
Largo Medical Center • 201 14th St. SW, Largo



presented by Tiffany Jessee, DO – Bariatric & General Surgeon  
Florida Bariatric Centers at Largo Medical Center & Palms of Pasadena Hospital

Wednesday, January 15 • 6:00 p.m.  
Hampton Inn • 1200 34th St. N, St. Petersburg

Tuesday, January 28 • 6:00 p.m.  
Ramada/Clearwater Airport • 3580 Ulmerton Road, Clearwater

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Premier Luxury Gulf front condo uniquely located on the "Narrows" in Indian Shores \* Exclusive 10 unit building \* 3,760 Sq. Ft. with 3BR/3.5BA, built in 2004 \* Private security, SW corner unit and private elevator! Merry Christmas - \$1,299,000

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## Real estate news

### Coldwell Banker names top agents

ST. PETERSBURG – Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate's 66th Street office recently announced its top associates for November.

The top associates are Glenda Quinn, listings leader; Kevin Gallagher, sales leader; and Arlene Fuino, closed leader.



Kevin Gallagher Arlene Fuino Glenda Quinn

### Breland joins Plumlee

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH – Plumlee Gulf Beach Realty recently welcomed Ken Breland. Breland is the realty's new sales manager.

Breland has over 35 years of experience successfully leading all aspects of real estate sales, development and investment. Since spending his early career in Tampa on the operations side of residential development, he has helped people with homes and real estate from North Carolina to Utah.

Prior to joining Plumlee Gulf Beach Realty, Breland served as chief executive officer at Langford Construction Company in the Atlanta area.



Ken Breland

### Smith & Associates, Mayfire partner

ST. PETERSBURG – Smith & Associates Real Estate recently celebrated the opening of its London office and its new partnership with Mayfair International Realty.

Guests were treated to British delights such as fish and chips and shepherd's pie while mingling with Smith's newest friends from across the pond. Mayfair International Realty, a network of more than 450 offices around the globe will allow Smith & Associates to extend its already far-reaching global marketing plan. Through Smith's personal connections to other real estate companies throughout the world, more attention and interest is focused on the finest properties in the Tampa Bay area.

### Prudential Tropical opens new office

BELLEAIR BLUFFS – Prudential Realty recently hosted an open house celebrating its new office at 404 N. Indian Rocks Road, Belleair Bluffs.

The office was previously located at 609 S. Fort Harrison.

The new facility features approximately 3,100 square feet of sophisticated office space which accommodates a team of highly skilled and experienced real estate professionals.

"This dynamic new location, together with the company's commitment to growth, and our core group of highly skilled sales executives, will enable us to more conveniently facilitate the real estate needs of clients in Belleair, Belleair Bluffs, and neighboring beach communities," said Lisa

Lozano in a press release. Lozano is managing broker of the Belleair office.



Attending the grand opening of Prudential Tropical's new office at 404 N. Indian Rocks Road, Belleair Bluffs, are, from left, Ginger McQuigg, vice president of residential sales; Danielle Beach, Capstone Title; Lisa Lozano, managing broker; and D. Dewey Mitchell, owner.

## RE/MAX announces All Star agents



Team Basler

Renee Coffin



Linda Mann

David McKinnon

MADEIRA BEACH – RE/MAX All Star recently announced its All Star agents for November.

The recipients of the All Star Agent Awards are Team Basler, Renee and Charlie Coffin, David McKinnon and Linda Mann.

All Star agents must display expertise and success in listing and selling real estate along with professionalism and achievement throughout the calendar month.

### Suncoast Realty Services receives award

CLEARWATER – The Clearwater Beach Award Program recently selected Suncoast Realty Services for the 2013 Best of Clearwater Beach Award in the Real Estate Management category.

Each year, the Clearwater Beach Award Program identifies companies that have achieved exceptional marketing success in their local community and business category. These are local companies that enhance the positive image of small business through service to their customers and our community.

Various sources of information were gathered and analyzed to choose the winners in each category. The 2013 Clearwater Beach Award Program focuses on quality, not quantity. Winners are determined based on the information gathered both internally by the Clearwater Beach Award Program and data provided by third parties.



Teen makes a difference with peers  
Design returns as Clearwater Beach sets off on path of 'rebirth'  
Councilors approve road repairs



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## What's Selling in Pinellas County

**Clearwater** **\$685,000**

4 Bedrooms 4 Baths 2 CG



**SOLD**

2,441 Sq. Ft. Sold on 11/14/13

**Jeanne Horne O'Brien**  
Coastal Properties Group International

**Largo** **\$185,000**

2 Bedrooms 3 Baths 2CG



**SOLD**

Two bedroom, two bath with third bath in garage. This home needs to be updated and is priced accordingly. Shiny Terrazzo floors. Over-sized garage with large laundry area (estimated 20x10) which can be easily finished. Great opportunity.

**Tom Cato**  
Realty Executives - Adamo & Associates

**Redington Shores** **\$150,000**

3 Bedrooms 1 Bath



**SOLD**

It's time to live the beach life! This move-in ready cottage is across the street from the beach. The light and bright floor plan offers 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, updated kitchen with breakfast bar, formal dining area, living area and family room. This ideal location is in walking distance to the beach, restaurants, shopping and more.

**Sandy Hartmann**  
Realty Executives - Adamo & Associates

**Pinellas Park** **\$170,000**

3 Bedrooms 3 Baths



**SOLD**

Open floor plan with large rooms, wood burning fireplace and kitchen is perfect for entertaining. Screened Florida room and a large backyard with inground pool.

**Caroleanne Vorac**  
Realty Executives - Adamo & Associates

## JUST LISTED AT ISLA DEL SOL



Beautifully updated 2BR villa in Casa Del Mar at Isla Del Sol. Gorgeous new kitchen and baths. Wide water views over Boca Ciega Bay. Furnished!  
**\$249,900**



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**HERITAGE HOUSE AT SEA TOWERS**

An open kitchen with recess lighting, tiled flooring. Formica countertops, wood cabinets and newer major appliances greet you as you enter this fabulous unit. The tastefully decorated dining room flows into the spacious parlor that offers a breathtaking water view. A newly remodeled main bathroom, wood floors, neutral carpeting and new windows add to the value of this condo. The A/C system and the hot water heater are both 6 years young and in excellent working condition. Sea Towers offers tennis, bowling, heated/cooled pools, shuffleboard, putting green, lawn bowling and much, much more. Florida living doesn't get much better than this! MLS#U7570151. Duval. \$168,500.



**LOTS OF POTENTIAL**

Duplex with a 3/1 on left side and a 2/1 on right side. The 3/1 has tile floors in living room and kitchen, some carpet and A/C was replaced in '08. Kitchen was updated several years ago. The 2/1 has mostly terrazzo floors throughout, and could use some updating. The roof was replaced in 2006, a very large yard front and back. Live in 1 side and rent the other or rent out both sides. Great location close to airports, beaches, hospitals, shopping, schools and just about anywhere you want to go. MLS#U7592326. Osborn. \$155,000.

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**SHORES OF LONG BAYOU**

Enjoy amazing water views from your screened lanai. This well-maintained 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo has a good-size master suite with a deluxe bath, a great kitchen and so much more. Secured building with elevator. This condo is the perfect place to call home for full-time residents or snowbirds. The Shores of Long Bayou is an outstanding community that features 24/7 guard at gate, clubhouse with fitness center, heated pool and walking trails. MLS#U7597796. Coffins. \$194,900.



**SEMINOLE GARDENS**

2BR/2BA first floor, end unit features updated kitchen, new carpet in bedrooms, freshly painted throughout with new exterior windows. An additional storage lock-up is located in the laundry room right next to the mailbox. Your personal parking spot is only steps from the front door. Short stroll to the clubhouse where you can enjoy the heated pool year-round. Seminole Mall and movie theater is next to this complex, within walking distance. Fabulous Seminole Garden Community offers shuffleboard courts, library, billiards, card clubs, dancing and entertainment. Also a free shuttle bus to local shopping, banking and close to county transit line. High and dry on the ridge but only 2 miles from Gulf Boulevard and Indian Shores' beautiful sandy white beach. MLS#U7603048. Herr. \$49,900.

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**NW ST. PETE - FIVE TOWNS CONDO**

Spacious 2 BR/2BA inside corner unit in Shoreview West Building. 1,135 sq. ft. CENTRAL HEAT & AIR 2013. Ceiling fans, large walk-in closet in master bedroom. Screened balcony overlooks pond & green space. Carport. One small pet OK. 55+ complex with pools, clubhouses, fitness center, tennis, clubs, activities. Near shopping. Short drive to Bay Pines VA Medical Center & Madeira Beach. MLS#U7603623. Brenner. \$82,500.



**JUST STEPS TO THE BEACH...**

Paradise is calling and now is the time to purchase your Florida dream home at Bella Grande. Built in 2006 and nestled in the "Heart" of St. Pete Beach, this 3 Bedroom/3 Full Bathroom condominium has an open floor plan, gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, solid wood cabinets and stainless steel spot-the-line appliances. Semi-private elevator takes you to your unit. Under building, secure parking with oversized storage room. Unit has two spacious balconies, one facing east and one facing west. Amenities include solar heated pool and spa, outdoor grilling area and a fitness room. MLS#U7603725. Linda Wallington. \$592,000.

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**YOU OWN THE LAND!**

There is no lot rent, no maintenance fees and no age restrictions. This is a well-kept & maintained 1BR/1BA mobile home. It comes fully furnished and is move-in ready. It also comes with a washer & dryer in a separate utility room. Yard is fenced. There is also a bonus room and plenty of storage as well. MLS#U7603731. Bombard. \$52,000.



**CUTE BUNGALOW**

2BR home with cove ceilings and original hardwood floors that are in excellent condition in living room and bedrooms. Kitchen and dining rooms have laminate. All new windows but one - new roof in 2010. MLS#U7603885. Sundell. \$109,900.

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**ATTENTION VETERANS, ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL AND SURVIVING SPOUSES.**

Clean and affordable remodeled 3BR/2BA home awaits a new owner. Many updates here including bamboo flooring, remodeled kitchen with Energy Star appliances, granite countertops and solid wood cabinets. Both bathrooms have new vanities, toilets and gorgeous decorative tile. Roof was recently replaced, windows and doors are impact rated. A/C upgraded to 15 Seer and new 40 gallon water heater with heat pump was added. The spacious backyard is fenced and ready for entertaining. Note: income and land use restrictions apply. MLS#U7603762. Schroeder. \$118,750.



**READY FOR A FAMILY!**

Lovely 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 car garage dream home on a corner lot in Redington Beach. Light and bright spacious kitchen with island for your cooking pleasure. Walk to beach and enjoy the sand, water and beautiful sunsets or park in the private beach parking. For residents only, with permit. Recently painted exterior, new impact windows, new fridge, washer and dryer. Low maintenance backyard has new privacy fence, patio and built-in grill. MLS#U7594135. Hawk. \$249,900.

**4350 Duhme Rd., Madeira Beach, FL 33708**  
For more details visit [C21champs.com/MLS.A](http://C21champs.com/MLS.A)

## LETTERS

**National debt soars during Obama's term**

Re: "Political Parties must compromise and cooperate," Mike MacDonald, Clearwater, Dec. 12

**Editor:**

I read that these letters that The Beacon prints must contain this requirement: Please refrain from making unsubstantiated allegations.

The allegation from Mike MacDonald states, "The GOP over the past 40 years or so has been responsible for more national debt than in all of the nation's history."

This statement of Mr. MacDonald is "totally unsubstantiated" and totally untrue.

National debt: George W. Bush vs. Barack H. Obama. It's important to keep in mind that during the past 40 years, Democrats have served as our president for 17 years, while Republicans have served as President for 23 years.

