

LARGO LEADER

Johnny Depp stars in 'Dark Shadows,' a gothic comedy, PG-13

Michelle Pfeiffer also stars in the film, which is directed by Tim Burton ... Page 1B.



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ENTERTAINMENT



Movie review

"Marvel's The Avengers" has all the hallmarks of a huge Hollywood money-making juggernaut, critic says. As of May 6, the film had raked in \$200.3 million domestically, smashing several North American box office records including highest grossing opening weekend. ... Page 3B.

LARGO

Mother's Day Fun Fest this Saturday

The Sun Coast Mother's Day Fun Fest will be held Sunday, May 13, noon to 3:30 p.m., at Largo Central Park, 101 Central Park Drive.

The event includes live music, children's activities, entertainment and tips on the benefits of a healthy lifestyle for the entire family. Admission to the park is free and food and beverages will be available.

For music lovers, non-stop entertainment will be offered for hours, featuring Tampa Bay singer and songwriter Jim Lanier, tropical rock and oldies, and Jordan Boyer, a 14-year-old pop singer and national recording artist. Clowns, jugglers and a magician, will provide off-stage performances and a special children's play area will feature inflatable jumpers, miniature train rides through the park and a commemorative photo booth. Donations are accepted.

The Sun Coast Osteopathic Foundation will present the event. The foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the health and quality of life in Largo and the surrounding communities.

Emphasizing holistic health, this Mother's Day event also will include a health and wellness fair with various lifestyle demonstrations and exhibits by local nonprofit agencies and other community service providers.

PET CONNECTION

Speaking of pets

Dr. Michael Rumore of Lake Seminole Animal Hospital explains the purpose of a pet's curious third eyelid. Page 11A.



VIEWPOINTS

Susan Clary

The Florida Innocence Commission should be kept in place as the check and balance on a flawed system, columnist says. ... Page 10A.



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City set to raise stormwater fees

Proposed increase expected to take effect by ordinance Oct. 1

By TOM GERMOND

LARGO - City commissioners gave their staff informal approval May 8 to raise drainage fees for residential and commercial customers to ensure that the stormwater utility's fund remains stable.

They authorized staff to prepare an ordinance that would make the increase effective Oct. 1.

The proposed monthly stormwater utility fee increase, based on 2,257 square feet for an average single-family residential unit and accessories, is \$5.32, an 87-cent increase over the current rate.

The multi-family unit rate would decrease 37 cents to

\$3.19. City officials say that high-density residential customers have less impervious surface area than other residential customers, primarily because of multi-storied structures. The multi-family rate is 60 percent of one 2,257-square-foot single-family unit.

This is the first rate increase in the stormwater fund since 2008. City officials have projected the need for the fees in previous discussions and proposed budgets.

Chas Jordan, city management analyst, said the increase is to cover operational costs for the next five years. Major equipment replacements, normal expenditure growth and low revenue growth were cited as factors behind the proposed increase.

"The fee increase is purely based upon that fact that our fund, as it sits now, with current maintenance and operation, will go in the red in 2014," Jordan said.

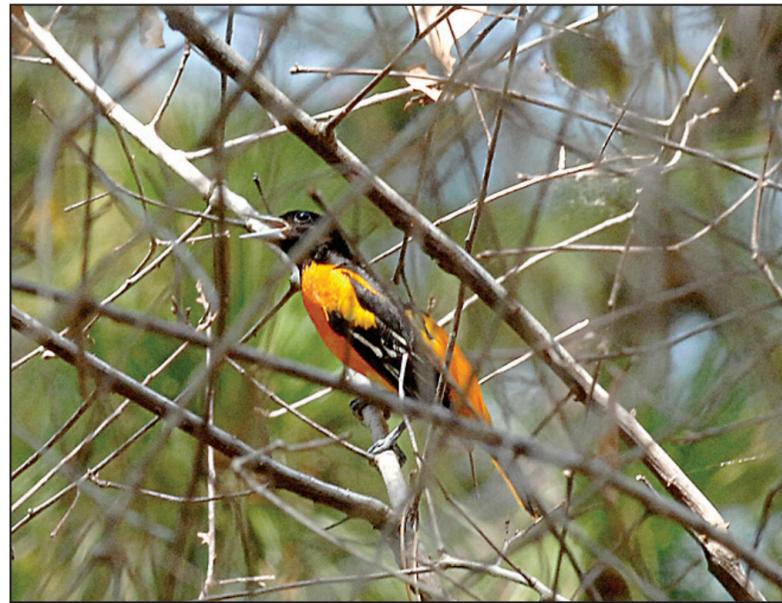
City commissioners raised questions about the fairness of the fees as they apply to residential areas of varying sizes and other factors.

Commissioner Woody Brown said it's unfortunate that the city was not able to consider a graduated scale for fees for residents living in single-family homes.

"Because frankly, some homes don't have much

See FEES, page 4A

Flight to freedom



Photos by JIM LAYFIELD



Above, a Baltimore oriole is released May 4 in Boca Ciega Millenium Park after it was brought to the Sanctuary covered in an unknown contaminant. After a cleaning and a 12-day rehab it was released at the Seminole park. About 15 doves were also released. After its release, left, the oriole tweeted his appreciation from a nearby tree. Baltimore orioles are a migrating species that spend their breeding season in southern, eastern, and the midwestern United States, and southern and midwestern Canada. They winter in Florida, Cuba and Central America and some stop off at Fort DeSoto Park during their migration.

Citizens address garbage collection, other survey topics

By TOM GERMOND

LARGO - Fifty-eight percent of the people who answered a survey question agreed that reducing residential garbage collection to once per week would be adequate for their families, but city officials say that the cost savings don't merit the change.

The results of the city's web-based community values survey were based on 760 responses.

Thirty-one percent disagreed that weekly residential garbage collection would be adequate and 10 percent had no opinion.

The survey, which covered several topics, was conducted from March 15 to April 16 to help city officials learn what citizens value.

The last time the city officially reviewed the cost impacts of changing to weekly residential garbage collection was in 2009.

At that time, said city Department of Public Works Director Brian Usher, the cost savings to the solid waste fund was estimated to be roughly \$360,000.

This savings equated to a roughly \$1.84 reduction per month - from \$17.65 to \$15.81 - for the solid waste

The survey, which covered several topics, was conducted from March 15 to April 16 to help Largo officials learn what citizens value.

fees assessed to residential customers.

"Due to the small amount of change this would generate, it was felt that the cost impact did not merit a change in service at that time," Usher said. "In our annual informal review, we have found nothing to indicate these numbers would significantly be different at this time."

Most of the costs associated with residential collection is in the disposal costs at the county landfill, Usher said.

"As residents will still be generating the same amount of materials, once a week collection would require the same disposal costs, and the same number of trucks as each truck would now have to cover a smaller area due to cans containing more garbage with once a week than twice," he said.



Photo courtesy of the CITY OF LARGO

Whether once-a-week garbage collection would be adequate for citizens was one of many questions in a survey recently conducted by Largo officials.

Usher also said that although 58 percent of the respondents stated that garbage collection once a week would be adequate, there were no costs or other information asked.

"This is not the same as saying they would prefer or recommend this level of service," Usher said.

Public works department continuously reviews its levels of service, and the costs associated with those in order to ensure an appropriate balance of the cost for city customers, he said.

"When speaking with residents we find that large numbers voice preference for

the twice a week collection, and feel that the monthly costs are not unacceptable," Usher said.

Asked for his thoughts on the garbage collection schedule Commissioner Woody said "it is an issue that continues to be looked at."

"Several years ago it was determined that going to one pickup day as opposed to two would only reduce costs by less than 25 percent," he said.

Brown said he has encouraged staff to

See SURVEY, page 4A

Clearwater beaming about spring break tourism

By ALEXANDRA LUNDAHL

CLEARWATER - Clearwater had an excellent spring break, breaking records and giving hope for a rebounding economy.

"Every business that I talked to broke records," said Darlene Kole, president and CEO of the Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce. "Every business, hotels, retailers, restaurants. Everyone was breaking records on heads in beds, attendance in restaurants. Everyone was very, very, very happy."

It was commonplace to see lines in front of every

restaurant each day, Kole said, and most of the hotels were at 100 percent occupancy.

"It's far better than we've seen in 10 years," Kole said.

Bob Clifford, president of the Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce, said that the lowest numbers he heard of for hotel occupancy on the beaches was at 95 percent during the peak spring break period. He added that while a lot of focus is always on the beach during spring break, the U.S. 19 and Gulf-to-Bay corridors were also impacted very well.

"Certainly from a holistic standpoint, the whole city of Clearwater was favorably impacted," Clifford said.

Spring training also added to the excellent numbers during that period, Clifford said, with record numbers of people filling Bright House Field to watch the Phillies play. Other sporting events, such as the USF softball tournament that took place over four weeks was also a boon, he said.

Another indicator that tourism has been a huge success lately is that tax dollars collected in the city hit a record high for the last several months, Clifford said.

See TOURISM, page 4A

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Briefs

City attorney praised

LARGO - Though City Attorney Alan Zimmet was praised for his legal work, he did not seek an increase in his retainer or his firm's hourly rate for the next fiscal year.

Zimmet also did not seek pay increase for the current year. City Manager Mac Craig said at the City Commission's May 1 meeting that Zimmet has asked that the hourly rate be examined when economy improves.

Zimmet's annual retainer is \$119,015. His present hourly billing rate for Largo and Safety Harbor is \$170 an hour. The rate charged to the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority is \$180 an hour and is scheduled to increase to \$185 an hour in October.

Craig recommended that the commission include Zimmet in any one-time merit pay proposed for city employees in the next fiscal year. Among the city attorney's accomplishments this year was success-

fully defending a summary judgment issued in the city's favor in a civil suit.

"And then he was able to secure the city \$110,000 in attorney fees from the other side," Craig said.

Zimmet also negotiated an interlocal agreement with Pinellas County for the county's proposed public safety complex on Ulmerton Road. City officials were at odds with county officials for several weeks over a county ordinance that city officials felt preempts the city's permitting authority for the project.

The agreement allows the city to have authority over the inspection of the construction and the issuance of certificates of occupancy for the complex.

"I just want to point out that first item (the interlocal agreement) on the list of things more than covers his retainer," Mayor Pat Gerard said.

Zimmet also worked to negotiate several development agreements including one for a major apartment complex. He also obtained a decision in the city's favor pertaining to a legal challenge of the city's authority to annex several parcels in the Ulmerton Road area.

"He has done an outstanding job for the city..." Craig said.

Commenting on the recommendation that Zimmet be included in any one-time merit pay for city employees, Largo resident Geoff Moakley said it was his understanding that the city's property tax rate will be increased in 2013.

"Of course, they have to be increased if there is a pool of money being set aside in a proposed city budget for one-time merit pay increases for all city employees," Moakley said.

Commissioners agreed to include Zimmet in any one-time merit pay proposed for city employees for fiscal year 2013.

Zimmet has been city attorney since June 6, 2000.

Group seeks streetlights, sidewalks for Adrian Avenue

LARGO - The SW Largo Neighborhood Watch has launched a petition drive to have streetlights and sidewalks installed on Adrian Avenue.

Nearly 200 signatures have been acquired from people who frequent the street.

The organization contends that Adrian is dangerous for pedestrians, bicyclists and others. It also said that speeding and drunk drivers are too common; darkness along the streets at night causes problems.

- Tom Germond

Heritage Village features summer events

LARGO - Heritage Village is the destination for county historical enthusiasts all year long, especially this year when Pinellas County celebrates its 100th anniversary of independence from Hillsborough County.

Pinellas by the Decades is an engaging series of multidisciplinary lectures held one Sunday a month at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 13, the lecture focuses on the 1972 to 1981 decade when municipal boundaries continued to expand as the Tampa Bay region became a popular area for tourism and settlement. During these years, battles over water resources, the expansion of infrastructure and "condomania" gripped the peninsula.

Children can take a jump back in time this summer with "Passport Adventures" at Heritage Village. Designed especially with summer camps, recreation groups and church groups in mind, these special tours include indoor and outdoor activities. Junior docent teens ages 12 to 17 deliver this fun, energetic program for kids ages 4 to 11. Each child will create their own toy from the past to take home. Bring picnic lunches and shop for souvenirs at the gift shop. After the tour, maps are provided for self-guided fun. This activity is available Wednesday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is a charge of \$3 per child. Groups of up to 60 children with adult supervision are welcome.

Award-winning author Angela T. Pisaturo returns to Heritage Village to host writing workshops on July 6 and Sept. 7 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Each three-hour workshop will be unique and will cover aspects of writing historical novels, from research to setting the scene. Cost for each workshop is \$15/historical society members \$13; extensive handouts provided.

Heritage Village is located at 11909 125th St. N. in Largo. This living history museum brings more than 150 years of local history to life. Tour 28 authentic buildings and structures, and experience historical Pinellas County through hands-on exploration. Paths wind through 21 acres and connect with the Florida Botanical Gardens and the Pinewood Cultural Park campus.

Heritage Village is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. It is closed Mondays, Tuesdays and all Pinellas County holidays. For more information on Heritage Village visit www.pinellascounty.org/heritage, or call 582-2123.

How to contribute

All press releases are published on a space available basis. They are subject to editing for grammar, length and general newspaper style.

The deadline for all copy is Friday, noon, preceding publication date. The newspapers are published Thursdays. For upcoming events, please send in your announcement two weeks in advance, if possible.

All submissions can be dropped off at the office or mailed to Tampa Bay Newspapers, 9911 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772, emailed to editorial@TBNweekly.com or faxed to 397-5900.

Correction

A story in the Largo Leader May 3 provided an incorrect address for city property that the owners of the Barley Mow want to lease. The address is 140 Sixth St. NW.

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City declares moratorium on park impact fees

LARGO - City commissioners adopted an ordinance May 1 establishing a temporary moratorium on the collection of certain impact fees related to park lands.

Commissioners directed staff March 20 to create the temporary moratorium as an incentive for residential development.

The moratorium will be in effect from June 1, 2012, to May 31, 2014.

City Community Development Director Carol Stricklin said there are several multi-family development proposals under city review.

City officials received two letters of support for the moratorium.

Qualifying for election begins July 2

LARGO - Qualifying for the city's municipal election will be held July 2-6, with petition cards available May 18.

Seat 4, currently held by Gigi Arntzen; Seat 3, currently held by Curtis Holmes; and the mayor's seat, currently held by Pat Gerard, will be on the ballot. All terms are for four years.

The city's election will be held in conjunction with the countywide election, Tuesday, Nov. 6.

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Progress Energy seeks approval for rate increase

By SUZETTE PORTER

ST. PETERSBURG – Progress Energy Florida customers may get a shock in their electric bills next year if the utility gets approval for increases in its nuclear cost-recovery charge.

Progress Energy filed its annual NCRC projections with the Florida Public Service Commission May 1, including updates on its proposed Levy County nuclear project and a project at Crystal River Nuclear Plant to increase capacity.

"Nuclear power remains a key component of Progress Energy's balanced solution strategy to meet our customers' future energy needs with efficient, carbon-

If all the utility's requests are approved, Progress Energy's total 2013 NCRC charge would go from \$2.86 to \$5.09 per 1,000-kilowatt-hour

free electricity," said Vincent Dolan, president and CEO of Progress Energy Florida. "The 2006 Energy Act passed in Florida makes it possible for our company to pursue new, capital-intensive nuclear investments that will help ensure clean, affordable and reliable power for customers, now and in the future."

If all the utility's requests are approved, Progress Energy's total

2013 NCRC charge would go from \$2.86 to \$5.09 per 1,000-kilowatt-hour for residential customers beginning with January 2013 billing.

FPSC recently approved a rate settlement agreement between Progress Energy and consumer advocates that allows the NCRC charge for the Levy County nuclear project to increase from \$2.67 to \$3.45 per 1,000-kWh in 2013. The charge for the Crystal River

plant will go up from 19-cents to \$1.64 per 1,000-kWh for residential customers.

The NCRC filing is an annual requirement for the Florida Renewable Technology and Energy Efficiency Act of 2006, which encourages the development of nuclear energy by allowing utilities to use a pay-as-you-go approach and recover preconstruction and interest costs of new nuclear construction or expansion of existing nuclear plants.

Progress Energy officials say states across the Southeast average about 24 percent natural gas generation; however, about 60 percent of Florida's electric capacity is powered by natural gas.

"Overdependence on one single

fuel source can expose customers to potential fuel cost spikes and supply disruptions, and the FPSC has repeatedly cited the growing lack of fuel diversity in the state as a major strategic concern," Progress Energy said. "Expanding utilities' nuclear generation capabilities helps balance the generation fleet and reduces these risks."

The Crystal River Nuclear Plant was shut down when a separation was discovered within the wall of the plant's containment building during a scheduled maintenance outage in the fall of 2009. Officials said a "thorough and systematic" engineering analysis is taking place along with review and assessment of options to repair the containment building and return

the plant to service in 2014.

Progress Energy now estimates the in-service date for the first Levy unit to be sometime in 2024, with the second unit following 18 months later. The shift in schedule will increase the estimated cost of the project cost to between \$19 billion and \$24 billion.

"The Levy County nuclear project continues to be the best long-term baseload generation option for Florida when evaluating cost, potential carbon regulation, fuel price volatility and the benefits of fuel diversification," said Dolan. "State-of-the-art nuclear power is important to reduce the carbon intensity and improve the fuel diversity of electric generation in Florida."

Briefs

Bed tax collections set March record

CLEARWATER – Tax Collector Diane Nelson reports that March tourist development tax collections in Pinellas County totaled \$4.5 million, an 11 percent increase from 2011 and the highest March amount since the tax collector's office started collecting the tax in 1990.

The previous March record, \$4.1 million, was from 2008.

"Our collections for March show great signs for our local tourism industry," Nelson said. "We heard from many of our hotels that March was a strong month for room rentals, and I am especially proud of my staff for their work in collecting and enforcing our tourist development tax."

The tourist development tax is a 5 percent tax – known as the bed tax – required by Florida law on accommodations rented for six months or less. The TD tax produces close to \$25 million each year in Pinellas County, used mainly for tourism marketing by the St. Petersburg/Clearwater Area Convention & Visitors Bureau.

The tax collector's office implemented an online payment system for TD taxpayers in 2010, and now more than 70 percent of TD collections are processed online.

For more information about tourist development taxes, visit taxcollect.com or contact the tax collector's office at 464-5007.

PSTA offers summer passes for youths

ST. PETERSBURG – It seems to happen nearly every year. Gas prices go through the roof at the same time the kids are out for summer vacation.

This year PSTA officials are urging folks dump the pump and take advantage of PSTA's Summer Youth Haul Pass.

For only \$35, kids 18 and under can enjoy unlimited rides on PSTA and the Clearwater Jolley Trolley between May 15 and Aug. 31, excluding Routes 100X and 300X to Tampa.

The Haul Pass will save parents time and money, and it gives kids the freedom and independence they crave to get to work, head to the beach, catch a Rays game or meet up with

friends – all for less than 33 cents a day.

Middle and high school aged kids will need a school, government or PSTA issued photo ID to use the Summer Youth Haul Pass. PSTA issued youth photo ID cards can be obtained free of charge at any PSTA Customer Service Center.

First time riders are invited to visit www.PSTA.net and use PSTA's Google Trip Planner to easily plan a ride or they can get personalized riding instruction with PSTA's free "Show Me" service by calling the PSTA InfoLine at 540-1900.

County to host mobile collection event

Pinellas County Solid Waste will host mobile collection events Saturday, May 12, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Indian Rocks Beach City Hall, 1507 Bay Palm Blvd., Indian Rocks Beach; and at the Treasure Island Community Center, 1 Park Place, Treasure Island.

Residents are encouraged to collect hazardous waste items from their home, office or garage, and properly dispose of them at the event.

