Official gives advice on hurricanes Busiest months of the year for major storms begin ... **Page 4A**.

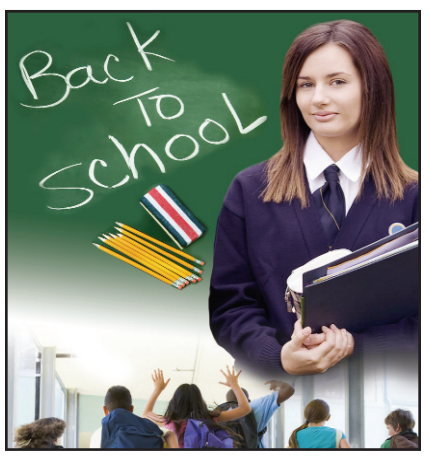
LARGO LEADER

Volume XXXIII, No. 3 | www.TBNweekly.com | August 12, 2010

Opening this week – 'The Expendables,' action, adventure

Also in theaters is 'Scott Pilgrim vs. the World,' romance, comedy, adventure ... **Page 1B.**

INSIDE



LARGO

City OKs charter proposal for ballot

City commissioners gave final approval Aug. 4 to include a charter amendment on the Nov. 2 ballot that provides for municipal elections to be held in conjunction with countywide elections.

... **Page 2A.**

PET CONNECTION

Speaking of pets

Kim Donovan D.V.M. of Oakhurst Veterinary Hospital explains that your pet's veterinary team is providing quality and convenience that can't be found in the human health care field.

... **Page 11A.**

COUNTY

Flag program gets BIG-C's support

Members of the Barrier Islands Governmental Council voted unanimously July 28 to pass a resolution supporting a new pedestrian flag program along Gulf Boulevard.

The flags, which will be in a container at all crosswalks, are to be deposited in another container once pedestrians cross the street.

By passing the resolution, the BIG-C supports restocking of the containers by beach communities when the flags disappear. There will be no cost to the municipalities.

The flags will be installed within the next two weeks by Pinellas County and Florida Department of Transportation workers.

... **Page 8A.**

VIEWPOINTS

Hiaasen not thrilled with Bill and Rick

Columnist takes issues with two candidates for governor, Bill McCollum and Rick Scott.

... **Page 6A.**

BUSINESS

Chamber events

The Largo/Mid-Pinellas Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for its esteemed Citizen of the Year and Mac Norcross Small Business Person of the Year awards.

The presentations will take place at the chamber's 58th annual meeting Friday, Sept. 17, at the Sheraton Sand Key Resort, 1160 Gulf Blvd., Clearwater.

Meanwhile, registration has begun for the Largo/Mid-Pinellas Chamber of Commerce seventh annual Chamber Cup Golf Tournament.

... **Page 10A.**

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Manager gets high marks on evaluation

By TOM GERMOND

LARGO – City Manager Mac Craig has received mostly high marks on his annual evaluation conducted by city commissioners.

The combined score for Craig based on the evaluations conducted by all six commissioners and the mayor is 4.295 on a five point scale. Commissioners will review his evaluation at their meeting Tuesday, Aug. 17.

> "Mac (Craig) has assembled an excellent team of administrators and analysts. The city is on sound financial footing."
>
> **– Pat Gerard**
> Largo mayor

Craig scored his highest marks in the category integrity and fairness. Six commissioners gave him a score of five or excellent in this category. Three commissioners also gave him fives in the categories of administrative management, technical competence, effort/industry, liaison/coordination, leadership/direction and summary.

He received a two or needs improvement from one commissioner, Mary Black, in a single category, work program. She gave him a three or satisfactory on other categories.

Here are some of the commissioners' comments from their evaluations:

"Mac has assembled an excellent team of administrators and analysts. The city is on sound financial footing," Mayor Pat Gerard wrote.

She said that professionalism, integrity and leadership skills are his strengths.

See MANAGER, page 4A

Lifeguards test their skills

Photo by BRANDEN BELL

Eddie Tapanes of Lakeland prepares to jump into the water in the active victim rescue event during the third annual Pinellas Aquatics Council Lifeguard Games held Aug. 8 at Southwest Pool. Four teams from Lakeland, two from Largo and two from St. Petersburg competed in the games. More photos on page 5A.

Attorneys answer questions on oil claims

By BOB McCLURE

TREASURE ISLAND – Two attorneys who litigated cases surrounding the 1993 oil spill in Pinellas County told a group of business owners Aug. 5 to investigate the claims process through BP but be careful.

Clearwater attorneys Andra Dreyfus and Wally Pope answered questions surrounding the claims process during an oil forum at the Bilmar Beach Resort organized by the Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce.

Both said the process is just beginning and litigation could be a long, tedious journey lasting many years before results will be seen.

"First, investigate the claims process and make an individual decision as to what you want to do," said Pope. "It's a long, drawn out process if you go the litigation process. But attack it on both fronts."

Pope said BP is under no legal obligation to pay claims and Dreyfus said any payouts at this point should be considered a public relations move by BP.

"You have to keep in mind we have no oil here," said Dreyfus. "That forms a limitation on what people can expect to recover in damages. State law says no oil, no real claim."

She also said be careful when it comes to filing a claim with BP.

"If you collect 200 bucks now when you're entitled to $250,000 later is not smart," Dreyfus said. "Also, if you go through the (claims) process and get some money, don't sign (waivers on future damages) because you don't know what's out there (in the Gulf of Mexico and what its impact will have in the future on Pinellas beaches)."

She said it could be that next year is worse than this year.

Dreyfus said business owners should start keeping track of where losses are coming from and documenting those facts. She said to be prepared for a long battle with BP when it comes to proving the losses.

"BP is going to argue that a good reason (for the losses) is because the economy is slow," Dreyfus said. "Month by month, (hotel owners) should keep track of what people are telling you when they call up to cancel."

See OIL CLAIMS, page 4A

Photo by BOB McCLURE

Clearwater attorney Wally Pope answers questions from business owners during an oil forum Aug. 5 at the Bilmar Beach Resort in Treasure Island.

Photo by ALEXANDRA CALDWELL

Construction machinery, traffic cones and barriers are commonplace on U.S. 19 as it undergoes a major construction project.

State officials move to 'fill the gap' on U.S. 19

By LESTER R. DAILEY

CLEARWATER – Imagine driving U.S. 19 from 49th Street to Sunset Point Road and back without ever stopping for a red light. A few years from now that dream will become a reality, not because the lights will be timed better, but because there won't be any lights.

"U.S. 19 has long been an integral part of our transportation system in Pinellas County" and traffic planners are constantly trying to improve it, said Douglas Gaska, vice president of UBS Financial Services. Gaska's firm hosted an Aug. 4 seminar at Bright House Networks Field about the project. He then turned the microphone over to Florida Department of Transportation officials to explain the 2.7-mile "U.S. Highway 19 corridor project" that is starting now and is expected to be finished in the fall of 2014.

"Basically, this will fill in a missing gap" of signal-free travel between 49th Street and Sunset Point Road and expedite the movement of the 92,000 vehicles that travel that stretch of road each day, said FDOT official Jason Dahlvik. Overpasses will be built at the Belleair Road and Seville Boulevard intersections with U.S. 19, and the existing 200-foot-long overpass at State Road 60 (Gulf-to-Bay Boulevard) will be replaced with one nearly 600 feet long that has four northbound lanes, three southbound lanes, and turn lanes on both sides.

The project is starting a year ahead of schedule, thanks to stimulus money received from the federal government. It is expected to take 700

See U.S. 19, page 4A

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Briefs

Commission OKs charter amendment for ballot

LARGO – City commissioners gave final approval Aug. 4 to include a charter amendment on the Nov. 2 ballot that provides for municipal elections to be held in conjunction with countywide elections.

Under the amendment, four-year terms for commissioners who are elected to Seats 5 and 6 will begin in November 2010; Seats 3 and 4 and the mayor, November 2012; and Seats 1 and 2, November 2014. The amendment will require an election in 2011 to elect Seats 1 and 2 to three year terms.

City commissioners proposed the amendment to lower the costs of elections. The cost for a city stand-alone election is $70,000, compared to the cost of $6,000 to $22,000 if elections are done in conjunction with a countywide election.

Commissioners voted 6-0 to put the amendment on the ballot; Commissioner Robert Murray was absent.

City OKs funds for development

LARGO – City commissioners said Aug. 2 they support plans to commit funds for the development of a 14-unit complex on 7.44 acres as a second phase of the Belleair Place Apartments.

Plans call for Belleair Place ll to be built directly south of Belleair Place l to replace a severely dilapidated, closed mobile home park and six single-family houses in the Clearwater/Largo Road Community Redevelopment District. The Richman Group of Florida Inc. is the developer.

City officials say the project provides housing for families with special needs and low-income household and redevelops foreclosed property. The activity also serves as a stimulus in the area of job creation for the construction industry and supporting industries.

The developer has identified several sources of funding for the $18.9 million project, such as $9.4 million in county tax exempt bonds. City Housing Manager Matthew Anderson said Pinellas County officials have been enthusiastic about the project.

The Richman group is asking city officials to approve the allocation of a long-term, low-interest loan of $1.2 million for the project. The annual income compliance reporting for the loan will be handled by county officials and the developers' expense.

Commissioner Mary Black said the Richman Group has done an excellent job on the first phase of Belleair Place.

"It's something they haven't built and let go. They maintain it, and it's a very nice area," she said.

The occupancy rate of the Belleair Place I units is 96 percent, Anderson said.

Sidewalk contract awarded

LARGO – The Caladesi Construction Co. has been awarded a contract of about $249,000 for sidewalk work.

The budget includes $150,000 for McMullen Road sidewalk construction and $100,000 for sidewalk repairs.

The proposed improvements along the south side of McMullen Road are designed to provide pedestrian access from Lake Avenue to Alternate Keene Road. City officials said the improvements will provide pedestrian access between surrounding neighborhoods, Eagle Lake Park, the new Largo Community Center, the Largo Sports Complex, and the Highland Recreation Complex.

Commissioners approved the contract Aug. 2.

City accepts application for Citizens Academy

LARGO – The city of Largo is now accepting applications for the 2010 Citizens Academy.

"Largo's Citizens Academy is your hands-on solution to learning about your government while you dress like a firefighter or watch the reclaimed water treatment process," a city news release said. Continuing education credits will be offered.

The academy includes a 10-session curriculum and is held Monday evenings, 6 to 8:30 p.m., beginning Sept. 20.

Call 587-6710.

Correction

An article in the July 28 edition of the Leader gave incorrect information about the name of the company owned by Doug Lardner, a City Commission candidate.

The company is Doug the Bug Termite and Pest Control Inc.

Aspiring aviator

Photo by BRYCE BOYER

Largo Flying Club member Ernie Franke gives Jessica Stima some instructions on how to operate radio-controlled model aircraft at the Largo Summer Youth Program Air Show Aug. 2 at the club's flying field on Eighth Avenue and Donegan Road. Activities included several different demonstrations of model aircraft.

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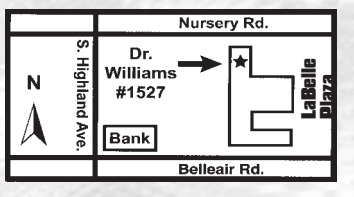

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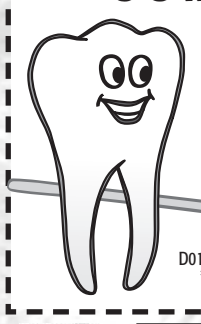

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Family fishing fun

Photo by BOB McCLURE

Melissa Martinez of Largo and her 2-year-old son Benjamin display a fish they teamed up to catch at Family Fun Fishing Day Aug. 7 at Walsingham Park. The event was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Seminole Breakfast.

Around Largo

City events

The following events were provided by the city of Largo.

Aqua Yoga, Saturday, Aug. 14, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., Highland Family Aquatic Center.

Description: "If you love yoga on land, you'll love it in the pool. Class is conducted in waist to chest deep water. No swimming required. Low to medium impact, stretching and toning the body. The buoyancy of water allows you to move deeper into a stretch than you can on land."

Call 518-3018 or visit LargoPools.com.

All day scrapbook crop, Saturday, Aug. 14, noon to 8 p.m., Highland Recreation Complex.

Description: "Come join us for an entire day of scrapbooking. You bring your photos and supplies, we will provide drinks and light snacks."

Call 518-3016.

Community Center luncheon and show, Thursday, Aug. 19, noon until 2 p.m., Largo Community Center.

Description: "Hungry for a great meal? Looking for some inexpensive entertainment? Come get your tickets for our monthly luncheon. Tickets are just $10 which includes a full meal and a 1 hour show. You must purchase tickets ahead of time. There will be no tickets sold at the door."

Call 518-3131.

The Contours, featuring Sylvester Potts, Friday, Aug. 20, 8 p.m., Largo Cultural Center.

Description: "The Contours have proudly worn the label 'Motown's No. 1 party group' for more than 40 years. Today under the leadership of original member Sylvester Potts, the group is not content to rest on past laurels. A Contours show is jam-packed with dazzling choreography, impeccable harmonies and those timeless Motown grooves that everyone knows and loves. Hits include: 'Do You Love Me,' 'Shake Sherrie,' 'Can You Do It,' 'Can You Jerk Like Me,' 'Just A Little Misunderstanding' and 'First I Look At The Purse.' Visit LargoArts.com for more information and a complete schedule of the Summer Concert Series."

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County official: Finish hurricane preparations now

By SUZETTE PORTER

People who have yet to make plans for hurricane season need to get it done.

So says Sally Bishop, Pinellas County's emergency management director.

Now that hurricane season is moving into the historically busiest months, residents who don't have a plan should make one. People who do have a plan should make sure everything is ready, Bishop said.

She said people should be asking themselves, "Am I really prepared? Am I ready if a storm were to show up next week?"

Another question people should be asking is "Do I know my evacuation level?"

Bishop said many areas in the county had changes to evacuation zones this year and more people are in evacuation areas than ever before. Where you live and the type of structure you live in makes the biggest difference when deciding what to do if a hurricane should threaten, she said.

Should I stay or should I go?

People who live in a nonevacuation zone and structures other than mobile homes have to make a choice of whether they will stay in their home or leave the county. Bishop said people should use their own judgment based on good knowledge, which includes knowing that your house is hurricane-ready and you have a room in the interior of the house to stay in while the storm passes through.

People who plan to stay in their home need to make sure they have plenty of supplies. Bishop recommends enough food and drink to last one week.

"We could be cut off (if the bridges and airport are damaged)," she said. "It could take days for supplies to get to us. People can't live much longer than three days without water. In the hot Florida summers, people must have water."

People also should remember their own special needs, medicines, foods and first aid supplies.

Suggested items that should be included in any hurricane kit can be found at www.TBNweekly.com. Look for the Hurricane Guide link on the left-side menu.

The strength of the storm

Another factor to consider when deciding whether to stay or go is the strength of the storm, she said. Hurricane plans could vary depending on the storm.

Sally Bishop

Bishop said people could decide to stay until Pinellas County issues evacuation orders for level E, which would be done if a Category 5 or strong Category 4 hurricane were forecast to affect the local area.

"It's a logical progression," she said.

People who live in evacuation zones A or B or live in a mobile home will need to evacuate every time a Category 1 or stronger storm threatens. Evacuation zone C also would be included in an evacuation order if a Category 2 were forecast.

Evacuation zone D would be added to the order if a Category 3 were forecast. Above a Category 3, a level E evacuation would be ordered, which would include all areas of the county except nonevacuation zones.

Generally, emergency management experts order evacuations for one level higher than the forecast at the time the order is issued due to the possibility of a hurricane strengthening before it makes landfall.

Hurricanes are no big deal

Some county residents believe that hurricanes are no big deal because the storms that passed though in recent years didn't cause major problems.

"Not even a Category 1 storm has passed through Pinellas in recent history," Bishop said.

A Category 1 hurricane, a minimum hurricane, has winds of 74 to 95 mph. When a hurricane passes through an area, unlike a thunderstorm, those high winds blow for "hours and hours and hours," Bishop said. "They say it sounds like a freight train. The winds can really get on your nerves. And you hear things as they break and crash. It's hard for anyone to imagine it unless they've experienced it."

However, Bishop said the biggest threat during a hurricane was storm surge, not the wind.

"Most deaths attributed to hurricanes have nothing to do with wind," she said. "It's water. It's storm surge."

She said storm surge is not something you watch happen, or can sand bag against or even outrun. She said it is more like what happens when a dam breaks suddenly and a wall of water comes down to take out everything in its path.

"It happens fast and without warning," she said.

Flooding is another hazard. Water can come up inside homes and cover electrical outlets, making a home unsafe. Water also can cover roads, flooding them out making them unsafe for residents and emergency vehicles.

Evacuation plans

People who live on the barrier islands, in low-lying areas and mobile homes should plan to evacuate as soon as Pinellas County Commissioners give the order, if not sooner. Evacuating is easier the more time you have, she said.

The biggest decision to make is where to go.

"You can't wait until the last minute and the storm is on the way to try to find a place in a hotel or motel," she said.

People in Pinellas also have to consider the only way out is through another county that could be evacuating its residents. In addition, the farther away people travel, the longer it will take to get back.

People who live in mobile homes or evacuation zones could plan to stay with family or friends who live in nonevacuation zones, especially for Category 1 or Category 2 storms.

"There's plenty of high ground in Pinellas for everyone to go," Bishop said.

However, county-provided shelters should be used only if you have no place else to go.

Survivor or victim

Bishop said every resident of Pinellas has a choice to be a survivor or to be a victim.

"A survivor plans well and holds their own," she said. "A victim is totally reliant on others and will suffer during an emergency.

"If a storm shows up next week, time will be up. You won't be able to decide when it's still easy whether to be a survivor or a victim. Pinellas County has a message 'Surviving the Storm … It's Everyone's Responsibility' because there's not enough government on the planet to take care of everyone."

Bishop said while she understands that some people don't like to plan for emergencies, such as a hurricane, because it's easier not to worry about it or they think because no hurricanes have hit Pinellas in a long time or any of the other excuses people in her profession hear every day, she feels better when she knows she's ready.

"I can't relax until I know I'm as prepared as I can be," she said. "My mind says I sure better do it now while the sun is shining."

The alternative is standing in line at the store trying to get what you need when a storm could be hours away, she said.

"You have more choices if you prepare now," she said.

Forecasters say hurricane season about to get busy

By SUZETTE PORTER

August through October is the peak season for tropical storm activity in the Atlantic basin.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 78 percent of tropical storm days, 87 percent of minor hurricane days and 96 percent of major hurricane days occur during the three months that make up the peak season. Maximum activity occurs in early to mid-September.

NOAA's experts, as well as the hurricane team at Colorado State University recently updated their season's forecast. The consensus is 2010 could have above-average activity and could even set records.

"All indications are for considerable activity during the next several months," said Gerry Bell, lead seasonal hurricane forecaster at NOAA's Climate Prediction Center. "As we've seen in past years, storms can come on quickly during the peak months of the season. There remains a high likelihood that the season could be very active, with the potential of being one of the more active on record."

Less than 16 weeks remain before the end of the season on Nov. 30. The season began on June 1.

Bell announced NOAA's updated forecast during a teleconference on Aug. 5. Federal scientists say there is a 70 percent chance of 14 to 20 named storms forming between June 1 and Nov. 30. The number includes the first three storms of the season: Alex, Bonnie and Colin.

