

# A lifetime of mentoring children

Big Brothers Big Sisters presents award to volunteer ... Page 7A.

# LARGO LEADER

## 'Ice Age: Continental Drift' opens in area theaters this weekend

Cast of animated film includes Ray Romano, Queen Latifah. ... Page 1B.



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### BUSINESS

#### Seventeen awards presented to TBN

Competing in the Florida Press Association's annual contest, Tampa Bay Newspapers won awards in several categories, from breaking news, to outdoor writing, to general excellence. The papers received five first place awards.

... Page 8A.

### LARGO

#### Tax incentives plan may go to voters

City officials plan to hold a referendum Nov. 6 on whether new and expanding businesses in Largo should be able to receive property tax exemptions.

... Page 2A.

### COUNTY



#### Green, affordable for the environment

Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County not only builds homes that are affordable and good for the low-income homeowners, but they also build them affordable for the long-term and are good for the environment.

... Page 6A.

#### To the rescue: animal league

Founded by Rick Chaboudy in 2006, the Suncoast Animal League has quickly become a go-to source for emergency animal assistance in any number of crisis scenarios.

... Page 4A.

### PET CONNECTION

#### Speaking of Pets

Fighting like cats and dogs. Dr. Michael Rumore of Lake Seminole Animal Hospital explains interspecies communication.

... Page 9A.



### VIEWPOINTS

#### Heart of the Matter

Columnist Chary Southmayd finds that the morning after July 4 on the beach is not a pretty sight.

... Page 11A.



### Topsy-turvy



Photo by TOM GERMOND

Preparing for an event, North Florida Diving team member Mikayla Martin is airborne and Anneliese Foltz prepares to hit the water July 7 at the Independence Invitational, a West Florida Lightning Aquatics tournament. About 60 divers 18 and under, both male and female, were expected to attend the invitational.

## City commission considers millage rate increase

By TOM GERMOND

LARGO - Several city commissioners support the city manager's recommendation that they increase the tax rate about .44 mills for the next fiscal year.

Referring to tax revenue, City Manager Mac Craig said at the commission's July 10 meeting that a constitutional amendment on the Nov. 6 ballot would hurt local government if it were approved. He said that city officials also don't know what the Legislature, which has considered tax-cut measures in recent years, will do in its session next year.

With that in mind, he strongly recommended that the commission consider adopting a tax rate of 4.99 mills. "Because we are down to the bone," he said. "Anything less than that is going to hurt us in [2014,]" he said.

The 4.99 mills represent a 7.30 percent increase in taxes, generating an additional \$1.06 million in revenue. If that rate were adopted, the owner of property with a taxable value of \$62,077 would pay \$42 more in annual taxes. The current rate is 4.55 mills. A mill is equal to \$1 per every \$1,000 of assessed property value.

Because of shrinking revenue stemming from tax cut measures and the downturn in the economy, city officials have cut their operating budget in recent years - \$14.5 million since 2008. Property values have dropped a total value of 31.43 percent since then.

They are expecting to cut \$2.6 million in the city's \$61.3 million operating budget for fiscal year 2013.

The impact on personnel is a proposed reduction of the equivalent of 23.23 full-time positions. The budget also includes no pay raises for the third consecutive year for most employees.

Commissioner Robert Murray, who recommended that the commission support 4.99 mills, saying that the commission "can always lower it."

City commissioners plan to set the maximum property tax rate to be included on the county's estimated tax notices at their July 17 meeting. Once they set the rate for those notices they cannot raise it under state law, but they can lower it.

Murray expressed concern for employees who have gone for years without raises.

"Especially with the employees, if the economy turns around, talent goes where it is at. I think we need to look at that next year," he said.

Mayor Pat Gerard agreed, saying "we have a lot of very talented people here we don't want to lose. If we can do even a little bit next year that would be great."

They also expressed concern about cutting any more services.

"We are talking about big things now," Gerard said.

See MILLAGE, page 4A

## Primary ballots start arriving in mailboxes

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER - Pinellas County's registered voters can start exercising their 15th Amendment rights this week.

Supervisor of Elections Deborah Clark sent out 2,214 mail ballots for the Aug. 14 primary election to absent military and overseas voters June 29. She began sending another 225,000 to local voters who had requested them July 10. State law requires domestic ballots to be mailed between 35 and 28 days prior to an election.

### What's on the ballot?

Florida is a closed primary state, which means only voters registered with a political party are eligible to vote in that party's primary. In other words, only registered Republicans can vote for Republican primary candidates and only Democrats can vote for Democratic candidates.

Voters have until July 16 to register to vote or to change their political parties for the Aug. 14 primary.

All registered voters can participate in the nonpartisan elections, which include judicial and school board races.

### Republican ballot

Registered Republicans will vote for one from a field of six to participate in the November election for the office of U.S. Senator. The choices include George LeMieux, Mike McCalister, Connie Mack, Deon Long, Marielena Stuart and Dave Weldon.

LeMieux withdrew from the race, and Long was disqualified. Votes for either candidate will not count.

Republicans will choose between Darren Ayres,

Madeline Vance and incumbent C.W. Bill Young in the race for District 13 Congressional Representative. District 14 voters will pick between Eddie Adams Jr. and Evelio "EJ" Otero.

In the race for State Senator to represent District 20, voters can choose between Jack Latvala and Zahid Roy, and for District 22, Jeff Brandes and James C. "Jim" Frishe.

For state representative, District 65, the choice is between Marg Baker, Peter Nehr, Tory Perfetti and Philip Tropea. For District 67, Republicans will choose between Ed Hooper and Christopher Shepard; for District 68, Frank Farkas and Daryle L. Hamel; and for District 69, Jim Dobyms, Kathleen Peters and David Phillips.

See BALLOTS, page 4A

## Church hears of woman's escape from communism

By LESTER R. DAILEY

CLEARWATER - It's not easy growing up in a communist country. Just ask Sperantza Adriana Pasos (who goes by her middle name because her first name is difficult for Americans to pronounce.)

On July 7, Pasos told members of the Clearwater Seventh-Day Adventist Church about her girlhood in Romania, which was ruled at the time by Nicolae Ceausescu. Ceausescu started in 1967 as a benevolent leader, but he evolved into one of the most brutal dictators in the Soviet bloc. Things got so bad that Ceausescu was overthrown in a December 1989 revolution, and he and his wife were executed after a two-hour televised trial.

Romanian children start school at age 7 and make up for lost time by going to school Monday through Saturday. That was a problem for Pasos because, as a Seventh-Day Adventist, she celebrated the Sabbath on Saturdays, when exams were given. Missing school on Saturdays would mean that she couldn't graduate from high school and go on to college.

At the age of 7, her parents left it to her to choose between her religion and her schooling. She chose her schooling. But at age 9 she reversed that decision and began going to church on Saturdays.

### When she was 14, Sperantza Adriana Pasos and her mother fled Romania's brutal Ceausescu regime

"The first couple of years were okay, but then it began to intensify," she said. "I was the only Christian in my class and my school. It was hard."

Some kids threw rocks at her, and her seventh-grade math teacher, an ardent communist, vowed to make her life miserable.

One day, during a geometry lesson, that teacher gave Pasos a broken compass and told her to draw a certain angle on the blackboard, which she was unable to do because the chalk kept falling out of the compass. The teacher berated her in front of the class, gave her a grade equal to an F-minus and had another girl try. When that girl complained about the broken compass, she was given an unbroken one and easily completed the task for a passing grade.

"Nothing prepared me for the day that I discovered that my uncle had escaped communist Romania," Pasos said.

The Romanian KGB secret police had ordered the uncle to spy on the members



Photos courtesy of SPERANTZA ADRIANA PASOS Above is the travel document that was issued to Sperantza Adriana Pasos and her mother when they became refugees in Turkey. At right is Pasos in a recent photograph.

of his church, or his family would be killed. Instead, he decided to slip into the Danube River during the midnight changing of the guard, and swim to freedom in Yugoslavia. Others had tried and been spotted. Instead of wasting a bullet on them, the border guards ran them over and let the sharp propellers of their boats cut them to pieces.

For a week, Pasos' family didn't know the fate of the uncle, and were delighted to hear that he had made it. Other family members reached freedom by going on a government-approved vacation outside the country and defecting instead of returning. But those escapes meant that the dreaded KGB would be keeping an even closer eye on Pasos' immediate family.

In 1979, when Pasos was 14, the family hatched a plot whereby Pasos and her mother would seek permission to vaca-



tion in Turkey and seek asylum at the Austrian embassy in Istanbul. That meant leaving her father and 4-year-old sister behind in Romania.

When permission for the trip was received, Pasos' father hid 300 German Deutschmarks in the film compartment of a camera to finance the defection. Discovery of the prohibited foreign currency would have meant a lengthy prison sentence, or worse.

As the tour group boarded the bus, guards tore apart the luggage of most of them but barely touched the luggage of Pasos and her mother. Another problem arose when the bus reached the border between communist Bulgaria and non-communist Turkey, and it was discovered that the Romanian government had

See ESCAPE, page 4A

### Features

Business	.8A
Classifieds	4-7B
County	5-7A
Entertainment	1-3, 8B
Just for fun	.2B
Largo	2-3A
Outdoors	12-13A
Pet connection	.9A
Police beat	.5A
Viewpoints	11A

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# City plans referendum on new business tax exemptions

By TOM GERMOND

LARGO - City officials plan to hold a referendum Nov. 6 on whether new and expanding businesses in Largo should be able to receive property tax exemptions.

Under state law that took effect July 1, 2011, counties and cities can grant tax exemptions on the value of eligible improvements to property for businesses that create jobs in certain industries or area. The cities of Clearwater and Pinellas County will place referendums on the Nov. 6 ballot. Hillsborough and Sarasota counties, Tampa, Sarasota and St. Petersburg have established the exemptions through referendums.

Commissioner Robert Murray said at the commission's July 3 meeting that he had a hard time supporting the proposal because of the city's tight operating budget.

"And this coming directly out of ad valorem. Right now the only way we can raise the general fund balance is through fees and millage," Murray said.

City Economic Development Manager Teresa Brydon said the pro-

posal is an opportunity for the "voters to be able to say yes or no." "As far as laying out the project and the plan, that's something you do get to decide," she said.

She said the rules that the state provides are stringent. "I don't see the city of Largo really having that many come up and be a viable project because it's so difficult to make this happen ...," she said.

Each request for an exemption must be approved through an ordinance.

"There is no entitlement. If the voters approve this, and you adopt an enabling ordinance, there is still no business that they come in and be entitled to the exemption. You would still have to grant that business the exemption," City Attorney Alan Zimmet said.

Businesses must reapply annually if they want to continue to receive the exemption. Local governments may revoke the exemption if the applicant fails to meet the agreement expectations.

Commissioner Gigi Arntzen said she had no problem with the proposal.

"I think from a marketing standpoint, if Clearwater and Pinellas

County are doing this, now is the time to get the information to residents, property owners, business owners," she said.

Mayor Pat Gerard agreed, saying she would not want to wait two years to get the process started and be behind other cities that have approved the exemptions.

The industries under state law that would be eligible for the exemptions include health care and medical manufacturing, financial and professional services, homeland security and defense, information technology, aviation/aerospace, manufacturing and corporate headquarters operations.

The minimum requirement for new jobs is manufacturing, 10; out-of-state international export sales, 25; and office, 50. The average wage for new jobs being created must be above the average wage in the area. As of Jan. 1, Pinellas County's was \$40,372.

The authority to grant the exemptions expires after 10 years but may be renewed another 10 years by voter approval in a referendum.

City officials plan to present the proposed ballot language to the City Commission July 17.

## Around Largo

City events



**Free Genealogy/Family History Classes**, Largo Public Library, 120 Central Park Drive.

Description: "Free classes this month provided by the Pinellas Genealogy Society include: Getting Started in Genealogy, Using familysearch.org (LDS-Mormon website) and Tracing Female Ancestors. See the complete listing with details of classes and scheduled times at [www.flpgs.org/classes.aspx](http://www.flpgs.org/classes.aspx)."

Email Bob Bryan at [BBryan84@gmail.com](mailto:BBryan84@gmail.com) or call 595-4521 for more information.

The event is free.

**Bay Area Singles Dance**, July 15, 22 and 29, 6 p.m. until 10 p.m., Largo Community Center, 400 Alt. Keene Road.

Description: "Since 1997, Bay Area Singles Dance has been the best place for area singles and friends to meet. Every Sunday approximately 150 singles of all ages join us. We offer an extensive music library to fit every taste. Dress to Impress!"

Call 518-3131.

The fee is \$8 per person.

**Itty Bitty Splashtime**, July 13, 16, 18, 20, 23, 25, 27, and 30, 9:45 a.m. until 10:45 a.m., Highland Family Aquatic Center, 400 Highland Ave.

Description: "Parents can spend quality time with their preschool aged children in a safe and playful aquatic environment. Mom's clubs are welcome. Children not potty-trained must wear a plastic swim diaper under their bathing suit."

For more information, call 518-3018 or visit [LargoPools.com](http://LargoPools.com).

The cost is \$1.50 per person.

**Teen Tidalwave Tuesdays**, July 17, 24 and 31, 7 p.m. until 9 p.m., Highland Family Aquatic Center.

Description: "Teens can meet up with friends, swim, and catch up on what happened over the weekend. Sponsors will provide snacks and giveaways are planned. For more information, call 518-3018 or visit [LargoPools.com](http://LargoPools.com)."

The cost is \$3 per teen

**Flick 'n Float Family Movie**, July 13 and 20, 7:30 p.m. until 11 p.m., Southwest Pool, 13120 Vonn Road.

Description: "Bring your favorite float or chair from home and join us for a Friday night family movie poolside! Enjoy free hot dogs, fun and games! Visit [LargoPools.com](http://LargoPools.com) or call 518-3126 for more information and movie titles."

The fee is \$4 with recreation card, \$5 without recreation card

per person

No refunds due to weather

**Square Dancing Fridays**, July 13, 20 and 27, 7:30 p.m. until 9:45 p.m., Largo Community Center, 400 Alt. Keene Road.

Description: "Like country style dancing? Square or round? Spend the evening dancing to professional caller Allen Snell. Join anytime."

Call 518-3131.

The fee is \$6.

**Swing Dance Saturdays**, July 14, 21 and 28, 7 p.m. until 11 p.m., Largo Community Center.

Description: "Come enjoy an evening of dancing and socializing every Saturday night. Enjoy a free lesson from 7 to 8 p.m. and a DJ dance from 8 until 11 p.m. Our resident DJ is Savoy Swing. Don't miss out on our 5,600-square-foot sprung hardwood floor."

For more information visit [LargoCommunityCenter.com](http://LargoCommunityCenter.com) or call 518-3131.

The fee is \$6 with a recreation card; \$7 with no recreation card.

**Summer Sweat Zumba Bash**, July 14, 6 p.m. until 8:30 p.m., Highland Recreation Complex.

Description: "Zumba is easy to do, effective and totally exhilarating! Dance your stress away and enjoy healthy treats, raffle prizes, vendors and more. Please wear comfortable clothing and dance shoes or sneakers. Child care is provided for potty trained 3-8 year olds for an additional \$3."

Call 518-3016.

**Monthly Night Hikes**, July 21, 6:30 p.m., McGough Nature Park, 11901 146th St. N.

Description: "Join us every third Saturday of the month for a guided walk through the woods, seeking out nocturnal animals such as raccoons, owls, opossums, bats and more. Flashlights are optional. Donations are kindly accepted. Preregister by calling 518-3047."

The event is free.

**Silver Screen Classics: A History of the Movies**, July 26, noon, Largo Community Center.

Description: "Enjoy an afternoon of viewing a classic movie on our 20-foot screen. Refreshments will be sold and information on the movie will be handed out. Movies are shown in the ballroom. Call for a listing of movies."

Call 518-3131.

The event is free.

**Splash's Treasure Hunt**, July 28, 11 a.m. until 3 p.m., Southwest Pool.

Description: "Hidden treasures and pirates will be invading Southwest Pool. Free chicken sandwiches and hot dogs will be given away while supplies last!"

Call 518-3128.

The fee is \$3 for residents and \$5 for nonresidents.

## City OKs incentives for new development

By TOM GERMOND

LARGO - City commissioners July 3 approved \$50,000 in incentives for two properties that will be annexed and used for a 260-unit apartment complex.

The two parcels, consisting of 13.80 acres, are located between Ridge Road and Seminole Boulevard. They are currently being used as a recreational vehicle park.

The incentives approved under the annexation agreement are for drainage and signage improvements on the property, landscaping improvements along the Seminole Boulevard frontage, building and engineering permit fees, site plan review fees and certificate of occupancy fees. The also agreed to reimburse the owner for costs to clean up the property to allow for development.

City resident Geoff Moakley spoke against the city providing incentives for a private development.

If the developers of a 260-unit apartment complex can't fund the total cost of property development and other fees, the property should not be annexed and developed, he said.

"The city of Largo should not be using \$50,000 in general fund revenue to pay for this," Moakley said.

City officials said the revenues from property taxes and fees will far exceed the \$50,000 in incentives.

Commissioner Curtis Holmes questioned whether the property will be developed or "are the leprechauns just sitting on this parcel for the next buyer to come by."

City Program Planner Jesus Niño said there is no guarantee the property will be developed but "we have good inclination that it will."

City officials said the incentives would not be provided until the property is developed.

The commission voted 4-1 to approve the agreement with Dockside Investors and BDC Investors to annex the properties. Holmes voted against the measure.

## 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.

We are not able to predict exactly the issue it will be printed - or even guarantee that it will be used.

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](mailto:editorial@TBNweekly.com) or faxed to 397-5900. Questions? Call 397-5563 or send an email.

Please include a contact name and number on all submissions. Personal photographs can be picked up at the office after publication; however, their safety is not guaranteed (please don't give us the last picture you have of Ol' Uncle Albert.)

Please type letters to the editor (or print legibly) and include your name, town of residence, phone number and signature and mail to Tampa Bay Newspapers, 9911 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772. Emails should include town of residence and telephone and be sent to [tgermond@TBNweekly.com](mailto:tgermond@TBNweekly.com).

### Correction

The newspaper misidentified the playground chairman for the Friends of the Island Parks last week in a story about new playground equipment for Honeymoon Island. Her name is Diane Hood.

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### That's the spirit



Photos by TOM GERMOND

Above, participants in a Hula Hoop contest practice before the event during Largo's July 4th celebration. The celebration drew thousands of visitors to Largo Central Park that evening. At right, the heat of July doesn't deter these youths from playing with the pigskin during the celebration.



## Do you know a hidden hero?

Did you always think of letting others know about that neighbor who once climbed Mount Everest, or the quiet bagger at the grocery store who saved a child's life? Maybe your hero is exceptional in a quieter way. There are so many amazing people in our midst. Help us share their stories by nominating a Hidden Hero. Call us at 397-5563, or email us at editorial@TBNweekly.com.

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# All creatures great and small

## The Suncoast Animal League is on the case

By CHARY SOUTHMAYD

PALM HARBOR – There is nothing fancy about the Suncoast Animal League in Palm Harbor. In fact, it's one of the more modest animal shelters you might ever see. Appearances aside, there is virtually no limit to what the Suncoast Animal League will do to help animals in distress – every conceivable kind of animal. Executive Director Rick Chaboudy has a hard time saying no.

Founded by Chaboudy in 2006, the Suncoast Animal League has quickly become a go-to source for emergency animal assistance in any number of crisis scenarios. That is in addition to the daily job of caring for and finding good homes for what seems like an endless stream of abandoned, abused, homeless and unwanted dogs, cats, puppies, kittens and assorted other pets.

Tropical Storm Debby provided the most recent onslaught of SOS calls from concerned citizens involving everything from orphaned baby opossums to a variety of birds, turtles, cottontail rabbits and a lot of baby deer.

"Debby hit on a Sunday, and on Monday we started getting calls from people seeing wildlife in distress," said Chaboudy. "From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. we dealt with 14 fawns."

Truth be known, there are frequently instances in which people with the best of intentions step in when it's not necessary. Regarding wildlife, there is a fine line between helping and interfering.