Pinellas County Solid Waste offers this service free to county households. Businesses should arrange for drop-off and payment by calling Creative Recycling at 813-621-2319 for electronics, or EQ Florida at 813-319-3400 for chemicals.

Household electronics and chemicals – such as TVs, cell phones, computers, paints, motor oil, fertilizers and batteries – should never be dumped in the regular trash, drains, storm sewers or on the ground. These products can be harmful to the environment and to the people handling them if they are not disposed of properly.

Electronics ("e-waste") contain useful materials that can be extracted and recycled, such as aluminum, glass and plastic. As for chemicals, the average household can accumulate as much as 100 pounds of chemicals around the home over time.

For more information on mobile collections, what to bring and what not to bring, or the permanent Household Electronics and Chemical Collection Center, call 464-7500 or visit www.pinellascounty.org/utilities.



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Around Pinellas

RS says no noise law changes needed

REDINGTON SHORES – Town officials, along with the community police officer, have decided that a combination of cooperation and enforcement, rather than stricter laws, is the best way to deal with noise complaints.

The Town Commission took another look at the town's existing noise ordinances after receiving input from residents and business owners on how to deal with an increasing number of complaints about noisy music and patrons. Restaurant and bar owners also wanted advice and direction on limiting objectionable noise.

Commission members, the police, affected residents and business owners agreed the existing noise code, which bans "loud and raucous noise" without specifying limits, is sufficient, with minor changes to deal with the problems.

The ordinance relies on police judgment to determine what noises are "loud and raucous." A proposed addition says the noise must be considered loud and raucous when heard from a distance not less than 50 feet from the source of the noise.

The commission also decided to put a cutoff time of 10 p.m., Sunday through Thursday, and 11 p.m. on weekends for amplified music in restaurants and bars.

Adams said he had looked at more comprehensive ordinances from other communities and decided that is not what is needed in Redington Shores.

"I look at Indian Rocks Beach – that (ordinance) would take an engineer and four attorneys to figure

it out," Adams said. "Also, they have a lot more businesses than we do."

Police Sgt. Jeff Rawson said stepped up enforcement will be a key in eliminating objectionable sounds. Cooperation from business owners also was promised.

A number of complaints, which have been mostly about patron noise rather than music, target the Fort Knox Bar and Grill, 17850 Gulf Blvd.

Fort Knox owner George Bachert agreed to close the doors to his bar at 7 p.m. and the windows at 10, and to put warning signs in the parking lot. Bachert said he would take additional steps to cooperate if asked.

"Tell me what to do, and I'll do it," he offered. Mayor Adams said, "George (Bachert) is willing to do whatever is necessary to help out. If he doesn't, let us know." But he warned residents living near the restaurants and bars not to expect total quiet. "This is a business district," he said. "It's going to be a little noisy."

The residents working cooperatively with the police and business owners can find workable solutions to noise complaints, Adams said.

The town's current ordinance gives the police what they need for effective enforcement, Rawson believes.

"It has 'teeth' and also lets us use common sense in enforcement," he said.

Adams said the residents need to alert the police to problems.

"If people are hanging out, the police can handle that," he said. "If the police come out four or five times, people will know they can't hang out."

Also, "If somebody complains, the police go down and decide. I have faith in their judgment."

– Wayne Ayers

Biltmore owners seek tax help

BELLEAIR – If Belleair residents are going to keep up on the latest activity involving the Belleview Biltmore Hotel they are going to have to learn two new terms – CRA and TIF.

A CRA is a Community Redevelopment Area. A TIF is Tax Increment Financing. The prospective owners of the Biltmore want both. They want to be designated as a CRA so they can get TIF.

It unravels this way: a municipality can designate a particular area of town as needing special help to redevelop. That usually means a slum area that needs to be rehabilitated. But it also can mean a blighted area, a place not as bad as a slum, but not far off. That is what the prospective owners of the Biltmore have suggested is the case with the hotel property. They asked the Town Commission on May 1 to designate the property as a CRA so they can then apply for TIF. In fact, they are asking the commission to help pay for the restoration of the historic property with tax money.

Here is how it works. At present the assessed value of the hotel property is \$8 million. If it is declared a Community Redevelopment Area, and Tax Increment Financing is granted, then the assessed \$8 million will be frozen for all intents and purposes. If the assessed value of the property goes up in future years, the difference between the \$8 million base assessment and the new assessment goes into

a fund which can only be used to help pay for the restoration work on the hotel. So for example, if the hotel is refurbished and restored and in 2015 the assessed value becomes \$20 million, then the actual tax on \$12 million would go into a fund to help pay for the work on the hotel. The actual number is about \$11,000 for every \$1 million assessed.

Commissioners seemed to welcome the proposal. Some were concerned that the 30-year term of the deal might be a bit long. Casella told them that if loans were paid off before 30 years, then there would be no need to continue with the deal.

Getting the property designated as a Community Redevelopment Area is a process that will ultimately end up at the county level for approval. The first thing that must happen is the town must decide if there is a "finding of necessity" in the case of the Biltmore. In order to do that evidence must show that the buildings are deteriorating, a possible danger, and that the area is "blighted" which would involve the condition of parking, lighting or overall deterioration to the property.

When that discussion about the Biltmore ended another one began when Mayor Gary Katka asked Richard Heisenbottle, one of the prospective new owners, when "there might be boots on the ground and shovels in the ground."

Heisenbottle replied, "That is the 64 million dollar question." He said he reviewed the latest construction schedule last week.

"Everything has to fall into place. If it does then we should be able to start construction in January 2013."

– Brian Goff

FEES, from page 1A

impervious area at all and some have a whole bunch," he said.

Commissioner Harriet Crozier asked how long it would take to conduct such a study on fees for single-family homes and "what kind of a nightmare would it take to do the billing" through the county.

At Assistant City Manager Henry Schubert's suggestion, commissioners gave their consensus to increase the revenue Oct. 1 and let city officials conduct a study to determine a tiered rate for single-family homes.

Mayor Pat Gerard suggested that the city evaluate what other cities are doing regarding their fee structures "instead of re-creating the wheel when we look at whether anybody else has gone

to the trouble of trying to do this."

"Because the whole reason for having an average is that it makes it a whole lot easier," she said.

Schubert said he recalls that Tampa had a fairly complicated schedule, with five categories and a broad range of sizes of residential units.

A concern city officials have is how Pinellas County Utilities' billing structure would work

with any other types of variable fees.

"We're able right now to pick out multi-family customers within that (fee) structure. Whether we're able to do multiple residential structures within single-family households, we have to work with them to determine if that's possible," Jordan said.

The ordinance will be presented to city commission June 5.

TOURISM, from page 1A

They have been at record levels since about February, he said. Furthermore, numbers in general have been excellent.

"All the numbers were up for us," Clifford said. The Clearwater Regional chamber operates the Pier 60 visitors' center, Clifford said, and the numbers were up about 17 percent over last year for people going there to inquire about different opportunities in the community, tourist attractions, shopping and other activities, he said.

"Some other indicators that we saw were just the spending levels, which were up over the past few years," Clifford said. The folks that were coming for vacations, their wallets seemed to loosen up a bit and that translates into larger receipts for our restaurants, the fishing fleet, the boats that tour around Clearwater and Clearwater Beach, all those numbers were strong."

Likewise, visitors to the Clearwater Marine Aquarium are up more than 300 percent he said, largely due to the movie, Dolphin Tale, which came out last year.

The Jolley Trolley definitely has seen the impact from spring break, spring training and the success from Dolphin Tale.

"The whole spring break was just excellent," said Robert Longenecker, executive director of Jolley Trolley. "We sold out of every Phillies spring training shuttle. We were up 34 percent in ridership here on the beach, and the coastal route was up even more than that, closer to 40 percent."

The coastal route is the new route that goes from Clearwater Beach up through Dunedin and Palm Harbor, ending in Tarpon Springs. This new north route has been a great asset to the area because it gives tourists more options to visit the local sites, and that strengthens the area as a tourist destination.

"(The north route) really is just a great day trip for people and the visitors on Clearwater Beach," Longenecker said. "Tarpon Springs is a great destination for them. A significant number of people want to go to Palm Harbor to the restaurants there and to Dunedin. Downtown Clearwater gets a huge amount of visitors from the CMA facility there, too."

In March, all of the routes combined had 82,309 passengers, compared to only 65,000 in the entire year of 2009, Longenecker said. Having so many people using public transportation also helps the congestion, he said.

"It means that they can leave their cars parked and use public transit, and I think it does a lot for our congestion and traffic problems that we encounter on Clearwater Beach," Longenecker said. "Every study we've seen and ever taken show about 1.8 passengers per car are here on the beach. So we know for every two passengers, we're taking a car off the road, and that's part of our mission."

Clifford says all this success from spring break and tourism makes it seem the economy is improving.

"All the indicators were there that we are getting back on track, heading to the 2004 and 2005 levels before we started to slip," Clifford said. "... I certainly think we're not out of this, but I think we saw some spending which we hadn't seen, so that light is at the end of the tunnel."

Clifford added that some of the industries in the city that are unrelated to tourism are starting to see expansion on inventories and are starting to hire again, whereas they may have used a lot of temp workers during the recession. That just adds to the hope that the economy is beginning to rebound.

"It's not always the large corporations and industries driving the economy," Clifford said. "It's the small businesses who are going to get us out of this funk that we're in."

Kole agrees that the huge success of spring break hints that the economy is looking up based on the spring break success, but she also credits that to Clearwater marketing itself better.

"I think it's a combination of people feeling a little more relaxed about the state of the economy," Kole said. "But I think a large part of it is the efforts of the marketing that not only our county has done countywide, but all of the individual properties and our own beach chamber. This was the first year that we've really done a great deal of marketing outside of the area."

The Clearwater Beach Chamber has been advertising in 23 cities with Allegiant Airlines, which is one of the biggest airlines that goes to the Clearwater-St. Petersburg International Airport. There are also ads in places like Boston and Chicago, and there are more local billboards in Tampa and Orlando as well, Kole said. She suspects that the new beach chamber website also helps. The revamp launched a year and a half ago, and it is now available in 154 languages.

"With the change to our website, we've seen an enormous difference in traffic we've been getting out here," Kole said. "I think when people go to our website and they can view everything in their own language, it makes things easier and we appear more friendly and welcoming because we took the time to convert the information on the website for them."

A year ago the website got about 25,000 unique visits a month, and now it gets about 88,000 unique visits a month, Kole said, which translates to an increase in visitors to the city.

Even with spring break behind us, the chambers are not slowing down. Summer and fall just around the corner, and those are the next big tourist seasons, both with local traffic and people from much further away coming to enjoy the Clearwater area.

"We have a lot of Europeans who travel here in the summer and the fall," Kole said. "So our doors are open all year long. We get a lot of people from the Midwest, and we're certainly seeing a spike from people from Chicago and New York and Boston and Ohio. We're seeing a lot more people from all over the Midwest and the north than we ever have before."

The nice thing about the European and Latin American travelers is that they tend to stay for a whole month or two, Kole said.

The local market is another huge demographic for tourism in Clearwater, Clifford said.

"I think (spring break is) a critical component, but it's only one piece of the puzzle," Clifford said. "Once we get through this huge rush period, we have our stay vacation period which starts now through the end of summer. The stay vacation term is people within the state, possibly Pinellas County residents or Hillsborough or Citrus or Polk or any of the other counties in the state. We've become very reliant on those stay vacations that come about with the price of gasoline and transportation costs, people are looking to stay closer to home and Clearwater has a good opportunity with beaches and family friendly users."

Group sales on properties are also up lately, Clifford said.

"That's where a company might come in with a group of their employees for a convention or meeting type opportunities, and those numbers are at very nice levels," Clifford said. "We're getting back up to where we were before the recession started.

cle to give some sort of credit," said another participant.

"Not only reduce garbage pickup to once per week, contract this business out," said another participant.

Another response was that "garbage and trash pickup is second to none."

Other survey issues

The survey covered a wide range of topics. It was created by the city's Office of Management and Budget with input from city commissioners.

City officials said they hope the results of the survey and discussion at three workshops will serve as a foundation to further explore what Largo citizens value.

On whether the city provides superior services that enhance the quality of life and community pride, 57 percent agreed, 29 percent had no opinion and 15 percent disagreed.

Forty-three percent agreed that the Largo Cultural Center should increase ticket prices to cover its operating costs, 36 percent disagreed and 21 percent had no opinion.

Forty percent were opposed to the city continuing to own and operate a municipal golf course, 24 percent agreed and 36 percent had no opinion.

City commissioners had considered leasing the golf course, located on Vonn Road, to private enterprise, but based on a recent report that the golf course fund was \$103,903 ahead of where it was March 31, 2011, they agreed to allow city staff to run it.

Seventy-five percent agreed small neighborhood parks are important

as large centrally located parks. On another question, 90 percent agreed that it is important that the city of Largo provides a variety of recreation programs that appeal to all ages.

Comments on services and issue ran the gamut.

"We miss the library being open on Sundays."

"The Largo Library is the best in Pinellas County, and the Cultural Center offers excellent programs, especially for a small town venue. These, as well as Parks and Recreation activities, should be given precedence over a golf course, which services a relatively small number of people."

"Prohibit placing names of commissioners on new buildings that they voted to fund. I hope this will hold down the number of unneeded construction."

"It is absurd that the city's park and recreation budget is larger than the police budget. The city has been annexing properties without an adequate increase in the police staffing levels. Police protection is insufficient. City leaders need to understand that providing leisure services is less important than critical services like police and fire."

"The city of Largo is a great place to live! It could be better, but what city couldn't. We've lived all over Pinellas County and like Largo the best. Central Park and the Nature Park are two of our favorites. Downtown needs more help. Thanks."

Past controversies also crept into the responses.

"I still think the railroading at the commission meeting and the firing of (former City Manager) Steve Stanton was a major embarrassment to the city."

Visit www.largo.com for more on the survey.



Alex Thompson, 6, of Michigan, helps his dad, Robb, cover his mom, Renee, with sand at Clearwater Beach during spring break.



Photos by JIM LAYFIELD

Spring break was going strong even the week after Easter on Clearwater Beach.

And that can be a year-around impact item, not just the winter months where the weather is great here and not so great up north."

The type of tourist has changed over the years, Clifford said. Back when Clearwater Beach was full of mom-and-pop type of hotels, there were a lot of retirees who came here for vacation, he said. But since larger hotels such as the Hyatt and the Sandpearl have become more of the norm, the retiree

population has shrunk and it has become more of a variety of tourists, from families and couples to retirees and younger people.

The momentum remains good in all these categories looking at tourism bookings to the end of the year, and both chambers and local hotels and restaurants feel optimistic and confident that things are going to look a bit brighter for Clearwater now.

SURVEY, from page 1A

revisit this issue and even look at the possibility of using the same sideloader trucks for one trash pick up and one large container single-stream recycling pick up on a different day.

"We should be able to encourage recycling of all possible materials, reduce household waste and save money. The key to this model is a single-stream recycling facility that is close enough to Largo to be cost-effective," Brown said. "If we could pick up trash on one day then use the same staff and equipment to pick up recycling on a separate day ... I would be all for it. I'm sure the commission will have more discussion on this in the future." Brown said.

Commissioner Curtis Holmes said he thinks that once a week is enough, however, he had several questions about it.

"Actually the wife and I generate so little garbage that twice a month would more than be sufficient for us but I'm sure we're the exception. Problem with staggered pickup is how are we going to monitor it and adjust the bills? Also trash pickup also includes bulk debris removal via the claw truck. Are we going to charge per pickup?" Holmes said.

Several residents provided written responses about trash collection in the survey. Names were edited from the survey form.

"Reducing garbage collection to one day seems very smart," a survey participant said.

"I am open to waste pick up once weekly however, I would like to see rates decrease if this happens. Families that recycle like myself rarely use their wastes pick up weekly and have to pay the same high rates. Would be encouraging to families trying to help environment and recy-

Police beat

Man arrested on DUI charges, monkey seized

LARGO – A man who has been charged many times for DUI was arrested again, and state wildlife officers took custody of a monkey that had been in his vehicle.

Just after midnight on May 3, Largo police officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle that was traveling 70 mph on East Bay Drive. After talking to the driver of the vehicle and checking his driving status officers determined that the suspect was driving on a suspended license. Additionally, it was determined that he had been previously charged many times with driving on a suspended license and numerous times for DUI. The driver, identified as Eugene Carl Kotelman, 36, of Largo was arrested for felony DUI again.

When Kotelman was stopped, officers observed that there was a small monkey in the truck with him. Kotelman was taken to jail and the monkey was released to one of Kotelman's friends.

Kotelman was bonded out of Pinellas County Jail on the DUI charge around midnight May 5. As soon as he was released from jail, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission rearrested him with additional charges. The agency charged Kotelman with possession of wildlife and two counts of violation of fish or wildlife rules. Wildlife officials took custody of the monkey.

Man gets 15-year sentence for burglary, voyeurism

LARGO – A man arrested by Largo Police was sentenced to 15 minimum-mandatory years in prison May 4.

On April 18, 2011, Largo Police Officer M. Vegenski encountered a subject in Largo Central Park at 323 Central Park Drive. During this encounter, a consensual search of the subject disclosed a screwdriver, glove, flashlight and three cell phones, which contained hundreds of photos of women in various states of undress.

While the circumstances were suspicious, there was not cause to make an arrest. Vegenski took a report to document the unusual circumstances. The subject was identified as Demetrick Morris, 33.

On April 19, 2011, a call came into the Largo Police Department's Communications Center in reference to a suspicious person loitering in a resident's back yard.

Officers responded to the area and located Demetrick Morris. During subsequent interviews, Morris admitted to climbing a fence to gain access to the resident's back yard. He had done this on at least three occasions. While in the back yard he attempted to enter the occupied home. When he could not get in, he masturbated outside the home while watching the resident inside.

After concluding the investigation, Morris was charged with: one count of possession of marijuana, four counts of burglary, one count of possession of burglary tools and one count of voyeurism.

On May 4 Morris plead guilty to burglary and voyeurism. He was sentenced as a prison releasee re-offender.

17-year-old transient arrested for manslaughter

DUNEDIN – It started with a trade of some marijuana for a gun and ended with the death of a Dunedin teenager.

According to investigators on Wednesday, April 2, a 16-year-old male sold Devan Reed, 18, and Alex Stitcher, 18, a 9mm Ruger handgun and ammunition for \$125 worth of marijuana.

That evening Reed, Stitcher, a 17-year-old male and Justin Blake Cleveland, 18, met up at Cleveland's residence on Union Street in Dunedin. All are from Dunedin, except the 17 year old, who is a transient.

While at the residence, the four young men were playing with the handgun – taking turns loading it, unloading it, racking and re-racking it and dry firing it at themselves and at each other.

Detectives say that at one point when the 17 year old had the gun, he put the magazine in and racked the gun. Detectives say he then removed the magazine. According to investigators, the 17 year old pointed the gun at Cleveland who was sitting in a nearby chair and pulled the trigger. The gun had a bullet remaining in the chamber and went off killing Cleveland. Cleveland received a gunshot wound to the head.

The 17-year-old shooter, Reed and Stitcher immediately fled the residence. Stitcher fled on a bicycle. The shooter and Reed fled in Reed's vehicle. According to investigator's the two drove to a residential area off Darlington Road (west of U.S. 19) in Pasco County and threw the gun into a canal.

Reed then dropped the 17 year old off at a restaurant in Palm Harbor. Detectives say the two agreed not to talk about what had occurred.

On the evening of Thursday, April 3, Reed told his father what had transpired and contacted the Sheriff's Office. Detectives responded, located Cleveland's body in the residence and began their investigation.

Through their investigation, detectives received information that the weapon used had been thrown in the waterway in Pasco County. The sheriff's dive team responded to search for the weapon on May 4, and located and recovered the gun.