NOAA says of the 14 to 20, 8 to 12 could be hurricanes with winds of 74 mph or higher. Of the 14 to 20, four to six could be major hurricanes, Category 3 or higher, with winds of 111 mph or more. Alex was the first hurricane of 2010 and the only one thus far.

Expert hurricane forecasters Philip J. Klotzbach and William M. Gray from Colorado State University released mid-season predictions in an Aug. 4 report. The report forecast 18 named storms with 10 of the 18 strengthening into hurricanes. Of the 10, five are forecast to become major hurricanes, Category 3 or above.

NOAA's expert and the Colorado hurricane team base their predictions on several atmospheric and oceanic factors, including the formation of La Nina in the tropical Pacific Ocean. Bell said La Nina favors lower wind shear over the Atlantic basin, which allows storm clouds to grow and organize.

Other factors are above-normal temperatures in the tropical Atlantic and Caribbean and the multi-decadal signal, which is a set of conditions that since 1995 has favored the formation of tropical weather.

Landfall probability

NOAA doesn't forecast landfall probabilities, but the Colorado experts do.

Klotzbach and Gray give a 50 percent chance of a major hurricane making landfall on the U.S. East Coast, including the Florida Peninsula. The long-term average is 31 percent.

They give odds of 49 percent that a major storm will come ashore on the Gulf Coast from the Florida Panhandle west to Brownsville, Texas.

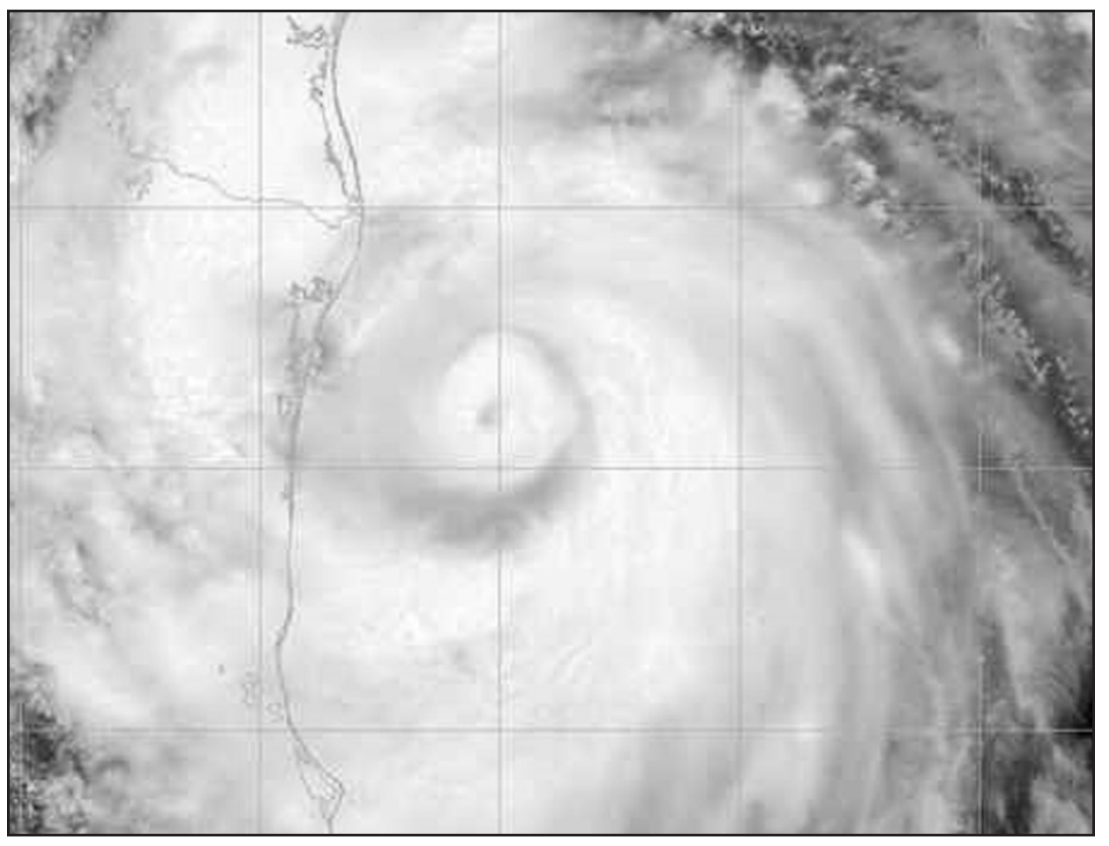

Photo courtesy of NOAA

Hurricane Alex, the first of the 2010 season, hours before making landfall just south of the Texas border in Mexico. Alex is the first hurricane to form in the Atlantic basin since 1995, and it is the second strongest June hurricane on record.

"The probability of a major hurricane making landfall along the U.S. coastline is 75 percent compared with the last-century average of 52 percent," Gray said.

Gray and Klotzbach will be updating their forecast every two weeks through the remainder of the season, which ends on Nov. 30.

The forecast through Aug. 18 is "very active."

For the latest tropical weather forecasts including computer models, visit www.TBNweekly.com and click on the Tropical Systems link above the weather forecast on the front page.

MANAGER, from page 1A

"Thanks for your dedication to the city," Commissioner Woody Brown wrote.

Commissioner Harriet Crozier also said Craig's strengths are integrity and leadership.

"Works with staff in the areas – continues to bring pride and positive thinking to Largo," she wrote, referring to his strengths.

"In these tough economic times, the (city manager) needs to stay connected to the community in order to know what the residents want," Crozier wrote in suggestions for improvements.

"Largo is the wonderful place is due to your leadership. Even under stressful financial situations, you and your staff have identified positive and focused on making Largo a great community," Commissioner Gigi Arntzen wrote.

"Mr. Craig always represents the commission's position in a positive manner. He understands the strengths and weaknesses of those who report directly to him. Mr. Craig demonstrated his leadership and direction by choosing Chief (John) Carroll as the new police chief," Commissioner Robert Murray wrote.

Commissioner Curtis Homes wrote that he had insufficient interaction at this time with the city manager to justify suggestions for improvement but will at a later date or in person. Holmes took office in November.

Black asked that when a commissioner asks for an item to be placed on the agenda, "please list the item as presented under 'legislative action' unless the request is made otherwise."

Craig makes $145,600 a year. He began work for the city in January 2000 as director of environmental services and became assistant city manager four years later.

He was named acting city manager in Feb. 2007 following the termination of former City Manager Susan Stanton and named city manager that August.

OIL CLAIMS, from page 1A

Pope noted that Florida's anti-pollution law gives residents and business owners the right to recover damages related to pollution.

"But the way things stand now, it would be tough to argue you've been damaged," said Pope. "You've not been physically invaded by oil. You've been affected more by rumor."

When asked if a class-action lawsuit would have more clout than an individual suit, the answer was no.

"Class-action is not a panacea," said Pope. "It's just a procedural device that allows you to handle a claim together."

Dreyfus added that "If there is damage here, class actions would likely be merged with others into one and it would be heard at a more central location to the issue, such as Mobile (Ala.) or Houston."

Dreyfus said she has not heard "of anyone receiving a dime yet" from BP.

Steve Boynton, a visitor to the area from Gulf Shores, Ala., who is familiar with the process in his hometown, said business owners should be prepared to go through several adjusters before getting to the one that will handle a claim. He said claims under $5,000 are settled quickly and claims over $5,000 will likely require an attorney.

State Rep. Jim Frishe, R-St. Petersburg, said the $5,000 level is true.

"According to my colleagues (in the Florida Legislature in the panhandle), if the claim is under $5,000 they're writing checks," he said. "And the closer you are to Pensacola Beach the better your chances. They're paying some large claims but you have to document it well."

Among the local business operators on hand was Don Mead who opened a barber shop in November in Treasure Island.

"We heard June, July and August was the tourism season and we just don't have any tourists," said Mead. "In April, May and June we had some, but then none."

Tim Tolliver, who operates Madeira Beach-based Sun Host Resorts, a beach vacation rental business, with his father Larry Tolliver, said his business has lost $35,000 in rentals via cancellations from April 20 to July 31.

"We manage units for the owners," said Tim Tolliver. "We need to find out if we need to file for (the condo owners) or if they file for themselves."

Interestingly, Tolliver said the day BP workers were able to cap the oil leak there was a noticeable change in business "and the phone started ringing."

Frishe said the state Legislature will soon be looking into ways to go after BP.

"We're going to be looking at criminal and civil penalties we can impose for a company that doesn't reside in Florida," he said. "Hopefully, we'll have some type of statutory response in September."

For businesses interested in filing a claim with BP, call 800-440-0858.

To check on a claim after receiving a claims number, call 800-573-8249.

To file a claim online, go to www.bp.com/claims or www.fl-response.com.

U.S. 19, from page 1A

days but could take more or less time, depending on the weather.

"Our schedule changes every month," FDOT official Joe Blasewitz said. "We review it every month."

Before road construction can begin, utility lines must be relocated. Water, sewer, electric, cable TV and other lines owned by nine private companies and governmental entities must be crammed into the limited space allotted to them.

Except at the S.R. 60 and Seville Boulevard overpasses, frontage roads will be built before mainline construction begins. Pile driving in the northern section of the project area will begin next month, and Blasewitz warned that there will be a lot of noise and vibration.

"We try to do things proactively and let people know" via message board and other means about driveway changes and other things that will affect them, Blasewitz said.

"The is no economic assistance for this or any other FDOT project," FDOT official Lori Buck replied when a longtime merchant asked if he would be compensated for the business he will lose while the street is torn up in front of his store. She suggested that he minimize the impact by informing his customers in advance of what to expect.

One resident worried that with crosswalks so few and far between, people living west of U.S. 19 would be tempted to jaywalk across the highway to catch a northbound bus, and those living east of the highway would illegally cross it to catch a southbound bus. He and another resident wanted pedestrian overpasses or underpasses to allow pedestrians to safely cross the highway, but FDOT officials said those are not envisioned in the project.

Another suggestion was for Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority buses to have "loop routes" whereby northbound and southbound buses would divert from their routes to pick up passengers on the opposite side of the highway. Clearwater Commissioner Bill Jonson, who attended the meeting and serves on the PSTA board of directors, said that that idea would run counter to PSTA's goal of having faster bus service, but PSTA officials would study the problem and try to find another solution.

Blasewitz said that when FDOT first posted a sign with a telephone number (530-7600) people could call for information about the project, he received 50 to 60 calls per day.

"People were very positive about the project," he said.

Photo by ALEXANDRA CALDWELL

Drivers adjust to new traffic patterns on U.S. 19 to get around the portions of the road that are blocked off due to construction.

For the love of lifeguarding

Four teams from Lakeland, two from Largo and two from St. Petersburg competed in the third annual Pinellas Aquatics Council Lifeguard Games at Southwest Pool in Largo Aug. 8. In the competion above, whichever team kept the towel from getting wet the longest while treading water won.

Photos by BRANDEN BELL

Above, Marcu Pezzuti of Largo competes in the brick relay, paddling across the pool with a 10-pound water brick weight. Pezzuti and Larabeth LaPointe of Largo, left, compete in the backboard relay, lying on a rescue board. Lakeland Team A was the champion of the event. Largo Team A was second runner-up, and Largo Team B was first runner-up.

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Editorial

Decisive action needed on public safety funding

County commissioners face the painful task of trying to come up with more revenue to finance their fire and EMS budgets without making drastic cuts that affect response time and service levels.

Because of declining property values, the economic downturn and tax-cut measures have hamstrung their budget, county officials have discussed a variety of options at length in the past couple of years to protect the quality of emergency services. Opinions have varied, as local governments and fire districts have weighed in on proposed solutions, sometimes creating friction among agencies.

An increase in the tax rate, as proposed by staff, seems inevitable. To balance the EMS budget without depleting the reserves, county staff is recommending a millage rate increase from .5832 to .6860. The increase would mean an additional $10.64 a year in taxes for a single-family residential property with a taxable value of $103,490, the average in Pinellas County.

Though commissioners are likely to get flak if they raise the tax rate, they have a few alternatives. They are looking at a $13.8 million gap between projected revenues and expenditures. That's substantial.

Consequently, they are considering an increase of users fees to bring in $1.4 million, an increase in the tax rate to bring in $5.2 million and a decrease in reserves by $7.2 million.

Commissioners are being asked by staff to mull over the options for stabilizing the financially strapped fire and EMS operations in the next several weeks.

That's prudent, but, with the start of the new fiscal year only two months away, commissioners must take decisive action, and if that means raising the millage rate at the risk of angering some constituents, so be it. Public safety shouldn't be compromised for the sake of appeasement.

***

The staggering increase in foreclosures has taken a toll on the courts.

However, help is on the way; the Sixth Judicial Circuit, which includes Pasco and Pinellas counties, is taking advantage of stimulus dollars to possibly resolve up to 800 mortgage cases each week.

Under a new program, more than 24,000 of the backlogged cases may be resolved within a year.

Judicial officials say the real estate crisis has placed a burden on judges, delaying action on other civil litigation.

The $317,752 appropriated to the Sixth Circuit by this year's Legislature for the program is part of the federal stimulus dollars that each state receives.

It's simply a matter of paying retired judges to handle the cases. In essence, it's cutting red tape. Hard to find fault with that concept.

GOP's Bill and Rick are their own worst problems

Carl Hiaasen

In the Republican race for governor of Florida, Attorney General Bill McCollum finds himself trailing a candidate who has more baggage than J-Lo on a camel safari.

The polls show McCollum chasing Rick Scott, whose singular claim to fame was building Columbia/HCA into a healthcare conglomerate that perpetrated the largest Medicare fraud in the history of Medicare.

Only in the rancid political swamp of Florida would a guy like Scott have the gall to run for office, bankrolling his run for the governorship with the fortune he accumulated while his empire soaked U.S. taxpayers for hundreds of millions of dollars.

His campaign mantra, slightly paraphrased: "Hey, lighten up! I never got indicted!"

Naturally, a centerpiece of Scott's campaign is railing against health-care reform. That's because he got filthy rich off the current system – bloated, inefficient and highly lucrative to those who know how it manipulate it."

Suspecting fraud, and fielding scores of whistleblower complaints, the feds began raiding Columbia/HCA hospitals in 1997. Under pressure, Scott resigned as CEO, walking away with $5.1 million in cash, a $950,000 annual consultancy contract and $300 million in stock and options.

Somewhere around 2003, Scott moved from Connecticut to Florida, coincidentally the national epicenter of Medicare fraud. A quick study, he says he's now ready to run our state after seven whole years as a resident.

As for Columbia/HCA, the company ended up paying $1.7 billion in criminal and civil fines for such slimy tactics as bribing doctors for patient referrals, inflating the costs being reported to Medicare and basically fictionalizing patient bills.

Scott's official explanation is vintage Nixon: He didn't know that all that rotten stuff was taking place while he was in charge, but he'll accept responsibility.

The man couldn't keep his own company honest, yet he promises to clean up Tallahassee. It's hilarious.

If that weren't enough, Scott remains the only gubernatorial candidate who still wants to expand oil drilling off Florida's coasts, even after the Deepwater Horizon disaster.

Normally, Scott would be a dream opponent for any credible candidate of any party. To run for governor against a person with his past is something veteran politicians pray for, a gift from the heavens.

Which brings us to Bill McCollum.

Once the GOP's frontrunner, the attorney general has fallen behind not just because Scott has spent $16 million of his own money on slick advertising.

McCollum's biggest problem is McCollum. He is epically dull, and he just can't help it. Watching him speak has pretty much the same effect as 20 milligrams of Ambien.

Voters in Central Florida loyally sent him to Congress for two decades. However, in statewide races he has – until his successful bid for attorney general – struggled to inspire.

In 2000 and again in 2004, McCollum campaigned hard for the U.S. Senate and fell short. In 2008, he served as state chairman of Rudy Giuliani's presidential campaign, which was like getting the cigar concession on the Hindenburg.

Rudy flamed out in Florida and soon exited the race. If he returns to campaign for McCollum, voters will know for certain that McCollum is in dire straits.

The Rekers scandal hasn't improved his prospects.

In 2007, shortly after becoming attorney general, McCollum hired a flaky right-wing psychiatrist named George Rekers as an "expert witness" to testify in defense of Florida's ban on gay adoptions.

Rekers, who was paid $120,000 in state funds, dutifully took the oath and declared that homosexual couples were unfit to be parents. The judge trashed his testimony as biased and unscientific, but he still got to keep the money.

Rekers' credibility was further demolished when it recently came to light that he paid a gay male escort to join him on a European vacation and provide nude "sexual" massages. By all accounts, adoption was not on the agenda.

Amazingly, McCollum continues to defend Rekers' qualifications, although he does concede that he wouldn't spend tax money to hire him again. That's nice to know.

Still, considering McCollum's experience and his support from the GOP power players, it's remarkable that the race between him and Scott is so tight.

With the primary on the horizon, Republican voters will get to choose between one candidate who might put them to sleep, and another who might keep them awake.

Wide awake, every night.

Carl Hiaasen is a columnist for the Miami Herald. Readers may write to him at: 1 Herald Plaza, Miami, Fla., FL 33132.

TV court's hatchetwoman dons robe of hypocrisy

Driver's Seat
Bob Driver

I have a dream, a nightmare. In it, I'm either the plaintiff or the defendant (it makes little difference) in a courtroom ruled over by a woman named Judith Sheindlin – the notorious Judge Judy of TV fame.

During the dream I am subject to being hounded, insulted, criticized, ridiculed and made a laughing stock of by Judge Judy. She may or may not allow me to state my case. In front of 10 million TV viewers I may be made a jackass of, either through my own behavior or because I offended the judge for any of eighty-five reasons.

These might include not being dressed properly; not standing up straight; smiling at the wrong moment; interrupting the judge or the other litigant; slurring my words; telling a lie; telling the truth; or just being on the face of the earth.

The worst part of my nightmare is not the torture I undergo at the hands of the judge. It is the realization that I voluntarily agreed to appear on the Judge Judy show and display my dirty personal laundry to the entire world in exchange for ... for what? Fifteen minutes of foul-smelling fame? The chance to be awarded a few hundred bucks? All at the hands of a person whose application of the law (although generally fair) does little to cancel out her rudeness and cruelty.

Judy Sheindlin, 67, was born in Brooklyn. She passed the New York bar exam in 1965, and had a long career in the criminal and family courts of New York City. She retired in 1996, but by then her nonsense courtroom behavior had earned her wide attention, including a segment on the CBS program "60 Minutes." She had also written a book or two, one of them with the enchanting title, "Dcon't Pee on My Leg and Tell Me It's Raining."

She began her own CBS courtroom show in 1996. Since then her program has been nominated thirteen times for Daytime Emmy awards. Her current contract calls for her to receive $45 million a year. Her personal wealth has been estimated at $95 million.

Her adoring fans (mostly women) delight to see a bona fide tyrant in action. Judge Judy demands airtight decorum, not just from the litigants but from the courtroom audience (some of whom are hired to give the appearance of a packed courtroom). No one (except the judge) speaks unless spoken to. A troublesome audience member may be thrown out. Judge Judy will upbraid audiences for their laughter or other response even when she herself has triggered the outburst with one of her witticisms.