Our national debt currently is \$17.2 trillion and all of these figures I'm providing can be substantiated at the following link: "The Debt to the Penny and Who Holds It" [www.treasurydirect.gov/NP/debt/current](http://www.treasurydirect.gov/NP/debt/current).

Our national debt when George W. Bush took office on Jan. 21, 2001 was \$5.72 trillion and it was \$10.6 trillion when he left office.

So in George W. Bush's entire eight years – or 96 months as president, our national debt increased by \$4.89 trillion.

Our national debt has increased by \$6.59 trillion during Obama's first 59 months in office. Higher than all of the national debt accumulated by the first 42 U.S. presidents combined – and Obama still has 37 months left in office until his term ends to surpass that unenviable track record.

In contrast, in just the 59 months that Barack H. Obama has been president, the total national debt is higher by – \$1.70 trillion and counting – than the total national debt under George W. Bush's entire 96 months as president.

I'm not discussing percentages of increase, but actual dollars of increase.

And our national debt is projected to surpass \$22 trillion by the end of Obama's 96 months as president, which would be an increase of over \$11 trillion during Obama's full eight years in office.

This would mean that President Obama would be credited with doubling the national debt, from \$10.62 trillion to over \$22 trillion during his entire eight years in office. Far surpassing the total national debt of all his 43 presidential predecessors combined.

**Joseph Mackay**  
Seminole

**The scoop on the poop**

*Editor's note: This letter stems from extensive sewage problems occurring in the residential area off Kent Place in Largo that residents have complained about recently to city officials.*

We have lots of neat things in Kent Place, including fresh poop that gets in your face. When driving in from Belcher the smell is strong; much worse than the sulphur water that might help a lawn.

But it is fun to see and smell the pumping, each Friday evening as Sabbath is celebrated, our rabbi is leaving (he is moving to Flushing, N.Y.).

There's a problem with the pipes that we don't understand, and that can't be despite the demand.

And the damages to the coyotes is of concern. They've asked us for incense that they can burn and barking "please please, spare us from this decease."

As values go down, our taxes will too. So we can afford gas masks, and have bought quite a few.

And we reached out to Fidel, and he is sending a crew to save us from sewage, and democracy too.

So the problem is big, and our choices limited. Are we confused, or our systems demented?

We will know more Tuesday when we see how the system handles our poop and our pee.

So to government and commissioners, we know you are good listeners. Please tell us what to do so that we don't associate this situation with you.

**Alan Gassman**  
Gassman Law Associates,  
Clearwater

**Why unincorporated?****Editor:**

I live in "unincorporated" Seminole and do not get any city benefits like recreation privileges. So where are the city limits? It must be very small. I live about 2 miles from City Hall.

I can walk to the library, the mall. So why "unincorporated?" Oh, Taxes. The property I live on probably is not city taxed. Well, I only rent here so it is not my fault I do not pay the property taxes, but I do live here and would like not to feel like an outsider.

**Alva Kissee**  
Seminole

**Thanks for brightening holidays for seniors****Editor:**

On behalf of the staff at Home Instead Senior Care, I would like to thank everyone who helped with this year's very successful be a Santa to a senior program.

With support from generous shoppers, Beall's Outlet stores, JSA Healthcare, Community Bible Church, YMCA of Palm Harbor & Shapes Total Fitness, we were able to collect more than 500 gifts for local seniors who otherwise might have been overlooked this holiday season.

We also would like to thank the many volunteers who shared their time to collect, wrap and deliver the gifts to 500 area seniors, many of whom struggle to make ends meet.

Thanks to all those who helped us brighten the holidays for our local seniors and truly making a difference in our community.

**Julie Krol**  
Clearwater

**End-of-year decisions: Why bother?**

Here we are at the juncture between the old year and the new year. For most of us, that means we should make some decisions.

WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE GREETING CARDS? This includes the Christmas, Hanukkah and Festivus cards we received as well as the leftover cards we never mailed because we ran out of friends and acquaintances to send them to. Incoming cards have value, even if it's small. Each card means that someone cared enough to buy it, address it, maybe scribble a note such as "I hope Sally has cut back on her drinking," and put on a stamp. In this era of email, texting, sexting, Twittering, Twerking and Facebooking, an honest-to-goodness Christmas card is a sentimental step back into the time when people were real and not just names listed on computer files. So maybe we should not pitch this year's incoming cards into the dumpster. At the very least we should keep them for a year, so that we can flip through them next Christmas to recall who remembered us and who didn't.

WHAT SHALL WE DO ON NEW YEAR'S EVE? Five or ten thousand years ago, some wise old duck declared, "Time is NOT a flowing, unbroken continuum. It is neatly divided into days, weeks, months and years. The most important event is the new year. Therefore we should celebrate its arrival by doing something fun and noisy on New Year's Eve. Okay?" Ever since then most of us have gone along with that idea, even when we would have preferred to stay safely at home on a warm sofa with our main squeeze, our favorite dog and two quarts of Breyer's butter pecan ice cream.

New Year's Eve is when millions of people who don't know how to handle alcohol set out

**Driver's Seat**

Bob Driver

to prove it. They often succeed in various ways such as car crashes, fistfights, ill-fated adultery and vomiting on the host's wife. I sometimes wonder how many police officers resign their jobs after pulling duty on New Year's Eve and having to cope with a night full of drunks.

When midnight arrives and the glittering gadget descends into Times Square, kissing begins. That's when some intricate decision-making takes place. Questions arise: "After I give my wife a heartfelt kiss, shall I plant a queen-size smooch on my gorgeous neighbor Connie, for whom I've lusted ever since Jerry Ford was president?" And so on. I've known many partygoers who simply duck out five minutes early to avoid the customary lipstick-and-saliva exchanges. But most folks happily endure them.

SHALL WE DRAW UP NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS? The common-sense answer is "No."

Research has shown that very few resolutions endure for more than a few weeks. Still, to undertake self-reform for even a short time helps us to maintain the illusion that we possess free will and self-control. And there's no harm in that, I suppose. Most resolutions have to do with losing weight. Which reminds me that, in all my years of watching TV evangelists perform their miracles, I've never seen

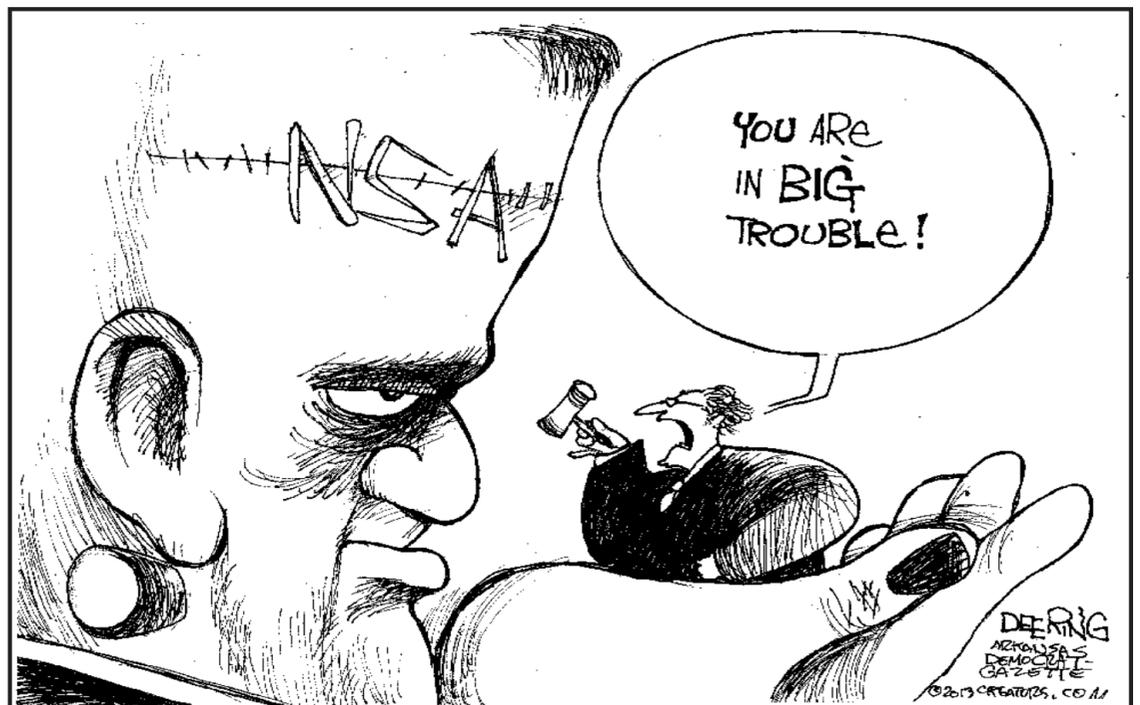
one attempting to cure obesity. They turn that curse over to God, and from what I can see God doesn't do a very good job with it.

At this moment, my only resolution (or vague intent) for 2014 is to start a blog. Also, maybe, to learn the ins and outs of Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. At heart, I'm not a very social guy, and I'm told these social networking inventions can catapult me into a whole new world of informed, astute observers who, if I let them, will help me spend half of each day exchanging opinions on Obama, guns, Miley Cyrus and other significant topics.

IN 2014 SHOULD WE HEED POLITICAL CANDIDATES? The coming year will see hundreds of men and women striving for public office. Some of them will be outright liars, but many others will tell the truth (or at least try to). Should we devote much of our time and energy attempting to discover which is which? I've decided to save time by paying attention only to candidates whose initials are the same as mine. I don't know if any such candidates will come forth. If they don't, it won't be my fault.

A final note: as always, my best holiday wishes go out to my 38 (or so) Faithful Readers, especially to those who take the time to email me, even with messages that begin "You benighted swine!" I have come to believe that most of the people who read this newspaper each week have an I.Q. level at least twenty-seven points higher than the national average, and forty-four points higher than my own. You are a distinguished audience, and I salute you. Happy holidays!

*Bob Driver is a former columnist for the Clearwater Sun. His email address is [tralee71@comcast.net](mailto:tralee71@comcast.net).*

**Justice finally prevails for offender**

President Obama commuted the sentences of eight crack-cocaine offenders Thursday, including that of Clarence Aaron, who was serving a sentence of life without parole for a first-time nonviolent drug conviction when he was 23.

Aaron's story represents the worst excesses of the federal criminal justice system. Aaron, of Mobile, Ala., had no criminal record. He had held jobs. In 1992, he was a college student who decided to address his money problems by acting as an intermediary between two career drug dealers. The dealers paid him \$1,500 to set up two large cocaine deals. They got caught. The ringleaders knew how to game the system. They pleaded guilty and testified against Aaron.

Aaron wasn't as savvy. He pleaded not guilty and lied on the stand – which enhanced his sentence. The buyer planned on converting powder cocaine to crack – that, too, enhanced Aaron's sentence. One deal didn't happen, but federal prosecutors charged Aaron for it anyway. Voila, he won the same sentence that was imposed on FBI agent-turned-Russian spy Robert Hanssen and now-deceased serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer.

Aaron knows he broke the law. He had earned prison time. But what does it say when federal prosecutors seek and win life without parole for a first-time offender while letting the big fish finagle lesser sentences? All but one of Aaron's cohorts has been out of prison since 2000.

**Best Christmas ever**

Aaron's cousin, Aaron Martin, said the commutation made this season "the best Christmas ever." Attorney Margaret C. Love said, "We are grateful to President Obama."

In 2001, I began hectoring President George W. Bush to commute Aaron's sentence. Bush asked his pardon attorney to reconsider the petition, but the official misled him, failing to inform him that the judge and the U.S. attorney had come to support



Debra Saunders

Aaron's petition, so the president said no.