The investigation led detectives to the 17 year old, identified as Michael Wayne Parker III, at his girlfriend's grandmother home in Clearwater. Detectives say he initially hid in a bedroom of the residence but subsequently surrendered to deputies. He was arrested and transported to the Pinellas County Juvenile Assessment Center and charged with manslaughter.

He has been previously arrested for various charges including shooting a deadly missile into an occupied dwelling, felony battery, aggravated battery and vehicle burglary.

Man arrested for molesting young girls

PALM HARBOR – Pinellas County sheriff's detectives arrested a Palm Harbor man May 1 for lewd and lascivious molestation of two young girls.

Christopher Stark, 38, was charged with five-counts of lewd and lascivious molestation and one-count of lewd and lascivious conduct. He is being held without bond for three charges. Bond of the remaining charges totals \$60,000.

According to the sheriff's report, the victims are a 12-year-old girl and a 13-year-old girl. The suspect knows both. No further details will be released that would tend to identify the victims.

According to Crimes Against Children investigators, one of the victims, the 13 year old, reported

the crime to an adult at her school on May 1. That adult reported it to the school resource officer who in turn provided the information to CAC detectives.

Through their investigation detectives determined that the suspect touched the 13-year-old victim in an inappropriate manner over a two-year period; and touched the 12 year old in an inappropriate manner over a one-year period.

On the evening of May 1, detectives made contact with the suspect, at his residence. The suspect then voluntarily came to the Sheriff's Office North District Station for an interview. He was subsequently arrested and transported to the Pinellas County Jail without further incident.

Stark is employed as a mechanic.

Seminole man arrested for hate crimes

SEMINOLE – A Seminole man is awaiting extradition from Montana where he was arrested April 30 on multiple hate-crime related charges.

Allan Dale Richter, 56, was charged with a count of aggravated stalking and 18 counts of probation of generating acts with obscene lewd materials.

Pinellas County Sheriff's detectives say that since July 4, 2010, Amy Query, 25, and Nathan Maingi, 38, have been receiving racist, threatening letters at their residence in unincorporated Seminole. Some of the letters were sent via U.S. mail, some left at the doorstep.

Finally in March of 2012, there was a break in the case. A partial fingerprint match on one of the letters led detectives to suspect Richter, a near-by neighbor of the victims.

Richter, who has a criminal history, including fraud, disorderly conduct, aggravated assault and carrying a concealed weapon, had recently abandoned his residence and moved to Montana.

On March 27, Query and Maingi met with the Pinellas County State Attorney's Office and explained the traumatic ordeal Richter put them through over the past two years.

Richter's whereabouts in Montana were discovered on April 30. An arrest warrant was obtained, and he was taken into custody by Montana authorities later that afternoon. He is currently awaiting extradition back to Florida.

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County OKS use of TDRs in downtown Palm Harbor

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – Residents opposed to transferring development rights in downtown Palm Harbor were obviously upset after Pinellas County Commissioners voted 5-1 April 24 to amend the downtown district's master plan.

Some went so far as to threaten commissioners with unfavorable results the next time they are up for election. One man accused commissioners of taking money on the side. Several said they were ashamed or disgusted by the commission's action.

Finally, Commission Vice Chair Ken Welch threatened to clear the room if one man didn't stop voicing his displeasure over the vote from his seat in the audience.

Only one commissioner received praise as the people's "hero." Norm Roche cast the lone no vote.

The April 24 public hearing was the last of a series of meetings that began nearly a year ago on proposed amendments to the county's Downtown Historic Palm Harbor Master Plan. The amendments allow the use of transferable development rights, TDRs, within the east sub-district of the Old Palm Harbor Downtown zoning district, a 15-acre area.

TDRs have been allowed in unincorporated areas of Pinellas for years for wetlands and other environmentally sensitive properties. While some municipalities allow the use in downtown areas, this marks the county's first expansion of allowable TDRs.

"The use of TDRs is part of the urban regeneration toolkit for built-out communities, like Pinellas," Gordon Beardlee, Planning Department administrator, told commissioners. "They protect the environment and open space for the rest of the county. TDRs sup-

port board policies."

Opponents argue that TDRs should not be allowed in downtown Palm Harbor for a variety of reasons, including that the use was proposed to favor one business.

Geographic Solutions, owned by Paul Toomey, was established in 1992. It is a provider of software solutions for workforce development, employment and training, according to its website.

The business has been located in downtown Palm Harbor for years. The corporate office is currently located in the former Palm Harbor General Store, originally built in 1893. In 2001, a new development center was opened down the street, and over time, additional buildings were acquired to accommodate the growing production, management and support staff.

Today, Geographic Solutions is located in a six-building campus scattered throughout downtown and includes two rental properties. Toomey would like to consolidate his operation into a new three-story building with as much as 18,900 square feet. He employs about 150 people at an average wage of \$70,000 and has plans to hire 30 to 35 more.

Toomey has been looking for a way to keep his growing business in downtown Palm Harbor. The alternative, he says, would be to relocate elsewhere – maybe even out of the county, which is a move County Commissioners, and the Board of Directors for the Old Palm Harbor Main Street and The Greater Palm Harbor Area Chamber of Commerce have been working to prevent.

To build the proposed new three-story office building, Toomey needs to use TDRs.

As of May 4, no one had submitted a TDR application to the county's Planning Department, and Beardlee said he "hadn't heard anything from the company."

He said when and if anyone submitted an application it would then go through the approval process outlined in the ordinance amending Palm Harbor's Downtown Master Plan.

TDR approval requires review by commissioners as a conditional use, which includes public hearings by the Local Planning Agency and the County Commission, which can attach additional conditions to the approval. The TDR application also must include a site plan.

Maximum density/intensity on the property receiving development rights cannot exceed 75 percent of the maximum allowed. The transfer must be recorded in the official records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court.

The Pinellas Planning Commission, which unanimously approved the master plan amendments, on March 21, recommended that the Countywide Planning Authority, which is the County Commission, also approve the master plan amendment. The CPA approved amendments, 5-1, prior to the vote by the Commission. Roche voted no both times. Commission Chair John Morroni was absent.

The amendments also include a reduction on parking requirements for retail businesses located in downtown Palm Harbor. Lack of parking is one of the chief complaints by those opposed to the use of TDRs and Toomey's business expansion.

The people have their say

Lesley Klein, owner of the Witch's Brew, told commissioners she had been opposed to TDRs in the beginning.

"But now I think it would be detrimental to downtown if this is not passed," she said. "Taking 150 employees away, who might not shop in my store every day, but are my customers, part of my business."

She also pointed out that if Geographic Solutions leaves the area, downtown would be left with five vacant properties.

"This will bring more opportunities to downtown," she said. "TDRs will help us redevelop and keep it (downtown) vital."

Still most of the nearly two dozen speakers against the plan amendments insisted the use of TDRs would be bad and Toomey's expansion would make the parking situation worse for retailers and restaurant owners, who some say cannot expand their businesses due to parking requirements.

The opposition even paid for an independent parking survey, which showed that parking is available currently. However, the survey results pointed to potential future problems as downtown continues to grow.

Neil Valk, who owns several properties in downtown Palm Harbor, including property being leased by Geographic Solutions, said he "had been painted as the bad guy who started this. I'm the one who told the public."

He said Toomey "wants to take all the available space" and that Geographic Solutions' employees take more parking spaces than the rest of the downtown businesses.

"There's been no compromise to take everyone into account," he said.

He suggested that Geographic Solutions be required to find parking that did not take away from available parking "or move."

Roche voted his no vote, saying he was convinced parking was a problem. He also said part of the issue with changes for downtown Palm Harbor were due to "two powerhouses that want to beat on each other."

He said it really came down to the concept of mixed use – live, work and play, "not Paul versus Neil."

"I support Toomey," he said. "I just don't think TDRs are the way."

Palm Harbor resident Deb Caso said TDRs take away freedom, a communistic act.

"We don't want to save everything for the future," she said. "We need to live now and need our children un-indoctrinated from globalism and green crap. That's putting it politely."

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Letter carriers collecting food for the needy

By SUZETTE PORTER

Saturday, May 12, marks the 20th year that the National Association of Letter Carriers has participated in Stamp Out Hunger, the largest single-day food drive in the United States.

This year, local letter carriers again will be collecting donations of nonperishable food items left in mailboxes around Pinellas County. Last year, across the United States, letter carriers collected more than 70 million pounds of food during the annual event, which takes place the second Sunday in May.

And the best part is – food that is collected locally stays local, benefiting the many organizations that distribute food to the needy.

RCS Food Bank in Clearwater is expecting to receive 100,000 pounds of food thanks to the 2012 Stamp Out Hunger food drive. Letter carriers will leave donation bags in residents' mailboxes. Residents can fill the bags with non-perishable foods and place it in or near their mailbox to go out with their mail on Saturday, May 12.

Examples of non-perishable items include:

- Canned soup
- Canned meats and fish
- Canned vegetables, fruits and juices
- Boxed goods (such as cereal)

• Pasta and rice
Please do not donate food with expired dates. NALC President Fredric Rolando said the needs of Americans are particularly sad, even staggering, in 2012.

"Sixteen percent of all Americans are at risk of hunger – uncertain where their next meal may be coming from. That includes one in five children under the age of 18, plus 4 million seniors who are forced every day to choose between paying a utility bill and buying food," he said.

RCS Food Bank, located at 700 Druid Road in Clearwater, serves more than 5,500 people each month. According to a fact sheet, supplied by the food bank:

- 1 in 5 households in Pinellas County receive SNAP benefits (previously called food stamps)
- The majority of people receiving food at the RCS Food Bank are youth under 18
- Less than 3 percent of people receiving food at RCS Food Bank are homeless, most are underemployed/unemployed or living on fixed incomes

The National Rural Letter Carriers' Association, Campbell Soup Company, Valpak, U.S. Postal Service, United Way, AFL-CIO, Feeding America, Uncle Bob's Self-Storage and AARP are supporting the national drive.

The drive's celebrity spokesperson is singer

and "America's Got Talent" host Nick Cannon. The 2012 special "Family Circus" artwork is dedicated to the memory of longtime supporter and "Family Circus" cartoonist Bill Keane, who died in November.

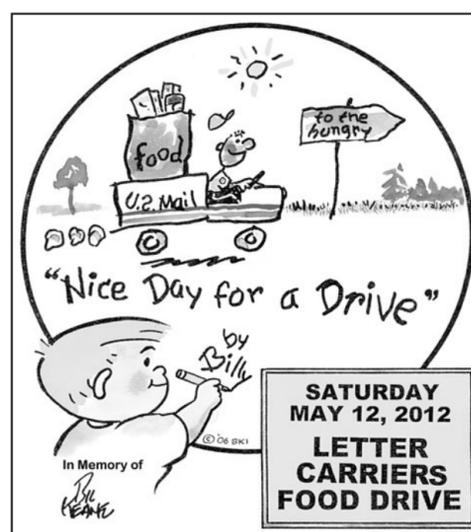
A recent survey conducted by Feeding America, a domestic hunger-relief organization, found that nearly half (46 percent) of households served reported having to choose between paying a utility bill or purchasing food.

"This year, we enter the drive amidst a 'perfect storm' of high unemployment, sky-high food and gasoline prices, unprecedented budget cuts to federal nutrition programs, limits on charitable-giving incentives and a decline in federal commodities," Feeding America President Vicki Escarra said. "Some of our larger food banks are reporting declines in food inventories of as much as 35 percent from last year."

Volunteers needed

RCS Food Bank is in need of volunteers to help sort the food expected to be delivered by letter carriers May 12. People of all ages and abilities are welcome. Volunteer shifts are from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., 3 to 5 p.m. and 5 to 7:30 p.m.

To volunteer, call Deb Gatley at 584-3528, ext. 407 or email deb.gatley@RCSpinellas.org.



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Notebook

Reading relay set

CLEARWATER – The International Dyslexia Association has partnered with more than 30 schools around the world, including the DePaul School for Dyslexia in Clearwater in an attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the most people reading a single book in a reading relay across multiple venues in one day. The Extreme Reading Relay will be held on Thursday, May 10 and is an international awareness campaign and fundraising event to celebrate literacy and support struggling readers. Those interested in making a donation to the International Dyslexia Association to support the reading relay may visit www.interdys.org/readingrelay.htm. Half of all money raised by students will go directly back to their participating schools. The other half will be used by the IDA to provide continued outreach to parents and support for teachers and their schools.

District gets energy rebate check

ST. PETERSBURG – Progress Energy Florida has presented the Pinellas County School District with a rebate check of more than \$260,000 for the district's long-term, energy-efficiency investments. The check is for the first two phases of a three-phase energy-efficiency improvement program that the district began in 2009. During the multi-year project, Progress Energy worked collaboratively with the schools to ensure the district would obtain the

maximum benefit from its energy-efficiency upgrades. The improvements included upgrading the lighting systems to energy-efficient fluorescent fixtures, adding automated lighting controls and installing more efficient HVAC chillers.

Volunteers win awards

CLEARWATER – Out of more than 200 Outstanding School Volunteer nominations, 16 district winners were chosen and honored at an awards breakfast on April 26 at Feather Sound Country Club. The winners include:

Region I:

- Youth: Erin Hensel, Dunedin Highland Middle
- Adult: Andrew Wiener, Dunedin Elementary
- Senior: Paul Hurtubise, San Jose Elementary

Region II:

- Youth: Laurel Jaeger, Clearwater Fundamental Middle
- Adult: Stg. Marlin Heyward, Boga Ciega High
- Senior: Patricia Marder, Eisenhower Elementary

Region III:

- Youth: Lauren Adams, Bauder Elementary
- Adult: David Harper, Dixie Hollins High
- Senior: Elizabeth Fultz, Pinellas Park Elementary

Region IV:

- Youth: Michael Peabody, Gibbs High
- Adult: Carine Yacoub, Mildred Helms Elementary
- Senior: Eula Thomas, Campbell Park Elementary

Region V:

- Youth: Kaitlin Dorsey, Cross Bayou Elementary
- Adult: Pamela Iusi, Clearwater High
- Senior: Francine Brickman, Frontier Elementary

Workplace Development:

- Senior: Ray Miller, Palm Harbor Community School

Hard work, study habits pay off for LHS academic achievers

By ALYCIA KEELEY

Pablo Picasso once said "Action is the foundational key to all success," and two students who know this well are Laura Morris and Tehya Saylor, Largo High School's 2011-2012 valedictorian and salutatorian.



Tehya Saylor Laura Morris

Morris' key to success was hard work and diligent study habits and she was also adamant about how much her mother's and sister's support has helped her reach this high achievement. She plans on attending USF to study biological sciences and pre-med.

Saylor also was sure to explain that hard work and good study habits helped her on her way to academic success as well as taking harder more challenging classes.

Saylor explained how the people who influenced and helped her the most were absolutely her friends, who are always there to lend her a helping hand and help her study before the next big test. Saylor plans on attending Boston University to study neurology.

Alycia Keeley is an LHS student journalist. The photos were taken by Lakeif Daniels, also a student journalist.

School news?

Has your son or daughter earned a scholarship? Tell us about it. Do you know a teacher or school employee who does outstanding work? Has your school won an award? Share it with the community. Email editorial@TBNweekly.com.

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American economy is on the cusp of real change

As a financial adviser I'm keenly aware that the nations real estate free fall is still a dark cloud hanging over American families trying to survive and rebuild their lost net worth. I thought it beneficial to highlight the housing market's progress in this article since it fuels our economy in many ways.

Please ignore the headline of a 7.1 percent drop in new home sales in March. It's very misleading. The reason for the drop is that February sales were revised up substantially, to a 353,000 annual rate from a prior estimate

of only 313,000. In this situation, it's more important to look at the level of sales in March (328,000 annualized), which narrowly beat consensus expectations (325,000) and is up 7.5 percent from a year ago. The bad news for builders of single-family homes is not completely over. Now that banks can move forward with foreclosures more quickly, a large inventory of bargain-priced existing homes could temporarily attract some buyers away from the new home market. The upward trend in home sales is only one piece of good news for builders. Another



Money matters
Joel McEwan

is that the total inventory of new homes is at a new record low. Notably, however, the inventory of new homes where the builder has yet to break ground continues to climb, showing builders are getting ready for what they believe will be more buyers. The other piece of good news for builders is that new home prices are climb-

ing, with the median price of a new home up 6.3 percent from a year ago and average prices up 11.7 percent.

We all know family or neighbors that have wanted to sell over the years but were reluctant due to the negative climate. Once inventories of foreclosed and short sales dissipate the market price escalation may be held in check somewhat by the massive amount of people previously on the sideline suddenly running to list their homes.

The truth is we have come a long way since the depths of de-

spair when the stock markets hit bottom in early March of 2009. America is in a recovery that will only gain steam, as fiscal sanity seems to be reluctantly returning to Washington. If you're still on the sideline in regard to your investments now may be the time to regroup and position yourself to take advantage of this American resurgence that I feel will be a lead story over the next five years. The rest of the world may see us in a diminished light and think our better days are behind us but I do not believe this to be true. We see once cynical world

leaders and their economies benefiting enormously from this American renaissance that is taking shape before our very eyes. True, but many people's eyes are still wide shut at the moment and any progress is not evident or clear to them. Things always look worse before they look better and we are on the cusp of real change and adaptation to take the American economy and people to a new level.

Joel McEwan is a registered investment adviser for McEwan Wealth Management Inc., 1700 N. McMullen Booth Road, #D2.

Biz notes

Chamber to host Beach Games

TREASURE ISLAND - The Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce will host the fifth annual Spirit of Hospitality: Beach Games on Sunday, May 20, 1 to 4 p.m., at the Bilmar Beach Resort, 10650 Gulf Blvd.

This annual event offers an opportunity for chamber members to get together for a day of fun in the sun and some friendly competition.

Games include a sand sculpture contest, water balloon toss, dolphin relay race and - new this year - "piranhas."

Teams of 10 may register for \$250, which includes a logo on the T-shirt and banner. Individuals may register for \$25 and join a team of their fellow chamber members. All registrants will receive a T-shirt, a pizza party and a ticket to ride the jumbo slide.

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

Tyrone Mall adds new stores

ST. PETERSBURG - Tyrone Square Mall will soon be home to two new stores: Teavana and H&M will both open their doors this year at the mall.

"We are thrilled to welcome both of these fantastic new retailers to our mall," said Lauren Clark in a press release. She is the area director of marketing and business development for the mall. "Each of these concepts will enhance the vibrant environment found at Tyrone Square."

H&M, the world's second largest fashion retailer, is slated to open at Tyrone Square this fall.

Offering fashion and quality for women, men, teenagers and children, the new store will feature just less than 18,000 square feet of affordable apparel located at the mall entrance between Macy's and Sears. H&M's collections are created by 140 in-house designers.

Teavana, a specialty tea destination, offers guests an experience, which is part tea emporium, part tea bar with over 100 different selections of loose-leaf tea from all over the world. Their selections include a variety of white, green, black, oolong, herbal, rooibos and

mate teas along with tea products. The 987-square-foot store is located near Center Court and is now open.

Fifth Third Bank partners with Metropolitan Ministries

On May 3, Fifth Third Banks across the country celebrated their heritage through their employees, customers and communities they serve.

As part of Fifth Third's holiday, the bank's Florida affiliates have created an alliance to address the effects of critical issues plaguing our state: hunger and homelessness.

In Tampa Bay, the occasion was being marked with Fifth Third Feeding Families - a food drive aimed at collecting enough nonperishable food items to feed 5,300 families. For the third year, the effort will benefit Metropolitan Ministries, a faith-based nonprofit that provides support to hungry children and families in the four-county Tampa Bay area.

"I am proud to work among a team of employees who are truly committed to making a difference in all of the communities we serve," said Brian Lamb, president of Fifth Third Bank (Tampa Bay), in a press release. "By demonstrating one of Fifth Third Bank's core values, teamwork and collaboration, and working with great organizations like Metropolitan Ministries, we are able to help families and children in need throughout Tampa Bay."