Judy's basic mindset is to doubt the veracity of anyone who testifies before her. She admits to hating liars, and will often render a one-word verdict – "baloney" – against someone she suspects of lying to her. She has conceded that she sometimes sets out to cause embarrassment and punish people who have acted badly.

Some viewers tune in to the show because they like to see wrongdoers publicly humiliated. Unfortunately, many of the litigants are not lawbreakers. They are simply human beings with private disputes. As far as I can tell, their only "crime" is being stupid enough to take their cases to Judge Judy rather than to one of the other TV courtrooms whose judges believe in settling cases without treating the litigants like dirt.

The Judge Judy program is actually an arbitration hearing, not a court of law. The award limit (paid by the show's producer) is $5,000. Each litigant receives $100 for his/her appearance, plus hotel and travel expenses and $35 for each day of production time, The show is taped in Los Angeles.

The only other TV judge whose long-term fame rivals Sheindlin's is Joseph Wapner, whose show "The People's Court" ran from 1981 to 1993. In evaluating Judge Judy's performance as a representative of the legal profession Judge Wapner pulls no punches. Among his adjectives for Judge Judy are "discourteous," "abrasive," "rude" and "arrogant."

And how, pray tell, does Judge Judy respond to Judge Wapner? Thusly: "My parents taught me when you don't have something nice to say about someone, say nothing. Judge Wapner was absent on the day that was taught."

Can you comprehend that level of hypocrisy coming from a woman whose stock in trade is to flood her own courtroom with acrimony, insults and derision? Indeed, that is chutzpah of a high order. We should be grateful that judges like Judith Sheindlin are an exception, not the rule, in American courtroom proceedings.

Send Bob Driver an e-mail at tralee71@comcast.net.

Letters

White elephant of the gulf

Editor:

Where are the Friends of the Biltmore and Save the Biltmore folks now?

After vociferously campaigning to save the Belleview Biltmore Hotel they are as scarce as hen's teeth. All the while the "White Queen of the Gulf" has turned into the white elephant of the Gulf.

Full disclosure: I live across the road from the hotel and look at the decomposition daily.

Some folks want to blame the Town of Belleair for the fact that the renovation has not begun, when in fact the town issued seven variances and approved the project presented by Legg Mason. As a matter of fact the town has also extended the deadline for pulling permits for the hotel as well as extended the deadline for fixing the roof for one year.

Let's not lose sight of the fact that the Belleview Biltmore Hotel is a private enterprise and not part of the town's Parks and Recreation department.

Some folks want to blame the litigants who brought lawsuits against the hotel owners which delayed the project. The courts ruled in favor of Legg Mason on both lawsuits. In May of 2008, a editor from the St. Petersburg Times wrote: "The economy is struggling, the credit markets are tough, gas prices are high, tourism is flagging, and someone could still appeal the commission's variance decisions. Legg Mason may be the savior we were waiting for, but we shouldn't breathe easy until the construction is under way."

The economic problems in the country started long before the lawsuits were filed. Maybe the plans to renovate the hotel were too complicated and grandiose.

In the meantime demolition by neglect continues, the town continues to lose tax dollars as well as water/sewer fees and property values are declining with no plans in place to begin renovation.

Maybe it's time for the Friends of the Biltmore and Save the Biltmore to resurface and instead of carrying placards that read "Save the Hotel," they might carry ones that read "Renovate the Hotel Now." It would be a shame for this situation to mimic the Vinoy Hotel in St. Petersburg and sit boarded up and decaying for years to come.

I think Mayor Gary Katica was correct, we were sold a bill of goods.

Lil Cromer
Belleair

An outrage in New York City

Editor:

We cannot allow a mosque to be erected on the hallowed acreage of lower Manhattan's Ground Zero. It would not be appropriate. And it would be an offense to the many Americans who died in the 9/11 attack.

There are a hundred mosques in New York City, so why does one need to be built here? The Muslims plan to build a $100 million mosque. Will this be a shrine to the 9/11 terrorists they hail as martyrs? Would it be a proclamation of victory? They plan to dedicate the mosque on 9/11/11, the tenth anniversary of the attack.

We cannot permit this. Many have already spoken against this in a recent rally in New York City. Where was the press?

Nancy Davis
Seminole

Writer shows ignorance

Editor:

My husband and I are avid readers of The Pinellas Park Beacon. Today, Aug. 6, we read an editorial named "Think to yourself" that referred to an article published on July 15 about a lady who formed a group for mothers who have lost children. The ignorance and lack of regard shown by Eileen A. Niece is inexcusable. Obviously she is a man-hating or should I say human-hating ungrateful moron who has never lost a child.

We are great-grandparents and cherish all our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. However, both my husband and I, in separate marriages, have lost a child. There is no pain like that. Even today, and for me it has been over 36 years, for my husband 34 years, neither my husband nor I will ever forget my little boy, stillborn at 6 months, or his little girl, who died shortly after birth at 7 1/2 months. Someone should educate this person to the realities of life.

To the lady that started the loss group, our sincerest condolences.

To Eileen Niece, grow up and educate yourself instead of talking or writing senseless, thoughtless, hurtful editorials.

David and Tricia Newman
Pinellas Park

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Nine vie for four open county School Board seats

Compiled by ALEXANDRA CALDWELL

There are nine candidates on the ballot for four open seats for Pinellas County School Board. The following candidate profiles are compiled from surveys sent out to each candidate. Coverage continues next week.

District 2

Terry Krassner

What is your background in education?

Krassner received a Bachelor of Arts in education at the University of South Florida in 1973, and a Masters degree in educational leadership in 1984 from Nova Southeastern University.

Krassner had a 35-year career with Pinellas County Schools, including being a fifth grade teacher at Lynch Elementary, reading teachers at Pinellas Park Middle and Morgan Fitzgerald Middle, assistant principal at Starkey Elementary, and principal at Westgate Elementary.

"My family has lived in Pinellas County and been a part of the Pinellas County School System for over 50 years," Krassner said. "Both of my parents were educators and my four siblings and I attended Pinellas County Schools. My sisters and I have all been educators in Pinellas County. Two of my children have graduated and two are currently attending Pinellas County Schools."

In this time of major budget cuts, how would you help trim the budget?

"With the school district's current financial challenges and need to improve overall program effectiveness, hiring of an outside auditor is necessary," Krassner said. "Wasteful spending must be cut. One glaring example is the nearly $500,000 spent each year for 1,000 employee cell phones. As a principal, I paid for my own cell phone because I felt that it should not be a school board expense. We need to audit every department to be certain that the district is operating efficiently and effectively. Eighty-five percent of the district's budget is personnel so it is important that we audit all positions that are not directly impacting children to determine if the position is necessary. Because of reduced enrollment, we may need to look at the closing of some schools. Spending that directly contributes to student learning should be spared."

What would you want to change if you were elected?

"The Pinellas County School Board should direct school district staff to be more proactive and focused on the long-term," Krassner said. "Before staff recommendations come before the board, they should be vetted by parents and stakeholders through a consistent two-way communications process. Pinellas needs a respectful and professional school board that studies the details of policy proposals, makes decisions with an understanding of the community's point of view and involves all stakeholders. We need to believe in the parents and volunteers who can make a difference in our schools if they are given more ways to be heard and opportunities to contribute. I would also like to see more school-based decision making rather than top down decisions."

Other than the budget, what do you think is the most pressing issue for the district?

"Student safety," Krassner said. "We need to re-examine and improve handling of disruptive student behavior, student assignment plans, busing plans and school starting times to maximize student safety."

Why should the voters vote for you?

"As someone seeking to be your representative on the school board, I view the job as one where I am responsible for contributing to the overall success of our children, teachers and schools," Krassner said. "Now is the time for seasoned, experienced leadership to advise and work in collaboration with our superintendent and school personnel as well as our entire community on critical policy decisions for the highest possible success of our students."

Fonda Huff

What is your background in education?

Huff earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics and physical education, and she has her driver's education certification as well. She has a master's degree in education leadership and an education specialist degree in school counseling.

Huff has been in education for a total of 17 years. She taught mathematics, physical education, and coached girls' sports at Brewer Middle School in west Fort Worth, as well as taught drivers education in the summers. Since moving to Pinellas County 11 years ago, she has mathematics, and coached junior varsity volleyball at Northeast High School. This past year she was an instructions staff developer for math and science at four high schools where she analyzed student data with the principals and helped develop a plan for higher student achievement.

How would you help trim the budget?

"I would do an audit at all levels and reassign some of the personnel at the administration level that are not needed and combine many positions," Huff said. "I would also offer an incentive plan that would replace 100 teachers with over 29 years of experience.

"With the six converted fundamental schools that I propose, the budget for schools would immediately be decreased. Depending on the size of the newly established fundamentals one less assistant principal would be needed. The schools would only need a part time social worker, less campus monitors, and no transportation expenses."

What would you want to change if you were elected?

"(A) Immediately I want to establish an attendance policy that requires seat time," Huff said. "(B) I would also transform two high schools into fundamental schools – one in South County and one in North County. I would like to create two middle school high school combos – one in the northern part of the county and one in the mid part of the county. ... (C) I want the magnet schools adapt the fundamental concepts with the parent involvement and attendance policies required by the fundamental schools. (D) I want to establish more alternative schools to where the repeat offenders and 'no tolerance' offenders are reassigned so the teachers at the schools can teach. (E) I would cut many of the extra personnel at the administration building instead of cutting the teachers that work directly with the students. (F) I would eliminate the shortened day on Wednesdays and would not start the elementary students after 9 a.m. They will be too tired to learn after 2 p.m. Many parents will pull their students from public schools because they cannot afford before and after school care. (G) I would try and know what is going on in our schools. It was horrible to hear that school board members had no idea about what was going on at John Hopkins or Gibbs High School just two years ago."

Other than the budget, what do you think is the most pressing issue for the district?

"The two most pressing issues at this time is re-establishing the attendance policy," Huff said. "When the high school students realized that there was no attendance policy, they took advantage of the situation. The other major issue is what has happened with the bell schedule of the elementary students. There was no communication or thought on what this would do to a family. Elementary students do not need to start to school before 8 a.m. or after 8:30 a.m. If we do not correct this, we will lose these students to home schooling or private schools."

Why should the voters vote for you?

"Voters should vote for me because I have solutions to many of the problems that the county faces," Huff said. "I am not afraid to think outside of the box to find a common sense solution to a problem. I strongly believe that as a school board member that I must represent the people that voted me into the position. This would mean that I would communicate with the public before making a major decision that would affect so many. For example, I would not have changed the elementary bell schedules without considering what it would do to the families involved. I have been a single parent that knows what it is like to juggle schedules. With my granddaughter now in the elementary schools, I want the security to know that she is safe and learning at school and around other children that their parents care about them and expect them to learn also."

District 3

Greg Hunsinger

What is your background in education?

Hunsinger has lived in Pinellas County for 59 years and graduated from the Pinellas County School system, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of South Florida, and received his Masters of Arts degree from Nova Southeastern University. He was then a Pinellas County public schools middle school teacher for more than 35 years, teaching at Perkins Elementary, Osceola Middle School, and is currently a substitute teacher.

How would you help trim the budget?

"All efforts should be made to preserve the integrity of the classroom learning environment," Hunsinger said. "Some savings can be derived through attrition in nonclassroom related positions. A thorough review needs to be conducted to determine nonessential expenditures at all levels of the educational process.

"Some of my ideas for savings include carefully evaluating the costs of nonessential teacher trainings, costs of administrative meetings, the expense of Blackberrys and other communication devices, and the costs of nonessential administrative travel expenses. I would also consider an independent outside audit of our system. I believe there are companies that conduct outside audits in private industry, deriving the cost of the audit from savings achieved."

What would you want to change if you were elected?

Hunsinger said he would change standardization and strengthening of county-wide discipline, increase transparency through open communication in the decision making process at all levels of school operations, and refocusing the energies and resources toward the needs of the classroom, where the learning takes place.

Other than the budget, what do you think is the most pressing issue for the district?

Employee morale and student discipline.

Why should the voters vote for you?

"After I retired from public education full time, I found that I still had a strong desire to contribute to the education of our Pinellas children," Hunsinger said.

Peggy O'Shea (incumbent)

What is your background in education?

O'Shea was elected to the Pinellas County School Board in 2006, served as vice-chairwoman in 2008 and chairwoman in 2009.

"Prior to my election, I was appointed by the governor to chair the Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas, the agency which administers state and federal programs for school readiness and Florida's voluntary pre-kindergarten," O'Shea said.

She has also served on the following committees and task forces for the district: Choice Reform Task Force; Bi-Racial Advisory, Planning Committee for the Business, Economics and Technology Academy; Controlled Choice Task Force; Career Planning Task Force; School advisory councils for Gibbs High School, Palm Harbor University High, Carwise Middle, and Highland Lakes Elementary. She was also a volunteer tutor, and substitute teacher.

What do you consider some of the key things you have done while on the board?

"This is my first term on the board, and it has been eventful," O'Shea said. "These three and a half years have seen the end of race based assignment in the schools, a new plan for student assignment, the appointment of a new superintendent, and unprecedented budget reductions. As a board member, I have been able to treat each issue with an open-mind and a willingness to work with everyone to make decisions in the best interest of our students."

How would you help trim the budget?

"As a board, we have made every effort to avoid cuts that directly impact the students," O'Shea said. "We are looking at the projected future cuts in an effort to plan ahead. I and the entire board have looked at programs, measured their effectiveness to determine if the expenditure is warranted, we have eliminated nonschool based positions, and looked at the cost and function of each department. The re-zoning of the elementary schools eliminated approximately 200 bus routes and the related costs. It has been a time to work differently, maximize the impact of our resources, and plan accordingly."

Other than the budget, what do you think is the most pressing issue for the district?

"Success for all our students," O'Shea said. "To get there, we have to look at their needs for the future and provide high quality and relevant education. We have to continue to increase graduation rates, provide career education in the form of vocational and technical opportunities aligned with the jobs of their future, ensure a competitive edge for our college-bound students, maintain discipline, and recruit and retain high quality teachers and staff."

Why should the voters vote for you?

"I am passionate about the importance of education and will continue to work to provide the best for every student," O'Shea said. "I believe in being open and honest with the community and will continue to be an impartial listener. I accept the challenges that we are facing and will work hard to solve them, but will never use them as an excuse for not providing the best for our children."

See SEATS, page 9A

Business Showcase

Every child is a star at Tutterow Dancers Inc.

Award-winning Tutterow Dancers Inc., the premier dance studio in the county, is now preparing for its 2010-11 dance season. Privately owned, Tutterow has been contracted through Largo's Recreation, Parks and Arts Department since 1976.

Debbie Kennedy, who has served as studio director of Tutterow Dancers since 1998, started as a student in 1976.

"My desire is for each and every child to feel like a star," said Debbie. "The studio is such an important part of my life. It is a pleasure to teach the children."

The teachers strive for you to do better everyday in a positive way. I love coming to dance class. I am proud to say that I have been a Tutterow Dancer for 13 years.

– Carson Aho

At Tutterow, the faculty firmly believes that a child's self-esteem, coordination and poise are enhanced through the art of dance.

Several studies have even shown that participation in the arts helps children improve test scores. In fact, according to Americans for the Arts, a national public service advertisement campaign, research has indicated kids who are involved in the arts are:

- More likely to be recognized for academic achievement
- More likely to be elected to class office within their schools
- More likely to participate in a math and science fair
- More likely to win an award for school attendance

Aside from the academic benefits, though, dance offers plenty of intangible advantages, too: It evokes our humanity, inspires joy and edifies our emotions.

I think one of the best things that my daughters have gained from being Tutterow dancers is confidence. The teachers encourage the students to do their best and give them opportunities to perform for their classmates as well as community members in the recitals.

– Aimee Lipham

Offering quality dance instruction for pre-professional and recreational students, Tutterow boasts more than 60 classes on its upcoming fall schedule. The program has an annual enrollment of 275 to 300, with students ranging in age 2 1/2 to adults.

"Even the 3- and 4-year-olds are learning terminology and body placement," Debbie said. While the beginners are picking up the basics, Tutterow instructors see to it that the students are enjoying class while learning the Art of Dance. "We make sure they have a good time."

New this season, Tutterow is introducing its TutterTots program for children ages 30 months to 3 years old.

"I get calls every year for 2-year-olds," Debbie said. "They pick things up, even at that age. They're like little sponges and we've designed a program especially for them."

Our dancers have grown up together and they are all family to each other. Relationships are built and kept.

– Kathi Robinson

Classes offered by Tutterow Dancers Inc. include:

- Ballet
- Jazz
- Lyrical
- Tap
- Hip-hop
- Clogging

Tutterow also offers a boys-only hip-hop class. Classes are presented at the Largo Community Center, Highland Recreation Complex and Southwest Recreation Complex. A new, state-of-the-art facility will open in January with 3 large studio rooms. All 3 studios will have floating floors, barres and mirrors.

"Our teachers are chosen not only for their dance experience but for their ability to relate to the typical needs of our students," Debbie said. "Our professional staff continues with ongoing training to ensure we are always providing students and parents with the best experience possible."

The director and her staff are courteous, dedicated, professional, and knowledgeable in the art of dance. Both of my daughters are students in the recreational classes and the performance company. They absolutely love it!

– Parent of Cameron and Kendall

Over the years, the Tutterow Dancers have consistently won national awards in competition.

In July, they received top scores in all divisions and were also the recipients of the highest honor, "Grand Prix," award in both the Junior and Senior competition.

Tutterow Dancers have given performances at Walt Disney World, the Florida State Fair, Busch Gardens of Tampa, Sea World of Florida and Disney's California Adventure. They have performed on Royal Caribbean's Navigator and Freedom of the Seas cruise ships. Internationally, they traveled in 2008 to Germany and performed for the US troops stationed in Stuttguart and Bamberg. "We are so excited about our upcoming trip to perform at Euro Disney in Paris, summer 2012. We will also perform in Germany at the German American festival and for the troops in Bamberg again" said Mrs Kennedy. These are such wonderful opportunities for these dancers. They will remember them for a lifetime.

What quality representatives of the Florida dance community we have in the Tutterow Dancers, under the tutelage of Debbie Kennedy! She has continued to raise the standards of discipline, technical prowess and artistry that carries the legacy to new levels of accomplishments!

– Jerry Rose
Professional Dance Teachers Association

Advanced registration for the Tutterow Dancers 2010-11 dance season is required. A valid Largo Recreation, Parks and Arts membership is required.

Registration will take place on Friday, Aug. 20, 5 to 8 p.m.; and Saturday, Aug. 21, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Largo Community Center, 65 Fourth St. NW.

There is a nonrefundable $15 registration fee (per family), due at the time of registration. For more information, call Debbie Kennedy at 585-1232 or visit www.tutterowdancers.com.

081210

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

State's pedestrian flag program gets BIG-C approval

By BOB McCLURE

BELLEAIR BEACH – Members of the Barrier Islands Governmental Council voted unanimously July 28 to pass a resolution supporting a new pedestrian flag program along Gulf Boulevard.

The $25,000 state program, which was recently approved by the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization, will provide yellow flags for pedestrians to wave as they cross Gulf Boulevard at 39 crosswalks from Clearwater Beach south to the Bayway.

The flags, which will be in a container at all crosswalks, are to be deposited in another container once pedestrians cross the street.