When Obama was first elected, Aaron's family was convinced that America's first black president would free Aaron, who is African-American. In the first term, their hopes were dashed. Until Thursday, Obama had commuted only one sentence, that of crack-cocaine offender Eugenia Jennings, in 2011; Jennings died of leukemia in October. Finally, on Thursday, it happened.

"Today, I am commuting the prison terms of eight men and women who were sentenced under an unfair system" that was reformed three years ago under the Fair Sentencing Act, Obama said in a statement. "Each of them has served more than 15 years in prison. In several cases, the sentencing judges expressed frustration that the law at the time did not allow them to issue punishments that more appropriately fit the crime."

**Nonviolent offenses**

According to the White House, six of the inmates whose sentences were commuted were serving life sentences for nonviolent offenses.

It's about time. Drug-war critics have been waiting for commutations ever since Attorney General Eric Holder told the American Bar Association in August that "certain low-level nonviolent drug offenders who have no ties to large-scale organizations, gangs or cartels will no longer be charged with offenses that impose draconian mandatory minimum sentences."

Political science Professor P.S. Ruckman Jr., who hosts the Pardon Power blog, had rated Obama "one of the most merciless (pres-

idents) in history."

**Nearing Bush's record**

On Thursday, Ruckman observed, "I don't think that changes his record that much." With nine acts of clemency, however, Obama is approaching the 11 commutations granted by Bush.

The American Civil Liberties Union estimates that close to 2,000 nonviolent offenders are serving life without parole in federal prisons.

"If we were reading about this stuff and it were in another country," noted the head of Families Against Mandatory Minimums, Julie Stewart, "we'd be saying, 'Oh, my god, they're putting away people for life for nonviolent offenses.'"

It is amazing how many liberals will support Obama's reticence to use his clemency power. "Willie Horton!" they chime – noting that Republicans made former Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis answer for the furlough of a murderer who raped a woman during an armed robbery after he was furloughed. Be it noted: Horton was ineligible for parole and should not have been given a weekend pass.

Aaron has no record of violence. He has a clean prison record. He has taken responsibility for the actions that led to his prosecution. His family wants to help him establish a productive life.

During a 2002 phone call from prison, Aaron told me he could not believe that in America, a young man could be condemned to spend the rest of his life behind bars for a stupid, criminal, but nonviolent, decision.

"These people literally would have died in prison without this act of compassion and mercy by the president," Stewart noted. "He will not regret it."

Indeed, I believe Obama will feel so good about these commutations; he'll do it again soon.

*Email Debra J. Saunders at [dsaunders@schronicle.com](mailto:dsaunders@schronicle.com).*

**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](mailto:tgermond@TBNweekly.com). We will not print the letter writer's phone number.

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.

**The deadline for letters pertaining to Jan. 14 election has passed.**

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### Essay winners



Photo courtesy of JACKIE HOMER

Winners in the recent Holiday Isles Elks Lodge Americanism Essay Contest were, front row, from left, Dawson Avila, Evan Smith and Emily Parrish of Orange Grove Elementary School, along with Alden Schaefer, Victoria Tibbens and Taylor Malz of Bauder Elementary. In the back row, from left, are Tom Rice, executive leader Holiday Isles; Jackie Homer, PR, Holiday Isles; Raymond Pitney, past district deputy, Holiday Isles; Roger Novack, trustee, Holiday Isles; Iwan Choronenko, past district deputy, Holiday Isles and Annie Williams, past executive leader, Holiday Isles. Winners from both schools won \$100 each. Second-place finishers got \$75 and third place was worth \$50. The students also won a one-week summer vacation to the Florida Elks Youth Camp in Umatilla.

### Principal for a day



Photo courtesy of DANA ROZANCE

Eighth-grader Anna Marie Gomes, right, served as principal for a day at Blessed Sacrament Catholic School on Dec. 11. Gomes' parents won the opportunity for her at a Nov. 2 fundraising auction, which raised nearly \$30,000 for the school. Gomes followed principal Cynthia Yevich around to get an up close and personal view of her daily tasks as principal. They visited classrooms, stopping for a few minutes in each one to see what the students were learning. Gomes decided on an eighth grade privilege to walk to Chick-fil-A for lunch on Dec. 16. She was also able to see firsthand the many jobs the principal has each day, and even helped look for students out of uniform code.

### Veterans tuition bill passes committee

TALLAHASSEE - Legislation filed by Sen. Jack Latvala passed the Senate Education Committee Dec. 10. The bill, which will waive out-of-state tuition fees for veterans, will be called "The Congressman C.W. Bill Young Veteran Tuition Waiver Program."

This bill, if it passes the Legislature, will allow honorably discharged military veterans and reservists to attend schools in the Florida College System or in the State University System and take advantage of in-state tuition costs.

Currently, gaining in-state status for many veterans would require them to live in Florida for a year to establish residency and then attend college. Veterans must reside in Florida when physically attending the

institution or while taking online courses.

Sen. Latvala decided to name his bill after the late Congressman Young because of his many years of support and dedication to veterans.

"I can't think of anything more meaningful than to have Congressman Young's name attached to our bill which will help veterans returning home attend school and improve their chances at employment," Latvala said.

The Senate Sub-Committee on Education Appropriations and the Committee on Appropriations must still hear the Senate bill. The sponsor of the companion bill, House Bill 35, in the Florida House is Rep. Kathleen Peters.

### Students of the Month



Photo courtesy of GENE STERN

The Rotary Club of Seminole Lake named seniors Alexander Jackson and Katherine Rankin Osceola Fundamental High School's Students of the Month for November. Jackson currently has a 4.655 GPA and has consistently achieved academic honors in his four years at Osceola. He has volunteered at St. Petersburg General Hospital and is a member of the Science National Honor Society. He plans to attend a state university in Florida and major in physics. Rankin has a GPA of 4.6 while being a three-year starter on the high school's championship-winning soccer team. She belongs to numerous honor societies, while actively participating in many community service projects: Jeans for Teens, Pink Out, Pre-school volunteer and King of the Beach. She is the president of the Interact Club and also is active in her church. She has gone on two missions to the Dominican Republic. She will attend either the University of Florida or Vanderbilt University to study environmental engineering with a goal of becoming a physician. Pictured from left, George Bessler, Rotary president; Jackson; Michael Bohnet, OFHS principal; and Rankin.

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Send school news to Seminole Beacon Editor Tiffany Razzano, Tampa Bay Newspapers, 9911 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772. Email [trazzano@TBNweekly.com](mailto:trazzano@TBNweekly.com) or call 397-5563, ext. 306.

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## 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, Dec. 26 - 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, Dec. 26 - Seminole Business Masters, 7:30 a.m., Mama's Kitchen, 5885 Seminole Blvd., Seminole. Call Thom Barnhorn at 623-9955.
- Thursday, Dec. 26 - Network Professionals Inc. Networking Leads Club, 7:30 a.m., Panera Bread in the Bardmoor Shopping Center on the corner of Bryan Dairy and Starkey roads, Largo. Call Barbara at 573-1935, ext. 402.
- Thursday, Dec. 26 - 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](http://www.execbusnet.com).
- Thursday, Dec. 26 - BNI Grand Slam Network Exchange, 7:30 a.m., Heritage Holiday Inn, 234 Third Ave. N., St. Petersburg. Visit [www.bni.com](http://www.bni.com).
- Thursday, Dec. 26 - Network Professionals of St. Pete, 7:30 a.m. For information and meeting location, call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Thursday, Dec. 26 - 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](mailto:denise@denisemurphy.com).
- Thursday, Dec. 26 - Professional Leads Network, Patriots Chapter, 8 a.m., Boris Family Restaurant, 11411 Ulmertown Road, Largo. Visit [www.pro-leads.net](http://www.pro-leads.net).
- Thursday, Dec. 26 - 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, Dec. 26 - Network Professionals of St. Pete, 11:30 a.m. For information and meeting location, call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Friday, Dec. 27 - 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](http://www.bnireferralmasters.com).
- Friday, Dec. 27 - Network Professionals of St. Pete, 7:30 a.m. For information and meeting location, call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Friday, Dec. 27 - Professional Leads Network, Upper Pinellas Chapter, 7:45 a.m., at R & G Cafe, 1565 Highland Ave., Clearwater. Visit [www.pro-leads.net](http://www.pro-leads.net).
- Friday, Dec. 27 - 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](http://www.pro-leads.net).
- Monday, Dec. 30 - Network Professionals Inc., 7:30 a.m., at Perkins Restaurant, 8841 Park Blvd. N., Largo. Call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Monday, Dec. 30 - 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](http://www.pro-leads.net).
- Monday, Dec. 30 - 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](mailto:jamiel@freenetworkinginternational.com).
- Monday, Dec. 30 - 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](mailto:waynep@freenetworkinginternational.com) or visit [twocupsconnect.com](http://twocupsconnect.com).

- Tuesday, Dec. 31 - 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](http://www.BNISuccessAlliance.com).
- Tuesday, Dec. 31 - Professional Leads Network, First Watch Chapter, 7:30 a.m., First Watch, 2569 Village Drive, Clearwater. Visit [www.pro-leads.net](http://www.pro-leads.net).
- Tuesday, Dec. 31 - 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, Dec. 31 - 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, Dec. 31 - Network Professionals Inc., Seminole Chapter, 7:30 a.m., Perkins Family Restaurant, 8841 Park Blvd., Largo. Call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Tuesday, Dec. 31 - 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](http://www.cbnet.biz).
- Tuesday, Dec. 31 - Network Professionals of St. Pete, 7:30 a.m. For information and meeting location, call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Tuesday, Dec. 31 - 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 [jplady@hotmail.com](mailto:jplady@hotmail.com) or visit [www.freenetworkinginternational.com](http://www.freenetworkinginternational.com).
- Tuesday, Dec. 31 - 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, Dec. 31 - Tri-City Network Professionals, 11:45 a.m., at Applebee's Restaurant, 5110 East Bay Drive, Clearwater. First visit is free. Call 492-7921.
- Thursday, Jan. 2 - BNI Success Masters Seminole Chapter, 7:15 a.m., at Lake Seminole Presbyterian Church, 8505 113th St., Seminole. Cost is \$10 including continental breakfast. Call Jerry Hotho at 813-334-0598 or [jerry.hotho@gviz-pts.com](mailto:jerry.hotho@gviz-pts.com).
- Thursday, Jan. 2 - 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](mailto:denise@denisemurphy.com).
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- Thursday, Jan. 2 - Network Professionals of St. Pete, 11:30 a.m. For information and meeting location, call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Thursday, Jan. 2 - Network Professionals Inc., Countryside Lunch Chapter, 11:45 a.m., at the Countryside Country Club, 3001 Countryside Blvd., Clearwater. Call Rhonda Pulver at 744-8059.
- Thursday, Jan. 2 - Ali Lassen's Leads Club, Central Pinellas Professional Women, noon, Chili's, 5430 East Bay Drive, Clearwater. Email [Leadsclubexec@aol.com](mailto:Leadsclubexec@aol.com).
- Thursday, Jan. 2 - Free Networking International, 1 p.m., at the Belleair Grill and Wine Bar, 1575 S. Fort Harrison, Belleair. Purchasing lunch is optional. Call Rita Shepard at 415-9496.

## Grand opening



Photo by BOB McCLURE

Maggie and Joe Caruso use the big scissors to officially open the Coconut Inn at 113 11th Ave. in Pass-A-Grille Dec. 18 during a Tampa Bay Beach Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting event. The former Leroy Motel has 11 suites, a pool and WiFi throughout. Ralph Lickton of Pass-A-Grille designed the upgrades. The Carusos also are in the process of refurbishing the Havana Inn on Gulf Way.

## Biz notes

### Coffee Connections set

CLEARWATER - Coffee Connections 2014, a business-focused networking and tour event, will be Tuesday, Feb. 11, 8 to 10 a.m., at 14155 58th St. N., Clearwater.