The V set to open

CLEARWATER - The V, formerly the Venue, will celebrate its grand opening on Friday, May 11, at 2675 Ulmerton Road.

The facility has undergone many changes, including revamped restaurant menus, new themed area names, light structural renovations and additions to staff. The international tapas style restaurant is now named VIN Tapas and Wine Bar and the contemporary sushi restaurant is now named Crave.

In addition to the revamped restaurants the facility is offering a Main Stage Martini Bar with a stage for live performances, a Speak-

easy Sports Lounge, a Tropical Patio Bar and a nightclub now named Club Five.

"We are thrilled to be opening V," said Daniel Disbro, managing partner of the V, in a press release. "The overall feel for the V will be that of a place to do business and entertain clients throughout the early evening, and the place to enjoy great service and entertainment late into the night."

The V is a multifaceted restaurant and nightlife destination with a myriad of different themed areas.

Physicians Center opens

BELLEAIR BLUFFS - Physicians Center For Weight Loss and Age Management recently celebrated their grand opening with a ribbon-cutting hosted by the Bluffs Business Association.

The center is at 232 Indian Rocks Road, Suite C, next to the Belleair Bluffs City Hall.

Seminole Martial Arts, Seriously FUN Fitness to join in benefit

SEMINOLE - Local fitness business Seriously FUN Fitness will take part in the Sports Bra Challenge, set for Thursday, May 17, 2 to 8 p.m., at Seminole Martial Arts, 9690 Seminole Blvd.

This event is a smaller, local version of the main Sports Bra Challenge planned for the same day and time in New York City's Union Square Park.

The overall goal of The Sports Bra Challenge is to show women who struggle with body image issues that they are not alone. The theme of these fitness classes will be to celebrate and embrace the body the participant has by wearing only a sports bra above their waist in a public group setting, embodying strength and confidence.

The event will include YogaFlow, Kickboxing, Head-to-Toe Conditioning Boot Camp and CardioPUMP classes.

Cost is \$25 a class. Beneficiaries of the event include City of Hope's the Positive Image Center and the S.E.A.K. Foundation. To register, call 688-2300.

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Hatchet persons' actions demean Obama campaign

Jacksonville lawyer-lobbyist Marty Fiorentino knew that his financial contributions to the Mitt Romney presidential campaign would be a matter of public record.

However, he probably did not anticipate that his support for the Republican candidate would also place him prominently in a Barack Obama enemies list on the Internet. He and seven other Romney fundraisers are being pilloried online by the president's re-election campaign, "Obama for America," as belonging to "a group of wealthy individuals with less-than-reputable records ... donors who benefit from betting against America."



Florida Voices
Angel Castillo Jr.

This kind of personalized Internet attack did not occur during the last presidential election, when Fiorentino helped raise \$1 million for Obama's 2008 adversary, Arizona Sen. John McCain.

Fiorentino, 52, a graduate of the University of Florida and the Mercer Law School, is president of The Fiorentino Group, a successful Jacksonville lobbying firm with a long list of blue chip corporate clients. He has a solid record of public and community service.

President George H.W. Bush appointed Fiorentino in 1989 as Chief of Staff of the Federal Railroad Administration. In 1999 Fiorentino was appointed by Florida Gov. Jeb Bush to the Jacksonville Port Authority, where he served as Chairman of the Board. He has served on numerous community boards over the years, including the Baptist Health System Foundation, Inc., the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, and the Drug Free America Advisory Board.

Nonetheless, his c.v. is worthy only of public opprobrium in the eyes of the Obama campaign because Fiorentino is a very effective fundraiser for Republican candidates. He is known as a "bundler" who raises campaign funds from friends and acquaintances and delivers all the checks to Republican candidates in one big "bundle." Of course Obama also uses lots of bundlers.

So far during this election cycle, Fiorentino has helped raise \$325,045 for the 2012 Romney campaign, according to The Center for Responsive Politics, an independent research group based in Washington, D.C.

Since Fiorentino has never been charged with, much less found guilty, of any wrongdoing, the anonymous Obama hatchet persons chose to attack him through guilt by association. They did this by focusing on one of Fiorentino's many lobbying clients, Lender Processing Services, Inc. of Jacksonville, a provider of mortgage default and foreclosure services to large banks. Fiorentino is not an officer or director of LPS, a publicly traded company listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

In the words of the Obama campaign, "The government has reprimanded Lender Processing Services for unsound practices related to residential mortgage loan servicing and foreclosure processing." This is indeed true.

Over a year ago, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System cited LPS, along with many other companies, in a civil "formal enforcement action." The company was found to have engaged in "deficient practices related primarily to the document execution services that LPS ... had provided to servicers in connection with foreclosures" during 2009 and 2010. Through an administrative consent order, the board required LPS to make a number of immediate improvements in its practices. No criminal charge or prosecution was involved.

How that agency action against LPS is somehow the responsibility of Fiorentino, and makes him "less-than-reputable" and someone who "bets against America," is the missing link in this Obama character-assassination murder mystery.

Angel Castillo Jr., a former reporter and editor for the New York Times and The Miami Herald, practices employment law in Miami. He can be reached at acastillo@floridavoices.com.
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LETTERS

Loss of pines a concern

Editor:

A while back the Beacon published an article that brought to attention concerns of local residents about the future development of the former Bay Pines Mobile Home Park.

It has been very depressing to see the removal of all those oak trees and especially the last remaining pine trees on that piece of land. Bay Pines has all but lost its beautiful pine trees for which it was named.

I was also surprised to find out from (City of Seminole Community Development Director) Mark Ely that pine trees are not a protected species as are oaks and therefore none of the pines on (the development site) required any type of permit to remove. A neighbor recently spotted an osprey in those trees, which leads me to wonder more why the pine trees are not protected.

This is Pinellas County, named after the pine trees that used to be prevalent in this area. They can no longer reproduce in the absence of wildfire so why not protect the ones that are left?

The city is very proud of the \$170,000 in fees that it collected from the developer for the removal of the oak trees and is quick to mention that they will be planting many trees in the future. However, I feel that every reasonable effort should have been made to save the indigenous trees and not just remove them and pay the fines for removing them. Why is there always an option to pay to break the rules for these developers?

Everyone around the Bay Pines community is upset about the massive transformation of this land. They understand that you cannot stop progress but this clear-cut practice that they do is irresponsible and not good for the community or the environment.

Phil Latto
Seminole

A thanks to teachers

Editor:

We love reading about the kids who are doing well, whether it be academics, military or sports related. Our daughter, Lita A. Dudley, graduated from Pinellas Park High School in 2011 summa cum laude and a member of the National Honor Society. She began Florida State University in the fall of 2011 to work toward a degree in editing, writing and media. She has been amazing us ever since.

Because of her high GPA standing, she has been invited to join Phi Sigma Pi Honors Fraternity, Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society, and most recently, The National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

Of course, we as her parents are very proud, but we want to take a moment to thank a few of her teachers who inspired her to do so well. In first grade, her teacher, Mrs. Rapp, at Pinellas Central Elementary recognized how driven Lita was and recommended that she be tested for the gifted program. That opened many doors for her. She has had many excellent teachers. At Morgan Fitzgerald, there was Dr. Bob, who taught her excellent grammar (she is always correcting us), and at Pinellas Park High, Ms. Lydia Blatter, Mr. Karl Meinecke and Mr. Adam Graham are just a few of the teachers who inspired her to do so well.

We thank all of them. Too often our teachers do not get the recognition and appreciation they deserve. We want to let them all know how well she is doing and that she works very hard to maintain her excellent grades.

Ron and Lori Dudley
Pinellas Park

What do you think?

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

The warring gods of exercise

The Romans and Greeks had it right. They didn't limit themselves to one god. They had dozens. Each one had a personality and a specific purpose.

The god of war, the goddess of love, the god of corn flakes. You could take your pick.

In these modern times, millions of us are subject to the gods of exercise. There are only two of them. One is a devil, devoted to keeping us from any form of muscular endeavor. His name is Bubba, short for Beelzebub.

The second god is actually a goddess, a beautiful woman who tries to lure us to the nearest fitness center, or at least persuade us to take long and vigorous walks. Her name is Shasta.

The devil Bubba whispers in our ear. "Don't believe the health experts. They are liars. You don't really need exercise. Your body will survive no matter what. When you work out, you endanger your muscles and bones. They may crack. If they do, who will care for your family? The best time to exercise is tomorrow. Better yet, next week. Relax. Have another piece of Bundt cake."

With each passing year, we come to love Bubba and what he says. He just stands by the guillotine and smiles at us. His mission is to kill us, and we know it. Even so, we continue to sit in our easy chairs and watch "Law and Order."

When Shasta arrives, Bubba flees. Shasta is slim, shiny and smells like lilacs. She holds out her hand and says, "Come, kind sir. Better health awaits you at our gym or workout center. Our weight machines are your friends. Our treadmills are the road to stronger hearts and firmer joints. For a little pain, we give you great gain. We guarantee you'll feel better, even if it's just when you've finished your workout. You will lose weight; you'll have more energy; your mood will improve; so will your sex life; and you'll sleep better."

Shasta speaks the truth, and we know it.



Driver's Seat
Bob Driver

Even so, most of us ignore her. If you don't believe that, just look around. Skinny people are the minority; fatties abound. Try to list the names of your friends or neighbors who exercise regularly. All four of them.

Exercise is like so many things in life we should do but don't - eating broccoli, flossing, phoning our aged mother.

Before age 20, exercise comes easy. It's called movement. With time, it becomes work. And other exercise problems exist.

The fitness center I belong to is in cahoots with the people who make iPods and other personal music players. The music the gym plays is so terrible you've got to have your own earphones and music just to survive. The noise level is especially fierce just outside the bicycle room. A biking tradition is for the instructor to scream "Harder! Faster! You'll make it!"

My goal is to find a bike room where the instructor says "Slow down! Relax! What's your hurry?"

Another gym custom, at least in the men's locker room, is for everyone to yell. Guys having an ordinary conversation will shout, "How was your workout, Harry?"

Harry yells, "Great! How about you?"

These men are standing 4 feet apart. I suspect that there's an unwritten locker room rule that says, "If you don't shout, you're probably gay."

Another custom practiced by gym rats is to rattle on about parts of the body, such as pecs, quads, abs and delts. Men tend to con-

centrate on developing their abs. I'm not sure why. After all, every man possesses a set of abs. It's just that, for most of us, our abs are obscured by several inches of suet.

Women pay greater attention to their butts, or so I hear. I once read that every woman on earth is unhappy with how her butt looks. I hope that's not true.

Regardless, what she should be more concerned about is the sound of her voice. Attractive female derrieres are a dime a dozen compared to the number of women with soft, pleasing voices. I'm amazed at how few voice-training studios exist, not to teach singing but to eliminate the screechy nasal whines that many women (and not a few men) are afflicted with when they speak.

The home exercise equipment industry is one of the biggest frauds ever perpetrated. Perhaps "fraud" is too strong a word, because the public is as much a partner in the scam as the people who sell the equipment. Each month produces a new home exercise gadget, guaranteed to transform your body and your life in only 15 minutes a day. That just doesn't happen.

Someone has said, "Exercise is vulgar - it makes people smell." It also makes you sweat, at least if you're doing it right. My workout goal has always been to exercise until I start to sweat. Then I quit and go home. Fanaticism never appealed to me.

Opponents of exercise have come up with many reasons to support their stand. An example is this definition of aerobics - "A series of strenuous exercises that help convert fats, sugars and starches into aches, pains and cramps."

In closing, this quote from Mark Twain: "I get my exercise from being a pallbearer for my friends who exercise."

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



Innocence Commission deserves life

With the stroke of a pen, Connecticut Gov. Dannel P. Malloy abolished the death penalty last week making that state the 17th in the country to abandon capital punishment.

In the last five years, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York and Illinois also have repealed the death penalty. California voters will decide the issue in November.

Also last week, with pen in hand, Florida Gov. Rick Scott eliminated funding for the crucial Florida Innocence Commission created by the Florida Supreme Court to study wrongful convictions and advocate for reform. It's set to expire in June.

Since 1973, an incredible 140 people in 26 states have been released from death row after evidence emerged of their innocence. Florida leads the list with 23 innocent people who were wrongly condemned to be executed.

Given the enormity of what's at stake, and the knowledge that innocent people have been executed for crimes they didn't commit, Florida cannot afford to do without the Innocence Commission.

Since July 2008, when the state's Victims of Wrongful Incarceration Compensation Act took effect, a dozen claims worth millions of dollars have been filed by innocent people imprisoned for crimes they didn't commit, another indicator of the grievous mistakes we know are made in the criminal justice system.

The high cost to taxpayers of death row appeals - \$1.26 million per case, according to



Florida Voices
Susan Clary

Amnesty International - and the financial and emotional burden on victims' families, who often attend hearings for years, is onerous.

Last year, the Legislature appropriated a minuscule amount of money for the commission - \$200,000. Another \$114,000 came from a Florida Bar Foundation grant. Absent ongoing support, the commission was set to expire in June.

Meanwhile, North Carolina, California, Connecticut, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania are among 10 states continuing to learn and right wrongs through the work of Innocence Commissions. In 2003, the Illinois legislature passed 85 recommendations made by its special commission.

For years, Connecticut's Gov. Malloy supported the death penalty, but had a change of heart. He said the growing list of people sentenced to death, and later found to be innocent, was impossible to ignore. Ultimately, ending the death penalty was the only way to prevent injustice in a fallible system.

The Florida Innocence Commission, with Orange/Osceola Chief Judge Belvin Perry Jr.

at the helm, was tasked with studying false eyewitness identifications, interrogation techniques, false confessions, the use of informants, the handling of forensic evidence, attorney competence and conduct, the processing of cases and the administration of the death penalty.

"We cannot ignore what must be done in order to improve our ever-evolving criminal justice system," Perry wrote in an interim report. "We must continue to be vigilant in seeking and maintaining the spirit of cooperation between the courts, law enforcement, and other agencies in identifying issues and implementing solutions."

The death penalty is slowly on its way out in this country. Unfortunately, Florida must first elect a governor and political leaders courageous enough to end this government-sanctioned murder.

The Florida Innocence Commission should be kept in place as the check and balance on a flawed system that administers our society's ultimate penalty.

Without constant oversight, all we are left with is the same criminal justice system that wrongfully convicted these individuals in the first place.

Formerly a reporter for the St. Petersburg Times and Orlando Sentinel, Susan Clary is a freelance writer who runs a nonprofit animal rescue in Orlando. She can be reached at sclary@floridavoices.com.
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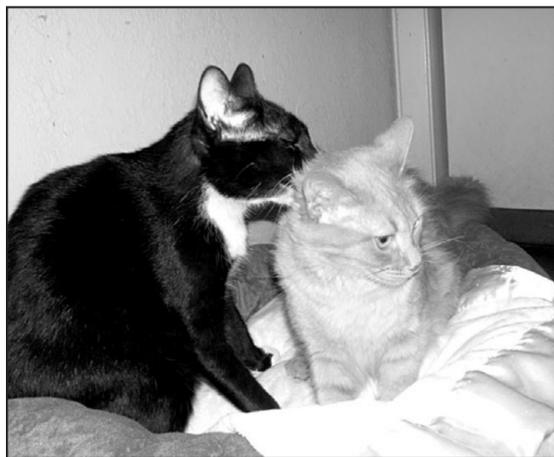
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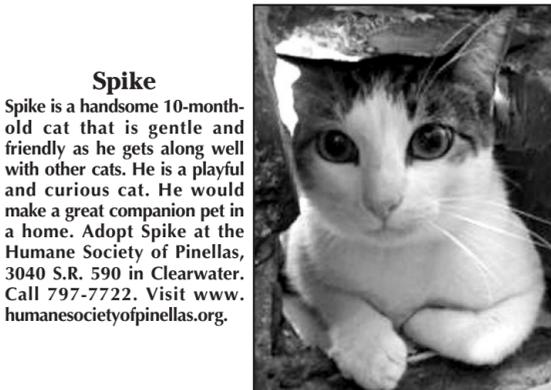
Denny and Queen

Denny and Queen are a bonded pair of young cats. Denny is a 2-year-old shorthaired, black and white male; Queen is a 1-year-old orange female. They have really blossomed into wonderful and affectionate cats since they have been together. It would be best for them to be adopted together into a home with no other pets. For more information on Denny and Queen, call Friends of Strays at 522-6566 or stop by the shelter at 2911 47th Ave. N. in St. Petersburg. Visit www.FriendsOfStrays.com.



Jaycee

Jaycee is a 1-year-old hound/corgi mix. She is very energetic and loves to play with other dogs and people. Jaycee is learning her obedience commands and leash manners. She is spayed, up to date with vaccinations and microchipped. Adopt Jaycee at Pet Pal Animal Shelter, 405 22nd St. S. in St. Petersburg. Call 328-7738. Visit www.petpalanimalshelter.com.



Spike

Spike is a handsome 10-month-old cat that is gentle and friendly as he gets along well with other cats. He is a playful and curious cat. He would make a great companion pet in a home. Adopt Spike at the Humane Society of Pinellas, 3040 S.R. 590 in Clearwater. Call 797-7722. Visit www.humanesocietyofpinellas.org.



Sampson

Sampson is a 1 1/2-year-old pit bull mix that weighs 68 pounds. He appears to be housetrained, and he knows a lot of commands. He has been very good around children and other dogs. Sampson can be adopted at Pinellas County Animal Services for just \$25. The shelter is at 12450 Ulmerton Road in Largo. Visit www.pinellascounty.org/animalservices/petfind.htm.



Pinky

Pinky is a sweet, former stray that has become outgoing, trusting and affectionate. She is believed to be 1 year old, or younger. She's good with kids and other cats. For more information, call the Suncoast Animal League at 786-1330. The office is at 1030 Pennsylvania Ave. in Palm Harbor.

The case of the curious third eyelid

So often we look at our pets, and they seem like little people in dog and cat costumes. We can be reminded that this is not true when we notice that dogs and cats actually have body parts that people are missing. Besides tails, another structure absent in people is the third eyelid.

Dogs and cats both have a third eyelid, or nictitating membrane, which is often retracted, and therefore unseen. This pink tissue appears behind the two "regular eyelids," and sweeps up and out from the inside corner of each eye. This eyelid has several functions, including acting like a windshield washer when debris gets upon the eye. The third eyelid can also pop up very quickly and acts like a shield when the eye is in danger of being injured. The third eyelid also contains additional tear glands to help lubricate the eye, as well as lymph tissue to help fight off infection.

Dogs, and especially cats, may partially raise their nictitans when they are not feeling well. Because this tissue is pink, it can make the eyes look like they are rolling back in the head, or that the eye itself is turning colors. If the third eyelid is completely



Speaking of Pets

Michael J. Rumore, DVM

raised, one cannot see the eye at all. The third eyelid will sometimes be visible when your pet is asleep, especially when they are sleeping with their eyes open. If your pet is awake and keeping their third eyelids up, they definitely need a checkup, as it can be a sign of disease, or generally not feeling well.

Some diseases, such as Horner's syndrome, may cause

the third eyelid to raise on its own. Dogs and cats with an eye injury may partially raise their nictitans so as to partially protect their cornea, or the outer surface of the eye. Some pets may blink with their third eyelids if their regular eyelids will not work, such as when a cocker spaniel (or another breed) has facial nerve paralysis from a severe ear infection. Cats notoriously raise their third eye-

lids when they are just feeling "yucky."

"Cherry eye" is a common condition in dogs, where the tear gland on the third eyelid becomes inflamed and protrudes from the inner corner of the eye. These pink bumps can be quite large in some dogs, and very unsightly. These swollen glands will occasionally respond to medication, and otherwise can be surgically replaced and anchored into their normal position. Years ago, these prolapsed tear glands were routinely removed; unfortunately removing this gland has the potential to cause "dry eye" where the eye cannot produce enough tears to keep itself moist and healthy.