By passing the resolution, the BIG-C supports restocking of the containers by beach communities when the flags disappear. There will be no cost to the municipalities.

The flags will be installed within the next two weeks by Pinellas County and Florida Department of Transportation workers.

"It's a mid-block program," said North Redington Beach Mayor Bill Queen. "It won't be at major intersections where there would be the distraction of headlights."

The key to the program's success, he said, would be education of both motorists and pedestrians.

"It's going to be a work in progress," said Queen. "We're changing a culture that's been in existence for 50 years."

Julie Bond, with the Center for Urban Transportation Research at the University of South Florida, said her office has contracted with the Florida Department of Transportation on a one-year education component. Bond, who helped implement a similar program in Salt Lake City, will make a number of presentations around the area to educate residents on the use of the flags.

She said Florida has the highest pedestrian fatality rate in the nation, which makes the program a must for the area.

"It will be a good, additional aid for visibility as you try to cross a major corridor," said Bond.

Robin Grabowski, president of the Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce, said her organization would assist Bond in education efforts by placing flyers on the flag program in information packets for visitors and rack cards at welcome centers.

"I'm always interested in making my town and the beaches safe," said Queen. "If it works, great."

Queen said he has been seeking ways to improve pedestrian safety since 2003 when two people were killed trying to cross Gulf Boulevard at 171st Street.

"Education plays a key role," Queen said. "Motorists need to pay more attention to driving and get off their cell phones. And pedestrians need to use their eyes and common sense more."

Florida Department of Transportation workers Steve Gaby, left, and Anthony Debose install a flag container on a sign pole along Gulf Boulevard in Indian Shores.

Photo by BOB McCLURE

Briefs

Sample ballots in the mail

The official sample ballot for the Aug. 24 primary election is arriving in some 255,000 mailboxes.

Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections Deborah Clark is mailing sample ballots to households with registered voters to help voters prepare for Election Day.

"Voters can preview the races and mark their choices right on the sample ballot," Clark said. "Then, voters can bring the sample ballot with them on Election Day."

Florida has closed primaries. Only voters registered with a political party may vote in that party's primary. All registered voters may vote in nonpartisan races (judicial and school board).

The sample ballot in this brochure contains all races for Republican, Democratic and nonpartisan primary races, including some congressional, legislative and other district races that will only appear on the actual ballot in certain precincts. Voters are encouraged to check their current voter information cards to determine which districts will be on their ballots, and whether they are eligible to vote in a political party's primary. Voters may also visit www.votepinellas.com to view their precinct-specific ballots or call 464-6788 for their current voting districts.

In addition to the sample ballot, the brochure includes a complete list of precincts and polling places in Pinellas County. There is also information on voting by mail, the convenient ballot drop-off locations throughout the county and early voting.

Visit www.votepinellas.com or call the Supervisor of Elections Office at 464-6788.

Tax collector closing one St. Pete office

CLEARWATER – Pinellas County Tax Collector Diane Nelson announced the branch office at 501 First Ave. N. in St. Petersburg will close on Aug. 13.

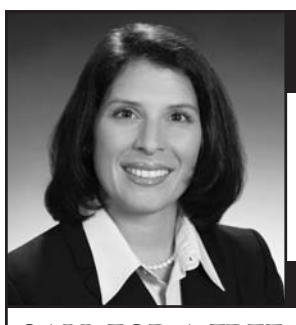
"With two other offices in the St. Pete area, along with the increasing ability to make more transactions online, we can continue to serve the residents of south Pinellas County while cutting costs and saving resources by closing the office on First Avenue," Nelson said.

The tax collector's office encourages residents to visit taxcollect.com for motor vehicle and other registration renewals, which can be processed online or through mail.

For driver license and other transactions that require an in-person office visit, residents are encouraged to make an appointment by calling 464-7777.

Customers in St. Petersburg who need to visit an office can go to either the South County Office at 1800 66th St. N. or the Skyway Office at 1067 62nd Ave. S.

For a complete list of tax collector offices in Pinellas County and information on other tax collector services, visit taxcollect.com or call 464-7777.



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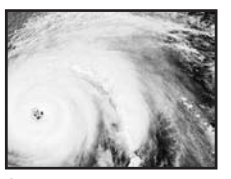

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SEATS, from page 7A

District 6

Brian Hawley

What is your background in education?

Hawley earned his bachelor's degree in business administration and earned his masters of education degree from the University of South Florida in 2006.

"I have been an involved educator my entire adult life," Hawley said. "At 31, I have taught in the secondary classroom for going on 10 years and at the college level for three years. I have been an active member of the teachers union and acted as the faculty representative for my colleagues at Largo Middle."

How would you help trim the budget?

"First, the billion-dollar-plus PCS budget needs a thorough audit," Hawley said. "We cannot hope to save money if we are not sure where the money is going. One area that could be trimmed is teacher training. In times of financial urgency, only the necessities of professional development should be paid for. The county should also pressure the state to allow for more flexibility between the operating portion and the capital outlay portion of the budget. These funds should be fluid in times of financial urgency. Instead of hiring new teachers, administrators and teachers on assignment should be moved back into the classroom. I would also be open to a pay cut for the highest salary earners in the county (those making over $80k). Overall though, these financial problems need to be addressed at the state level. New sources of income need to be found and lobbied for. The state needs to properly fund education! The last option would be to raise local taxes, and I would avoid this option at all costs, and I believe the current board has been too quick to pull more from the local taxpayer."

What would you want to change if you were elected?

"Efficiency – The county needs to do a better job of strategic planning from all aspects," Hawley said. "It changes its mind every couple of years and often follows the latest trends down dead ends or in circles. A good example of this is the busing/zoning issue. Every few years they switch the zoning rules and then a few years later decide they made a mistake and try to switch back. This only costs time and money. This same charade plays out in testing, training, technology, textbooks, you name it.

"Accountability – The current trend has been to focus on teacher accountability, but we also need to put the spotlight on parents and students as well. We need to put in place a system that encourages and rewards parents and students to be involved and value the whole educational process. As it stands, the system is too concerned with statistics and standardized test scores. We have lost sight of the fundamental reason for education.

"Honesty/transparency – Better efforts should be made to involve the public and teachers in the decision making process of important issues. This means disseminating information to them in an open timely manner and then listening to their input. The recent school time change and earlier early release Wednesdays are examples of the public's opinion/voice being for the most part ignored.

"Representation – The board and administration are publicly funded positions and every effort should be made to represent the people of the community."

Other than the budget, what do you think is the most pressing issue for the district?

"It is difficult to narrow it down to one issue, but the overall disillusionment of the constituents in the education process needs to be addressed," Hawley said. "Teacher morale is at an all-time low. Students are unmotivated and apathetic. Administration is detached. Parents feel like they are not listened to. We need the cooperation of all these pieces to make the best possible school system."

Why should the voters vote for you?

"Being a classroom teacher gives me insight to the problems happening on the ground floor in education in this county," Hawley said. "I bring an analytical approach to dealing with problems that has been lacking on the board. I am honest and will not let personal bias or political agenda sway what is right for education in this county. I do no mind dissenting or fighting the current if I think there is a poor decision being made. I want to involve the public in the decision making process."

Linda Lerner (Incumbent)

What is your background in education?

Lerner has a bachelor's degree in education from Lesley College, and a master's degree in special education from Columbia University. She was a special education teacher for New York City schools from 1966 to 1969, and was the co-founder and director of education support services at Resource Center for Women in Largo from 1977 to 1986. She served on the Pinellas County School Board since 1990.

What do you consider some of the key things you have done while on the board?

"Accessibility – I have been a consistent advocate to make our system more accessible to parents, teachers, students, and other citizens," Lerner said. "I successfully advocated for the need to hold some school board meetings at night. Decisions are made at these meetings, and citizens should have the opportunity to attend and address the board. I successfully advocated for the need to audiotape all Board Workshops and make these tapes available to the public.

"Safety – I have been a consistent advocate for a safe learning environment for all our students and employees. I successfully advocated for alternative educational programs for chronically-disruptive students. I supported allocating funds for safe schools including the purchase of video cameras in schools and radios for buses.

"Success for all students – I continue to advocate for quality programs ensuring that all students' needs are met – whether after graduation they are bound for careers, the military, post-secondary education or college. My experience as a former special education teacher helps me to effectively advocate for the continual improvement of our exceptional education programs. "Accountability – I have taken a leadership role in ensuring higher expectations and achievement for all students. I have worked for more valid accountability for school districts and schools throughout the state of Florida. I represented all Florida School Board members as a Commissioner on the Florida School Reform and Accountability Commission."

How would you help trim the budget?

"Pinellas has cut $104 million over the past four years and this year must cut $26 million as well as provide the $14.4 million needed to meet class size mandates," Lerner said. "Pinellas will receive $418 dollars less for each student in state funding this year as compared to 2007.

"I support the decision to achieve the $14.4 million by transferring reading, math and science coaches and other certified instructional employees back to the classrooms.

"Budget cuts should have the least possible negative impact on students. I support the current proposals to accomplish some of the $26 million budget gap by reducing contracted services, reducing some transportation costs, staff reductions, reducing current employee contracts, and requiring some administrators to substitute one day a month. Some mandated unpaid leave days, which need to be bargained, have to be considered. It is proposed that higher paid employees have more leave days.

"The potential $53 million shortfall next year is a very difficult situation which necessitates planning as soon as this year's budget cuts are finalized."

Other than the budget, what do you think is the most pressing issue for the district?

"This is a time of increasing mandates and accountability with decreasing budgets," Lerner said. "It is necessary to continually assess how to provide more resources to schools with the highest number of struggling students while trying to meet the need of all our students."

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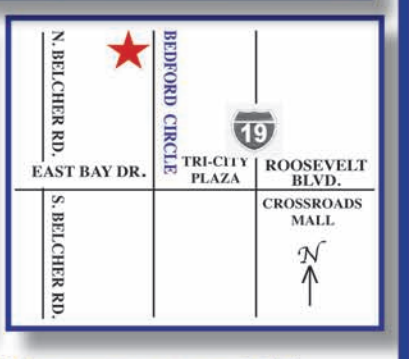

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Briefs

Largo Chamber plans golf event

LARGO – Registration has begun for the Largo/Mid-Pinellas Chamber of Commerce seventh annual Chamber Cup Golf Tournament.

The tournament will take place Friday, Oct. 8, at Belleview Biltmore Golf Club, 1501 Indian Rocks Road. Registration will begin at 11 a.m. The shotgun start is at 12:30 p.m. Early bird registration is $100 a golfer by Aug. 27 and $125 thereafter.

The highlights of the day will include contests, giveaways, raffle prizes and barbecue lunch. Following play, the Chamber Cup 19th Hole Reception will feature chamber member restaurants and food providers offering delicious food samplings.

To register individually or as a team, or to learn about the many event sponsorship opportunities available, call 584-2321 or e-mail events@largochamber.org.

Inuvo brings 200 jobs to Clearwater

CLEARWATER – Inuvo Inc., a provider of performance-based online marketing services, has selected Orlando, Florida-based Contact Centers of America to provide outbound and inbound call center support for BabytoBee.com at its Clearwater headquarters.

The move will bring more than 200 jobs to Clearwater.

Through a team of more than 200 call center representatives situated in Inuvo's Clearwater headquarters location, CCA will provide outbound and inbound lead nurturing and qualification services to nearly 1 million BabytoBee pre- and post-natal customers each year. This upgrade to BabytoBee's call center services is the first of many improvements Inuvo is making to its BabytoBee offering.

In September, Inuvo will launch a fully revamped, content- and feature-rich website for BabytoBee.

Classroom library opens

CLEARWATER – JUALS Classroom Libraries recently opened a new store at 2140 Drew St.

While many schools have a media center, the JUALS Classroom Library is geared toward the instructional aspects of reading. The Classroom Library helps teachers to know their students' reading abilities on an individual basis. JUALS works with teachers and schools to create classroom libraries.

The store's Book Boutique is set up with children's levels so children and parents can feel comfortable choosing a book that is just right for their child. Books are always marked at 20 percent off retail.

The business will host a teacher appreciation event Thursday, Aug. 19, 5 to 8 p.m.

Chamber seeks awards nominations

LARGO – The Largo/Mid-Pinellas Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for its esteemed Citizen of the Year and Mac Norcross Small Business Person of the Year awards.

The presentations will take place at the chamber's 58th annual meeting Friday, Sept. 17, at the Sheraton Sand Key Resort, 1160 Gulf Blvd., Clearwater.

Citizen of the Year nominees have focused attention to the Largo/Mid-Pinellas region through their direct efforts which has generated acclaim or public notice; have outstanding achievement in community service; and have performed volunteer (uncompensated) services to the community. Offices/chairmanships of national, state and local civic and nonprofit organizations will be considered.

Mac Norcross Small Business Person of the Year nominees must own a locally operated independent or franchised business with 50 or less full-time employees and be an active member of the chamber. A commitment to the community, as demonstrated by contributions of personal time and/or resources, and a proven commitment to local entrepreneurship/small business must be demonstrated.

The nomination deadline is Aug. 20. For nomination forms or information about award criteria, call 584-2321, e-mail tom@largochamber.org or visit www.largochamber.org.

Plevin earns award

PALM HARBOR – Palm Harbor resident David Plevin, managing partner of the LongHorn Steakhouse in Palm Harbor, was recently presented with Darden Restaurants' Diamond Club Award for his service at the Pembroke Pines LongHorn Steakhouse.

The award, now in its 13th year, is presented annually to managing partners throughout North America who demonstrate outstanding results by extending genuine western hospitality and achieving top financial performance in the company's previous fiscal year.

Participating in a recent Old Northwest meeting are, front, from left, Joseph Stefko and Rebecca Paone; middle row, James Cobler, Addie Romanowski, Lee Davis, Loreen Mondello, Kay Davis, Brandice Lardner, Diane Wilson, Paula Losekamp Hochman, Bonnie Trembulak and Morgan Houseman; back row, Adam Gentile, Tom Moore, Newton Boyd and Doug Lardner.

Old Northwest group to meet

LARGO – The Old Northwest Largo Neighborhood Association will meet Monday, Aug. 16, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at West Coast Auto Centers, 280 West Bay Drive.

Residents and businesses interested in everything that's happening in the Old Northwest neighborhood are welcome to attend. Old Northwest in downtown Largo is located in the central portion of Pinellas County and stretches for nearly 1.8 miles along both sides of the West Bay Drive corridor through the heart of Largo.

For information, call Joseph Stefko at 581-6134 or visit www.discoverlargo.com.

Chamber to host Business After Hours

LARGO – The Largo/Mid-Pinellas Chamber of Commerce will host its Business After Hours networking event Thursday, Aug. 19, 5:30 to 7 p.m., at the Bayou Club, 7979 Bayou Club Blvd.

The event is $10 for chamber members and $20 for nonmembers. Advance registration is recommended. To register, call 584-2321 or e-mail events@largochamber.org.

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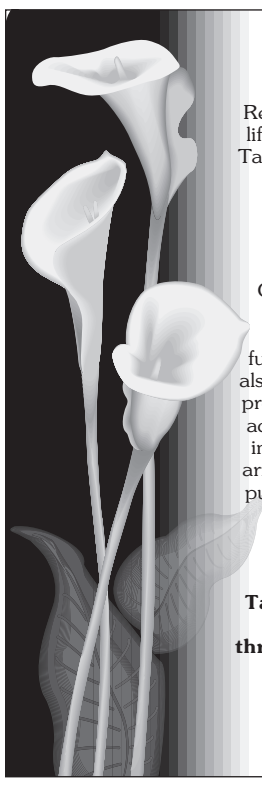

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Obituary information should include: full name, age, city and date of death. You may also choose to include the names of living and/or predeceased relatives, work history, clubs and/or activities that they participated in. If you wish to include the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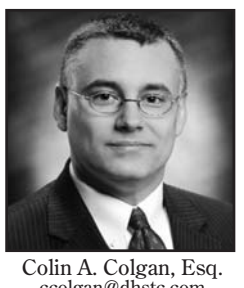

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Pets of the week

Chloe

Chloe is a sweet 4-year-old female beagle mix. Chloe is housetrained and is currently learning leash manners and other obedience behaviors. As is typical for a beagle, her nose leads her to anything aromatic. Chloe needs a forever home with a loving family that would take her for walks and give her the love she deserves. Adopt Chloe at SPCA Tampa Bay, 9099 130th Ave. N. in Largo. Call 586-3591.

Ebony

Ebony is a gorgeous 1-year-old kitty who is a lover and will warm up quickly and will be rubbing all over you before you know it. She is extremely outgoing and friendly. She gets along very well with other cats. Adopt Ebony at the Humane Society of Pinellas, 3040 S.R. 590 in Clearwater. Call 797-7722.

Quality and convenience of veterinary health care

Speaking of Pets
Kim Donovan, D.V.M.

Do you ever wonder why your pet gets a more thorough physical exam than you do? It is because your pet's veterinarian wears many professional hats. Your pet's veterinarian is also your pet's dentist, psychiatrist, cardiologist, radiologist, anesthesiologist, surgeon, ophthalmologist, and much more. That is a lot of knowledge that is required of your pet's doctor. Now add several species to that knowledge. Taking your pet to one doctor and one location for all of these health care services is a major convenience and requires an equally educated staff to provide exceptional quality service for you and your pet.

Have you ever asked yourself why your doctor visit cost is $25 and your pet's doctor visit was more? In most cases, what you pay is only your co-pay because you have health insurance. Look at the statement your insurance company sends you to see what your care actually costs you. Today there are so many insurance companies that sell pet health insurance, but not many people take advantage of this opportunity. It can really help when your pet is sick or has an accident. Some policies will even cover wellness care like vaccines and dental cleanings.

When you pay for veterinary products or services don't forget to realize that there is so much more behind the charges you pay for. Below are some insights into the quality and convenience incorporated into veterinary fees.

• Walk-in appointments – If you walk into a veterinary hospital you will most always be worked into the schedule and be seen. That is usually not the case with most physicians' offices.

• Technology – The newest technology like digital X-rays and anesthesia monitoring equipment increase the quality of care provided to your pet. Digital X-rays have made it possible to take an X-ray and have your pet's doctor go over it with you within 20-30 minutes. In most cases with human health care we are sent to another location for imaging procedures. Digital X-rays allow us to pick up subtle changes that wouldn't be as visible if we used X-ray film processing. The newest anesthesia monitoring equipment enables your pet's doctor and staff to closely monitor your pet making anesthetic procedures much safer.

• Laboratory equipment – Having an in-house laboratory can enable your pet's veterinary team to get blood results within 20 minutes to diagnose your pet's illness that much quicker. Even if the blood is sent to an outside laboratory you get results the next day. When was the last time you had a blood test done and found out the results the next day? Usually you get a call a week later. When you got those results, how many of you actually got to speak to your doctor about those results? In veterinary health care you have more access to speak directly with your pet's doctor.

• Staff – The more educated, experienced and efficient the veterinary staff is, the better quality of service your pet will receive, and the more expensive it will be to employ this kind of staff. If your pet's veterinary hospital is unable to keep exceptional staff and are always hiring new staff, this will interfere with the quality of service provided. This is because the staff has to use valuable time to constantly train the new employees which means more waiting time for you and your pet. In order to provide excellent care for your pet, there has to be enough staff to do it. Wouldn't you feel more at ease leaving your pet at a hospital where the staff knows you and your pet's name and the majority of their staff have been there for years? Don't forget that the licensed staff is required to keep up on the most current trends in veterinary medicine by earning continuing education credits.