This event will offer an opportunity for businesses to gain exposure while supporting 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares efforts in helping family, friends, neighbors and employees with everyday needs and in times of crisis.

Coffee Connections will provide local businesses with:

- An overview of 2-1-1 TBC programs and services
- Information stations on key issues addressed by 2-1-1 TBC in the community such as children and families; military families and veterans; and disaster and crisis intervention services
- A tour of our 2-1-1 contact center
- Demonstration of new Apple and Android apps utilized by 2-1-1 TBC
- Coffee, breakfast and giveaways
- Networking opportunities with local businesses, government leaders, 2-1-1 TBC Board of directors and 2-1-1 TBC staff

For information, call 210-4241.

Traditional Watercraft wins awards

LARGO - Traditional Watercraft Inc., the Largo-based builder of Island Packet Yachts founded in 1979, recently was awarded two Boat of the Year

awards from Cruising World magazine.

The builder won the awards for its new Blue Jacket 40 model. The Blue Jacket was chosen from 28 finalists selected from the more than 70 new sailboat models introduced in the United States over the past 12 months.

Citing the outstanding build quality and excellent performance that have always been associated with the builder, the

Cruising World judges were also taken by the unique design collaboration of the yacht between two of the country's most notable yacht designers: Island Packet founder, owner and naval architect Bob Johnson and Tim Jackett, previously the president and designer for Tartan and C&C Yachts based in Ohio.

The Blue Jacket 40 is both this year's Best Midsize Cruiser as well as the 2014 Domestic Boat of the Year.



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# Worship calendar

## Chabad of Pinellas County and Chabad of Clearwater

CLEARWATER - As a joint program of Chabad of Pinellas County and Chabad of Clearwater, Rabbi Dr. David Nesenoff will bring his speaking tour to Pinellas on Thursday, Jan. 9, 7:30 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Express Clearwater, 2580 Gulf-to-Bay Blvd.

After becoming world-renowned for his famous White House interview with Helen Thomas, Nesenoff will be speaking to the local community as part of his international tour that has taken him to Australia, England, Ireland Canada and most of the states in the United States.

Nesenoff's one man show, more than just a lecture, is about everything from his relationship with the Divine, his front row seat in the world media, Israel, anti-Semitism, and his amazing personal journey. It is a story of cyber-hatred, life-threatening danger and oddly enough, incredible humor.



Rabbi Dr. David Nesenoff

Admission is \$10 a person. Sponsorships are \$180. To RSVP, call 265-2770 or 789-0408 or visit [www.YICHABAD.com](http://www.YICHABAD.com) or [www.JewishClearwater.com](http://www.JewishClearwater.com).

## Chapel-By-The-Sea

CLEARWATER - A traditional candlelight worship service will be presented on Christmas Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m., at Chapel-By-The-Sea, 54 Bay Esplanad.

The Rev. Herb Freitag will provide the Biblical inspiration in a sermon titled "Christmas at 30,000 Feet." The choir will sing "Messiah Christmas Suite" by G.F. Handel, and will be augmented by additional musicians including Eden Vaning-Rosen, Jasmine Lemon, Jake Bray and Elyse Aaronson on strings, Danzel Dixon on percussion, and Barbara Prescott on flute. "O Holy Night" will be sung by Marilyn Michael and Jared Acuff.

The nursery will be available for the little ones. The church coach will make its usual run.

For information, call 446-0430 or visit [www.chapelbythesea.net](http://www.chapelbythesea.net).

## Clothes to Kids needs donation

CLEARWATER - The nonprofit group, Clothes to Kids, is in need of new or gently used young girls' and boys' pants and shorts sizes 6 to 16, long- and short-sleeved shirts sizes small to extra large, young men's shorts sizes 18 to 28, and young girls' and boys' shorts sizes 5 to 12.

Clothes to Kids provides a full week's wardrobe of free clothing to low-income school-age children in Pinellas County from kindergarten through high school.

Each wardrobe includes five new pairs of underwear, five new pairs of socks, four pairs of shorts or pants, a dress, one jacket in season, and shoes.

This wardrobe includes school uniforms.

Donations can be dropped off from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Monday through Friday at either of their locations, 1059 N. Hercules Ave., Clearwater, or 3251 Third Ave. N., Suite 145, St. Petersburg.

Cash donations also are needed to purchase clothing in short supply and new underwear.

Call 441-5050 or visit [www.clothestokids.org](http://www.clothestokids.org).



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Events • Movies • Classifieds

Seminole Beacon, Section B, December 26, 2013 • Visit [www.TBNweekly.com](http://www.TBNweekly.com)



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## This week's top 5

• **"Santaland Diaries,"** by David Sedaris, running through Dec. 29, at American Stage Theatre, 163 Third St. N., St. Petersburg. The holiday season has been called the most wonderful time of the year. Not so says Crumpet, the unemployed, chemically dependent writer who takes a job as a "helper elf" at Macy's Santaland in New York City. His tale of mass marketing, stressed out sales clerks, drunken Santas, screaming kids and the general insanity of the holidays is hilarious and meant for mature audiences only. This one-man show starring local favorite Brian Shea is perfect for those who view the holiday season a little differently from what the television wants us all to believe. Performances will be Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; and Sunday, 3 p.m. General admission tickets are \$19. Call 823-7529 or visit [www.americanstage.org](http://www.americanstage.org).

• **ZZ Top,** Friday, Dec. 27, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$55. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com). ZZ Top lay undisputed claim to being the longest-running major rock band with original personnel intact and in 2004, the Texas trio was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Of course, there are only three of them. Billy F Gibbons, Dusty Hill and Frank Beard, but it's a remarkable achievement that they're still very much together after more than 40 years of rock, blues and boogie on the road and in the studio. It was in Houston in the waning days of 1969 that ZZ Top coalesced from the cores of two rival bands, Billy's Moving Sidewalks and Frank and Dusty's American Blues. The new group went on to record the appropriately titled ZZ Top's First Album and "Rio Grande Mud," that reflected their strong blues roots. Their third, 1973's "Tres Hombres," catapulted them to national attention with the hit "La Grange," still one of the band's signature pieces today. Their next hit was "Tush," featured on their "Fandango!" album released in 1975. In the mid 1980s, the band released "Eliminator" – an album that represented a paradigm shift for ZZ Top. Their roots blues skew was intact, but added to the mix were tech-age trappings that soon found a visual outlet with the nascent MTV.

• **"Just Thinking Out Loud,"** presented by comedian Dave Celestian, Saturday, Dec. 28, 8 p.m., at Venue Theatre, 9125 U.S. 19 N., Pinellas Park. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Seating is limited. Reservations are recommended. For reservations, text name and party size to 727-286-0241 or email [DaveCelestian.com](mailto:DaveCelestian.com). A former engineer, Celestian left the "American Dream" in the summer of 2008 to pursue standup full-time. He offers a uniquely real, dynamic, and progressive style of humor. His distinctive blend of intelligent, quick-witted humor, delivers a refreshing brand of comedy that is intriguingly entertaining.

• **Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker,** Saturday, Dec. 28, 3 and 7:30 p.m., at the Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg. Tickets start at \$32.50. Call 893-7832 or visit [www.themahaffey.com](http://www.themahaffey.com). The show features 40 star-studded dancers performing Olympic-worthy leaps in Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker. It is a holiday performance for families with magical toys, falling snow, growing Christmas trees and astounding ballet moves. The Moscow Ballet dancers are world-class and a delight to experience.

• **Gilbert Gottfried,** Sunday, Dec. 29, 7:30 p.m., at Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St., Clearwater. Tickets start at \$25. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.atthecap.com](http://www.atthecap.com). At the young age of 15, Gottfried began doing stand-up in New York City and, after a few short years, became known around town as "the comedian's comedian." After spending several years mastering the art of stand-up comedy, producers of the legendary NBC late night comedy show "Saturday Night Live" became aware of Gottfried and, in 1980, hired him as a cast member. It wasn't until a few years later when his true notoriety would begin when MTV hired him for a series of improvised and hilarious promos for the newly formed channel. This led to several television appearances on "The Cosby Show" and "Late Night with David Letterman." Gottfried's work in television soon led to roles in film. Most notable was his improvised scene as business manager Sidney Bernstein in the hit sequel "Beverly Hills Cop II." Aside from his glowing reputation in comedy clubs, Gottfried began to gain a reputation as the king of quirky roles in both movies and television. He appeared in such movies as "Problem Child," "Problem Child II," "Look Who's Talking II" and "The Adventures of Ford Fairlane."



Sylvester Stallone, left, stars as Henry "Razor" Sharp and Robert De Niro as Billy "The Kid" McDonnen in Warner Bros. Pictures' comedy "Grudge Match."

## Opening this weekend

'Grudge Match' pairs Stallone, De Niro; Stiller stars in 'Walter Mitty'

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

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

### 'Grudge Match'

Genre: Comedy and drama  
Cast: Sylvester Stallone, Robert De Niro, Kevin Hart, Alan Arkin, Kim Basinger, Jon Bernthal and Camden Gray  
Director: Peter Segal  
Rated: PG-13

In "Grudge Match," Robert De Niro and Sylvester Stallone play Billy "The Kid" McDonnen and Henry "Razor" Sharp, two local Pittsburgh fighters whose fierce rivalry put them in the national spotlight.

Each had scored a victory against the other during their heyday, but in 1983, on the eve of their decisive third match, Razor suddenly announced his retirement, refusing to explain why but effectively delivering a knock-out punch to both their careers. Now, 30 years later, boxing promoter Dante Slate Jr., seeing big dollar signs, makes them an offer they can't refuse: to re-enter the ring and settle the score once and for all.

But they may not have to wait that long: on their first encounter in decades, their long-festering feud erupts into an unintentionally hilarious melee that instantly goes viral. The sudden social media frenzy transforms their local grudge match into a must-see HBO event. If they can just survive the training, they may actually live to fight again.

### 'The Secret Life of Walter Mitty'

Genre: Adventure and comedy  
Cast: Ben Stiller, Kristen Wiig, Shirley MacLaine, Adam Scott, Kathryn Hahn and Sean Penn  
Director: Ben Stiller  
Rated: PG

No one really knows the power of the private dreams inside our heads ... until they inspire our reality.

That's what happens in Ben Stiller's contemporary rethink of one of the most influential fantasy stories of all time – indeed the quintessential tale about the irresistible allure of fantasizing: James Thurber's "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty." Stiller has taken that two-and-a-half page 1939 classic and opened it up into a 21st century comic epic about a man who finds that his real life is about to blow his wildly



Photo by WILSON WEBB/TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX  
Ben Stiller and Kristen Wiig star in "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty."

over-active imagination out of the water.

This Walter Mitty (Stiller) is a modern day-dreamer, an ordinary magazine photo editor who takes a regular mental vacation from his ho-hum existence by disappearing into a world of fantasies electrified by dashing heroism, passionate romance and constant triumphs over danger. But when Mitty and the co-worker he secretly adores (Kristen Wiig) stand in actual peril of losing their jobs, Walter must do the unimaginable: take real action – sparking a global journey more extraordinary than anything he could have ever dreamed up.

See **OPENING**, page 2B

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During this wonderful holiday season, it's a great time to reflect on the past, enjoy the present with family & friends and look forward to a bright future. From our family to yours, we wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.





Photo courtesy of VICTOR WOOTEN

Victor Wooten has won most every major award given to a bass guitarist.

# Wooten to perform at Largo Cultural Center

LARGO – Audiences will have an opportunity to spend an evening with Victor Wooten Friday, Jan. 3, 8 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo.

Tickets start at \$29.50 plus applicable service fee. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com.

The five-time Grammy award winner is known for his solo recordings, tours and as a member of the Grammy-winning super group, Bela Fleck & The Flecktones.