Interestingly, it may not be unique that our pets have a third eyelid, but rather that people do not. Most other animals, from horses to lizards to birds or even manatees, have a form of this structure; while in people all we have is small bumps where this third eyelid should be. Dogs and cats may not have an extra eyelid; you and I are perhaps missing one.

Michael J. Rumore, DVM, is the owner of Lake Seminole Animal Hospital.



Fetch, anyone?

Rosie, aka Ed's Smoken Rosie, is a 4-year-old miniature schnauzer that loves to play ball and Frisbee in her backyard, chase squirrels and play with Maya, her 3-year-old miniature schnauzer sister, and 6-year-old kitty, Tigger. Rosie, who lives with Ed and Linda Larson in Largo, has attended classes at Oakhurst Obedience School and she is a Project Pup Therapy Dog at Palm Garden of Pinellas. As our pet photo winner, Rosie wins a \$25 gift certificate to Magic's Pet Salon in Largo. Send your precious pet photos to csouthmayd@TBNweekly.com

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Why am I still so surprised?

Dolphin Watch
Ann Weaver

No matter how well we know our friends and loved ones, they can always do something surprising.

Though surprises are sometimes unpleasant, here I'm thinking of pleasant surprises. We had two pleasant but wildly heartening seaside surprises recently. They reminded me why I always refer to the beautiful science of animal behavior as beautiful.

The first episode involved four mother-calf pairs of bottlenose dolphins in a large backwater bay that moved around one another like placid pieces of chess. I recognized three of them immediately (NF, Stick and Bet).

The fourth one was initially a mystery. From its two small identifying notches on the trailing edge of the dorsal fin, I tentatively decided that it was a seasonal visitor we call Law and immediately fell victim to something psychologists called the "recency effect."

The recency effect is the unsurprising mental tendency to think of things we've thought about recently more readily than things we haven't thought about recently.

The mysterious mom dolphin kept looking at our boat, which said it was familiar with us. It didn't make sense that Law would do this. Though we saw her last summer, which is "recent" as some dolphin observations go, she passes through our local waters rarely (every third or fourth summer). Because she's rarely here, she's hard to approach. I feel sure she wouldn't know us and therefore wouldn't watch us.

Another surprise was that Law and her yearling calf were here at all. Last summer, local lady Club kidnapped Law's tiny shiny newborn! This exceptional event was gripping enough even without big bull Schnoz' unanticipated intervention, which allowed Law to retrieve her calf and beat a hasty retreat. Why would Law bring her baby back here?



Photo by ANN WEAVER

Local bottlenose dolphin bull Lax pokes his head out of the water and eyes us frankly in a surprise move that shouldn't have surprised me at all.

Moreover, "Law" and her yearling calf moved among resident moms NF, Stick and Bet and their calves with the conspicuous ease of good friends. This didn't make sense either. I decided I had a great deal to learn about female dolphin social psychology and returned to my studies.

It didn't hit me until we got off the water: The mystery mom was a lively teenager we haven't seen lately, Student. I knew Student was Club's calf. I had no idea if Student was male or female and thus had no reason to associate Student with motherhood. I hadn't seen Student since 2010.

I looked up her data to see if she has relationships with Stick, Bet, or NF. I shouldn't have been surprised: We've seen Student 39 times. She was with Stick, Bet, or NF half of those times! No wonder they were at ease.

I have a fresh appreciation of the recency effect AND the bottlenose dolphins' astonishing memory for relationships!

The second episode was surprising in a different way. In the next bay south of the babes, two bulls searched for food independently. First, we watched Lax and then we went over and watched his bonded bull buddy Midface. I wish I could say they acted like they didn't know we were watching them. But I can't, especially after Lax did what he did!

Three times, Lax used a nimble technique in which dolphins pursue fish food on their backs. That is to say, the dolphin swims upside-down, snaking with terrible elegance to keep the frightened fish zipping helplessly within a foot of its face. When the dolphin so chooses, which is any time, it rushes forward a bit and swallows the fish.

Performed just under the surface, Lax's inverted hunting brilliantly showcased the bottlenose dolphin's astounding flexibility and startling power of movement through the water. Amazing.

The third beleaguered fish

staggered toward the boat. Lax followed accommodatingly. We could see how the fish matched the water colors perfectly, revealed only by its eyes.

The fish and Lax vanished underwater. Capt. John Heidemann and I stood, silent and scanning the seas for the place Lax would appear again.

He popped up suddenly, his frank face and bright eyes looking right at us. "Did ya catch that?!", his face asked so clearly that we both guffawed impulsively!

Why am I still surprised?

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

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Get started early to find tarpon

Scanning the beaches first thing in the morning on a slick calm day might reveal some of the first pods of migrating tarpon of the season. If you have tarpon fever you know how amazing these upcoming weeks can be; it never fails and it didn't this year either. I managed to come up empty on my first bite of the season this week. But the thought that there are so many of those amazing bites yet to come this summer just reassures me why I love doing what I do.

Tarpon can be spotted from great distances when the water is slick calm; these fish are gearing up for an upcoming summer spawn. Typically, they'll be in pods of 15 to 20 fish but it's not uncommon to encounter a massive pod of 50 or more. The beach

Fish Tales
Capt. Tyson Wallerstein

tarpon fishing has been challenging of late. Early starts will definitely make it easier to spot a pod of fish that are relaxed and willing to eat. This fishing should only improve from now until the next full moon.

Super moon tides have made for excellent red fishing all week. Target no motor-zone flats for a chance at getting into a school of redfish ranging in size from 24-26 inches. Higher than normal tides will have the redfish pushing well underneath the mangroves. Working along the edge of the

mangroves and pitching into any small cut or creek entrance will allow you to get your bait into the zone. Most any cut bait will work in this situation or a live pilchard weighted down with a large split shoot to help keep it in the spot.

Best of the rest: Big trout are showing up all along beach side structures and jetties. Free-living live pilchards' right close to the rocks will produce good action, especially on the latter part of the incoming tide.

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

Briefs

State sets dates for red snapper

The 2012 recreational red snapper season in Gulf of Mexico state waters will be June 1 through July 10, a total of 40 days.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission set the 2012 season Wednesday, May 2, at the Commission meeting in Crystal River.

The state season is the same as the recently announced federal recreational red snapper season. The Commission also voted to keep a 40-day, June 1 through July 10 season regardless of whether the federal season is further shortened. Florida state waters in the Gulf extend out to 9 nautical miles from shore; federal waters extend beyond that line. For

more information about red snapper fishing, visit www.MyFWC.com/saltwater/regulations/snapper.

Kids fishing tourney planned

MADEIRA BEACH – Registration is under way for a Young Anglers Inshore Fishing Tournament Saturday, May 26, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Hubbard's Marina in John's Pass Village.

Cost to participate is \$15 for kids ages 5 and younger, and \$25 for ages 6-15. The event will feature three divisions with four to five categories for prizes.

For more information, call Hubbard's Marina at 393-1947.

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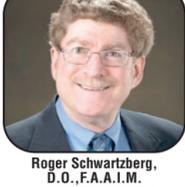
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Here and there

Raymond James presents the 23rd annual Abilities Wine Tasting

LARGO – The 23rd annual Abilities Wine Tasting is set for Saturday, May 26, at the Armed Forces History Museum, 2050 34th Way N.

This event features premium wines, auction items, and gourmet restaurants. Presented by Raymond James and Abilities' is Florida's longest running and one-night tasting, netting \$3.48 million to date.

The tasting begins with a VIP Officer's Club Reception from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by the grand tasting from 7 to 9 p.m. Among the restaurants and wine purveyors will be Salt Rock Grill, Island Way Grill, Parkshore Grill, 400 Beach Drive, O'Bistro, Melting Pot, Madfish, Casa Vinicola Zonin, Global Wines Distribution, Premier Beverage Company, Southern Wine & Spirits, Republic National Distributing, Johnson Brothers, Stacole, Spirits of Mexico, Pic Pac, Fine Wine & Spirits Warehouse, and Carrollwood Liquors.

Presented by Raymond James and sponsored by Bright House Networks, Margaret Ewell Dickens Foundation, WDUV, 105.5 The Dove, Jim's Harley-Davidson, and ALSCO Linens, Travis Publishing, Signs by Tomorrow, Courtesy Valet, and Ambassador Limousine, the event features valet parking, live entertainment, and a silent auction with a Jim's Harley-Davidson motorcycle, rare wines, autographed sports collectibles, original artwork, and more.

"The event was moved to the museum to accentuate our fundraising mission to serve returning disabled military veterans," said Foundation CEO Frank De Lucia, in a press release. "The museum provides a centrally located 50,000-square-foot facility with ample free parking and a phenomenal look at our military from World War I through today. It's fascinating re-creation of the defense of our nation will astound patrons and underscore the importance of supporting the veterans who sacrificed so much to ensure our many freedoms."

Grand Tasting tickets cost \$50 in advance; \$75 after May 12; and \$85 at the door. Tickets for the VIP Reception include entry to the Grand Tasting and cost \$75 in advance; \$150 after May 12; and \$175 at the door. Buy tickets online at www.abilitiesfoundation.com or call 538-7370, ext. 234. Designated driver tickets cost \$40 and can only be purchased by calling that same number.

Proceeds benefit the Abilities Foundation, a nonprofit organization that supports the Warrior Bridge Initiative of Abilities, Inc. of Florida, also known as the ServiceSource Regional Office which has helped thousands of Floridians with disabilities obtain jobs and affordable housing.

For information, visit www.abilitiesfoundation.com.

Event benefits youth with medical condition

LARGO – A "daisy chain" event will be held Saturday, May 12, 8 a.m. to raise money for a Seminole family whose son, 9, has a rare medical condition.

The event, which includes a rummage sale and raffle, will be held at 11188 Malaga Drive.

Fluffy Puppies to celebrate anniversary

CLEARWATER – Fluffy Puppies of Clearwater will celebrate its seventh anniversary Saturday, May 12, 1 to 4 p.m., at 1447 S. Fort Harrison Ave.

The event will feature treats for kids and dogs, giveaways, Yuengling beer and representatives and dogs from Dunedin Doggie Rescue. The historic building housing Fluffy Puppies – a pet store and grooming salon – was formerly a Clearwater firehouse, and, as part of the celebration, a Clearwater fire truck will be on hand. Laura Allen Studios will be offering photo opportunities for kids and dogs.

A portion of all Fluffy Puppies sales the day of the event will be donated to Dunedin Doggie Rescue.

Call 446-7999 or visit aplacefordogs.com.

State representative to address club

PINELLAS PARK – State Rep. Darryl Rouson, along with two local leaders, will speak to the Greater Pinellas Democratic Club Thursday, May 10 during the club's meeting at Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd.

Rouson will review the latest session in Tallahassee, discussing how it will affect citizens and what Democrats can do about it.

Joining him will be the Rev. Mark McKenzie, a minister, teacher and radio personality, who will speak on the topic "Public policy and how it can lead to tragedy." Sandy Oestreich, president of Equal Rights Alliance based in St. Petersburg, will talk about the recent controversies regarding women's rights.

The Greater Pinellas Democratic Club meeting will start with cash

bar cocktails and social time at 6 p.m. followed by a buffet dinner at 6:30 p.m. and concludes with the guest speakers' presentations, questions and discussion.

The public is welcome to attend. Reservations are requested. Dinner costs \$15.

Also to be discussed during the meeting will be the club's annual picnic at Fort DeSoto Park May 20, to which the public also is invited.

Call Betty Morgenstein at 360-3971.

Orchid society to meet

LARGO – The Florida West Coast Orchid Society will host its monthly meeting Thursday, May 10, at the Pinellas County Cooperative Extension, 12175 125th St. N.

An educational class will be offered at 7 p.m. with a short meeting at 7:30 p.m. followed by a presentation. An orchid sale, raffle and refreshments follow. Visitors are welcome. Admission and parking are free. Call 550-7993.

African Violet Society to meet

CLEARWATER – The African Violet Society of Pinellas County will meet Saturday, May 12, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at St. Matthias Lutheran, 2751 Sunset Point Road.

The event will include a display of blooming African violets and other gesneriads. There will be blooming violets, starter plants, leaves and other gesneriads for sale. The club will help repot plants and answer questions about private collections. There is no charge to attend.

Call Phyllis King at 398-7450 or Glenn Shelton at 249-3327.

Upper Pinellas African Violet Society to meet

LARGO – The Upper Pinellas African Violet Society will meet Monday, June 4, 7 p.m., in the Cypress Building at the Palms of Largo, 400 Lake Ave. NE.

The program will be "what kind of leaf is this?". Refreshments and raffle plants will be provided. Meetings are free.

Call Dee Davis at 585-5170.

Garden tours set

LARGO – Garden tours will be offered Tuesdays, May 15 and 29, 9 to 11 a.m., at Florida Botanical Gardens, 12520 Ulmerton Road.

Attendees will stroll through gardens of Florida native and Florida-friendly plants. Participants also will learn how to incorporate some of these plants in home landscapes and observe how the same plants can survive under different light and water conditions.

The free tours, recommended for adults, are limited to groups of four to 10 people.

Registration is required. Visit www.pinellascountyextension.org.

Garden tours set

LARGO – Garden tours will be offered Thursdays, May 10 and 24, 9 to 11 a.m., at Florida Botanical Gardens, 12520 Ulmerton Road.

Attendees will explore the garden's herb, tropical fruit and Florida-friendly landscape plants.

The free tours, recommended for adults, are limited to groups of four to 10 people.

Registration is required. Visit www.pinellascountyextension.org.

Butterfly gardening workshop set

PALM HARBOR – A butterfly gardening workshop will be offered Thursday, May 10, 2 to 3:30 p.m., at Palm Harbor Library, 2330 Nebraska Ave.

The free workshop will be repeated from 6 to 7:45 p.m. Attendees will learn a few tips and tricks to making yards irresistible to butterflies and inviting them to make their home in Pinellas from UF/IFAS Master Gardener Adrienne Andrews.

Registration is required. To register, call 582-2603.

Brooker to host rain harvesting workshop

TARPON SPRINGS – A free rain harvesting workshop will be offered Saturday, May 12, 9 to 10:30 a.m., at Brooker Creek Preserve, 3940 Keystone Road.

Attendees will learn how to save rainwater in a recycled plastic barrel. One or two rain barrels may be purchased at the time of registration. Advance registration is required.

Call 453-6800 or visit www.brookercreekpreserve.org.

FHS to meet

CLEARWATER – The Florida Herb Society will meet Tuesday, May

15, 6:30 p.m., at the Clearwater Garden Club, 405 Seminole St.

Emily Wenzel, president of the FHS, will give an emilicious food demonstration using mint and basil such as lactose-free mint ice cream and summery herbal salads. Refreshments will be served. Herbal swaps will begin at 6:30 p.m. Visitors are welcome. The first meeting is free. Cost is \$25 a year to join.

The goal of the FHS is to educate members and the general public in the growing and preservation of herbs for use in culinary, medicinal and decorative purposes.

Call 365-8574 or email emily@floridaherbsociety.org.

Extension to host rain harvesting workshop

LARGO – A free rain harvesting workshop will be offered Saturday, May 19, 9 to 10:30 a.m., at Pinellas County Extension, 12520 Ulmerton Road.

Attendees will learn how to save rainwater in a recycled plastic barrel. One or two rain barrels may be purchased at the time of registration. Advance registration is required.

Call 582-2100 or www.pinellascountyextension.org.

Library to host orchid program

ST. PETERSBURG – A program on repotting and caring for orchids will be presented on Wednesday, May 23, 2 to 3:30 p.m., at the St. Petersburg Library, 3745 Ninth Ave. N.

Master Gardener Terry Berube will demonstrate repotting and proper caring of orchids.

The free program is recommended for adults. To register, call 582-2603.

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Kiwanis donation



The Kiwanis Club of Largo/Mid-Pinellas presented checks totaling \$1,700 to the city of Largo at the City Commission Meeting May 1. The money will help fund four city projects: Every Child A Swimmer, July 4th Celebration Sponsorship, the children's program at the Largo Library, and Pup Pals, also at the library. The club previously donated \$700 for the Meals of Hope program at the Community Center. The donation was brought about by the club's major fundraiser this year, Pawfest, which club members said was very successful. From left are Ellen Jensen, club foundation president; Linda Bulleman, club fund raising chairman; and Bruce Blazej, club president.

Rotary donation



The Rotary Club of Largo supports Lighthouse of Pinellas and its work with local youth with a portion of the funds raised during Rotary's annual "Death by Chocolate - A Taste of the Holidays" held on the first Friday of December. Rotary President Gigi Arntzen, right, presents a check for \$500 to Pamela Miller, director of development, left, and Mary Grace Borisov, grants and community outreach manager.

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ASK A WEDDING EXPERT.
 This month's Featured Expert on Florida beach weddings, Jeff Copeland of Simple Weddings, St. Petersburg answers the following question from Amy K. of Clearwater.
Q. What should a couple consider when choosing a time for their wedding (i.e. afternoon, sunset, evening)?
A. If you're having a beach wedding, the hour before sunset is the time when you get that "golden glow" for your wedding pictures. At just about any other time of day, the lighting on the beach is too harsh for wedding pictures. This is compounded by the fact that our white sand reflects the light and sort of blinds you, so you end up with lots of shadows and squinting in your pictures. About 95% of our beach weddings take place one to two hours before sunset to take advantage of the lighting. We always work with our clients to make sure they will have enough time with their photographer (the larger the group, the more time you'll need).
 If you are having an indoor wedding or having it somewhere other than the beach where there is some shade, you are less restricted with regards to the time of day.
 Your photographer should be able to guide you on this - another reason it's important to have an experienced, local photographer shoot your wedding!

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Diversions

Things to do around Pinellas County



- Classifieds
- Events
- Movies

Leader
Section B
May 10, 2012

Visit www.TBNweekly.com

Top five diversions

• **"Broadway's Best,"** presented by Eight O'Clock Theatre, through May 13, at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Performances are Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. Matinees are Sunday, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$12 for students age 19 and younger with identification. Call 587-6793 or visit www.eightoclocktheatre.com. The well-known dynamic creative team of Rocco Morabito (director) and Ronnie DeMarco (choreographer) have designed their dream show: a revue combining favorite ballads, laments and show-stoppers from Broadway's best. The lineup includes gems from musicals such as "Cabaret," "Chicago," "A Chorus Line," "Damn Yankees," "Gypsy," "Godspell," "Guys & Dolls" and "Mame."



Broadway's Best runs through May 13 at Largo Cultural Center.

• **"The Pajama Game,"** with music and lyrics by Richard Adler and Jerry Ross and book by George Abbott and Richard Bissell; presented by Francis Wilson Playhouse, May 10-27, at the playhouse, 302 Seminole St., Clearwater. Performances are Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. Matinees are Sunday, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$26 for adults and \$13 for students. Call 446-1360 or visit www.franciswilsonplayhouse.org. Based on the bestselling novel "Seven and a Half Cents," "The Pajama Game" won the 1954 Tony for the best musical. Set in an Iowa pajama factory in the 1950s, this energetic musical is filled with memorable tunes such as "Hernando's Hideaway," "Hey There" and "Steam Heat."

• **"Tristan and Isolde,"** by Richard Wagner, presented by New Century Opera, Thursday, May 10, 7 p.m.; and Saturday, May 12, 2 p.m., at Tarpon Springs Performing Arts Center, 324 Pine St., Tarpon Springs. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$18 for members and students. Call 942-5605 or visit www.tarponarts.org. The opera will be sung in English. Constantine Grame will serve as executive and artistic director. One of the greatest of all tragic love stories, "Tristan and Isolde" tells the ancient Celtic legend of an impossible love: The two title characters love each other desperately, in spite of the betrothal of Isolde - an Irish princess - to King Mark of Cornwall. Wagner's glorious, romantic score brings the story to life with vividness and passion.