• Pharmacy – How many of you could walk into a pharmacy nowadays and get your prescription filled within 10 minutes? Having a well stocked pharmacy and staff available to provide this service is another convenience you don't find elsewhere.

As you can see, your pet's veterinary team is providing quality and convenience that can't be found in the human health care field. This quality and convenience is what you must remember when looking at your invoices for your pet's veterinary health care.

Kim Donovan, D.V.M. is an associate veterinarian at Oakhurst Veterinary Hospital in Seminole with 12 years experience and a special interest in feline medicine.

Beautiful Baby

This precious pet photo winner is Baby, a 3-year-old female kitty with a lot of the Burman breed in her. The Burman is known as the "sacred cat of Burma." Baby is friendly, quiet and loves to fiddle with her owner's computer discs. Baby lives with Gail Wood of Largo. Baby wins a $25 gift certificate to Largo Feed. Our September precious pet photo winner will receive a $25 gift certificate toward services at Pampered Paws Doggy Day Spa. Send photos to csouthmayd@TBNweekly.com.

Dig this

County offers reduced rate dog adoptions

LARGO – Adopt-a-Dog Month will continue through August at Pinellas County Animal Services, 12450 Ulmerton Road.

The county is offering reduced rates. Dog adoptions are $20, including vaccination, deworming and licensing. Rabies vaccinations alone are $1.

For information, call 582-2600.

SPCA offers free spay/neuter

SPCA Tampa Bay is offering 25 free cat spay or neuter surgeries at the shelter on Saturday, Aug. 21, for those on limited income. Cat owners must register in person at SPCA Tampa Bay on Tuesday, Aug. 17, between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Applicants must bring their Form 1040 to be considered for this free service. Call 586-3591.

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New moon offers good tidal stages to catch redfish

Fish Tales
Capt. Tyson Wallerstein

Redfish numbers are increasing after each big moon phase. More and more reds can be targeted on the shallow grass flats throughout the county. This week's new moon will give us two good tidal stages in which to target redfish.

Midmorning incoming tides will have the schools of redfish hanging near mangrove shoreline points as they await the flood stage of the tide that will allow them to push way back into the mangrove root system, where they can feed as well as cool off. Approach each point with ease and caution; redfish will often give you some sort of sign, usually it will be a flash or a noticeable push of water. Work the schools with gold spoons and soft plastic jigs on an 8 ounce head.

As sunset approaches the huge outgoing tide will begin to bottom out at a lower than normal tidal stage. It's these super low tides combined with fading light conditions that give the redfish an added level of confidence to root the bottom for shrimp and crabs. This behavior is easily spotted by scanning the water's surface for tails.

Best baits for this scenario would be weedless jerk baits or my personal favorite, the topwater plug. There's just something about that tantalizing side to side motion that the reds can't refuse. Not to mention they'll often push a wake from several yards away as they make their approach toward your bait, a sight that always makes your adrenaline pump.

Late summer offers us the opportunity to target fish that can often be larger than the angler pursuing them. Big sharks and tarpon are a big part of what Florida fishing is all about.

Whether you're fishing day or night, these bruisers can often be found roaming the same waters. Deep backwater holes along the Intracoastal Waterway as well as many spots inside of Tampa Bay are holding some nice tarpon and plenty of bull sharks.

Large cut baits such as mullet or mackerel fished on the bottom will attract both species.

Look for the tarpon to be rolling whenever the wind goes slack; don't chase the fish around too much just set out baits where you've seen a couple of fish roll and wait for the bite.

Until next week – get bent!

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

Briefs

Seminole Club plans pub crawl

The Tampa Bay Seminole Club plans its fifth annual Football Kick-Off Party & Pub Crawl Saturday, Aug. 14, 3 p.m.

The event gets under way with a family friendly kickoff party at the Improv in Centro Ybor, 1600 E. Eighth Ave., Tampa.

Visit www.tampanoles.com for more information.

Gulf Coast United seeks players

SEMINOLE – The Gulf Coast United Soccer Club has openings on the following competitive soccer teams for the upcoming season: U11 boys, U11 girls, U12 boys and U12 girls.

Contact director of coaching Jimmy McDonald at 317-752-3184 or e-mail info@gcunited.com.

For more information, visit www.gcunited.com.

Volunteers sought

LARGO – Volunteers are sought for the Florida Botanical Gardens Gift Shop, 12520 Ulmerton Road.

No experience is required. Volunteers should be willing to work one 31/2 hour shift weekly, either in the morning or the afternoon.

Call Stacey Zidi at 582-2251.

Children's Foundation to host tournament

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH – The Leslie Family Children's Foundation will be hosting its second Inshore/Offshore Charity Fishing Tournament Saturday, Sept. 25, at Jimmy Guana's. The captain's meeting and silent auction will be Friday, Sept. 24, also at Jimmy Guana's.

The tournament registration fee is $250 a boat. All of the proceeds will benefit the Leslie Family Children's Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing affordable housing for kids aging out of foster care. Prospective anglers can visit www.lfcfoundation.org to download entry forms. The deadline to sponsor this special event is Aug. 20. Donation items for the silent auction are welcomed.

Call Patty Leslie at 239-7171.

Jimmy Guana's is at 401 Second St. in Indian Rocks Beach.

Sarah Aleman, LHS Solid Gold Dancers coach, front row, is shown with her team. They are, from left, Brittany Schoenauer, Ciara Washington, Lauren Rybolt, Haley Knapp, Latoya Hasley, Nadia Torresl and Cheri Kuenn.

New dance team wins awards

LARGO – Largo High School has a new dance team, the LHS Solid Gold Dancers.

The team, founded by Coach Sarah Beth Aleman and Captain Brittany Schoenauer, held tryouts and picked their eleven member squad last May.

The LHS Solid Gold Dancers were represented by Brittany Schoenauer and Haley Knapp at a Universal Dance Association varsity high school dance camp held in St. Petersburg, July 15 through July 18.

The dancers won trophies for superior performances and a 110 percent award for standing out from the other teams.

The team has been invited to perform with UDA in The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the 2011 Capital One Bowl pre-game show and the National Dance Team Competitions televised on ESPN and ESPN2.

While attending LHS, Aleman choreographed for LHS theater from 1995-98 and for their spring musicals in 1997 and 1998. Later, as the coach for the St. Petersburg High School Devilettes, she won the 2004 and 2005 UDA regional coach of the year awards, and the Devilettes won the 2004 and 2005 UDA regional team of the year awards.

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Amanda M. Wolf, Esq., Elder Law Attorney,
Delma Sweazey, RN, BSN, CCM, Certified Geiatric Care Manager, and
Dale Smrekar, ASEL, C.A.G.A., Certified Personal Property Appraiser will discuss:
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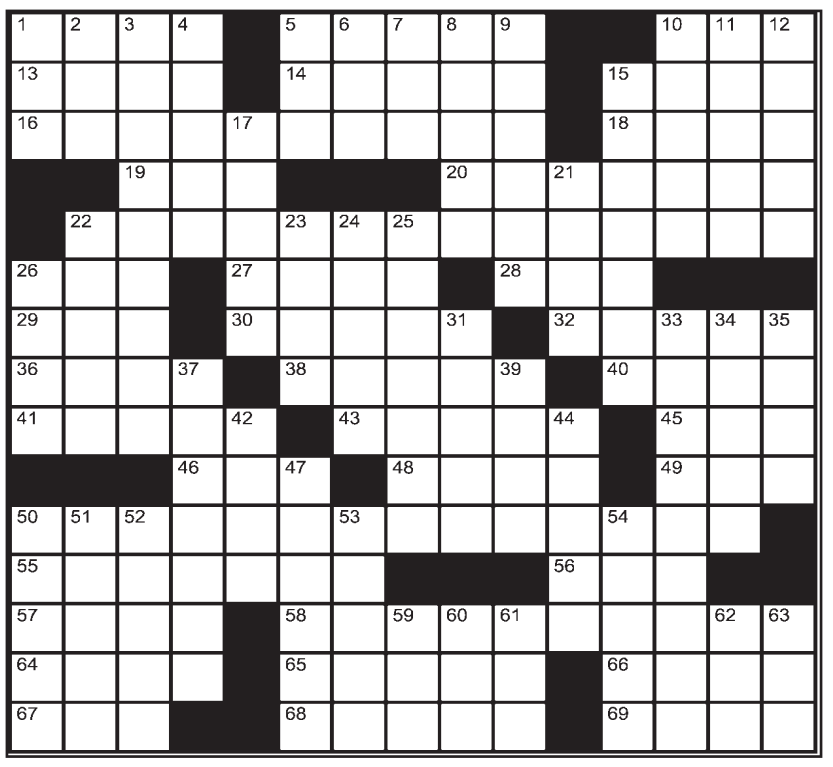
Crossword



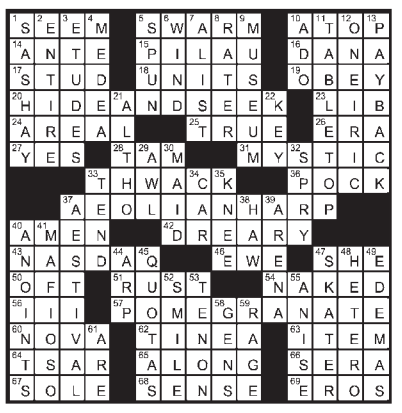
Across
1. Author Roald
5. Church part
10. Common Market inits.
13. Comply with
14. Bob's companion
15. Brand, in a way
16. Bermuda rig
18. About
19. Victorian, for one
20. Torments
22. Protectors
26. Long, long time
27. "___ of Eden"
28. "Thank You (Falettinme Be Mice ___ Agin)" (#1 hit of 1970)
29. Pistol, slangily
30. Dirty
32. "The Beast of ___ Flats" (1961 sci-fi bomb)
36. Lentil, e.g.
38. Graduated glass tube
40. Come into view
41. High nest: Var.
43. Facilitates
45. Center
46. Harvest goddess
48. Copper
49. Mail place: Abbr.
50. Offers lower prices
55. Memory loss
56. "___ any drop to drink": Coleridge
57. Large wading bird
58. Type of grass
64. Vermeer's "Woman with a ___"
65. Indic language
66. Hindu god
67. "Absolutely!"
68. Decided
69. Initial substance of the universe

Down
1. Portuguese Sir
2. "The ___ Daba Honeymoon"
3. Subsequent to this
4. Spandex brand
5. Barley bristle
6. "Fantasy Island" prop
7. Toni Morrison's "___ Baby"
8. Birdlike
9. Style of Jamaican music
10. Like "The X-Files"
11. Artist's stand
12. Angry
15. Melodious
17. Propelled a boat
21. The "O" in S.R.O.
22. Sticky
23. Slap on
24. Any Time
25. Entice
26. European language
31. Affirmatives
33. Large marine eel
34. Brilliant feats
35. Early pulpit
37. Ecclesiastical district
39. Camping gear
42. An epic
44. Backgammon piece
47. Wooer
50. Per 24 hours
51. Permeate
52. Foul moods
53. Island republic in the Pacific
54. Obstreperous
59. "Cool" amount
60. "Ciao!"
61. Boy
62. "The Three Faces of ___"
63. Beaver's work

Sudoku answers from last week

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

Crossword answers from last week



Horoscopes

August 12, 2010

Capricorn

December 22 – January 19

Risk-taker you are not, Capricorn, until this week. You receive a boost that enables you to go for it, and your efforts pan out. Celebrate your victory with loved ones.

Aquarius

January 20 – February 18

This week is all about self-control. Be careful what you say and do, Aquarius. A coworker lets the cat out of the bag. Try to look surprised.

Pisces

February 19 – March 20

Chill, Pisces. You've been much too uptight, and people are starting to gravitate away from you. Take some time out to re-examine your priorities.

Aries

March 21 – April 19

You've dug yourself into a deep hole. To get out of it, Aries, you're going have to do some clever maneuvering. Think fast and act carefully.

Taurus

April 20 – May 20

A little goes a long way, Taurus. Give a little, and watch where it takes you. The antics of a furry friend light up the weekend and make for fun.

Gemini

May 21 – June 21

Getting to the root of the problem at home will take some digging. Start with the most obvious, Gemini. An auto issue resurfaces. Fix it once and for all.

Cancer

June 22 – July 22

Change will come only if your criticism is constructive, Cancer. Speak from the heart with wisdom. A new face in your inner circle proves inspiring.

Leo

July 23 – August 22

There is a solution, but you must be willing to work with others and hear them out. Multiple heads are better than one on this issue, Leo.

Virgo

August 23 – September 22

You cannot lose, Virgo, so go ahead and take some risks. An act of faith puts life into perspective and paves the way for you to make a major decision.

Libra

September 23 – October 22

Psst, Libra. Your body is telling you something. Are you listening? If not, you better. Your health could be at stake. A design project goes well.

Scorpio

October 23 – November 21

This week is all about togetherness. Whisk your family away for the weekend, Scorpio. A financial resolution comes with strings attached.

Sagittarius

November 22 – December 21

Broken dreams do not stay broken for long. Someone you least expect makes a bold move at work. Cheer them on to victory, Sagittarius.

Sudoku

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

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.

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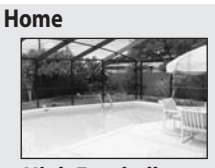
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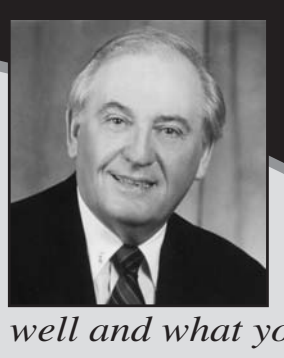
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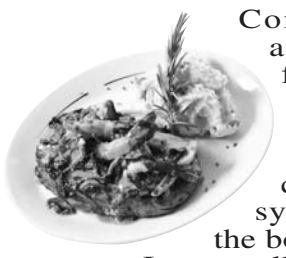
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Briefs

Sweet Water hosts open house

LARGO – Sweet Water at Largo will host an Open House on Tuesday, Aug. 17, with guest speakers who will discuss a variety of topics including long term care and elder law.

The event will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. in the activities room of the assisted living facility at 11290 Walsingham Road.

There is no charge to attend, organizers said. R.S.V.P. is preferred, but not required. R.S.V.P. to Kory at 813-839-1045 or to Lory or Heather at 397-9597. An interactive map showing the location of the facility is available at www.SweetWaterAssistedLiving.com. Finger food and drinks will be served, a spokesperson said.

The featured speakers include:

• Attorney John Richard Frazier who works for Joseph F. Pippen Jr. and Associates in Largo. He practices primarily in the fields of elder law, Medicaid planning, veterans benefits law, estate planning, asset protection, taxation, probate and business organizations.

• Kristina Di Ilio, provider relations representative for Amerigroup Community Care, Long Term Care Diversion. She has been in the healthcare industry since 1996 and has been with Amerigroup for four years.

• Laura Withrow, case manager supervisor for Amerigroup. She has worked in the long-term care industry since 1992 as a nursing home Social Worker and Admissions Director and has been with Amerigroup for four years.

Sweet Water at Largo is owned by Michael Stoeckle and his wife Kory, who is also the administrator. The couple has owned Sweet Water for nearly a dozen years.

Volunteers sought for Cancer Awareness Race

CLEARWATER – Approximately 1,000 runners are expected to compete in the inaugural Morton Plant Mease Foundation Prostate Cancer Awareness Race in Clearwater Saturday, Sept. 11.

Morton Plant Mease Foundation is recruiting a team of dedicated volunteers to assist these competitors as they run to the finish. Volunteers can be part of this exciting event by assisting in positions such as athlete check-in, water station, course marshal and finish line. Volunteers will receive a commemorative race T-shirt and access to food and beverages.

The 5K will kick off at 7:30 a.m. at the Cheek-Powell Wellness Center. The course will take runners through the Morton Plant Hospital campus and surrounding waterfront neighborhoods. There also will be a Kids Dash starting at 9 a.m.

To volunteer or for information, call 253-4056.

Participants can sign up for the event by visiting www.active.com and searching for Morton Plant Mease. The registration fee is $25 until Aug. 31, $30 through Sept. 10 and $35 on the day of the race. The registration fee for the Kids Dash is $10 through Sept. 11. Entry fees are nonrefundable.

Raissi joins Alzheimer's board

CLEARWATER – Joseph "Joe" Raissi was recently named to the board of directors of the Florida Gulf Coast chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.

Raissi is founder and president of Raissi & Co., a financial service company. He has worked in the financial planning industry since 1983 and is a registered principal with Raymond James Financial Services Inc. He also is a primary resident agent with the Florida Department of Finance.

In addition to numerous articles, Raissi is the author of "Wealth Creation & Protection." He has been honored by "Who's Who in America." Raissi lives in Seminole.

Grand Villa to host seminar

LARGO – To provide a forum to discuss options and solutions to common issues seniors face, a free informative discussion, Advocating Solutions for Seniors, will be presented Wednesday, Aug. 18, 2 to 4 p.m., at Grand Villa of Largo, 750 Starkey Road.

Grand Villa of Largo, an assisted living and Alzheimer's care residential community in Largo, will sponsor the event. Speakers will include Amanda M. Wolf, Esq., elder law attorney; Delma Sweazey, RN, BSN, CCM, certified geriatric care manager, and Dale Smrekar, ASEL, C.A.G.A., certified property appraiser. Topics to be discussed will include the importance of an up-to-date estate plan, VA and Medicaid benefits, financial issues, healthcare costs, knowing when is the right time to move into an assisted living community and what to do with a lifetime collection of personal property.

This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided. Seating is limited and reservations are required. Call Angel at 586-0108 by Aug. 16.

Energize Tampa Bay set

ST. PETERSBURG – Energize Tampa Bay will be Saturday, Sept. 25, at Push Ultra Lounge, 128 Third St. S.

Sponsored by RDesign and Push Ultra Lounge, the event will serve to unite Tampa Bay's health and wellness community and positively impact the local nonprofit organization Tampa Bay Watch through fundraising support.

This year's event will feature some of the area's finest yoga and fitness instructors. There will be classes for all ages and levels, including yoga, Zumba and children's programs. Volunteer and sponsorship opportunities are still available.

Cost is a $10 donation for adults, and a $5 donation for kids. Kids age 2 and younger will be admitted for free.

For information, visit www.energizetampabay.com.

Adaptive Fitness Expo set

ST. PETERSBURG – The Adaptive Fitness Expo will take place Saturday, Oct. 9, at Walter Fuller Park, 7883 26th Ave. N.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. with events running 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This free community event will showcase adapted sports, specialized equipment and booths hosted by local related service providers. Information will be shared to raise awareness in the community about accessibility needs and opportunities for full inclusion of persons with disabilities in social and fitness activities. Open to people of all ages and abilities, the event will feature handcycle rides, adaptive kayaking, wheelchair detailing, wheelchair sports, adaptive dance, tai chi and rock-wall climbing.

Call Angela Bennett at 539-7550, ext. 238 or visit www.cascil.org.

Centers to host health fairs

Community Health Centers of Pinellas will host back-to-school health fairs Saturday, Aug. 14, 8 a.m. to noon, at Community Health Center at Pinellas Park, 6237 66th St., Pinellas Park; and Community Health Center at Clearwater, 1020 Lakeview Road, Clearwater.