Wooten has won most every major award given to a bass guitarist. He was voted Bassist of the Year by Bass Player Magazine three times and is the only person to have won the award more than once.

Brought into this world as Victor Lemonte Wooten in 1964, the future bassist spent his childhood paving the road toward musical success.

According to his bio provided by Compass Records, Wooten was born the youngest of five boys.

He was only 2 when he began learning to play music. At 5, he was playing nightclubs and theaters as the bassist in his family's band. The following year saw him touring with his brothers, opening for legendary soul artist Curtis Mayfield.

"I was born at the right place and the right time to a wonderful family," Wooten says in the biography.

By age 8, Wooten had earned the nickname Bass Ace. By the time he graduated high school, he and his brothers had shared the stage with artists such as Stephanie Mills, War, Ramsey Lewis, Frankie Beverly and Maze, Dexter Wansel, and The Temptations.

That is only the beginning of Wooten's tale.

Fast forward to the late 1980s. Wooten was one of the founding members of Bela Fleck & The Flecktones, a band which formed initially for a one-time performance on the PBS series "Lonesome Pine Specials." The band has released more than a dozen albums since its self-titled debut from Warner Bros. in 1990. Bela Fleck & The Flecktones also tours extensively, sometimes playing as many as 200 concerts a year.

As if he wasn't busy enough with that project, Wooten also pursued a solo career, turning out half a dozen albums beginning with "A Show of Hands" in 1996. Recorded with only a four-string bass, no multi-tracking, and a lot of groove and soul, this revolutionary CD was voted one of the most important bass records of all time.

Around this time, musicians wanting to learn Wooten's unique style and elusive techniques began seeking him out for lessons and seminars at music stores and schools around the world. These workshops became the training ground that led to the formation of his acclaimed Bass/Nature Camp in 2000, which

eventually expanded into Victor Wooten's Center for Music and Nature. The center offers intensive style programs and welcomes all instrumentation and vocalists.

In 2009, Wooten Woods became the new home for all of Victor's camps. The nearly 150-acre retreat, owned by Wooten and his wife, is located west of Nashville, Tenn. This picturesque retreat center has provided many more opportunities for Victor and his staff to share their lifelong experiences with others.

"We give students the opportunity to completely let go and be themselves while congregating in a peaceful noncompetitive manner on an equal playing ground with each other and their instructors," Wooten said. "We've found this to be the best environment for learning."

In 2008, Wooten released "Palmystery, his sixth solo recording. The album showcases Wooten's jazz composition and arranging skills with songs like "Two Timers," "Flex" and "Song for my Father." It also brings to the forefront his artistically humble side with the celebratory track "Bass Tribute" and the thought provoking "I Saw God."

On the same date, Wooten released "The Music Lesson – A Spiritual Search for Growth Through Music," a self-published novel about life and music. The book presold hundreds of copies before its release quickly becoming a "must-read" for musicians world-wide.

## Crossword

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65						66					67			

- Across**
- Threadbare clothing
  - Become friendlier
  - Amorphous mass
  - Various forms of the same speech sounds
  - \_\_\_ lamp
  - Mediterranean plants with large edible flower heads (2 wds)
  - Mac
  - A.T.M. need
  - Drill bits
  - Kuwaiti, e.g.
  - Throughout (music)
  - Ed.'s request (acronym)
  - Arctic
  - Toni Morrison's "\_\_\_ Baby"
  - Big East team
  - E or G, e.g.
  - Surface of a ship's hull above water
  - Container with historical records for future discovery (2 wds)
  - Afflicted with oxygen-deficient blood
  - "\_\_\_ say!" (contraction)
  - Norse god of mischief
  - \_\_\_ DeLuise, actor
  - Dead, as an engine
  - Arthur Godfrey played it
  - Innocent
  - Doctor Who villainess, with "the"
  - Yogi's sidekick
  - Cal. col.
  - "Concentration" pronoun
  - Tried by military law (2 wds)
  - The "A" of ABM
  - At some time later
  - Gift on "The Bachelor"
  - New newts
  - Blanched

- Down**
- Hodgepodge
  - Attraction
  - Worldwide
  - Blubber
  - Massenet opera
  - Stinger
  - Amazon, e.g.
  - Chinese dynasty from A.D. 386-556
  - Write a shared online journal
  - Along an inland body of water
  - Pigged out
  - Hounds
  - Dash
  - Cicatrix
  - Cast
  - Very brief bathing suit
  - One who accepts charges
  - Support, with "up"
  - Audition tape
  - Means of support
  - "Absolutely!"
  - Telekinesis, e.g.
  - Brood sullenly
  - Prepared foods intended to be eaten elsewhere
  - Formally surrender
  - Train's lounge area (2 wds)
  - Lennon's second wife (2 wds)
  - Cautioned against doing (contraction)
  - Spanish dish
  - Sick
  - Mottle-colored T-shirt
  - Bunk
  - "Where the heart is"
  - Entices
  - Cheese on crackers
  - \_\_\_ cross
  - "\_\_\_ Maria"
  - Call, as a game
  - Drink from a dish

## Sudoku

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

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

## Sudoku answers from last week

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

## Crossword answers from last week


## Horoscopes

### December 26, 2013

#### Capricorn

December 22 – January 19

The New Year has begun. Time to make some waves, Capricorn. Confront the situation head-on and make your stance clear. You are in the majority.

#### Aquarius

January 20 – February 18

Pish-posh, Aquarius. Just because so-and-so says something is true does not mean it is. Pay them no heed. A transportation crisis comes to a conclusion.

#### Pisces

February 19 – March 20

Surely you can do better, Pisces. Step up to the plate and show your team what you are made of. An audit uncovers a way to save for a rainy day.

#### Aries

March 21 – April 19

Vacation opportunities are hard to come by these days, Aries. Don't pass up a friend's invite. A tickle of the ivories sets the stage for a wonderful party.

#### Taurus

April 20 – May 20

Efficiency is of the essence, Taurus. Take care with your approach. An elderly pal could use some one-on-one time. A letter bears praise for an idea.

#### Gemini

May 21 – June 21

Look out, Gemini. A mystery at work is about to unravel. A change in protocol at home provides a welcome change of pace. A mentor drops by for a chat.

#### Cancer

June 22 – July 22

Ask and you shall receive. It really is that simple this week, Cancer. A small modification at home boosts spirits big time. A deadline is near.

#### Leo

July 23 – August 22

Uh-huh, Leo. Flattery won't get you where you need to this week. Hard work is key. Dig in deep. A foe turns friend. Celebrate with a night on the town.

#### Virgo

August 23 – September 22

Yes, indeed, Virgo. Trouble is most certainly brewing at home, but it does not involve you. Steer clear of the mess and focus on a long-suffering friend.

#### Libra

September 23 – October 22

Listless Libra. Cheer up. A project is on the way. Menu choices expand as the budget grows bigger. Time to get out the recipe books and get cooking.

#### Scorpio

October 23 – November 21

Party plans begin to take shape with help from an old friend. Bravo, Scorpio! Reward them for their efforts with an invitation to someplace nice.

#### Sagittarius

November 22 – December 21

Small acts of kindness do wonders for a senior. Make it a habit, Sagittarius, and the relationship will blossom. The clutter bug sets in at home.

## OPENING, from page 1B

### '47 Ronin'

Genre: Adventure and fantasy  
Cast: Keanu Reeves, Hiroyuki Sanada, Ko Shibasaki, Tadanobu Asano and Rinko Kikuchi  
Director: Carl Rinsch  
Rated: PG-13  
Keanu Reeves leads an all-star international cast in the action-adventure "47 Ronin."

After a treacherous warlord kills their master and banishes their kind, 47 leaderless samurai vow to seek vengeance and restore honor to their people. Driven from their homes and dispersed across the land, this band of Ronin must seek the help of Kai (Reeves) – a half-breed they once rejected – as they fight their way across a savage world of mythic beasts, shape-shifting witchcraft and wondrous terrors. As this exiled, enslaved outcast becomes their most deadly weapon, he will transform into a hero who inspires this band of outnumbered rebels to confront the evil taking over their land and seize eternity.

Based upon the epic story that has become one of Japan's most enduring legends, this extraordinary tale of unbelievable courage has its origins in the early 18th century, when 47 noble samurai honored the untimely death of their master by avenging him.

### 'Justin Bieber's Believe'

Genre: Documentary and music  
Cast: Justin Bieber, Scooter Braun, Usher Raymond, Rodney Jerkins, Ludacris and Mike Posner  
Director: John M. Chu  
Rated: PG  
Behind the headlines, beyond the spotlight – there's more to his story.

Directed by Jon M. Chu, "Justin Bieber's Believe" captures 19-year-old Justin Bieber unfiltered and brutally honest. In brand new interviews with Bieber, the movie reveals long-awaited answers to questions about his passion to make music, relationships and coming of age in the spotlight – as well as never-before-seen concert footage, unprecedented behind-the-scenes access and special appearances from manager Scooter Braun, Patti Mallette, Usher, Ludacris and many more.

### 'The Wolf of Wall Street'

Genre: Drama  
Cast: Leonardo DiCaprio, Jonah Hill, Margot Robbie, Matthew McConaughey, Jon Favreau, Kyle Chandler, Rob Reiner, Jean Dujardin, Pj Byrne and Kenneth Choi  
Director: Martin Scorsese  
Rated: R  
Revered filmmaker Martin Scorsese directs the story of New York stockbroker Jordan Belfort (Leonardo DiCaprio).

From the American dream to corporate greed, Belfort goes from penny stocks and righteousness to IPOs and a life of corruption in the late '80s. Excess success and affluence in his early 20s as founder of the brokerage firm Stratton Oakmont warranted Belfort the title "The Wolf of Wall Street."

Money. Power. Women. Drugs. Temptations were for the taking and the threat of authority was irrelevant. For Jordan and his wolf pack, modesty was quickly deemed overrated and more was never enough.

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

### 'August: Osage County'

Genre: Comedy and drama  
Cast: Meryl Streep, Julia Roberts, Ewan McGregor, Chris Cooper, Abigail Breslin, Benedict Cumberbatch, Juliette Lewis, Margo Martindale, Dermot Mulroney, Julianne Nicholson, Sam Shepard and Misty Upham  
Director: John Wells  
Rated: R

"August: Osage County" tells the dark, hilarious and deeply touching story of the strong-willed women of the Weston family, whose lives have diverged until a family crisis brings them back to the Midwest house they grew up in, and to the dysfunctional woman who raised them. Tracy Letts' Pulitzer Prize-winning play of the same name made its Broadway debut in December 2007 after premiering at Chicago's legendary Steppenwolf Theatre earlier that year. It continued with a successful international run and was the winner of five Tony Awards in 2008, including Best Play.

### 'The Invisible Woman'

Genre: Drama  
Cast: Ralph Fiennes, Felicity Jones, Kristin Scott Thomas and Tom Hollander  
Director: Abi Morgan  
Rated: R  
Nelly (Felicity Jones), a happily-married mother and schoolteacher, is haunted by her past. Her memories, provoked by remorse and guilt, take us back in time to follow the story of her relationship with Charles Dickens (Ralph Fiennes) with whom she discovered an exciting but fragile complicity.

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# Options for New Year's Eve

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

Say goodbye to 2013 and welcome in the New Year in a variety of ways as Pinellas County and the Tampa Bay area rings in 2014.