• **The Florida Orchestra: Rhythms of Cuba,** Friday, May 11, 8 p.m., at the Straz Center, 1010 N. W.C. MacLennan Place, Tampa. Call 813-229-7827 or visit www.strazcenter.org. The performance will be repeated Saturday, May 12, 8 p.m., at the Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg. Call 892-5767 or visit www.themahaffey.com. A final performance will be presented Sunday, May 13, 7:30 p.m., at 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$15. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. In a Latin-flavored program, Enrique Pérez Mesa, music director of La Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Cuba, is joined by principal timpanist John Bannon in James Lewis' Cubanitas for solo timpani and orchestra on a program with Carlos Fariñas' Penthesilea; Preludio, Guido López-Gavilán's Ritmotiv, José Pablo Moncayo's Huapango and Prokofiev's Symphony No. 1, Classical.

• **Sun Coast Mother's Day Fun Fest,** Sunday, May 13, noon to 3:30 p.m., at Largo Central Park, 101 Central Park Drive, Largo. The event will include live music, children's activities, entertainment and tips on the benefits of a healthy lifestyle for the entire family. Admission to the park is free and food and beverages will be available. For music lovers, the main stage will boast hours of non-stop entertainment, featuring Tampa Bay singer and songwriter Jim Lanier and Jordan Boyer. Families will delight in off-stage performances by clowns, jugglers and a magician, and a special children's play area will feature inflatable jumpers, miniature train rides through the park and a commemorative photo booth. Donations are kindly accepted.

Emphasizing holistic health, this Mother's Day event will include a health and wellness fair with various lifestyle demonstrations and exhibits by local nonprofit agencies and other community service providers. Call 483-0661.



Johnny Depp, left, stars as Barnabas Collins and Jackie Earle Haley as Willie Loomis in Warner Bros. Pictures' and Village Roadshow Pictures' "Dark Shadows," a Warner Bros. Pictures release.

Opening this weekend

Johnny Depp has the world at his feet in 'Dark Shadows'

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

Only one new movie will hit theaters this week - a gothic comedy will try to topple "Marvel's The Avengers" from its top box office spot.

'Dark Shadows'

Genre: Gothic comedy
Cast: Johnny Depp, Michelle Pfeiffer, Helena Bonham Carter, Jackie Earle Haley, Jonny Lee Miller, Eva Green, Chloë Grace Moretz, Bella Heathcote and Gully McGrath
Director: Tim Burton
Rated: PG-13

In the year 1750, Joshua and Naomi Collins, with young son Barnabas, set sail from England to start a new life in America, where they build a fishing empire in the coastal Maine town that comes to carry their name: Collinsport.

Two decades pass and Barnabas (Johnny Depp) has the world at his feet. The master of Collinwood Manor, Barnabas is rich, powerful and an inveterate playboy ... until he makes the grave mistake of falling in love with a beauty named Josette DuPres (Bella Heathcote) and breaking the heart of Angelique Bouchard (Eva Green). A witch in every sense of the word, Angelique dooms him to a fate worse than death - turning him into a vampire, and then burying him alive.

Nearly two centuries later, Barnabas is inadvertently freed from his tomb and emerges into the very changed world of 1972, a stranger in an even stranger time. Returning to Collinwood Manor, he finds that his once-grand estate has fallen into ruin, and the dysfunctional remnants of the Collins family have fared little better, each harboring their own dark secrets.

Family matriarch Elizabeth Collins Stoddard (Michelle Pfeiffer) is the one person Barnabas entrusts with the truth of his identity. But his rather odd and anachronistic behavior immediately raises the suspicions of the live-in psychiatrist, Dr. Julia Hoffman (Helena Bonham Carter), who has no idea what kind of problems she's really digging up.

As Barnabas sets out to restore his family name to its former glory, one thing stands in his way: Collinsport's leading denizen, who goes by

the name Angie ... and who bears a striking resemblance to a very old acquaintance of Barnabas Collins.

Also residing in Collinwood Manor are Elizabeth's ne'er-do-well brother, Roger Collins, (Jonny Lee Miller); her rebellious teenage daughter Carolyn Stoddard (Chloë Grace Moretz); and Roger's precocious 10-year-old son, David Collins (Gully McGrath). The long-suffering caretaker of Collinwood is Willie Loomis (Jackie Earle Haley), and new to the Collins' employ is David's nanny, Victoria Winters (Bella Heathcote), who is, mysteriously, the mirror image of Barnabas' one true love, Josette.

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

'The Cup'

Genre: Drama
Cast: Brendan Gleeson, Stephen Curry and Daniel MacPherson
Director: Simon Wincer
Not rated

A true story about two brothers, both competing for the highest honor in horse racing, the Melbourne Cup.

When tragedy strikes, one brother relies on the support of a veteran horse trainer to overcome the odds and challenge himself to win. An incredible story of inspiration and triumph over adversity.

'Dragon Eyes'

Genre: Action, martial arts
Cast: Jean-Claude Van Damme, Cung Le and Peter Weller
Director: John Hyams
Not rated

Welcome to St. Jude, a town where rival gangs rule the streets, where the chief of police is a cold-blooded killer, and where citizens have learned to keep their heads down.

See OPENING, page 2B

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OPENING, from page 1B

Then comes out-of-towner Ryan Hong. His vintage car attracts attention. His unbelievable martial arts skills cause a sensation. Sensing a human weapon, the rival gangs bid for Hong's allegiance. But Hong is committed to honoring an old promise to a mentor he met in prison: that he will "do good" wherever possible. With a lethal combination of street smarts and martial arts, Hong vows to lift St. Jude's citizens out of fear ... even if he must turn into a one-man army to do it.

'Girl in Progress'

Genre: Comedy and drama
 Cast: Eva Mendes, Matthew Modine, Cierra Ramirez, Patricia Arquette, Raini Rodriguez and Eugenio Derbez
 Director: Patricia Riggan
 Rated: PG-13
 Grace (Eva Mendes) is a single mom.

She is too busy juggling work, bills, and the very married Dr. Hartford (Matthew Modine), to give her daughter, Ansiedad (Cierra Ramirez) the attention she desperately needs. When Ansiedad's English teacher, Armstrong (Patricia Arquette), introduces her students to classic coming-of-age stories, Ansiedad is inspired to skip adolescence and jumpstart her life without mom. While Grace becomes preoccupied with the increasing affections of her co-worker (Eugenio Derbez), Ansiedad enlists the help of her loyal friend, Tavita (Raini Rodriguez), to plot her shortcut to "adulthood." But as her misguided plan unravels, Ansiedad and Grace must learn that sometimes growing-up means acting your age.

'God Bless America'

Genre: Drama
 Cast: Joel Murray, Tara Lynne Barr and Mackenzie Brooke Smith
 Director: Bobcat Goldthwait
 Rated: R
 Frank (Joel Murray) has had enough of the downward spiral of American culture.

Divorced, recently fired, and possibly terminally ill, Frank truly has nothing left to live for. But instead of taking his own life, he buys a gun

and decides to take out his frustration on the cruelest, stupidest, most intolerant people he can imagine - starting with some particularly odious reality television stars.

Frank finds an unusual accomplice in a high-school student named Roxy (Tara Lynne Barr), who shares his sense of rage and disenfranchisement. Together they embark on a nationwide assault on our country's most irritating celebrities.

'Hick'

Genre: Comedy and drama
 Cast: Chloe Grace Moretz, Blake Lively, Eddie Redmayne, Juliette Lewis and Alec Baldwin
 Director: Derick Martini
 Not rated

Small town teenager Luli (Chloe Grace Moretz) escapes to Las Vegas, leaving behind her alcoholic and abusive parents. Armed with her smarts, a pistol and pocket money, she hitchhikes her way west. Along the way, Luli crosses paths with Eddie (Eddie Redmayne), an unstable rebel with questionable motives and Glenda (Blake Lively), a cocaine-snorting drifter on the run. Adapted from the critically acclaimed novel by Andrea Portes, this powerful story explores a provocative world of drugs, seduction and murder.

'I Wish'

Genre: Drama
 Cast: Koki Maeda, Ohshiro Maeda and Ryoga Hayashi
 Director: Hirokazu Koreeda
 Rated: PG

Koichi, 12, lives with his mother and retired grandparents in Kagoshima, in the southern region of Kyushu, Japan. His younger brother Ryunosuke lives with their father in Hakata, northern Kyushu. The brothers have been separated by their parents' divorce and Koichi's only wish is for his family to be reunited. When he learns that a new bullet train line will soon open linking the two towns, he starts to believe that a miracle will take place the moment these new trains first pass each other at top speed. With help from the adults

around him, Koichi sets out on a journey with a group of friends, each hoping to witness a miracle that will improve their difficult lives.

'Stash House'

Genre: Action
 Cast: Dolph Lundgren, Briana Evigan, Sean Faris and Jon Huertas
 Director: Jonathan W. Stokes
 Not rated

For her birthday, Dave Nash buys his wife, Emma, a beautiful foreclosed home.

Gated, serene, and surrounded by friendly neighbors, it seems too good to be true ... and it is. Dave and Emma soon discover the walls are lined with bricks of heroin. Before they can leave, cartel thugs trap them inside. Imprisoned in their own home, Dave and Emma withstand relentless attacks from thugs seeking to plunder the "stash house" of its riches. As the deaths of innocent bystanders mount, and they come ever closer to losing one another, Dave decides to take matters into his own hands.

'Tonight You're Mine'

Genre: Comedy and romance
 Cast: Luke Treadaway, Natalia Tena, Ruta Gedmintas, Sophie Wu, Gavin Mitchell and Alastair Mackenzie
 Director: David Mackenzie
 Rated: R

Shot entirely on location at Scotland's famous T in the Park music festival, "Tonight You're Mine" is directed by David Mackenzie and features a young, up-and-coming cast, including Luke Treadaway, Natalia Tena, Alastair MacKenzie, Gavin Mitchell and Sophie Wu.

Set against the picturesque yet raucous backdrop of a rock and roll music festival, the film follows strutting indie music star Adam (Treadaway) and feisty punk-rock girl band leader Morello (Tena), as they are handcuffed together as part of a backstage altercation. When the two feuding musicians can't be unhitched from each other, even to perform their separate gigs, it leads them down a comedic, frustrating and ultimately romantic path.

Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12
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Across

- Mercury and Mars
- Half a dozen
- Birch relative
- ___-American
- The "O" in S.R.O.
- 1/100th rupee
- Negative vote
- Certain tribute
- Reserve supply
- Bauxite, e.g.
- Caribbean, e.g.
- Addis Ababa's land: Abbr.
- Breastplates
- Atlanta-based station (acronym)
- Recombine audio tracks
- Bad day for Caesar
- Mozart's "L" del Cairo"
- One stroke over par
- Young raptor
- ___ baseball (2 wds)
- Puddinglike dessert
- "Ciao!"
- 30-day mo.
- Blockhead
- Stagger
- "20,000 Leagues" harpooner ___ Land
- Mexican American
- Victorian, for one
- Anger
- Appetite
- Additions to usual pay
- Caterpillar, for one
- Morse code device
- Saved on supper, perhaps (2 wds)
- Barely gets, with "out"
- On the safe side, at sea
- Appears

Down

- Gossip
- Recently (2 wds)
- Unit of apothecary volume
- Hit
- Having more rough protuberances
- "___ say!" (contraction)
- Wood sugar
- ___-ski
- ___-tzu
- Dilation of heart chambers
- Core
- Knock (hyphenated)
- Double-reed woodwind
- Loud electric horns
- Something done to restore a broken chair
- Excellent in all respects
- Wading birds with long slender down-curved bills
- Faust author
- Everlasting
- Expert
- Victim of homicide
- Food
- Strong light brown paper (pl.)
- Run
- Coldest season
- Flea market deal
- Breakfast order
- Character preceding a number (pl.)
- A primary subtractive color for light (pl.)
- Denials
- ___-Altaic languages
- Animation
- Barely get, with "out"

Sudoku

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

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

Sudoku answers from last week

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

Crossword answers from last week

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72
73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84
85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96
97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108
109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120

Horoscopes

May 10, 2012

Capricorn

December 22 - January 19

You're a cool cat, Capricorn, until an old friend comes calling. Take a few moments to compose yourself and remember what drew you apart in the first place.

Aquarius

January 20 - February 18

Concern grows for a senior, but this is not the time to act on it, Aquarius. Give them some space to come to terms with their situation.

Pisces

February 19 - March 20

Information flows freely at the office. Cover your ears. You don't want to know, Pisces. Romance heats up with a grand gesture. Ooh-la-la!

Aries

March 21 - April 19

Ignorance is not bliss, Aries. Do your homework before you approach anyone with your idea. The more informed you are, the more support you will gather.

Taurus

April 20 - May 20

Jackpot, Taurus. You suspected something was up, and you were right. Step lightly, or risk making a spectacle of yourself. A memo makes an objective clear.

Gemini

May 21 - June 21

Big changes are in store. Receive them with open arms, Gemini, and you will come out on top. An artistic work leads to introspection which leads to fulfillment.

Cancer

June 22 - July 22

You're on top all week long, Cancer. You tackle every challenge, big and small, with great ease. Someone in your inner circle has something to tell you.

Leo

July 23 - August 22

The journey is nearly over. Take stock of the situation and put what you've learned along the way to good use. A request is denied. No need to worry, Leo.

Virgo

August 23 - September 22

Spend less, save more and you'll definitely get more, Virgo. More in your bottom line and more peace of mind. Flowers provide a great pick-me-up.

Libra

September 23 - October 22

Conflict among family members continues. Steer clear of it, Libra. You have an affair of the heart to attend to. A bonus at work comes in handy.

Scorpio

October 23 - November 21

You're a fixer, Scorpio. Whatever's broken—a window, a heart—you like to make it better. Be careful that your need to fix doesn't supersede your need to listen.

Sagittarius

November 22 - December 21

Creativity soars this week, Sagittarius, and you get more done than you have all month. Celebrate with a little get-together of your closest friends.

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Movie review

'Avengers' cinematic success, box office triumph validates Disney, Marvel Studios partnership

Before offering any critical commentary on the summer's first big-budget superhero thrill ride, it should be duly noted that audiences have overwhelmingly given their approval to "Marvel's The Avengers" - and the box office figures are astonishing.

As of May 6, the film had raked in \$200.3 million domestically, smashing several North American box office records including highest-grossing opening weekend. Outside North America, the film has earned \$441.5 million bringing its total worldwide haul to \$641.8 million.

"Nuff said. What led to "Marvel's The Avengers" record-breaking opening weekend?

This film, more so than any other in the superhero genre, had a lot going for it.

First, the characters have a history as fan favorites ... "Earth's Mightiest Heroes" have been around for nearly 50 years. Back in the early 1960s, the legendary partnership between writer/editor Stan Lee and artist/plotter Jack Kirby yielded a flood of iconic comic book titles including "The Avengers." The first issue appeared in September 1963.

Second, the hype surrounding this adaptation has been building for years. Previous Marvel Universe films have been dropping hints and teasers for several years. As far back as the first "Iron Man" movie in 2008, the character Nick Fury has been attempting to recruit superheroes. In 2011, the films "Captain America: The First Avenger" and "Thor" provided critical background material leading into "Marvel's The Avengers."

Third, Joss Whedon signed on to direct the film and write the

screenplay. Whedon - creator of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," "Angel" and "Firefly" - focuses on the individual characters and their relationships rather than on the spectacle of the confrontation.

Fourth, "Marvel's The Avengers" was produced by Marvel Studios and is being distributed by Walt Disney Pictures. While it is officially the sixth installment in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, it is the first since Disney bought Marvel and it therefore benefits from Disney's unrivaled marketing resourcefulness.

Finally, "Marvel's The Avengers" is constructed around a solid good-versus-evil comic book story with plenty of action sequences and epic battles. There are scenes that are extraordinarily reminiscent of artist Kirby's original panels.

To be fair, the film isn't true to the original team's lineup: In this adaptation, the Avengers include Iron Man, The Incredible Hulk, Thor, Captain America, Hawkeye and Black Widow. When an unexpected enemy threatens Earth, the team is pulled together by Nick Fury, director of the international peacekeeping agency known as S.H.I.E.L.D.

The threat comes from Asgardian Loki who has struck a deal with the alien race the Chitauri.

Robert Downey Jr. reprises his role as Tony Stark/Iron Man. Having starred in "Iron Man" and "Iron Man 2," Downey has had time to perfect his portrayal of the billionaire playboy who develops a high-tech suit of armor that transforms him into a superhero. He nails the overconfidence and narcissism wonderfully in this outing. Whedon carefully allows Stark's smugness to emerge as a



Reel Time
Lee Clark Zumpe

personal flaw and a detriment to team-building in the first half of the film.

Chris Evans reprises his role as Steve Rogers/Captain America. Evans effectively conveys his character's frustration: Rogers spent decades frozen in the Arctic before being thawed by agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. Evans performance underscores his character's displacement and isolation.

Scarlett Johansson portrays one of the strongest characters in the film as Natasha Romanoff/Black Widow. Whedon's script offers cryptic glimpses into the agent's dubious past. Johansson deftly pivots from regret and remorse over past transgressions to keenly-focused discipline when facing current opponents. Her performance as a S.H.I.E.L.D. super-spy is meticulous whether she is manipulating an interrogation or laying a smackdown on a bad guy.

Another standout in "Marvel's The Avengers" is Mark Ruffalo as David Banner. Ruffalo is the best Banner since Bill Bixby took the role for the television series "The Incredible Hulk" which ran 1978 to 1982. Ruffalo manages to infuse Banner with a kind of bitersweet bleakness. Unlike many of the film's characters, Banner has come to terms with his personal demons - or at least he's learned to live with the desolation. Whedon's script captures Banner's melancholy resignation beautifully while illuminating the poignancy of the Banner/Hulk



Photo by ZADE ROSENTHAL

Scarlett Johansson stars as Black Widow in "Marvel's The Avengers."

dichotomy. CGI technology has finally delivered a decent-looking Hulk, too.

Samuel L. Jackson portrays Nick Fury. Jackson manages the role handsily, sketching a gruff, calculating and ultimately gallant administrator. Chris Hemsworth reprises his role as Thor. Whedon tones down the Shakespearean connotations and extracts a strong performance from Hemsworth. Tom Hiddleston's Loki is simultaneously menacing and whiney: Hiddleston's portrayal captures both the character's power and his petty bitterness.

Clark Gregg reprises his role as S.H.I.E.L.D. agent Phil Coulson. The character has appeared in several films, including "Iron Man," "Iron Man 2" and "Thor"

as well as in the animated series "Ultimate Spider-Man." Whedon shrewdly uses Coulson's interactions with the various main characters to explore various personalities. Gregg has a comparatively minor role but he turns in an exceptional and memorable performance.

It's tempting to claim that "Marvel's The Avengers" is a non-stop roller-coaster thrill ride overloaded with endless action - but it's more than that. Sure, there are a lot of explosive action sequences, eye-popping special effects and larger-than-life superhero feats. Whedon's involvement guaranteed a sophisticated script and real characterization. Whedon devotes time to each superhero's inner conflicts and to the way they interact with each other.

It's also tempting to herald this film as a fanboy fantasy (which it is) when it has much broader appeal. Because of its stylish crafted script and its engaging characters, it will please more than just the avid comic-book-reading clique. It's likely to draw fans from a broad spectrum and it has that summer blockbuster quality that almost demands multiple screenings. "Marvel's The Avengers" has all the hallmarks of a huge Hollywood moneymaking juggernaut.

Judging by its lucrative opening weekend and its cinematic achievements, "Marvel's The Avengers" proves the Disney-Marvel merger was rewarding and that Whedon, when given a big budget and creative control, can do astounding things on the big screen.

Looking ahead

Clearwater

• **PAVA exhibit**, through May 31, at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. On display is varied media visual art from 12 artists from the Professional Association of Visual Artists. Each artist is showing a small body of their work. A panel of their PAVA peers selected the artists. The artwork, which is available for purchase, is located in the upper East and West Galleries of the hall. The exhibit may be viewed during the hall's scheduled performances. PAVA is a not-for-profit, artist run organization. Visit www.pava-artists.org.