Chaboudy explains that a mother deer, for instance, will bed down her fawn in a safe, wooded location while she goes about her business. In the case of Tropical Storm Debby, when wooded areas became flooded, fawns had moved to higher ground next to some homes on the Tarpon Woods and Lansbrook golf courses. Homeowners mistakenly thought the fawns were abandoned and called for help. Chaboudy advises that more times than not, if left alone the mothers will return for their offspring. That is also true for fledgling baby birds found on the ground. They haven't necessarily fallen out of their nest. They learn to fly from the ground up, Chaboudy explains. Mother birds know what they are doing.

An exception to nature's hands-off rule involved a 5-day-old fawn found with a severe, bloody eye injury and swollen face. She was un-

able to stand. Chaboudy transported the fawn to Ehrlich Animal Hospital in Tampa, where it was determined she had been bitten in the face by a snake, most likely a water moccasin.

"She was dying and would not have made it if left alone," he said.

Now weeks later, after Chaboudy's round-the-clock TLC and medical care, the fawn (who has been named Dawn) is recovering nicely, though her injured eye had to be removed. Unable to be returned to the wild, the Suncoast Animal League eventually will find Dawn a permanent place to live out her life with other deer.

Another recent rescue involved an endangered Sandhill Crane with a broken leg. Chaboudy caught the bird and then later released her back to her habitat, after she had been treated at Save Our Seabirds in Sarasota. Sandhill cranes mate for life, so it was important to release the bird where she was found and where her mate hopefully awaited her return.

"We are not always the experts, but we can get animals out of harm's way and put them with the experts," explained Chaboudy, who has established a cooperative relationship with several rescue organizations and shelters in an effort to save as many animal lives as possible.

Just weeks before the tropical storm chaos, Chaboudy and his tireless volunteers traveled to Hillsborough County Animal Services and Pasco County Animal Services to rescue 39 adult dogs and puppies that were about to be euthanized. Back at the League that afternoon, the rescues were bathed, medically assessed and settled in at foster homes until they could be adopted into permanent, loving homes.

"The easy part is taking animals out of bad situations," Chaboudy said. "The aftermath is the hard part when you have sick animals, socialization issues ... it is a tremendous expense."

The nonprofit Suncoast Animal League receives no public funding and has only two paid employees. The organization is dependent upon private donations to stay afloat. An army of volunteers and a terrific network of foster families allow the no-kill, no-time limit organization to further its mission of making life better for animals. Financial help is always needed.

The Palm Harbor business community has stepped up to support the League. Fairway Pizza on Alt. U.S. 19 hosts a dog wash on the



Photo courtesy of SUNCOAST ANIMAL LEAGUE

**Three Great Pyrenees-mix puppies rescued with their mother get a bath at the Suncoast Animal League.**

fourth Saturday of every month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Owners can enjoy lunch while their dogs are bathed and have their nails trimmed by Suncoast Animal League volunteers for very reasonable rates.

"We have a lot of fun and it's a nice afternoon out for the family and their dog," said Chaboudy, who appreciates other local businesses that support them, including Thirsty Marlin and Boyle's Backyard Bar and Grill.

The Suncoast Animal League effectively spreads its message via Facebook and Twitter. Constant updates are provided on the rescue missions and animals available for adoption. Followers often turn to Facebook to seek advice on crisis situations they encounter. There isn't much Chaboudy hasn't seen or handled during his many years in the animal care business.

"This is very emotional work. We see a lot of bad things," Chaboudy said. "But our job is to make it better – that's the reward. We can't save the world, but that doesn't keep us from trying."

The Suncoast Animal League is at 1030 Pennsylvania Ave. in Palm Harbor. For more information about volunteering, fostering, or to make a donation, call 727-786-1330. Visit [www.suncoastanimalleague.org](http://www.suncoastanimalleague.org). Follow them on Facebook and Twitter.

### BALLOTS, from page 1A

In one of the most contested local races, Republicans will pick their candidate to run in the November primary for the office of sheriff. Two names are on the ballot, the incumbent, Bob Gualtieri, and a former Pinellas County Sheriff, Everett Rice.

Republicans also will vote for several party offices. Tony DiMatteo, Christopher G. Karmper and Dan Tucker are running for State Committeeman, and Narda Enander and Nancy J. Riley for State Committeewoman.

Several positions by precinct are on the ballot. Voters will choose between Marilyn J. Cisek and Katherine Dorothy Freeman for Committeewoman Precinct

110; Tony DiMatteo, Fenton Gentry and Gideon Hecht for Committeeman Precinct 316; and Melody L. Brown, Chely Hernandez-Miller and Janice B. Hill for Committeewoman Precinct 416.

### Democratic ballot

Registered Democrats will vote for one of two to be their candidate in the November election for the office of U.S. Senator. Incumbent Bill Nelson is challenged by Glenn A. Burkett.

Voters in District 13 will vote for a Representative in Congress with a choice between Jessica Ehrlich and Nina Hayden. In District 66, the choice is either Mary Louise Ambrose or Joanne "Cookie" Kennedy.

A second hotly contested local race is

for the Democratic candidate for Pinellas County Commissioner District 7. Incumbent Ken Welch is challenged by Maria L. Scruggs.

The Democrats also have party offices up for grabs at the precinct level. Shannon L. Love and Susan McGrath are vying for the position of Precinct 127 Committeewoman; Sharon A. Delaney and Sharon Janis for Precinct 225 Committeewoman; George R. Guthrie and Lodewijk Vandenberg for Precinct 266 Committeeman; and Lois H. Fries and Nancy R. Hoppe for Precinct 323 Committeewoman.

### Nonpartisan ballot

All registered voters, regardless of party, can vote in nonpartisan races.

Voters can pick between Bill Burgess and Andy Steingold for judge of the Sixth Circuit Group 15, Brian Battaglia and Kimberly "Kim" Campbell for Group 31, and Jack Day and Agnes Theresa McCabe for Group 45.

In the race for County Judge Group 2, the choice is between Scott Andringa and Cathy Ann McKyton.

All voters can participate in Pinellas County School Board election.

For the District 1 – at large position, candidates are Janet R. Clark, Jim Jackson, Shelly Ladd-Gilbert and Elliott Stern. Running in the single member race for District 7's representative are Keisha Bell, Rene Flowers, Glenton "Glen" Gilzean, Corey Givens Jr. and Cassandra Jackson.

### Mail ballots and other information

Pinellas County residents can request a mail ballot by visiting [www.voteinpinellas.com](http://www.voteinpinellas.com) or call 464-VOTE (8683). Mail ballots can be requested through 5 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 8, after which time voters can pick them up at any Elections Office. Mail ballots must be received back at an Elections Office by 7 p.m. Aug. 14 to be counted. Ballots also may be left at drop-off locations throughout the county. A list is included with the ballot received in the mail.

Early voting is scheduled between Aug. 4 and Aug. 11 at any of three Elections Offices. Hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Polls are open Election Day, Aug. 14, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## Briefs

### Sheriff's debate location set

CLEARWATER – A Pinellas County sheriff's candidates debate will be held on Tuesday, July 17, 7 to 9 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater Octagon Arts Center located at 2470 Nursery Road, located between U.S. 19 and Belcher Road.

All candidates that qualified for the primary election in August are expected to participate. They are Sheriff Bob Gualtieri and Everett Rice, Republicans; Scott Swope, a Democrat, and write-in candidate Greg Pound.

On April 18, candidates outlined their differing positions in sheriff's candidate forum hosted by the National Armed Services & Law Enforcement Memorial Museum in Dunedin, where more than 200 voters heard from all six announced candidates as they answered questions from forum moderator, Al Ruechel. The Bay News 9 senior anchor will again question candidates as the debate moderator on July 17.

Debate organizers and sponsors expect a larger audience due to expectations of an increased voter turnout.

### Help available to local victims of T.S. Debby

The Federal Emergency Management Agency, in conjunction with state and local agencies, is making federal assistance available to several counties in Florida affected by Tropical Storm Debby, including Pinellas County.

Disaster relief is available for residential or business damages, large or small, sustained during Tropical Storm Debby not covered by personal insurance, including money for home repairs, rental assistance, medical expenses, unemployment assistance, transportation or other disaster-related expenses and serious needs.

Low interest loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration are also available to help with residential or business losses not covered by insurance.

Those making claims must first register their loss with FEMA by any of the following methods:

- Going online to [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov)
- Contacting FEMA by smart phone or tablet using the FEMA app or going to [m.fema.gov](http://m.fema.gov)
- Calling the FEMA toll-free number 1-800-621-FEMA (3362), 1-800-462-7585 (TTY). Telephone lines are answered from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week. The deadline to apply for benefits is 60 days from the date of the declaration, July 3.

Please have the following information ready when registering your claim:

- A telephone number at which you may be reached
- The address where you lived at the time of the disaster and the address where you live now (if living in temporary quarters)
- Your Social Security number
- A general description of the damage in question
- The name of your insurance company, policy number and name of agent
- Your bank account routing information, if you want FEMA to reimburse you through direct deposit.

FEMA Community Relations volunteers are also going door to door in the community to explain this disaster relief program. FEMA staff will

be traveling in pairs, will be wearing FEMA staff shirts and have FEMA ID tags.

Information on SBA disaster loans may be obtained by calling 1-800-659-2955, or 1-800-877-8339 (TTY) or by going online to [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).

Help in obtaining low interest SBA disaster loans can be found through Pinellas County Economic Development's Small Business Development Center, 13805 58th St. N., Suite 1-200, in Clearwater. Call 453-7200 or go online to [www.pced.org/entrepreneurs](http://www.pced.org/entrepreneurs). You may email the office at [businesshelp@pinellascounty.org](mailto:businesshelp@pinellascounty.org).

### Two commissioners honored with FAC award

CLEARWATER – The Florida Association of Counties has presented Pinellas County Commission Vice Chairman Kenneth T. Welch and Pinellas County Commissioner Susan Latvala with that organization's Presidential Advocacy Award.

The awards ceremony took place during the 2012 FAC Annual Conference & Exposition in Orange County.

The Presidential Advocacy Award is presented to county commissioners who show a commitment to protecting local control and advocating on behalf of home rule in Tallahassee.

Both Welch and Latvala were said to be invaluable assets to FAC and its mission to preserve and protect home rule. Both commissioners took time to educate legislators on FAC's priorities such as tax reform, Medicaid billing and ongoing efforts to reduce preemptions and stop unfunded mandates.

"Public servants like Commissioner Ken Welch and Commissioner Susan Latvala can ensure that our local communities have the authority to respond to the demands of their citizens," said FAC Executive Director Chris Holley. "These commissioners fought for home rule – the idea that government closest to the people governs best – in Pinellas County and many other Florida communities."

For 80 years, FAC has helped counties effectively serve and represent Floridians by strengthening and preserving county home rule through advocacy, education and collaboration.

For more information on the Board of County Commissioners, check the Pinellas County website at [www.pinellascounty.org/commission](http://www.pinellascounty.org/commission).

### Burke named to Supreme Court committee

CLEARWATER – Ken Burke, clerk and comptroller for Pinellas County, has been named by Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice Polston to the Supreme Court Standing Committee on Fairness and Diversity to serve a term expiring June 30, 2014.

The Honorable Circuit Court Judge Scott Bernstein of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit chairs the committee.

The purpose of the Standing Committee is to advance the state courts system's efforts to eliminate from court operations bias that is based on race, gender, ethnicity, age, disability, socioeconomic status, or any characteristic that is without legal relevance.

The committee issued a report on March 14, 2008 entitled "Perceptions of Fairness in the Florida Court System" which can be found at

[www.flcourts.org/gen\\_public/family/diversity/index.shtml](http://www.flcourts.org/gen_public/family/diversity/index.shtml).

The report indicated that significant improvements in reducing discrimination have been made over the past two decades, but that disparate treatment continues to occur. During Burke's term, the Standing Committee will continue to address the perceptions of disparate treatment documented in the report. The Committee will submit its report to the Supreme Court's Chief Justice at the conclusion of their findings.

For more information on the Administrative Order establishing the Supreme Court Standing Committee on Fairness and Diversity visit [www.floridasupremecourt.org/clerk/admin/orders/2012/AOSC12-28.PDF](http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/clerk/admin/orders/2012/AOSC12-28.PDF).

### SPC plans wetlands restoration

SEMINOLE – In the months to come, residents should see some visible improvements to the St. Petersburg College property at the southwest corner of 102nd Avenue and 113th Street.

SPC officials announced June 26 they have received two \$20,000 matching grants from the Southwest Florida Water Management District that will generate a total of \$80,000 for wetlands restoration of about 60 acres north of the school campus.

The area is bounded by 113th Street to the east, 102nd Avenue to the north and Ridge Road to the west.

Speaking before the Seminole City Council, Jim Waechter, director of facilities services at SPC, said upgrades to the school's Natural Habitat Park would be done in two phases beginning next fall and into the winter.

"We could combine both of the phases and do all of the work at once," Waechter said.

For each \$20,000 grant, the school will match \$20,000 in both phases. The way it is working out, Waechter said, SPC will likely receive both allocations from SWFWMD about the same time.

Waechter said Swiftmud officials were so impressed with SPC's phase one plans, they came back and offered SPC the additional grant for the second phase.

Plans call for replanting of natural species consisting of trees, understory and ground cover.

The trees, which will eventually grow to about 40 or 50 feet in height, will include Dahoon holly, red maple and southern magnolia, among others.

The school's Natural Habitat Park and Environmental Center supports various SPC curriculum and offers recreational opportunities for the community.

Developed in collaboration with the city of Seminole, the project was primarily funded with a Department of Housing and Urban Development grant.

It features a 200-yard boardwalk, a 50-seat teaching pavilion, a floating dock for use in water sampling, and a butterfly and sculpture garden.

According to the school website, it features nearly 200 kinds of bird species, 24 species of dragonflies, 24 species of frogs, turtles, snakes, and alligators; seven species of butterflies, rabbits, otters, opossums, raccoons, armadillos, slash pines, wax myrtle shrubs, sweetgum trees, sand live oaks, red bay trees, grape vines and leather ferns.

fees and swim team fees are projected to increase along with shelter rental fees and Cultural Center fees.

Addressing concerns that city officials were considering closing the Southwest Pool, Gerard emphasized at the City Commission's July 3 meeting that the pool was not on any list of budget cuts that the commission has seen.

Two public hearings on the budget and tax rate are set for Sept. 4 and Sept. 20. The 2013 fiscal year begins Oct. 1.



Photo courtesy of SPERANTZA ADRIANA PASOS

**Sperantza Adriana Pasos at age 4 poses with her mother in Romania.**

### ESCAPE, from page 1A

kept the travelers' passports and merely sent a passenger list with the bus. Amazingly, after hours of wrangling, Turkey made a one-time exception and allowed the Romanians in without passports.

For days, Pasos and her mother tried to ditch the undercover KGB agents who had infiltrated the tour group. Finally, shortly before they were scheduled to return home, they managed to sneak out of a shopping bazaar and take a taxi to the Austrian embassy.

They were stunned when an Austrian official told them that because they were in the free country of Turkey, they would have to defect to the Turks instead of the Austrians.

As best they could, she explained their plight to a Turkish policeman, who took them to police headquarters, where the cops spoke only Turkish. The only word Pasos and her mother recognized, and one that kept coming up, was "harem." They were terrified that they were going to be sold into a harem.

Finally, they were put in a van and driven away, not knowing if they were going to be killed or sold into sexual slavery. The van drove into an enclosed room and stopped. A man opened the door and said in perfect Romanian "You are safe now."

In a corner of the room, they saw an American flag. Somehow, the Turkish authorities had arranged for them to be granted political asylum in the United States.

That was as far as the story went at the 11:45 a.m. church service. Pasos's father and younger sister escaped Romania 13 months later, but Pasos told the churchgoers they would have to come back for the 7 p.m. service to learn the details or their escape, which was even more harrowing than her own.

Those who missed that service can buy Pasos' book, *Hope in Present Danger*. It can be ordered online at [www.hopeinpresentdanger.com](http://www.hopeinpresentdanger.com) or by emailing [adriana@hopeinpresentdanger.com](mailto:adriana@hopeinpresentdanger.com).

### MILLAGE, from page 1A

A 2.75 percent increase, as originally proposed in the budget, will provide sufficient revenue to allow the city to continue to provide services that residents and businesses value, but it also requires both future property tax increases an additional \$900,000 in expenditure reductions in fiscal year 2014, city officials said.

Among positions deleted in the proposed

budget are the assistant to the city manager's position, which recently became vacant; the neighborhood coordinator position, also vacant; three firefighter positions for the fire engine that serves Largo, Belleair Bluffs and Belleair; and a human resource analyst position, also vacant.

Under the budget, the city's economic development staff is restructured, resulting in the loss of the equivalent of one full-time employee. In Recreation, Parks and Arts, adult softball

## Police beat

### Police arrest two in marijuana growing operation

LARGO – Police seized 121 marijuana plants, three rifles and four handguns July 3 and made two arrests stemming from an investigation of an indoor marijuana growing operation in the past two months.

Intelligence indicated that the suspects were heavily armed with rifles and handguns and growing marijuana in the northwest section of Largo. On July 3, at 6:30 a.m., police served a search warrant at 911 16th Ave. NW.

Besides the arms and marijuana plants being seized, two suspects were arrested. Jose Dickerson, 33, of Largo was charged with one count of cultivation of cannabis, one count of lease to manufacture a controlled substance and one count of possession of paraphernalia. He was taken to Pinellas County Jail under \$55,150 bond.

Jeffrey Fowler, 34, of Largo was charged with one count of cultivation of cannabis and one count of possession of paraphernalia. He was taken to the county jail under \$5,150 bond.

### Bullet strikes man while watching fireworks

SAFETY HARBOR – A Clearwater man was treated for injuries after being struck by a falling bullet while watching fireworks July 4.

According to Pinellas County sheriff's deputies, Richard John Smeraldo, 74, was watching a fireworks display along the waterfront near the Safety Harbor Spa and Marina when he was struck by a falling bullet about 9:45 p.m. Smeraldo was in an area about 60 feet north of the restrooms and about 125 feet west of the shoreline.

According to reports, Smeraldo, his wife and friends were watching the fireworks display near the Safety Harbor Spa and Marina when something struck him in the face. He told deputies that he first thought he had been struck by a rock. But one of his friends found a bullet on the blanket next to her – and then Smeraldo realized he had been struck by the bullet.

Smeraldo was transported by ambulance to Mease Countryside Hospital. There deputies learned that the bullet evidently went through the bill of Smeraldo's cap, into the bridge of his nose – out his right nostril, through the upper portion of his bottom lip and exited through his lower chin.

The bullet then struck a metal medallion Smeraldo was wearing on a chain around his neck – then bounced off the back of his friend and onto the blanket.

Smeraldo's injuries required stitches and he was released from the hospital after treatment.

Deputies launched a search and investigation in an area just southwest of the Safety Harbor Marina. No arrests have been made yet.

### Palm Harbor fire prompts investigation

PALM HARBOR – Pinellas County sheriff's arson investigators reported that a July 4 fire at a Palm Harbor home started in the garage.

None of the three family members was injured in the fire that destroyed the families' garage and part of the home on Pennsylvania Avenue. Investigators say that Robert Hampton, 50, Barbara Hampton, 53, and Shelley Lynn Hampton, 18, were awakened by the fire just after midnight and managed to get out safely.

Detectives determined the origin of the fire was in a series of bags of old clothes and other items, which were leaning against the wooden

garage door. The actual cause at this time is undetermined. Estimated damage to the home could be over \$100,000.

The investigation continues.

### Clearwater man charged with murder

CLEARWATER – A Clearwater man remains in the Pinellas County Jail without bond charged with first-degree murder.

Bruce K. Schunk, 65, a resident of the Riviera Mobile Home Park, is accused of killing Keith Lewandowski, 46, who also lived at the park with his wife, Sandra.

Pinellas sheriff's homicide detectives are investigating the homicide that occurred around 12:30 p.m., July 4, at the Riviera Mobile Home Park, 29141 U.S. 19 N.

Lewandowski died of a gunshot wound to the head. Detectives say Schunk declined to speak to them about the incident. No one else was hurt.

According to deputies, there is a history of neighbor trouble involving Schunk and other neighbors – including Lewandowski. Schunk reportedly entered Lewandowski's mobile home uninvited, made several comments to Lewandowski and his wife and pointed a large caliber handgun at Sandra. Keith stepped in between Sandra and Schunk, and Schunk shot him once. Lewandowski was pronounced dead at the scene. Detectives said there was no incident of any kind between the two before Schunk entered the Lewandowski home.