## Clearwater

For a bit of blues on New Year's Eve, **B.B. King** will perform Tuesday, Dec. 31, 9 p.m., at Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St., Clearwater. Tickets start at \$69. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.atthecap.com](http://www.atthecap.com). The legendary blues icon will perform on New Year's Eve at the all-new Capitol Theatre. This will be the first New Year's Eve concert at the newly renovated, 93-year-old Capitol Theatre - and hopefully the start of a new tradition. Throughout the 1990s as well as the 1980s, 1970s, 1960s and 1950s, there has been only one King of the Blues: Riley B. King, affectionately known as B.B. King. Since King started recording in the late 1940s, he has released more than 60 albums many of them considered blues classics, like 1965's definitive live blues album "Live At The Regal" and 1976's collaboration with Bobby "Blue" Bland, "Together For The First Time." King's most popular crossover hit, 1970s "The Thrill Is Gone" went to No. 15 on the Billboard Pop Charts.

The Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce will host its second annual **Community Fireworks event on New Year's Eve**, Tuesday, Dec. 31, on Clearwater Beach.

The event will take place at the stroke of midnight on the south end of the beach. These majestic fireworks are so high and so magnificent that they can be viewed from the south end of the beach and Sand Key all the way up to the north near the Sand-pearl.

The fireworks are absolutely free to the public.

The Clearwater Beach Chamber has been able to provide this

community event through many generous sponsorships. This year's Presenting Sponsor is Frenchy's. Grand finale sponsors are Shephard's Beach Resort and the Sandpearl. Community sponsors include The Sheraton Sand Key Resort, Clearwater Gas System and Whirlwind Events and Entertainment. Additional sponsorships include Hyatt Regency Clearwater Beach, Quality Inn on the Beach, The Tropics Boat Tours, Coconut Cove, Holiday Inn & Suites Clearwater Beach, Hilton Clearwater Beach, Griffin Productions, Island Estates Yacht Club, and Segway Adventures.

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

• **Shephard's New Year's Eve party** will get underway Tuesday, Dec. 31, 8 p.m., at Shephard's Beach Resort, 619 S. Gulfview Blvd.

Admission is \$30 in advance or \$35 the day of the event. Admission includes a great view of the Clearwater Beach fireworks display, live feed from Times Square and countdown to 2014 on a 16-foot video screen, balloon drop, champagne toast, party favors, live music from All the Answers at the Tiki Bar and DJ Ray and DJ Brandon James.

The party is for guests 21 and older with proper identification.

For information, email [rosemary@shephards.com](mailto:rosemary@shephards.com) or call 441-6875.

• A **Salute to Vienna** will usher in the New Year on Tuesday, Dec. 31, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater.

Tickets start at \$35. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.rutheckerd.com](http://www.rutheckerd.com).

Welcome the New Year with Salute to Vienna, returning to Ruth Eckerd Hall for a glorious 16th appearance with a fresh new program. Attendees will enjoy a brilliant cast of more than 75 musicians, stellar European singers, and dancers in beautiful costumes. The show will cele-

brate with the best Strauss waltzes, polkas and excerpts from Die Fledermaus, The Merry Widow and more. The gala is presented in partnership with Attila Glatz Concert Productions.

## Gulfport

• **Butchlesque New Year's Eve** red carpet event will be Tuesday, Dec. 31, 8 p.m., at Gulfport Casino, 5500 Shore Blvd., Gulfport.

Butchlesque is a butch fashion show that showcases butch-identified lesbians displaying their individual interpretations of female masculinity. Countdown to midnight at the dance will immediately following the show. Attendees will celebrate and appreciate butch women for their roles in the LGBT community.

General admission is \$25. A portion of the proceeds will benefit St. Pete Pride's Community Grants Program.

For information, visit [butchlesque.com](http://butchlesque.com).

## Indian Shores

• A special New Year's Eve menu will be available Tuesday, Dec. 31, 6 p.m. to midnight, at The Pub, 20025 Gulf Blvd., Indian Shores.

Cost is \$39.75. Aqua Groove will perform 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. The 7 p.m. late seating includes champagne toast and party favors. Regular menu items will be available on the outside decks.

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

## Palm Harbor

• **G. David Howard** will perform his fortieth New Year's Eve show Tuesday, Dec. 31, at Leo's Italian Grill, 33286 U.S. 19 N., Palm Harbor.

Dinner will be served at 8 p.m. with the show beginning at 10 p.m. Cost is \$65 which includes party favors and a champagne toast.

For information, call 786-9110.

## St. Pete Beach

• **The TradeWinds Rockin' in the Midnight Hour New Year's Eve Party** will be Tuesday, Dec. 31, 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., in the ballroom at TradeWinds Island Grand Resort, 5500 Gulf Blvd., St. Pete Beach.

Partiers 21 and older are invited to don their best duds for an evening of festivities, food, and fun. The locally famous Greg Billings Band will keep everyone on the dance floor until the wee hours. And, no party is complete without a dance contest. Guests also will have access to an open bar and will receive a glass of champagne and noisemakers so they can properly celebrate the balloon drop at midnight. An extensive gourmet hors d'oeuvres buffet will be the centerpiece of this year's experience. A dessert display of chocolate fondue and miniature pastries will give the buffet a sweet ending. Entrance to the party is \$140 a person.

For party reservations and information, call 363-2258.

• Experience a taste of James Bond excitement on New Year's Eve at the **Casino Royale** ballroom celebration, Tuesday, Dec. 31, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., at Loews Don CeSar Hotel, 3400 Gulf Blvd., St. Pete Beach.

The entire fifth floor of the building - that's as legendary as Bond himself - will come alive New Year's Eve with four Bond-inspired parties all rolled into one. Cost is \$175 per person including full open bar, plenty of food action stations, two DJs, a live performance by Phase 5, casino gaming and more.

"We want our guests to come to an iconic hotel, enjoy four different experiences and just have the time of their life," said Stephen Cummings, General Manager. "Bond is a classic character and we plan on throwing one memorable, classic New Year's Eve celebration to remember. So if it's a night of dancing to your favorite hits, celebrating with friends or just living on the edge, Bond-style, we've got the party for you!" he continued.

Guests will have the advantage of attending four different parties, all in one location, each with its own character, cuisine and entertainment.

Overnight packages also are

available, including accommodations and two tickets to the Casino Royale event, starting from \$474 a night for a two-night stay.

For event and package reservations, call 360-1881, ext. 2293.

## St. Petersburg

• **Swingin' the New Year**, a grand New Year's Eve celebration for all ages, will be Tuesday, Dec. 31, at the St. Petersburg Coliseum, 535 Fourth Ave. N., St. Petersburg.

Tickets start at \$30. Call 669-7830 or 773-0064 or visit [www.TampaBaySwing.com](http://www.TampaBaySwing.com).

Performing at the event will be the 18-piece Tom Kats Big Band. The evening will feature live music, dancing and celebration from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. There also will be an introductory swing-dance lesson between 8 and 9 p.m. Doors will open 7:30 p.m. The celebration will include a midnight countdown and balloon drop, a vintage fashion photo shoot and contest, party favors and chocolates, prize giveaways, free parking and a full cash bar with champagne bottles and toasts available.

The St. Petersburg Coliseum provides historic swing-era ambiance, a smoke-free atmosphere, and an unparalleled 15,000-square-foot oak dance floor. New Year's and vintage attire are encouraged.

• St. Petersburg will ring in the New Year with music, lights, dance, fire, bubbles, stories, creative fun, fireworks and much more at its annual **First Night St. Petersburg** event, set for Tuesday, Dec. 31, 4 p.m. to midnight, at multiple venues in downtown St. Petersburg.

The event will feature family-oriented festivities with music stages, entertainment, drama, dance, games, art, fireworks and more. This year's celebration is themed "First Night, First Flight" and is dedicated to Tony Jannus history-making flight from St. Pete to Tampa 100 years ago.

The festivities will begin with FirstKids at the Morean Arts Center at 4 p.m., with hat and mask making, the Second Time Arounders Musical Petting Zoo and Art in Flight Projects from the Morean Center for Clay and Creative Clay. St. Petersburg Library is sending over a puppet

show. FirstKids will finish with the Procession of Flight soaring down to the waterfront at 7 p.m. led by the Mount Zion Drumline and Color Guard for the Bubble Stomp and the First Fireworks.

In Williams Park, The Warehouse Arts District Artists will light up the new year with Luminous Flight illuminated sculptural lanterns. First Night goes will be able to participate in hands-on demos by WADA artists including glass etching, flight based clay creations, and a decorating a Chinese style Dragon. There will be a Dragon Procession to the waterfront at 10 p.m.

Musical stages will feature rock, jazz, bluegrass, opera, chamber music, hip-hop, alternative folk rock and sacred steel.

New this year will be TASCOS Young Talent Showcase in North Straub Park. The finale stage will feature alternative folk favorites Have Gun Will Travel and will finish the night with the sacred steel sounds of the Lee Boys.

The event will feature fireworks at 8 p.m. and midnight.

Participants can walk from venue to venue along St. Petersburg's busy, charming sidewalks and shops. Along the way, downtown boasts more than 100 restaurants and bars for patrons to enjoy throughout the evening.

For information and a complete schedule, visit [www.firstnightstpete.com](http://www.firstnightstpete.com).

• The **HOT 101.5 New Year's Eve Party** will be Tuesday, Dec. 31, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., at Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg.

The party will feature DJs spinning live, go-go dancers, LED screens and a midnight toast. Tickets range from \$25 to \$75. Call 893-7832 or visit [www.themahaffey.com](http://www.themahaffey.com).

## Tampa

A **Pop the Cork party** for those 21 and older will be offered in the Hard Rock Cafe from 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Tickets are \$85 a person in advance and \$95 a person the day of the event. Tickets are available online at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com).

Party tickets will provide four drink tickets, a complimentary champagne toast at midnight, Hard Rock Cafe-inspired appetizers, and entertainment by the Flats.

Additionally, a **Rockin' New Year's Eve Poolside Party** is also scheduled at for those 21 and older from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Standing room only advance tickets are \$35 a person. Visit [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com).

There will be entertainment courtesy of Coo Coo Ca Choo, a complimentary champagne toast at midnight and a cash bar.

For information, call 800-937-0010 visit [www.seminolehardrocktampa.com](http://www.seminolehardrocktampa.com).

• **Radio Disney's Rockin' Noon Year's Eve Party** will take place Tuesday, Dec. 31, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at Lowry Park Zoo, 1101 W. Sligh Ave., Tampa.

Attendees will ring in the new year family style at the annual "Noon" Year's Eve daytime celebration hosted by the zoo and Radio Disney AM 1380. The party begins when the zoo opens with games, arts and crafts, live entertainment, educational displays and more. Families can ring in the New Year with noisemakers, hats and a juice toast as they watch the clock strike noon. Activities are included with zoo admission. Visit [www.lowryparkzoo.com](http://www.lowryparkzoo.com).

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Saturday, December 28 = Two Dog Nite  
Sunday, December 29 = 3-6pm = Ray Curtiss  
FRIDAY FISH FRY 4:30-7pm \$7  
Fried, blackened, grilled, with fries, slaw & dinner roll  
Lunch Tuesday-Friday 11:30am-2:30pm  
Sat. & Sun. Cookout & Tiki Bar 1-5pm  
1st Sun. of the month = breakfast 8am-11am  
1st Tuesday = Spaghetti Dinner 5pm-7pm

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THURSDAY \$1 Tacos & Hot Dogs NOON - 6pm With Purchase of Drink. In Lounge Only. Exp. 1-2-14

SUNDAY Chicken Wings Specials With Purchase of Drink. Dine in only. Exp. 1-2-14

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# CLASSIFIEDS

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#### 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 1-800-669-9777. The Toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

#### 175. Unfurnished Apts.



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### MISCELLANEOUS

#### 345. Lost & Found

**FOUND DOG:** Male Yorkie, 12/14, vicinity of 131st St. & 102nd Ave., Seminole. Call with proof of ownership. (727)385-9272.