• **"Separate Beds,"** by Maryjane Cruise, presented by Early Bird Dinner Theatre, through June 3, at the Italian-American Club, 200 S. McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Seating for performances is Thursday through Sunday, 4 p.m. Seating for matinees is Thursday and Saturday, 11 a.m. Cost is \$29.90 a person. For reservations, call 446-5898. Visit www.earlybirddinnertheatre.com. Two couples navigate through their relationships on a Caribbean cruise. One seems perfect while the other seems stormy. The truth and lies of each marriage comes to the surface as they celebrate their anniversaries at sea. Ernie and Twink attempt to put the sizzle back into their marriage while Beth and Blake attempt to save theirs.

• **"Becky's New Car,"** by Steven Deitz, presented by West Coast Players, through May 13, at West Coast Players Theatre, 21905 U.S. 19 N., Clearwater. Performances are Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. Matinees are Sunday, 2 p.m. Admission is \$18 for adults and \$15 for seniors and students. Call 437-2363 or visit www.wcplayers.org. Dietz's heroine Becky Foster doesn't have a half-bad life; it has just become predictable and mundane. She has a solid yet dull marriage to her roofer hubby Joe. Together they have a son: a goofy college psychology major named Chris. Becky devotes herself to a decent job with a car dealership. However, her day-to-day routine is flipped upside down when Walter Flood, a charmingly quirky millionaire, comes into the dealership late one night.

• **"The Pajama Game,"** with music and lyrics by Richard Adler and Jerry Ross and book by George Abbott and Richard Bissell; presented by Francis Wilson Playhouse, May 10-27, at the playhouse, 302 Seminole St., Clearwater. Performances are Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. Matinees are Sunday, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$26 for adults and \$13 for students. Call 446-1360 or visit www.franciswilsonplayhouse.org. Based on the bestselling novel "Seven and a Half Cents," "The Pajama Game" won the 1954 Tony for the best musical. Set in an Iowa pajama factory in the 1950s, this energetic musical is filled with memorable tunes such as "Hernando's Hideaway," "Hey There" and "Steam Heat."

• **"Ferris Bueller's Day Off,"** Friday, May 11, 7:30 p.m., at the Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St., Clearwater. Tickets are \$5. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. The 1986 cult favorite "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," written and directed by John Hughes, stars Matthew Broderick, Mia Sara and Alan Ruck. The film follows high school senior Ferris Bueller, who decides to skip school and spend the day in downtown Chicago. Accompanied by his girlfriend Sloane Peterson and his best friend Cameron Frye he creatively avoids his school's Dean of Students Edward Rooney, his resentful sister Jeanie, and his parents. Ferris Bueller's Day Off became one of the top grossing films of 1986 and is still enthusiastically received by critics and audiences alike.

• **The Florida Orchestra: Rhythms of Cuba**, Sunday, May 13, 7:30 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$15. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. In a Latin-flavored program, Enrique Pérez Mesa, music director of La

Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Cuba, is joined by principal timpanist John Bannon in James Lewis' Cubanitas for solo timpani and orchestra on a program with Carlos Farfán's Pentesilea; Preludio, Guido López-Gavilán's Ritmotiv, José Pablo Moncayo's Huapango and Prokofiev's Symphony No. 1, Classical.

• **The Florida Orchestra: Once Upon a Time**, Wednesday, May 16, 10 a.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$24. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. The concert will feature Ravel's Beauty and the Beast from Mother Goose Suite, Tchaikovsky's Waltz from Swan Lake, and Williams' ET: Adventures on Earth. Stuart Malina will conduct this morning Coffee Concert, with complimentary coffee and doughnuts served before the performance.

• **Jane's Addiction**, Saturday, May 19, 8:30 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets are \$42.50. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. Touring in support of their new album "The Great Escape Artist," Jane's Addiction features frontman Perry Farrell, guitarist Dave Navarro and drummer Stephen Perkins, along with Chris Chaney on bass. Jane's Addiction has actually written the rulebook for alternative music and culture through a combination of genre-defying classic songs and a cinematic live experience. Their songs serve as the Ten Commandments for alt rock, inspiring an entire generation of bands such as Nirvana, Rage Against the Machine, Nine Inch Nails, Smashing Pumpkins, Pearl Jam and Tool. When the Los Angeles quartet came along, they merged alternative and rock like no one before, becoming the first alternative rock band, creating a new sound and attitude. Jane's Addiction has sold more than 7 million records in the United States alone. Their best-known albums, "Nothing Shocking" (1988) and "Ritual de lo Habitual" (1990) include the tracks "Jane Says," "Been Caught Stealing," "Stop!" and "Classic Girl." The band also garnered Grammy nominations and spearheaded the movement of modern American festival culture by launching and headlining Lollapalooza.

• **The Florida Orchestra: Postcards from Paris**, Sunday, May 20, 7:30 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$15. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. The concert will celebrate the City of Lights with romantic French melodies, Edith Piaf classics, Josephine Baker hits, Parisian café music, Django Reinhardt's gypsy jazz, high-kicking can-cans and soaring film scores by Michel Legrand.

Sarah Hicks will conduct. The orchestra will be joined by Kersten Rodau, vocalist; Robb Asklof, tenor; Patrick Harison, accordion; and Gil Gutierrez, guitar.

• **Timothy B. Schmit**, Thursday, May 24, 7:30 p.m., at the Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St., Clearwater. Tickets start at \$37.50. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. After a successful run of winter shows, this groundbreaking vocalist, songwriter and bass player - well known for his work as a member of the Eagles and Poco - is hitting the road again with his band for a spring tour. Schmit and his full band will perform songs from his fifth solo album "Expando" (2009) as well as gems by the Eagles and Poco. For Schmit - a three-time Grammy Award-winning Rock and Roll Hall Of Fame inductee - "Expando" presents a diverse mix of Americana, folk, country, rock and blues. Written and produced by Schmit, "Expando" features an eclectic array of iconic artists including The Blind Boys of Alabama, Garth Hudson, Kid Rock, Graham Nash, Van Dyke Parks, Benmont Tench and Dwight Yoakam, among others. Highlights on the varied 11-song disc include "Downtime," "One More Mile," "White Boy From Sacramento," "A Good Day," "Friday Night" and "Parachute."

• **Casanova's Blast Friday**, Friday, May 25, 5:30 p.m., on Cleveland

Street in downtown Clearwater. The free street fair will kick off at 5:30 p.m. and entertainment will continue until 10 p.m. Edgar Winter will perform on the Tampa Bay Times Cleveland Street Stage in front of the Capitol Theatre. The event also will feature a variety of vendors, as well as food, beer, wine and nonalcoholic beverages. A child prodigy who achieved international success early on, Winter has found an audience in every major entertainment medium; music, film and television. A prolific writer, his music encompasses many different genres, including rock, jazz, blues and pop. From his critically acclaimed 1970 debut release, "Entrance," he has demonstrated his unique style and ability to cross the genre lines and do the unexpected. Winter followed "Entrance" with two hit albums, "Edgar Winter's White Trash" and "Roadwork," backed by his group White Trash. In late 1972 Winter brought together Dan Hartman, Ronnie Montrose and Chuck Ruff to form The Edgar Winter Group, the legendary band that created such hits as the

See LOOKING AHEAD, page 8B

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610-880 SF, \$26K-\$43K. 2BR/2BA, 955-1,440 SF. \$39,900-\$99,900. zillow.com Janis O'Connor, Five Towns Action Realty, Inc. (727)735-1132

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

1BR/1BA 608 sq. ft.
2nd floor, 55+, Sunroom, Near Pool & Rec Hall. Furnished \$18,900

2BR/1BA, 1,012 sq. ft.
2nd floor, Elevator, 55+, Sunroom, Updated Bath, Paint & Carpet. \$27,900

Ridge Seminole Mgmt. Corp. Cassius L. Peacock, Realtor

(727)397-2534
MySeminoleGardens.com

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

VILLA, UPDATED 2 STORY
3BR/2.5BA/2CG, Fireplace, Courtyard, Pool, Tennis, Dock/Slips. Upscale area. Ten minutes to beach!
\$274,900. Owner/ Realtor. Troy Robinson, Imperial R.E. (727)595-4918

25. Townhouse Sales

TOWNHOMES AT PARK PLACE
1,971 SF, 3BR/2.5BA/2CG. \$170,000. www.zillow.com. Janis O'Connor, Five Towns Action Realty, Inc. (727)735-1132.

35. Mobile Home Sales

1-2/BR FINANCING AVAILABLE,
As Low As \$1,000/Down. Clubhouse, Spa, Game Room. St. Petersburg/ Pinellas Park. Quiet Park, Low Rent. (727)526-6900.

2B/1BA, SMALL 55+ PARK
near Seminole Blvd., Largo. Screen porch & carport. \$3,500. (727)953-3405

2BR/1BA, FULLY FURNISHED
Town & Country 55+ MHP, resident owned. Lot 6. W/D, screened porch & carport. \$32,000 plus shares. (423)903-8331.

2BR/2BA DOUBLE-WIDE, in 55+
park on Boca Ciega Bay, close to beach. \$6,500. O.B.O. (207)251-1317



OPEN HOUSE Monday-Saturday
9:00AM-4:00PM, Park Royale MHP, 10611 66th St. N. 55+ Community, Pet Friendly. New/ Resales \$10K-\$100K (727) 547-1676

100. Real Estate Wanted

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

Let us help you with your advertising needs.

Call today!
397-5563

ShellyExt. 320
KellyExt. 301
LindaExt. 333
WendyExt. 315

125. Out of State

Cost-Effective Statewide Advertising

Place Your Ad Of 25 Words or Less In More Than 100 Newspapers Across Florida For Only \$475/week.

You Can Reach Over 5 Million Readers Through Our Network Of Daily & Weekly Florida Newspapers.

Contact Tampa Bay Newspapers Classified Dept. (727) 397-5563

130. Cemetery Lots

GARDEN SANCTUARY, 2 Plots,
Veterans Garden II, Section 36. \$2,000 For Both. (727)585-5002.

RENTALS

135. Rentals

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

175. Unfurn. Apartments

\$199 MOVE-IN SPECIAL!
Must See Totally Remodeled 12 Unit Apt. Complex. Only 3 Miles From Clearwater Beach. Quiet Parkside Setting. Extra Large 1 & 2 Bedrooms. FREE Wi-Fi! 514 South Betty Lane, Clearwater, 33756. Call (727)452-7082.

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

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

BELLEAIR BLUFFS: 1BR/1BA,
First Floor, Clean, Quiet, Updated, W/D Hook-ups, Cat OK. \$625/Mo. Incl. W/S/G. (727)455-2260.

DOWNTOWN CLEARWATER,
1BR. Close To Bus Terminal. \$475/Month. Call Bonnie, (813)817-6431.

DUNEDIN: VERY NICE ROOM,
\$75/Wkly. Great Downtown Area! 326 Honey Street West. Call (727)586-2412 or Click www.586-2412.com

DUNEDIN'S Best Kept Secret!
1-2BR, \$299 move-in special. Pet Friendly, Sparkling pool. Logarto Apts. (727)733-0423.

LARGO: 1BR/1BA, BEAUTIFUL
Landscaped Courtyard, W/D. Petless. \$750/Month, First, Last. \$200 Security. Includes All Util. (727)586-1566 Or (727)586-2419.

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

MOVE IN SPECIAL

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

SEMINOLE, 8423 Seminole Blvd.
Nice 1BR/1BA, \$720/month, includes super cable. Requires deposit. Nonsmoking. (727)584-4707, (727)392-0248.

SEMINOLE: EFFICIENCY,
\$185/Wk. 1BR/1BA, \$200/Wk. Pool. Includes Utilities & Cable. No Credit Check. (727)564-3374.

160. Unfurnished Condos

BELLEAIR VILLAGE, 1550 S
Belcher. Spacious, Updated 1,315SF, 2BR/2BA plus Den. \$950/Month. Tony Branch, Realtor (727)460-7887.

CLEARWATER, 1BA/1BD, 55+.
Top floor, cable included. Heated pool, very clean property. No pets. \$500/month, w/1-month deposit required. (727)585-3613.

CLEARWATER, Imperial Cove,
2BR/2BA, 55+, Clubhouse, Pool. Open Water Courtney Campbell View. \$1,200/Month +Security. (727)643-5197.

EAST BAY GOLF COURSE,
Large 2BR/2BA, Spectacular View. Dishwasher, Inside Laundry, Updated. \$850/Mo. \$850/Sec. (727)581-8662.

LOCATION, LOCATION, 55+
2BR/1.5BA. Corner unit overlooks pool. \$775/Month. Furnished/ Unfurnished. Owner/ Realtor, Michael, (727)595-7592

SEMINOLE COUNTRY GREEN
2BR/2BA/1CP, Ground Floor, New Paint/ Floors, Pool/ Fitness, Near Everything. \$875/Month, Annual. (727)639-0918.

SEMINOLE GARDENS
2BR/1BA, 1,012SF, 3rd Floor, 55+, Sunroom, New Appliances & Laminate. \$750/Month -Yearly. Ridge Seminole Mgmt. Corp. (727)397-2534

CHECK YOUR ADS THE FIRST DAY

In the event of error in any advertising, this publication will not be financially responsible beyond the cost of the advertisement in which the error appears. For advertisement scheduled to run more than one time, this publication will not issue credit for errors beyond the first publication week.

Tampa Bay Newspapers, Inc. reserves the right to refuse advertising copy deemed by the Publisher as objectionable in any sense and to change the classification from that ordered to conform to the policy of the publisher.

160. Unfurnished Condos

SEMINOLE, LONG BAYOU,
Newly Remodeled. Modern Condo. 2BR/1BA, 1,200sf, 2nd Floor. 55+, Gated community. Resort Style Living. \$825/Month. (727)385-7718.

170. Furn. Apartments

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

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

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

175. Unfurn. Apartments

\$199 MOVE-IN SPECIAL!
Must See Totally Remodeled 12 Unit Apt. Complex. Only 3 Miles From Clearwater Beach. Quiet Parkside Setting. Extra Large 1 & 2 Bedrooms. FREE Wi-Fi! 514 South Betty Lane, Clearwater, 33756. Call (727)452-7082.

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

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

BELLEAIR BLUFFS: 1BR/1BA,
First Floor, Clean, Quiet, Updated, W/D Hook-ups, Cat OK. \$625/Mo. Incl. W/S/G. (727)455-2260.

DOWNTOWN CLEARWATER,
1BR. Close To Bus Terminal. \$475/Month. Call Bonnie, (813)817-6431.

DUNEDIN: VERY NICE ROOM,
\$75/Wkly. Great Downtown Area! 326 Honey Street West. Call (727)586-2412 or Click www.586-2412.com

DUNEDIN'S Best Kept Secret!
1-2BR, \$299 move-in special. Pet Friendly, Sparkling pool. Logarto Apts. (727)733-0423.

LARGO: 1BR/1BA, BEAUTIFUL
Landscaped Courtyard, W/D. Petless. \$750/Month, First, Last. \$200 Security. Includes All Util. (727)586-1566 Or (727)586-2419.

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

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

SEMINOLE, 8423 Seminole Blvd.
Nice 1BR/1BA, \$720/month, includes super cable. Requires deposit. Nonsmoking. (727)584-4707, (727)392-0248.

SEMINOLE: EFFICIENCY,
\$185/Wk. 1BR/1BA, \$200/Wk. Pool. Includes Utilities & Cable. No Credit Check. (727)564-3374.

St. Giles Manor II
Apartments for the Elderly

Applications available at
7650 58th Street N.
Pinellas Park, FL 33781

One bedroom Apartments
Rent Based on Income
(727) 623-9886
TTY - 800-955-8771

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

TERRIFIC GULF VIEWS
Redington Shores, Large 2BR/1.5BA, W/D, Patio. Newer Tile, Carpet, Paint throughout. \$1,150/month. Jeff, (727)391-1203
18131 Gulf Blvd.

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Professional Services Directory

185. Beach Rentals

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

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

GULL HARBOR

THE BEST VALUE ON THE BEACHES!

We have MORE Amenities, Fun Activities & include more Services. Spacious, Clean 1, 2 & 3 bdrm Condos Starting at \$900

Call us today and start your move home to Gull Harbor! 55+ www.gullharborcondos.com 17105 Gulf Blvd., NRB 727-392-0753

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

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

SOUTH CLEARWATER BEACH
Annual/ Monthly Rentals. Furnished/ Unfurnished. Equity Pro Realty, Rosalyn Carlton (727)644-0400.

TREASURE ISLAND
1BR Unfurnished Condo. Steps to BEACH/ Pool. No Pets. \$685/Month. Weingart Realty, (727)398-2507

190. Waterfront Rentals

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

SUMMER SPECIALS
1BR: 2BR/1BA, Dock, \$900. Ozona: 4BR/2.5BA/2CG, Dock \$2,200. Call to Inquire. (727)542-8958. Allen Hines, Russell Property Group.

Scottish Towers II
APARTMENTS

SCOTTISH TOWERS II
Sunsets and Dolphin
Watching in your backyard!

WATERFRONT
55+ Apartment Community on beautiful Dunedin Causeway

Studio apartments from \$680/mo.
1/1 Apartments from \$750/mo.
2/2 Apartments from \$840/mo.

(727) 734-8479
scottish@thegoodmangroup.com

195. Seasonal Rentals

CLEARWATER BEACH
Fully furnished 1BR & 2BR condo units. One-month minimum. No smoking, no pets. JOHN DORAN REALTY. (727)461-9142.

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

300. Notices

210. M.H. Rentals

CLEARWATER DREAM! 45+.
Furnished. 1,600+SF, Gazebo, 1/4-Acre Lot. Vaulted Ceilings, Walk-In Closets, Sunroom. MUST SEE NOW! Earn Partial Rent! (352)279-2469.

ALL AGES - BEST PRICES
Near North Beaches. Starting \$125/wk. 28-week lease, includes W/S/G. Move-in special: \$249 w/FREE first week on approval. Gulf Breeze, (727)559-8644.

BLUE SKIES M.H.P. LARGO.
Mobile Homes For Rent. Move-In Special. \$199. One Bedroom. Call (727)657-2104, (813)789-8331.

225. Duplex-Triplex Rental

LARGO CENTRALLY LOCATED
2BR/1BA, HALF OFF 1st Month Rent. Clean, W/D Hook-up. \$675/Month +Deposit. (727)686-1539

230. RV & Trailer Lot Rental

LONG TERM RV SPACE
Available. 2/Free Months with 1/Year Lease. St Petersburg/ Pinellas Park. Clubhouse, Spa, Game Room. Quiet Park, Low Rent. (727)526-6900.

245. Room For Rent

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

265. Commercial Rentals

COMMERCIAL LOT FOR RENT,
Near Belcher/ Park Blvd, Fenced. Approx. 11,000SF, Great for Boat, Equipment Storage, Lawn/ Tree Service. Unlimited Possibilities! (970)759-6040.

345. Lost & Found

FOUND CAT: DARK GRAY
short-haired male, 4/30, on Sousa Dr. in Suburban Estates in Largo. (727)532-4544; (727)457-7395.

LOST CAT: TABBY, GR/BLK
3 year old male, missing since 4/12, vicinity of Crown Dr., Imperial Point subdivision. Reward. (727)288-4108.

CLASSIFIED
Information Is At YOUR DISPOSAL

265. Commercial Rentals

COMMERCIAL SALES & RENTALS

COMMERCIAL LOT FOR RENT
Near Belcher/ Park Blvd, Fenced. Approx. 11,000SF, Great for Boat, Equipment Storage, Lawn/ Tree Service. Unlimited Possibilities! (970)759-6040.