The suspect then reportedly returned to his mobile home. He was later arrested without further incident and the handgun used in the shooting was recovered.

The investigation continues.

### Deputies break up online romance

CLEARWATER – Pinellas County sheriff's deputies arrested a Clearwater man July 2 for attempting to meet and engage in sexual activity with a 14-year-old girl he met online.

Deputies arrested Robert Mark Hall, 35, and charged him with traveling to meet a minor and certain use of computer service prohibited. He was booked into the Pinellas County Jail on \$15,000 bond.

Pinellas County Crimes Against Children detectives began the investigation in June after the suspect posted a local ad on Craigslist. Hall made contact with an individual online he believed to be a 14-year-old female. The subject he met online was actually an undercover detective.

Over the course of a two-week period, Hall sent inappropriate messages to the undercover detective soliciting sexual favors, according to the sheriff's report.

On July 2, Hall arranged to meet the juvenile at a local park. Upon his arrival at the park, detectives arrested him. Detectives say during the interview, Hall admitted to the allegations made against him. Hall is currently unemployed.

PCSO is a member of the Central Florida Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

### Man dies in one-car crash

CLEARWATER – An 83-year-old Clearwater man died just before noon July 2 from injuries suffered when he lost control of his car and crashed into a wooden fence and then a tree at 1597 Beverly Drive in Clearwater.

According to the Florida Highway Patrol, John R. Cheesman was driving eastbound on Belleair Road, approaching Beverly Drive, when he drove across the westbound lane through the grass shoulder, crossing Beverly Drive.

He then entered the property at 1597 Beverly Drive where his 2002 Chrysler hit a fence and then traveled eastbound before hitting a tree located on the southeastern portion of the property.

Investigators said it is possible that Cheesman suffered a medical condition prior to the crash. One passenger, Janis Winter, 76, received minor injuries and was taken to Bayfront Medical Center. The incident is still under investigation.

### Clearwater man arrested for sexual battery

CLEARWATER – A Clearwater man spent the weekend in jail after he was charged June 29 with capital sexual battery on a 9-year-old female.

Detectives with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Crimes Against Children Unit arrested Omartin Martinez, 26, at the Sheriff's Administration Building in Largo. Martinez is being held without bond.

The suspect's brother, Marsanti Martinez, 24, was extradited from Connecticut to Pinellas County in early June to face two counts of capital sexual battery on two victims (brothers) under the age of 12.

During the course of the investigation, resulting in the arrest and extradition of Marsanti Martinez, detectives received information and identified another possible victim – a 9-year-old female.

Detectives interviewed the alleged victim. During the interview, the victim revealed that her younger sister had been sexually battered by Marsanti Martinez and that she had been sexually battered by his brother, Omartin Martinez. The crime occurred on at least five occasions between September and November 2011. Martinez was caring for the victim when the crime occurred.

Detectives believe there may be additional victims for both suspects, as both had access to various children. Detectives are asking that anyone with information that would assist them in this investigation to call Detective Mark Kolenda of the Crimes Against Children Unit at 582-6200.

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# Habitat builds green for environment, affordability, quality

By ALEXANDRA LUNDAHL

CLEARWATER – Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County not only builds homes that are affordable and good for the low-income homeowners, but they also build them affordable for the long-term and are good for the environment.

"It makes long-term sense for homeowners for operating costs of owning a home, and we know it makes long-term sense for the environment whenever we can reduce energy consumption and use recycled materials, we know we reduce our impact on the environment," said Ron Spoor, Chief Operations Officer of Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas. "And since we are builders and we use a lot of products, we want to be sensitive to our impact on the environment."

In addition to helping the environment, it is important to Habitat that their homes are affordable in the long-term for their homeowners. Since the people who buy their homes are low-income, this is especially important.

"After the hurricanes of 2004, I signed an insurance check for one of four families for a 1,100-square-foot wood-framed house for \$3,000," said Barbara Inman, president and CEO of Habitat Pinellas. "That is too much money for the income level of the people we serve. And that put a bright spotlight on these issues and how we can do a better job."

Affordability comes in many forms. It starts out with the zero-percent interest loans that Habitat gives its homeowners, but also to keep costs down during the whole time they own the home, including utility costs. By building "green," or sustainable, as Habitat calls it, they achieve not only long-term affordability for the homeowner, but they also help the environment.

The main reason (we do this) is because the people and families who are at the income level that we serve, their income percentages tend to go up at a slower rate than other income brackets," Inman said. "And if energy and insurance costs continue to increase, as they will, these people will be the hardest hit."

Habitat has many areas that they focus on for sustainability, but they are generally divided into three main areas: Wind mitigation; water conservation and energy efficiency; and durability.

Quality wind mitigation is a top priority at Habitat Pinellas. It is im-

portant to them that their homes hold up well in a hurricane and that they qualify for lower insurance rates. To accomplish this, Spoor said, the homes are built with concrete block, steel reinforced walls; hurricane shutters; a lot of strapping and trusses; exceeding building codes; secondary water membranes; and building hip roofs instead of gabled ones.

A secondary water membrane goes underneath roof shingles so that even if shingles get blown off in a storm, water will not get inside the house.

"It does so because it actually sticks to the roof, which is different than the felt or tar paper that most homes are built with, which is nailed with a lot of nails, but it still is essentially just felt or paper, which is prone to blowing off quite quickly in wind," Spoor said.

A hip roof is a different designed than the more traditional gabled roof because the hip roof has shingles on all four sides of the house, instead of just two.

"A gabled roof gets the brunt of wind and has the wind forcing against the roof structure during a storm," Spoor said. "A hip-shaped roof allows wind to basically roll over the roof instead of slam it broadside. So insurance companies prefer this wind mitigation form."

Habitat Pinellas has an independent inspector come out to all their homes to check out the home and fill out the Florida Uniform Wind Mitigation Form. Habitat makes sure all of its homes qualify for many of the things on the list.

"We provide that signed document to our homeowners, and when they shop for insurance, that form is worth its weight in gold," Spoor said. "The form documents that we have done all these wind mitigation features, and that qualifies them for lower insurance rates. We spend more money to build the home with these wind mitigation efforts, and we charge the homeowner a little more, but the savings that the homeowner receives on their annual insurance bill exceeds what they pay in the increased mortgage payment. So the long-term savings is there and just increases over time because inflation will cause insurance to rise over time, but since our mortgages have a zero-interest mortgage, their mortgage amount for the next 30 years will remain the same."

Water conservation and energy efficiency is Habitat Pinellas's second priority in sustainable building. All homes they build are certified through the Energy Star program, which has gotten even more challenging over the past year because the federal government has raised the bar, Spoor said.

"In the Energy Star program, a home gets rated with the energy usage rating number, and it is based on the factor of 100," Spoor said. "So a new home, built to code, would use 100 percent of the energy that a new home built to code would use. So it has a rating of 100. Now an older home, if you audit it, might have a rating of 150 (percent) or 200 percent (of energy) that a new home would use. But our homes on average this year rate at 63.7 percent. So our homes are expected to use 63.7 percent of energy that a code-built home would use."

That efficiency translates into huge energy bill savings for the homeowner, Spoor said.

This good rating is achieved through a number of techniques. Habitat uses light-colored shingles that reflect heat from light back into the atmosphere instead of absorbing it into the attic like darker shingles will do, Spoor said. Habitat also uses added insulation and insulated, low E windows that are designed to reflect heat energy away from the house rather than absorbing it inside. Habitat uses all Energy Star appliances, and a high efficiency heating, ventilation and air conditioning system.

Habitat has also been fortunate enough to earn a grant through Progress Energy that gives them the means to install solar water heaters in most of the homes that they build.

"Those solar water heaters also contribute to energy savings for our homeowners," Spoor said. "And of course they reduce emissions from electrical generation."

Inman said that Habitat Pinellas is incredibly grateful to Progress Energy for the grant because they would not be able to provide these great heaters without the grant.



Photos courtesy of HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PINELLAS

The Stevens Creek subdivisions of Habitat Pinellas homes is on Fuller Drive in Clearwater and are built "green." The corner home spotlights the sustainable landscaping that includes native plants, shrubs and trees that Habitat Pinellas installs for all of its homes.



Volunteers work on a Habitat Pinellas home in Clearwater's subdivision, Stevens Creek. This home has hip roof geometry, which qualifies for lower insurance cost rating because of its wind mitigation and deflection capabilities.

"We wouldn't even be providing the solar heaters without Progress Energy's partnership," Inman said. "So it does return a lot to our homeowners in terms of energy efficiency, and without the donation from Progress Energy, we wouldn't be supplying that."

Other water conservation methods are installing low-flow fixtures that still produce a good flow of water but use less than standard fixtures. Habitat Pinellas also always uses Florida friendly landscaping that do not require the intense amount of water that non-native or poorly adapted plants need.

The final key category in their sustainable living efforts is durability. Habitat Pinellas uses durable products that cost more up front but have long-term savings because the homeowner does not need to replace them as often as they otherwise would have to. Some of these durable products include wood-framed cabinets, stucco exteriors and having all ceramic tile flooring. The ceramic floors promote a healthier indoor air carpet versus carpet, Spoor said, and it does not have to be replaced nearly as quickly as carpet does.

Habitat also uses high-quality shingles, called "laminated" or "architectural-style" shingles. They are thicker than the conventional three-tab shingles that were used for many years. These quality shingles hold up better and longer in the Florida sun, he said.

See HABITAT, page 7A

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# Big Brothers Big Sisters awards mentor

By TOM GERMOND

LARGO – Lonnie Hawkins, the retired owner of a construction company, spends a lot of time building lives.

In the 1970s Hawkins became a big brother for a 6 year old, Kenny King. As an adult, King became an integral part of Hawkins' construction business and has five children of his own.

Then, after nearly 40 years of being involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters, being both a big brother to Kenny and serving for many years on the organization's board of directors, Lonnie decided to give to the program again. He and his wife, Mary Lynne, became big couples. They also have three adopted children.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Pinellas County presented Hawkins with its 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award April 27 at the organizations' annual volunteer and donor appreciation event at the Mahaffey Theater.

"Lonnie Hawkins and Kenny King are the epitome of a successful Big/Little match. They are a living testimony to the hard work that Big Brothers Big Sisters does in matching our "bigs" (mentors) and "littles" (children)," said Susan Rolston, CEO of the local organization in a news release.

Hawkins, who splits time living in Durango, Colo., and Indian Rocks Beach, said he gets tremendous satisfaction from mentoring children.

"You get so much more out of

the program than what you put in. It's just fun to watch how actually the program has progressed over all the years I have been involved and how much more professional it is now than when I first got involved and what a great job everybody does in the whole organization," Hawkins said.

He takes pride in how his little brother, King, has developed into a family man throughout their relationship.

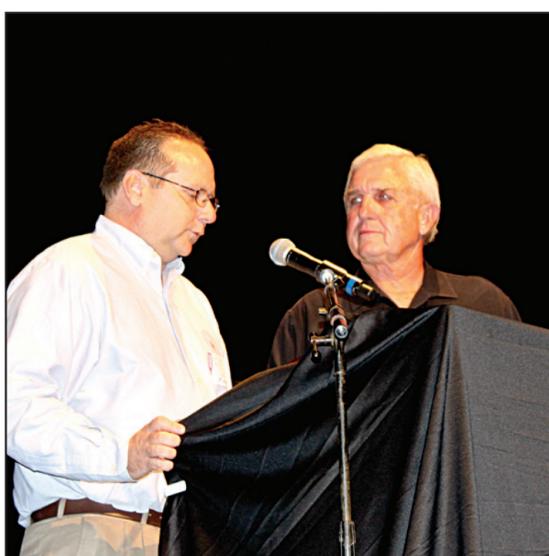
Hawkins and King quickly became close, enjoying outdoor activities such as camping, hiking, and fishing, as well as spending time at Lonnie's business. By involving King in his daily activities, Hawkins taught King to overcome his fears and shyness, according to the organization. Over the years, the relationship grew to be more like father and son.

Hawkins, who started his Tarpon Springs construction company in the 1970s, said he was influenced by other "feel good" stories about other mentors in the program.

"When I first got involved, a gentleman who worked for Sears Roebuck headed up half the United States. He traveled five days a week and he was home on the weekends. He was a big brother. And I told myself, if this man has time to be involved in the program and love it, then I should look at it. That's how I originally got involved."

In other words he just made time for it.

"You just involve the little



Shown are Kenny King, left, and Lonnie Hawkins at the Big Brothers Big Sisters donor appreciation event April 27.

brother in whatever you are doing in life. I took [King] him to work a lot with me. Whatever we were doing around the house I involved him. It's kind of like a family activity," he said.

In October of 2009, Lonnie and Mary Lynne were matched with Little Brother, Gerricko, who was 9 years old at the time. Seeing Gerricko, and his brother living together with their grandmother, Lonnie and Mary Lynne could not resist taking on his 10-year-old brother, Gerald, as their second

little brother in March of 2010.

Hawkins said his wife has been very involved in the program, too.

"Half the award goes to her," Hawkins said.

The organization needs more Big Brothers such as Hawkins to serve the hundreds of boys who are waiting to be matched with a positive role model. To volunteer to the organization or make a donation, email www.bbbspc.org.

HABITAT, from page 6A

Once again, even though these products cost more, it ultimately all saves the homeowner money with reduced insurance rates, reduced utility rates, and far less frequent replacement of products, Spoor said.

Habitat Pinellas has also received a grant from Nissan, which encourages companies to use recycled building materials or materials that have a good recycled content. When applying for the grant, it caused Habitat Pinellas to really look at the ways they build houses and research the products they use, becoming more aware of recycled materials, Spoor said.

"We appreciate Nissan, in that they are encouraging affiliates to really go through a thought process to analyze the products that they are using and attempt to use more products that are greener by offering the grant," Spoor said. "... I think grants like that really achieve their intended purpose, and it encourages builders to go through a well-researched process, and it raises awareness. Builders use a lot of materials, and we want to be good stewards to the environment."

Grants like this and from Progress Energy are key in being able to provide so many quality, sustainable features in the homes, Inman said. Without such grants, Habitat Pinellas would have to start eliminating elements. Therefore, it has prioritized its building features, listing the most important ones and also the ones they would have to cut first.

"The most important priorities? The first one is block construction," Inman said. "That's in our wind mitigation section. And under design, the fact that we design our homes with a hip roof. And then in terms of durable products, we use laminated roof shingles, and we feel these are very important and have a high return rate for our homeowner. Then, under energy efficiency, it's the energy star rating that each of our homes receive."

If things did have to start getting cut, the first things eliminated would be the wood-framed cabinets, a raised heel truss, and the secondary water membrane on the roof, Inman said.

Of course it's obvious how Habitat homes help the homeowners and the environment, but they also benefit the surrounding neighborhood, Inman said.

"We built three homes behind Mazzaro's in St. Petersburg fairly recently," Inman said. "As soon as we built those, we built three more right next to them. Those homes appraised for 5 percent more than the first three homes. And those were built just a few months later. So we bring property values up. We bring home ownership to the area. And the fact that we build quality homes is that much more to bringing up a community."

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# Tampa Bay Newspapers wins 17 awards in Florida Press contest

Tampa Bay Newspapers won 17 awards in the Florida Press Association's Better Weekly Newspaper Contest, including five first place awards.

"This is our best showing in the annual contest, which is highly competitive and is judged by experts in our profession," said Tom Germond, TBN executive editor. "To win so many awards takes teamwork, dedication and hard work. The awards are a reflection of the tremendous commitment that our employees as well as our correspondents have to putting out great community newspapers."

A total of 1,607 entries were submitted by 81 newspapers.

Here are the awards that Tampa Bay Newspapers received at the 2012 Southeastern Press Convention July 5-7 at Miramar Beach.

First place: Outdoor and recreational, Ann Weaver, Belleair Bee, "Rescuing baby bottlenose dolphin is seaside needle in a haystack."

First place: Online breaking news coverage, Suzette and Terre

Porter, Tom Germond, Alexandra Lundahl, Bob McClure, Largo Leader, "Storm damages Largo neighborhood."

First place: Breaking news story, Suzette Porter, Tom Germond, Alexandra Lundahl, Terre Porter and Bob McClure, Largo Leader, "What a mess," "28 structures uninhabitable due to substantial damage," "Airport back to normal," "In harm's way."

First place: Humorous column, Tom Germond, Belleair Bee, "Help wanted to change a light bulb."

First place: Editorial page, staff, Pinellas Park Beacon.

Second place: Editorial page, staff, Belleair Bee.

Second place: General excellence, Chary Southmayd and staff, Belleair Bee.

Second place: Faith and family reporting, Alexandra Lundahl, Pinellas Park Beacon, "Families without a home."

Second place: Breaking news story, Juliana A. Torres, Pinellas Park Beacon, "Twelve brutal hours."

Second place: Humorous column, Tom Germond, Pinellas Park Beacon, "How to avoid being eaten alive."

Third place: Sports picture, Matthew Riva, Seminole and Beach Beacons, "Competitive kids."

Third place: James Fink, Clearwater Beacon, "Dinner is served."

Third place: Arts, entertainment and review reporting, Lee Clark Zumppe, Belleair Bee, "EOT delivers," "Abrams evokes" and "Serkis' performance," Belleair Bee.

Third place: Health, medical and science reporting, Alexandra Lundahl, Pinellas Park Beacon, "An ambassador for awareness."

Third place: Serious column, Suzette Porter, Belleair Bee, "An every day thing hits home," Belleair Bee.

Third place: Serious column, Alexandra Lundahl, "End of marriage, new beginnings," Pinellas Park Beacon.

Third place: Website excellence, Suzette and Terre Porter, Pinellas Park Beacon.

## Biz notes

### Sollie graduates from development program

ST. PETE BEACH – Robin Sollie, chief executive officer of the Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce, graduated recently from the Institute for Organization Management, the professional development program of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

The IOM graduate recognition signifies an individual's completion of 96 hours of course instruction in nonprofit management.

"Institute graduates are recognized across the country as leaders in their industries and organizations," said Raymond Towle, the U.S. Chamber's vice president of Institute for Organization Management. "These individuals have the knowledge, skills, and dedication necessary to achieve professional and organizational success in the dynamic association and chamber industries."

Since its beginning in 1921, the Institute program has been educating tens of thousands of association, chamber, and other nonprofit leaders on how to build stronger organizations, better serve their mem-

bers and become strong business advocates. Institute's curriculum consists of four weeklong sessions at five different university locations throughout the country. Through a combination of required courses and electives in areas such as leadership, advocacy, marketing, finance, and membership, Institute participants are able to enhance their own organizational management skills and add new fuel to their organizations, making them run more efficiently and effectively.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than 3 million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations.

### Salon Solaris offers Kuts for Kids

CLEARWATER – Sunstate Academy's Salon Solaris is hosting its third annual Kuts for Kids special through Saturday, Aug. 18, at 2525 Drew St., with part of the proceeds benefitting the Pinellas Education Foundation.

Students 16 years old and younger can receive a kids' cut for \$3, kids' cut and blow dry for \$6 or kids' cut, blow dry and flat iron for \$9.

Sunstate Academy will match and donate all monies from the \$3 cuts to the Pinellas Education Foundation. Kuts 4 Kids are available on a walk-in basis, Monday through Friday, 5:30 to 7 p.m.; and Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Call 538-3827.

### Fifth Third Bank's Hufty promoted

CLEARWATER – Fifth Third Bank of Tampa Bay recently announced that Dan Hufty was promoted into a new mortgage loan originator role.

Hufty will be located at Fifth Third's 49th Street Banking Center in Clearwater. He previously served as financial center manager for the McMullen Booth location. Hufty has more than 14 years of experience in the mortgage, sales and management industry.

Hufty served in the U.S. Army military police for seven years.