**FOUND CAT:** Large male, mostly white w/some gray, affectionate, 12/9, vicinity of Evelyn Ave., Clearwater. (727)520-4593.

### EMPLOYMENT

#### 485. Help Wanted

**EARN \$1000s From Home? Be careful of Work-At-Home Schemes.**

- Hidden costs can add up
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Learn how you can avoid Work-At-Home Scams. Call: Federal Trade Comm. 1-877-FTC-HELP.

**A message from Tampa Bay Newspapers and the FTC.**

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**866-498-4637**

#### 10. Waterfront Sales

**TREASURE ISLAND,**  
 Gorgeous 1BR/1BA, Deeded Boat Slip! Minutes To John's Pass. Walking Distance To Beach!  
 \$175,000. Virginia Wyman, Coldwell Banker, (813)610-0074.

### RENTALS

#### 145. Unfurnished Houses

**LARGO: NEAR BEACH**  
 3BR/2BA/2CG, Screened Porch, Fireplace, \$1,250/Month +1st, Last, Security. Lawn Maintenance Included. (727)593-9773

#### 195. Seasonal Rentals

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

#### 210. Mobile Hm. Rentals

**NEAR BAY PINES VA & Madeira Beach, 1BR.** Includes W/S/G, Cable. Pets OK. \$575/Mo. +\$300 Sec. (727)393-1628.

### 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 #150789.

**PREGNANT?**  
 Thinking about Adoption? Choose the Perfect Family For Your Baby. Benefits may include: Free Apartment Free Medical Care Free Counseling Experienced Adoption Entity (727)421-2514 FL BAR #0967841

#### SERVERS

Pincrest Place Retirement Community is looking for "mature" candidates to work in our Dining rooms, to include Assisted Living and Memory Care. P-T multiple positions open; various hours including weekends & holidays.

We are looking for candidates to provide quick, efficient, and pleasant delivery of food to our residents & guests, ensuring all quality standards of food service are being met. Position requires Level II background screening; EOE; Drug-free workplace. Please apply in person at 1150 8th Ave. SW, Largo, FL.

#### CLEARWATER HOTEL NOW

Hiring For Front Desk & Night Audit. Full-Time/Part-Time. Great Atmosphere! Competitive Wages. Senior Arc Encouraged To Apply. Dynamic Personalities Please Apply In Person, Springhill Suites By Marriott, 3485 Ulmerton Rd.

#### 20. Condo Sales

**SEMINOLE GARDENS**  
 NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY WHILE THE PRICES ARE STILL LOW!  
 BEAUTIFUL 56-ACRE COMPLEX

**1BR/1BA, 1,012 sq. ft.**  
 Nicely Updated, Waterview, 55+  
 New Listing \$48,900

**1BR/1BA, 704 sq. ft.**  
 Everything has been updated. Great View!  
 \$38,900

#### 155. Furnished Condos

**SEMINOLE GARDENS**  
 1BR/1BA, 914SF, 55+, Laminate Floors, Updated Kitchen. \$700/Month-Yearly. Ridge Seminole Mgmt. Corp. (727)397-2534

#### 185. Beach Rentals

**INDIAN ROCKS BEACH**  
 Cozy, Clean, Furnished Cottages. 1-2BRs January rates starting at \$395/week +tax. Steps to Gulf Beach. Pet Friendly. (727)595-3000. www.SunshineCozyCottages.com

#### 245. Room For Rent

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

#### ADOPTION

**Unplanned Pregnancy?**  
 Provide your baby with a loving, financially secure family. Living / Medical / Counseling Expenses Paid

You choose the family you want for your baby / open adoption available.

Call compassionate attorney  
**Lauren Feingold**  
**866.633.0397**  
 24 Hours / 7 Days  
 FL Bar #0956107

#### RESIDENT AIDES

Pincrest Place, a premier retirement community, is seeking aides to provide daily care to our AL & Memory Care residents. We are looking for enthusiastic, energetic and caring people to become a part of our team. Part-time, various shifts. Must be available to work weekends and holidays. Candidates can apply in person at 1150 8th Ave. SW, Largo, or send resume to Margaret.Kristall@brookdaleliving.com or fax to M. Kristall at (727)581-8409. EOE, DFWP

#### WANTED:

**Experienced Website Designer**  
 To Assist Int. Co. in Start-up and Development. Must have experience with internal & external links, secure product ordering, morphing software, management, training, etc. (941)807-3298, (727)269-8467.

#### 35. Mobile Home Sales

**SEMINOLE. CLEAN? QUIET? CONVENIENT? EASY TO OWN?**  
**YES!** 55+ Several Homes To Choose From. Starting At \$2,500. Background Check Required, \$60. Call Now! (727)393-0151

**TWELVE OAKS MHP**  
 Great Deals On Prewowned 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.

#### 160. Unfurnished Condos

**SEMINOLE, VILLA MILAN**  
 1BR/1BA, on West side of Lake Seminole, Pool, Dock, No Pets. \$625/Month Annual.

**Guetzlaff Realty**  
 (727)204-0829, (727)392-2339

#### 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.

#### 265. Commercial Rentals

**OFFICE SPACE**  
 Starting At \$482 Per Month. Ample Parking. Madeira Beach. (727)641-6465.

**VERY UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY**  
 For Retail/ Service/ Office. High Traffic Visibility In Great Location Of Indian Rocks/ Belleair/ Largo Area. Perfect For Dog Grooming, Massage, Nails, Yoga, Etc. Etc. Use Your Creativity! Approx. 1,300SF. 13042 Indian Rocks Rd, Largo, 33774. Also Has A 2BR/1BA Apt. On Property To Oversee Your Business If Desired. Must See! Only \$1,245/Mo. Call (727)224-8690.

#### 435. Adult Care & Svcs.

**CNA/ HOME HEALTH AIDE**  
 For Private Patient. 20 Years Experience. Excellent References. Honest, Kind, Reliable. Medical, Errands, Doctor Visits, Etc. (727)266-4496.

**DO YOU NEED A LIVE-IN CAREGIVER?**  
 I'm Available Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays. Have Excellent References. Call Angie, (727)365-2386.

#### Tampa Bay NEWSPAPERS

**ACCEPTS VISA, MC, DISCOVER**

**CALL: 397-5563**

#### SANITATION DRIVER

Full Time. Starting salary \$11.17/Hour. See city website for additional details. Submit application to Vincent Tenaglia, City of Madeira Beach, 300 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach, FL 33708. Closing date: open until filled

#### CERTIFIED MED TECH

Needed ASAP. 3rd Shift 11pm-7am. Must have past Level II Background Check. 1 Year Experience Preferred. Contact office (727)586-1969

#### Thinking of Buying? Think Classifieds!

Tampa Bay NEWSPAPERS  
**(727) 397-5563**  
**TBNweekly.com**

#### 170. Furnished Apts.

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

**CLEARWATER STUDIO**  
 Starting at \$179/Week. No security. No Credit Check. Free WiFi access. Pets OK. MOVE IN TODAY!! (727)445-7134. precisionpropertymanagement.net

#### 175. Unfurnished Apts.

**SEMINOLE GARDENS, 55+.** Winter Rentals: 1BR Deluxe & 2BR/2BA. No Pets. Nonsmokers Only. Robert G. Castles, P.A. Broker. (727)319-8229 www.SeminoleGarden.com

#### 175. Unfurnished Apts.

**INDIAN ROCKS BEACH CONDO**  
 55+. 2BR/2BA. Annual Lease Only. No Pets. Non-Smoking. \$1,400/Mo. (727)391-6407.

**SAND KEY CONDO**  
 Best Location On Intracoastal. Walk To Beach. 2BR/2BA Unfurnished. New Appliances, Remodeled. WD. Nonsmoking. \$1,750/Mo. Annual. (201)323-5717.

#### 472. Wedding Services

**Holiday Inn Harbourside**  
 From intimate Destination Weddings for two to gala affairs for 200  
 www.HIHarbourside.com (727)595-9484

**BAYPONTE GOLF COURSE**  
 Scenic Room, Perfect For Venues Up To 130.  
 www.BaypointeGolfCourse.com (727)593-3900, (727)595-2095.

#### 485. Help Wanted

**EARN EXTRA MONEY!**

Whether you're sending your teen off to college, paying your bills or just adding extra cash to your pockets, you can earn **\$800 to \$1,700 per month** as an independent distributor for the Tampa Bay Times.

**As we continue to grow, you will too!**

**Tampa Bay Times**

Must be 18 years of age or older with valid Florida driver's license, proof of insurance and dependable vehicle.

For more information, visit [tampabay.com/distributor](http://tampabay.com/distributor) or call **866-498-4637**.

#### 485. Help Wanted

**STYLIST WANTED**  
 Commission or Chair Rental Available. Salon 314, 314 West Bay Drive. Jacqueline, (727)584-2470.

**PRINTING OPERATORS NEEDED**  
 PrimeNet is a fast growing, Direct Marketing Service Organization in Largo. We currently have FT/PT openings available in: Offset and Digital Printing, and Machine Operators. Experience a plus, but we can train. Send resume to HR@primenet.com

### PROSPECT TOWERS OF CLEARWATER

801 Chestnut Street, Clearwater

**MOVE-IN SPECIALS**

**SENIORS 62+**  
 Affordable Efficiencies From \$450/month and 1 Bedrooms from \$572/month. INCLUDING ALL UTILITIES AND BASIC CABLE. Small Pets Welcomed. • Continental Breakfast Income Qualifications. • Non-Smokers Only

**727-447-5701**

#### Thinking of Buying? Think Classifieds!

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**(727) 397-5563**  
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#### 175. Unfurnished Apts.

**SEMINOLE GARDENS, 55+.** Winter Rentals: 1BR Deluxe & 2BR/2BA. No Pets. Nonsmokers Only. Robert G. Castles, P.A. Broker. (727)319-8229 www.SeminoleGarden.com

**BELLEAIR BLUFFS**  
 Deluxe 1 & 2 Bedrooms, 1st & 2nd Floor. Overlooking Non-smoking Center Courtyard w/Beautiful Pool. Great Location 1 Block From Shopping & Intracoastal. 2942 West Bay Dr. Call for Info (727)585-2161.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

**Pinellas Heights Senior Apartments**  
 located at 11411 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33778

is **OPENING** the waitlists for 1 and 2 bedroom apartments for Seniors 62 years or older on **January 1, 2014**. Pinellas Heights Senior Apartments is a **BRAND NEW** community. The rental rates for these apartments are based on 30% of household income.

The PCHA will be accepting pre-applications for Section 8 Project-based Voucher assisted units for Pinellas Heights only. **This is NOT the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Waiting List.**

Pre-applications are available via internet [www.pinellashousing.com](http://www.pinellashousing.com) or at the below locations:

PCHA 11479 Ulmerton Rd Largo, FL 33778	Crystal Lakes Manor 4200 62nd Ave N Pinellas Park, FL 33781	Palm Lake Village 1515 County Road 1 Dunedin, FL 34698
--	---	--

Pre-applications will **ONLY** be accepted by **U.S. MAIL**. Pre-applications must be mailed to:  
 Pinellas County Housing Authority  
 11479 Ulmerton Road  
 Largo, FL 33778

**NO PRE-APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN PERSON OR BY FAX.**

Handicapped and/or disabled applicants: If you are unable to pick up an application at one of the locations above you may call 727-443-7684 ext. 3124 and request a pre-application to be mailed to you. TTY: (800) 955-8771 TTD: (800) 955-8770

#### ASK ABOUT OUR EYE STOPPER LOGOS

**175. Unfurnished Apts.**

Our Classified Dept. is currently running great advertising specials in:

**REAL ESTATE SALES**  
**REAL ESTATE RENTALS**  
**HELP WANTED**  
**ARTICLES FOR SALE**  
**AUTO & BOAT SALES**  
**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

Call our Classified advisers today for more details.  
 Deadline is noon on Mondays.