375. Career Training

Prepare for a career in HVAC-R

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

- HVAC equipment suppliers & wholesalers
- HVAC installation contractors
- Building Maintenance & Climate Control firms
- Residential & Industrial service companies
- Local & Municipal Government positions

485. Help Wanted

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING/ INSIDE PHONE SALES

Responsibilities include new client development.

Requirements:

- *Strong verbal and written communication skills
- *Proper grammar/spelling
- *Strong customer service skills
- *Strong computer skills
- *Self Motivated
- *Good attendance history
- *Advertising Sales and/or Newspaper experience is a PLUS!

E-mail: classifieds@tbnweekly.com Please, No Phone Calls or Walk-ins!

COURIER DRIVER,

No experience necessary, Flexible hours. Salary position. 1(888)662-5212

DRIVERS: PINECREST PLACE

Relocation community, located in Largo, is looking for 2 part-time drivers to work varied schedules, including some weekends. Drivers must have clean driving records and pass DOT physical. We're looking for candidates to provide transportation for our residents for errands such as medical appointments, banking, shopping, worship services, entertainment and other misc. activities, assisting residents in and out of vehicles. Must follow all company guidelines regarding resident and vehicle safety. May be required to run community errands as needed. If you enjoy working and serving others, please apply in person at: 1150 8th Avenue SW, Mon.-Fri. 9AM-4PM or e-mail resume to: Margaret.Kristall@brookdaleliving.com or fax resume to: (727)581-8409. Drug free workplace. EOE.

FT APPLIANCE TECHNICIAN

Experienced in residential service. Must have clean driving record, own tools. (727)391-0168.

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

Customer Service/ Clerical for a travel club. Starting at \$9.50/hr. FT 9AM-5PM M-F. Insurance, 401K, travel benefits, plus booking incentives. Must have computer, customer service skills. Fax resume: (727)467-9097. E-mail: kbrazier@gcitravel.net

HAIR STYLIST BOOTH RENTAL, \$120/Weekly. Bonus sell your own retail. Nice, Casual. Bella Image. (727)409-4544.

HIGH END BOUTIQUE, SAND KEY, SALES PERSON NEEDED.

APPLY IN PERSON 1261 GULF BLVD., SUITE #108.

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED FOR

Clearwater, FL, 33756 Private Home With 2 Adults, 3 Cats, 2 Dogs. Must Have: Own Vehicle, Phone & Home, Experience Taking Care Of Dogs & Cats, House-keeping. References. Nonsmoker. Hours: 7:30am-1:30pm, M-F, 8am-10am Sat-Sun. Call (727)461-5786 Alter 5pm.

LAWN CARE, WILL TRAIN,

Daily Pay. EOE. (727)584-3181.

MAIDS- Experienced In Private

Homes & Condos. Perfectly Clean Drivers License Required. Excellent Rate Of Pay. (727)363-1074.

NOW HIRING CNAs & HHAs

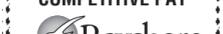
Great Cases, All Hours, Experience Required, Competitive Pay. Bayshore Health & Homemaker Services, Inc. Celebrating 25 Years. (727)586-0044.

NEW SALON & SPA GRAND OPENING!

Looking for talented Hairstylist, Nail Tech and Massage Therapist with following! 727)399-8491 www.salondusoleilspa.com

NOW HIRING CNAs/HHAs

Great Cases All Hours Experience Required COMPETITIVE PAY



Health & Homemaker Services, Inc.

Celebrating 25 Years!

(727) 586-0044

485. Help Wanted

P/T SEASONAL, FUEL RAMP attendant, City of Gulfport. Ability to work flexible hours; weekends, weekdays and holidays. Strong customer service skills and cashier experience preferred. Light maintenance and custodial duties. Background, drug screening and physicals will be conducted. Entry: \$9.57/hour. Applications accepted at: City Hall, 2401 53rd St. S. or fax: (727)893-1005. EOE.

REALTORS WANTED

Plumlee Gulf Beach Realty Call (727)595-7586 Or Send Resume To Teresa@PlumleeProperties.com

REGAL PALMS PREMIER

ASSISTED LIVING on the Palms of Largo campus is seeking a flex receptionist to work various days and shifts as needed. Perfect opportunity for a mature person looking to make some extra money. Phone and computer skills are necessary, dependability a must. Apply online at regalalf.com. EOE.

TRAVEL AGENT, FULL-TIME,

Benefits, Experienced, Seminole, Monday-Friday, 9:00AM-5:30PM. (727)399-8277.

EARN \$1000s

From Home? Be careful of Work-At-Home Schemes.

- Hidden costs can add up
- Requirements may be unrealistic.

Learn how you can avoid Work-At-Home Scams.

Call: Federal Trade Comm. 1-877-FTC-HELP.

A message from Tampa Bay Newspapers and the FTC.

050312

505. Part-time Help

OFFICE POSITION - 16 HRS. PER WK.

Applicants need to have outstanding customer service skills and should be self-directed. Good computer and typing skills required.

Knowledge of Microsoft Outlook, Social Media (Facebook, Linked In, etc.) and QuickBooks is desired.

Apply in person only, Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Visit our website at www.welcomerelocation.com

Welcome Home Relocation, Inc.

1115 Ponce de Leon Blvd., Suite A-5, Belleair, FL 33756 No phone calls 050312

505. Part-time Help

505. Part-time Help

GENERAL OFFICE, MUST HAVE Computer and Medical Billing Experience. Send Resume to nas@ablemedical.com

515. Hospitality Help

EXPERIENCED *Line Cook, *Kitchen Utility/ Prep Doubletree Boh Resort/Restaurant Apply At: 17120 Gulf Blvd. North Redington Beach (727)393-2813.

520. Sales Help

TIMESHARE LEADERS Wanted. Be Your Own Boss! Timeshare Resale Tele-closers. High Commission. Hot Leads. (888)366-5670.

525. Medical Help

CNAs, HHAs NEEDED FOR Pinellas County Area. Choose Your Hours. \$10-\$13.50 Per Hour. (727)822-3034

535. Business Opportun.

LOOKING FOR STAY AT HOME Moms or Dads to partner with and build a very successful home-based business. Training provided. Tim, (352)557-4430. www.miniofficeoutlets.com/ericho

535. Business Opportun.

AVON, EARN 40% Why Not You? Why Not Today? Join Now!! \$10 Start-Up Fee. (727)215-6339

You Can Fax Your Ad:

399-2042

Include: Name, Address and Phone Number

and We Accept



505. Part-time Help

505. Part-time Help

535. Business Opportun.

Tampa Bay Times

Home Delivery Independent Distributor Opportunities \$800-\$1,500 per month profit potential, paid weekly. Early morning hours. Be your own boss! **Areas now available:** * Seminole - Largo - Kenneth City * St. Petersburg - Tierra Verde * Madeira Bch. - Indian Rks. Bch. * Clearwater - Palm Harbor - Tarpon Springs Must be at least 18 Valid driver's license. Reliable vehicle and car insurance. tampabay.com/distributor 1-866-498-4637.

585. Auctions

BIG ESTATE AUCTION Sunday, 05/13, 1pm. Many antiques, jewelry, sterling, furniture, more! **49er Flea Market** 10525 49th St. N. Pinellas Park, (407)791-2776. AB2183, AU2971

590. Antiques-Collectibles

ANTIQUÉ GALLERIES OF ST. PETERSBURG Fine Paintings, Designer & Antique Furniture, Collectibles, Jewelry. Lots of Free Parking 450 34th St. N. (On US 19.) 16,000 Square Feet, 85 Dealers Please Visit and Bookmark: antiquegalleriesofstpetersburg.com

CALL EARLY TO PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD

CLASSIFIEDS ROCK!

535. Business Opportun.

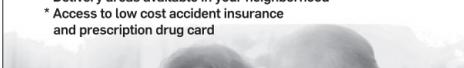
535. Business Opportun.

\$300 Signing Incentive available for a limited time.

Join the team that's growing.

Discover the many benefits of distributing Florida's largest and best newspaper.

- * Early morning hours, have the rest of your day free
- * Delivery areas available in your neighborhood
- * Access to low cost accident insurance and prescription drug card



Paid Weekly

Tampa Bay Times tampabay.com

To apply, visit tampabay.com/distributor or call toll-free 866-498-4637 to learn more.

030112

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ZOOM IN ON A BUYER

Advertise your goods and services in the Classifieds and reach hundreds of potential buyers daily.

Call today for our new **LOWER** rates and to place your ad.

Tampa Bay Newspapers BEACON • LEADER • BEE

9911 SEMINOLE BLVD • 727-397-5563

030112

030112

030112

MERCHANDISE

600. Merchandise **CURIO CABINETS (2), OAK** wood w/glass shelves, Excellent Cond. \$125/both. (727)397-4130.

LAWNMOWERS FOR SALE, (6). TRADES ACCEPTED! 4 Self-propelled, 2 Push. My Hobby. Reconditioned. \$65-\$135. Save Hundreds. Also Other Equipment. (727)391-6937.

NEW SPA COVERS, SALES & Service. Tub Jetters. (727)215-9477.

630. Absolutely Free **NURSING TEXT, JOURNALS,** Red Geraniums. Keep family well. Spruce up yard. Please Only May 2nd-4th/ May 9th-11th Call (727)393-0932, 9AM-9PM. From Equal Rights Amendment.

635. Bargain Corner **NUWAVE COUNTERTOP Infrared** Oven. Never Used. \$75 O.B.O. (727)447-3490.

640. Furniture **BRAND NEW CHERRY 5-PIECE** Queen Bedroom Set; Headboard, Dresser, Mirror, Nightstand, Chest. \$295. (727)667-8288.

BRAND NEW QUEEN SIZE Matt/Box, New In Plastic. \$150. Must Sell Call Deliver. (727)667-8288.

845. Golf Carts **GOLF CART, STREET LEGAL** Ready. Electric. New: Body, Seats, Batteries, Windshield. Delivery/ Warranty, \$4,350. Jason, (813)996-5522.

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

WE BUY CARS 4 CASH Any Condition. No Title & Liens OK. (813)410-9067 or (727)565-9320

WE BUY UNWANTED VEHICLES With or without title. Any condition, make, year or model. We pay up to \$20,000. Free towing. (813)516-0847.

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NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

Attention: Pinellas County Contractors/Professional Service Providers: Licensing and Advertising

Revisions to Chapter 22 of the Pinellas County Code Countywide Building Construction Industry Regulation and Construction Codes

Please be advised that Pinellas County Ordinance 10-68 was approved on December 14, 2010, by the Board of County Commissioners which revised Pinellas County Code, Chapter 22, Buildings and Building Regulations, Section 22-14, Acts prohibited and Section 22-15, Limitation on power of investigators, director, inspectors; subpoenas; telephone records. The Ordinance can be viewed at the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board's website: www.pccclb.com

Acts Prohibited: (and subject to fines). Contractors may not:

- Engage in the business of contracting in the trades regulated by the State or County without a competency license certified or registered in the County
- Intentionally furnish any materially false, misleading, or misrepresentative information on an application for permit or license
- Hold oneself out as being licensed or registered when not so licensed or registered
- Engage in any activity requiring a permit without having obtained the appropriate permits
- Advertise to the public in any publication, transmission, business card, pamphlet, telephone directory, signs or otherwise that he is a contractor or that he will perform work in a trade requiring licensure without being duly qualified (licensed) to do so.
- Submit an advertisement to any publisher for placement in any publication which is primarily circulated, displayed, distributed or marketed within the County, which advertisement identifies a contractor offering services regulated by the State or County without including the name of the contractor or business and the certification or registration number issued by the state or the county to that contractor.
- Subcontract any work to a person, firm or business organization not holding an active certificate of competency for work involved in the subcontract.
- All Commercial Vehicles are required to have signs with the Business Or Contractor's name and license # Posted

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ASK A WEDDING EXPERT.
This month's Featured Expert on Florida beach weddings, Jeff Copeland of Simple Weddings, St. Petersburg answers the following question from Amy K. of Clearwater.
Q. What should a couple consider when choosing a time for their wedding (i.e. afternoon, sunset, evening)?
A. If you're having a beach wedding, the hour before sunset is the time when you get that "golden glow" for your wedding pictures. At just about any other time of day, the lighting on the beach is too harsh for wedding pictures. This is compounded by the fact that our white sand reflects the light and sort of blinds you, so you end up with lots of shadows and squinting in your pictures. About 95% of our beach weddings take place one to two hours before sunset to take advantage of the lighting. We always work with our clients to make sure they will have enough time with their photographer (the larger the group, the more time you'll need).
If you are having an indoor wedding or having it somewhere other than the beach where there is some shade, you are less restricted with regards to the time of day.
Your photographer should be able to guide you on this – another reason it's important to have an experienced, local photographer shoot your wedding!
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LOOKING AHEAD, from page 3B

No. 1 "Frankenstein" and the ever-popular "Free Ride." Released in 1973, "They Only Come Out at Night" peaked at the No. 3 position on the Billboard Hot 200 and stayed on the charts for an impressive 80 weeks.

• **Al Stewart**, Saturday, May 26, 7:30 p.m., at the Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St., Clearwater. Tickets start at \$29. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. Best known for his hit album "Year of the Cat," Stewart brings his latest tour to the Capitol Theatre. His gifts as a singer and songwriter have matured and ripened over the course of his musical career, stretching from the early '60s to the present. Stewart's first album, "Bedsitter Images," was released in England in 1967 and was followed by 1969's "Love Chronicles," which featured Led Zeppelin's Jimmy Page and Richard Thompson on lead guitars. After several more albums written in autobiographical mode, Stewart shifted his lyrical gaze outward, into history, literature and current events, an approach debuted on 1973's "Past, Present & Future." The follow-up, "Modern Times," cracked the U.S. Top 40 album charts in 1975 and drew Stewart and his backing band to America for a full-length tour. With groundwork laid and touring dues paid, Stewart's next album exploded in America: "Year of the Cat," released in 1976, spawned the Top 20 hits "Year of the Cat" and "On the Border."

• **Dreamscape in concert**, Saturday, May 26, 7 p.m., at CVF Theater, 2650 Enterprise Road, Suite B, Clearwater. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. For tickets, call 733-0233 or visit dreamscapeliveinconcert.eventbrite.com. Dreamscape features James D. Gerogiannis on guitar

and Brenda Doddridge on flute. Their music is described as a "spectacular combination of original classical, acoustic and electric guitar work coupled with amazing and original flute melodies." For information, visit dreamscapeliveinconcert.com.

Largo

• **Sun Coast Mother's Day Fun Fest**, Sunday, May 13, noon to 3:30 p.m., at Largo Central Park, 101 Central Park Drive, Largo. The event will include live music, children's activities, entertainment and tips on the benefits of a healthy lifestyle for the entire family. Admission to the park is free and food and beverages will be available. For music lovers, the main stage will boast hours of non-stop entertainment, featuring Tampa Bay singer and songwriter Jim Lanier and Jordan Boyer. Families will delight in off-stage performances by clowns, jugglers and a magician, and a special children's play area will feature inflatable jumpers, miniature train rides through the park and a commemorative photo booth. Donations are kindly accepted.

Emphasizing holistic health, this Mother's Day event also will include a health and wellness fair with various lifestyle demonstrations and exhibits by local nonprofit agencies and other community service providers. Call 483-0661.

• **Leon Russell**, Friday, May 18, 8 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets are \$34 in advance or \$39 the day of the show. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. The legendary singer/songwriter is considered one of the most accomplished and versatile musicians in the history of rock and roll. In his distinguished and unique 50-year career, he has played on, arranged, written and produced more than 40 records in popular music. Russell has won two

Grammy awards and was inducted into Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2011.

• The 23rd annual **Abilities Wine Tasting**, Saturday, May 26, at the Armed Forces History Museum, 2050 34th Way N., Largo. This event features premium wines, auction items and gourmet restaurants. Presented by Raymond James and selected as a three-time, top-five finalist for WEDU's Be More Awards Special Event of the Year, Abilities is Florida's longest-running and most prosperous one-night tasting, netting \$3.48 million to date. The tasting will begin with a VIP Officer's Club Reception from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by the Grand Tasting from 7 to 9 p.m. Among the restaurants and wine purveyors will be Salt Rock Grill, Island Way Grill, Parkshore Grill, 400 Beach Drive, O'Bistro, Melting Pot, Madfish, Casa Vinicola Zonin, Global Wines Distribution, Premier Beverage Company, Southern Wine & Spirits, Republic National Distributing, Johnson Brothers, Stacole, Spirits of Mexico, Pic Pac, Fine Wine & Spirits Warehouse, and Carrollwood Liquors. The event also will feature valet parking, live entertainment and a silent auction with a Jim's Harley-Davidson motorcycle, rare wines, autographed sports collectibles and original artwork. Grand Tasting tickets cost \$50 in advance, \$75 after May 12 and \$85 at the door. Tickets for the VIP Reception include entry to the Grand Tasting and cost \$75 in advance, \$150 after May 12 and \$175 at the door. For tickets, call 538-7370, ext. 234 or

visit www.abilitiesfoundation.com.

• **"Nonsense II,"** with book, music and lyrics by Dan Goggin; presented by Eight O'Clock Theatre, July 13-20, at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Performances are Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. Matinees are Sunday, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$12 for students age 19 and younger with identification. Call 587-6793 or visit www.eightoclocktheatre.com. This sequel takes place six weeks after the Little Sisters of Hoboken's first benefit show, and now they are back with a big Thank You show. They're a bit slicker, having been "bitten by the theater bug." Things get off to a rousing start, and before long chaos erupts. Two Franciscans come to claim Sister Mary Amnesia (who has won the Publishers' Clearing House Sweepstakes). The nuns hear that a talent scout is in the audience.

Pinellas Park

• **"Grease!"**, presented by Venue Theatre's Musical Stars; through May 20, at Venue Theatre and Actors Studio, 9125 U.S. 19 N., Pinellas Park. Performances will be May 13, 19 and 20, 2:30 p.m.; and May 12, 3:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for teens and adults and \$5 for children age 12 and younger. Call 727-822-6194 for reservations and more information. Directed and adapted by Selena Ambush, the production features choreography by Travis Mesman and vocal direction by Wayne Berman and Jason Miller.

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MONDAY LIVE MUSIC BY BILLY GRIFFITHS 4-7PM CHICKEN PARM \$6.99 AFTER 5PM	TUESDAY FRIED CATFISH w/FRIES AND HUSHPUPIES \$6.99 AFTER 5PM	WEDNESDAY AFTER 5PM ROAST PRIME BEEF w/GRAVY DINNER \$6.99	THURSDAY LIVE MUSIC BILLY GRIFFITHS 4-7PM HAPPY HOUR TILL 9PM \$6.99 FISH FRY 5-9PM	FRI. & SAT. CHEF'S SPECIAL 6pm - Close	SUNDAY \$4 Drink of the Day 1pm-Close \$5 Grill Menu 7-11pm
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★ STEAKS ★ BBQ ★ MUSSELS ★ PASTA ★

SEASON FINALE CONCERTS

2011/2012 FLORIDA ORCHESTRA
Stefan Sanderling Music Director

Raymond James Pops **Postcards from Paris**
Enjoy a celebration of the City of Lights with romantic French melodies, Edith Piaf classics, Josephine Baker hits, Parisian café music, Django Reinhardt's gypsy jazz, high-kicking can-cans, soaring film scores and more. Featuring vocalists Kersten Rodau and Robb Asklof, accordion player Patrick Harison, and guitarist Gil Gutierrez, Sarah Hicks conducts.

Tampa Bay Times Masterworks **Beethoven's Eroica**
Singed out by *The New York Times* as "brilliant, sensitive and imaginative," Martina Filjak performs Ravel's gloriously colorful *Piano Concerto in G Major* with its mix of jazz motifs, meditative melodies and sparkling energy... on a program with Chabrier's *Habanera* and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 3, Eroica*. Stefan Sanderling conducts.

May 18 - 20 **SHUMAKER** **Water**
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