## Networking clubs follow the 'leads'

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

The upcoming schedule is as follows:

- Friday, July 13 – BNI Referral Masters, 7 a.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Call Bill Mantooth at 639-6690 or visit [www.bnireferralmasters.com](http://www.bnireferralmasters.com).
- Friday, July 13 – Network Professionals of St. Pete, 7:30 a.m. For information and meeting location, call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Friday, July 13 – Professional Leads Network, Upper Pinellas Chapter, 7:45 a.m., at R & G Café, 1565 Highland Ave., Clearwater. Visit [www.pro-leads.net](http://www.pro-leads.net).
- Friday, July 13 – Professional Leads Network, Bay Area Executives Chapter, 11:45 a.m., at Tum Rub Thai, 32716 U.S. 19 N., Palm Harbor. Visit [www.pro-leads.net](http://www.pro-leads.net).
- Monday, July 16 – Network Professionals

- Inc., 7:30 a.m., at Perkins Restaurant, 8841 Park Blvd. N., Largo. Call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Monday, July 16 – Professional Leads Network, St. Petersburg Chapter, 7:45 a.m., at Ricky P's, 6521 Fourth St. N., St. Petersburg. Visit [www.pro-leads.net](http://www.pro-leads.net).
- Monday, July 16 – Ready Set Grow Group, 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., at Hometown Family Restaurant, 10395 Seminole Blvd., Largo. Call Jamie Limbaugh at 831-2450 or email [jamieL@freenetworkinginternational.com](mailto:jamieL@freenetworkinginternational.com).
- Tuesday, July 17 – The Board, Network Professionals, 7:30 a.m., at Panera Bread, Bardmoor Shopping Center, corner of Bryan Dairy and Starkey roads, Largo. Call 742-6343.
- Tuesday, July 17 – Business Network International, Winners Circle, 7:30 to 9 a.m., Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Call Dave Proffitt at 230-9240.
- Tuesday, July 17 – Network Professionals Inc., Seminole Chapter, 7:30 a.m., Perkins Family Restaurant, 8841 Park Blvd., Largo. Call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.

- Tuesday, July 17 – Yacht Club Breakfast, sponsored by Creative Business Connections, 7:30 a.m., St. Petersburg Yacht Club, 11 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. Call Darrell Baker, area director, at 586-4999 or visit [www.cbcnet.biz](http://www.cbcnet.biz).
- Tuesday, July 17 – Network Professionals of St. Pete, 7:30 a.m. For information and meeting location, call Ron O'Connor at 367-3737.
- Tuesday, July 17 – Network Professionals Inc., ICOT Lunch Chapter, 11:45 a.m., at Tucson's Southwest Grill, 13563 Icot Blvd., Clearwater. Call Eddie Montoya at 813-477-3533.
- Tuesday, July 17 – Tri-City Network Professionals, 11:45 a.m., at Applebee's Restaurant, 5110 East Bay Drive, Clearwater. First visit is free. Call 492-7921.
- Wednesday, July 18 – Business Network International, Financial Freedom, 7:15 a.m., at Bardmoor Country Club, 8001 Cumberland Road, Largo. Call Phil at 409-1609 or visit [www.BNIFinancialFreedom.com](http://www.BNIFinancialFreedom.com).
- Wednesday, July 18 – Pinellas Executives' Association, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., at Cove Cay Country Club, 2612 Cove Cay Drive, Clearwater.

- Call Donna Perry at 784-6507 or visit [www.peaff.com](http://www.peaff.com).
- Wednesday, July 18 – Local Business Network Seminole, 7:30 a.m., Perkins Family Restaurant, 8841 Park Blvd. N., Largo. Call 804-6359.
  - Wednesday, July 18 – Network Professionals Inc., Downtown Clearwater Breakfast Chapter, 7:30 a.m., at the Residence Inn, 940 Court St., Clearwater. Call Kim Anton at 539-7110.
  - Wednesday, July 18 – Free Networking International, Seminole Christian Hope Team, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Palace of the Orient, 10425 Park Blvd., Seminole. Call Dave Harden at 458-6890 or email [daveh@freenetworkinginternational.com](mailto:daveh@freenetworkinginternational.com).
  - Wednesday, July 18, Professional Leads Network, 11:45 a.m., at Sage's West Bay Bistro, 883 West Bay Drive, Largo. Call Woody Brown at 518-1967 or visit [www.pro-leads.net](http://www.pro-leads.net).
  - Wednesday, July 18 – Professional Leads Network, Foxys Chapter, 11:45 a.m., Stacey's Buffet 1451 N. Missouri Ave., Largo. Visit [www.pro-leads.net](http://www.pro-leads.net).



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### Charlotte

Charlotte is a 9-week-old German shepherd/Chow mix puppy. She and her sister, Nita, have been living with a Suncoast Animal League foster family since they were 2 weeks old. They were bottle fed, so they're very affectionate and love everyone they meet. Charlotte will need an attentive family because she has a minor genetic defect that affects her balance. She has a slight head tilt that makes her fall easily, so she needs to be monitored when she's near a pool or in any other situation that could be dangerous for her. She would do best in a home with another calm dog that might help to mentor and guide her, if she is not adopted with her sister. Call 786-1330.



### Iris

Iris is a 6-year-old Iris brindle-and-white American bulldog that weighs 72 pounds. You just can't help but smile when she is looking at you. If you bring this article with you to Pinellas County Animal Services, Iris can be adopted for just \$25. Animal Services is at 12450 Ulmerton Road in Largo. Call 582-2600 or visit [www.pinellascounty.org/animalservices](http://www.pinellascounty.org/animalservices).

### Beatrice

Beatrice is a 7-year-old terrier mix that has been waiting to be adopted for more than a year. In honor of the month of July, Beatrice, the All-American Shelter dog, has an adoption fee of \$17.76. Beatrice is a sable beauty who loves learning new things and being the center of attention. An active home with a pool would be perfect! Adopt Beatrice at the Humane Society of Pinellas 3040 S.R. 590 in Clearwater. Call 797-7722.



### Marco

Marco is a 4-year-old male cat. He can often be found keeping watch over the daily shelter activities and greeting everyone who comes in. Marco enjoys short petting sessions and playing with toys. To meet Marco, call Friends of Strays at 522-6566. The shelter is at 2911 47th Ave. N. in St. Petersburg. Visit [www.FriendsOfStrays.com](http://www.FriendsOfStrays.com).



# The perils of interspecies communication

As people we typically think of communication only as language. We expect our pets to learn our language, and indeed many dogs and cats learn many different words. We forget that dogs and cats, as well as people, have their own built-in language of gestures and facial expressions. In humans for example, eye contact and smiles are understood from birth as a good thing, no matter which country the baby is born. For a dog, eye contact and the showing of teeth are innately understood as a highly aggressive gesture, and is often a prelude to an actual attack. The difference between the interpretations of the same facial expression is dramatic.

The difference between a dog's and a cat's innate language can be illustrated by a common interaction between the two. Dogs may approach a cat and ask to play. Dogs ask each other to play by going into "play posture," which is when a dog's chest is on the ground and their hind end is still held high. This gesture means, "Whatever I do next is just kidding around." After the "play posture," staring, barks and growls that would otherwise seem aggressive are interpreted by an-



### Speaking of Pets

Michael J. Rumore, DVM

other dog as an invitation to play. It's like two children agreeing to play football; tackling and knocking someone to the ground would not be nice outside the confines of a game, but after the ground rules are agreed upon, it is okay. For cats, the dog's "play posture" means something very different. For cats, staring is almost always a sign of aggression. Many catfights start with two cats quietly staring at each other from

across the room. To make matters worse, cats trying to intimidate each other will often puff out the hair on their tails and lower back to make themselves look bigger. To a cat, a dog raising its hind end appears as an unabashedly aggressive move, and is then followed by aggressive barks and growls.

A cat confronted by aggressive staring, tail puffing and growling has two choices; they can either

run and try to escape, or stand their ground and fight. For dogs, if they were dealing with another dog, both of these maneuvers would be play behavior. Running would be an invitation to play chase, and fighting is an invitation to play wrestle. Either way, the dog interprets the cat's moves as play behavior, and begins to chase or tries to play attack. The cat unfortunately sees this as continued aggression.

At the end of this episode, the dog thinks that they have had a fun play session. The cat thinks they have narrowly escaped a fatal attack. Amazingly, given enough time, many dogs and cats eventually start to understand each other. Cats learn that when a dog accidentally says, "I am going to attack and try to kill you, they actually mean, "Hey buddy, let's play."

Most dogs and cats learn that people staring at them and smiling is a good thing, and not a threat. We as pet owners should be grateful our four-legged friends could learn a second language much easier than most of us do.

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



### Dual dog paddling

In the spirit of the Summer Olympics, chihuahuas BeBe and Chanel find a fun way to beat the summer heat with a cool dip in Courtney and Kaye Gorman's pool in Madeira Beach. As our pet photo winner, they win a \$25 gift certificate from Murals for Mutts. The August pet photo winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate from Largo Feed. Send your pet photos to [csouthmayd@TBNweekly.com](mailto:csouthmayd@TBNweekly.com).

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# County introduces new housing initiative for veterans

CLEARWATER – Pinellas County is introducing a new homebuyer initiative designed for Pinellas County veterans and active service personnel.

The Pinellas Community Housing Foundation's Proud Ground Pinellas program provides quality, move-in ready homes at incredible prices. The purchase price of a home is greatly reduced because the cost of the land is removed. Instead, the homeowner pays a modest monthly ground lease, while enjoying all the benefits of traditional homeownership. For a limited time, a grant of up to \$10,000 is available to assist with closing costs.

Funding for the unique program comes from the federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program. Foreclosed and/or abandoned properties are purchased and renovated to help stem the

negative impacts the unattended properties can have in communities.

Proud Ground Pinellas homes feature energy saving amenities and Florida-friendly landscaping to help lower monthly household expenses. Hurricane preparedness enhancements provide additional peace of mind. Participants in Proud Ground Pinellas benefit from free homebuyer education classes, and the program provides ongoing tools and support to ensure a successful homeownership experience.

"Proud Ground Pinellas is an exciting housing opportunity for veterans," said Anthony Jones, executive director of the Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County. "We appreciate the service and dedication of our military and hope this new program will assist them with their dream of homeownership."

Veterans and active service personnel who wish to apply to



The Pinellas Community Housing Foundation's Proud Ground Pinellas program provides quality, move-in ready homes, such as this one in Safety Harbor.

the program must have a minimum credit score of 640 and income may not exceed 120 percent of the Area Median In-

come. As an example, for a family of three the limit is \$60,900.

Additional information is

available on the Proud Ground Pinellas website at: [www.pinellascounty.org/community/proudgroundpinellas.htm](http://www.pinellascounty.org/community/proudgroundpinellas.htm), or you can

email [proudgroundpinellas@pinellascounty.org](mailto:proudgroundpinellas@pinellascounty.org) or call Pinellas County Community Development at 464-8210.

## Military news

### Dyiamond Khammanivong

SEMINOLE – Dyiamond Khammanivong recently enlisted in the United States Navy under the Delayed Entry Program at Navy Recruiting District, Raleigh, N.C.

Khammanivong is the son of Patty Khammanivong of Seminole, and Marin Nimisinok, of Inman, S.C.

Khammanivong will report for active duty to undergo basic training at the Navy's Recruit Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill.

He is a 2011 graduate of Pinellas Park High School.

### Markeice Knight

LARGO – Army Pvt. Markeice Knight recently graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

Knight is the son of Josette Nash of Prattville, Ala., and Nickoulas Skeen of Largo.

### Allison Corbett

TARPON SPRINGS – Air Force Airman Allison Corbett recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Corbett is the daughter of Joe Corbett of Tampa, and Cindy Corbett of Ten Mile, Tenn. She is a 2009 graduate of Tarpon Springs High School.

### Kylann Burroughs

LARGO – Army Pvt. Kylann Burroughs recently graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Burroughs is the son of Amy Daniels of Largo. He is a 2011 graduate of Dixie Hollins High School.

### Lauren Askins

Navy Seaman Apprentice Lauren Askins was recently promoted to her current rank upon graduation from recruit training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Askins is the daughter of Laura and Bill Askins of Clearwater.

She is a 2010 graduate of Osceola High School in Seminole.

### Kristen Siegel

ST. PETERSBURG – Air Force Reserve Airman Kristen Siegel recently graduated from basic mili-

tary training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Siegel is the daughter of Debra Brethaver of St. Petersburg.

She is a 2002 graduate of Gibbs High School.

### Darron McNeil Jr.

CLEARWATER – Marine Corps Reserve Airman Darron McNeil Jr. recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

McNeil is the son of Darron McNeil Sr. of Land O' Lakes, and Chloe Hamm of Clearwater.

He is a 2011 graduate of Oldsmar Christian School.

### Aimee Young

ST. PETERSBURG – Air Force Reserve Airman Aimee Young recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Young is the daughter of Roger Young, and Stephanie Polinsky, both of St. Petersburg.

She is a 2005 graduate of Gibbs High School.

### Aaron Cooper

CLEARWATER – Air Force Airman Aaron Cooper recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Cooper earned distinction as an honor graduate. He is the son

of Sally Vanquaethem of Clearwater. The airman is a 2008 graduate of Clearwater High School.

### Andrew Callahan

CLEARWATER – Marine Corps Pfc. Andrew Callahan recently completed 12 weeks of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Callahan is the son of Karen Reed of Clearwater, and Dennis Callahan of Flemington, Pa.

### Kevin Austin Rodriguez

LARGO – Marine Corps Pvt. Kevin Austin Rodriguez recently completed 12 weeks of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Rodriguez is the son of Zunilda I. Royals of Inverness, and James S. Austin, of Largo.

### Brian Kibbey

PALM HARBOR – Air Force Airman Brian Kibbey recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Kibbey is the son Steve Kibbey of Palm Harbor. He is a 2009 graduate of Dunedin High School.

He earned an associate degree in 2011 from St. Petersburg College, Tarpon Springs

### Holly A. Bowman

LARGO – Air Force Airman Holly A. Bowman recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Bowman is the daughter of Joy Oakes and Thomas Bowman, both of Largo. She is a 2008 graduate of Osceola High School.

### Park Michael Suski

SEMINOLE – The United States Coast Guard Academy recently announced that Park Michael Suski of Seminole was recognized for superior academic achievement and leadership potential.

Suski, who attends Seminole High School, has accepted an appointment to attend the Coast Guard Academy in New London,

Conn. He was sworn as a member of the class of 2016 on June 15.

Suski is the son of Jeff and Terry Suski of Seminole.

### Matteo Piruzza

ST. PETERSBURG – Air Force Airman Matteo Piruzza recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Piruzza is the son of Josephine Ferraro of Lutz, and Paolo Piruzza of St. Petersburg. He is a 2011 graduate of Sunlake High School, Land O' Lakes.

### Jacob Whitten

ST. PETERSBURG – Air Force Airman Jacob Whitten recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Whitten is the son of Jeffrey Whitten of St. Petersburg. He is a 2009 graduate of Pinellas Park High School.

### Blaine Ward

CLEARWATER – Air Force Airman Blaine Ward recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Ward is the nephew of Diane Faulconer and Dan Shultz of Clearwater. He is a 2011 graduate of Admiral Farragut Academy, St. Petersburg.

### Christopher Fisher

PALM HARBOR – Air Force Airman Christopher Fisher recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Fisher is the son of Nathaniel and Julia Fisher of Palm Harbor. He is a 2010 graduate of East Lake High School.

### Matthew Mangru

TAMPA – Army 2nd Lt. Matthew D. Mangru has recently graduated from the Infantry Basic Officer Leader Course at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

Mangru is the son of Daniel and Roma R. Mangru of Tampa. He is a 2007 graduate of Oldsmar Christian School.

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EDITORIAL

# Are you ready for hurricane season now?

Tropical Storm Debby caught many Pinellas County residents off guard.

The storm wasn't supposed to come here. Nothing to worry about, right?

Wrong. Sure, the storm didn't leave massive destruction. Our homes weren't blown away - except in Pass-A-Grille where a tornado spawned from one of Debby's many rainbands. Some homes and buildings were damaged from straight-line winds throughout the county. But, it wasn't so bad - unless it was your home.

There was flooding. Almost a foot of rain fell in most locations during a five-day period. But county residents have dealt with flooding before - no big deal. Except for those residents who had water coming into their homes and those who couldn't navigate streets to come and go as they please. Residents who depend on Pinellas Suncoast Transit system buses won't soon forget Debby as bus routes were canceled or derailed.

Power outages were another problem. But again, not for everyone, as most likely would happen if a tropical storm came through packing 60 mph winds. Residents who went without the most basic of needs powered by electricity would probably say, for them, Debby was a bad storm.

The many who depend on Meals on Wheels for food probably would tell you Debby was a really bad storm as meal deliveries were suspended on Monday, June 24. Residents of Mariners Cove Mobile Home Park were evacuated due to flooding. Thankfully, the American Red Cross opened a shelter at Chapel on the Hill in Seminole for them and others who needed a place to stay.

Probably one of the most telling situations of what might be if a hurricane hit Pinellas was the bridges. There was a brief time when the only way out of this county was the Gandy Bridge. The Sunshine Skyway was closed from 4 p.m. Sunday, June 24, through 3 a.m. Wednesday, June 27. The Florida Highway Patrol reports the only other long-term closure happened during Tropical Storm Gabrielle on Sept. 14, 2001, when the bridge was closed more than eight hours. Debby's high winds and surf closed the Sunshine Skyway for days. Again, no big deal except for those who use that bridge to get to work each day.

The Howard Frankland was closed for a time on June 25, as were the eastbound lanes of the Courtney Campbell Causeway. High winds, surf and flooding were to blame from a storm, hundreds of miles offshore.

Pinellas County's beaches took a major hit. It's easier now to imagine what might happen from a direct hit with 60-plus mph winds blowing waves and surf for hours and hours. Millions of dollars are needed to fix the damage and that money won't be easily found in a time when local, state and federal budgets are limited.

Most residents probably weathered the storm OK. Probably too few will take the storm as a wake-up call that tropical weather is serious business. We now know the mess a tropical storm can create from miles away. But what if the BIG ONE came ashore in Pinellas County.

Use Debby as a reference and let your imagination go wild. Then decide if you're truly ready for hurricane season. There's still five months to go - to wonder and wait. But time to get ready is slipping away. Hurricane season doesn't end until Nov. 30.

## Kudos are warranted

Kudos should be given to those who spent long hours seeing to the health and safety of residents before, during and after Debby. Law enforcement, fire and rescue personnel, 911 operators, municipal and county staff. The county's solid waste department had personnel out during the long stormy night operating portable lift stations to try to keep the sewer system going. Progress Energy had workers on the job day and night trying to get power restored. Street crews risked traveling through flooded roadways to see to your safety.

This list could go on and on, and many have gone unmentioned. Readers are welcome to send in their own kudos or complaints via a letter to the editor. Email your letters to [editorial@TBNweekly.com](mailto:editorial@TBNweekly.com), submit a letter at our website [TBNweekly.com](http://TBNweekly.com) or mail your letter to Tampa Bay Newspapers, 9911 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772.

## LETTERS

### Where are the parents?

Editor:

My concern is the safety of children and people who walk at the park. There seems to be a group of young people that are disrespectful, rude and threatening to everyone at the park. Where are the parents of this group? They block the sidewalks, ride their bikes, skateboards and dare anyone to say anything to them. The Largo Police Department has been called out to the park on several occasions, myself included. Last week I was walking and a couple of them came riding by me, screamed in my ear, and almost knocked me down. I'm 66 years old and it is scary. I walked that park several years ago. It was the safest, most pleasant park and beautiful. What has happened to our park? If these young people are going to use the park, they need to be more respectable and considerate of others.

**Freda Raub**  
Largo

### Criticizes fireworks show

Editor:

I am writing to you about the fireworks set off in Madeira Beach this year on July 4. To tell you the truth, the fireworks were a joke. You could see St. Pete Beach, Treasure Island and Clearwater, but the fireworks set off in Madeira were absolutely ridiculous. We were complaining and a soldier who was back from being deployed asked us not to complain because he was just trying to enjoy his night. I feel really bad about that, but he doesn't understand that the taxpayers in this city have been waiting for a nice fireworks display for at least the past two years. I wanted you to know how ridiculous this fireworks display was, without a last finale.

**Theresa Chiovitti**  
Madeira Beach

## 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. E-mails should include town of residence and telephone and be sent to [tgermond@TBNweekly.com](mailto:tgermond@TBNweekly.com). We will not print the letter writer's phone number.