Physicians and nurses will offer free school physicals and students will be given backpacks, while supplies last. Physicals will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Appointments are not necessary.

Call Rob Sumner at 821-8578.

Health and safety fair slated

LARGO – A back-to-school health and safety fair is planned Saturday, Aug. 14, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 455 Missouri Ave.

The event will include free physical exams and immunizations for preschool through high school-aged children. Free vision and hearing screenings also will be available.

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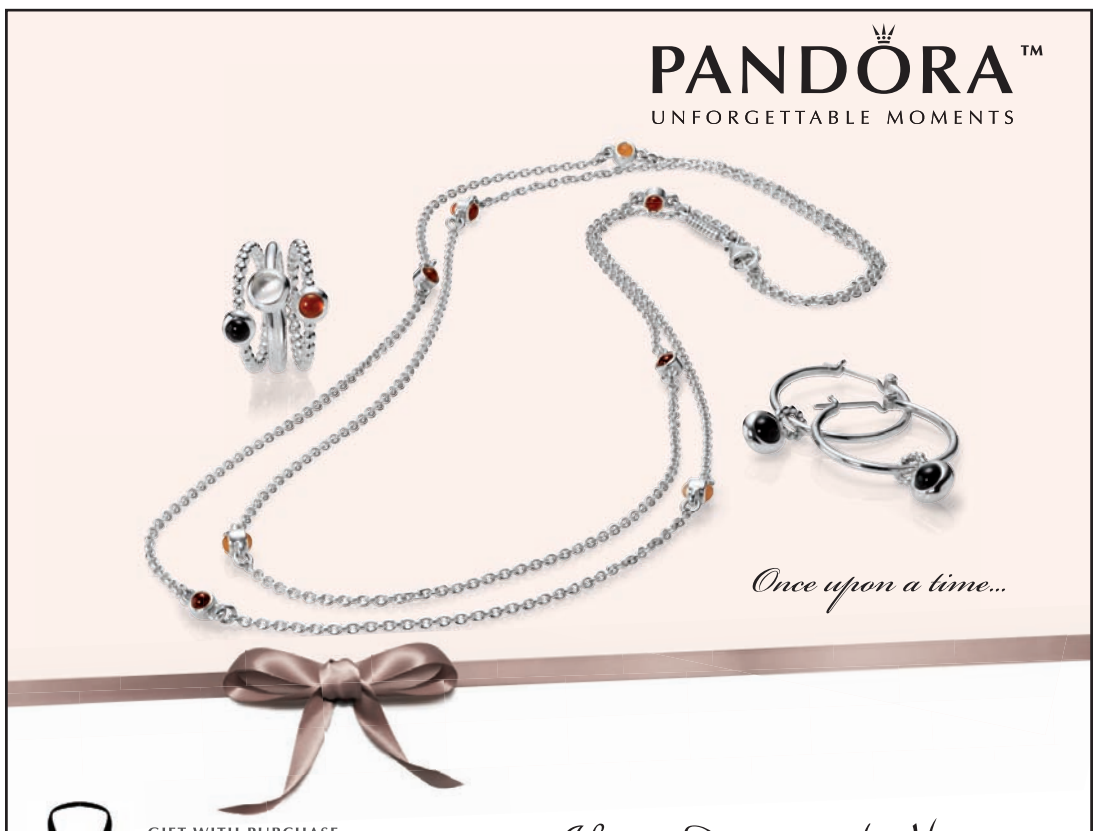

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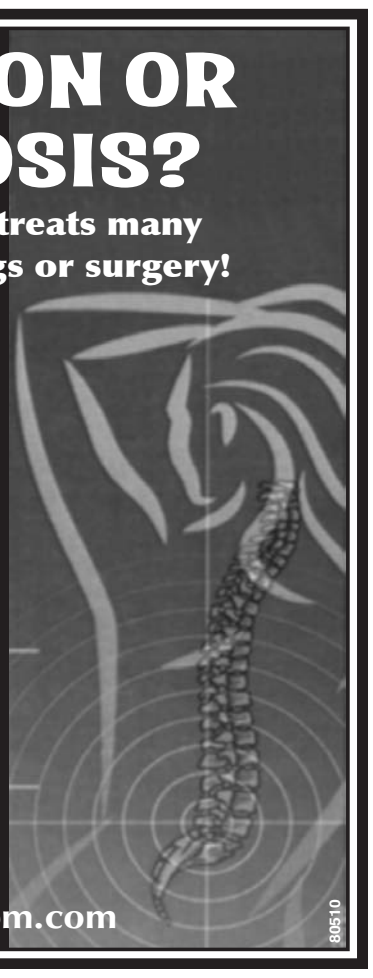

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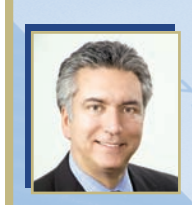

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A.R.N.P.

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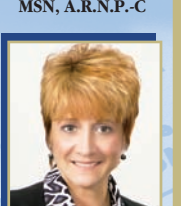
MSN, A.R.N.P.-C



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Things to do around Pinellas County

- Classifieds
- Events
- Movies

Section B
August 12, 2010
Visit www.TBNweekly.com

Looking ahead

Clearwater

• **"The Kitchen Witches,"** by Caroline Smith, through Sept. 5, at Early Bird Dinner Theatre, presented at the Italian-American Club, 200 S. McMullen-Booth Road. Seating for performances Thursday through Sunday is 4 p.m. Seating for matinees Thursday and Saturday is 11 a.m. Admission is $29.90 a person. Call 446-5898 or visit www.earlybirddinnertheatre.com.

• **"Regrets Only,"** by Paul Rudnick, through Aug. 15, at West Coast Players Theatre, 21905 U.S. 19. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m. Matinees are Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets are $18 for adults, and $15 for seniors, students and members of the military. For reservations, call 437-2363. Directed by Ginny Fraebel, "Regrets Only" is a smart comedy about friendship, loyalty and what it means to be in a relationship. Filled with outlandish characters including Manhattan socialites and a maid who changes personalities like outfits, the show takes on one of the most hotly contested political issues of our time.

• Art exhibit featuring the work of **Gayle DeCoste**, through Aug. 15, at West Coast Players Theater, 21905 U.S. 19. DeCoste will exhibit her art during the run of West Coast Players comedy "Regrets Only," a comedy about Manhattan socialites. DeCoste's impresionistic style of the New England seascape, Florida sunsets and New York will be showcased. The public is invited. For information, call 437-2363.

• **Kathy Griffin**, Friday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 N. McMullen-Booth Road. Reserved tickets range from $52.50 to $103.00 and are available at the ticket office, by calling 791-7400 or online at www.rutheckerdhall.com or www.ticketmaster.com. The comedian returns to REH for the first time since her two sold-out performances in 2009. A Chicago native, Griffin, a multi-faceted performer with a rapid fire wit, is probably best known for her reality show "Kathy Griffin: My Life On The D-List," which debuted on Bravo to rave reviews in 2005. The first three seasons were each nominated for an Emmy for Outstanding Reality Program. Griffin took home the award in 2007 and 2008.

• **Dion**, Saturday, Aug. 21, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 N. McMullen-Booth Road. Reserved tickets range from $35 to $70 and are available at the ticket office, by calling 791-7400 or online at www.rutheckerdhall.com or www.ticketmaster.com. Dion and his music represent a special time and place – a moment when a song could mean so much and a singer could sum up what it means to be young, in love and on top of the world. A street poet and singer of extraordinary versatility range and resonance, Dion defined rock and roll for a generation. In 1957 he formed Dion and The Belmonts, named after Belmont Avenue, in the heart of the Bronx. "I Wonder Why" was their first hit and over the next two years the group earned a reputation not only for topping the charts but for creating some of the most vital and exciting doo-wop music of the American scene. With songs such as "A Teenager In Love" and "Where or When," Dion and The Belmonts earned their place in the history books. Also appearing will be special guest Kenny Vance and The Planotones.

• **"Lovers and Other Strangers,"** by Renee Taylor and Joseph Bologna, Sept. 9 through Oct. 31, at Early Bird Dinner Theatre, presented at the Italian-American Club, 200 S. McMullen-Booth Road. Seating for performances Thursday through Sunday is 4 p.m. Seating for matinees Thursday and Saturday is 11 a.m. Admission is $29.90 a person. Call 446-5898 or visit www.earlybirddinnertheatre.com.

• **O.A.R.** (...of a revolution), Wednesday, Sept. 15, 7 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road. Reserved tickets are $37.50 and are available at the box office, by calling 791-7400 or online at www.rutheckerdhall.com or www.livenation.com. Special guest Steel Train will open the show. Formed in Rockville, Md., while still in high school, O.A.R. were signed to Lava Records for its major label debut "In Between Now and Then" and followed up with "Stories of a Stranger" in 2005. The album produced radio favorites "Love and Memories" and "Heard the World" as well as "Lay Down." Earlier this year, the band released "Rain or Shine (Live)," a four CD set with 37 songs recorded over two nights at Charter One Pavilion in Chicago.

See LOOKING AHEAD, page 2B

Photo by KAREN BALLARD

From left, mercenaries Lee Christmas (Jason Statham), Barney Ross (Sylvester Stallone) and Toll Road (Randy Couture) team up in "The Expendables."

Opening this week

Stallone leads mercenaries in 'The Expendables'

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

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

'Scott Pilgrim vs. the World'

Genre: Adventure, comedy and romance

Cast: Michael Cera, Mary Elizabeth Winstead, Kieran Culkin, Chris Evans and Anna Kendrick

Director: Edgar Wright

Rated: PG-13

Meet charming and jobless Scott Pilgrim (Michael Cera).

A bass guitarist for garage band Sex Bob-omb, the 22-year-old has just met the girl of his dreams ... literally. The only catch to winning Ramona Flowers (Mary Elizabeth Winstead): Her seven evil exes are coming to kill him. Genre-smashing filmmaker Edgar Wright tells the amazing story of one romantic slacker's quest to power up with love in "Scott Pilgrim vs. the World."

Scott Pilgrim has never had a problem getting a girlfriend. It's getting rid of them that proves difficult. From the girl who kicked his heart's ass – and now is back in town – to the teenage distraction he's trying to shake when Ramona Rollerblades into his world, love hasn't been easy. He soon discovers, however, his new crush has the most unusual baggage of all: a nefarious league of exes controls her love life and will do whatever it takes to eliminate him as a suitor.

As Scott gets closer to Ramona, he must face an increasingly vicious rogues' gallery from her past – from infamous skateboarders to vegan rock stars and fearsome identical twins. And if he hopes to win his true love, he must vanquish them all before it really is game over.

Photo by KERRY HAYES

Scott Pilgrim (Michael Cera) tries to romance Ramona Flowers (Mary Elizabeth Winstead) in the amazing story of one romantic slacker's quest to power up with love: the action-comedy "Scott Pilgrim vs. the World."

'Eat Pray Love'

Genre: Drama and adaptation

Cast: Julia Roberts, James Franco, Richard Jenkins, Viola Davis and Billy Crudup

Director: Ryan Murphy

Rated: PG-13

Liz Gilbert (Julia Roberts) is a modern woman on a quest to marvel at and travel the world while rediscovering and reconnecting with her true inner self in "Eat Pray Love."

At a crossroads after a divorce, Gilbert takes a year-long sabbatical from her job and steps uncharacteristically out of her comfort zone, risking everything to change her life. In her wondrous and exotic travels, she experiences the simple pleasure of nourishment by eating in

See OPENING, page 3B

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Ruth Eckerd Hall welcomes Natalie Merchant Aug. 24

By LEE CLARK ZUMPE

CLEARWATER – Natalie Merchant will perform Tuesday, Aug. 24, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen-Booth Road.

The versatile singer-songwriter-musician who first earned fame as the leader of the alternative rock band 10,000 Maniacs recently released her first studio album in seven years. "Leave Your Sleep," from Nonesuch Records, is the culmination of six years of research and collaboration. In the artist's own words, the two-disc set is the "most elaborate project" she has ever completed "or even imagined."

"Leave Your Sleep" is a collection of songs adapted from poems selected by Merchant including pieces by both well-known and obscure writers.

In a press release issued by Sacks & Co., Merchant discusses the making of "Leave Your Sleep."

"I decided to set poetry created by other writers to music," Merchant said. "I chose works by both well-known and obscure poets, ranging from anonymous nursery rhymes and lullabies to poems by British Victorians, early and mid 20th Century Americans, and a few contemporary writers. Ogden Nash, E.E. Cummings, Robert Louis Stevenson, Christina Rossetti, Edward Lear, Gerard Manley Hopkins and Robert Graves are among the most well known of the group."

The poems inspired vastly different musical settings with themes that range from humorous and absurd to tragic, romantic and deeply spiritual.

It took Merchant a full five years of meticulous research and writing to fully realize "Leave Your Sleep." In gathering material, she found herself drawn to learn more about the poets who inspired her.

"Over time my curiosity about the lives of the poets that I had included in my anthology grew," Merchant said. "So I read biographical accounts and letters, searched archives, and contacted heirs, executors, or the poets themselves in an attempt to know more about my co-writers. Much of this information is included in the 80 page book that accompanies the collection of music."

In addition to this new method of creating lyrics, Merchant also stretches out musically on "Leave Your Sleep" by working with a variety of artists.

Recording sessions included contributions from the Wynton Marsalis Quartet, Medeski Martin and Wood, The Fairfield Four, The Chinese Music Ensemble of New York, members of the New York Philharmonic and The Klezmatics.

"The sessions were recorded in live ensemble settings to capture a fresh and spontaneous energy," Merchant said. "They were some of the most magical experiences I've ever had making music."

This tour will be Merchant's first major outing in seven years, too. Merchant and her eight-piece band will perform new material as well as favorites from throughout her career. While serving as lead singer and primary vocalist of 10,000 Maniacs, Merchant recorded some of her best known hits, including a cover of "Peace Train," "These Are Days" and "Because the Night."

Her first solo effort, "Tigerlily," released in 1995, produced the singles "Carnival," "Wonder" and "Jealousy." She followed with three additional studio albums, including "Ophelia," "Motherland" and "The House Carpenter's Daughter."

Tickets range from $35 tp $60. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com.

Natalie Merchant, currently touring in support of her new album "Leave Your Sleep," plays Ruth Eckerd Hall Aug. 24.

LOOKING AHEAD, from page 1B

• **Lady Antebellum** and special guest David Nail, Tuesday, Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 N. McMullen-Booth Road. Reserved tickets range from $52.75 to $78 and are available at ticket office, by calling 791-7400 or online at www.rutheckerdhall.com or www.ticketmaster.com. The Grammy Award winning trio's double Platinum album "Need You Now" debuted at No. 1 on "Billboard" magazine's Top 200 chart and has already spawned the multi-week No. 1 smash hit songs "Need You Now" and "American Honey." Following on the heels of three consecutive No. 1 songs in just eight months for a total of eight weeks at the summit, Lady Antebellum's new single "Our Kind Of Love" is already racing up the charts.

• **Crosby, Stills and Nash**; Wednesday, Sept. 29, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen-Booth Road. Tickets range from $62.50 to $129.50 and are available at the box office, by calling 791-7400 or online at www.rutheckerdhall.com or www.livenation.com. Four decades after their first concert together in front of the multitudes at Woodstock, Crosby, Stills and Nash take to the road again for three months of dates in the United States. CSN's music became a cornerstone of rock and roll with their self-titled 1969 debut LP, now one of Rolling Stone's "500 Greatest Albums of All Time." "Déjà Vu," another "500 Greatest," followed the first album from the group's four-man line-up with Neil Young. Ever since, through changing times and various configurations, Crosby, Stills and Nash have continued to tour and record as "three together." In June of last year, CSN released "Demos" on Rhino Records. Featuring 12 previously unreleased tracks recorded between 1968 and 1971, "Demos" spotlights destined-to-be-classic songs later heard on CSN's group and solo titles. The disc opens with the trio harmonizing on "Marrakesh Express," recorded four months before the song came out on the group's self-titled 1969 debut LP. Other rarities include seminal takes on "Almost Cut My Hair," "Chicago," "Love The One You're With," "Sleep Song" and "Long Time Gone."

• **"How the Other Half Loves,"** by Alan Ayckbourn, Nov. 4 through Dec. 26, at Early Bird Dinner Theatre, presented at the Italian-American Club, 200 S. McMullen-Booth Road. Seating for performances Thursday through Sunday is 4 p.m. Seating for matinees Thursday and Saturday is 11 a.m. Admission is $29.90 a person. Call 446-5898 or visit www.earlybirddinnertheatre.com.

• **Benise**, Thursday, Nov. 4, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 N. McMullen-Booth Road. Reserved tickets range from $42.50 to $78.00 and are available at the ticket office, by calling 791-7400 or online at www.rutheckerdhall.com or www.ticketmaster.com. Bringing the Spanish Guitar Tour to REH, Benise and his enchanted Spanish guitar will travel through time and space to Old Havana, an Arabian desert, Italy, Spain, France and India. This epic journey includes tales of glory and tragedy told through video, music, dramatic and ever-changing sets, and dance. Benise's inspiration is his guitar as he becomes a troubadour for the ages. Breathtaking costumes add to the impact of brilliant choreography for Flamenco and Broadway dancers.

• An evening with Jethro Tull's **Ian Anderson**, Thursday, Nov. 11, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 N. McMullen-Booth Road. Reserved tickets range from $43.50 to $69.50 and are available at the ticket office, by calling 791-7400 or online at www.rutheckerdhall.com or www.ticketmaster.com. Anderson returns to the United States with more goodies from the Tull back catalogue, featuring many of the acoustic tracks from the early albums as well as some new solo material specially written for these shows. The evening will include electric and acoustic performances. Joining Anderson will be Florian Opahle on guitars, John O'Hara, accordion and piano, David Goodier, bass guitar and Scott Hammond on drums.

• NBC's **Last Comic Standing Live Tour**, Thursday, Dec. 30, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 N. McMullen-Booth Road. Reserved tickets range from $29.50 to $49.50 and are available at the ticket office, by calling 791-7400 or online at www.rutheckerdhall.com or www.ticketmaster.com. The evening will feature stand-up comedy with the finalists from NBC's popular laughfest "Last Comic Standing."

Largo

• **Brown Bag Movies**, Thursday, Aug. 12, 12:30 p.m., at Largo Public Library, 120 Central Park Drive, Largo. The featured movie will be "The Shawshank Redemption." Attendees may bring their own lunch. Popcorn and soda will be provided. Call 587-6715.

• **Sunset Sounds**, Friday, Aug. 13, 7 to 9 p.m., at Ulmer Park, 301 West Bay Drive. Featured artist Rocky Ruckman's Strange Puppets will perform. The free concert series reveals the diversity of local musicians. Attendees can eat dinner at an area restaurant or bring a picnic and dine under the trees while enjoying live music performed in the gazebo. Visit www.largoevents.com.

• **Brown Bag Movies**, Thursday, Aug. 19, 12:30 p.m., at Largo Public Library, 120 Central Park Drive, Largo. The featured movie will be "The Big Sleep." Attendees may bring their own lunch. Popcorn and soda will be provided. Call 587-6715.