**VISA (727) 397-5563 MasterCard**

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#### SUBMIT YOUR CLASSIFIED AD ONLINE

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Order your classified ad online, 24/7, quickly and easily. Visit [www.TBNweekly.com](http://www.TBNweekly.com), click on "Place A Classified," complete & submit the form. A representative from the classified dept. will follow up with you during regular office hours to confirm your order and obtain payment information.

**ADS WILL NOT BE PLACED WITHOUT CONFIRMATION AND PAYMENT DETAILS FROM YOU.**

## EARLY HOLIDAY DEADLINES FOR ADVERTISING & EDITORIAL

**December 26, 2013 Paper:**  
 Retail & Classified Display Ads: Thursday, Dec. 19, 5 p.m.  
 Classified Line Ads: Friday, Dec. 20, Noon  
 Editorial Copy: Thursday, Dec. 19, Noon

**January 2, 2014 Paper:**  
 Retail & Classified Display Ads: Thursday, Dec. 26, 5 p.m.  
 Classified Line Ads: Friday, Dec. 27, Noon  
 Editorial Copy: Thursday, Dec. 26, Noon

**727-397-5563**

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**485. Help Wanted**

**Experienced Energy Reps**  
**Work for the #1 Room in the Market Place!** (Clearwater FL)  
 Come find out for yourself why our agents make this room the best place to work! We buy leads constantly! \$20 per deal!  
 Guaranteed Minimum of \$400 per week or your commissions whatever is greater!  
 Limited space available so call or stop by now to secure your space on the team!  
 If you are tired of how little money you are making at your current room come and check us out!  
 Level2Direct LLC  
 "A Level Above"  
 (727)216-7491

**485. Help Wanted**

**SECURITY GUARD**  
 Pincrest Place retirement community, located in Largo, has an opening for a P/T Security Guard, 2pm-10pm, including weekends and holidays. Greets and monitors visitors and residents coming and going from the building. Monitors per established schedules emergency and safety equipment; assist residents & family members with minor maintenance issues patrols property; answers phone lines and dispatches calls; completes appropriate forms as required. We are looking for a dependable, experienced candidate that has great customer service skills and a desire to serve. Please send resume to:  
 Margaret.kristall@brookdaleliving.com or fax to (727)581-8409. Apply in person at: Concierge Desk, 1150 8th Ave. SW, Largo, FL. EOE; Drug free workplace.

**525. Medical Help**

**CNAs, HHAs NEEDED FOR**  
 Pinellas County Area. Choose Your Hours. \$10-15 Per Hour.  
 (727)822-3034

**CNAs & HHAs NEEDED.**  
 All days and hours. Live-in and Weekend availability a PLUS!  
 Call Griswold Home Care.  
 (727)547-7000

**522. Careers**

**LOVE DOGS?**  
 Go to work and fall in love. Academyofanimalarts.com  
 Enrolling now!  
 (866)517-9546

**AUCTIONS**

**585. Auctions**

**GRANNYS AUCTION(AB1769)**  
 Buying & Consigning. Free Antique Appraisals Tuesday's 12-4. Furniture, jewelry, paintings, sculpture, pottery, glass, military, sterling, gold, etc.  
 (727)572-1567  
 5175 Ulmerton Road, Clearwater

**885. Autos Wanted**

**THINKING ABOUT SELLING OR TRADING?**  
 I Will Pay More Than Trade-In On Good, Clean, Low-Mileage Vehicles.  
 Harold Corey, Auto Borker  
**(727)595-9393**

**BOATS/MARINE**

**910. Boat Slips**

**WET SLIPS FOR RENT**  
 From 25'-55'. Sail Or Power. Easy Access To Gulf, Madeira Beach. Ample Parking **\$7.55/ Foot**  
 (727)641-6465.

**GARAGE/ESTATE SALES**

**975. Garage-Yard Sales**

**CHAPEL TREASURES!**  
 An Unusual Thrift Shop Full Of Fine Things. Friday & Saturday, 8AM-12PM, 12601 Park Blvd. Seminole. (727)391-2919. We Accept Donations And Drop Offs As Well. coth@coth.org

**PHARMACEUTICAL OPERATIONS ANALYST**  
 (Largo, FL): Assess/analyze operations data; develop logistics to improve operations; implement daily operational quality/cost strategies. Master's deg (or foreign equiv.) in Bus Admin., Health Serv. Admin., or rel. + knowledge of bus analysis, forecasting, marketing. In lieu of a Master's deg, will accept Bachelor's deg (or its foreign equiv) in above listed fields, + 5 yrs of progressive exp in bus. analysis, forecasting, marketing. Send resume/cover letter to Edwards Pharmacy of Indian Rocks, LLC, 12071 Indian Rocks Rd, Largo, FL 33774

**505. Part-Time Help**

**LPN: PINECREST PLACE**  
 A Premier retirement community, is seeking an LPN for our Memory Care area, Weekends Only 2pm-10pm. Candidate should have previous experience working in a geriatric environment and have a commitment to making a difference in the lives they touch. We are looking for enthusiastic, energetic and caring people to become a part of our team. Candidates can apply in person at 1150 8th Ave. SW, Largo. Send resume to Margaret.kristall@brookdaleliving.com or fax to (727)581-8409. EOE, DFWP.

**C.N.A.s & H.H.A.s**  
**Part-Time/Full-Time**  
 Needed In The...  
 Largo, Seminole Areas

**Private Duty, In-Home-Care**  
 Flexible hours/days/nights  
 Competitive pay

**Visiting Angels**  
 Come join our team of Angels today!  
**727-797-8600**

**597. Coins & Stamps**

**COIN SPECIAL!**  
 Indian Head Pennies, Buffalo Nickels, V Nickels, .98¢ Each. Silver Certificates, \$1.98. Buying Gold, Silver, Jewelry, Old Comic Books. Buy/ Sell/ Trade.  
**(727)967-1482**

**CASH NOW**  
**TOP DOLLAR PAID**  
**WE BUY CLEAN QUALITY TRUCKS, VANS, SUV'S & CARS**  
**NO JUNK!**  
**727-798-2921**  
**NOBODY PAYS MORE!**

**WE BUY CARS**  
 Any Condition, New, Old or Junk. No Title & Liens OK!  
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**915. Boat-Marine Svc.**

**TOM'S SPECIALIZED MARINE LLC**  
 Yamaha and Mercury Outboard Repair & Repowering. Custom Electronics & Rigging. Winterizing & Seasonal Service. Authorized Land/Sea Distributor. Reasonable Rates.  
 (727)744-4352

**For the BEST selection of used vehicles, check our classified pages**

**To find what you need, take "Time Out" to read the Classifieds!**

**515. Hospitality Help**

**F/T & P/T PREP COOK,**  
 Sous Chef, Line Cook, Laundry & Maintenance w/Air Conditioning/ Refrigeration Experience. Doubletree Beach Resort/ Restaurant. Apply At: 17120 Gulf Blvd. North Redington Beach, (727)369-7101.

**535. Business Opportunities**

**Cost-Effective Statewide Advertising**  
 Place Your Ad Of 25 Words or Less In More Than 100 Newspapers Across Florida For Only \$475/week.  
 You Can Reach Over 5 Million Readers Through Our Network Of Daily & Weekly Florida Newspapers.  
**Contact Tampa Bay Newspapers Classified Dept. (727) 397-5563**

**600. Merchandise**

**HOLIDAY GOWN,**  
 Long, Full, Tafetta, Pastel Lavender, Size 12. Paid \$400, Asking \$75 OBO.  
 (727)586-5572.

**660. Wanted to Buy**

**CASH PAID BY NEW ENGLAND**  
 Collector for Quality Old Items. Dishes, Books, Dolls, Paintings, Watches, Cameras, Coins, Stamps. Dave (207)649-9130.

**Got a Car You Wanna Sell**

**The Good, The Bad The Ugly**

**Call Now 727-400-1910**

**ALL AUTOS WANTED**  
 With or without title. Any condition, make, year or model. We pay up to \$20,000. Free Towing.  
 (813)516-0847, (727)495-3516.

**One Person's Trash Is Another's Treasure**  
 Unearth a real deal in the classifieds.

**Articles Selling For: Advertise For:**

\$101 - \$500	\$8
\$501 - \$2,000	\$10
\$2,001 - \$10,000	\$14

**Tampa Bay Newspapers Classifieds**  
 www.TBNWeekly.com  
**Call 727-397-5563**

**505. Part-Time Help**

**505. Part-Time Help**

**Wondering How To Pay Off All Of Those Bills?**  
 We are looking for men and women to deliver FREE community newspapers in Pinellas County. Must be available either Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. Experience preferred but will train the right person. This is a supplemental income. Applicant must have good transportation; preferably a van, large car, SUV or pickup truck. For more information, please contact Mr. Shifflett at 727-530-5521.  
**IMMEDIATE OPENINGS!**

**LOOKING TO INCREASE YOUR INCOME?**  
 If you are looking to make some extra cash, the Times is looking for you. We are searching for independent distributors to sell and deliver our newspapers to stores and news racks during early morning hours. Must be able to pass background and credit check. We currently have business opportunities in Pinellas County. If you're interested in managing your own business we invite you to contact us to learn more.  
**Tampa Bay Times**  
**CALL 1-866-396-5585 TODAY**

**700. Pets & Animals**

**CHRISTMAS BABIES!**  
 Chihuahua/ Yorkie, One Tea Cup Female, \$500. One Male, \$400. HURRY! (727)595-0727.

**400 & Up Minimum Guaranteed**  
 for Junk Vehicles, State Approved Disposal. Serving Pinellas 25 Years.  
 (727)458-3721, (727)564-0831

**MIN. \$400 CASH**  
 For Junk Cars & Trucks In Pinellas Cty. Top \$ Paid. All Tampa Bay. State Approved Disposal Site. Free Tow. (727)710-1702.

**Tender Hearts Pet Sitters**  
 "Where your pets are treated like family..."  
 We offer stress-free pet sitting in the comfort of your own home. Let our professional staff give your pets plenty of love and attention while you're away!  
 Insured, bonded and NAPPS certified. (727)637-6361  
 Reasonable rates!

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 Call 397-5563 Fax 399-2042  
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 www.tbnweekly.com  
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**SALES - SERVICE - REPAIRS**  
 No Overtime (7:30am-7:30pm)  
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 Repairs On All Major Appliances & Gas Appliances. \$20 Off w/Ad.  
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**CELTIC CARPET CLEANING**  
 \$99 Whole House Deep Clean!  
 No Hidden Charges! Snowbird Discount. Family Owned & Operated. Call (727)290-7326.

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**CARTER'S CARPET & UPHOLSTERY**  
 7-Rooms \$109.95  
 5-Rooms 79.95  
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 Carpets Pre-Treated, Sofa & Loveseat \$69.95, Tile & Grout .34/\$F.  
 No Hidden Fees!!  
 Quality, Affordable Work. Truck-Mounted. Deep Cleaned. Bonded & Insured.  
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**QUALITY CEILING REFINISHING, INC.**  
 •Popcorn Removal  
 •Cracked Ceilings  
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*Job completed in one day with no mess!*  
**100% Financing**  
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**(727)446-3550**  
 Established 1979

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 Computer & Laptop Repair, Virus & Spyware Removal, Tune-ups/ Data Transfer/ Upgrades, Refurbished Computers, Laptops.  
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**We Buy Broken Laptops**

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 Complete Concrete, Block, Stucco & Paver Work, Driveways, Sidewalks, Patios. David Will, (727)459-9710. #C10222.

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 20+ Years' Experience. Quality Service. Driveways, Patios, Sidewalks. #C-5640.  
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