Here are some more guidelines for letters:

- The deadline for letters pertaining to this year's primary election candidates is July 20. No letters pertaining to that election will be published after July 26.
- Letters are printed on a first-come, first-served basis. They may be edited to correct grammar, spelling and factual errors. They also may be edited for clarity.
- Please keep letters to editor to 500 words. Longer letters may be cut due to space limitations.
- Letters should address issues or current events. Please refrain from making unsubstantiated allegations. The newspaper will not print letters that contain slanderous or racial statements.
- Each writer may submit one letter per month.
- We can't return letters to the editor.
- Please allow two weeks from the time you submitted your letter for it to be published before inquiring as to its status.
- We won't print anonymous letters.
- We won't print letters that are submitted merely to promote a business.

# Obama, Romney quit the race

WASHINGTON, D.C. - (July 15). President Barack Obama and Gov. Mitt Romney today announced they were both giving up their races for the White House.

In a joint news release, the contenders said the reason for abandoning their quest for the presidency was a just-released study by the National Institute for Mental Health.

The top-secret two-year study, conducted by 16 of the nation's top psychiatrists, concluded that anyone who truly wishes to be president of the United States in the year 2013 is certifiably insane and should be confined to a mental institution.

The Obama-Romney news release said, "We read the NIMH report, and then met for two days at Camp David to discuss the ramifications of the study. We agreed that no matter who won the November election, the winner would be regarded as a nut case who could not be trusted by the American people. So we decided to give up our campaigns before the boys in the white suits came to cart both of us away to a looney bin."

The NIMH report listed more than 30 reasons why no sane person should want to be president of the United States. They included global warming, the continuing fiscal crisis, persistent high unemployment, the likelihood of an atomic war between Iran and Israel, Mexican drugs, corrupt pharmaceutical companies, the impossibility of establishing an acceptable immigration policy, the chaos that will follow the collapse of the euro, the civil war in Syria, and the civil disorder that is likely to follow the U.S. economy's plunging over the "fiscal cliff" in January 2013.

Secondary burdens that the president (and all Americans) will have to endure include reality shows, rap music and the refusal of Regis Philbin to completely retire from public view.



**Driver's Seat**  
Bob Driver

The NIMH psychiatrists wrote, "Only a completely deranged person could confront the back-breaking, mind-numbing issues that will face the next president and still announce his or her determination to occupy the Oval Office."

President Obama said he will fulfill his current term of office, which expires in January 2013. He said, "However, I expect my remaining weeks will be relatively enjoyable. My enemies will have to find someone else to blame the nation's problems on, and I'll be able to do my job without being swamped in lies and personal attacks."

Asked for his post-January plans, Obama smiled and said, "I may just move to Kenya and retire. Isn't that where the birthers say I came from?"

A source close to Gov. Romney said, "Mitt's chief desire is to conduct research on his early life. He wants to re-discover who he actually was before the political bug bit him."

The shocking decision by the president and Governor Romney places enormous pressure on both major political parties to come up with replacement candidates. Only a few weeks remain before the GOP gathers in Tampa, Fla., and the Democrats meet in Charlotte, N.C., to hold their national nominating conventions.

Possible candidates will have to persuade voters that they are sane and therefore don't

really want to occupy the White House, but that they will reluctantly serve if elected. An exception to this unusual requirement is Sarah Palin, the 2008 GOP vice presidential candidate. Yesterday Ms. Palin told CNN, "Hell, yes. I want to be president. Half the country already believes I'm a fruitcake, so what do I have to lose?" Former Republican candidate Newt Gingrich said, "If elected I will serve, but only at gunpoint and against my better judgment, as well as the judgment of all those voters who remember the hogwash I dished up during last year's primary campaign."

Vice President Joe Biden, a logical nominee to follow Obama, told reporters, "I'm only half mad, and thus have a limited ambition to become the next president. Even so, I'm willing to run. If elected, I will sorely miss my role as President Obama's attack dog. It allowed me to howl and snarl as much as I wanted to."

The NIMH report said that, unless our nation's problems are somehow greatly reduced in number and size, all future voluntary candidates for president will be viewed as insane and therefore unfit to hold office.

The report concluded, "We advise Congress to revise the U.S. Constitution so that future presidents are chosen in the same manner as prime ministers are in Great Britain. There, the political party winning the greatest number of seats in local elections is empowered to name the prime minister. By accepting the post, he/she may be just as crazy as a U.S. presidential candidate, but at least he won't have to take part in a year-long, multibillion-dollar election campaign filled with skulduggery and lies."

Bob Driver is a former columnist and editorial page editor for the Clearwater Sun. Send Driver an email at [tralee71@comcast.net](mailto:tralee71@comcast.net).



# The morning after on the beach

Walking on Indian Rocks Beach the morning of July 5, it was déjà vu all over again.

Same trashy aftermath, different year. I really should have known better.

Not only was the lone receptacle at the 15th Avenue beach access where I always go overflowing with beer cans and bottles, assorted other garbage was left piled in the sand and spent fireworks remained scattered around on the beach.

As I picked up what fireworks debris I could from the water's edge before it floated off for the Gulf of Mexico sea life to ingest, a visiting couple from Orlando approached and commented how disturbed they were about it. A visitor from Cincinnati armed with a plastic bag also was picking up pieces of fireworks. We got chatting. She and her family have been vacationing here for years. The crowds and canopies that crammed onto storm-depleted Indian Rocks Beach on July 4 prevented them from taking their daily walk. The next morning they came upon the disturbing fireworks waste from the night before and felt compelled to help clean up.

Tropical Storm Debby washed away much of the beach and created problems with city garbage cans, so they were few and far between. The storm served as a vivid reminder of why beach nourishment is so crucial to the protection of beachfront residences, and the treasured tourism industry. That is the bottom line, right? Without a beautiful, clean beach, those seeking relaxation in the sun and surf would go elsewhere and the local economy would tank. The drill under way now of moving in tons of sand for beach preservation is essential.

But, let's get back to the party. Disgusted by the number of beer cans, bottles and fireworks the celebrants left behind, I wished "good riddance" to those who think it is their inalienable right to whoop it up on Indian Rocks Beach July 4 and then just leave. It's someone else's cleanup problem. I can hear them now. "That's what taxes are for,



**Heart of the matter**  
Chary Southmayd



and it must be okay because everyone else does it. It's too dark to see anything now, anyway." I sure hope the majority of those revelers spent a bunch of money at local restaurants and other businesses. I wonder how many of them returned the next morning to help clean up?

Increasingly, Indian Rocks Beach on the Fourth of July reminds me more of a frat party and less like a family-friendly paradise. With endless free parking on city streets and a pervasive devil-may-care attitude about it all, what would you expect?

City Manager Chuck Coward told me there is no special law enforcement after 8 p.m. on Indian Rocks Beach on July 4, when things really light up. From my experience, and I lived there for several years, the city has always turned a blind eye to both excessive personal fireworks use and alcohol on the beach

on July 4. Both are illegal. So it's not permissible on July 3 and 5, but fine on July 4? Sounds like selective enforcement.

Indian Rocks Beach is the site of great beach parties every year sponsored by civic organizations and sanctioned by the city. Special permits are issued for alcohol sales. Attendees cannot bring coolers full of beer and wine to those celebrations. Cleanup is orderly. Everyone has a great time. Law enforcement is highly visible at those events. They are done right.

Maybe Indian Rocks Beach should consider throwing a city-sponsored July 4 event with a professional fireworks display, as was the case in Madeira Beach, Treasure Island, and Redington Shores. With any luck, that would reduce the number of amateur pyrotechnics fired off and left discarded up and down IRB. Get local businesses involved for a grand old time! Or, as usual, continue to look the other way.

I recommend that anyone who detests strolling through remnants of fireworks and assorted other garbage forgo a morning beach walk on July 5. I was there close to 11 a.m., which would have allowed time for the city to get its act together, if it had been a high priority. Volunteers pitching in helped some, but it was far from being a clean beach. I am told the garbage was all picked up by the end of the workday.

I realize that many people enjoy all the personal fireworks and July 4 alcohol consumption that occurs. I am sure they hope nothing changes. By all means let elected officials know where you stand. I say, "enough already" unless there is a much better plan to get the beach cleaned for others to enjoy on a peaceful morning after.

The leftover rubbish reminded me of that Keep America Beautiful public service announcement in which a Native American has a tear running down his cheek when he stands amid litter thoughtlessly discarded along a highway.

My sentiments exactly.

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# Mosquitoes love rainy weather and standing water

By SUZETTE PORTER

Standing water is a boon for the local mosquito population.

Standing water is important to the life cycle of the mosquito. It serves as the birthing room and nursery where the insects live until they're adults. Adult females then return to water to lay their eggs.

It only takes four days after a rain for water left in flowerpots, garbage cans, aluminum cans, boat tarps, old tires, buckets and the like to become prime breeding areas. The females, which are the only ones that take a blood meal, only need a quarter to half inch of water for their larvae to survive.

Pinellas County Mosquito Control recently reported an increase in mosquito activity. Officials say work has begun to treat known breeding areas by ground and by air. Calls also are coming in from citizens asking for help.

"With summer in full swing, the county continues an aggressive program to control mosquitoes as much as possible," said Pete Yauch, director of Transportation and Stormwater. "With the heavy rains, we are urging residents to be especially diligent and remove any standing water on their properties on an ongoing basis, as it takes very little water for mosquitoes to breed. And always protect yourselves and your families by taking basic steps."

Mosquito Control technicians say many home inspections have found standing water. Several suggestions were offered that allow residents to avoid contributing to the problem.

- Empty water from all items that can hold water
- Flush birdbaths and wading pools weekly
- Flush bromeliad plants or treat with a biological larvicide
- Clean roof gutters
- Change water in outdoor pet dishes regularly
- Keep pools and spas chlorinated and filtered
- Stock ornamental ponds with mosquito-eating fish
- Cover rain barrels with screening
- Check for standing water under houses, near plumbing drains, under air conditioner drip areas, around septic tanks and heat pumps

- Eliminate standing water by improving drainage to prevent puddles

## Prevent mosquito bites

The Florida Department of Health is asking residents and visitors to take preventive steps to protect against mosquito bites.

"Mosquito populations are likely to increase after recent rains," said Carina Blackmore, the state's Public Health veterinarian. "It's important that Floridians and visitors are informed that the risk of mosquito-borne disease is minimized by implementing precautions."

Along with the same recommendations given by the county to remove standing water, state officials advise everyone to cover skin with clothing or repellent and to cover doors and windows with screens to keep mosquitoes out of indoor areas.

Mosquitoes are most active at dusk and dawn. DOH officials also remind Floridians who are traveling internationally to use mosquito repellent to avoid mosquito bites, as communicable diseases often return to the United States with those who have traveled abroad.

Statewide monitoring for mosquito-borne illnesses continues throughout the state year-round. Officials monitor for West Nile virus, Eastern equine encephalitis virus, St. Louis encephalitis virus, malaria and dengue.

Symptoms of mosquito-borne illnesses may include headache, fever, fatigue, dizziness, weakness and confusion. It can take two to 14 days to become sick after being bitten by an infected mosquito. Anyone suspecting they are sick should contact their physician immediately.

Pinellas County also monitors the local area for signs of mosquito-borne viruses. Officials report that no virus has been detected in its sentinel chickens thus far this year.

Pinellas County was under mosquito-borne illness advisory through much of August and September 2011. As of Sept. 23, 15 chickens had tested positive for St. Louis encephalitis and three for West Nile virus. No human cases were reported.

More information on controlling mosquitoes and a



Photo by TERRE PORTER

Two ice chests fill with water from the heavy rains produced by Tropical Storm Debby Sunday, June 24. They will need to be emptied as soon as possible or they'll likely become a hatching ground for mosquitoes.

mosquito-control request form can be found at the Pinellas County Mosquito Control website [www.pinellascounty.org/mosquito](http://www.pinellascounty.org/mosquito), or call 464-7503. View a video on the PCC-TV YouTube channel

at [www.youtube.com/pccvtv1](http://www.youtube.com/pccvtv1). For information about mosquito-borne diseases, visit [www.myfloridaeh.com/medicine/arboviral/index.html](http://www.myfloridaeh.com/medicine/arboviral/index.html).

## Gardening

### Herb, fruit garden tours set

LARGO – Free herb and tropical fruit garden tours will be offered Thursdays, July 19 and Aug. 2, 9, 16 and 30, 9 to 11 a.m., at 12520 Ulmerton Road.

Attendees will explore the Florida-friendly ground covers, vegetable gardening in raised beds, and the herb and tropical fruit gardens. The herb garden delights visitors with the scents, colors and historical uses of medicinal, culinary and ceremonial plants. Tips will be offered on what crops can be raised locally with success.

Tours are recommended for adults and limited to groups of four to 10 people. Registration is required. Visit [pcc-lawngarden.eventbrite.com](http://pcc-lawngarden.eventbrite.com).

### African Violet Society to meet

SEFFNER – The Tampa African Violet Society will meet Friday, July 20, 10 a.m., in the public meeting room of the Seffner-Mango Library, 410 N. Kingsway Road.

Lynne Wilson will speak about affiliated memberships and what they offer. The meeting will include a plant raffle. Growing tips will be offered. Visitors are welcome. Admission and parking are free.

Call Jim Boyer at 871-2014 or email [jimb39@gmail.com](mailto:jimb39@gmail.com).

### Sena to host begonias workshop

ST. PETERSBURG – Begonias 101 will be presented Wednesday, July 25, 2 to 3:30 p.m., at St. Petersburg Library, 3745 Ninth Ave. N.

Dale Sena of the Tampa Bay Begonia Society will host the workshop, which will cover "everything you need to know to start raising these beautiful and versatile plants." Registration is required.

To register by phone, call 582-2603 and leave a message with name, telephone number and an email address.

### County to offer rain harvesting workshop

LARGO – A rain harvesting workshop will be presented Saturdays, July 28 and Aug. 11, 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. The collected water may be used for plant beds, potted plants and vegetable and herb gardens.

With payment of \$10 advance registration fee, each attendee will receive the booklet "Building and Installing the Rain Barrel," one 60-gallon plastic barrel and a 3/4-inch spigot. Registration is required. Visit [pcc-lawngarden.eventbrite.com](http://pcc-lawngarden.eventbrite.com).

### Mission offers supplies for food gardens

PINELLAS PARK – The Suncoast Haven of Rest Rescue Mission is starting a new program to encourage food gardening.

The first 50 adult residents of Pinellas County who register with the mission will receive a free "Earthbox," which is a mobile self-contained growing unit with peat and supplies worth \$70, and a choice of six 12 different packets of seeds. Participants receive the supplies by attending a free class on how to grow your own food, taught by a master gardener from the Pinellas County Extension Service.

Classes will be held twice on Mondays, noon to 1:30 p.m., and from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the mission, 5625 Park Blvd. in Pinellas Park, starting July 9. To register, call 545-8282.

## Sports news?

Tampa Bay Newspapers prints pictures of Little League, baseball, football, soccer and sports teams as a community service. Submissions can either be dropped off at our office or mailed or emailed to us. Please identify all team members, from left to right, and list where they are from, such as Largo, Seminole, etc. If you use email, please send an electronic image of the photo in a JPEG image; don't send the photo embedded in a word or other document. The Leader also prints announcements about upcoming golf tournaments for charities.

The Largo Leader is published by Tampa Bay Newspapers, 9911 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772. Email [editorial@TBNweekly.com](mailto:editorial@TBNweekly.com).

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07/12/12

# Gag grouper fishing is excellent

Gag grouper season opened at the beginning of the month and as expected fishing has been very good. Big ledges and artificial reef structure are holding lots of gag grouper. The fish can be at any depth, from inside of the Skyway out to 150 feet. The fish seem to prefer the larger pieces of structure, which is not surprising as we are still in the wake of a big tropical storm. We've been taking out plenty of large pinfish, but have been having most of our success on dead bait, frozen sardines, shad or threadfin herring to name a few, they will all work.

Inshore fishing has been a little slow overall since the storm, however anchoring up over deep grass patches just inside the passes on a good moving tide has provided good action for trout, Spanish mackerel, ladyfish and small sharks. Live chumming with small pilchards



**Fish Tales**  
Capt. Tyson Wallerstein

will get the fish into a frenzy. The small pilchards can be cast-netted along bridge shadow lines at night or chummed up with a combination of Jack Mackerel and Tropical fish food over deep grass flats around the passes. Use a weighted float to assist in casting the small baits and a small long shank hook to help prevent cut-offs.

Snook fishing has been good lately, particularly on the early morning outgoing tide. Soaking live pinfish and grunts around the bridges and jetties is a good idea for targeting a big snook. Tackle up and release the fish quickly to ensure a healthy release.

Tarpon fishing has been good the first couple of hours of the day. Deep residential canals are good places to check for rolling fish in the a.m. Putting out a spread of fresh shad or mullet will occasionally attract the attention of the lazy rollers. Tampa Bay has been hit or miss the past few weeks. However, I would imagine that as we approach the new moon things should get back on track. Look for the fish around bait schools and deep holes along bridges. Cast artificial lures to rolling fish or soak fresh dead bait on the bottom.

Tyson Wallerstein can be reached at [capt.tyson@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:editorial@TBNweekly.com) or mail it to Tampa Bay Newspapers, 9911 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772.

## Scouts clean up park



The Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts of Pack and Troop 412, above, pitched in their efforts June 29 to help clean up after Tropical Storm Debby did damage to Largo. From left are Bobby DeNovo, Xander Bowman (partially shown), Anthony Bowman, Austin Tincher and adult leader John Jones. The Scout group has adopted Bonner Park and has had clean-up efforts in the past, but this time was different. They were finding roof shingles, pieces of metal and a lot of downed branches and debris left behind by Debby. The Scouts operate out of the Christ Presbyterian Church on Dryer Road in Largo and they do many service projects throughout the year. Shown below, Bonner Park, located at 1444 143rd St., was adopted by Pack and Troop 412 of Largo.

## Briefs

### Kids can play golf for \$5

LARGO - The Largo Golf Course is offering youth ages 17 and younger the opportunity to play golf this summer for \$5.

"Youths 17 and younger can beat the summer boredom blues by walking 18 holes at Largo Golf Course any day of the week after 11 a.m.," a city news release said.

Children 10 and younger must be accompanied by an adult throughout the round. Nonplaying adults can walk with their child for free or choose to rent a cart for a small fee. Largo Golf Course is located at 12500 Vonn Road. Call 518-3024.

### Great Weedon Bird Quest set

ST. PETERSBURG - The Great Weedon Bird Quest will be Friday, July 13, 8 to 10 a.m., at Weedon Island Preserve, 1800 Weedon Drive NE.

Guests will learn to identify marks and behaviors of the island birds while taking advantage of this free guided hike. Binoculars will be available.

Advance registration is required. Call 453-6500 or visit [www.weedonislandpreserve.org](http://www.weedonislandpreserve.org).

### Weedon to host guided hikes

ST. PETERSBURG - Guided hikes will be offered Saturdays, July 14, 21, 28, Aug. 4, 9 to 11 a.m., at Weedon Island Preserve, 1800 Weedon Drive NE.

Attendees will learn about the ecosystems and the early residents of Weedon Island Preserve while going along on this free guided hike. Participants should bring water and a snack. A hat and closed-toe shoes also are recommended. The hike is best for ages 6 and older.

Preregistration is required. Call 453-6500 or visit [www.weedonislandpreserve.org](http://www.weedonislandpreserve.org).

### Weedon to host snake program

ST. PETERSBURG - Florida's Fascinating Snakes will be presented Saturday, July 14, 10 to 11 a.m., at Weedon Island Preserve, 1800 Weedon Drive NE.

These ecologically important, but often misunderstood vertebrates are the subject of herpetologist George Heinrich's presentation. As this area is home to many of these incredible creatures, this is the opportunity to find out the facts about their diversity, ecology and conservation. The free class will include a live reptile presentation and is recommended for all ages.

Advance registration is required. Call 453-6500 or visit [www.weedonislandpreserve.org](http://www.weedonislandpreserve.org).

### Weedon to host photography hike

ST. PETERSBURG - A wildflower photography hike will be offered Saturday, July 21, 8 to 10

a.m., at Weedon Island Preserve, 1800 Weedon Drive NE.