• An acoustic evening with **Terry Sylvester and John Ford Coley**, Saturday, Aug. 21, 8 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive. Tickets are $25 in advance or $30 at the show. Part of the Largo Cultural Center Summer Concert Series, the concert will showcase Sylvester, formerly of The Hollies, and Coley, formerly of England Dan and John Ford Coley. Visit www.terrysylvester.com and www.johnfordcoley.com.

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OPENING, from page 1B

Italy; the power of prayer in India, and, finally and unexpectedly, the inner peace and balance of love in Bali. Based on an inspiring true story, "Eat Pray Love" proves that there really is more than one way to let yourself go and see the world.

'The Expendables'

Genre: Action and adventure

Cast: Sylvester Stallone, Jason Statham, Jet Li, Dolph Lundgren, Randy Couture, Steve Austin, Terry Crews, Mickey Rourke and Eric Roberts

Director: Sylvester Stallone

Rated: R

The only life they've known is war. The only loyalty they have is to each other.

They are the Expendables: leader and mastermind Barney Ross (Stallone), former SAS blade expert Lee Christmas (Statham), hand-to-hand combat specialist Yin Yang (Li), long barrel weapons specialist Hale Caesar (Crews), demolitions expert Toll Road (Couture), and precision sniper Gunner Jensen (Lundgren).

Living life in the fringes of the law, these hardened mercenaries take on what appears to be a routine assignment: a covert, CIA-funded operation to infiltrate the South American country of Vilena and overthrow its ruthless dictator General Garza (David Zayas). But when their job is revealed to be a suicide mission, the men are faced with a deadly choice, one that might redeem their souls ... or destroy their brotherhood forever.

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

'Animal Kingdom'

Genre: Drama and crime

Cast: Guy Pearce, Joel Edgerton, James Frencheville, Anthony Hayes, Ben Mendelsohn and Jacki Weaver

Director: David Michod

Rated: R

Welcome to the Melbourne underworld.

Following the death of his mother, 17-year-old Joshua Cody (James Frencheville) moves in with his hitherto estranged family, under the watchful eye of his doting grandmother, Janine "Smurf" Cody (Jacki Weaver), and her three criminal sons – the Cody boys.

Eldest son and armed robber Andrew "Pope" Cody (Ben Mendelsohn) is in hiding from a gang of renegade detectives. Middle brother Craig (Sullivan Stapleton) is a successful but volatile drug dealer, while the youngest Cody, Darren (Luke Ford), naively follows his elder brothers' lead. Just as Pope's business partner and best friend, Barry Brown (Joel Edgerton) decides that he wants out of the game, recognizing that their days of old-school banditry are all but over, tensions between the family and the police explode.

J finds himself at the center of a cold-blooded revenge plot that turns his family upside down and which throws him directly into the path of senior homicide detective Nathan Leckie (Guy Pearce).

'Lebanon'

Genre: Foreign, drama and war

Cast: Oshri Cohen, Itay Tiran, Yoav Donat, Michael Moshonov and Zohar Strauss

Director: Samuel Maoz

Rated: R

The First Lebanon War – June 1982.

A lone tank is dispatched to search a hostile town that has already been bombarded by the Israeli Air Force. What seems to be a simple mission gradually spins out of control.

Photo courtesy of SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

Oshri Cohen, left, stars as Hertzel and Itay Tiran as Assi in "Lebanon."

Shmuel the gunner, Assi the commander, Herzl the loader and Yigal the driver are the tank's crew, four 20-something boys who have never fought in a war and are now operating a killing machine. Though trying to remain brave, the boys are pushed to their mental limits as they struggle to survive in a situation they cannot contain, and try not to lose their humanity in the chaos of war.

Writer-director Samuel Maoz's raw and visceral film is based on his own experiences as a 20-year-old novice soldier serving in the Israeli army during the 1982 Lebanon war. Using his own vivid recollections to bring audiences inside an Israeli tank during the first 24 hours of the invasion, Maoz restricts the film's action entirely to the tank's interior and shows us the outside world only – as the four young soldiers themselves see it – through the lens of a periscopic gun sight.

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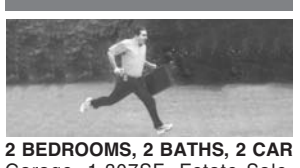

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Robert G. Castles, PA, Broker
(727)595-8229
www.seminolegarden.com

SEMINOLE GARDENS, 55+, 2Br/2Ba, $56,900, includes cable, W/S/G, ground floor, new paint/ carpeting, enclosed porch. Commuter bus to grocery/ services. Pool. Also for **Rent,** $800/month. (727)398-3443.

SEMINOLE: SHADOW LAKES 2BR/2BA. Ground floor, near shopping and SPC-Seminole. $89,500. John Doran Realty, (727)461-9142.

SHIPWATCH
Nice Selection of Water-view Condos from $200,000 to $249,900.
Shipwatch Realty. **(727)596-6508.**
www.ShipwatchRealty.com

VILLA, 2 STORY, Upscale Area, 3BR/2.5BA/2CG, beautifully furnished and updated, charming courtyard, deck, fireplace, tennis, pool, dock and slips on Intracoastal. 10 minutes to IRB, $365,000. Owner (727)595-4918, Imperial R.E.

25. Townhouse Sales

PALMBROOK TOWNHOUSE, 3BR/2.5BA/2CG. 2,025 SF. Built 2006. Gated Community, Master Bdrm Downstairs. Lots Of Extras. Pool. Pinellas Park. $285,000. (727)546-0549.

35. Mobile Home Sales

ADORABLE, NEWLY Renovated 1BR, Seminole. 55+. A/C, W/D, carport, Florida Rm. Half Block To Buses, Shopping, Dining, Doctors, Dentists. $5K. (727)391-9235, (352)584-4125.

ARE YOU LIVING In PARADISE?
Beautiful, Resident-Owned 55+ Park, Affordable Homes.
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CLOSEOUT SPECIALS: HUGE discounts on new manufactured homes. Example: New 4BR $59,500, was $92,000, at Kings Manor Estates, Pinellas County's best all-age manufactured home community. Rider (727)385-2700.

COME SEE WHAT'S AVAILABLE AT THESE 5-STAR M.H. PARKS
GLENWOOD EST., 55+
12501 Ulmerton Rd. Land Owned. $160/Mo. Maint. Some On Lake, All 2BR/2BA/2CP.
PALM HILL COUNTRY CLUB, 55+. 1800 Seminole Blvd. 3 Pools, Tennis, Golf.
Call John Doles For A Private Viewing Of All The Available Properties!
(727)510-3331
Free Realty, Inc.

Double Wide, $7,900! Spacious, Clean, 2BR/2BA, In Nice Park. C/H/A, W/D, Enclosed Porch. Possible Owner Finance. (727)639-8096

LARGO, 55+ M.H.P., 1BR/1BA, Furnished. A/C, W/D, Screened Porch. Roof-over, carport, shed. 1992 Buick Regal Included, Runs Great. Close to everything. $5,500. Must Sell! (727)397-0757.

LARGO: ELDORADO MHP. 2BR/2BA, Partially Furnished, Florida/ Laundry Rooms. $13,900. Ron Ekberg, Island In The Sun. (727)433-2903.

LARGO: Spacious 4BR/2BA, bonus room, carport, 2,332SF, many extras, all ages park. Financing available. See particulars at lot202.webs.com or call (727)596-6431.

Oakcrest: 55+, 56'X12', 1BR/1BA, +11'x17' Bonus Room. Large Closets, Pet OK. Excellent. $4,500 OBO. (727)320-3637.

RENOVATED DOUBLE WIDE 2-3Br/1.5Ba. Furnished. New HVAC, new roof, huge carport. Great Clearwater Location! $14,900. Linda (727)531-4476.

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35. Mobile Home Sales

OPEN HOUSE, SATURDAY, 10-2. Sawgrass Lake Estates, 55+. 3035 66th Ave. N., St. Pete. Several Homes To Choose From! Activities, Weekly Bingo, Pool, Shuffleboard. $500 Down, Financing Avail. With Approved Credit. (727)527-2056.

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We Buy Mobile Homes All Locations (727)639-8096

60. Time Shares

SELL OR RENT Your Timeshare for cash! Our Guaranteed Services will Sell/Rent your Unused Timeshare for Cash! Over $78 Million offered in 2009! Call (800)882-0296 or visit website: www.sellatimeshare.com.

70. Duplex-Triplex Sales

DOWNTOWN CLEARWATER Triplex. Three 1BR/1BA units. $65,000. SunStar Real Estate, Rosalyn Carlton, (727)644-0400.

100. R.E. Wanted

WANTED:
MOBILE HOMES!
Must Be Under 50 Feet And Moveable. Less Than $3,000.
Call Michelle (727)657-2104 or Evon (813)789-8331.

120. Out of Town

BANK-FORCED BID/OFFER Sale. Smoky Mountain Lake Property, Tennessee. Pick your lot, then submit your offer! Gated, with amenities! Hurry, register now, first 75 only! (877)644-4647 x302.

HARD-TO-FIND B4 ZONING property for sale or lease on Highway 484 in South Marion County. 4,700SF building on one acre. Great for church, clubs, meetings, etc. For info, contact Realtor Anthony White. (352)547-3137.

LAND SALE: 10 ACS, Stein-hatchee, FL. Starting at $49K. $1,000 down, $399/mo. Great Hunting/Fishing. Near Gulf and River. Call (352)542-7835; cell: (352)356-1099.

NC MOUNTAINS HOMESITE: Best Land Buy! 2.5 acres, spectacular views, paved road. High altitude. Easily accessible, secluded. Bryson City. $45K. Owner financing. Call (800)810-1590 or visit www.wildcatknob.com.

UNBELIEVABLE COASTAL Bar-gain! Only $34,900 w/Free Boat Slip. Adjoining lot sold for $99,900! Beautifully wooded building lot in premier gated waterfront community Enjoy direct access to Atlantic Ocean! All amenities complete! Paved roads, underground utilities, clubhouse, pool. Excellent financing. (877)888-1415, x2629.

UNBELIEVABLE COASTAL Bar-gain! Only $34,900 w/Free Boat Slip. Adjoining lot sold for $99,900! Spectacular wooded building lot in premier gated waterfront community w/direct access to Atlantic Ocean! All amenities complete! Paved roads, underground utilities, clubhouse, pool. Excellent financing. (877)888-1415, x2627.

125. Out of State

20-ACRE RANCHES, Only $99/month, 0 down, $12,900. Near growing El Paso, Texas. Owner Financing, No Credit Checks, Money Back Guarantee, Free map/pictures. Call (888)755-8953, www.sunsetranches.com.

BANK-FORCED BID/OFFER Sale. Smoky Mountain Lake Property, Tennessee. Pick your lot, then submit your offer! Gated with amenities! Hurry, register now, first 100 only! (877)644-4647 x304

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125. Out of State

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CROSSVILLE, GOLF CAPITAL of Tennessee. Great for Retirees. Low Property Taxes and Insurance, no State Income Tax. Full variety of properties at great prices. Save Retirement Dollars. Mild Seasons, Great Mountain Views. Live Good! (931)707-0393. Email: info@crossvillerealty.com.

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GEORGIA LAND & HOMESITES. Beautiful country subdivision just off U.S. 1, Toombs County. Great investment! MHs welcome. Half-acre tracts $75/mo. & up. Owner financing. Call (912)585-2174 or (912)526-9964. HickoryHammockProperties.com.

GEORGIA: ESCAPE THE Storms and Heat! Beautiful weather year-round. Low Taxes, Homesites/Mini-Farms: 1.25 acs to 20 acs, from $3,750/ac. Near Augusta and Blue Ridge. Owner financing from $199/mo. Call (706)364-4200.

NC MOUNTAINS - Best Land Buy! 2.5 acres, spectacular views, gated, paved road. High altitude. Easily accessible, secluded. Bryson City. $45K. Owner financing. (800)810-1590. wildcatknob.com.

NC MOUNTAINS: CABIN SHELL, two+ acres with great view, very private, big trees, waterfalls & large public lake nearby. $99,500. Bank financing. (866)275-0442.

NORTH CAROLINA Mountains: Escape the heat and visit Sugar Mountain! Condos with amenities. Call (800)634-1320 and mention this ad for 20% off three-night stay through Nov. 15th, 2010.

SOUTH CAROLINA: TWO ACS. in the Santee, Cooper Lake area.. Near I-95. Beautiful building tract, $19,900. Ask about easy financing, low payments. Call owner: (803)473-7125.

TENNESSEE MTNS: 435 ACS. Timber, creek, river, natural gas well, springs, city water, utilities. Eight miles of trails. $1,800/ac. Will divide into two tracts. Call (888)836-8439 or visit website: www.tnwithaview.com.

VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN CABIN Galax area. Brand new! Price Reduced! Great views, private, fishing in stocked trout stream! Two acres, $149,500. Call owner: (866)275-0442.

RENTALS

135. Rentals

CHEAP APARTMENTS! FROM $450/mo. Millions of rentals nationwide. Low income and luxury at discounted rates. Call now! (800)805-6834.

FREE FORECLOSURE Listings! Over 400,000 properties nationwide. Low down payment. Call (800)498-8619.

140. Furnished Houses

SUMMER AT I.R.B.
Cozy Cottages.
1-2BR: $290/week & up.
No lease required.
Ask about move-in specials!
Steps to Beach. Pet Friendly.
(727)595-8013.

145. Unfurnished Houses

Clearwater, 3BR/2BA, Hardwood Floors, Fireplace, Large Master, Walk-in Closet, Fenced, +Shed. $1,100/Month. +$500 Deposit. (727)581-5221.

CLEARWATER: 2BR/1BA/1CG, glassed-in Florida room. "Great Neighborhood." 1248 San Remo Drive. Freshly painted, $850/mo. Security, credit check. Small pet okay. (727)580-9924.

DOWNTOWN LARGO, 2BR/1BA/1CG, Laundry, Large, Fenced Yard, C/H/A. $850/Mo. First, Last, Security. (727)474-7050.

HOME RENTALS
Across Pinellas. 3/2s, 4/2s, 5/2s, starting from the $900s. Family owned. (727)532-0020.

LARGO, INDIAN ROCKS AREA, 2BR/2BA/2CG, 1,347SF FR, LR, DR., Enclosed Patio. Inside Utility, W/D. 1,175/Mo. BUFFINGTON PROPERTIES, (727)518-8700.

LARGO, 4BR/2BA, NEW PERGO Floors, Fenced Yard, Off Street Parking. $1,150/Mo. Martian Real Estate, (727)595-5774.

135. Rentals

Annual Rentals

MADEIRA BEACH
✳ 1/1.5 Townhome, Beach, 2 Pools $750
✳ 2/1.5 Condo, Ground Floor, Gated, Beach $850
✳ 3/2.5/1 Waterfront Home, Pool, Dock/Lift $3,000

TREASURE ISLAND
✳ 3/2/1 House Wide Water View, Dock, Pets OK $1,900

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145. Unfurnished Houses

PINELLAS PARK:
7168 59th St., 2BR/2BA;
7275 62nd St. 3BR1BA,
utility room, $825/month.
(727)954-7712, (727)742-8529.

SEMINOLE: 3BR/2BA/1CG, BAY Haven, Newly Renovated No Smoking, Pets Possible, Fenced Yard. $1,295/Month, Annual. (727)398-7550.

SEMINOLE: 3BR/2BA/Garage, 93rd Street, 1550/sf, split plan, laundry hookups, workbench, $1,150/mo. (727)242-2667, recorded information.

155. Furnished Condos

NEWER 2BR/2BA, Golf Course, Beautiful furnishings. Outstanding lake/ fairway views. Across from pool. Many amenities. Screened porch, W/D, much more! $1,100/month, negotiable. (727)460-7462.

160. Unfurnished Condos

BELLEAIR: 2BR/2BA, Extra Nice, 1,200 SF, 1st Floor. Covered Parking, New Carpet & Paint. Pool. $800/Month, Includes Water. Call Dean, (727)420-0094.

DELIGHTFUL DUNEDIN, 55+ 2BR/2BA Completely Remodeled. Walk To Town/ Stores. Petless. $650/Mo. Call (727)734-2488.

FIRST FLOOR, 2Br/2Ba, Gated community, many amenities, near everything, Largo. $749/month +Security. Scott, (727)393-9075, (313)477-3434.

Terrace Park Of Five Towns, 55+. 1BR/1BA, From, $650-$850. 2BR/2BA, From, $750-$900. www.fcpm.biz to view amenities Janis O'Connor, Five Towns Action Realty. (727)735-1132.

GORGEOUS 2BR/1BA, 55+. Open Floor Plan, Everything New! Ground Floor, Covered Parking. Pool, Clubhouse. Downtown Dunedin, Walk To Everything! $650/Mo. (727)738-4454.

LAKE SEMINOLE, 2BR/2BA, 1,100sf, Dock, W/D, Carport, Pool. Waters Edge, ground floor. Magnificent View! $1,000/month. (727)251-8022.

LAKEVIEW OF LARGO, 2BR/1.5BA, Ground Floor, New Carpet, Fresh Paint, New Kitchen Appliances, 55+ Community, $700/Mo. Shipwatch Realty, Inc. **www.ShipWatchRealty.com** (727)596-6508.

MANY PROPERTIES Available. **www.rmsrents.com.** (727)821-1999.

NEW ATLANTIS CLUB: GATED, Completely Updated, All Amenities, Petless. 1BR/1BA, $675/Mo. 2BR/1BA, $810/Mo. +Sec. W/S/G, Cable Included. (727)517-3710.

TOWNHOMES Of Lake Seminole 2Br/1.5Ba, Carport, W/D Hook-up, Nonsmoking. $850/Month +Sec. Includes W/S/G, Cable. Annual (727)593-7927.

SEMINOLE, 55+. 2BR/2BA, Carport, Den, 1,100sf. Upgraded. Includes W/S/G, Pool, Cable. Close To Beaches. Clean, Safe. $675/month, (727)271-0196.

SEMINOLE: 2BR/2BA, TOTALLY Remodeled. Living/ Dining Room, Eat-in Kitchen, W/D, Pool, Spa, Carport. $825/Mo. (727)482-9139.

SHIPWATCH: 2BR/2BA
Walk To Beach! Pools & Tennis.
$1,200/Mo. Shipwatch Rlty, Inc.
www.ShipWatchRealty.com
(727)596-6508.

VILLA MILAN, SEMINOLE. 1BR, $525/mo.. GUETZLAFF REALTY, (727)392-2339, (727)204-0829.

170. Furn. Apartments

FURNISHED APT. COZY 1Br. All Utilities +cable, no smoking/pets. Mile from Madeira Beach/ Bay Pines. $750/mo. (727)391-8900.

175. Unfurn. Apartments

170. Furn. Apartments

CLEARWATER BEAUTIFUL Gulf View, 8th Floor. 2BR/2BA, close to shopping, walking distance to beach. (732)985-6968. Leave Message.

DOWNTOWN CLEARWATER 2BR, W/S/G Incl. $650/Mo. +$350 Security. Section 8 OK. Close To Beach. (727)455-7173.

FACING EVICTION?
Move in today!
Studio apts. starting @$185/week. Open 24/7. No credit check. No security deposit. Free local phone calls. Pets okay. (727)446-6560.

NEAR LARGO MALL: 40+. Cozy 1BR. No Pets. $500/Month, +$200 Dep.. Utilities Incl. (727)584-0036, (317)828-7610.