The free event will offer participants the perfect opportunity to hone their skills. After a brief classroom session, highlighting specific wildlife behaviors, guides will assist participants in capturing the natural beauty in photos. Advance registration is required.

Call 453-6500 or visit [www.weedonislandpreserve.org](http://www.weedonislandpreserve.org).

### Weedon to offer archaeology camp

ST. PETERSBURG - Archaeology Summer Camp will be presented Monday through Friday, July 23-27, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Weedon Island Preserve, 1800 Weedon Drive NE.

This summer camp is designed for children ages 7 to 11 with a strong interest in prehistory and history while learning how early people interacted with their environment. Campers will learn the importance of archaeology and will gain understanding about early natural resources that were necessary for life in the Tampa Bay region. The camp will include guest experts, a tour of an archaeological site, hands-on archaeology, lab analysis, pottery making, an atlatl adventure and earning the certificate of Tommy the Tortoise, Junior Archaeologist.

Cost is \$150 per camper. For information, contact Florida Public Archaeology Network at 813-396-2328 or email [chrharper@usf.edu](mailto:chrharper@usf.edu). Visit [www.weedonislandpreserve.org](http://www.weedonislandpreserve.org).

### Brooker to present Book Time

TARPON SPRINGS - Book Time at Brooker will be offered Thursdays, July 12, 19, 26, Aug. 2, 10:30 to 11:15 a.m., at Brooker Creek Preserve, 3940 Keystone Road.

Designed for children ages 3 to 5, this free program connects attendees to the wonders of the natural world. In addition to hearing a great story, children will participate in a craft, game or other hands-on activity related to the story that is read. Space is limited.

Preregistration is required. Call 453-6800 or visit [www.brookercreekpreserve.org](http://www.brookercreekpreserve.org).

**24/7**  
**ENTERTAINMENT NEWS**  
[www.TBNweekly.com](http://www.TBNweekly.com)

## What's Selling in Pinellas County

**N. Redington Beach** **\$330,000**  
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Boaters dream! Well maintained waterfront home is perfect for the avid boater. Open floor plan with vaulted ceilings, Florida room, plus a large den off the master bedroom. Intracoastal access. Recent updates include new A/C in 2011, shingle roof in 2003 and flat roof in 2011.

Mary "K" Kottich  
Century 21 Top Sales

**Seminole** **\$330,000**  
3 Bedrooms/2.5 Baths



Custom built 2 story home built in 2003. Home features vaulted ceilings, crown molding throughout, tons of tile and beautiful kitchen with granite countertops, breakfast bar, stainless steel appliances, and maple cabinets. Tropical landscaping surrounds the screen enclosed salt water pool and lanai. Paver driveway and oversized 2 car garage.

Sandy Hartmann  
Realty Executives Adamo

**Kenneth City** **\$68,300**  
2 Bedrooms/2 Baths



New master bath, oversized master bedroom and new roof added in 2007. Converted garage makes great family room. Tile floors in main living areas with carpet in bedrooms. Large screened patio in private, fenced backyard.

Tom Cato  
Realty Executives Adamo

## Obituaries

Recognizing that some readers wish to share the life and loss of a loved one with the community, Tampa Bay Newspapers publishes paid obituaries in our weekly papers.

The deadline for submitting obituary information is 9 a.m. on Monday, for that week's papers. Obituaries will publish in all six of our papers.

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

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

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**Saturday 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm**

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Chamber Chairman of the Board David Puckett, Business Relationship Manager, GTE Federal Credit Union

## Welcome

Welcome to the Central Pinellas Chamber of Commerce monthly Connection page in your Largo Leader. We are happy to have this opportunity to update the community on the Chamber's many ongoing efforts.

For the past 60 years, our volunteer-driven association has been empowering business by providing the necessary tools and resources to help them succeed. This includes networking leads groups, government advocacy and economic development initiatives in addition to programs and events focused on professional development.

Most importantly, the Chamber consists of people who realize that they can accomplish collectively what they cannot accomplish individually. **If a Return on Involvement (ROI) is your approach to business and life in general, then you'd be a welcome addition to the Chamber family.** Please visit [www.CentralChamber.biz](http://www.CentralChamber.biz) to learn more or call us at 727-584-2321.

## Chamber Presents 2012 Scholarships to Largo High School Seniors

The Chamber recently presented its 2012 scholarships to two Largo High School seniors. The award winners, each presented with \$1,000, were selected from this year's Chamber Students of the Month program through the organization's Education Foundation and Scholarship Task Force.

The recipients are Haley M. Knapp and Mariah Corbitt. Ms. Knapp is the daughter of Karen Knapp and Roxanne Hagedorn. She plans to attend the University of South Florida with a double major in Political Science and World Religions in the Provost Scholars Program.

Ms. Corbitt, is the daughter of Vincent and Bonnie Corbitt. She plans to attend the University of Central Florida majoring in Sociology or Psychology.

## Chamber Seeks Community Awards Nominations

The Chamber is accepting nominations for its esteemed Citizen of the Year and Mac Norcross Small Business Person of the Year awards. The presentations will take place at the chamber's 60th Annual Meeting on Thursday, Sept. 13 at the Sheraton Sand Key Resort.

Nominees for Citizen of the Year must have a) brought attention to the Central Pinellas region through their direct efforts which has generated acclaim or public notice; b) have outstanding achievement in community service; and c) have performed volunteer (uncompensated) services to the community. Offices/chairmanships of national, state and local civic and non-profit organizations will be considered.

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

Nomination deadline is Friday, August 17. For nomination forms or for more information about award criteria, call the chamber at 727-584-2321 or email [tom@centralchamber.biz](mailto:tom@centralchamber.biz).

## Chamber Awards Luncheon Aims to Inspire

The Chamber will present its 4th Annual Women Inspire Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, Aug. 14 from 11:45 am to 1:15 p.m. at the Greektown Grille, 1230 Cleveland Street, Clearwater.

The Inspire Awards celebrate individuals in Central Pinellas who have had a positive impact on the lives of others through their leadership in the workplace and/or involvement in the community. Nominations have been accepted



Hundreds were on hand at the Chamber's annual Central Pinellas Business Showcase event last month at the Largo Community Center. Dozens of businesses including several area restaurants participated.



Rick Donohue, general manager of the Hampton Inn & Suites-Largo and a member of the Chamber's Scholarship Task Force presents the 2012 awards to Mariah Corbitt and Harley Knapp.

and four winners will be honored at the luncheon.

Cost of the luncheon is \$20 for chamber members and \$25 for guests. Registration deadline is Friday, August 10. Sponsors of the event to date are MedExpress and Dex Imaging with additional sponsorships still available. To become a sponsor or to register for the luncheon, please call the chamber at (727) 584-2321 or email [events@centralchamber.biz](mailto:events@centralchamber.biz).

## SCORE Business Counseling Available at Chamber

The Chamber hosts business counseling services provided by SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) at its offices by appointment every first and third Thursday monthly. SCORE counselors represent working and retired business executives who volunteer their lifetime experience providing assistance for people looking to start a business and for owners/managers of existing businesses. There is no cost involved. Counseling appointments can be made only by calling 727-584-2321.

## New Members

The following businesses and organizations were welcomed by the Chamber during the past month:

- Angelo's Recycled Material
- Artic Freeze Discount Auto & Truck Repair
- B&NMultiServices.com
- Collman Properties
- Community Care Chiropractic, Inc.
- Green Haven
- JB Home Maintenance
- Neesee Knows
- Pillar to Post Professional Home Inspection
- Pinellas Academy of Math and Science
- Shepherd's Village, Inc.
- Wilson Foxhill, Inc.

## Save the Date

Diagnostic Clinic 7th Annual Charity Classic and Central Pinellas Chamber Cup Classic Golf Tournament, Saturday, Sept. 29 at Innisbrook Resort and Golf Club. Cost \$135 per golfer. Sponsorships \$1,500. Call 727-584-2321 for more information.

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# Diversions

Things to do around Pinellas County



- Classifieds
- Events
- Movies

Leader  
Section B  
July 12, 2012

Visit [www.TBNweekly.com](http://www.TBNweekly.com)

## Top five diversions

• **"Nunsense 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](http://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.

• **Hot Tuna Acoustic,** Saturday, July 14, 8 p.m., at the David A Straz Jr. Center, 1010 N. W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa. Tickets start at \$32.50. Call 813-229-7827 or visit [www.strazcenter.org](http://www.strazcenter.org). From their days playing together as teenagers to their current acoustic and electric blues, no one has more consistently led American music for the last 50 years than Jorma Kaukonen and Jack Casady, the founders and continuing core members of Hot Tuna. The first thing early Hot Tuna fans discovered at their concerts of the early 1970s was that the band was growing louder and louder. In an era in which volume often overtrumped musicianship, Hot Tuna provided both. The second thing a fan would discover was that Kaukonen and Casady really loved to play. From their self-titled debut album in 1970 to 2011's "Steady as She Goes," their most recent release, Hot Tuna has enjoyed a musical odyssey that continues today.

• **Gulf Maritime Festival,** Saturday, July 14, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the Sponge Docks on Dodecanese Boulevard between Athens and Roosevelt streets, Tarpon Springs. The city of Tarpon Springs will present the third annual Gulf Maritime Festival. As one of Florida's few remaining downtown working waterfronts, Tarpon Springs is the best venue to showcase Gulf Coast maritime folklife from Cortez to Cedar Key to Apalachicola. Demonstrators will explore sponge diving and sponge processing; making diving helmets and nets; foodways; fishing, clam farming, boat building, model boats, and much more. The free festival also will present music and dance associated with Gulf maritime communities, as well as interviews with those involved in maritime activities. Among the many participants will be National Heritage Fellow Nicholas Toth (sponge diving helmets), as well as several Florida Folk Heritage Award winners Taso Karistinos (sponge diver/captain), Wayne Martin (bateau boats and old-time fiddling), George Saroukos (Greek boatbuilding), George Soffos (Greek music), and Mike Berg (duck decoys). The Gulf Maritime Festival is supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Call 942-5605 or visit [www.tarponarts.org](http://www.tarponarts.org).

• **Chris Thomas King,** Sunday, July 15, 7 p.m., at the Palladium, 253 Fifth Ave. N., St. Petersburg. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$22 the day of the show. Call 822-3590 or visit [www.spcollege.edu/palladium](http://www.spcollege.edu/palladium). King, Grammy-winning bluesman, will bring his blues guitar and trio to the Side Door for a rare intimate performance. King appeared in the film "O Brother, Where Art Thou" in 2001, portraying Tommy Johnson, a true-to-life blues singer from the 1930s. His legend is perpetuated by a story that he was known to tell to anyone who would listen - he sold his soul to the devil in return for his musical talent. King went on to appear in "Down from the Mountain," a concert film organized by Joel and Ethan Coen and T-Bone Burnett in the spirit of "O Brother, Where Art Thou." King's new album, "Antebellum Postcards," contains songs heavily influenced by Nashville and features the artist as a one-man string band, playing guitars, mandolin, banjo, bass, steel guitar, piano, organ, drums and at least a dozen other instruments with additional support from drummer Jeff Mills and bassist Ryan Clute.

• **Jim Sorensen & Laura Hodos: Separated at Birth,** Sunday, July 15, 7 p.m., at freeFall Theatre Company, 6099 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. Tickets are \$15. Call 498-5205 or visit [www.freefalltheatre.com](http://www.freefalltheatre.com). Part of freeFall's Summer Tandem Series, freeFall's managing director Jim Sorensen has been on stage frequently this past year and has appeared shirtless more times than he cares to remember. Laura Hodos has also appeared frequently onstage in the area, but usually fully clothed. What they have in common, however, is not only a birthday, but also a love of silly songs and a joie de vivre that's intoxicating (or nauseating, depending on who you ask). The show also will feature Emi Stefanov on the piano.



Photo courtesy of BLUE SKY STUDIOS

From left, Diego (Denis Leary), Sid (John Leguizamo) and Manny (Ray Romano) return in "Ice Age: Continental Drift."

## Opening this weekend

'Ice Age: Continental Drift' full of family-friendly fun

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

Only one new movie will hit theaters in wide release this week. "Ice Age: Continental Drift" is the newest installment in the Ice Age franchise. This family-friendly film will compete with last week's big winner, "The Amazing Spider-Man" for box office dollars.

### 'Ice Age: Continental Drift'

Genre: Animation, adventure, family and comedy  
Cast: Ray Romano, Queen Latifah, Denis Leary, John Leguizamo, Seann William Scott, Josh Peck, Peter Dinklage, Wanda Sykes, Aziz Ansari, Keke Palmer, Drake, Jennifer Lopez, Heather Morris and Joy Behar

Director: Steve Martino and Michael Thurmeier  
Rated: PG  
In "Ice Age: Continental Drift," Scrat's nutty pursuit of the cursed acorn, which he's been after since the dawn of time, has world-changing consequences - a continental cataclysm that triggers the greatest adventure of all for Manny (Ray Romano), Diego (Denis Leary) and Sid (John Leguizamo).

In the wake of these upheavals, Sid reunites with his cantankerous Granny, and the herd encounters a ragtag menagerie of seafaring pirates determined to stop them from returning home. This all-new chapter in one of the most successful film franchises of all time brings together the visually epic and the emotionally powerful; the humorous and the heartfelt - plus the world's most beloved prehistoric squirrel-rat and the ultimate unconventional herd of this or any age.

Joining our familiar "Ice Age" friends and family (Romano, Leguizamo, Leary, and Queen Latifah) for the new film are some of the entertainment world's brightest talents, including hip-hop sensations Nicki Minaj and Drake, and global crossover star Jennifer Lopez.

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

### 'Easy Money'

Genre: Action, crime, drama and thriller  
Cast: Starring: Joel Kinnaman, Matias Padin Varela, Dragomir

Mrsic, Lisa Henni, Dejan uki, Annika Whittembury, Lea Stojanov and Fares Fares

Director: Daniel Espinosa  
Rated: R  
Directed by Daniël Espinosa, "Easy Money" is a Swedish crime thriller based on the international best-selling novel "Snabba Cash" by Jens Lapidus.

Lower-class business student JW (Joel Kinnaman) falls in love with a sexy heiress while living a double life mingling with Stockholm's wealthy elite. To keep up the façade of his lifestyle, he's lured into a world of crime.

Jorge is a petty fugitive on the run from both the police and Serbian mafia. He hopes that brokering a massive cocaine deal will allow him to escape for good. Mafia enforcer Mrado is on the hunt for Jorge, but his efforts are complicated when he's unexpectedly saddled with caring for his young daughter.

As JW's journey ventures deeper into the dark world of organized crime, the fate of all three men becomes entangled and ends with a dramatic struggle for life and death.

### 'Ballplayer: Pelotero'

Genre: Documentary and sports  
Cast: Miguel Angel, Jean Carlos and John Leguizamo  
Director: Ross Finkel, Trevor Martin and Jon Paley  
Not rated

In the run-up to the most important day of their lives, two young baseball players from the Dominican Republic confront competition and corruption to achieve their Big-League dreams.

For 16-year Dominican baseball players, or "Peloteros," the only real chance to escape crushing poverty comes every July 2nd, the day they become eligible to sign professional baseball contracts. "Ballplayer: Pelotero" provides an intimate portrait of two prospects, Miguel Angel Sanó and Jean Carlos Batista, as they navigate the calculating, mercenary and often corrupt elements that surround Major League Baseball's recruitment of the island's top talent.

The film is narrated by actor John Leguizamo.

See OPENING, page 2B

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TUESDAY, THURSDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY PM SERVICE • ARRIVE AT CASINO 5:00 - 5:30PM, DEPART 10:00PM

<b>PERKINS</b> Palm Harbor Dunedin Curlew & US 19 3:40PM	<b>BUFFALO WILD WINGS</b> Clearwater Drew & US 19 4:10PM	<b>TRI-CITY PLAZA</b> Largo Behind Chili's SR 686 & US 19 4:20PM	<b>LARGO MALL</b> By Albertsons Corner of Ulmerton Road & Alt. 19 3:30PM	<b>SEMINOLE MALL</b> By Kmart 113 <sup>th</sup> St. & Park Blvd. 3:45PM	<b>BJ'S PARKSIDE MALL</b> Pinellas Park Park Blvd. & US 19 4:05PM	<b>TARGET GATEWAY MALL</b> St. Petersburg 9 <sup>th</sup> St. & 82 <sup>nd</sup> Ave. 4:20PM
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The Coral Cove 5 Plex has a great rental history (all units are currently rented). There are 2 buildings total and include four 1 bedrooms & one 2 bedroom, 1 bath with its own fenced patio.  
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Move in ready 1 bedroom villa in a well maintained 55+ villa. Spacious floor plan offers dining area, Florida Room, and designer details throughout including crown molding.  
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Charming Seminole pool home that has an ideal split floor plan with a living room, family room with easy access to the pool area, centrally located kitchen, inside laundry room, & dining room.  
**\$230,000**



This custom Seminole home has plenty of space for the whole family and is great for entertaining! The pocket sliding glass doors open up to reveal a resort style pool, outdoor kitchen, and large backyard.  
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This spacious townhome is conveniently located close to the beach, shopping, and restaurants. Floor plan features 2 master suites each with their own bathrooms and balconies and a 2 car garage.  
**\$135,000**



This Seminole home features a large fenced yard that is great for entertaining, family gatherings, & pets. Plus, home is walking distance to St. Pete College, Seminole Rec Center, the post office, and the library.  
**\$105,000**



PRICE REDUCED  
This cute Clearwater condo features 1 bedroom, 1 bath, large living room, washer & dryer closet & a balcony. Plus, there is also a separate secured storage closet large enough for bikes & containers.  
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This true 4 bedroom Seminole pool home has tons of possibilities. The split plan offers a living room that could also be a formal dining area & a large family room that is big enough for a pool table, ping pong, or home theater.  
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OPENING, from page 1B

**'Farewell, My Queen'**

Genre: Drama  
 Cast: Lea Seydoux, Diane Kruger and Virginie Ledoyen  
 Director: Benoit Jacquot  
 Rated: R  
 "Farewell, My Queen" marks the return of acclaimed director Benoit Jacquot and brilliantly captures the passions, debauchery, occasional glimpses of nobility and ultimately the chaos that engulfed the court of Marie Antoinette in the final days before the full-scale outbreak of the revolution.

Based on the best-selling novel by Chantal Thomas, the film stars Léa Seydoux as one of Marie's ladies-in-waiting, seemingly innocent but quietly working her way into her mistress's special favors, until history tosses her fate onto a decidedly different path. With the action moving ef-

fortlessly from the gilded drawing rooms of the nobles to the back quarters of those who serve them, this is a period film at once accurate and sumptuous in its visual details and modern in its emotions. Diane Kruger gives her best performance to date as the ill-fated Queen and Virginie Ledoyen is the Queen's special friend Gabrielle de Polignac.

**'Red Lights'**

Genre: Thriller  
 Cast: Cillian Murphy, Sigourney Weaver, Robert De Niro, Elizabeth Olsen and Toby Jones  
 Director: Rodrigo Cortes  
 Rated: R  
 Veteran paranormal researchers Dr. Margaret Matheson (Sigourney Weaver) and Tom Buckley (Cillian Murphy) debunk fraudulent claims of ghost whispering, faith healing and other psychic phenomena by detecting what Matheson calls "red lights,"

the subtle tricks behind every staged supernatural occurrence.

But when the legendary blind psychic Simon Silver (Robert De Niro) comes out of retirement after 30 years, his once-fearless adversary Matheson warns Buckley to back off, fearing reprisal from the powerful Silver.

Determined to discredit Silver, Buckley and his star student (Elizabeth Olsen) use every tool at their disposal to uncover the truth behind the charismatic, spoon-bending, mind reader. But Buckley is forced to reexamine his own core beliefs as his quest builds to a mind-blowing conclusion in this taut psychological thriller from award-winning writer and director Rodrigo Cortés.

**'Trishna'**

Genre: Drama  
 Cast: Freida Pinto and Riz Ahmed  
 Director: Michael Winterbot-



Photo courtesy of WEINSTEIN COMPANY

Dragomir Mrcic as Mrado in Daniel Espinosa's film "Easy Money."