SEMINOLE. 8423 SEMINOLE Blvd. 1BR/BA. $795/month, 2BR/1BA $945/mo. +Deposit. NICE! 2BR Includes W/D. Both include Super Cable. No pets, No smoking. (727)584-4707.

SEMINOLE: 1BR/1BA, Kitchenette, use of laundry, private entrance, parking, utilities included, $650/month +security. References. (727)647-1065, (727)563-6573

175. Unfurn. Apartments

$395 MOVE-IN SPECIAL! 2BR/1-1.5BA. Pool, Laundry Room. Starting At $675/Month. 5290 70th Ave. N., Pinellas Park. (727)526-2683.

SEMINOLE GARDENS, 55+. Standard, Unfurn., $600/Mo. 1BR Deluxe, 2BR/1BA, Unfurn., $695/Mo. Robert G. Castles, P.A., Broker. (727)595-8229.

BELLEAIR BLUFFS, COLONIAL Bluffs Apts. 1&2BRs. Nice, Quiet, 40-unit building. Walk to Intracoastal, Shopping. Overlooking Beautiful Pool & Courtyard. 2942 West Bay Dr. (727)501-5959.

BELLEAIR BLUFFS! NEAR beach, shopping, restaurants. 1BR/1BA, C/H/A, walk-in closet, new carpet, carport, $550/month. (727)595-0212.

BELLEAIR GREENS APTS. 2BR units on Biltmore Golf Course. Newly renovated. Across from police, rec center. Starting $850/month. (727)365-6821.

CENTRAL LARGO: DUPLEX Apts. Spacious 2BRs. Laundry/ Utility Room, C/H/A, Carports, Smoke-Free, Credit Check. From, $675/Month. (727)584-6283.

DUNEDIN, 1BR, $175/WK.; Dunedin Rm, $75/Wk; Clearwater Efficiency, $395/Mo., 626 Woodlawn St. Call (727)586-2412 or Click www.586-2412.com

LARGO STUDIO, $450/Mo. & 1BR, $500/Mo., Includes Water. Renovated. Nice Neighborhood. Petless. References. Annual. (727)584-6952.

LARGO'S BEST Kept Secret
Beautiful Lake-View Apts.
Mile To Beaches. Pool, Hot Tub, Tennis, Boating, Fishing, Paddle Boats, More! Util. Incl.
Move-In Special Only $299
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LARGO, EAST BAY/ US 19 LIKE NEW, BEAUTIFUL, Upscale, Quiet, 1BR/1BA, 2nd Floor Walk-Up. Free Water. $575/Mo. NO PETS. (727)461-1177.

LARGO: 1BR/1BA, $490/Month +Security, Remodeled, New paint/ carpet, dishwasher, C/H/A, balcony, on-site laundry, pool, (727)871-2345.

LARGO: 4TH AVE. NW: Cozy, 1BR/1BA, Quiet Area. $495/Mo. +1st/ Last/ Security. Best Beach. Rentals. (727)398-1200.

ST. PETE, 600 40TH STREET N. 1 & 2 Bedrooms. Starting at $575/Mo. Laundry, Pool. Credit Check. Pets Okay. (727)323-4718.

175. Unfurn. Apartments

175. Unfurn. Apartments

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Minutes to Indian Rocks Beach!
All Apartments Have Lake Views!
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NEAR DOWNTOWN
Clearwater, 1BR/1BA, W/D, clean. Rebate available for long term. SunStar Real Estate, Rosalyn Carlton, (727)644-0400.

ONE MONTH FREE RENT! $200 WALMART G.C. w/YR. LEASE! St.Pete, 2BR/1BA, Ground Floor, Pool. Near Shopping, Bus Route. $675/Mo. (727)527-2056.

ROYAL PALM APARTMENTS
1BR From $550/Mo. 2BR From $625/Mo. Pool, On-Site Laundry. St. Pete. Convenient to Downtown, US19, 275. (727)688-7877.

S.W. LARGO: LG. 1BR/1BA, Quiet. Laundry on Premises. Petless. $500/mo., $400 security. Yearly lease. (727)595-2228. Last Month FREE!

185. Beach Rentals

SUMMER AT I.R.B.
Cozy Cottages.
1-2BR: $290/week & up.
Ask About Move-In Specials!
Steps to Beach. Pet Friendly.
(727)595-8013.

CLEARWATER/ SAND KEY
Landmark-1, Gulf-front 2BR/2BA, Intracoastal View, 24/7 Security. All Amenities. No Pets. Available Now. Owner, (813)431-9381 (813)909-9370

CONTINENTAL TOWERS: South Clearwater Beach. Furnished & Unfurnished, large 2BR/2BA condo, pool, carport. Seasonal/ Annual. SunStar Real Estate, Rosalyn Carlton, (727)644-0400.

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Enjoy the Summer Lifestyle all year.
Live across from the sandy white beaches of the Gulf of Mexico. (55+)
Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath $920
Bright, clean 2 bdrm, 2 bath $1,000
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Free: Expanded Cablevision
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INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, 1BR/1BA. Block to Beach. $600- $650/month plus security. Annual. No pets. (727)595-2004.

INDIAN ROCKS: 1BR/1BA, Unfurn. Duplex. Blocks To Beach. $775/Month. Annual. Best Beach Rentals. (727)398-1200.

INDIAN ROCKS: GULF VIEW
3BR/2BA, Open Plan, Deck/ Pool. $1,455/Month. Remodeled
2BR/1BA, Appliances. $875/Month. (727)595-7809.

IRB: BEACH ACCESS, NEWLY Decorated 1BR/1BA, $660/Month. W/S/G Included. Annual Lease. 2400 1st St. (727)586-6086.

MADEIRA BEACH: EFFICIENCY w/Kitchen, Furnished, Phone, Cable, Laundry, Pool, Across From Beach. No Pets. $250/week FL Residents. 14711 Gulf Blvd. (727)394-0751.

MADEIRA BEACH
2BR/1BA/1CG, C/H/A, W/D, Hardwood Floors, Large backyard. 13010 Boca Ciega Ave. Only $925/Month.
Also: 1BR/1BA/1CG, W/D Hook-up. Newly Remodeled. 13012 Boca Ciega Ave. Only $725/Month. Both Incl. Some Utilities And Rent To Own Option. (727)278-2782.

190. Waterfront Rentals

185. Beach Rentals

MADEIRA BEACH: 1BR Duplex, Totally Remodeled, 1 Block To Gulf. Off-Street Parking. $650/Month. (727)418-6456.

MADEIRA BEACH: 2BR/1BA, W/D, storage, short walk to beach, carport, $775/mo. Renting Tampa Bay (727)735-8532

NORTH REDINGTON BEACH
Furnished Efficiency With Kitchen, Cable, Phone, Pool, Laundry. No Pets. Accross From Beach. $250 Per Week. (727)392-2241.

REDINGTON SHORES: NICE 3BR/2BA/1CG, Unfurn. House. Plenty Of Parking. Walk to Beach. $1,500/Month. (727)393-4767.

SAND KEY: 2BR/2BA/2CG, Panoramic view, on beach, fully furnished, terrace, pool. Security, annual, $1,550/mo. (727)599-1239

TREASURE ISLAND, 1BR/1BA, Isle Of Capri, Renovated. $675/Mo. Plus Electric. Close To Beach. David, (727)560-0841.

WILL BARTER!! Treasure Island Waterfront 1BR. Clean, Furnished. Gulf views. Daily/ weekly. Jet-skis available. (727)470-0771.

190. Waterfront Rentals

BEACH CONDOS, Fantastic views! Redington Shrs. 2BR, 3BR. Furn/Unfurn. Pool/Spa. Pets OK. From $1,375/mo. (727)490-2765.

EXCLUSIVE!
I.R.B. GULF-FRONT
2BR/2.5BA
Large Wraparound Balcony With Panoramic View.
6-12 Months.
Pool, Hot Tub,
***Cabana w/Toilet.**
$2,950/Mo.
***Extra $225/Mo.**
(727)593-1111.

GULF VIEWS ON SAND KEY, 2BR/2BA, Newly Remodeled. Assigned Parking. Large Balcony. $1,500/Month, Annual. Niki, (727)644-4684.

WATER VIEWS
Island Estates- Belleair Beach
Clipper Cove, Bay House,
Soreno Del Sol,
Pappas Realty & Mgmt. Co.
Vangie, (727)501-3268

REDINGTON SHORES: NEW Upscale Waterfront Home. 3BR/2BA/2CG. Boat Lift, Jacuzzi, Plenty Of Storage. $1,700/Month. (727)393-4767.

TREASURE ISLAND,
105 110th Ave. 2BR Unit, Dock, Laundry, $1,000/Mo. Walk To Beach. Credit Check. Pets OK. (727)367-9474.

TREASURE ISLAND: FREE High Speed Internet. Free Cable. No Electric Deposit required. PET FRIENDLY. 1Br/1Ba Apts. New Appliances. Starting $750/month. Docks available. (727)412-3744.

TREASURE ISLAND
Unfurnished 2BR/2BA. John's Pass view. Waterfront. Freshly painted. Small pet only. $1,000/month+ deposit. Broker (727)459-0719.

195. Seasonal Rentals

CLEARWATER BCH/ SAND KEY
2BR/2BA, Furnished Condos Available: 1-12 Months. Martian Real Estate, Inc. (727)595-5774.

210. M.H. Rentals

ALL SUMMER SALE
Move in for $295 & your first week is **FREE** for qualified applicants. 1BR from $105/week. 2BR from $135/wk. 28-week lease includes W/S/G. Monthly rates available. All-ages, pets welcome. Gulf Breeze, (727)559-8644

BLUE SKIES M.H.P., LARGO. Mobile Homes For Rent. Move-In Special, $199. One Bedroom. Call Lee, (727)657-2104.

1BR: NEAR BAY PINES VA & Madeira Bch. $525/Month +$300 Security, Includes: W/S/G & Cable. Pets OK. (727)393-1628.

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185. Beach Rentals

185. Beach Rentals

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2/2 Capri Gardens Waterfront Condo, Small Pet OK . .$875
2/2 Paradise Island Tower, Tile Floors, W/D, Pool . .$900
2/1 Waterfront Townhouse, Small Pet OK, Carport .$1,100
3/2 Waterfront Apt., Pool, Dock, Small Pet OK $1,295
2/2 Key Capri Furnished, Nicely Updated Condo . . .$1,350
2/2 Treasure Island Waterfront Condo, Fireplace, Pool . .$1,400
2/2 Waterfront Townhouse, Fireplace, Smll Pet OK, Pool .$1,400
3/2 Waterfront Home, Very Nice, Dock, Small Pet .$2,200
3/3 Catalina 4,000+ sq. ft., Luxury Wtrfrt Condo, 2CG, Pet .$3,250
3/3 LaBelle Vita 3,000 sq. ft. Exquisite Condo, Bt. Slp. 1CG, Pool .$3,500

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1/1 Shores of Madeira, Direct Gulf-Front Condo, Pool .$1,000
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210. M.H. Rentals

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215. Efficiency Rentals

CLEARWATER, 400 SF, FULL Kitchen, Living Room. $150/Week Includes All Utilities, Cable. Furn./ Unfurnished. (727)458-3477.

CLEARWATER: Efficiencies starting at $185/wk. No security, no credit check. Free WiFi access. Pets okay. **Move in today!!** (727)445-7134.

225. Duplex-Triplex Rental

LARGO: 1019 3RD AVE. SW 2BR/1BA/1CG, Tile Floors, New Kitchen, W/D. $775/Mo. No Pets. (727)465-8998.

SEMINOLE SCHOOLS, COZY 2BR/1BA/1CG w/Large Yard, W/D Hook-up. $655/Month. Petless, Tenant Screen. (727)391-7343.

SPECIAL- Move-In Immediately, Receive Rest Of August Free! St. Pete- 4127 45th Ave. N. 2BR/1BA, Storage Room, W/D Hook-up, Tile, Fenced. $625/Mo. (727)398-2925.

WALK TO GULF, Shopping. 2BR/1BA, W/D, Water & Lawn Care Included. Fenced Yard. $750/Mo. (727)596-2291

245. Room For Rent

PRIVATE ENTRANCE & BATH, Microwave, Refrigerator. $400/Mo. Incl. Utilities & Cable. Nonsmoking Female Only. (727)398-6024.

REDINGTON BCH. Waterfront Home. Private Bath, Responsible Person w/References. Cable/ Internet. $400/Mo. +Split Utilities. (813)505-6306.

ROOMS AVAILABLE IN Private Homes From $400-$500/Month. Applications & Criminal Background Checks Required. Contact Home Share Program Of Pinellas. www.homeshareprogram.org (727)945-1528

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Fully Furnished. Utilities, Cable Included. Deposit, References, ID Required. From $125/Week. (727)547-1199.

265. Commercial Rentals

IDEAL FOR SMALL BUSINESS OR STORAGE
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300. Notices

EVERY BABY DESERVES A healthy start. Join more than a million people walking and raising money to support the March of Dimes. The walk starts at: www.marchforbabies.org

345. Lost & Found

LOST DOG - RED MIN-PIN w/ big ears. "Sis". Lost in area of Oakhurst & Tamarac. (727)593-9280.

355. Adoption

ABORTION NOT AN OPTION? Consider Adoption. It's a wonderful choice for an unplanned pregnancy. Living and Medical expenses paid. Loving, financially secure families await. Call Attorney Ellen Kaplan, (877)341-1309. #0875228.

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Tampa Bay NEWSPAPERS
397-5563

355. Adoption

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360. Legal Service

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370. Instructions-Tutors

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375. Career Training

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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. Shiflett at 727-530-5521.
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St. Petersburg Times

The St. Petersburg Times, Florida's largest and best newspaper, is seeking dynamic leaders for our Home Delivery department which is responsible for delivering our newspaper products to subscribers.

Immediate part time openings available in Pinellas, Hillsborough and Pasco counties!

Candidates must have good driving, criminal and credit records, must be able to safely perform all physical and lifting aspects of position, such as ability to safely and repeatedly push and pull carts, repeatedly lift newspaper bundles up to 40 lbs and similar physical movements, be self directed, reliable and perform with the highest levels of integrity, respect and urgency.

Field Assistant:
This key position will assist in the fulfillment of day-to-day business and distribution operations in assigned geographical areas and distribution centers. Assists in coordinating resources and relationships with customers, staff, independent contractors, and public.
Starting pay of $11.22/hr with excellent benefits! Schedules are typically 5 days per week. Must be able to work weekdays and weekends between midnight and 11:00am.

Product Coordinator:
Responsible for coordinating distribution activities and the correct staging of various newspaper products to individual workstations in our delivery centers, interacts with independent contractors, and maintains product control.
Starting pay of $10.24/hr! Schedules are typically 4 days per week. Must be able to work weekdays and weekends between 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.

To apply please visit **www.Joinus.tampabay.com**
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375. Career Training

AVIATION MAINTENANCE and Avionics. Graduate in 14 months. FAA Approved. Financial aid if qualified. Job placement assistance. Call National Aviation Academy today! (800)659-2080 or visit www.NAA.edu.

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425. Child Care-Preschool

ST. DUNSTAN'S LEARNING Center, Accepting infants (8 weeks) to Pre-K. Licensed, CCC qualified, in quiet neighborhood. VPK aprvd. (727)420-9916.

435. Adult Care & Service

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I AM AN RN WHO WILL TAKE Care of your loved one in your home. Weekends preferred. CPR Certified. (727)344-0297.

485. Help Wanted

1 HANDYPERSON, 1 MANAGER for small seniors' mobile home park, Seminole. Home, utilities, small salary, (727)447-0323. Mon.-Fri. 10:30-5:30.

ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY needs caregiver to Live in & Work. Salary+ Private Room & Bath. Background Ck. (727)204-6549.

BECAUSE YOU CARE!
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Busy, Fast growing Chiropractic office seeking individual who is energetic, friendly, motivated and a team player for a F-T position. Will train. Computer & people skills helpful. Great hours, benefits and pay! Call (727)544-9000.

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TELESALES: MAKE MORE $$$$ No Cold Calls! Hourly +Comm. (Evening pay differential). **Immediate** openings for PM shift. Daily Bonuses. Apply in Person: (Mon.-Fri. 9am-5pm) 3985 Gateway Centre, Suite 200, Pinellas Park, FL 33782 (727)210-4715

505. Part-time Help

485. Help Wanted

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505. Part-time Help

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Needed when I'm out of town. 2 small dogs. Perfect for retiree. Island Estates. (727)475-8515.

GATE CONTROL: PERMANENT Part-Time, At Treasure Island Gated Community. Sun.-Mon., 3:45PM-11:45PM. No Lic. Or Exp. Required. (727)360-4323.

Fire Inspector/ Investigator: Flexible 24 hour/wk schedule as directed by supervisor. Details/application at www.myseminole.com or at City Hall, City of Seminole, 9199 113th Street N., Seminole. Starting at $19.52/hr. Range to $26.82/hr. Start date: 10/1/10. VP, DFWP, EOE. Deadline: 08/23/10.

St. Petersburg Times

BECOME A HOME Delivery independent distributor for the ST. PETERSBURG TIMES See ad in Business Opportunity section Or go to: tampabay.com/contractor

520. Sales Help

BE YOUR OWN BOSS!!
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535. Business Opportunity

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St. Petersburg Times

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565. Loans & Mortgages

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597. Coins & Stamps

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615. Appliance Sales

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630. Absolutely Free

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640. Furniture

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER 72"h x 68"w x 22"d with 32" HD Sony TV, Sofa. $500. (727)656-5483.

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535. BusinessOpportunity

640. Furniture

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700. Pets & Animals

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755. RV Sales

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755. RV Sales

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810. Auto Sales

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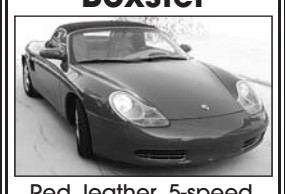

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830.Van & SUV Sales

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840. Motorcycles-Scooters

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885. Autos Wanted

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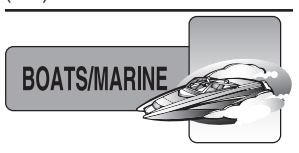

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Health and Safety
Wildlife

BP has taken full responsibility for the cleanup in the Gulf. And that includes keeping you informed.

Searching For And Cleaning Up The Oil

You may have heard that oil is no longer flowing into the Gulf. But every morning our spotter planes and helicopters continue to search for oil off the coast, heading to areas previously mapped with satellite imagery and infrared photography. If oil is found, they radio down to the ships and boats of all sizes that are supporting the cleanup effort and working to collect the oil. These are local shrimping and fishing boats organized into task forces and strike teams, plus specialized skimmers mobilized from around the world.

We have recovered more than 35 million gallons of oil-water mixture from the Gulf. Other methods have also helped remove millions of additional gallons of oil from the water. We've deployed millions of feet of boom to protect beaches and sensitive wildlife areas.

Hurricane Preparedness

In the event of a hurricane, our first priority is keeping people safe. In coordination with the Coast Guard and local officials, we may suspend operations temporarily but have organized to resume them as soon as possible.

Our Responsibility

We have already spent more than $3.9 billion responding to the spill and on the cleanup, and none of this will be paid by taxpayers. We will work in the Gulf as long as it takes to get this done. We may not always be perfect but we will do everything we can to make this right.

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