**Crossword**

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

- Across**
- Suffix with sea or moon
  - Dish served with a dressing (pl.)
  - Three equal parts
  - Mushrooms having umbrella caps with gills underneath
  - Desktop card index (trademark)
  - Flirtation by touching feet
  - "... \_\_\_ he drove out of sight"
  - Complains
  - Casual attire
  - Bakery buy
  - Indian salad
  - "We the Living" author
  - Disguise
  - Arch
  - British coins
  - Stinking nightshades
  - Depression at the mouth of a volcano
  - Cleaning cabinet supplies
  - Deep or still place in a stream
  - Transfer data or programs
  - Saint Anthony's fire
  - Mideast V.I.P.
  - "\_\_\_ Maria"
  - Sudden raid
  - Full house, e.g.
  - Forger
  - Guns
  - "C\_\_\_ la vie!"
  - Artificially formal
  - Back muscle, familiarly
  - Held the title of monarch
  - Football stat
  - Gestures
  - Sixpence
  - Chewy candy
  - Villain

- Down**
- Duration
  - Bach piece
  - Hinged flap on an airplane wing
  - Ace
  - Christian Science founder
  - Freedom from danger
  - Ancient assembly area
  - Golden Triangle country
  - "A jealous mistress": Emerson
  - Remote
  - Kind of fair
  - Brand, in a way
  - Farmer, at times
  - Short holidays?
  - Units of length equal to .001 inch
  - Sensationalist journalism
  - House agent
  - Lightweight boat propelled by a double-bladed paddle
  - 86 is a high one
  - "20,000 Leagues" harpooner \_\_\_ Land
  - Minor player
  - Comely
  - Escorts
  - Introduce one stage at a time (2 wds)
  - Freckle
  - "... there is no \_\_\_ angel but Love": Shakespeare
  - Emerald Isle
  - Attacked brutally
  - Enigma
  - During
  - Grave marker
  - Furnace output
  - Catch
  - Blah
  - African antelope
  - Chain letters?

**Sudoku**

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

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

**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
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**Horoscopes**

July 12, 2012

**Capricorn**

December 22 - January 19

A crisis hits at work, but you take charge and save the day quickly. Bravo, Capricorn. A financial glitch turns out to be a blessing in disguise.

**Aquarius**

January 20 - February 18

A coworker isn't cutting it, but it's not for you to say, Aquarius. Leave that to someone higher up the food chain. A financial matter is put to rest.

**Pisces**

February 19 - March 20

Time is of the essence, Pisces, and you must work quickly to clean up a mess. No, you didn't make it, but you must clean it up for progress to be made.

**Aries**

March 21 - April 19

You don't like surprises, but several are in store. Receive them with open arms, Aries. A chunk of change saved for a rainy day comes in handy.

**Taurus**

April 20 - May 20

A friend's erratic behavior mystifies you. Overlook it and question it later, Taurus. A business relationship is put to the test, and you come out smiling.

**Gemini**

May 21 - June 21

The time has come for you to settle old debts, Gemini. Start with that friend who could use a helping hand. The pieces to a puzzle begin to come together.

**Cancer**

June 22 - July 22

Face it, Cancer. A friend bailed on you yet again. Stop making excuses for them and look for support elsewhere. A windfall fattens your bank account.

**Leo**

July 23 - August 22

Relationship issues are resolved, and passion burns bright. Ooh-la-la, Leo. A dream comes true for a family member, and you benefit as well.

**Virgo**

August 23 - September 22

Sunny days are here again, Virgo. Make every moment count. Old photos provide insight into a family dilemma and make the response to it clear.

**Libra**

September 23 - October 22

Too many slips of the tongue occur at work. Work to keep yours in check, Libra. Adding fuel to the fire is ill advised. A memento inspires a trip.

**Scorpio**

October 23 - November 21

You're not one to toot your own horn, Scorpio, but it's required. You need to make your talents known in order to compete. A health crisis ends.

**Sagittarius**

November 22 - December 21

Opulent surroundings ease away the tensions, allowing for extraordinary progress. Truth is hard to come by at home. Don't force it. Just wait, Sagittarius.

tom

Rated: R

Based on Thomas Hardy's classic novel Tess of the D'Urbervilles, master filmmaker Michael Winterbottom's newest film stars Freida Pinto who soars as Trishna in her most revealing performance yet.

Trishna lives with her family in a village in Rajasthan, India's largest state. As the eldest daughter, she works in a nearby resort to help pay the bills. Jay (Riz Ahmed) is the wealthy son of a property developer. When he takes up managing a resort at his father's request, he meets Trishna at a dance and their fates cross. Jay finds every opportunity to win Trishna's affection and she accepts his efforts with shy curiosity. But when the two move to Mumbai and become a couple, Jay's deep family bond threatens the young lovers' bliss.

Shot with Winterbottom's agile camera, "Trishna" is a powerful look at the tension between ancient privilege and modern equality, between codes of urban and rural life and ultimately a hymn to both the glory and the tragedy that comes with beauty in all forms.

**'Union Square'**

Genre: Drama

Cast: Mira Sorvino, Tammy Blanchard, Patti LuPone and Mike Doyle

Director: Nancy Savoca

Not rated

New York City's Union Square is the setting for an unexpected reunion between two estranged sisters, one of whom is on the verge of getting married, the other on the verge of a nervous breakdown.

Lucy (Mira Sorvino) attempts to shop for young and flirty discount clothes while anxiously carrying on a conversation on

her cell phone. When the news on the other end of the cell is not what she wants to hear, she has a complete meltdown in the park. Crying openly and unsure of her next move, she has an idea. Suddenly, Lucy finds herself somewhere she's never been: her sister Jenny's (Tammy Blanchard) loft apartment off Union Square.

The apartment is as spare and disciplined as Jenny is herself. Jenny is stunned to see Lucy on her doorstep and, what's worse, unable to keep her out - Lucy has decided she needs to stay with Jenny a few days, along with her dog and all her shopping. Attempting to remain calm, Jenny has little time to prepare how to explain Lucy's presence to her fiancé Bill (Mike Doyle), whom she has not been completely honest with about her family's tumultuous upbringing in the Bronx or her sister's excessive behavior. Lucy suspects as much and attempts to play along but also tries to update Jenny about their mother (Patti LuPone) and the old neighborhood. And the news is not what Jenny expects to hear. After a tense dinner with Bill, the sisters try to clear the air by heading out together to a club, but the confrontation that follows only creates more tension. And the next day when Lucy leaves as unexpectedly as she showed up, Jenny is left wondering what else could possibly happen to disrupt her ordered life ... that is, until Lucy returns with even more surprises for Jenny.

For more movie news including what's playing at local theaters, trailers and an opportunity to purchase tickets online, visit [www.TBNweekly.com](http://www.TBNweekly.com). Click on the "Movie News & Reviews" link on the left-side menu.

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## Looking ahead

### Clearwater

• **"Nobody's Perfect,"** through July 29, at Early Bird Dinner Theatre, 200 S. McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Performances are Thursday and Saturday, 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.; and Friday and Sunday, 4 p.m. Cost is \$29.90 for dinner and the show. In this comedy, Leonard Loftus is forced to submit his novel under a female pseudonym. When he wins first prize, he frantically tries to keep up the charade. In high heels and lipstick, the hero is caught in a hilarious dilemma. Call 446-5898 or visit [earlybirddinnertheatre.com](http://earlybirddinnertheatre.com).

• **"Friday the 13th,"** Friday, July 13, 8 p.m., at Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St. Tickets are \$5. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.ruth.eckerdhall.com](http://www.ruth.eckerdhall.com). Part of Capitol Theatre's cult film series, this gory shocker from director Sean S. Cunningham is the one that started it all launching the character of Jason Vorhees to cult icon status in American pop culture. "Friday the 13th" is considered one of the most successful media franchises in America and celebrated by slasher fans the world over.

• **"Broadway Divas,"** Friday and Saturday, July 20-21, 8 p.m., at West Coast Players, 21905 U.S. 19 N., Clearwater. Reserved seating tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. Call 437-2363 or visit [www.wcplayers.org](http://www.wcplayers.org). The ladies of Split Personalities will perform hits from Broadway's most powerful divas. From Streisand to Lupone, these vocalists promise to bring the house down. Featured performers will include Gillian Bertrand, Alex Faulhaber, Stephanie Fox, Sabrina Hamilton and Latoya McCormick.

• **The Dukes of September Rhythm Revue,** Tuesday, July 24, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$50. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com). The Dukes of September include Grammy Award-winning singer/songwriters Donald Fagen, Michael McDonald and Boz Scaggs. Separately, these performers have sold tens of millions of albums and performed at sold-out concerts for more than four decades. United, they promise to deliver a unique concert for Baby Boomers and lovers of R&B and soul. Fagen returns to Ruth Eckerd Hall for the first time since performing a sold-out concert with Walter Becker and their band Steely Dan in June 2009. This iconic duo has sold more than 30 million albums worldwide and helped define the soundtrack of the '70s with hits including "F.M.," "Bodhisattva," "Reelin' in the Years," "Rikki Don't Lose That Number," "Deacon Blues," "Peg," "Babylon Sisters" and "Hey Nineteen." Scaggs returns to the Ruth Eckerd Hall stage for the first time since his sold-out concert with Marc Cohn in 2010. He first gained fame in the 1970s with several Top 20 hits including "Lowdown," "Lido Shuffle," "What Can I Say" and "We're All Alone" from the album "Silk Degrees," which reached No. 2 on the U.S. album charts. McDonald returns to Ruth Eckerd Hall for the first time since his sold-out concert in December of last year. His hit songs "What a Fool Believes," "Takin' It to the Streets" and "Sweet Freedom" have contributed to American pop music for more than three decades.

• **Kenny Vance and the Planotones,** Friday, July 27, 7:30 p.m., at Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St. Tickets start at \$45. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com). Kenny Vance and The Planotones offer their audience an invitation into their "basement" rehearsal studio for an intimate evening of song and stories spanning Vance's varied and accomplished 50-year career, and the music that has been its unique soundtrack. It is a story only Vance and The Planotones can tell, with a historical perspective framed by a multi-faceted career that began on the Brooklyn street corners, and rose through Jay and The Americans, the Bill Building, Vance's stint as musical director on Saturday Night Live, and numerous music-driven film classics like "Animal House," "Eddie and The Cruisers," "Hairspray" and the movie in which The Planotones were "born," "American Hot Wax." After a short intermission, as an added treat, the audience is able to interact with Vance during a warm and informative question-and-answer session followed by a Kenny Vance and The Planotones concert.

• **Midnight in Paris: The Cabaret,** Saturday, July 28, 8 p.m., in the social hall at Temple B'nai Israel, 1685 S. Belcher Road, Clearwater. This will be a musical performance from the American Songbook Series. Music will be performed by Paul Wilborn and Blue Roses. Attendees will climb aboard a musical taxi headed for the Roaring '20s. The concert will include songs from the Woody Allen film plus Jazz Age favorites by Cole Porter, George and Ira Gershwin, Fats Waller, Irving Berlin and other Broadway and Tin Pan Alley sensations. Attendees may bring their own bottle or enjoy a courtesy glass of table wine with each ticket. Tickets are \$18 in advance. Call 531-5829.

• **"The Wizard of Oz,"** Saturday, July 28, 3 p.m., at Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St. Tickets are \$5. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com). Part of the Capitol Classics Family Movie Series sponsored by Tampa Bay Parenting Magazine, the film stars Judy Garland, Ray Bolger, Jack Haley, Bert Lahr and Frank Morgan. The film follows Dorothy (Garland) and her dog Toto as they are caught in a tornado's path and ends up in the Land of Oz, where she meets some memorable friends and foes on her journey to meet the Wizard of Oz who everyone says can help her return home and possibly grant her new friends their goals of a brain, heart and courage. The film is an icon of American cinema topping critics' lists and touching the hearts of generations of moviegoers worldwide.

• **Yes and Procol Harum,** Sunday, July 29, 7 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$45. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com). Jon Davison will join original Yes members Steve Howe, Chris Squire and Alan White (vocals) and Geoff Downes (keyboards). As a dominant force for more than four decades, Yes has sold more than 30 million albums worldwide, stretching the boundaries of progressive art-rock with songs such as "Roundabout," "Owner of a Lonely Heart" and "I've Seen All Good People" creating dynamic instrumental contrasts and abstract lyrics. Their symphonic use of sound and innovative musical styles continues to make them one of the most successful and long-standing groups in rock history. Their amazing career continues to defy many of their contemporaries, as they continue to add new, young fans to their following. Joining Yes is UK prog-rock band Procol Harum. Their debut single, a classically-based piece, "A Whiter Shade of Pale," captured the imagination in a way that few singles do and spent a month at the top of the UK charts and became a million-seller. Follow-ups "Conquistador" and "Simple Sister" are considered classics and among the best of the UK prog-rock movement.

• **Little Feat,** Wednesday, Aug. 1, 7:30 p.m., at Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St. Tickets start at \$45. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.ruth.eckerdhall.com](http://www.ruth.eckerdhall.com). Little Feat is very possibly the last-man-standing example of what used to be the norm in American music, a fusion of a broad span of styles and genres into something utterly distinctive. Per-

forming songs from their catalog, which spans more than 40 years, Little Feat will take the stage at the Capitol Theatre in Downtown Clearwater. The band's first album, "Little Feat," featured the instant-classic tune "Willin'," and the follow-up album, "Sailin' Shoes" added "Easy to Slip," "Trouble," "Tripe Face Boogie," "Cold Cold Cold" and the title track to their repertoire. Their third release, "Dixie Chicken," is regarded as the band's landmark album, giving them the signature hits "Dixie Chicken" and "Fat Man in the Bathtub." Special guest Roy Jay Band will open the show.

### Dunedin

• **7 Arches Artists Multimedia Event opening reception,** Friday, July 13, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Stirling Art Studios and Gallery, 730 Broadway, Dunedin. The exhibit will feature original art by 7 Arches members. The exhibit will run through July 30. Call Steve Spathelf at 433-4683.

• **Dunedin Second Friday Wine/Art Walk,** Friday, July 13, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., in downtown Dunedin. The event will feature wine tastings, art, food and exhibits. More than 35 merchants will participate with discounts and giveaways. Attendees may purchase a \$10 wristband to be eligible for a drawing at 8:30 p.m. in Pioneer Park on Douglas Avenue and Main Street. Way Back Time Machine will provide entertainment. For information, call 734-8671 or visit [www.2ndFridayDunedin.com](http://www.2ndFridayDunedin.com).

### Gulfport

• **USA Dance,** Monday, July 30, 7 to 10:15 p.m., at Gulfport Casino, 5500 Shore Blvd., Gulfport. Admission is \$7 and includes a dance workshop, professional and amateur exhibitions, dance hosts and snacks. For information, call 397-5754.

• **USA Dance,** Monday, Aug. 27, 7 to 10:15 p.m., at Gulfport Casino, 5500 Shore Blvd., Gulfport. Admission is \$7 and includes a dance workshop, professional and amateur exhibitions, dance hosts and snacks. For information, call 397-5754.

### Largo

• **Titanic - A Voyage in Art,** through July 15, at the Armed Forces History Museum, 2050 34th Way N., Largo. Sun Time/LinksWalker is showcasing the largest collection of original paintings commemorating the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the R.M.S. Titanic by maritime artist and historian Michael V. Ralph at the Armed Forces History Museum. Titanic - A Voyage in Art is an assemblage of 27 original acrylic paintings. It is historically significant in its graphic depictions of the timeline of the Titanic's all too short life. From the ship's birth on May 31, 1911 as the largest, most luxurious and safest ocean liner of the day, to 2:19 a.m. on April 15, 1912 as the vessel sits poised for the final plunge, descending at a speed of 35 miles an hour and burrowing into 45 feet of mud and sand. Sixteen wooden lifeboats containing a mere 712 survivors out of a combined 2,227 passengers, officers and crew remained following the sinking. The exhibit also showcases dinnerware, silverware, stationary, postcards, signage, articles and deck plans associated with the Titanic. Clocks above the prints highlight the actual timing of events as the Titanic began its demise to the end. Museum admission is \$17.95 for adults, \$14.95 for seniors and veterans and \$12.95 for youths 4 to 12. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. Visit [www.armedforcesmuseum.com](http://www.armedforcesmuseum.com).

• **Flick-n-Float Movie,** Friday, July 13, 7:30 to 11 p.m., at Southwest Pool, 13120 Vonn Road, Largo. The featured film will be "Kung Fu Panda." Attendees may bring their favorite float or chair. Films are shown on the big screen. There will be free hot dogs, prize giveaways and food from a featured restaurant sponsor (while supplies last). Games and activities begin at 7:30 p.m. and movies start at dusk. Cost is \$4 with a recreation card or \$5 without a card. Call 518-3126 or visit [LargoPools.com](http://LargoPools.com).

• **Flick-n-Float Movie,** Friday, July 20, 7:30 to 11 p.m., at Southwest Pool, 13120 Vonn Road, Largo. The featured film will be "Iron Man 2." Attendees may bring their favorite float or chair. Films are shown on the big screen. There will be free hot dogs, prize giveaways and food from a featured restaurant sponsor (while supplies last). Games and activities begin at 7:30 p.m. and movies start at dusk. Cost is \$4 with a recreation card or \$5 without a card. Call 518-3126 or visit [LargoPools.com](http://LargoPools.com).

• **The Zombies,** Friday, July 27, 8 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets range from \$49 to \$59. Call 587-6793 or visit [largoarts.com](http://largoarts.com). The Zombies, featuring Colin Blunstone and Rod Argent, will kick off their 11-show 50th anniversary North American tour at the Largo Cultural Center. The Zombies were the second UK group following the Beatles to score a No. 1 hit in America. The band ruled the 1960s with hit singles such as "She's Not There" and "Tell Her No." Their 1968 album, "Odessey and Oracle" is ranked 80th on Rolling Stone magazine's list of 500 Greatest Albums of All Time.

• **Moxy Concert - Believe in Miracles,** Saturday, Aug. 24, 8 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets are \$27 in advance and \$32 the day of the show. Call 587-6793 or visit [largoarts.com](http://largoarts.com). This concert and variety show will feature the area's

most talented performers, vocalists and musicians including singer/songwriter and musician Jayne Kelli, award winning performer Rebecca Zapen, American Idol Experience Dream Ticket winner Vanessa Quillao, actress and singer Becca McCoy and singer/songwriter and musician A.J. Swearingen. There also will be a special performance by Moving Arts of Tampa Bay, and the talented vocalists Jennifer Real, Rossana Spallino, Chantelle Ashby and Reggie Dockens.

• **Blackberry Smoke,** Tuesday, Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 the day of the show. Call 587-6793 or visit [largoarts.com](http://largoarts.com). Atlanta-based Blackberry Smoke continues to grow into the premiere Southern Rock band of America. Over the last 24 months they have shared the stage with Zac Brown Band, ZZ Top, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Kid Rock, Jamey Johnson, Travis Tritt and countless others. Their video "Good One Comin' On" was No. 1 on CMT for two weeks and No. 3 for seven weeks straight.

• **Keiko Matsui,** Saturday, Oct. 13, 8 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets are \$45.50 in advance and \$50.50 the day of the show. Call 587-6793 or visit [largoarts.com](http://largoarts.com). After selling out her show at the center last year, the contemporary jazz icon returns. Matsui creates music both powerful and introspective, blending Western and Eastern musical influences. Her exquisite style of Japanese jazz spans three decades of international acclaim. Elegant piano melodies, a free spirit and creative genius mark her return to the Largo stage.

### Madeira Beach

• **"The Truman Show,"** Wednesday, July 18, 2:30 p.m., at Gulf Beaches Public Library, 200 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach. Part of the Summer Film Series, this 1998 comedy-drama stars Jim Carrey, Laura Linney and Ed Harris.

• **"Pearl Harbor,"** Wednesday, July 25, 2:30 p.m., at Gulf Beaches Public Library, 200 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach. Part of the Summer Film Series, this 2001 war drama stars Ben Affleck, Josh Hartnett, Alec Baldwin, Jon Voight and Kate Beckinsale.

• **"The Boy in the Striped Pajamas,"** Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2:30 p.m., at Gulf Beaches Public Library, 200 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach. Part of the Summer Film Series, this 2008 historical drama stars Asa Butterfield, Jack Scanlon, David Thewlis and Vera Farmiga.

• **"Casino Royale,"** Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2:30 p.m., at Gulf Beaches Public Library, 200 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach. Part of the Summer Film Series, this 2006 film is the 21st installment in the James Bond film series. It stars Daniel Craig as Bond as well as Eva Green, Mads Mikkelsen, Judi Dench and Jeffrey Wright.

• **"Million Dollar Baby,"** Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2:30 p.m., at Gulf Beaches Public Library, 200 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach. Part of the Summer Film Series, this 2004 sports drama directed by Clint Eastwood stars Hilary Swank, Morgan Freeman and Eastwood.

• **"Catch Me if You Can,"** Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2:30 p.m., at Gulf Beaches Public Library, 200 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach. Part of the Summer Film Series, this 2002 comedy-drama directed by Steven Spielberg stars Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hanks, Christopher Walken and Amy Adams.

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

### Oldsmar

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

### Palm Harbor

• **Grasshopper Productions open house,** Friday, July 20, 6 to 9 p.m., at Larisa Jewelers, 30569 U.S. 19 N., Palm Harbor. Artwork donated by Grasshopper artists will be up for auction, with proceeds benefiting F.E.A.S.T. Food Pantry of Palm Harbor. Wine, soft drinks and food will be served. The event also will feature live music. For information, email [ghoppro@yahoo.com](mailto:ghoppro@yahoo.com).

### Pinellas Park

• **Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ performance,** Tuesdays, July 17, Aug. 21, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the city auditorium, 7690 59th St. N., Pinellas Park. The free recurring concert offers an opportunity to relive the golden years of theater as lovely melodies are played on the Mighty Wurlitzer theater organ. The organ, lovingly restored by the Central Florida Theatre Organ Society, creates the sound of a full orchestra including a variety of percussion instruments and a bevy of sound effects. Attendees may bring a lunch to eat while enjoying the show. Performances are presented third Tuesdays. Call 557-6087 or 504-7012.

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## 5. Real Estate Sales



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## 10. Waterfront Sales

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## Classifieds Index

- 1-130 Real Estate Sales
- 135-290 Rentals
- 300 Notices
- 302 Tickets
- 305 Fun Things To Do
- 310 Good Things To Eat
- 315 Personals
- 320 Religious Personals
- 340 Happy Ads
- 345 Lost & Found
- 355 Adoption
- 360 Legal Services
- 370 Instructions/Tutors
- 375 Career Training
- 385 Beauty Services
- 390 Counseling
- 400 Health & Fitness
- 410 Massage Therapy
- 420 Babysitting
- 425 Child Care
- 430 Wheelchair & Sr. Transport
- 435 Adult Care & Services
- 455 Travel Services
- 470 Entertainment
- 485-530 Help/Work Wanted
- 535 Business Opportunity
- 545-582 Financial & Insurance Services
- 585 Auctions
- 590 Antiques & Collectibles
- 597 Coins & Stamps
- 599 Rental Equipment
- 600-750 Merchandise to Buy/Sell
- 755-805 Campers/RVs/Trailers
- 810-885 Automotive
- 890-915 Boats & Marine
- 970-980 Estate, Garage, Yard, Moving Sales
- Professional Services Directory

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**485. Help Wanted**

**345. Lost & Found**

**LOST CASH WHILE RUNNING** on Gulf Blvd. between 26th Ave (IRB) and Holiday Inn Harborside. If found, please call (813)245-4284. Reward.

**LOST: QUAKER PARROT.** Green overall w/gray breast. Name: Pebbles. Lost 6/26/12 at 7-11 on Walsingham & Ridge Rd. **Owner Heartbroken!!** Small Reward. (727)551-1970.



**355. Adoption**

**ARE YOU PREGNANT?** A Childless Married Couple. (In our 30's) seeks to adopt. Will be hands on Mom and devoted Dad. Financially secure. Expenses paid. Nicole & Frank. 1(888)969-6134. FL BAR #150789.

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**485. Help Wanted**

**485. Help Wanted**

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**505. Part-time Help**

**REAL ESTATE ASSISTANT.** Indian Rocks Beach. P-T, Fri-Sun., Noon-4pm. 12-15 Hrs Per Wk. Must Have Knowledge Of MLS & Be Computer Savvy. Help With Rental Bookings. Fax Resume: (727)286-8770.

**505. Part-time Help**

**485. Help Wanted**

**UTILITY WORKER-PINECREST** Place, a premier retirement community located in Largo, is seeking reliable individuals to become members of our kitchen staff. PT positions available. Will include evenings and some weekend hours. Interested candidates can apply in person at: 1150 8th Ave. SW, Largo, or fax resume to M. Kristall @ (727)581-8409. EOE, DFWP.

**WAIT STAFF: Pinecrest Place** Retirement Community, located in Largo, currently has openings for our Savory Expressions dining room. Multiple PT positions open. Must be willing to work a flexible schedule, evenings & weekends. Position requires serving, clearing, cleaning and resident assistance in our dining room. If you are hard working, energetic and responsible, with a desire to be of service, we are looking for you to join our team. Interested candidates apply in person, 1150 8th Ave. SW, Largo. EOE Drug-free workplace.

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**505. Part-time Help**

**REAL ESTATE ASSISTANT.** Indian Rocks Beach. P-T, Fri-Sun., Noon-4pm. 12-15 Hrs Per Wk. Must Have Knowledge Of MLS & Be Computer Savvy. Help With Rental Bookings. Fax Resume: (727)286-8770.

**515. Hospitality Help**

**EXPERIENCED Housekeepers** Doubletree Beach Resort/Restaurant. Apply At: 17120 Gulf Blvd. North Redington Beach (727)393-2813.

**505. Part-time Help**

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**505. Part-time Help**

**525. Medical Help**

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# Select area theaters schedule special screenings

By LEE CLARK ZUMPE

In addition to the standard Hollywood fare cycling through local movie theaters this month, select venues will play host to some atypical cinematic screenings thanks to Fathom Events.

Fathom specializes in innovative cinema entertainment, offering an assortment of distinctive, exclusive, limited-run live or prerecorded entertainment events to local movie theatres around the country. Fathom events include comedy concerts, opera, original programs, premieres and targeted science fiction and horror presentations as well as sports and talk radio events.

The high-quality entertainment put forth by Fathom gives audiences an opportunity to experience atypical presentations, shown in a convenient, comfortable and cost-effective environment.

Upcoming presentations include the following:

## 'Singin' in the Rain'

NCM Fathom Events, Turner Classic Movies and Warner Home Video will present "Singin' in the Rain 60th Anniversary Event," Thursday, July 12, 7 p.m., at the following area theaters:

- Park Place Stadium 16, 7200 U.S. 19 N., Pinellas Park
- Citrus Stadium Park Mall 20, 7999 Citrus Park Town Center Mall, Tampa
- Hyde Park Cinebistro, 1609 West Swann Ave., Tampa

Tickets are \$12.50. Tickets are available at participating theater box offices and online at [www.FathomEvents.com](http://www.FathomEvents.com).

The classic 1952 American musical comedy "Singin' in the Rain" stars Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor and Debbie Reynolds. Directed by Gene Kelly and Stanley Donen, the film depicts three stars caught up in the transition from silent films to "talkies."

According to Turner Classic Movies, "Singin' in the Rain" is frequently named in modern surveys and documentaries as one of the most popular films of all time. In 2007, "Singin' in the Rain" was ranked fifth on AFI's 100 Years...100 Movies - 10th Anniversary Edition list of the greatest American films, moving up from the 10th position it occupied on AFI's 1997 list.

TCM notes that the film was re-issued in 1974 and again in 1992 with a 40th anniversary premiere. It also was selected as one of the first American films presented in Communist China.

Despite its current popularity, at the time it was released, it was only a modest success. The only award recognition it received came with O'Connor's Best Actor win at the Golden Globes.

The event will feature a prerecorded TCM original production with an introduction by TCM host Robert Osborne, who will take audiences

behind the scenes, including a special interview with "Singin' in the Rain" star Debbie Reynolds. Reynolds will share her thoughts on what it was like working with her co-stars on the set of this classic musical.

"Sixty years ago, no one dreamed that we would still be watching 'Singin' in the Rain' in 2012," said Gene Kelly's widow, film historian Patricia Ward Kelly, in a press release from Fathom Events. "Gene would be very proud."

"This exclusive presentation of 'Singin' in the Rain' marks the fourth classic anniversary event presented in theaters by NCM Fathom Events and Turner Classic Movies," said Shelly Maxwell, executive vice president of NCM Fathom Events. "Together with TCM, Fathom has celebrated the 70th anniversaries of 'Casablanca' and 'The Wizard of Oz,' as well as the 50th anniversary of 'West Side Story' on the big screen. Fans are invited back to experience Gene Kelly's talent in this fabulous musical anniversary event this July."

Warner Home Video will release "Singin' in the Rain" 60th Anniversary Edition on July 17, featuring a three-disc limited and numbered gift set that includes the remastered feature on both Blu-ray and DVD and a brand new documentary, "Singin' in the Rain: Raining on a New Generation."

## 'Star Trek: The Next Generation'

Science fiction fans rejoice: NCM Fathom Events, CBS Home Entertainment and Paramount Home Media Distribution have partnered to present "Star Trek: The Next Generation" 25th Anniversary Event on Monday, July 23, 7 p.m., at the following area theaters:

- Park Place Stadium 16, 7200 U.S. 19 N., Pinellas Park
- Citrus Stadium Park Mall 20, 7999 Citrus Park Town Center Mall, Tampa
- Hyde Park Cinebistro, 1609 West Swann Ave., Tampa

Tickets are \$12.50. Tickets are available at participating theater box offices and online at [www.FathomEvents.com](http://www.FathomEvents.com).

The screening offers Trekkers a chance to "boldly go where no one has gone before," watching a special presentation including two fan-favorite episodes as well as never-before-seen content. The presentation will celebrate the Blu-ray debut of "Star Trek: The Next Generation - The First Season," set to hit stores July 24.

Transferred from the original source material during its ongoing multimillion-dollar restoration, the screening will include the most popular episodes from the program's first season: "Where No One Has Gone Before" and "Datalore."

According to Fathom Events, the episodes were selected by well-known "Star Trek" experts and restoration consultants, Mike and Denise Okuda. "Where No One Has Gone Before" was chosen for its

"beautiful space imagery." "Datalore" was chosen because Data, the character played by Brent Spiner, has long been a fan favorite.

The Okudas will introduce the episodes. Audience members also will be treated to a glimpse of the brand-new special features including interviews with the team behind the restoration as well as an extended preview of the Season 2 Blu-Ray release, which is scheduled to hit stores later this year.

"We're thrilled to be able to introduce 'Star Trek: The Next Generation' to a new generation," said Ken Ross, executive vice president and general manager of CBS Home Entertainment, in a press release. "Seeing the episodes in a theater setting is the perfect way to show off the pristine picture that high definition allows and launch the first season on Blu-Ray."

## 'The Who: Quadrophenia - Can You See the Real Me?'

NCM Fathom and AEG will present "The Who: Quadrophenia - Can You See the Real Me?" on Tuesday, July 24, 8 p.m., at the following area theaters:

- Park Place Stadium 16, 7200 U.S. 19 N., Pinellas Park
- AMC Woodland Square 20, 3128 Tampa Road, Oldsmar
- Citrus Stadium Park Mall 20, 7999 Citrus Park Town Center Mall, Tampa
- Hyde Park Cinebistro, 1609 West Swann Ave., Tampa

Tickets are \$12.50. Tickets are available at participating theater box offices and online at [www.FathomEvents.com](http://www.FathomEvents.com).

"Quadrophenia," the sixth album of the English rock band The Who, was released in 1973. The band's second rock opera, the double album touched upon social, musical and psychological happenings from the perspective of an English teenage boy. The narrative is set in London and Brighton in 1964-65.

"The Who: Quadrophenia - Can You See the Real Me?" will reveal the story behind the album.

The presentation will open with a message from the lead guitarist Pete Townshend. The film will provide an in-depth, behind-the-scenes look into one of rock's most influential bands and will feature never-before-seen stories, including the well-known onstage collapse of Keith Moon during the tour's first show. Also included will be additional performances of songs from "Quadrophenia," such as the chart-topping "Love Reign O'er Me."

At the time "Quadrophenia" was recorded, The Who included members Roger Daltrey (lead vocals, harmonica and guitar), Pete Townshend (guitar, keyboards and vocals), John Entwistle (bass guitar, brass and vocals) and Keith Moon (drums and percussion).

# Florida Orchestra Music Director Stefan Sanderling steps down

ST. PETERSBURG - Tom Farquhar, board chairman of The Florida Orchestra, recently announced that the board of directors has accepted music director Stefan Sanderling's request to be released from his current contract to allow him to transition into an advisory role commencing with the 2012-13 season.

Last May it was reported that Sanderling's international conducting opportunities prevented him from renewing his contract as TFO's principal artistic leader and Masterworks conductor when it expires in 2014. However, Sanderling - who has just completed his 10th TFO season - has decided to step down from his fulltime role as music director. TFO has accepted Sanderling's request and has named him conductor emeritus and artistic adviser. As such, he will lead the orchestra in one Masterworks concert program each season over the next two years, through 2013-14.

"We are so very grateful to Stefan for guiding our orchestra as we became an ever more artistically mature organization," said Farquhar in a press release. He praised Sanderling for his role in advancing TFO as one of the leading performing arts institutions in the Tampa Bay area and among the most vibrant orchestras in America.

Sanderling cited his interest in building a strong future for TFO as the primary reason for his earlier-than-expected departure from the podium.

"The Florida Orchestra must invite many guest

conductors to rehearse and perform with our musicians, a process that can take many months or years," Sanderling said. "It is vital that my successor is a person who is the right fit for this orchestra as it continues to grow in the future." Beginning next season, 12 guest conductors will be featured on Masterworks concert programs, many of them potential candidates to the key artistic leadership position of TFO music director.

"We have been preparing for the Music Director search for many months," said search committee chair and past board chair Jane Peppard. "This will accelerate our timeframe and allow us to see more candidates next season, while still having the benefit of Maestro Sanderling's continued involvement with our orchestra."

Stefan Sanderling has swiftly emerged as one of the leading German conductors of his generation. Since the beginning of the 2003-04 season, he has simultaneously occupied the positions of music director of The Florida Orchestra and principal conductor and artistic adviser of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra. He also served as the music director of the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra from 2007 to 2010.

In Tampa Bay, Sanderling has profoundly raised the artistic standard and constantly motivated TFO's musicians to their full potential and beyond. During his tenure he articulated an artis-



Stefan Sanderling

tic vision for the orchestra, which was enthusiastically embraced by the board. His informative pre-concert conversations, revealing the background stories in connection with the music and composers, richly enhanced the Masterworks concert experience for thousands of patrons. And TFO's performances of the Frederick Delius program last January marked the first recording on a major label for this orchestra.

Under Sanderling's leadership, many of TFO's principal player positions were filled with exceptional talent, including concertmaster Jeffrey Multer, associate concertmaster Nancy Chang, principal second violin Sarah Shellman, principal flute Clay Ellerbroek, principal oboe Katherine Young, principal bassoon Anthony Georgeson, and most recently principal horn Robert Rearden.

The fruit of Sanderling's labors became evident when TFO was able to buck national trends by growing its attendance and successfully expanding its subscription offerings in three consecutive seasons. TFO is now poised to build upon the strong foundation and momentum attributable to his visionary guidance.

"A transformation in artistic leadership is a natural evolution for a symphony orchestra, and this change allows TFO an opportunity to adequately plan for the transition," said Tom Farquhar. The board of directors will evaluate the long-term di-

rection of the organization and determine the qualities and characteristics they're seeking in a successor. "A decision will be made carefully, taking into consideration our artistic vision, musical goals, local demands, community feedback, national trends and board leadership."

"Change is a necessary element of personal and artistic growth and development," Sanderling said. "I'm very proud of what we've accomplished, and I want to ensure that TFO continues to build upon the rich talents of the musicians who are here right now."

In his ongoing affiliation with TFO as conductor emeritus and artistic adviser, Sanderling is expected to provide artistic guidance through this transition period and serve as a guest Masterworks conductor for the next two years.

Now at the conclusion of its 44th season, The Florida Orchestra can reflect on a history steeped in rich artistic leadership. In 1964 two Tampa Bay orchestras planned a merger. Instrumental in these talks were the conductors of the two orchestras, Alfredo Antonini of the Tampa Philharmonic and Thomas Briccetti of the St. Petersburg Symphony. On Nov. 23, 1966, representatives from both organizations joined together to become the Florida Gulf Coast Symphony, opening its first season on Nov. 14, 1968, under the baton of 43-year-old music director Irwin Hoffman, who had previously guest conducted the Tampa Philharmonic.

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8701 Seminole Blvd. • 727-393-7616 • [screwielouiesbarandgrille.com](http://screwielouiesbarandgrille.com)

**LIVE MUSIC**

**Screwie Louie's Porpoise Pub**

www.screwielouies.net

**Pinellas County's Most Unusual Drinking Establishment**

**Live Bands Tuesdays - Sundays**

**Happy Hour, 7 Days, 11am - 8pm**

**\$1.75 Domestic • \$2 Wells • \$1 Drafts**

**Sunday FREE BUFFET 1pm - 7pm**

**Sunday Breakfast Buffet w/Drink 8am-Noon \$5**

**RIBS, WINGS, BURGERS & CHICKEN**

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>
TACO SALAD	SLICED ROAST BEEF	SHEPHERD'S PIE	BACON CHEESEBURGER w/1 SIDE
\$5.99	\$5.99	\$5.99	\$5.99
NACHOS GRANDE	AU JUS DINNER		
\$8.99	\$5.99		

**WEEKEND MUSIC FESTIVAL**

**Beach Raiders**

July 12<sup>th</sup> 9pm, July 13<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm - 3am,

July 15<sup>th</sup> 4pm-11pm

July 14<sup>th</sup> 4pm-3am

**Southern Rocks Finest**

Celebrating 27 Years!

**JD's Restaurant & Lounge**

**FULL Breakfast Menu 8am Tues.-Sun.**

**Daily Lunch Baskets \$6<sup>75</sup> and under Noon-4pm**

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

on the Porch • Thurs.-Sun. @ 1pm

**Every Night Inside and Out**

Home of the "All-You-Can-Eat" Fish Fry

**125 Gulf Blvd., Indian Rocks Beach 727-595-1320 • [www.jdsrestaurant.com](http://www.jdsrestaurant.com)**

<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>SUNDAY</b>
Happy Hour & Early Birds 'til Close	JD's Specialty Burger	\$1 Tacos 12-4 In the Lounge only	HALF OFF CHICKEN WINGS
\$1 Hot Dogs Noon-4pm in the Lounge Only	\$1 ALL DAY <small>With purchase of drink. Dine in only.</small>	\$5 Martinis All Day	<small>With purchase of drink. Dine in only.</small>

**The Original South Beach Bar & Grille**

14705 Gulf Blvd., Madeira Beach

**727-954-3402**

All Major Credit Cards Accepted

**VOTED BEST BREAKFAST**

OPEN 7am 99¢ Breakfast Items

Voted Best Happy Hour 8am-6pm

**Chef's Special Daily to preview the new menu to come.**

Happy Hour every day 8am-6pm • \$1 Drafts • \$2 Wells • \$1.75 Domestic Bottles

& Look for our **NEW MENU** by the end of July!

**Every Friday 3-5 p.m. Filet Mignon (around a pound) Includes Two Sides with this ad**

\$9<sup>99</sup>

★ STEAKS ★ BBQ ★ MUSSELS ★ PASTA ★

**A Tradition For 45 Years**

**The Pub**

WATERFRONT RESTAURANT

**CASUAL INDOOR/OUTDOOR DINING**

FRESH SEAFOOD, STEAKS, SALADS, BURGERS & MORE!

**LUNCH • EARLY SPECIALS • DINNER**

**10 Dinners Under \$12.95**

**Breakfast Buffet Saturday & Sunday \$11.95**

New Home of Island Marine Boat Rentals • 50 Boat Slips

[www.thepubwaterfrontrestaurant.com](http://www.thepubwaterfrontrestaurant.com)

**20025 Gulf Blvd. • Indian Shores 727-595-3172**